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PCA LEAD PARTNERS:







Welcome to issue 23 of Beyond the Boundaries. Inside you can read how the PCA continues to champion the players' best interests.

It has been another fantastic summer of cricket with Heather Knight, Joe Root and Eoin Morgan leading England to successes over the summer while domestic cricket has hit new heights too.

A special mention has to go to Alastair Cook after hanging up cap number 630 to retire as England's greatest ever run scorer. Alastair has been the perfect role model for aspiring cricketers in this country and I am delighted he is set to continue his career with Essex.

The NatWest PCA Awards was a fantastic evening to round off a long summer of cricket. Congratulations to all the winners and you can find out more on the prestigious evening on page 24.

Beyond the field, it has been a pivotal year for the future of cricket in this country. The game is changing at a rapid pace and the PCA continues to play a fundamental role in shaping the future of the game in this country for the benefit of PCA members.

Throughout the year we have been working on making sure all players will receive their fair share of extra revenue due into the game from 2020.

In June we outlined four non-negotiable principles around the rise of the salary collar, cap, minimum wage and to ensure every player benefits from the new money and these principles have been the core of negotiations with the ECB.

This is an unprecedented phase with the PCA playing significant roles in representing the

international sides through the Team England Partnerships as well as domestic cricket through the County Partnership Agreement.

The new tournament is also a critical area and progress is being made to make sure players are rewarded for their participation. Without the players there will be no new competition and we understand the need for players to obtain the full details of the new competition as soon as possible.

During recent months a great deal of work has be done to support players around contracts and minimum standards in order to ensure that playing professional cricket is both aspirational and a financially viable career for present and future generations.

The MOU between the PCA and ECB is also a concurrent conversation and it is important the PCA receives valuable funding to be spent on the ground-breaking Personal Development and Welfare Programme to keep the Association as a world leader in this field.

I hope you enjoy your magazine and I would like to highlight the launch of the Professional Cricketers' Trust which you will find on page 30 – the work your charity does is extremely special and something we should all be proud and appreciative for.

DAVID LEATHERDALEPCA Chief Executive

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 goes all media-friendly



Something that has stood me in good stead throughout my career is being able to focus on the next game – I don't like to look too far ahead. I don't like to look too far back either.

James Anderson







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We take care of our own.



Keith Newell and his family are currently receiving support from the Professional Cricketers' Trust

As our sport's leading charity, The Professional Cricketers' Trust was created to support the lifelong health and wellbeing of PCA members and their immediate families. We look out for players throughout their active careers and long afterwards, funding lifechanging medical assistance, crisis helplines and educational programmes in England and Wales.







Preserving the magic – a summer of two halves under review for the PCA Chairman and Worcestershire batsman.

To win the T20 and be relegated in the same season must be seen as bittersweet. It was a Championship campaign where we felt but for the metaphorical 'bounce of a ball' things could have been different. To a white-ball summer where it all went so right. From topping the North Division in both limited-over formats, the highlight was a first experience of Blast Finals Day, finding an event in rude health. Whatever any domestic review of the game might throw up, this for me is sacrosanct. It was undeniably the best cricketing experience of my life.

The weather was really tricky in April and September and it made things tough at the top of the order. With Rory Burns' season for Surrey even more remarkable for that. His achievement recognised by selection to the Test squad, an elevation that is still regarded as the pinnacle of the game by PCA members, according to the hugely influential players' survey. It speaks volumes for what he and an excellent, largely homegrown club achieved. The same has to be said for Kent and Joe Denly. The club competed on all fronts, which is no mean achievement in itself, and Denly was outstanding with bat and ball regardless its colour or duration – a fully deserved NatWest PCA Players' Player of the Year.

It also been a pretty hectic summer off the field too. I have to be honest, being Chairman is some-

To win the T20 and be relegated in the same thing I have thrived on both on and off the pitch.

There has been a lot going on to say the least. This is a position I am passionate about and I want to represent the playing group for the benefit of everyone.

The amount of extra conversations and meetings is only a good thing as it reinforces how much everyone within the game values player opinion.

The PCA continues to prove pivotal in shaping the playing experience with two representatives on a men's county cricket working group with Ian Thomas and Mark Wallace representing the players views on the playing schedule from 2020. The group, led by Leicestershire CEO, Wasim Khan, a former player with Sussex and Warwickshire himself, the players' influence remains front and centre. With two divisions, plus promotion and relegation preserved. Test selection as the jewel in the crown. And the early findings around the 100-ball game looking promising, cricketers remain resolutely on the front foot in the shaping of what is their game.

DARYL MITCHELL

PCA Chairman

Turn to page 34 and read Countdown Conundrum. It includes the Chairman's extended findings on the 100-ball format, due in 2020.

Opening Up



WITH FLYING COLOURS

Congratulations go to former Derbyshire wicketkeeper Tom Poynton upon gaining his Investment Advice Diploma Level 4 qualification. According to the former Falcons gloveman, sights are now set on attaining a Chartered Wealth Manager qualification with a view to setting up in business by the end of the year.

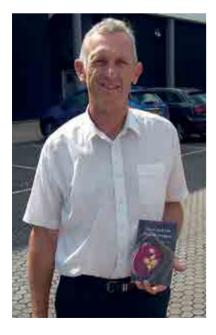
A CAREER WELL UNDERWAY

Alongside studies in Exercise & Sports Science at Australian research university the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, former Derbyshire and Warwickshire cricketer Richard Johnson is undertaking a one day a week internship with the Melbourne Rebels rugby union team. Gloveman Johnson, a veteran of 29 first-class games, played between 2008 and 2014, will also be working with the Melbourne Renegades during the winter's Women's Big Bash competition.

'Write-Arm' Over

Having already written a thriller trilogy aimed at children, under the pseudonym of Jack Emson, former Glamorgan and Surrey bowler Mark Frost has now produced 'Dewi and the Cricket Dragon', a short story based on a primary school visit to the home of Glamorgan Cricket at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff. The plot sees Dewi, an ordinary boy from the small village of Ystrad in South Wales, experiencing big match cricket for the first time in such a profound way that it leaves nothing quite the same after. It's hoped the story will encourage creative writing, reading and improve literacy skills due to the real-life experience of school trips to the venue. In his spare time, Mark also works for Glamorgan and Cricket Wales, overseeing grass roots work.

thefour.weebly.com





You Do Matter

Kevin Saxelby, brother of the late Mark Saxelby, has launched his 'You Do Matter' campaign, 18 years after the tragic suicide of his younger brother

Former Nottinghamshire bowler Kevin Saxelby has teamed up with the PCA in memory of his brother Mark, who lost his battle with depression, resulting in the hard-hitting left-hander committing suicide in October 2000.

Kevin's specially adapted posters have now been distributed across the changing rooms of all 18 first-class counties to raise awareness and to add another mechanism of support to current players. The posters are embedded with an NFC chip and QR code meaning anyone with a smart phone can gain instant access to the PCA Confidential Helpline or support via email or thepca.co.uk.

Launching the campaign, it is the 59-year old's belief that if something similar existed

back in 2000, his brother's death could have been prevented. "We want people to see this campaign and realise that someone does care for them and they do matter," Saxelby said. The veteran of 136 first-class games and 161 List A matches added, "It's a campaign in Mark's memory and something I've always wanted to do. Mark had everything going for him, he could do anything he wanted with his life and that's why it's all so sad. I believe that if we had this campaign, this instantly accessible helpline, it could have saved his life." Despite more cricketers discussing their mental health, Saxelby believes the macho image of the sport can sometimes deter people from speaking out and has urged people to not suffer in silence with the addition of this mobile download. "I just hope people look at this, use this and every cricketer has it on their phone," Saxelby said. "With Mark

you wouldn't have known. He was a happy-

go-lucky guy and sometimes you don't realise

when someone is struggling. This is there as

an option to help those in need."

AN OVER AT...

Martyn Ball

48, former PCA Chairman and Gloucestershire all-rounder

Describe your most enjoyable period as a cricketer?

We had a golden period at the club from about 1999 to 2006. Previously we were a team that had played a lot together and lost a lot together. New Zealander John Bracewell came in as coach and recognised that we were wholly reliant on Walshy (West Indies great, Courtney Walsh) and knew that needed to change. He brought in Australia's Ian Harvey to change the balance, from that we created our way to win in one-day cricket.

Where did you get your start in the game?

I played rugby, football and cricket at a decent level as a sport-mad kid. Before the realisation hit that I wasn't good enough to be a footballer and was too soft to play rugby. In that, cricket chose me.

2

Were you always a spin bowler?

At 14 I went to Avon Schools trials, bowling a couple of overs of seam-up before the coach pointed out that there were four candidates vying for the spinner's role and 30-odd trialling as seamers. I bowled a couple of overs of off-breaks and found myself in the squad.

Making a breakthrough?

I came into the Gloucestershire side at the end of the summer of 1988 and played against Sri Lanka and Hampshire. I was offered a two-year contract, which pretty much saw any aspirations I had of being an accountant thrown in the bin.



Playing for England?

I'm one of those curious cricketers where games played for England appear in my first-class stats and not in the international cricket column. It came at a time when I was playing some good cricket - I was a decent lower-order bat, could catch in the slips and knew my game with the ball. I loved every minute of that tour to India. It came at a time when the world changed (9/11 2001).

6

What has kept you busy after cricket?

After 19 seasons with Gloucestershire, and agreeing a two-year contract in the winter of 2006, an opportunity came up to work for an America-based property development company as European sales director. I'm now part of another similar business, Yellow Bridge Developments, but based this time down in Devon.

Opening Up



Shaping The Play PCA host inaugural Agents Seminar

June saw the PCA hold its inaugural Agents Seminar for the ECB registered agents at Edgbaston, The initiative designed to increase the Association's engagement with the group.

Speakers included the likes of James Pyemont, Head of Integrity ECB, Neil Snowball, CEO of Warwickshire and Simon Storey from Derbyshire. PCA Player Contract Advisor and former ECB registered agent Rich Hudson led the event on behalf of the Association and said, "Ultimately we want players to make good, well-educated decisions and have high-quality, well-qualified representation. If we can play a role in further informing them about issues in the game and engaging high-quality guest speakers, such as Dan Lowen from Level Law, then ultimately we feel that should benefit our members in the long run."

James Welch, one of the registered agents in attendance said, "It's great to have everyone in one room together discussing the various issues in the game at the moment. The day was massively helpful speaking to PCA, ECB and interacting with the other agents because everyone is facing the same issues."

The intention is for this event to prove the catalyst for increased interaction between the PCA and agents working on players' behalf.

GETTING BACK TO BASICS

A major shoulder operation failed to deter Kent & England off-spinner James Tredwell from the pursuit of personal development activities in 2018. As the 36-year-old continues to build his experience - both as a coach and as an umpire - the rehabilitation process was allowed to run its course. The veteran of two Tests, 17 IT20s 45 ODIs retired at the end of the 2018 season after spending much of the summer officiating in the local leagues and coached young players in the county, where by all accounts, such was the soreness that the signalling of wides proved a challenge for the budding man-in-the-white-coat-and-cap even more than the officiating itself.

Learning The Language

PCA deliver contracts and agents workshops to county academies

2018 has seen the PCA expand its Professional Development and Welfare Programme to first-class academies with sessions focused on contracts and the role of agents.

With over 40 operating practitioners registered with the ECB, engaging a dedicated representative is an ever-increasing opportunity for a young player to support their professional career. However, it remains an area in need of clarity, without which players risk making career-critical decisions without the very best guidance.

Along with the England Women's squad, the PCA delivered a session to the county academies in order to help demystify this world. The day saw players presented with a variety of scenarios designed to increase their knowledge in the field of negotiation and representation.

The sessions were carried out by the Professional Development Managers and the PCA's Player Contracts Advisor, Rich Hudson. The PCA's aim is to ensure players are making informed decisions around contractual value, contract types and how agents deliver value on their behalf. Sessions were also attended by parents as they form a vital part in the decision-making process. The PCA actively engages with guardians when it comes to the transition from academy player to full-time professional. Involving family members in these sessions has proved to be a vital and welcomed addition.







ALL ROADS LEAD TO HONKERS

Supported in his studies by the PCA over the summer, Sussex's Ashar Zaidi wasted no time in beginning his coaching journey by taking up an opportunity as batting consultant for Hong Kong Cricket at the Asia Cup. The 37-year-old left-handed all-rounder, with over 100 first-class appearances to his name, believes his Level 3 qualification made an immediate impact on his ongoing career prospects.

Off-Season Activity

WINTER PLANS, COMING RIGHT UP



"This winter I focused on my professional development. My PDM helped me set up some work experience with recruitment firm, Macildowie. They came highly recommended by a teammate and have been extremely accommodating, arranging contact time that fits around training."



"I'm joining professional sportspeople on the Master of Sport Directorship at Manchester Metropolitan University. It's a part-time executive level course that fits alongside my cricket commitments. I also hope it will be an opportunity to enhance my commercial understanding."



"I'm aiming to complete a ESA Diploma in Sponsorship and Sports Marketing, ahead of work experience with the PCA and a sports agency. Outside of that, I've a placement with WPA Health based in Taunton, plus some time coaching with Melbourne Stars."



"I will be working towards my UKSCA Strength and Conditioning Qualification and looking into working as an S&C intern at the Worcestershire Academy. I will also be taking every opportunity to shadow other S&C professionals working in different sports."



"I'm exploring the possibility of owning and running a pub. As research, I am looking to undertake work experience with Heineken in their Star pubs chain to gain a greater understanding of the industry and roles within it."



"After a hectic 18 months the intention is to go to Bermuda for some family time. While there, I have work experience in a financial management company where my mother works and contacts at a recruitment firm as a second option."



"I'm looking to develop business connections through creating a public speaking series. On top of this I hope to link up with the local BBC network to enhance my profile in the media and explore opportunities for future work."



"I spent last winter with Event Management Company 'Finders Keepers' on work placement. It's really local to the County Ground in Bristol and I'm looking forward to getting back involved with the business again."



"I'm on an electrical installation course this winter through New Trades Careers. There isn't a time limit, which is good. I've worked on building sites doing electrics already. I think it's a good thing to get behind me."







Cover Stars: How They Fared This Summer

Last issue's featured rookies summer unpacked...

HARRY BROOK YORKSHIRE

A maiden hundred (124) scored against 2017 champion county, Essex, made evident the potential of the England Under 19 star. His career has so far seen a total of 17 first-class matches and has delivered a century and three fifties.

GARETH HARTE DURHAM

Our second cover star to register a maiden ton when the Durham all-rounder made 114 in a dramatic turnaround win over Derbyshire in June. He signed off the season with a second, adding 112 against Middlesex at Lord's to his season's tally.

TOM LACE MIDDLESEX

It took a spell on loan with Derbyshire at the back end of the season to deliver a first-class debut for the young opening batsman. Four championship appearances realised a string of consistent scores, the highest being a pair of forties (40, 43) made against Kent at Derby in late August.



Issue 22 of Beyond the Boundaries, and our six ones-to-watch in 2018!

- 1 Harry Brook
- 2 Gareth Harte
- **3** Sophie Ecclestone

SOPHIE ECCLESTONE LANCASHIRE

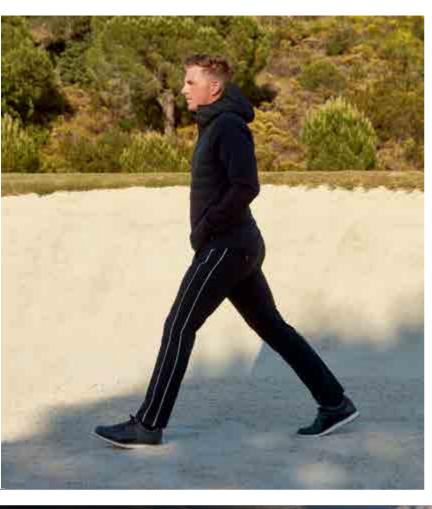
Named NatWest Women's Player of the Summer at the NatWest PCA Awards in October, 2018 was nothing short of a triumph for our 19-year-old covergirl. A better-than-consistent wicket-taker with her left-arm spin, nine ODIs played delivered 18 wickets, with two four-fers.

SUNNY SINGH WARWICKSHIRE

Limited opportunity saw the left-arm spinner only feature in the early part of the summer fixture list. The 22-year-old found himself released by Warwickshire at the end of 2018 after taking two five-wicket hauls for the club the previous summer.

KIRAN CARLSON GLAMORGAN

A sustained spell of good form and performances saw the 20-year-old hold down a regular spot on all cricket with the Welsh county. 28 first-class appearances in his career to-date, with three hundreds, makes him the 'most capped' member of our group.



J.LINDEBERG

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Thank You Chef

Alastair Cook:

A Career In Words & Numbers

FIRST OF MANY:
A CENTURY ON
DEBUT AGAINST
INDIA AT NAGPUR
IN 2006

175

RECORD CATCHES
FOR AN ENGLAND OUTFIELDER

244*
ASHES-BEST, MELBOURNE 2011

105

TEST CAP NUMBER

MATCHES TO TAKE MAIDEN WICKET, A WORLD RECORD 766

161

TEST MATCHES -THE MOST PLAYED FOR ENGLAND

196 ODI CAP NUMBER

TEST SCORES BETTER THAN 50 (33 HUNDREDS, 57 FIFTIES)



DADDY HUNDREDS (TEST SCORES OVER 150)

Huge congratulations on a fabulous career. You've given absolutely everything for the shirt, the badge and your teammates. I'm going to miss you.'

JOE ROOT



Your records and achievements speak for themselves. It's been an honour to play alongside you.' JOS BUTTLER



I was really proud to be at the other end for so long, wearing an England shirt. The most special time of my life.'

ANDREW STRAUSS All I've ever known is Cook opening the batting.'

JONNY BAIRSTOW

Here's to the next 10 years playing against each other in county cricket.'

MARCUS TRESCOTHICK



A stellar career from start to finish. You've come a long way since not being able to hit it off the square as an under 12.'

RAVI BOPARA



CAPTAIN FANTASTIC: PASSING MICHAEL ATHERTON (54) AS ENGLAND'S MAN WITH MOST GAMES IN CHARGE.



GOING BIG: PICTURED DURING A DOUBLE-HUNDRED AT MCG



SAYING GOODBYE: A FAIRYTALE **ENDING AT** THE OVAL

MOST TESTS AS ENGLAND CAPTAIN

FIRST-CLASS RUNS SCORED (63 HUNDREDS, 107 FIFTIES)

WORLD RECORD
CONSECUTIVE TEST APPEARANCES

BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY. DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS -BAND AID AT NO.1



I remember you coming into the side in Nagpur, 2006, a young whipper-snapper posh choir boy.' **PAUL**

COLLINGWOOD



I don't even like the bloke. All that 'Ooo, it's lambing season', who cares mate? Should have retired two years ago.'

JAMES ANDERSON



I can always say to my kids and my family that I played with the great Alastair Cook. The greatest English batsman ever.'

MOEEN ALI



You gave me the honour of representing England for the first time and I'll forever be grateful for that.'

BEN STOKES



Maybe this gives someone else a chance to win the yoyo fitness test from now on!'

JAKE BALL



Retirees

Careers marked. Members saying goodbye to the game in 2018.

Jimmy Adams

A debut in 2002, left-hander Adams has been an integral part of Hampshire's success. Particularly strong in white-ball cricket, the club won 50-over titles in 2005, 2009, 2012 and 2018 plus T20 wins in 2010 and 2012.

Steven Crook

With spells at Lancashire and Middlesex, it will be the seasons spent with Northamptonshire that will be best remembered. The all-rounder's 13-year association delivering a promotion season in 2013 and 2016.

Grant Elliott

Born in Johannesburg, playing international cricket for New Zealand, all-rounder Elliott finished his professional career with the Birmingham Bears. A true globetrotter, the 39-year-old appeared in a World Cup final v Australia in 2015.

James Foster

Artistic with the gloves, Foster played more than 700 first-team games for Essex over 19 years. A maker of 23 first-class hundreds, he played seven Tests for England in 2001 and 2002.



Jonathan Trott

An Ashes-deciding ton on Test debut was bookended by a promotion with Warwickshire in a career of landmarks. With arguably 2010/11, when partnering Alastair Cook without undue fuss or pyrotechnics, he helped deliver a first Ashes win down under for 25 years. The right-hander played 52 Test, 68 ODIs and seven IT20s between 2007 and 2015.

Nick Compton

The Middlesex and Somerset man averaged 99.26 in 2012 to be named the NatWest PCA Players' Player of the Year. He played 16 Tests for England, recording two tons.

Sean Ervine

First with Zimbabwe, then a spell with Western Australia, before 14 years with Hampshire, the destructive all-rounder aggregated over 20,000 runs and 500 wickets in all cricket.

Will Gidman

All-rounder Gidman became the first cricketer to do the double (1000 Championship runs and 50 wickets) for 15 years when completing the feat in 2011 with Gloucestershire.

Andrew Hodd

Wicketkeeper-batsman Hodd played for Surrey, Sussex and Yorkshire, winning four county titles (Sussex and Yorkshire, two each). Team man' Hodd enjoyed 16 years on the circuit.

Steve Magoffin

Spells with Leicestershire, Worcestershire, Surrey and Sussex, the 38-year-old seam bowler returned to New Road for a final crack at First Division cricket in 2018.

Johann Myburgh

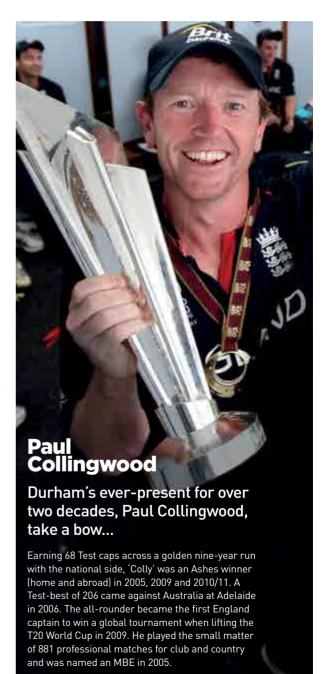
The South African-born batsman played for Durham and Hampshire before finding a home with Somerset, finishing with a first-class average of better than 40.

Jack Shantry

Proving that 'action' indeed speaks louder than words, left-arm seamer Shantry found himself a hugely popular figure with the Worcestershire faithful. 2016 saw him in the record books with the bat when completing a whirlwind Championship hundred from No.10.

James Tredwell

The off-spinner made two Test appearances for England on tours to Bangladesh and West Indies. Potent with white ball in hand, Tredwell was a reliable member of England's one-day squad, playing 45 ODIs and 17 IT20s. He was named captain of Kent in 2013.



A Long Read

England fan favourite Alan Mullally has a book out. It sounds just as entertaining as the man himself.

Describing your autobiography as 'Angela's Ashes meets Dumb and Dumber!' ploughs quite a broad furrow. But Alan Mullally's tale of rags to riches and all points in between certainly doesn't provide the standard career trajectory of a sports star.

Known as 'Spider' (due to his all arms and all legs bowling action) the left-arm paceman had stints with England between 1996 and 2001 as a particularly successful new-ball bowler in white-ball cricket. Born to an English mother and an Irish father and emigrating to Australia at the age of four, the 49-year-old says he 'always felt himself an outsider'. His book reflects that conflict and sense of restlessness.

A decision, aged 12, to play cricket for his birth country and not his adoptive home caused any number of problems, least of all after the speedster had played in (and won) the inaugural Youth World Cup in 1988 for the Aussies.

He played a single game for Hampshire after being headhunted by England star Robin Smith, before finding a home with Leicestershire. The club won the 1996 County Championship after starting the season as 40-1 outsiders. Winning again in 1998, Mullally was part of a never before/never since period of Championship success for the Foxes.

But the dream was not to last, and A Sort of Homecoming tells it how it is, and was, for a professional cricketer looking to make a living and make sense of his opportunities.

Available as an eBook or in paperback on Amazon







Putting On The Style

Cricketers pool resources to lay on the best of South Africa for touring teams.

Gloucestershire's Chris Liddle, Kent's Darren Stevens and South African entrepreneur Alain Snyman have joined forces to set up a new company, CPT Cricket Tours, offering trips to Cape Town.

The company arranges everything from flights, coaches, buses, car hire and drivers, to organising team's accommodation. As it is based in the tourism hub of Cape Town, they also arrange social and cultural activities in and around the city to provide a uniquely South African experience.

Most importantly CPT Cricket Tours facilitates well-matched practice games with local teams and clubs, as well as provides full cricket training facilities, including net bowlers. The region offers a wide range of opposition, as well as venues, which affords a diverse training experience for young cricketers.

Alongside the cricket, Liddle and Stevens see this as a great opportunity to expose UK players to the world class opportunity of playing in South Africa against local talent in a diverse environment while they prepare for an upcoming cricket season.

cptcrickettours.co.za

Gathering Of Thoughts

The Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA) Player Advisory Committees recently held its first sequence of meetings.

With committees comprised predominantly of current senior international players that have been nominated by their home players' association, these panels sit to complement FICA's programme of structured engagement with its member players' associations and players around the world. They are there to ensure it accurately represents collective player views and interests at a global level.

The committees each hold a structured annual meeting and also engage informally throughout the year. They focus on both cricketing and employment-related issues that affect players globally.

The Committee is deemed to play an important part in ensuring that players have a strong and unified voice on important issues at the top of the game. The FICA Player Advisory Committee representing the interests of the men's game is Vikram Solanki (England) Ross Taylor (New Zealand), Jason Holder (West Indies), William Porterfield (Ireland),

Shakib Al Hasan (Bangladesh), Aaron Finch (Australia), JP Duminy (South Africa), Kyle Coetzer (Scotland) and Kumar Sangakkara (Sri Lanka). Representing the women's game is Heather Knight (England), Hayley Matthews (West Indies), Alyssa Healy (Australia), Dane Van Niekerk (South Africa), Amy Satterthwaite (New Zealand) and Mary Waldron (Ireland).

Endorsing the event, England captain Heather Knight said, "The first Committee meeting proved to be an excellent discussion on some of the key issues in the global game and for players." Ross Taylor added,

"Through FICA and our players' associations, we want to continue to lead some thinking on important areas in the game and the formation of these committees is a great step for players collectively around the world."





Rep'ing The Brand

England star **Tammy Beaumont** highlights the benefits of the relationship with the PCA in discussing new playing contracts, the women's game and the future of the sport. Interview by Luke Reynolds.



THOUGHTS ON THIS SUMMER'S KIA SUPER LEAGUE 2018 (KSL)?

The standard has risen again this year and I think in particular that the domestic players have started playing more prominent roles. In terms of the competition, it was great to see that on any given day that teams could beat each other. And that going into the last group game only a couple of sides were out of the running. Playing everyone home and away also made a difference and hopefully this will continue.

GOOD TO SEE THE SPOTLIGHT SHINING INCREASINGLY BRIGHT IN THE MEDIA?

There has certainly been more exposure and this is only going to increase as we head towards 2020 and the terrestrial TV deal. Finals Day at the Ageas Bowl saw 3,800 in the ground, which was a record for a standalone game. And there is definitely a fanbase growing around each team.

HOW BIG A DIFFERENCE DID NEW CONTRACTS MAKE THIS YEAR?

The last two years we were lucky in that a lot of the best players in the country had only just finished university and were still deciding between cricket or pursuing a wider career. Offering one month in the summer wasn't going to prove a deal-clincher so something had to change. Those girls are now looking at a more stable contract and more financial investment. It has made it a better proposition. Having said that, there is still a long way to go. Personally I would like to see those girls not in

the England set-up on six-month programmes, or even 12-month deals where they can train full-time. At the moment they turn up for KSL, in some cases a week before it starts, and then still have to perform at a professional level. It isn't fair.

HOW LONG BEFORE WE ARE AT THAT LEVEL?

I'm forever an optimist. We know men's cricket is different, but for women's cricket to move forward I would rather get paid less as a player but have an infrastructure where that improvement in the game can happen more generally. If it doesn't happen in 2020, then my guess would be that it is probably never going to happen.

THAT'S A VERY HONEST APPRAISAL OF WHERE YOU THINK THE GAME IS...

Possibly, but I would rather see eight teams with eight year-round professional squads. As the only way that the spectacle will improve is if squads can train. We want to shock people at how good the standard is. This will only happen with the benefit of a big pool of semi-professional players.

AND HOW DO YOU ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THE COMPETITION SO FAR?

In the first couple of years of the KSL the girls could all play to a decent standard but the TV cameras being there, the post- and pre-match interviews, the talks about drug testing and anti-corruption - they all played a part in phas-

ing girls, which effected performance. I'd like to see these girls have that extra support. It is something the PCA is looking towards.

HOW IMPORTANT IS THE PCA IN MAKING SURE YOU ARE REPRESENTED AT THE TOP TABLE OF THE GAME?

It's taken a while to build those relationships, and even a year ago I don't think the girls used the PCA to the fullest. We do have a different perspective to the men. There is only one girl in the England squad who has spent her whole career as a professional. The rest of us did it for fun and to hopefully play for our country.

HOW ARE YOU ENJOYING BEING A PCA REP AND BEING A LINK BETWEEN PCA, ECB AND THE SQUAD?

I take the squad's view into every meeting.
I didn't find that conflicts with having my own views. Heather Knight has played a big part. The more we can get involved with the PCA and show what women's cricket needs then people will listen. The ECB are listening now, whereas a few years ago we were being told what is happening rather than asked.

HOW IMPORTANT IS THE ROLE THE ASSOCIATION PLAYS FOR ITS MEMBERS?

The PCA is incredibly important. Nobody likes asking for money or to challenge issues around contracts. We know that the PCA has our backs. The more we can grow that relationship the more we can flourish together.

Masters Unmasked

Adam Hollioake runs the rule over his summer-long PCA England Masters teammates. Clearly much fun was had...

Andrew Caddick

With well over 200 Test wickets. Andrew was a wonderful bowler. Tall, fast and swung the ball away from the right-hander - and if you needed anything done around the changing room - he was your man to fix it! Now sells helicopters for a living, so he is a useful guy to know.

John Emburey

The black cab driver of the PCA team. Knows every back roads and if he's to be believed, has lived in every house on the way! Still probably the Masters' best bowler. I think he's 87 now... and he's still got it.

Matthew Hoggard

Someone I would describe as a 'balloon' dieter'. One season he looks fit, then the next season... he doesn't look quite so fit. Always a practical joker. Poking fun at people. A funny guy. Still competitive.

Ali Brown

The cleanest of hitters. Alistair was probably the best batsman I played with at Surrey. I was in the middle for a period during his world-record one-day score of 268. I think I made three from 10 balls. Much like The Beatles, he was undeniably ahead of his time.

Dominic Cork

When I played against Dominic he was probably the guy I hated the most. Right up until we came together through the PCA England Masters. The reason I didn't like him was because we are so similar! I hate to say it, but I quite like him now.

Stephen Harmison

You turn up each year and he seems to keep getting bigger. And that's with him being BIG back in the day! A lovely guy, big personality and somebody with a subtle, dry sense of humour.

Simon Jones

Still getting the ball through at 90mph and probably the fastest bowler in the world off a two-pace run-up! One of my best mates, so I love having him in the team.

THE DRESSING ROOM

Master Servant?

From 'tough' to 'tough to take', here is Adam Hollioake's quick tale of the tape.

Best talker?

Ed Giddins is our MC. Mark Ramprakash has some great stories from his career and Strictly Come Dancing. Alex Tudor likes to think he is Kevin Hart

Biggest joker? Matthew Hoggard.

He is a clown.



Most serious? Mark Ramprakash.

Best dressed?

A bunch of shockers, all stuck in the '80s and '90s. John Emburey is still wearing his flat cap from the '60s...



Most organised?

None of us. As cricketers we go our whole lives with everything done for us.

Most competitive?

Me, Adam Hollioake, I have to put my hand up for that! If the game gets close I revert back to my younger days.



PCA England Masters



Devon Malcolm

Mr 9-57'. He is the star of the show, obviously a legend of the game and an iconic figure. Everyone remembers him for his incredibly fast bowling, his appalling batting, incredibly bad eye sight and for being just a big cuddly guy. Despite him being one of the strongest blokes you will ever meet.



On 99 per cent of occasions he is the most charming guy in the world. But when he wakes up on that 'one day', he is transformed into this ultracompetitive beast of a bloke! Playing against him - you just have to hope the nice guy turns up.

Owais Shah

Five IPL teams, plus teams in Bangladesh, Afghanistan and the Caribbean, he's played for them all. He played with me in 1996 when I captained an England A team in Australia, aged about 12. And he is still going.

Mark Allevne

The best captain of his generation. He took a Gloucestershire side without superstars and turned them into serial winners. I copied a lot of what Mark did tactically at Surrey.



Ryan Sidebottom

Lovely man. Unmistakeable. Looking like a fourth Bee Gee. Still a good bowler. The opposition seem to love having him around. A character in his own way.



Alex Tudor

He's one of my best mates in cricket and one of the best blokes in the sport. Famous for his 99 not out against New Zealand. Everyone's favourite guy in the Masters, that's probably why he is captain. If anyone else played the disciplinarian card, no-one would listen. But because he's such a nice guy everyone does what he says. Good captain as well.



Dimi Mascarenhas

I grew up with Dimi in Australia, a wonderful bloke and I love catching up with him. Loves a story. Loves a night on the town.



Ajmal Shahzad

He's under pressure by the older guys. He has to carry us and he is still ridiculously fit and strong. We turn up looking very middleaged, receding hairlines and low testosterone and he comes in and gives us confidence.



Summer 2018

The PCA England Masters, sponsored by Greene King, have travelled the length and breadth of the UK, raising funds for their hosts. Fourteen fixtures were played and £207,000 was accrued in support of local clubs and schools.

East Molesey CC held their second Masters match this year and succeeded in raising a staggering £32,500, with new sides Downend, Eversley, Hayfield and Gowerton all enjoying their first Masters encounters. Former England bowler, Alex Tudor captained the 'tourists' say-

ing, "It's great to see so much money raised again. Helping support these local clubs is exactly what the Masters is about and the fact we have so much fun in doing so is a massive bonus."

Former Surrey, Nottinghamshire and England batsman Ali Brown was named the Greene King PCA England Masters Player of the Year, an award bestowed on him by teammates.





To bring the Masters to your local club or school in 2019, email pcamasters@thepca.co.uk or visit thepca.co.uk/pca-england-masters



It was the first of what eventually became seven Apartheid-era rebel tours to the republic, the last of which happened in 1990, coinciding with the release of Nelson Mandela. In this instance it saw a South African Breweries English XI take on the hosts in three unofficial Tests (four-day games) and three one-dayers. Twelve English professionals (eleven with Test experience) captained by Graham Gooch, took on Mike Proctor's Springboks. The home side won both series, in what amounted to a month-long stint for the tourists. With the rebels finding themselves banned from international cricket for three years.

WAYNE LARKINS The Northamptonshire and latterly Durham batsman was a tyro of the county game. A destructive top-order batsman who played 13 Tests between 1980-1991, the right-hander's freewheeling style bore all the hallmarks of his equally laissez faire off-field personality.

BOB WOOLMER After a long and successful playing career with Kent, all-rounder Woolmer found world-renown as a forward-thinking international coach. After stints with Warwickshire and South Africa he tragically died on duty as Pakistan head coach in Jamaica during the 2007 World Cup in West Indies. Woolmer was 58.

LES TAYLOR Seam bowler and former miner Taylor came late to the county game, making a first-class debut for Leicestershire aged 23. Two Test appearances in 1985 were the highlights of a long, successful but ultimately injury-plagued

career. Taylor took up employment with the Royal Mail after retiring from the game in 1990. **CHRIS OLD** 'Chilly', as he was known, played the small matter of 379 first-class matches for Yorkshire and 46 Tests, taking fistfuls of wickets and adding useful lower-order runs. After retirement he went on to run a successful fish 'n chip restaurant in Cornwall before moving on to work for supermarket giants Sainsbury's.

MIKE HENDRICK Two-an-over seamer Hendrick also caught pigeons in the slip cordon, backing up the likes of Botham and Willis during the legendary 1981 Ashes summer. A respected bowling coach, Hendrick continues to add words of wisdom to the coaching mix at Trent Bridge with Nottinghamshire.

PETER WILLEY Notorious hard man, Durham-born all-rounder Willey played for Northamptonshire and Leicestershire across a 20-year first-class career. Father of David,



Catch it! Alan Knott and Graham Gooch look on as the ball disappears to the boundary during the first unofficial Test at Johannesburg. **Back row** (left-right) Wayne Larkins, Bob Woolmer, Les Taylor, Chris Old, Mike Hendrick, Peter Willey, John Lever Front row Geoff Humpage, Derek Underwood, Geoff Boycott, Graham Gooch, Peter Cooke (tour organiser), Dennis Amiss, Alan Knott

Willey went on to become a hugely-respected umpire until retirement at the conclusion of the 2014 season aged 65.

JOHN LEVER Essex's talismanic left-arm swing bowler played 21 Tests between 1976-1986, famously taking a Vaseline-drenched 7-46 v India at Delhi during England's 1976/77 tour of the Subcontinent. A legend of Chelmsford cricket, Lever coaches at Bancroft's School in the town.

GEOFF HUMPAGE Belligerent with the bat, sturdy with the gloves, the Birmingham-born all-rounder played three ODIs for England in 1981. After 16 seasons with Warwickshire had delivered in excess of 24,000 career runs and over a thousand dismissals, Humpage returned to his former career as a police officer. He retired from the force in 2016.

DEREK UNDERWOOD Kent's unique left-armer, 'Deadly' Derek Underwood was regarded

as unplayable in his day, particularly when presented with uncovered surfaces. A veteran of 86 Tests, Underwood's 297 wickets sets him atop the leading wicket-takers list for an England spin bowler. President of MCC in 2008, worked as director of sales at artificial pitch specialists, ClubTurf Cricket, until retirement in 2012.

GEOFF BOYCOTT 'Sir Geoffrey' had a stellar career as an opening batsman with his beloved Yorkshire where the right-hander's powers of concentration and command of technique was undeniable. After a quadruple heart bypass operation, Boycott returned to offer his well-regarded opinions on the sport as part of the BBC's Test Match Special radio broadcast team in September 2018 after an enforced spell on the sidelines.

GRAHAM GOOCH Another Essex and England great. This fearless opening batsman stood

tall during some of the most modest of times and slimmest of pickings for the international side. Acknowledged as fundamental in the modernisation of the national team's approach to fitness and training in the '80s, the 65-year-old is the current PCA President.

DENNIS AMISS Warwickshire's mercurial opener played well into his 40s, aggregating the small matter of 658 first-class matches and 404 List A games in a 28-year professional career. An MBE in 1988 for services to cricket, after a long stint as CEO at Edgbaston, Amiss continues on the after-dinner circuit as a speaker.

ALAN KNOTT Impish with the bat, world-class with the gloves for Kent, Knott might easily be regarded as the blueprint for England's modern breed of swashbuckling wicketkeeping talent. His partnership with Underwood a thing of legend. These days Knott divides his time between homes in Cyprus and Kent.









THE FULL WINNERS LIST...

Reg Hayter Cup for the NatWest PCA Players' Player of the Year **Joe Denly**

John Arlott Cup for the NatWest PCA Young Player of the Year **Ollie Pope**

NatWest Women's Player of the Summer **Sophie Ecclestone**

Specsavers Test Player of the Summer **James Anderson**

PCA One Day International Player of the Summer

Jos Buttler

PCA County Championship Player of the Year

Tom Bailey (Lancashire)

Vitality Blast Player of the Year **Joe Denly (Kent)**

Royal London One-Day Cup Player of the Year

Joe Denly (Kent)

ECB Special Award

Mick Hunt

Harold Goldblatt Award for the PCA Umpire of the Year

Michael Gough

Greene King PCA England Masters Player of the Summer

Ali Brown

Greene King Team of the Year

Rory Burns (Surrey, capt)

Alex Davies (Lancashire)

Joe Denly (Kent)

Ian Bell (Warwickshire/Birmingham Bears)

James Vince (Hampshire)

Moeen Ali (Worcestershire)

Dane Vilas (Lancashire, wk)

Rikki Clarke (Surrey)

Ed Barnard (Worcestershire)

Matt Henry (Kent)

Morne Morkel (Surrey)





Ebony Rainford-Brent on stage; Mark Butcher putting the questions to Graham Gooch; *Headline* rock the Roundhouse.

RIGHT PAGE Sophie Ecclestone collects the NatWest Women's Player of the Summer award, Rory Burns captains the Greene King Team of the Year and the new NatWest PCA Players' Player of the Year is... Joe Denly.















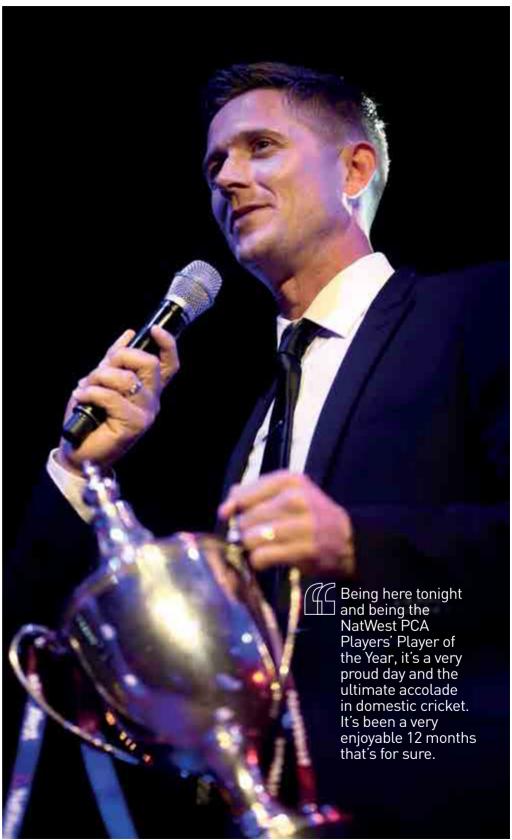
























Summer 2018:

Player Of The Month Winners

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The players that pulled up the trees, month by month.

APRIL

Tom Bailey, Lancashire

Seam bowler Tom Bailey was said to be 'chuffed' at winning the players vote. The 27-year-old was up against Nottinghamshire's Jake Ball, Ryan Higgins of Gloucestershire and Kent's Matt Henry.

Bailey secured 40 per cent of the vote after taking eight wickets in his opening two Specsavers County Championship fixtures of the season. But it was Bailey's third performance of the season that catapulted the opening bowler to the top, hitting a career-best 66 runs when batting at number 10, before taking four wickets in the first innings against Surrey to help force the follow-on.

He backed up his performance with the ball second time around, adding four more wickets, his match haul including each of the top six batsmen.

MAY

Keaton Jennings, Lancashire

The Lancashire opener hit a string of centuries, earning him an England recall.

He received 47 per cent of the vote, ahead of Sussex all-rounder Ollie Robinson and Kent

pair Matt Henry and Joe Denly.

Scoring 109 against Somerset in the Specsavers County Championship, followed by another four-day ton in the win over Nottinghamshire.

The 25-year-old then carried on his form in the Royal London One-Day Cup, making 136 and taking two wickets against Nottinghamshire, plus consecutive fifties against Northamptonshire and Durham.

JUNE

Heino Kuhn, Kent

The South African made headlines when scoring four centuries in five 50-over games, receiving 36 per cent of the public vote, narrowly edging out teammate Joe Denly and Warwickshire batsmen Ian Bell and Jonathan Trott.

"Scoring four hundreds in five games does not happen often," Kuhn said. "It was just one of those months where everything went my way.

"It was a great honour to win this award, especially in my first season at Kent."

JULY

Liam Livingstone, Lancashire

The all-rounder and club captain had a phenomenal run of form, he scored his first evert T20 hundred and took his best bowling figures before fracturing a thumb in the Championship fixture against Yorkshire. He was the third Lancashire player to win the monthly award in 2018.

The big hitter received 38 per cent of the public vote from supporters, for his aggregate of 280 runs and six wickets, seeing him ahead of Outlaws all-rounder Daniel Christian and Gloucestershire's Ryan Higgins.

AUGUST

Moeen Ali, Worcestershire

The left-hander credited his T20 century against Birmingham Bears as the catalyst for an England recall, with the 31-year-old going on to produce a phenomenal month with bat and ball.

The all-rounder received 61.2 per cent of the public vote, conducted via PCA and Sky Sports online platforms. "It was great to be back in county cricket and score some runs," said the England man. "I also loved the responsibility of captaincy. It gave me something to look forward to and a goal to go back and win games."

SEPTEMBER

Jack Brooks, Yorkshire

The cult hero ended his six-year association with the county after guiding the White Rose to safety in the Specsavers County Championship.

The seam bowler received 43.4 of the of the public vote ahead of Essex's Jamie Porter and Brooks' teammate Gary Ballance.

The 'Headband Warrior' snared 21 wickets across the month, including two five-wicket hauls. "I'm really pleased to have won this and it's nice for the fans to be engaged and choose me," said Brooks.

To keep up to date with all of the MVP Rankings visit thepca.co.uk/mvp-domestic





CHARITY UNVEILED

Professional Cricketers' Trust

October saw the launch of the Professional Cricketers' Trust, the repositioned registered charity of the PCA.

Formerly known as the PCA Benevolent Fund, the Professional Cricketers' Trust is a registered charity created to support the life-long health and wellbeing of PCA members and their immediate family.

Today's game is faster, more competitive, more public and more pressurised than ever before. Even the happiest professional career in cricket means long stretches away from home and financial uncertainty driven by short-term contracts.

The average cricket career comes to an end at the age of just 26.

Our sport might be individualistic, but as a community, we look after our own. Whether you play for a men's team or women's team, for a week or a decade, every professional cricketer in England and Wales is a life-long member of the PCA; and that means you can count on the Professional Cricketers' Trust for support.

Our 24-hour confidential helpline means we're your first port of call, day or night. You're never a number with the Professional Cricketers' Trust. We're big enough to make a difference, but small enough to offer personal guidance through turbulence and upheaval.

As professional cricket's leading charity, we offer welfare, education and a helping hand during difficult times. We fund life-changing assistance for you and your closest family, whether your situation is related to your cricket career, or not.

From medical care and mental health counselling to preventative educational programmes and help with addiction, we're proud to say we're here for you when you need us most.

WHY RELAUNCH?

We have restructured and renamed our organisation to better reflect the people we help every day. As our cricket family grows, so does our scope and ambition for new and ground-breaking projects, particularly in the fields of mental health and preventative education.

We offer life-changing assistance



for PCA members and their families. Relaunching The Professional Cricketers' Trust with a modern identity will help us embrace new challenges and attract the funding necessary to meet the growing responsibilities of our sport's leading charity.

With David Graveney as President,

Former Glamorgan and Sussex allrounder Keith Newell and his family has received support for his daughter Jessica, who has a lifelimiting condition, Mitochondrial Disease

We provide support for PCA members and their immediate families when they need it most.



Chairman David Ford and a multitude of Directors including former England opening batsman Marcus Trescothick, the Trust is now set to expand its duty in supporting current and former professional players in times of need.



INTRODUCING... OUR NEW IDENTITY

We've created a modern identity for the Professional Cricketers' Trust that can stand proudly alongside the PCA with visual clarity and continuity.

Our new identity focuses not only on the cricketer, but on the community around every player.

As well as togetherness, our new identity celebrates a sense of forward momentum. The Professional Cricketers' Trust is here to help people to move forward during difficult times.

If you, or PCA member you know is in need of support, please contact Ian Thomas on 07920 575578 or ian.thomas@professionalcricketerstrust.org





LEGACY YEAR APPEAL

PCA members improved on the already record breaking Legacy Year fundraising of over £700,000 thanks to an auction of memorabilia donated as part of the PCA's 50th anniversary.

The Legacy Year Appeal was launched with members encouraged to donate memorabilia, experiences and their time to raise money throughout the year for the Professional Cricketers' Trust.

A specialist auction meant crucial funds were generated and a special thanks to Brian Brain, John Hampshire, George Stephenson and the Graveney family who had items sold under the hammer for the players' charity.

THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE

Take on the Three Peaks
Challenge over three days to
climb the highest peaks in
the UK including Ben Nevis,
Scafell Pike and Snowdon for
the Professional Cricketers'
Trust and Tom Maynard Trust.
It's a tough test, so you should
be physically prepared, but
nothing beats the feeling of
achievement once you've
finished!

Coming Soon - October 2019





Doing Exactly What You're Told

For Derbyshire's Luis Reece, positive things can come from the most unusual of starting points. Whilst rehabbing the 28-year-old came up with the idea of committing to 12 months of charity challenges, with each month seeing him undertake a different 'ordeal' prescribed by the public via social media. The left-hander aims to raise money for three charities. The Professional Cricketers' Trust, MIND and CRY will benefit from Reece's dizzy dozen.

For details on how you can donate and support Luis, go to the Professional Cricketers' Trust twitter feed or donate at his JustGiving page.

PCA Confidential Help & Support Network

Call the Confidential Helpline any time on 0844 800 6873 (UK calls) or +44 (0)1373 858080 (international)

Professional Cricketers' Trust







These boots are made for walking... Graham Gooch on his 193 traverse of England;
BELOW: On the beach from left to right: David Stehr,
James Davis, Graham Gooch and Julia Helev.

Gooch Completes Coast 2 Coast Challenge

PCA President Graham Gooch raised over £20,000 after completing the Wainwright Coast to Coast walk in September with the gruelling 13-day hike starting in St Bees in Cumrbia to Robin Hood's Bay in North Yorkshire.



The former England captain took the challenge in an attempt to raise funds for the Professional Cricketers' Trust as well as his own scholarship. Targeting £20k to be split across both charities, 'Goochie' finished the 193-mile trek having raised well over his intended target.

Gooch has run his own Scholarship programme for fifteen years under the umbrella of the Essex Cricket Foundation and is delighted all his hard work paid off to support his two chosen charities.

"You put the effort in because you believe in the cause and you want to make a difference to people. We built some strong friendships on the walk and it was very enjoyable, it was worth all the effort and hard work," said the PCA President.

"I started my Scholarship to put something back into the game and then supporting the Professional Cricketers' Trust and how they dearly hold the welfare of the players and the educational courses and looking after past players too is very important."

Gooch was joined by Julia Heley, David Stehr and James Davis in completing the full walk with 13 others joining him along the way to fundraise. Inclement weather is always expected on the Coast to Coast walk, but 'Storm Ali' which occurred on day three was less expected.

Finishing the challenge by dipping their toes into the North Sea at Robin Hood's Bay, the PCA President is relieved the challenge is complete.

"Day two and three were the hardest days, it was very up and down in the Lakes, much more severe climbs," said Gooch.

"We caught some of those galeforce winds from Storm Ali and they were really tough days, we were high up and almost blown over with the driving rain as well.

"It was a great challenge, especially knowing it was in support of two worthwhile causes."







here is a misconception that cricket, being that greatest of traditional games, is somewhat averse to change.

'It's just not cricket', or so the saying goes.But then what exactly is cricket? It is in many ways one thing on one day and another thing the next.

White ball. Red ball. Pink ball, coloured kit, plain kit, same kit, Five days, four days, one day, 20 overs, 50 overs... and all that before the weather plays it's part. Then it's over to the mathematicians and the parameters of the game will move with every passing cloud.

In truth, cricket loves change. It embraces it with each passing season and skillfully traverses the nuances of it's different formats, rules and skill requirements. To the uninitiated it must look totally chaotic but, for some reason, it just works.

Which is most likely part of the grounding behind the ECB's confidence in its latest format being forwarded for the new teams tournament scheduled to start in 2020. The Hundred.

Trent Bridge staged pilot games, for the eight team city based competition between September 16 and 18 for the men's game whilst Loughborough hosted women's trial matches during the same month.

The days allowed for several ideas around the format to be trialled and players to get their first taste of what it may be like to play. The games were played as 100 balls per side, delivered in blocks of five with the bowling changing ends after two sets of five balls. A simplified scoreboard was in use counting balls down rather than the usual overs and the games were all done and dusted well inside the three hour time slot, favoured for broadcasters.

Worcestershire opening batsman and PCA Chairman, Daryl Mitchell, is one of the players to have experienced an early taste of the concept. "It definitely felt like cricket," commented the 34-year-old, speaking after a highly productive end to the summer. "Each innings came in at around the 62-65 minute mark. It was maybe sped up slightly, but still recognisable, it was important to all of the players that it retained all the good things the short-form of the game has to offer. It seemed very similar to T20 cricket. Which everyone liked. The skills were definitely still there."

Jonathan Agnew, the BBC's cricket correspondent, was also in attendance. Speaking at the time he was of a similar opinion to Mitchell.

"What we're watching is effectively a T20 game," concurred the former Leicestershire and England fast bowler. His concern was not about the game itself, but about how



The Big Bash - cricket's current benchmark in family entertainment.

Style Over Substance?

Some innovations in sport that worked, and some that just... didn't.

CRICKET, RUGBY, TENNIS, VOLLEYBALL

HAWK-EYE

Six or seven high-end cameras combining to map the trajectory of an object. In use since 2006, it is described as more accurate than a 'judge's eye'. Deciding whether it is a plus or minus depends on whether you see the removal of John McEnroe-like tantrums a good thing or a bad thing...

BASKETBALLL

SHOT CLOCK

It came into being in the NBA for the 1954/55 season to prevent sides from stalling for time when in the lead. Before the rule change teams averaged 79.5 points per game. That number went up to 93.1 in an instant.



ATHI FTICS

PROSTHETICS

What was a potential showstopper is now the chance to write a fresh chapter, recreate and reinvent. A motion study gathers information to create a device that moves with a disabled athletes body, replacing lost limbs with custom-built options.

SWIMMING

BODY SUITS

Better science leads to better equipment and with Speedo's low-drag polyurethane LZR body suits (introduced in 2008) being the gold standard in this regard. So dramatic were results that it was banned. Speaking at the time, the Nottingham-based business, said, "As a forward-thinking company that has invested millions in R&D. we believe that technology. properly monitored and adhering to guidelines, does have a place in all sport. Any move which seems to take the sport back two decades is a retrograde step."

AMERICAN SPORTS

ASTROTURF

For 'astroturf' read horrendous injuries. Since its debut in 1965, artificial turf has been held responsible for all manner of problems, including the inception of indoor baseball, which by all accounts is unilaterally hated Stateside. Essentially, a summer sport played inside. The reverse would be the concreting over of Centre Court at

Wimbledon for the fortnight.

CRICKET, BASEBALL

ALUMINIUM BATS

There's nothing like the sound of leather on willow. Especially when comparing it to the massively underwhelming plink when a ball meet what is essentially a metre of metal tubing. And when making contact, by all accounts, it ate the ball.

FOOTBALL

GOLDEN GOAL

Terrible. Just
terrible. What came
in, endorsed by Sepp
Blatter's FIFA, as a way
sides might win instantly
in a maelstrom of attacking
endeavour, became just the
opposite. No-one wants to
lose in extra-time, right?
We'll take our chances in a
penalty shoot-out, thanks
very much...

Fast Cuts

Words from the wise...

We don't know the precise format yet. It is for a new audience. So If I like it, that is not what the ECB wants. If I don't like it, my view is irrelevant anyway.

JONATHAN

AGNEW

We want to make the game as simple as possible for people to understand. What we're trying to do is appeal to a new audience, people that aren't traditional cricket fans.

ANDREW STRAUSS

It is very consumer friendly; it's a shorter, sharper format. It's taking things to a more simple level.

MARK RAMPRAKASH these new teams will attract their fan bases. "There are huge established cricketing areas of the country that are going to have to form allegiances. Leicester hate Nottingham, so why are their fans going to come to Trent Bridge to watch a team that might not have any of their players in it?"

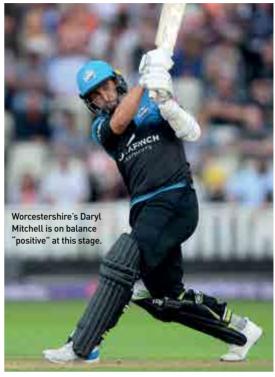
From a support staff perspective, England batting coach, Mark Ramprakash, acted as coach of the North team during the trials. "The captains have to be really sharp," said the former Middlesex and Surrey man. "The format also means that bowlers need to be on their toes and could be called upon at any moment."

With six seasons as a county captain behind him Mitchell took the reins for one of the sides during trials, a role identified by Ramprakash as vital. "With 'overs' being sent down in blocks of ten balls, that felt a bit odd at first. But after the first three of four sets it was fine. After three or four matches it became to even feel natural. It certainly didn't seem disjointed in any way.

"If I have an observation about the length of the overs, I'd say that for quick bowlers, it's too long. But if a wicket falls, that 30-second breather really helped. I thought it worked particularly well for spinners."

There were rule tweaks and changes from game to game and one interesting addition was that the new batsman had to take strike on the fall of a wicket regardless of any change of ends during the dismissal. "Personally, I can take it or leave it." says Mitchell. "But I guess it does guarantee the bowler the chance to bowl maybe a couple of balls before a batsman gets set. Tactically, it also negates batsmen running themselves out, in order to see a set batsman retain the strike. I suppose it isn't that often that a change comes in that benefits the fielding side. It's a concession I'd be happy to make."

With the reduction in balls being bowled across the match comes with it the decreasing likelihood of milestones being reached and the question of whether these spectacles are part of the theatre of the game "I think batsmen will still score hundreds. I think that remains



possible," says Mitchell, the maker of four Championship tons in 2018. "Maybe not as often, but still a real possibility. The same for the bowlers and five-fers. Spinning that I'd say that with fewer balls to face or bowl these statistical high points will be even more prized."

Commenting on other areas, Mitchell continued "Tactical timeouts worked well. Essentially, they formalised an on-field captain's ability to slow things down. During one of the games it proved pivotal. One of the sides were well set - they'd made 65 off 25 balls in pursuit of 120 and then lost four wickets for virtually no runs straight after a break in the game. Seeing them fall short of their target.

"In all of the games, the margins felt even tighter. The games even closer," summarised Mitchell. "To the point where I'd expect that closeness to carry on just like that over the season. That has to be good from a viewer's perspective and especially for the players."

More trials are in the pipeline for the format, while the PCA will be looking to gauge feedback from players over the coming months as the tournament starts to take shape.



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Look Who's Ialking

Showing no sign of decline, James Anderson is the most prolific Test seam bowler of all time. Luke Reynolds sat down with England's greatest ever bowler to talk about then, now and what next?





Being completely naked in front of strangers isn't the norm for many of us...



ames Anderson
has taken
wickets for
England wherever
he has marked out that
oh-so-smooth run of his. From pitching up in

oh-so-smooth run of his. From pitching up in 2003 as a crimson-haired tearaway and taking a debut five-fer at Lord's. To breezing to the top of the seam bowler Test standings and now looking every inch the statesman.

A trademark mix of skill, persistence and grumpy competitiveness, aged 36, Anderson is still rolling over the poles. The Burnley-born fast bowler was recognised by the public when named in an England all-time XI, voted for by cricket followers at ecb.co.uk and has won back-to-back England Test Match Summer MVP awards. Finding himself placed alongside the likes of era-defining players, Fred Trueman, Ian Botham and Len Hutton pays tribute to not only Anderson's peerless statistical record, but also his ability to connect with the fans.

Away from the middle he has increasingly found time to voice his opinions on the game from the commentary box. With his trademark deadpan humour and done-it-all knowledge, the father of three looks to be scoping out a niche

for himself for as and when he finally takes his sweater. Beyond the Boundaries sat down with the England great at Stoke Park, ahead of a day's golf with the PCA. To talk about his career spent working with and for the media and to discover exactly what brought the superstar to now consider rocking the mic, right himself.

As a young player, you were famously the cover star of the relaunched Wisden Cricketer magazine. Very much against convention at the time, you were photographed out of whites.

I can remember it. I wore a baseball cap. And knowing what I know now, I wouldn't have! I didn't realise what a big thing it was to be on the front cover of a magazine. I just rocked up in a t-shirt and jeans. With hindsight, I would probably have dressed a bit smarter.

And can you remember giving your first interview as a young cricketer?

L recall being nervous and

I recall being nervous and extremely wary. I remember giving four or five word answers. Nothing more. But as most players would agree,



the more you do it the easier it becomes. Personally, being well prepped helps me. We now have the benefit of good media liaison support. Using that resource really helps avoid feeling wrong-footed.

Again from a player's perspective, is handling questions from the media something you enjoy? I wouldn't say I enjoy it, but it's definitely part of being a professional cricketer. It's something to respect and to treat as part of the job. Things have to be done for the public to feel part of what's happening out there in the middle. I'd say that I have learned to enjoy it more.

In that, have you become more confident in expressing your opinion?

That's something I've been increasingly aware of a need to do. The more guarded you are, and the more cautious you are, the more it comes across as just that. And that isn't comfortable for anyone to see, hear or read. As a player, it's in your interest to give a good account of yourself. The England team have made a real effort to be more honest with not just the media but as part of the group environment in general. It's really important to have that kind of open forum. Feeling able to be express how you feel is crucial to a team's success.



And going back to magazine covers just for a second and thinking about expressing yourself. Doing that famous Attitude feature, photographed out of everything, not just your cricket whites. How did that come about?

I got asked. I was really unsure, actually. I talked it through with my wife. She was the one who in the end persuaded me that I should do it. Only because it was so far out of my comfort zone - being completely naked in front of strangers isn't the norm for many of us! But I'm really glad I did it. I wouldn't say I necessarily enjoyed it, but I'm pleased it went ahead. My attitude has always been that people shouldn't worry about the consequences of being themselves and expressing who they are. But there is something about sport and sportsman that at times makes it feel difficult to be open. Particularly around sexuality. Steven Davies came out not long after that and I'm not saying that me being on the cover of a gay lifestyle title made any difference, but we shouldn't be afraid to express who we are as people and as cricketers.

In terms of expressing your emotions, can you take yourself back to 2014 and the Test played against Sri Lanka at Headingley. Your clear

upset after the match was something you'd not really projected before. How did that feel at the time?

It was hard. Circumstances dictated that. I was stood waiting with the team ahead of the announcement of the Player of the Series. I wasn't expecting to go up. It has to be done, as these things do. And as proved, Test cricket can be a rollercoaster emotionally. It's the momentum swings. All that. And we came so close - just two balls away from drawing a game we didn't look like getting a result from. To be the person who was out, for me it was devastating. In my head I had let the team down. That thought was still pretty raw when I did that interview. In that moment, it is hard to block everything out and just crack on. It's the honesty thing again. People really connect with it when they see genuine emotion. That was exactly how I felt on that afternoon.

How did your first opportunities in the media present themselves?

I'm not involved in international white-ball cricket anymore, so I have a little bit more time on my hands during the season. Which means that outside of Test series I can make myself available for things more reliably. Also, I'm get-

ting to the stage of my career where it is sensible to look at what I am going to do after playing inevitably ends. In looking at the media as an option, first and foremost I have to find out if I am any good at it. Secondly, and not insignificantly, after enjoying playing sport as much as I have, it's important to me that I enjoy what I do after. And with that in mind, it needs to be something I can see myself enjoying in the long term. And at the moment, I'd say it is definitely something I'm interested in and enjoying.

The podcast is different to regular punditry, how did that all come about?

I enjoy recording Tailenders. It's something I do with Greg James (BBC Radio1 breakfast host) and Felix White (former Maccabees guitarist). I think it was an idea someone had in the pub! Felix is a huge cricket fan. Greg is a huge cricket fan. Which means they probably want to talk about cricket more than I do. Especially on air. Which suits me just fine. I'd say that even though it has cricket as its central theme, it is more like spending time with mates and having a chat. Which is something that I guess most people might enjoy. Regardless of how much they like the game.

What do you think that informality brings to the show?

I actually think it's a great starting point and platform to get new people into cricket. With Felix and Greg's background in music and music radio, it means contact with a different audience. Which has to be good for the game. And that's all we try to do. We try to connect with people on the fringes of that hardcore cricket audience.

Have you always thought you would end up working in the media?

If I'm honest, I have been so focussed on my cricket career that I've not really thought too deeply on the subject of 'life after'. I have absolutely loved the radio stuff and I've probably taken to that more than the TV, but it all has something going for it.

So, here's a question. You're on the radio. Your Test captain plays a poor shot. Do you feel able to be critical? Given that you're still a part of the dressing room?

I wouldn't say it is a comfortable thing to do. Not for any player. And not just because that person - or anyone for that matter - might be a teammate. As a general rule, I wouldn't say anything on air that I wouldn't be happy to say to a player's face.

Do you find having something else to focus on outside of playing has helped you?

Absolutely. And I've seen it in others. I've been so lucky that I've been able to play for as long as I have, but some people aren't that fortunate. For me - particularly as a bowler - I know it could all end next week, let alone next year. Having something to fall back on is crucial.

Where is your head at in terms of when might choose to retire?

I honestly don't know. Something that has stood me in good stead throughout my career is being able to focus on the next game, or the next day's play. I don't like to look too far ahead. I don't like to look too far back either.

Would you say that working in the media is a good option for players, career-wise?

Yes, in that anyone can be good at it, regardless of playing careers. No doubt it is easier if you have played international cricket, because of the status associated with that. But if you are good, I don't see any barriers. Especially as there are so many ways of getting a start. There's the written media. Local radio. BBC Radio 5 Live. So much.

With Yorkshire's Jack Brooks being a good example of someone outside the very top echelon of the sport doing well?

Absolutely, what people want to hear is informed opinion and knowledge. Jack has played for a number of seasons and been a successful county cricketer and he speaks really well. Over the next few years even more cricket is going to be on TV. The new competition is going to be on terrestrial TV too. There are going to be opportunities.

There is definitely a feeling among county players that, 'I'm not a Test cricketer and therefore I can't be part of the media'. Do you think this attitude is justified?

I think it was, definitely. It probably has put people off. You look at the Sky commentary box and it's all former England greats and I guess that appears quite daunting. But by contrast, you see the likes of Rob Key - who admittedly was an international player - but Charles Dagnall played county cricket for Leicestershire and Warwickshire. He's doing a fantastic job. So don't think that because you're not a former England captain you can't get into the media. That's not the case.

Should more players consider it as a career? Absolutely. I'd say that if you have a passion for something it comes across. That's what people want to hear.

How are the PCA are good in helping players' wider career prospects?

Having something to fall back in is so important. Whether it's a qualification or a job opportunity it does make a big difference. So, definitely, yes. We see Matt Wood at Old Trafford a fair bit as our regional representative. He comes in and out, as if he is part of the squad, which is really nice. You can't stress enough how important that is. He can be a shoulder to cry on, a friend to lean on or whatever it might be. He's not there to force anything, or put pressure on you, but he's always there when you might need him. Which is fantastic.





Top Trumps

James Anderson offers up his favourite pundits for scrutiny.

PETER ALLISS

"The BBC's lifelong colour man is someone I absolutely love listening to. He has the ability to make you feel like you're there on the course."

GARY NEVILLE

"I like the passion of the football pundits. I love the game, but I'm in no way an expert. So someone telling me something I didn't know is what really interests me. I think you get that with Gary Neville. He offers insight on what it's like to be a footballer and in that world."

NASSER HUSSAIN

"I've a huge amount of respect for everyone working in the game; even more so having had a bit of a taste of it. I played with Nasser and I think he's great. He speaks a lot of sense."

CHARLES DAGNALL

"He has the knowledge from playing the game as a pro. And as a colleague, and when working alongside him, I felt he brought the absolute best out in me. It's a real skill to get nuggets of information out of people you don't know that well."

Character Actor

Northamptonshire, Yorkshire and soon-to-be Somerset paceman Jack Brooks on his first forays in broadcasting, including stints on local and national radio...

"I'm not really one to sit watching the game through the dressing room window for two-hour stints at a time. I first did a couple of sessions watching Yorkshire for local radio with the late and dearly missed Dave Callaghan. I liked it. I was told that my personality suited it. I then got a chance as part of the TMS T20 coverage, working alongside Charles Dagnall and Henry Moeran, who both encouraged me to be myself.

"My approach means that I offer insight, go with the feel of the game and remember not to swear! I think it's definitely something I'm interested in and enjoy. It's a chance to be around the game, but without the pressure of playing.

"My previous career was as a salesman of industrial switches. It was a regular nine-to-five kind of job, but I'd have to say not quite as enjoyable as either playing or commentating.

"I'd seriously consider a career in the media post playing career as it's a nice way to stay involved in the game. "You can enjoy cricket without the pressures of

results, get to travel and it's still very social behind the microphone. From my experience, radio is very laid back

> which suits my character. "As part of my Personal Development I am aiming to continue gaining experience working in the media during my time at Somerset and we will see





Shout To The Top

Some cricketers making (air) waves in comms boxes across 2018.

It has always been an attractive option for players. Meaning a chance to remain in the game after a career spent competing. But with the benefit of better hours. And less performance pressure.

With current and past county cricketers increasingly adding value in commentary boxes, what once was the sole preserve of the 'England great' is now far more of a meritocracy. Adding their first-hand views to the ballast of seasoned journalistic professionals comes the next generation of men and women putting their money where their mouth(piece) is. Some star turns. Others self-starters.

1 ISA GUHA

Former England bowler and World Cup winner (50-over and T20 versions), Guha has worked in TV and radio commentary boxes across the cricketing galaxy, including regular gigs with the likes of Sky Sports, Star Sports, ESPN and Triple M in Australia.

2 LUKE FLETCHER

This genial seamer and former short-order chef has added a good slice of humour to BBC Radio Nottinghamshire's cricket coverage over the past couple of seasons. Insightful, enthusiastic and funny, 'Big Fletch' has gone from a fan favourite at Trent Bridge to a firm favourite across the airwaves.

IAIN O'BRIEN

Ex-pat Kiwi and veteran of 22 Tests, O'Brien now calls Derbyshire home. A colourful and interesting personality, the former fast bowler's opinions are wellconsidered and passionately articulated.

LYDIA GREENWAY

Ashes-winning batsman Greenway has been busy since retirement from the international game in 2016. Combining a coaching career with stints on Test Match Special, Greenway – who completed a commentary & broadcasting course that was partfunded by the PCA – also returned to the crease during the 2018 summer's TMS v Tailenders podcast charity match at Derby, finding herself opening the TMS innings with Phil Tufnell, for her sins...

3 MARCUS TRESCOTHICK

A stellar international career with England and a now seemingly neverending love story with Somerset, left-hander Trescothick has always been able to speak articulately on what it takes to play the game. A regular Sky Sports pundit and radio guest, Trescothick now adds his West Country burr to the cricketing conversation on a more regular basis.

For advice on career opportunities in the media, contact your PDM or the pca.co.uk

SECOND COMINGS: RETAKING YOUR GUARD



How one door closing doesn't mean the end of a career in the game. Matt Wood tells the tale of three players making their own way.

"You hit rock bottom without it being a career ending injury," reflects Yorkshire gloveman Jonny Tattersall, thinking back to when he received the news that his contract would not be renewed in 2015.

After being at the club he loved from young. Through all the performance pathways. Then a key member of England U19s. Before eventually making a List A debut in 2014. The now 23-year-old is back at the county club as a wicketkeeper-batsman with a whole new perspective. "Looking back before I was released it is clear now that if anything I wanted it too much. I got too worked up. I chased playing for the first team. Thinking too long on whether I would get a new deal? All of that sort of stuff."

But after that initial knock, he took stock and found a way back. After Yorkshire, the PCA and he himself had emailed his availability out, and knowing his 'stock wasn't high at the time', he appreciated that securing a second gig wouldn't be easy. "In 2016 I got on the front foot," says the Harrogate-born stumper. "I signed for Lincolnshire and played in the Minor Counties competition to keep my playing levels as high as I could. I trialled with Derbyshire through the week which meant that I was playing enough cricket and ended up doing well. I followed this with a winter in Tasmania. where I was working through the week and playing every Saturday."

It proved a period of success for

Tattersall, "It was strange because I actually scored more runs and made more hundreds while on trial than I did previously yet nobody was offering a contract," he says, reflecting on that time spent out of the first-class game. "It felt like it was actually harder to get back in the game than to get out.

"Attitude-wise, I turned a corner when I found a way to just enjoy my cricket rather than worrying what others were thinking. I had nothing to hold onto, no contract to keep, in the end it proved to me it was all about my mindset."

Tattersall says that he appreciates now more than ever the challenges faced by anyone trying to break into the professional ranks. "Make no mistake, trialling is tough! I am not the most outgoing bloke so not knowing the dressing room was intimidating. People make the right noises about you doing





well and wanting you to sign, but the reality of landing any deal is the club has to find the money to make the financial commitment which makes any deal happen."

But Tattersall's successes away from Headingley were not going unnoticed. He picks up the story, "Nothing came of my time at Derbyshire. But Yorkshire was tracking my progress and asked me back on a trial for what was the last Second XI game of the summer in 2016. It was against Nottinghamshire at Scarborough and

I scored a hundred. But still no deal was offered so I decided one more winter away before I told myself that I would look to focus on something else. As things turned out, and as things would have it, on my return Yorkshire offered me a three-month trial deal in 2017."

The outcome proved even more positive with Tattersall re-signing on an improved two-year contract. Over the winter of 2017/18, Tattersall realised he would further improve his chances of First XI cricket by making himself a viable wicketkeeping option. "I have worked hard. The keeping came about to make me more versatile as a player, especially in white-ball cricket. There was no guarantee I would get where I wanted to go, so I practiced in my own time. So far it has worked for me, ultimately I want to be in the side as a batsman in my own right."

Tattersall continues to improve his outlook and options, recently qualifying as a Level 3 S&C coach.

Paceman Andy Carter is now 30. Catching up with the giant bowler, he is currently with Worcestershire on a six-week engagement in what might be characterised as a portfolio career in the game. Naming stints at Nottinghamshire, Essex, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire and now at New Road, the Lincolnshire man reflects on his experiences "I thought I tired the other day, when bowling in the nets," says the Lincoln-born quick, "Then I compared it to how knackered I felt at times out in the 'real world'."

The real world being the place where sportsman go after their career has ended, rather than mid-term. But as a qualified



Attitude-wise, I turned a corner when I found a way to just enjoy my cricket rather than worrying what others were thinking.

Jonny Tattersall

plumber and tiler, Carter gives context to a working life. "Getting up at half five, driving an hour to the job, and then coming home again at six o'clock - doing that five days a week - that's tough. For me, that's tougher than pro sport."

Life experience now puts Carter in a good position from which to appreciate a life in cricket. "When you are talking about your first club, and the only thing you know is cricket, you get caught up in the day-to-day familiarity and at times take the lifestyle it gives you for granted. I think we all do as players.

"I'd say that if you haven't thought about things enough to know what you are going to be doing after cricket ends, then you have definitely taken it for granted. We know it will end one day. Prepare for it while you still play, you have time."

Batsman Will Fraine is a recent Yorkshire recruit, resigning for the club he originally played for as a 14-year-old. The Huddersfield born batsman is also a player who knows all about the hardships of trailing, after extended stints with Yorkshire and Worcestershire. The Durham University graduate reflects on his path which eventually led him to first team action for Nottinghamshire against eventual count champions, Surrey, this year.

"The Durham experience definitely helped me when I arrived at Trent Bridge," says the 22-year-old. "It has meant that I have developed physically and academically over the last few years and now feel ready to stake my claim as a pro. "I have suffered disappointments over the years and feel that has prepared me well. It's not the common route to first team cricket, to get there by doing well within the university set-up, bit it proves it can still be achieved.

"At the age I am, it has been one hell of a journey. I first played for Yorkshire when I was 14 and I played age-group cricket and the Academy since I was 16-17 and then I went to boarding School down in Worcester and played for Worcestershire for three years.

"I went on to Durham Uni where I played for the MCCU and captained it last year. I had a really good start to Uni last year and got a hundred against Sussex and 60-odd not out against Durham in the first-class stuff and I caught the eye of a couple of people. At the time Notts was the right place to go for me. Going from playing on a Saturday, Uni cricket or twos to being on Sky TV it's been a summer of learning and a summer of real highs.

"I'm really excited to progress and give it my best go at Yorkshire now."



Will Fraine opens up for the Outlaws.

LEFT PAGE: Andy Carter in bowling action
for Derbyshire; Yorkshire's Jonny Tattersall
takes a knee.

COMEBACK KINGS (& QUEEN)

Sports people who found a way; the hard way.

SURFING

BETHANY HAMILTON

After losing her left arm to a shark attack in 2003, few thought the then 13-year-old Hawaiian would ride the waves again, let alone return as a professional board rider. But return she did, winning the NSSA National title in 2005. A champion as recent as 2014, the 28-year-old's story immortalised in the 2011 film, 'Soul Surfer'.

FOOTBALL AND BOXING CURTIS WOODHOUSE

Journeyman Woodhouse announced his pursuit of the 'sweet science' after announcing he had 'falling out of love' with the Beautiful Game. A career false start - banned after conviction for assaulting a police officer in April 2006 - Woodhouse beats Darren Hamilton to become British Light-welterweight champion in February 2014. His autobiography, Box to Box: From the Premier League to British Boxing Champion, hit newsstands in 2016.

TENNIS

ANDRE AGASSI

In 1995 Agassi was number one in the world. A tumultuous relationship, injury and depression saw the 48-year-old hit rock bottom in 1997, snorting crystal meth. The Las Vegas-born multiple Grand Slam winner cleaned up, moving up the rankings until, in 2002, he became the oldest player



to reach number two. He finished with 60 career titles upon retirement in 2006.

GOLF

BEN HOGAN

It's 1949 and conditions are appalling on the West Texas Highway when a Greyhound bus piles into the golf star's Cadillac. With death looking more likely than walking a golf course, let alone winning on one, the tough-as-teak Texan wins the US Open at Merion 16 months later. In 1953 he became the only player – until Tiger Woods – to win three major PGA tournaments in one year.

SWIMMING

MICHAEL PHELPS

No one has won more gold medals in a single Olympics (eight) or in a lifetime than swimmer Phelps. The 33-year-old came back from a second very public DUI conviction in to earn yet more golds in Rio 2016, emerging - in his restoration - as an unlikely elder statesman.







Feature

is no longer uncommon for players and coaches to move between counties or even countries in a modern-day playing career. And with the advent of new competitions around the globe the need to be increasing flexible, willing to change location for set periods of time even, is only likely to increase.

Beyond the Boundaries spoke with three men who have all faced that very same dilemma. All for different reasons. Former Warwickshire & England all-rounder Dougie Brown talks about his move from Edgbaston to the United Arab Emirates. England's Liam Plunkett comments on how he has always striven to keep his cricketing journey fresh. Whilst Isle of Wightborn batsman Adam Hose speaks about how pragmatism has seen him at three different counties whilst still only 25.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE DRIVING FACTOR IN YOUR CRICKETING TRAVELS?

LIAM PLUNKETT: I was in a stale place when I moved from Durham to Yorkshire. Things were not working out and I didn't feel like I was playing my best cricket. It was a bit different with the move to the Oval. Simply, I wasn't offered a new contract at Headingley.

I couldn't be happier to move to another a big club.

position where I was in a position where I was out of work, and that was after 28 years at Warwickshire. Honestly, it was a really daunting prospect but the bills still need to be paid.

ADAM HOSE: Moving

from the Isle of Wight and playing for MCC YCs, Hampshire, Somerset and now Warwickshire, the overriding factor for each of my moves over the past seven or eight years has been the intention of bettering myself as a player and a person.

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE MAIN CHALLENGES AND BENEFITS WHEN RELOCATING?

PLUNKETT: I am close to my family, but I believe that I can live anywhere and still feel close to them. Modern means of communication - things like FaceTime - is massive. I have recently married my long term partner Emeleah, who has lived overseas for all of our relationship so far, meaning we have been back and forth for 11 years now. So physical distance is not a big thing for us. It can get lonely, but knowing that cricket doesn't last forever, and that we have the rest of our lives together, helps.

BROWN: Since moving to the UAE, things have actually been really exciting. Obviously, the move meant that there was a bit to sort out. It is very different culturally, which takes a bit of working out. Also, although you have had an incredible summer in the UK this year, the Dubai summer takes 'hot' to a different level. Being ginger and with 'Caledonian skin' doesn't naturally lend itself to temperatures in the 50-plus degrees bracket. But you actually get used to it reasonably quickly.

HOSE: I've been fortunate enough to travel the world, playing cricket from a young age. So the relocation side of the game is something that has always excited, rather than discouraged me. My girlfriend Ellie has always been amazingly supportive of the decisions I've made. We spent a lot of time apart during the early stages of my

career whilst I was playing and she was at university. We've lived together for a few years now and she has settled into a good career in Birmingham. It has worked out well for both of us.

WHAT SKILLS HAVE YOU'VE DEVELOPED THROUGH THESE EXPERIENCES?

PLUNKETT: I think it has set me up for life after cricket. I've had to adapt. It has meant travelling to different parts of the country and meeting different people.

Playing international cricket has meant coping with long periods away.

It does feel as though it has set me up well for whatever life throws at us.

BROWN: It has meant the application of stuff I have learned throughout my professional journey to date. Like most people, some things you get right and some wrong. Learning from both and having an opportunity to almost start from scratch has been an incredibly liberating experience for me professionally.

HOSE: I think professional sportsmen tend to possess resilience as a trait, as well as being competitive. This stands you in good stead for moving away from home. I quickly realised I had to become self-reliant, well organised and punctual if I wanted to make the most of the opportunities I had been gifted.

FINALLY, WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO ANYONE WHO IS RELOCATING COUNTY OR OVERSEAS FOR THE FIRST TIME TO AID THEM IN THEIR TRANSITION?

PLUNKETT: Don't move and be negative about it. Make sure you appreciate the opportunity, which for me has meant the chance to continuing playing at my highest possible level. I'm excited and thankful for that.

BROWN: Moving abroad, do a bit of homework regarding the country before you travel. Get to know the 'do's and don'ts', particularly if you are travelling to a country which is culturally different. Get your paperwork in order. Things like birth certificates and marriage licences, getting them attested is vital in securing residency. Tap into the experience of new friends and work colleagues. Googling things doesn't always help you to make the right decision, especially when it comes to finding trusted support in the form of dentists and doctors. Finally, download a good map app to your phone. It has proven a life saver. And if you move to the Middle East, make sure that you don't touch anything outside made of metal after 10.00am!

HOSE: Moving to London, aged 18, and living with six other MCC Young Cricketers made for a summer I'll never forget. Make sure to take the time to research and visit areas you might want to live ahead of moving there. Be brave. poach each opportunity with an open mind. And don't look back!



Keeping The Wheels Turning

WORDS: NICK DENNING Matt Dennington talks about his journey from county cricket to a role with one of the biggest companies in motorsport.



"Whilst playing for Kent I made the most of my down time by studying for a degree in Marketing, Economics & Business Management. In doing that, I also spent valuable time accessing the support of the PCA's PDM network, in my case Heidi Coleman and Charlie Mulraine. We were able to work out what inspired me professionally and what career options there might be based on that. It was part of a process of developing self-awareness.

"Following a season troubled by injury I was released from my playing contract and spent a winter abroad. Upon returning I was given an opportunity to trial at Nottinghamshire. It was at this point, when standing at mid-off on a cold April day, that I realised I wanted something different from life.

"I started to engage more proactively with my contacts network, working on the premise that people generally want to help others. Charlie Mulraine was also incredibly proactive on my behalf, securing me some work experience with a sponsorship agency. Following this - and in the not-toodistant future - I secured a role with Red Bull, managing their sponsored athletes and sports partnerships. When there, I was managed and mentored by someone who recognised the transferable skills from professional sport, but also pushed me in areas I wasn't so comfortable.

"From Red Bull I moved to a sport and fashion start-up. Although this move was challenging - the business didn't survive beyond 18 months - it was an experience that allowed me to learn and grow.

"Following a short stint freelancing, I got a job at Just Marketing International, later bought out by Chime Sports Marketing. I enjoyed an incredible six years with them, a time that included three promotions, to become Head of Client and Business Development. There were stages within that stint that I thought of taking up new challenges, but successful career management means not always jumping out of something and into something else, certainly not until you've gained the necessary skillsets and experience to get that next role.

"My current job is as Group Partnerships Director at the McLaren Technology Group. Through my time at JMI and CSM I worked closely with the company. I align partner expectations with those of McLaren, seeing the company retain a prestigious group of partners that will support the growth ambitions of our business.

"In summing up, I feel incredibly grateful for the experiences and opportunities I have had in my career to date. Both in cricket and in business. I have never once regretted my decision to walk away from the game.



Pictured during his playing days with Kent. BELOW: Happy in his work with the dream team at McLaren.

I enjoyed some great times, developed great relationships and will always remember the lessons professional sport taught me. Those being - be competitive, be ambitious, be humble and don't stand still.

"Finally, remember that everyone has a choice. If you don't like something - as I realised on that cold April day - change it."





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BuyingIn

Former Yorkshire and England all-rounder on his role with the players' representatitive body

Dual international (a combination of England and Scotland at four World Cups) Gavin Hamilton has been the PCA's Business Development Manager for half a decade now. After retirement aged 31, the former Yorkshire and Durham all-rounder took the plunge and moved into business, in a career shift that included two years on the road as a rep for beer brand Heineken. Hamilton's acumen, street smarts and positive attitude saw him progress swiftly through the ranks with the brewing giants before landing a role at the PCA in 2013. Hamilton played a single Test for England in 1999, plus 38 ODIs for Scotland in what was a hugely successful white-ball career.

FOR THOSE WHO DON'T REALLY KNOW YOU OR WHAT YOU DO, CAN YOU EXPLAIN YOUR ROLE HERE AT THE PCA?

I'd have to say that it is very broad, but if was going to sum things up I'd say that my main role is to look after all of our commercial partners and make sure they are enjoying the relationship, benefitting from the relationships, and that contracts are being correctly serviced. New business development

HAS THE COMBINATION OF PLAYING
EXPERIENCE AND COMMERCIAL WORLD

what we do.

is also vital. And attracting

new partners is first and

foremost about getting

people to dip their toes in

I think so. I certainly know the values of the PCA. And what is behind those drivers and messages. All my conversations with potential partners focus on not just what the organisation can offer them but also what can businesses offer the PCA? This takes the form of things like placements and general business experience and exposure. It all helps to create that strength of relationship. It takes a partnership to a different level. One beyond it being purely a cash transaction.

EXPERIENCE SHAPED HOW YOU DO YOUR JOB?

WHY DOES THE PCA RUN SUCH AN EXTENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE COMMERCIAL PROGRAMME?

The core purpose is to bring money in. Money that is then reinvested in member services. Which means that the Association can continue to offer what we believe is high-class of support and advice to professional players. We have around 80 commercial partners.

Through what we believe is a premium events programme we also raise substantial funds on behalf of the Professional Cricketers' Trust.

HOW IMPORTANT TO THE ORGANISATION IS THE SUCCESS OF THE TRUST?

The PCA's 50th year in 2017 was a recordbreaking one in terms of fundraising for our charity and it could not have been done without PCA events. We see it as important as member services. Our partners connect with us through the stories and videos we produce to showcase the phenomenal work the charity does.

WHAT ROLE DO PCA MEMBERS PLAY IN MAKING THE COMMERCIAL PROGRAMME WORK FOR ALL PARTIES INVOLVED?

Our members are huge for us. We run a Player Access Programme where we manage player appearances on behalf of PCA members. This activity not only brings money into the PCA but it gives a substantial number of members an income. Our players are our USP. In that, we believe our access is unrivalled.

ANY LAST THOUGHTS?

I think our members can do even more to support our work. It is great to see so many former and current players owning businesses or finding themselves in senior positions outside the game. These are people who can support the PCA, because they know the work we do and they know the world of cricket. Taking tables at events, entering teams in golf days, donating auction items for the Professional Cricketers' Trust - these contributions all make a difference.







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In The News

Across the summer, the Association continues to shape the narrative around our game in the media.

GET UP, STAND UP

As part of the new County Partnership Agreement, the PCA was vocal in outlining four non-negotiable principles during discussions with ECB. All crucial in ensuring every member benefits from the new broadcast deal due in 2020.

A GRAND DESIGN

The new '100-ball' format raised eyebrows and met with a large degree of ambiguity when initially broached. PCA members felt largely uninvolved at the outset, suffering a strong sense of feeling unheard. After adopting a firm stance, spearheaded by Daryl Mitchell, the players' union body has since been at the forefront of the competition's progression.

TONIC FOR THE TROOPS

May saw the PCA unearth widespread employment contract abuse across the county game. The discovery found that six clubs had been using unapproved contracts with nine professionals employed or offered contracts below the national minimum wage.

#ThankYouChef

News of Alastair Cook's retirement prompted the PCA to generate clips for a personal video inspired by the 161-cap veteran's career. It featured messages from 70 current and former Test teammates. The 10-minute long film was humorous and affectionate, these fond memories of 'Chef' going viral online after being shown to Cook and teammates ahead of his final team practice session in an England shirt. It gained over 500,000 views on social media, going as far as making the BBC Ten O'Clock News.



Players have 'concerns' about ECB's

proposed 100-ball format



Cricketers' poor pay Exclusive: County players getting below minimum w

(PCA









Past Player Day 2018

PCA Chairman and Worcestershire cricketer, Daryl Mitchell was in attendance and joined by several PCA staff as well as over 80 former players at this year's Cheltenham Festival.

Former England cricketer and National Selector, Geoff Miller hosted the event held at Cheltenham College. Hosting the event for the first time, Miller spoke of the importance of the day for the members, "Seeing familiar faces, people of all different ages, reminiscing about former times and exchanging dressing room banter, it's exactly what today is about and it's great to be able to be a part of it," Miller said.

Andy Brassington, former Gloucestershire cricketer, helped support the day and described the Past Players' Day as one of the most enjoyable events of the calendar. "I might run an events company, but this is the day I really look forward to. It's great to catch up with some old friends and see what stars walk through that gate in the morning."

Between them, the former players boasted

32,325 professional appearances;

802,699 runs; and

52,326 wickets!







AG

I might run an events company, but this is the day I really look forward to. **Andy Brassington** SOCIAL MEDIA

#SayNoToBeingHacked

How to protect your social media and emails in one simple lesson.



BY MATT HIMSWORTH

There is a large online fraternity whose focus is to hack online accounts. Be it via email, social media or any other window of opportunity. And if they can get in, they will.

Motivation varies. From straight-up criminality to hackers simply doing it to show that they can.

Verified Twitter and Instagram accounts are a popular target for these types with hacking causing havoc. With both domestic and international cricketers losing control of accounts. To be rendered helpless as they watch the hacker delete followers, remove tweets, change profile bios and images, and generally make mischief.

In an age when a current or former professional might use social media to supplement income with commercial opportunities, then this can be a serious problem.

It became the case for the then Yorkshire spinner Azeem Rafiq in 2018, "It was pretty scary to be honest," said the 27-year-old offspinner. "One evening I was sat at home and couldn't gain access to my Twitter account. I knew something was wrong."

And it's as simple as that. Very often vulnerability starts with email. Hackers can often access social media having penetrated the email associated with the account. When in, a hacker can change social media passwords and as a result lock a person out of an account completely.

The best way to mitigate risk is via a process of two-factor authentication. This means setting up a secondary level of protection for your social and email accounts. It then requires a password and also a secondary unique code

(received via text) before anyone is able to access an account from any new device. Consensus is that anyone with a social media or email should

To do it go into Phone Settings and work through the menu. It is usually a relatively simple process. If not obvious; Google it. Remember to ensure the correct email is associated with any social media app. As access to email triggers any password resets you might want to make.

Finally, revoke access allowed to any thirdparty app that track followers. Again, all doable via the Settings menu.



The best way to mitigate risk is via a process of two-factor authentication. This means setting up a secondary level of protection for your social and email accounts.

KFY

Our at-a-glance guide to member services, courses and support.













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CAREER

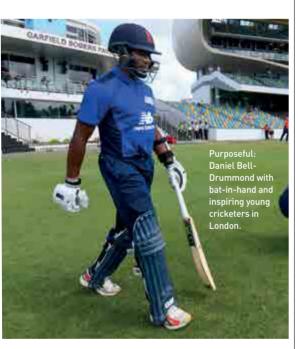
You Only Get What You Give

How Kent's Daniel Bell-Drummond is making waves supporting the game in South London.





BY TOM JONES



Kent's Daniel Bell-Drummond has spent the last 12 months setting up Platform, a participation-level initiative, created to meet goals that are close to the heart of the 25-year-old opening batsman.

Platform came alive in the winter of 2017-18 when Bell-Drummond acted on an idea he had just six months earlier. "There is an obvious disparity in opportunities for young people

from different backgrounds in North Lewisham to access the game," said Bell-Drummond. "I am passionate that we are able to reach out to children that don't necessarily have access to facilities and coaching. There are areas of the Borough where children need to travel on a bus for over an hour to get to the nearest cricket club and that just isn't fair."

Teaming up with a friend who has experience in the area of sports development, Bell-Drummond has taken the initiative a long way in a short period of time. This summer has seen the delivery of cricket coaching to children in schools across North Lewisham. Using the PE curriculum timetabled sessions, the business places specialist cricket coaches into the primary schools and engages the children in fun and vibrant sessions that are designed to encourage participation and also develop skill.

"We just want to do the best job we can with the resources we have available to us," said the scorer of nine first-class hundreds. "We are obviously in the infancy of the project but we are pleased with how many children we have involved so far. The feedback from the schools and pupils has been really positive and we feel we are having a major impact in the area."

Platform's success was showcased in June of this year when holding an event in Deptford Park that involved 450 children from 14 different schools. This was a source of huge pride for Bell-Drummond, who continues to explore ways in which he might engage more children.

During the upcoming winter, work will be

done to ensure more children can be given access to coaching. This will be done through a mix of engagement and the sourcing of additional funding, in order to allow the initiative to prosper and meet the ambitions of Bell-Drummond, who aims to double the amount of the children accessing cricket through the scheme in 2019.

"The event at Deptford Park was something we are really proud of. It showcased the work and generated smiles on faces, everyone enjoying a day of cricket that they wouldn't have had access to in previous years. If we can see even more children in the future then we might just see some of these kids on the Kent pathway."

There is no doubt that Bell-Drummond is clear about how he wants Platform to develop moving forward but he is keen to stick to the clear aims of his original idea. Social intervention and bringing cricket back to as many state schools in North Lewisham is top of the agenda. "I feel it is really important to give something back to the sport that has given me so much already. I also recognise the power of having a focus away from my playing commitments. It is really important to be able to switch off and concentrate on something different."

Moving forward, Bell-Drummond is keen to apply for the PCA Scholarship as a way of developing his venture further. Based on short-term success alone, there is no doubt that Platform will keep the England Lions star busy for some time to come.

EDUCATION

Here To Help

Mind Academy Education for players, supporting positive mental health.



BY TOM JONES

Mind Academy Education for players, supporting positive mental health.

Throughout the lead-up to the 2018 season the academy squads from all 18 first-class counties, as well as the senior England Women Academy, all attended educational workshops delivered by mental health charity Mind.

The focus of the workshop was on mental health awareness for young people. The 90-minute session was designed for cricketers by the experts at Mind and then delivered by their team of specialist trainers. The PCA and Mind work closely together to develop interactive content that includes real-life examples of how professional players have had to manage their own mental health.

The main elements covered in sessions revolves around young players being able to identify the signs and symptoms of poor mental health, as well as strategies to overcome lapses in mental health and the pressures of juggling the busy lifestyle of a professional cricketer.

Academy cricketers are often of an age where the pressures of exams can be difficult to deal with and their cricket commitments can become an added stress. The content of sessions is designed to equip the players with some coping and recognition strategies to help them perform in each of the important areas of their life.

During the tutorials players were able to relate the main messages of the session to practical examples within the world of cricket. The highlight The PCA and Mind work closely together to develop interactive content that includes reallife examples of how professional players have had to manage their own mental health. of these examples came via a video message from Marcus Trescothick who was able to give an honest and thought-provoking insight into his challenges across a long and successful career.

The positive response from players and coaching staff to the workshops shows where the topic of mental health in sport now sits on the player education agenda. Many coaches were highly complementary of the topic choice and recognised the importance of preparing their players in such a way. The Personal Development and Welfare Programme will now be offering this session to academies on a regular basis.

The workshops landed positively with the players. Ben Allison, an academy player from Essex said, "It is really interesting to learn how mental health can affect people from a range of different backgrounds. My ultimate goal is to become a cricketer at the highest level and I now feel as though I am equipped with some extra tools to do that."

If you, or any PCA member you know is in need of support, please contact Ian Thomas on 07920 575578 or ian.thomas@professionalcricketerstrust.org







Video games – who exactly is in control?



BY MATT WOOD

Like a bit of Fortnite? Enjoy your FIFA? Keen on Clash of Clans? Well, if you're of a certain age, the answer is almost certainly, yes. But it turns out that if you are someone who plays these well-known video games a bit too often and for too long, you could now be seen as a person with an addiction.

in its latest International Classification of Diseases. officially categorised 'Gaming Addiction' as a

Mental Heath condition. Bringing it in line with substance abuses such as cocaine and alcohol.

Some estimates suggest that there could be 46 million of us in some way addicted to internet use, with social media and gaming making up for the vast majority of this negative screen time.

Experts suggest several factors, which correlate with the highs experienced during gaming to other problematic forms of addiction. Firstly, there is the simplicity of feeling good when playing, then the adrenaline rush of high achievement activating reward centres in the brain, followed by the immediate opportunity to achieve this feeling again by moving on and testing yourself at a higher level.

Many of the more addictive games have a moving narrative where the game continuously escalates or updates, bringing new challenges to Earlier this year the World Health Organisation, master, encouraging the player to keep playing, or keep coming back for more. They require a level of commitment to the game, which can

easily become full-blown dedication in order for a player to ultimately feel successful.

Games like Fortnite, Call of Duty, Farmville, Clash of Clans, Minecraft, Angry Birds and World of Warcraft all fall into this risk category of being more prone to addiction. Some signs that your gaming habit may be becoming problematic:

- Regular tiredness due to lack of sleep
- Preoccupation with getting back online
- Self-imposed isolation in order to play games
- Lying about the amount of time spent playing
- Diminished personal hygiene and poor diet
- Persistent headaches caused by too much screen time

Think you might be struggling in this area? Or want to talk about cutting down your screen time or internet use? Speak to you your PDM to access help and advice.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Doors Are Open For Another Year

Looking to progress a career off the field? Consider adding your name to that of fellow past and current professionals as a PCA Professional Development scholar.





Let the PCA support your wider interests and ambitions by becoming one of 2019's Personal Development Scholars.

Now in its seventh year, the PCA Personal Development Scholarship sees members take part in a wide range of personal development initiatives, with the award casting the spotlight on some of the best examples of cricketers getting on the front foot.

There's no restriction on what constitutes award-worthy examples of personal development. These could include personal or professional development courses, professional or vocational qualifications, cricketing development (where relevant), work placements or even involvement in charity or community-based work.

The membership competes across three categories: Newcomers, Current and Past Players. After a written application stage, the shortlisted candidates are invited for a panel presentation at Edgbaston, offering their thoughts on the Personal Development process, before answering questions on their submissions.

Winners receive a financial award against the costs of courses as well as serving as PCA Personal Development Ambassadors for 2019.

THE CONTROL OF THE CO

Billy Godleman: sweeping all before

A selection of previous winners from 2018 and 2017 describe the impact of their success and the ways in which they used the financial reward:

OLLIE SALE: "The PCA Personal Development Scholarship has not only given me the chance to explore new opportunities but also encouraged me to continue my development outside of cricket. Since winning, I have been able to regularly visit a pilates studio alongside my cricket, and also with the prospect of going abroad this winter the award has provided me with a bit more financial flexibility!"

LUKE WELLS: "The positive and yet nerve-wracking experience of preparing and delivering a successful presentation gave me a lot of confidence with my personal development as well as of course the money itself which went straight into further tuition fees. Winning the scholarship and having such positive feedback only further enhanced my motivation to continue and strive onwards with my studies."

TIM LINLEY: "If you have got a passion and you want to explore that avenue then the help is there from the PCA. You just have to ask. I really have used the PCA a lot in different facets and I feel so fortunate that I was a professional cricketer because I have had this great organisation behind me through a difficult period since my retirement."

BILLY GODLEMAN: "It was a great privilege to be awarded a PCA Personal Development Scholarship. All the time, support and counsel that Charlie Mulraine gave me was instrumental in helping me find the best areas to explore.

"I was extremely grateful for the finance the PCA contributed to make my development plans possible. A third of this money I donated to the YMCA charity, which I have supported over recent years. The remainder of the money was put towards the completion of a TM meditation course."

Applications for the 2019 Personal Development Scholarship Awards are open and close on 14 December 2018. Contact your Regional PDM if interested or Charlie Mulraine for details of the application process: charlie.mulraine@thepca.co.uk CAREEF

To PDP, Or Not To PDP, That Is The Question...

Shedding light on a key aspect of the PCA's Personal Development & Welfare Programme and how it can positively impact on a player's life.



BY CHARLIE MULRAINE

Players have probably heard talk of Personal Development Plans (PDPs) for the last few years, and it still wouldn't surprise anyone if some of you aren't quite sure what they are, or how they help. In this article, I will do my best to answer these questions, whilst in the same breath urge you to work with your PDM to get your plan up and running. Evidence from current and former players strongly suggests that developing some kind of career plan alongside cricket can benefit both your cricket performance and your future beyond it.

The Personal Development Plan was introduced to the Personal Development & Welfare Programme in 2012. The purpose of the PDP was not only to create a more formal method of recording players' academic and professional development but also to create a visual document enabling players to reflect on their achievements to better inform next steps.

A PDP is a relatively simple document that helps to establish a player's career trajectory (usually concerning work and education away from the game), highlights development needs, records development opportunities and options, establishes an action plan and allows the player to review and evaluate outcomes.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

One of the most important elements of the PDP is the self-assessment section. Players are required to self-score their proficiency across areas such as Welfare (mental and physical), Transition (readiness for life after cricket) and Skills Assessment covering areas such as numeracy, communication and leadership. This is a great opportunity for players to be honest

and challenge their self-awareness. These scores then clearly highlight strengths that can be further worked on as well as areas that may need more development and specific training.

With the new website launch this year, the PDP can now be accessed and updated online via the PCA app or from the PCA website. Players are able to update and develop their PDP independently as well as work alongside their Personal Development Manager to create new opportunities and actions.

Even as a player, if you don't feel you have anything tangible to add to your PDP, we'd strongly recommend you undertake the self-assessment section and work with your PDM to explore what these scores mean and how they may help to shape different options. Over time, you will be able to review your actions and gain confidence from the progress you've made.

If you haven't already done so, download the PCA app and contact your Regional PDM to understand more about how your PDP can be best used. If you have any issues downloading the app or accessing your PDP, contact your PDM and they will be able to help you.



EDUCATION

Change Of Pace

Players enjoy Drive Awareness courses with Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service



BY MARK WALLACE



When it comes to getting behind the wheel of a vehicle, there is a general consensus that we all know the risks involved, yet most people are guilty of pushing the boundaries of what's deemed 'safe' at the same time. In 2018 the PCA Personal Development and Welfare Programme worked alongside the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service to produce a Drive Awareness Workshop delivered across all 18 first-class counties.

These ground-breaking 90-minute presentations were delivered by active fire and rescue personnel, sharing insights into their day-to-day experiences of road traffic collisions. With over 50 deaths per county per year and an average of 365 life-changing injuries per county due to driving, the focus was clearly around education and prevention.

The message around the 'FATAL 4' was supported with hard-hitting video footage, designed to grab attention.

MOBILE PHONES

A natural distraction, even just checking your social media feed. A person is four-times more likely to have a crash by driving while on your mobile. For new drivers - those within the first two years of passing their test - this could mean losing your licence and resitting the qualification. That text, call or streaming session will therefore not only be expensive but could impact your future or current employment. If you talk, text or even play with your phone whilst driving, it could be six points and a £200 fine.

WEAR A SEAT BELT

Being catapulted from a car seat is the most harmful and highest cause of injury or

death. Equally, if you are in the rear of the vehicle without a seatbelt you risk 'the washing machine' effect where 'spinning around' inside the car causing damage to everyone within. Get caught with no seat belt - expect a £100 fine.

DRINK/DRUGS

"I didn't realise I was over the limit..." "It was only a spliff or two..." "It was an emergency and I had to drive..."

Drive or attempt to drive when you're over the limit and it's an instant 12-month ban. This conviction will then stay on your licence for 11 years.

SPEEDING

Not only linked to accidents and road traffic collisions, you will also incur fines linked to your salary and collect between three and six points, depending on the speed limit breach.

During the day, players saw their competitive juices flowing on the BATAK reaction challenge, where 12 LED targets are lit up randomly with scores were registered for the highest number of successful hits in a minute. Results were compared doing the test under normal conditions and then for a second times when wearing a headset referred to as 'beer goggles'. In this 'state', scores were reduced by 50 per cent, leaving some candidates not able to 'hit the lights' at all.

To complete the session players were invited to view a real-life road traffic collision through the use of VR headsets. Bringing the horror of what can happen into sharp and stark focus. Drive Safe!

EDUCATION

Making The Right Choices

Educating members on gambling risks



BY LUKE REYNOLDS

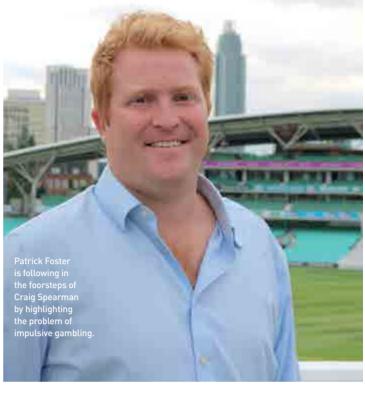
Former Northamptonshire seam bowler Patrick Foster is set to use his own experiences as a catalyst to educate players on the risks of gambling after admitting the Professional Cricketers' Trust saved his life. After the 31-year-old was released by the county club in 2007 while at Durham University, before a career in finance and then teaching saw his gambling addiction run away with his life.

Born in Nairobi, Foster moved to the UK aged five and was scouted as a 15-year-old, signing his first professional contract at 18. Released just two years later, Foster completed his degree before heading to the City.

Years of impulsive gambling followed and Foster felt he had nowhere to go, hitting rock bottom. Minutes away from committing suicide in March 2018, Foster reached out for help.

A period of rehabilitation in an intensive outreach programme followed and albeit still early days, Foster's tentative recovery has him keen to make a difference. "I considered myself a selfreliant, proud person, able to deal with everything myself and never needed help. I have since learnt that showing vulnerability is a massive sign of courage and strength," said Foster, taking stock of his life. "I don't want other people to suffer in the same way or learn the hard way like I did. I want to help other to find the courage and confidence to come forward. A lot of work has to be done in alleviating the stigma associated with gambling and addiction, in this it is about education."

The former Durham UCCE captain is the first



PCA member to publicly discuss his gambling problem since Gloucestershire batsman Craig Spearman in 2013. As a consequence, Foster is set to embark on a tour of the first-class counties as part of the PCA's Personal Development and Welfare Programme. Foster already delivers talks to schools and is set to expand the sessions to the membership and academy players, in order to educate them on the dangers of betting. "I want to work with the PCA and the Professional Cricketers' Trust and tell players about my journey. With the ease of accessibility and the exposure to gambling advertising these days it's an even easier trap to fall into. I want to give people the best chance of this not happening. If I can make a difference to one person it will all be worthwhile and it is a small way of giving back to the sport and the PCA, and a way of saying thank you."





I don't want other people to suffer in the same way or learn the hard way like I did I way learn the hard way like I did. I want to help other to find the courage and confidence to come forward

CAREER

On The Front Foot

Changes to the new ECB Coaching Pathway outlined.



With coaching remaining one of the most sought-after professions for players to transition into, it is worth noting the changes that the ECB are starting to put in place around the organisation's world-renowned coach education programme.

The old Level 1 and 2 coaching certificates have been replaced by new courses to be known as 'Foundation Coach 1' and 'Foundation Coach 2'. However, the biggest change here for PCA members is that there will now be a 'Fast Track Foundation' phase, in place to cover both courses over a more concise period of time available, to those with experience at the higher levels of the game.

This new entry point is a significant change and will provide a unique learning opportunity for those looking to transfer their experience of playing into experience that informs their ongoing development as a coach.

There will also be a new bridging module required, should you wish to move on from Foundation Coach 2 to the new Advanced Coach course, in place to supersede the old Level 3. This short module will be based on Practical Coaching Skills, where candidates will need to learn and show ability in delivering everyday coaching necessities such as throwing, using the sidearm, nicking catches, taking bowlers with a mit, operating machines etc.

Most pros will certainly agree that these skills are underappreciated and hopefully the days of the sidearmed 80mph beamer from a rookie coach are coming to an end.

Perhaps the biggest change is in place at the next rung up the ladder, where the Level 4 course has been replaced by the new Specialist Coach course. This course is being led by former Lancashire batsman Nathan Wood, recently been appointed as Specialist and International Coach Lead.

The Post Grad Certificate from the University of Gloucestershire, which used to be studied alongside Level 4, has been dropped meaning that the academic rigor previously required on some of the assignments has disappeared with it. This has enabled the contact time required on site at Loughborough to be cut down, allowing coaches to more closely identify with areas of specialism and particular interest.

These changes are slowly being introduced. For those who already have their coaching badges, rest assured that these will simply transfer across to the relevant level on the new system, with new CPD opportunities continuing to be sourced and available at that level.

Should you feel in need of a more in-depth explanation or have an interest in coaching, get in touch with your PDM.



CAREER

Handling Things The Right Way

Contract advice and negotiation service update.



BY RICH HUDSON

Cricketers are no different to other sportspeople where contract negotiations are concerned. They play a significant part in all professional athletes' lives. The PCA has always sought to provide support in this area, bringing in former CSM Head of Cricket, Rich Hudson during 2017 with a remit to increase the level of support in this area.

The approach the PCA has adopted is to work with players whilst trying to upskill them along the way. With 250 players having

interacted with Hudson over a 17-month period, with support varying from one-off phone conversations to going as far as handling the full negotiation process on their behalf, it shows of a service working well.

The development of this life skill is something that will likely remain valuable throughout a working life. Thus making it an important focus for the Personal Development and Welfare Programme.

Handling his own contract discussions was

Luke Wells clips the ball away during his innings against Derbyshire, August 2018.

something Sussex batsman Luke Wells felt was an important step, given the stage of his career he found himself. He worked closely with the PCA to prepare for salary discussions, finding himself leading the process, with Rich alongside him during meetings. "The experience of being involved directly in my own future was invaluable," said Wells. "To be able to front up and discuss your worth with your employer is not easy but I'm glad I got involved and it is something I would certainly look to proactively do again. However, I'm glad I didn't do it alone and had support throughout the whole process. It made a huge difference. Having Rich was vital in ensuring I achieved the desired outcome."

Having worked closely with Wells during the process, Hudson believed the 27-year-old was right to 'fly alone'. "Naturally the first time is nerve-wracking," said the PCA man. "I acted as a sounding board for Luke to ensure he had clarity in what he was trying to achieve and how to take a planned approach to the negotiations."

"I would encourage every player to consider this option and I think Luke gained a lot. Things that he will take into his next discussions with the club."

Elsewhere, the PCA contract advice and negotiation service has been addressing salaries in the county game, figures that are currently below the national minimum wage, as well as the regular misuse of non-standard player contracts. The PCA has represented numerous players with issues in this area, fighting to ensure rights are protected.

A number of counties have also engaged with the PCA to ensure they are reaching the required standards, a process seen as a positive move by all concerned.

Protecting the rights of its members is at the heart of the PCA's activity across the organisation's mandate and the PCA continues to fight hard for its members in this area.

Any questions on contracts? Contact Rich Hudson – 07375 414694 or rich.hudson@thepca.co.uk

Obits

JOHN MURRAY MBE (1935-2018)

Born in North London, John Thomas Murray first came to prominence playing for Rugby Boys' Club. Joining the Lord's ground staff aged 15, Murray was also a heavy scorer over two years with the RAF. A Middlesex debut came against Leicestershire at Grace Road in 1952, pre-empting his taking over the gloves formally in 1955. Capped at the end of the 1957 season, Murray not only claimed 104 victims but also passed 1,000 runs with the bat to join the legendary Leslie Ames as only the second wicketkeeper in the history of the game to achieve this double.

Between 1952 and 1975, Murray went on to make 508 first-class and 147 List A appearances for Middlesex, claiming a total of 1527 dismissals and scoring 18,872 runs, including 16 centuries

Making a Test debut against Australia at Edgbaston in 1961, he went on to hold seven catches at Old Trafford during that series to create a new record for an England keeper against the Tourists. Unfortunate injuries in India in 1961/62 and Australia in 1962/63 deprived him of a regular England berth. Against the West Indies at the Oval in 1966 he made 112, sharing a partnership of 217 with Tom Graveney. Winning 21 Test caps he totalled 508 runs and claimed 55 victims. He was 83.

ROY BOOTH [1926-2018]

Few Worcestershire cricketers have had a longer association with the club than Roy Booth. As a wicketkeeper, he remained a model of efficiency, immaculate in dress and style without ever being overly flamboyant, as well as an occasional bowler and stand-in captain.

Born in Marsden near Huddersfield and a product of Golcar Cricket Club, Booth joined Yorkshire in 1955. Constantly vying for the wicketkeeping role with the legendary Jimmy Binks, he made 56 appearances for his native county.

Joining Worcestershire in 1956, he claimed

100 victims in both 1960 and 1961. In three successive years, he came very close to achieving 1,000 runs and 100 wickets.

Against Essex at Romford in 1962, he took eight catches in the match and was a member of the championship-winning sides of 1964 and 1965. Booth finally retired in 1970, having made 402 appearances, scored 10,139 runs and claimed 1,015 victims, the first Worcestershire wicketkeeper to have passed the 1,000 victim mark.

Enjoying a successful benefit in 1968, he later served as Chairman of the Cricket Committee before becoming President. A talented footballer, he also had trials with Burnley.

RALPH PROUTON [1926-2018]

The former Hampshire cricketer was also a resolute wing half, once on the books of Arsenal. Having initially joined the Gunners from Romsey Town, during the 1952/3 season he would go on to play for Swindon Town before ending his football career with Bath City.

A native of Southampton, serving his cricketing apprenticeship on the MCC Groundstaff, Ralph Oliver Prouton first played for Hampshire in 1949.

Eventually inheriting the gloves in 1951, following the retirement of Hampshire veteran Neil McCorkell, for two years Prouton became the county's first choice keeper. He made 52 appearances for Hampshire with a top score of 90, scored against Leicestershire in 1953. He also had 97 victims, 84 caught and 13 stumped. While undertaking a teaching career at Downside, Prouton also served the game as a Minor County Umpire.

GEOFF CLAYTON (1938-2018)

At 5'5" tall, an abrasive and often contradictory character, Geoff Clayton was the proverbial pocket dynamo.

In a career during the 1960s that sparkled all-too briefly, with both Lancashire and Somerset, Clayton was a technically outstanding wicketkeeper, whether standing back to the pace of Brian Statham or over the pegs taking Greenhough and Ramadhin. He was also a pugnacious lower-order batsman.

Born in Mossley and universally known as Chimp, Clayton first played for Lancashire



Second XI in the Minor Counties Championship in 1956. He made his first-class debut for the Combined Services against Worcestershire before a debut for Lancashire, against Yorkshire in 1959.

One of the emerging talents in that first season, when facing Gloucestershire in only his eighth match, he created a new record by claiming eight catches and one stumping. In addition to ending the season with 60 victims, he also scored 647 runs, including a fighting 74 not out against Middlesex.

Signing for Somerset in 1965, his 84 victims that season saw him become the game's leading keeper. Likewise, against Middlesex at Bristol, having initially arrived as nightwatchman, he then proceeded to hit 106. Making 274 first-class appearances, he scored 6154 runs and claimed 670 victims.

DERRICK FLINT (1924-2018)

A member of a distinguished sporting dynasty, Derrick Flint was born with sport in his DNA. Father, Benjamin, played for Nottinghamshire in the years following the Great War and later became a first-class umpire. Uncle William, also played for the county while, during the winter months, served as a tough-tackling half-back with Notts County.

Born in Cresswell, Derbyshire, Derrick Flint was a leg-break and googly bowler and right-handed lower-order batsman who made ten appearances for Warwickshire in two seasons, 1948 and 1949. Making his debut against Cambridge University at Edgbaston he took 4-67.

Later, while coaching at Dean Close School, he became a stalwart of the Birmingham League, representing Harborne, Coventry & North Warwick and Walsall. In the interim, having begun with just one lorry and a digger, he successfully built-up a thriving civil engineering and construction business.

Twice married, his second wife was England Test cricketer, Rachael Heyhoe. The first woman to be elected on to an MCC Committee and to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame, in 2011 she became Baroness Heyhoe Flint. Following their marriage in 1971, becoming in her own words, 'sub mum' to Flint's three elder children, Rowan, Hazel and Simon, two years later the couple had a son, Benjamin. Rachael died in January 2017.



TONY CATT (1933-2018)

Almost every record - good or bad - is held by a Kent wicketkeeper. Be they Leslie Ames, Godfrey Evans, Alan Knott or indeed Tony Catt.

To Catt goes the honour of one of the less welcome first-class accolades. In 1955, while in reported agony with sunburn, he conceded 48 byes and 23 leg byes, making extras the top scorer in a Northamptonshire total of 374.

A native of Edenbridge, Antony Waldron Catt played for the Army during his National Service. A talented wicketkeeper and forceful right-handed lower-order batsman, he made his first-class debut for Kent against Oxford University at The Parks in May 1954 before signing as Godfrey Evans's deputy in 1956.

Four years later - Kent's first season post Evans - Catt took charge before disappointing form with the bat allowed the Charlton Athletic and England centre-half, Derek Ufton, to supersede him. When Ufton left to become Plymouth Argyle manager in 1962, Catt seized his opportunity. Capped that year the gloveman totalled 905 runs. In June, against Leicestershire at Mote Park when coming in as nightwatchman, he bludgeoned an outstanding 162.

Making 138 appearances for Kent between 1954 and 1964, in all Catt scored 3,123 runs and claimed 321 victims. Catt subsequently emigrated to South Africa where he went on the represent Western Province in the Currie Cup competition.

ALWYN HARRIS [1936-2018]

Renowned as the first Glamorgan player to face a ball in the new Gillette Cup of 1963, Harris played for the county between 1960 and 1964 as a left-handed opening batsman who was solid to the point of imperturbable.

A native of Aberdulais, educated at Cadoxton Comprehensive School, Harris initially made his mark playing soccer for Llanelli and local league cricket with Ynysygerwn. He first appeared for Glamorgan Second XI in 1956.

After completing National Service, he joined the Glamorgan staff for four years where he made his debut against Kent at Blackheath.

His best season was 1962 when as an everpresent, his tally of 1,048 runs included a maiden century, 110, against Warwickshire at Swansea. A fortnight later, facing the Pakistani tourists, he scored a dazzling 101.

Leaving Glamorgan in 1964, Harris coached at Christ's College Brecon, before working as an engineer for a gearbox company in Resolven.

A career with Briton Ferry Steel, Metal Box, Hill's Plymouth, Gorseinon, Ammanford and Llanelli, Harris also made a most positive contribution to the grass roots game. He died aged 82.



ALAN OAKMAN (1930-2018)

A member of the Sussex side that won the inaugural Gillette Cup in 1963, Alan Oakman was a tall, fair-haired right-handed opening batsman, off-spin bowler, occasional captain and outstanding close to the wicket fielder. Over the course of 21 years (1947-1968) he gave the county sterling service, with winters spent in goal for Hastings Town or coaching in South Africa.

Alan Stanley Myles Oakman first played for Sussex in 1947. Capped in 1951, following National Service, he went on to make 538 appearances for the county, scoring 21,800 runs and his 736 wickets also included a hat-trick against Somerset. He passed 1,000 runs for the season nine times, his 1961 total of 2,180 runs, included a top-score of 229 not out made at Steetley against Nottinghamshire. He also held a remarkable 594 catches.

An England debut came in the third Test against Australia at Headingly in 1956 where he also found himself retained for the famous Old Trafford Test of that summer. Of Jim Laker's

caught by Oakman.

A member of the MCC touring party to South Africa the following winter, injury ended up costing Oakman his place. He would miss most of the following season, before returning against Yorkshire, only for a delivery from Fred Trueman to fracture his wrist.

After retiring in 1968, Oakman briefly became a first-class umpire, famously standing for one over in the 1973 Edgbaston Test against the West Indies. Deputising after having umpire Arthur Fagg, having rejected an appeal for a caughtbehind, was sufficiently upset by the tourists' reaction to refuse to appear. By then, coach at Edgbaston, he went on to become Warwickshire's Assistant Secretary. The author of a number of coaching manuals, he retired in 1995.



DAVID PITHEY (1936-2018)

A Hockey and Cricket Blue while at Oxford University during the late 1950s and early 1960s, David Pithey went on to win eight Test caps during a richly varied cricketing career that lasted some 12 years. A fine all-rounder as a right-hand batsman and right-arm spin bowler, he was only the second South African Test spinner to take six or more wickets in an innings.

Born in Harare, David Bartlett Pithey went on to study at Cape Town University, making a first-class debut for Rhodesia in 1956. Awarded a Rhodes Scholarship he continued his studies at St Edmund Hall, Oxford.

During his time in England, 1960-62, Pithey made 37 appearances for the university. His most productive year being 1961 when he totalled 824 runs and took 50 wickets. Against the Australians that year, he took a career-best 7-47. Two weeks earlier he had hit his maiden century, 133 against Glamorgan.

1963 saw him make three appearances for

world record 19 wickets, no less than five were Northamptonshire, before heading back home, representing Rhodesia against North-Eastern Transvaal at Pretoria, he hit his highest-ever first-class score of 166 and was selected for the South African tour of Australia and New Zealand in 1963-4.

> Recalled against New Zealand, at Dunedin, he claimed 12 wickets, including a fine 6-58. He made a further two appearances at home against Australia during the 1966-7 season. Becoming a school master at Kearsney College, in 1990, he took charge of the national side for their five one-day encounters against Mike Gatting's English rebel tourists.



RUPERT WEBB [1922-2018]

Sussex's oldest former player, Rupert Webb, enjoyed a long and highly successful career in cricket, commerce and celluloid. As a cricketer he was a neat and tidy wicketkeeper, particularly remembered for his many brilliant stumpings from the bowling of leg-spinner, Robin Marlar.

Having served as a Naval Photographer during the Second World War, Webb first caught the eye of Middlesex coach, Patsy Hendren. Failing to make his mark at Lord's and with Hendren now coaching on the south coast, it was only a matter of time before Webb followed suit.

Initially as understudy to Billy Griffith, by 1948 Webb began a 12-year career as the first choice gloveman. Capped in 1950, he made 256 first-class appearances, taking 324 catches and 129 stumpings.

Following a successful benefit in 1960, Webb initially began working in the oil industry. However, his marriage to the actress, Barbara Whatley, saw him go on to become a hugely successful male model. In the cinema, he was chosen to play the father of jilted bride, 'Duckface', played by Anna Chancellor, in the smash-hit '80s classic, Four Weddings and a Funeral.

BOB GALE (1933-2018)

A tall, well-built left-handed opening batsman and occasional right-handed leg-spin bowler, Bob Gale was also a very fine close to the wicket fielder. His highest first-class score, 200, made against Glamorgan at Newport in 1962, was the first double-century recorded by a Middlesex left-hander in the county's history.

Born at Old Warden in Bedfordshire, Robert Alec Gale was a pupil at Bedford Modern School. He first appeared in Minor Counties cricket, aged 16, playing for Bedfordshire. Representing the Army during his National Service, he made his first-class debut for the Combined Services against Lancashire at Old Trafford in 1955. Like many before and after, he made a duck.

Hhe made his Middlesex debut against Nottinghamshire at Lord's in May 1956. Capped in 1957, he formed a prolific opening partnership with his great friend, Eric Russell. Passing 1,000 runs in a season six times, Gale's final tally of 12,505 runs included 15 centuries. He also took 47 wickets and held 128 catches.

Leaving Middlesex at the end of the 1965 season, for a successful career in the City, he went on to make occasional appearances for both MCC and the Free Foresters.

He returned to Lord's, bringing with him his undoubted business acumen as a member of the Middlesex Committee, on which he later served as Cricket Chairman. In 2001 he was elected Middlesex President.

FRED GOLDSTEIN (1944-2017)

A bespectacled, pugnacious, attacking righthanded batsman, Fred Goldstein's batting was as whole-heartedly refreshing and as uncomplicated as his character.

Born in Bulawayo, Frederick Steven Goldstein's prodigious talent was first nurtured when attending Falcon College in Matabeleland. Having taken a First in Physics at Cape Town University, in 1965 he moved to Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar.

Making his first-class debut for Oxford University against Gloucestershire in 1966, that year he won the first of his four cricket Blues. In 1968, his first year as captain, Goldstein finished the season only 20 runs short of a thousand. His best performance undoubtedly came in the Varsity Match at Lord's, making a dazzling 155. Starring for the International Cavaliers in their Sunday games, he was also specially registered by Northamptonshire in the wake of the near-tragic car accident involving Colin Milburn.

Rejecting numerous offers to stay in England and continue his cricketing career, he returned home to his native South Africa, fully intending to work in the rapidly emerging computer industry. He initially played for Transvaal before moving to Western Province. When also in the team was an emerging young cricketer, Allan Lamb. Goldstein retired at the end of the 1977/8 season.

FRANK McHUGH [1925-2018]

One of the last survivors of Yorkshire and Gloucestershire teams of the immediate post war era, Frank McHugh retained a fond claim to fame. While a fast bowler of immense heart and enthusiasm, as a batsman he was a natural number 11, finishing with a batting average of 2.36, acknowledged as the worst in the history of the first-class game.

Born in Leeds, Francis Prest McHugh was a Second World War Army signaller, making three appearances for Yorkshire during 1949 before moving to Gloucestershire three years later, where he became the mainstay of the pace attack. Capped in 1954, that year he topped the county's bowling averages with 92 wickets, a fitting reward for dropping speed in favour of line and length.

In 1956, having taken 25 wickets at 19 runs apiece, including a match-winning return of 6-43 against Nottinghamshire at Stroud, he found himself increasingly struggling with health problems. Against Yorkshire at Bramhall Lane Sheffield, he was the third victim in a Bob Appleyard hat-trick and though capturing 11-112, it turned out to be his final game, closing the book on a first-class career numbering 98 matches in which he took 276 wickets with a best analysis of 7-32 against Yorkshire in 1955.

With his career sadly curtailed by a then unknown illness, tuberculosis was eventually diagnosed. Following six months in a sanitorium, McHugh returned briefly to Gloucestershire, this time serving as Second XI scorer.

Universally known as Mac, McHugh would later qualify as a civil engineer, enjoying a successful career in the construction industry, before an equally long and well-earned retirement included a fine 103 made against Somerset at spent on the South Coast.

Taunton in 1978. He also claimed 97 victims.

RODNEY CASS (1940-2018)

Tall for a wicketkeeper, playing for both Essex and Worcestershire, Rodney Cass blossomed into an outstanding exponent of his art. He was also a more than useful left-handed batsman.

Born in Overton, Yorkshire and educated at Dewsbury Technical College, George Rodney Cass first played for Yorkshire Second XI in 1962. Moving to Essex the following year, he made the first of his 45 appearances for the county against Glamorgan at Clacton in July 1964. That year also he made his maiden first-class century, 104 not out against Warwickshire at Edgbaston. Playing for Pudsey St Lawrence in 1967, winters were spent both playing and coaching either in Tasmania or South Africa.

In 1968 he moved to New Road, making his debut the following year against the West Indies. Capped in 1970, 12 months later Worcestershire won the John Player League with the County Championship title following in 1974. Claiming 2015 victims in 104 appearance, he scored a total of 4304 runs including a highest score of 172 not out made against Leicestershire in 1975.

Playing for Shropshire between 1976 and 1981, Cass captained them from 1979 onwards. Making 59 appearances, his tally of 1,532 runs

included a fine 103 made against Somerset at Taunton in 1978. He also claimed 97 victims. Subsequently playing for Worcester City in the Birmingham League, while also regularly touring with MCC, in 1994 he led Worcestershire to victory in the Final of the Over 50s County Championship.

BILL SMITH (1937-2018)

Bill Smith was a left-handed batsman deemed sound and imperturbable and a particularly good player of fast bowling. A positive contributor to Surrey cricket throughout the 1960s, his misfortune was to be in his prime when the county was struggling to reassert itself in the aftermath of the break-up of their all-conquering side of the 1950s.

A native of Salisbury, the son of the Head Gardener at Polesdown Lacey country retreat, William Albert Smith made his first class-debut for Surrey against Oxford University at the Oval In June, 1961. Retained for the following county championship encounter with Somerset, he soon formed a potent opening partnership with Mickey Stewart.

Capped in 1968 when topping a thousand runs, he made 144 Surrey appearances, accumulating 5,024 runs, with a top score of 103 v Gloucestershire at the Oval in 1963. He went on to coach at Dulwich College.



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Keep in touch

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PCA Negotiator

Rich Hudson has been engaged by the PCA to assist players to negotiate their contracts. From making a simple phone call for advice to a full contract negotiation with your county, Rich will be happy to help you. Email rich.hudson@thepca.co.uk or call 07375 414694.

> We are always looking for players to contribute their views... to let us know what you're doing and what you're thinking - call Ian Thomas on 07920 575 578.

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Glamorgan's Andrew Salter on the joys of feeling rubber meet road as a 'café racer' Passion Glamorgan's Andrew Salter on the joys of feeling rubber meet road as a 'café racer'

My dad rode bikes. But mum made him get rid of them when they had me and my brother. I think he was secretly pleased when I showed an interest in motorcycles. That started at university. Me and a friend of mine would goad each other into getting one, to the point where we both did. I got my full license in 2017, but rode smaller (150cc) bikes for two years before that.

I now ride a 14-year-old Harley Davidson. It 'specialises in straight lines', as they say, but has loads of character. I know they divide opinion amongst the biker community, but it offers a real sense of fun on two wheels.

I'm one of those bike riders who mixes up my look when riding. Seeing David Beckham motorcycling with his mates across South America has

remained a bit of an influence. I don't see anything wrong at all in rep'ing the leather jacket as a so-called café racer.

I've never raced bikes around a track. I ride with mates, just pottering around Cardiff is nice. For a longer run, taking the bikes up into the Brecon Beacons is great. More widely than that, I've ridden bikes in New Zealand and South Africa, with a tour around NZ's South Island a real highlight.

I couldn't pick a single 'dream bike'.

But I could pick three. It's something I do on a daily basis! It would have to be a classic British Triumph Bonneville, copying Beckham. A custom-built 1989 Italian Moto Guzzi. And another classic; a big 1200cc Harley Davidson.

I share a blog with guys I ride with. I think an entry on there sums up my experience as someone who enjoys motorcycling as a diversion from playing cricket. I wrote, 'For me, riding provides a life outside of cricket (work), it provides me with the opportunity to meet people from different professions, backgrounds and cultures. It's a life of little expectation and complete freedom. The only thing that matters is 'to come back in one piece' as directed by mum, which of course, is absolutely the most important factor'.

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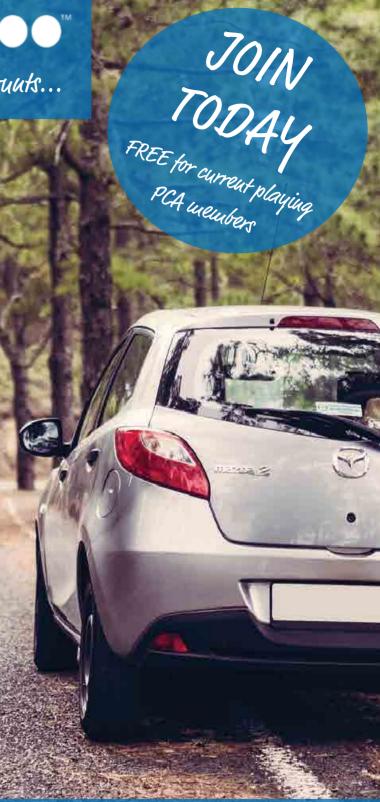
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