

BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES

Issue no.28

Who's Next?

YOUNG STARS
TO KEEP TABS ON
THIS SUMMER

Joe Root

RECOGNISING
100 TESTS

CHARLOTTE EDWARDS

“There’s lots to be excited about. Cricket in this country remains on the up”

PRESIDENT, PROFESSIONAL CRICKETERS’ ASSOCIATION



Plus...

TONY COTTEY
NAOMI DATTANI
JAMES HARRIS


new balance

WE GOT NOW

CK10



2021 FOOTWEAR RANGE
OUT NOW



Beyond the Boundaries is published by the Professional Cricketers' Association, however the views expressed in contributed articles are not necessarily those of the PCA, its members, officers, employees or group companies.

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PCA LEAD SPONSORS:



Changing Gears

Rob Lynch writes about the PCA's commitment to supporting the sport's recovery this summer



Welcome to issue 28 of your PCA membership magazine, Beyond the Boundaries. After a difficult year, I am pleased to be writing to you at the beginning of what looks to be a really exciting summer of domestic and international cricket, with the return of crowds to grounds across the country on the horizon.

The difficulties of the past year have been well documented, but with a packed schedule of men's and women's cricket to look forward to, the outlook for both our sport and the PCA is now looking much more stable than this time a year ago.

A new dawn for cricket has signalled a new dawn for the PCA. I look forward to working with incoming Chair James Harris to develop our vision for the Association, and I am thrilled that former Chair Daryl Mitchell is staying with us to join the PCA executive as Director of Cricket Operations. You can read more about the new appointments and our ethos on p31 of this magazine.

Our work on the ground will be overseen by the PCA's new President Charlotte Edwards. Charlotte's CV speaks for itself, and I firmly believe that she is the perfect appointment, particularly in the context of 41 new female PCA members eager to start their first season as professional domestic players. You can hear more from Charlotte on p44,

and read about the intriguing story of England and South East Stars' Tash Farrant on p48.

The PCA's ongoing relationship with the Team England Player Partnership (TEPP) is of paramount importance moving forward, and one of the highlights of this winter was seeing Joe Root make his 100th Test appearance in India. Relive some of Joe's best Test moments in the words of those around him on p36.

Of course, a healthy England team is reliant on a strong domestic structure. A unique 2020 season presented the opportunity for a number of inexperienced players to make a name for themselves, and on p40 we've picked out a selection of individuals to keep an eye on in 2021 and beyond.

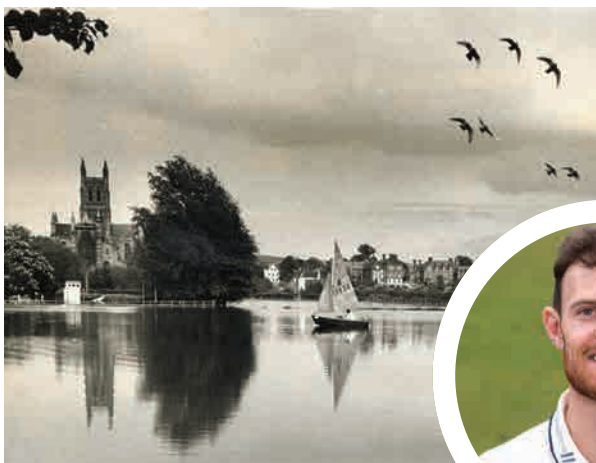
As ever, our registered charity the Professional Cricketers' Trust is there for PCA members through good times and bad. Read the latest news from the Trust on p26, including details on how to join our Paris to London fundraising bike ride this year. I hope to see you on the start line on 15 October.

Until then, enjoy issue 28 of your magazine.

All the best and stay safe,

ROB LYNCH
PCA Chief Executive

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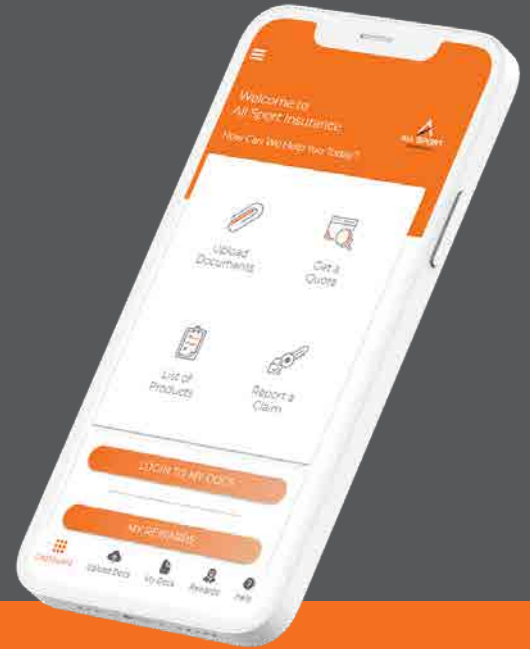


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Big Summer, Big Opportunity

Fresh from being elected as the 15th Chair of the PCA in January 2021, Middlesex all-rounder James Harris has penned his debut column in **Beyond the Boundaries...**



This summer offers a huge opportunity for players to re-energise their careers and make up for lost time following a challenging 12 months.

While optimism is to be viewed cautiously, there is a belief now we can look forward to a bright future as we continue to work through the challenges.

Cricket can be extremely proud of its response to COVID-19, particularly the role of the players in understanding the need to play our part and working collectively and collaboratively with our employers and the ECB through the PCA.

It was during this period that my interest and desire to apply to be the PCA Chair grew as I could see the influence and importance of this position. I joined the Players' Committee in 2017 and I was fortunate to be appointed by the Board as Vice Chair last summer which gave me a much greater insight into the inner workings of the PCA.

More than anything I want to give back something to the game that has given me so much and shaped my life.

My initial priority is making small improvements. Over the past few years under Daryl Mitchell's leadership things have been going in a great direction and he has done some incredibly positive things for the players. Everything from the Futures Fund which is an initiative to financially support all those that leave the game to the new standard contract and minimum salaries, there is a long list of positive steps that have been taken in recent years and I am keen to build on that.

We have nearly 500 current players and everyone has an opinion but it's the collective that is the most important. There are so many issues that directly affect players that we could fight for and trying to decipher the important issues to use our collective strength is one of the challenges of the role. I need to make sure I hear and understand everyone's opinion and form a view that is the larger collective.

The pandemic has changed a lot of things and the game as a whole I think has done a brilliant job to get us through to the start of

the 2021 season in as healthy of a position as anyone could have hoped.

We have a really important next phase where we need to come out of the pandemic and ensure the game is healthy going forwards. The game needs to grow and The Hundred is going to be a really important competition across the men's and women's game and I cannot wait to see it get under way.

Finally, I wanted to thank you for your support in electing me as the Chair of the PCA. To be voted for anything by your peers is incredibly humbling and for that I thank you all very much.

It is an honour to champion the views of everyone on their behalf and I will give everything I have to be a success in this role.

All the best,

JAMES HARRIS
Chair of the PCA



CLOCKWISE, FROM RIGHT:
James Harris;
Daryl Mitchell;
Heather Knight;
Anuj Dal

Changes At The Top

There have been changes at the top of the PCA with Middlesex all-rounder James Harris elected PCA Chair by his fellow players, replacing Daryl Mitchell who stood down at the PCA's AGM in February after his four-year tenure ended.

The Welshman becomes the 15th Chair of the PCA and the first Middlesex player. Harris was initially appointed Vice Chair in 2020 and brings a wealth of experience on and off the field, entering the 2021 campaign with 270 professional appearances, 630 wickets and 4,443 runs to his name. Derbyshire's PCA rep Anuj Dal has been appointed Vice Chair and joins Heather Knight on the PCA Board.

Harris will work closely with the PCA's new Director of Cricket Operations Daryl Mitchell, who moves into the new role having completed the second of his two-year terms as PCA Chair. Mitchell now heads up the brand-new PCA Cricket Department, which has been created to focus on the operational side of the game.



DOING THEIR BIT

Professional cricketers in England and Wales continued to make sacrifices through the winter in order to minimise the financial implications of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Players from across the 18 first-class counties took a maximum 5% pay cut in December 2020, before moving onto a maximum 10% reduction through January and February 2021. During that time, many individuals have been placed on flexible furlough in order to incur further savings for the game.

The action follows on from salary cuts taken throughout 2020, which at times were as high as 20%. However, from March 2021 all professional cricketers returned to full pay.



NAT SCIVER

JOE ROOT

Winter MVPs Named

The PCA Most Valuable Player (MVP) Rankings has continued to track England's top performers across the winter 2020/21 campaign.

Test skipper Joe Root was rewarded for a brilliant winter from an individual perspective by winning the Test MVP. Root's three consecutive scores of over 150 against Sri Lanka and India helped him to 163 MVP points in total - 35 clear of second placed Jack Leach.

For England Women, all-rounder Nat Sciver was the outstanding performer on her side's tour of New Zealand, scoring 64 MVP points to claim the Overall MVP. Tammy Beaumont was named ODI MVP following a series which saw her become the ICC's number one-ranked ODI batter, whilst wicketkeeper Amy Jones was named IT20 MVP.

View the MVP Rankings at thepca.co.uk.



Following a review, the PCA has made some key changes to both its legal and contract negotiation policies to help better support members in these important areas.

View updated policies at thepca.co.uk/legal-advice/

AN OVER AT... Tony Cottey

54, former Glamorgan and Sussex middle-order man

1 Where did it all start for you?

As a youngster it was football and cricket for me. I was on the books with Swansea City and my dad played cricket at Swansea, whose overseas pro at the time was Jeffrey Dujon. He used to throw to me when I was eight. I thought football might be coming to an end as a teen, but I was taken on by John Toshack, who was the manager at the time. I'd say that I was definitely a more talented footballer, but possibly a bit small for the era.

2 How influential was your family in your career?

My dad was a second-teamer at the cricket club. The type that would be, on occasion, called up to open the batting in the first team. Both mum and dad are huge sports fans. I'd be the nine-year-old dressed in full whites on the outfield before and after games – that type of kid.

3 What got you on your way?

Swansea released me by recorded delivery. It's something that has really stayed with me. I had an opportunity with Birmingham City, but was pretty disillusioned. I was 18/19 by now. Glamorgan asked me to trial. It meant I had to borrow a bat, having not picked one up for six months. If there was a breakthrough innings, it was a 40-odd I made against a good Derbyshire attack in a low-scoring game at Chesterfield. It changed people's perspectives.

4 When were you at your best?

Between 1994-1996 I averaged 52 for three straight years. In 1995, England coach David Lloyd saw me make a good hundred against a good Somerset attack that included Andy Caddick. I ended up being picked to play against Australia A at Edgbaston on the same pitch where England had been bowled out for about 40 by West Indies. The entire game lasted four-and-a-half sessions. I made 8 and 20-odd and felt I played pretty well!

5 Moving on

I left Glamorgan after the 1998 season and signed a five-year deal with Sussex. We won the title in 2002. I ended up staying on until the end of the 2004 season. I then returned to Wales, which was always the plan. I got a job in training – which I really enjoyed – then working more on the sales side in a snooker and cricket business, before getting a call from Mark Robinson at Sussex to come back to Hove and work on the corporate and sponsorship side of the club.

6 Away from the game

I still like to stay fit. I walk, play golf, run and ride a bike. My wife and I now own and are about to open a gelateria on the parade in Shoreham, which is about five miles down the coast from Brighton. It's called 'Cotts and Linz' and should be up and running in the early part of the summer. Let's hope the weather is nice and warm.



Opening Up



The Global Game

The Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA) continues to focus on key issues facing players at a global level.

FICA is currently lobbying the ICC to ensure an equitable events cycle from 2023 onwards, whilst the organisation is also challenging the unauthorised use of player image rights by cricket's governing body.

FICA is always keen to hear player views, so get in touch with CEO Tom Moffat at tom@thefica.com or +61452415172.



AGM Goes Ahead At Home

The PCA's 2021 AGM went ahead in unusual circumstances in February, with the Players' Committee amongst a number of current players in attendance on Zoom.

Whilst the main headline from the AGM was Charlotte Edwards' election as the first female PCA President, the group also ratified a number of important decisions, including some significant changes to the structure of the Players' Committee.

Sophie Luff (Central Sparks & Western Storm), Naomi Dattani (Lightning and Sunrisers), Alex Hartley (Northern Diamonds & Thunder) and Tara Norris (South East Stars & Southern Vipers) have all joined the Committee to represent the eight new women's regional centres. Meanwhile, a new Women's Player Committee was created to vote on women's-only issues, and is made up of the quartet plus Kate Cross, Heather Knight and Anya Shrubsole of England Women.

View the PCA Players' Committee at thepca.co.uk/pca-committee

MORGAN TOP SCORES

Eoin Morgan became the first England player and fourth player overall to appear in 100 career IT20 fixtures when he captained England against India in Ahmedabad on 16 March.

The big-hitting batsman has by far the most appearances in the format as captain for England, and joins Shoaib Malik, Rohit Sharma and Ross Taylor as the only players to have reached 100 career appearances.

Everyone at the PCA would like to congratulate Eoin on his wonderful achievement, and wish him all the best as he aims to lead England to glory at the ICC T20 World Cup in October.



DIY DEMON

Surrey's Jordan Clark has taken advantage of his move to South West London by advertising his property on AirBnB and Instagram during the periods when he is unlikely to be at home. Putting his DIY skills to

work, Jordan has renovated his property to a high standard to attract as much short-term rental business as possible. The location of Jordan's property also allows him to capitalise on the influx of visitors to the Wimbledon Championships.



What I Did This Winter

A WINTER LIKE NO OTHER, WE TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT A SELECTION OF CURRENT PLAYERS HAVE BEEN DOING TO KEEP BUSY...



Will Buttleman
ESSEX

I have always liked the idea of creating my own t-shirt business and this winter I made it a reality. There have been challenges along the way such as finding a manufacturer that could produce the quality I wanted. I also couldn't find a designer that could reflect my vision. I quickly decided to do it myself and enrolled onto an online course that taught me how to draw professionally. Wolfytees is now up and running and I cannot wait to start getting the product out there.



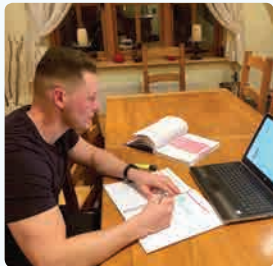
Robbie White
MIDDLESEX

I joined up with David James Wealth, a bespoke financial planning firm, with a particular focus on working with athletes and supporting them with their finances through their careers. I've done a couple of days a week through the winter which has worked well alongside training. The company has also sponsored me through the Quilter Advisor School where I will hopefully become a qualified advisor.



Marie Kelly
CENTRAL SPARKS

I started by doing some online diploma courses firstly in graphic design and then in social media and marketing, which I really enjoyed. I then progressed onto doing web design and taught myself on different web designing platforms. I have since really enjoyed producing a number of websites for different clients, one being Central Sparks, which of course is my favourite website so far!



Tom Wood
DERBYSHIRE

I completed an online Prince2 qualification in Project Management. Being on furlough and having plenty of time on my hands, I thought it was a perfect time to get myself a qualification and to start thinking about a potential career after cricket. I'm very pleased to now have something to fall back on and potentially use after my cricket career.

Ruaidhri Smith
GLAMORGAN

I signed up for some intensive training with Simon Zutshi after attending a property investment webinar in May and this helped clarify a strategy. I have since set up and registered two property companies and established an investment consortium with some close friends. I've spent the majority of the winter trying to find the right rental properties whilst taking on the rental management of a couple of properties.



Joe Leach
WORCESTERSHIRE

I finished a Certificate in Sports Marketing and Sponsorship through Edinburgh University which I had started last year during the first lockdown. I also used the time up until Christmas to prepare for a Masters in Leadership in Sport with the Institute of Humanities, which I started in January.

Nathan Buck
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Tech sales / mar-tech is something I am interested in pursuing post cricket. I completed two Open University online courses which only intrigued me further. I was grateful to land an ongoing role at Force24, the UK's leading marketing automation company, working three days a week. Force24 also helped me through a world renowned Pareto Law Sales qualification, which has only been beneficial in the start of my journey with them.



If I Knew Then...

After an enforced hiatus in 2020, the **PCA England Masters** are on track to return to local clubs across the country in order to raise valuable funds for grassroots cricket. To celebrate the return of the Masters, we asked three of the current squad what advice they would give their younger selves.

John Emburey

A titan of county cricket, John Emburey has always made the most of his natural strengths

“CAPITALISE ON YOUR NATURAL ABILITY. Make the most of your strengths, especially in your early years.”

“KEEP ADJUSTING YOUR TECHNIQUE. The further up the game you progress, the stronger the batsmen will become.”

“ADAPT TO THE CONDITIONS. Playing on uncovered pitches will give you an education.”

“BOWL WITH CONTROL. If you keep bowling maidens, then the wickets will come.”

“BE PATIENT. Pitch wear and tear is your friend - both during a game and during the season.”

“KEEP PICKING UP AND USING KNOWLEDGE. Don't worry about the ifs and buts along the way.”

“STUDY FROM THE BEST. You'll play with some fantastic spinners during your career.”

“TEAMWORK IS KEY. Performing well will help your bowling partners to take wickets.”

“BOWL, BOWL AND BOWL. If you get smashed for runs and taken off, you won't develop.”



John Emburey in action for Northamptonshire.



Study from the best. You'll play with some fantastic spinners during your career.
John Emburey



Enjoy your cricket, wherever you play. You never know how many chances you will get!
Mark Alleyne



THE MASTERS ARE BACK AND READY FOR ACTION IN 2021!

If you are interested in your club or school hosting the Masters please let us know by emailing pcamasters@thepca.co.uk



PCA England Masters





Learn from the bad days. You'll always have a chance to put it right. **Craig White**

Craig White bowling fast for England.



Craig White

Craig White wasn't afraid to leave Australia as a youngster in order to make it as a professional cricketer

"DON'T BE AFRAID OF CHANGE. You'll have to move to Melbourne then England to follow your dream of playing for your home country."

"DIVE STRAIGHT INTO OPPORTUNITIES. You'll be the first Yorkshireman since Fred Trueman to play for Yorkshire without appearing for the second XI."

"DO WHAT MAKES YOU PROUD. England is your home country and Yorkshire is your home county."

"FEAR ISN'T ALWAYS A BAD THING. As a youngster, playing with people you've seen on TV is a privilege."

"AVOID BEING YOUR OWN WORST ENEMY. If you have a good day or a bad day, stay on the same level."

"LEARN FROM THE BAD DAYS. You'll always have a chance to put it right."

"CONFIDENCE IS KEY. Playing with confidence will make you play well."

"DON'T GET TOO DOWN. One good innings for every four is a good return."

"LIFE IS SHORT. Anything could happen at any time, so go out and give it 100% every time you play."

Mark Alleyne

Having grown up in Barbados, Mark Alleyne became a Gloucestershire legend after seizing an early opportunity

"TAKE YOUR CHANCES WHEN THEY COME AROUND. At school, if you get to the playground first, then you will bat first."

"BE DEDICATED FROM THE START. Your early years will really help to shape your thinking and the way you play the game."

"BE GUTSY AND MANAGE YOUR RISK. If you get out, then you won't get another chance to bat."

"STAY INVOLVED IN THE GAME. If you learn how to keep wicket, then you'll never be out of the action."

"MAKE SACRIFICES TO CHASE YOUR DREAM. You may have to move across the country to get your first opportunity."

"DON'T BE OVERAWED. Entering a professional dressing room for the first time is a fabulous experience."

"A CLEAR HEAD IS CRUCIAL. Having a fresh perspective allows you to focus on your game."

"GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO WAIT. You'll need to have a number of good years to break into the England side."

"ENJOY YOUR CRICKET, WHEREVER YOU PLAY. You never know how many chances you will get!" ●



Mark Alleyne hits out in yet another one-day final win at Lord's.





Milton Keen To Learn

Worcestershire's Alex Milton used his time off during October to gain some valuable knowledge in property development. The wicketkeeper worked with Brays Building Limited who are converting a former department store into four shops and 15 flats.

"Being on site listening in on meetings with the builders, new tenants, the council, tree surgeons and more gave me great first-hand experience of the processes that need to be taken into consideration when being a property developer," Milton said.



PCA HIT THE ROAD

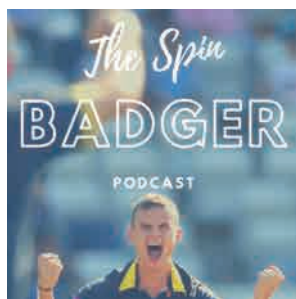
The PCA leadership has spoken to every county squad ahead of the 2021 season to update them on the direction of the Association, with a focus on recent changes to the PCA executive as well as the Players' Committee. Current squads were also given the opportunity to ask their own questions and hold their players' association to account.

In addition, the players were informed of the PCA's new initiative to secure collective commercial rights for the whole of the current playing membership, in order to diversify the revenue streams of both the PCA and the players themselves.

Agenda, Gloucestershire CCC

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome From Chief Executive 2. New Chair 3. Summary of Accounts 4. Overview 2020/21 5. Player Rights 6. Legal Policy 7. EDI 8. Futures Fund 9. Member News 10. Professional Cricketers' Trust 11. Questions and Close 	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>Rob Lynch</td></tr> <tr><td>James Harris</td></tr> <tr><td>Rob Lynch</td></tr> <tr><td>Rob Lynch</td></tr> <tr><td>Daryl Mitchell / Rich Hudson</td></tr> <tr><td>Ian Thomas</td></tr> <tr><td>Martin Cropper</td></tr> <tr><td>Ian Thomas</td></tr> <tr><td>All Prosser</td></tr> <tr><td>All</td></tr> </table>	Rob Lynch	James Harris	Rob Lynch	Rob Lynch	Daryl Mitchell / Rich Hudson	Ian Thomas	Martin Cropper	Ian Thomas	All Prosser	All
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Transparency Credentials



POYSDEN POD

Josh Poysden says he has joined "every man and his dog" in starting a podcast during the last 12 months, having launched his own show entitled *Spin Badger*. The Yorkshire player has been involved at every stage of the process, learning how to record, edit, upload and market his podcast.

Follow @SpinBadger on Twitter and listen to the podcast via iTunes, Spotify, Soundcloud and more.

Manchester Originals' Sophie Ecclestone will be hoping to appear in the competition opener on 23 July.



Tom Abell was the first Englishman to be picked up after being drafted for Birmingham Phoenix



THE HUNDRED SQUADS NAMED

The squads for the inaugural edition of The Hundred have almost been finalised after the second draft for the men's competition took place on Monday 22 February. Though there was no draft event, 16 further players were also selected for the women's Hundred.

Each men's and women's squad can select one further player as a 'Wildcard' pick following the star performers from the early stages of both the Vitality Blast and the women's 20-over competitions.



Calling All Artists

Friday 30 July will see one of the biggest celebrations of the summer when the Professional Cricketers' Trust hosts the 'Festival of Cricket' and you can get involved to showcase your artwork.

An 'Artists Opportunity' is a chance for PCA members to showcase their work amongst a packed crowd of cricket's stakeholders and supporters at Wormsley.

Contact Kathryn Ford if you are interested in being part of the day kathryn.ford@thepca.co.uk



Four Seasons In One Day

Glamorgan's Joe Cooke on navigating his personal journey through cricket and climate change.



The climate crisis is a familiar topic of conversation, but the threat it poses to cricket is rarely talked about. As our sport is affected by the weather more than most, it's clear it will face challenges others won't. Especially if it fails to adapt.

Soaring temperatures plus heavier and more erratic rainfall will badly affect our sport. The Hit for Six report by the British Association for Sustainable Sport (BASIS) goes into this in detail and is worth a read.

My university dissertation - written on how cricket will be affected by climate change - fostered in me a strong interest in sustainability. The realisation that the climate crisis will likely have a direct impact on cricket further fuelled an ambition to help.

Since signing for Glamorgan in 2019, I have made time to explore these wider interests. Starting with Friends of the Earth Cymru and helping with blog writing and campaigns. More recently I completed an internship with Admiral insurance, advising on the sustainability of claims management. I also became an EcoAthlete and have begun working with BASIS to develop a group of

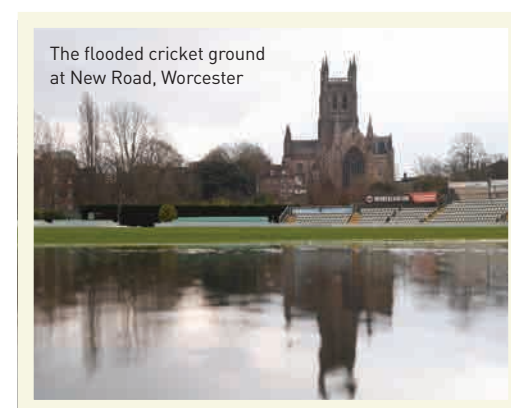
likeminded sports people who are engaged in the idea of sport and sustainability.

Action to reduce the impact of cricket on the environment is more widespread than ever before. Lord's, for example, has taken bold steps to reduce its environmental impact, but there's more to do. Professional players have a role to play in this by using their profile to raise consciousness around environmental issues, particularly online.

If you also have an interest in protecting the environment, you could look to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle or volunteer with a local campaigning or activist group to encourage change in your area. Reading and sharing stories on social media to raise the profile of environmental issues can also have a dramatic impact, as some professionals have a great platform from which to inspire others. You could also consider initiating conversations around sustainability within your club, helping them to make changes where possible. After talking about these issues with Glamorgan, I found out about the steps the club is taking to reduce the amount of single-use plastic.

There are of course obstacles to taking action. Fear of being branded a hypocrite has always concerned me. How can I talk about such issues when I have a carbon-intensive lifestyle myself? Typically, racking up several thousand miles in the car during a season. But the issue, by its very definition, makes for hypocrites of us all. But doing anything positive has to be seen as progress.

As a sport, the game has the potential to set an example by putting sustainability at the forefront of decision-making and address environmental issues. I believe past and current professionals have an important role to play in this. Why not make a start. ●



The flooded cricket ground at New Road, Worcester



A 'homeless' Worcestershire are crowned Sunday League champions. Guided by seasoned veterans, supported by a cast of soon-to-be household names, former 'Pear' Olly Westbury finds out what has become of the class of 2007.

Bristol, September 14, 2007. Worcestershire Royals beat Gloucestershire Gladiators by six wickets to secure the Division 1 NatWest Pro40 title. A comfortable victory, largely due to a 150-run opening stand between Steve Davies and Moeen Ali, the former being named player of the match for his 68-ball 84.

The Royals won six out of their eight matches that year, losing only once. A success made all the more remarkable given that they played every game away from New Road due to that year's floods.

STEVE DAVIES

The dashing keeper-batsman left Worcestershire for Surrey in 2009, playing six seasons at the Oval. He made 13 appearances for England between 2009-11 (eight ODIs and five T20Is), before moving to Somerset. A two-year contract extension will keep him in the West Country until 2022.

MOEEN ALI

Named PCA Players' Player of the Year in 2013, the peer recognition preceding an international career of over 200 matches for the off-spinning all-rounder. Moeen has captained England

in IT20s and led Worcestershire to Vitality Blast success in 2018.

STEPHEN MOORE

After leaving Worcestershire, the top-order batsman went on to represent both Derbyshire and Lancashire. Following a brief spell commentating for the BBC he now earns a living with BAE systems, one of the world's leading global defence, security and aerospace companies.

GRAEME HICK

Graeme Ashley Hick is regarded by some as Worcestershire's greatest ever

ABOVE:
That winning feeling.
Worcestershire
Royals 2007 vintage.

batsman, the right-hander amassing the small matter of 40,000 first-class runs, made over several decades. Hick retired 12 months after the Pro40 win, emigrating to Queensland, Australia. A career of 65 Tests and 120 ODIs, the England star left employers Cricket Australia in June 2020 after seven years as lead batting coach. The departure due to cost-cutting measures brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

ABDUL RAZZAQ

The all-rounder made 343 appearances for Pakistan across all three formats, playing his last game for his country in South Africa in 2013. Since retirement he has moved into coaching. In August 2020 he was named coach at the PCB National High Performance Centre. He is also head coach of KPK (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa cricket team).

GARETH BATTY

The fiery off-spinner left Worcestershire for Surrey in 2009, where he still plays and coaches at the county. A 20-year career has to date realised 682 first-class wickets. Away from the game he is a guest presenter for TalkSPORT, often on the station's live radio broadcasts and podcasts. During England's 2020 tour to South Africa he was a member of TalkSPORT's commentary team.

DARYL MITCHELL

One of the most well-respected players on the county circuit. Elected PCA Chairman in 2017, his tenure ending in February 2021 to become the PCA's first ever Director of Cricket Operations. The opening batsman will hold the position whilst maintaining playing commitments with Worcestershire.



ROGER SILLENCE

Leaving the club at the conclusion of the 2007 season, the seam-bowling all-rounder has since worked in the world of recruitment. The 43-year-old currently works for Precision Resource Group as a Client Engagement Manager in Bristol.

KABIR ALI

The fast bowler enjoyed spells with Hampshire and Lancashire, post Royals. A 500-wicket first-class career included a single Test in 2003 against South Africa and 14 ODIs. A famed 'death bowler', since retirement Kabir has moved into coaching, working alongside cousin Kadeer Ali. A stint in Abu Dhabi during the recent T10 league, Kabir still plays club cricket, having latterly converted into a wily off-spinner who turns it big and smashes lower-order runs.

RAY PRICE

The former Zimbabwe international stepped away from cricket in 2013, having been described by The Guardian around the time of his retirement as 'the angriest man in cricket'. Left-arm spinner Price now runs a sports shop in Pomona, just outside Harare.

BEN SMITH

The cultured middle-order man played his final first-class match for Worcestershire in June 2010. He continued to play club and Minor Counties cricket for several years, briefly dipping a toe in the financial services industry. Always a keen coach, he was fielding lead at New Road, before a move to Grace Road as batting coach. For the last three years Smith has been involved with Cricket Ireland and also worked abroad as interim coach for Central Districts in New Zealand. ●

ABOVE:
Stephen Moore jumps into the arms of Gareth Batty upon securing victory over Gloucestershire Gladiators at Bristol.

Opening Up

THIS PICTURE: Coffee with Tim Linley
BELOW: Andrew Salter in the saddle



Futures Fund Activated

The PCA is set to pay out the first instalments of the brand-new Futures Fund, which was created to aid the transition of players at the end of their playing careers into the next steps of their working lives.

The Fund was included as part of the 2020-24 County Partnership Agreement (CPA) which was negotiated between the PCA, ECB and the 18 first-class counties in 2019.

Players who have left the game from the 2020 season can independently apply for funding via the initiative, which they can then use at their discretion to help prepare for a second career.

Find out more and apply for financial assistance from the Futures Fund at thezca.co.uk/futures-fund/.



Anti-Racism Education

- Joint PCA & ECB anti-racism education programme across the professional game
- The EW Group – specialists in diversity, unconscious bias, and inclusive leadership
- 90 minute interactive workshops with pre and post learning materials

Key Objectives:

- Understand what racism is within the cricket environment
- Recognise inappropriate behaviours and unconscious bias in the game
- Enable you to confidently challenge and report racism if experienced and/or witnessed



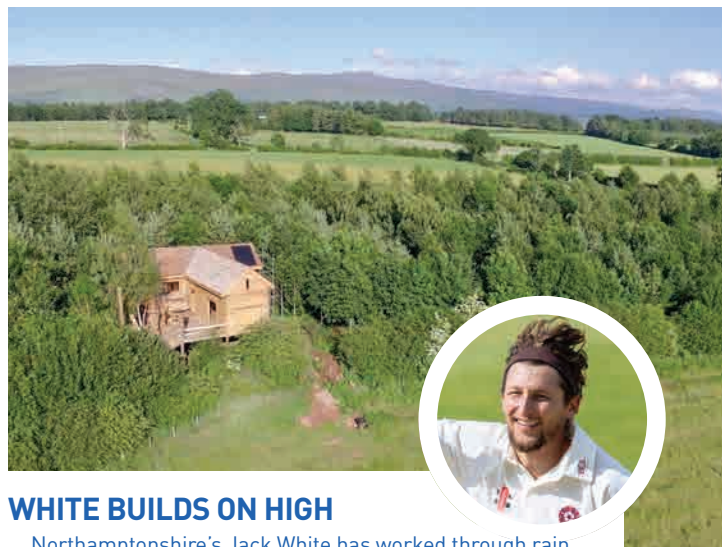
EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The PCA's Personal Development and Welfare Programme (PDWP) continues to roll out education workshops for members, including the first batch of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) seminars for all professional players.

The EDI education comes on the back of a game-wide survey which showed that 13% of current players had experienced racism in the game.

A PDF containing the full results of the survey can be found at thezca.co.uk

Find more information at thezca.co.uk/about-the-pdwp/



WHITE BUILDS ON HIGH

Northamptonshire's Jack White has worked through rain, wind and snow to build a tree house at a glamping site called 'Into the Woods' in the Eden Valley, Cumbria.

Jack used his background in forestry to assist a friend with the 'Silvia' project, focussing on many of the practical aspects of the build including the joinery.

"It's been great to go back to practical work," White said, "but as much as I've enjoyed the experience, it's also really made me appreciate being a professional cricketer."

Rookie Camp 2021

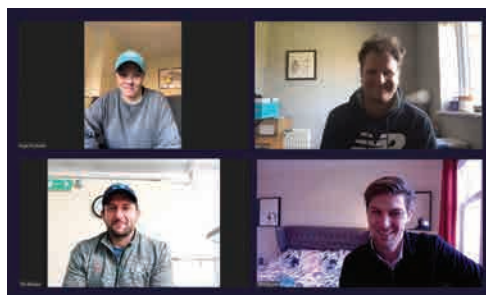
A record 61 emerging male and female professionals were welcomed into the PCA at the Association's annual Rookie Camp, which took place on 23 February 2021.

The group were given an overview of what it means to be a professional cricketer, and were treated to exclusive Q&A sessions with Tim Bresnan, Rob Key, Ollie Rayner and Anya Shrubsole.

"Rookie Camp was a great experience to start off my time as a PCA member," said Sussex youngster Jack

Carson. "It was extremely helpful to hear what the PCA has to offer and to know that they always have our best interests as a first priority."

Find out more at thezca.co.uk/personal-development/





MAKE, DO AND MEND

Western Storm seam bowling all-rounder Danielle Gibson is fighting fit for 2021 after documenting her rehab and recovery in a self-produced video following a ruptured ACL in November 2019.

Upskilling in both IT and video editing, Gibson has found the process hugely beneficial, providing her with something to focus on during the rehab period but also showing evidence of her resilience and work ethic.

View her rehab journey on Instagram @danielle_gibsonx



Testimonials

Rikki Clarke (Surrey) joins Michael Hogan (Glamorgan), Stephen Parry (Lancashire), Eoin Morgan (Middlesex), Alex Wakely (Northamptonshire) and Adam Lyth (Yorkshire) in celebrating a Testimonial Year in 2021, after the group of five were unable to hold theirs in 2020.

We would like to congratulate all six on being recognised by their respective counties, and a special thanks goes to those who have nominated the Professional Cricketers' Trust as one of their chosen charities.

PAYNTR PREMIUM DEAL

Former Northamptonshire batsman David Paynter has expanded his performance footwear business PAYNTR to now offer both golf and cricket shoes.

Paynter, who made nine professional appearances for the Wantage Road club, was inspired to launch PAYNTR in 2017 after becoming frustrated at the lack of high-performance cricket shoes available on the market. He has now diversified the business to include a range of golf shoes, having recognised the similarities in footwear needs between the two sports.

PCA members can receive a 25% discount on PAYNTR products via a member offer which can be accessed through the My PCA portal.



THRIVE LIVE

The Thrive wellbeing app has expanded its provision for PCA members to include in-app coaching with qualified therapists, and it is available free of charge to all current and former players.

Thrive is the only NHS-approved app for the early detection and prevention of common mental health issues, and the company has partnered with the PCA since 2015 to form part of the Association's support via its Personal Development and Welfare Programme (PDWP).

The app is available for both iOS and Android devices, and get in touch with either the PCA's Membership Services Manager Alison Prosser or your regional PDM to receive your unique access code.



TEPP



Celebrations during Day One of the 2nd #RaiseTheBat Test Match between England and Pakistan.

BELOW:
Richard Bevan

Team England Player Partnership

Richard Bevan is Chair of the Team England Player Partnership Committee. The current CEO of the League Managers' Association provides an update two decades on from inception.

The Team England Player Partnership (TEPP) has been established for 20 years and has transformed the careers of England players since 2001. The implementation of England Central Contracts was the first step with TEPP playing a hands-on role in safeguarding players' interests and representing players on all issues, particularly with the ECB ever since.

Richard Bevan led on establishing TEPP and remains an influential voice as the Chair of the management committee now. He provides an insight and update on the continual work that is happening to expand provisions for the England men's players...

Why is the partnership important?

The core focus of TEPP is providing collective contractual, financial and commercial support for England players, which is crucial to ensure that their interests are properly represented particularly in their relationships with the ECB, the game's other governing bodies and stakeholders, and the global players' association, FICA. These services together with the range of other support services and programmes that TEPP provides are extremely important in meeting the needs of the players and their families.

TEPP has always worked to ensure the England team is the most successful national cricket team off the field, which in

turn hopefully helps with its performance on the field.

How active are players in making decisions?

The players are very active in their communications with TEPP and their input on all aspects of the services provided is vital. The players' views and opinions are essential across all areas of the game, including their contracts, the structure of the game, playing conditions and career decisions.

How challenging has the last 12 months been?

The players have shown great maturity and professionalism during this period in the way they have collaborated with the ECB and other stakeholders. Players have agreed to reductions in their remuneration, adapted to enormous challenges in living, training and playing in bio-secure bubbles both at home and on overseas tours and showing great flexibility in delivering commercial rights to sponsors. The England cricket team has provided a strong sense of national identity and pride as old and new supporters have followed the team's performances during the lockdown periods.

Current priorities?

TEPP is actively involved in an annual worldwide benchmarking process that tracks comprehensive data on player contract

structures, commercial arrangements and image rights, remuneration, employment benefits, volume of cricket played, scheduling etc. This data will be utilised to ensure the England players' voice on all issues in the game are professionally represented to the stakeholders in the game.



Future Aims

- Continue to provide guidance across contractual, commercial and employment issues.
- Continue to professionally represent the views and interests of England players to the ECB and have a positive impact on the future direction of English and world cricket.
- Further develop world-class and comprehensive health and wellbeing programmes on all aspects of healthcare and to ensure health and wellbeing cover is extended to all England players and their families into retirement.
- Develop a world-class programme of education, personal development and career transition.
- Consider current and alternative commercial opportunities.

Specialists in Currency Exchange for Sport

Managing Risk, Delivering Service

Argentex provides bespoke, cost effective currency solutions to cricketers earning internationally. With your dedicated relationship manager, we work to reduce the cost and risks associated with transferring currency by delivering an efficient, secure and straightforward service.

Saving Time, Saving Money:

Players have the advantage of competitive exchange rates, skilled risk management and round-the-clock service.

Why Argentex:

- Unique expertise
- Timely transactions
- Competitive exchange rates
- Flexible service



All PCA members can receive a free, personal currency consultation with Argentex to discuss all aspects of their FX requirement.

"Since my first overseas T20 contract Argentex have helped me in moving foreign currency around the world. The global nature of tournament cricket means that as a player you need support and assistance around the clock. Having the expertise of Argentex means that I'm free to concentrate on my cricket, whilst they work in the background to ensure that my foreign currency earnings are managed quickly and effectively."

ARGENTEX CLIENT
JOFRA ARCHER - ENGLAND AND SUSSEX

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Argentex has saved me some serious money on my currency transactions...

Whenever I need to do a transfer – I just message my Trader and it's sorted immediately. I trust their advice and the service is always top notch. I wouldn't hesitate in recommending them to anyone."

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ARGENTEX

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+44 (0) 798 346 2196

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Sporting Memories



Fine Topic Of Conversation

Sport holds within it some of our most cherished memories. Charity Sporting Memories provides a forum for those looking to access the benefits of simply talking about it.

The charity Sporting Memories, which this year marks its tenth anniversary, is dedicated to tackling dementia, depression and loneliness through the power of sport, including cricket.

The PCA is committed to supporting its members in this area, having launched the Talk to Teammates campaign in early 2021, which encouraged current and former pros to reach out to one another to combat isolation and loneliness in lockdown.

Taking things one step further, the PCA is now working with Sporting

Memories to encourage members to join one of the charity's 130 Clubs – where trained volunteers and older adults come together to talk about and remember sport and take part in some gentle physical activity.

At Sporting Memories Clubs, those who are feeling isolated or lonely find conversation, companionship and friendship in a group of fellow sports-lovers. For Club members living with dementia, sparking fond memories increases cognitive resilience – while family members and carers find benefits too.

When COVID-19 hit, the immediate concern was how to stay in touch with Club members. Groups quickly went online, brand new Clubs have formed, and telephone circles followed. Other developments have moved rapidly as the charity's work has broadened, formed around an ongoing campaign

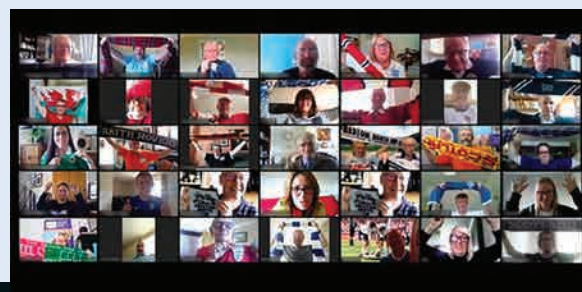
to help everyone to #TalkAboutSport with someone they know.

Former Gloucestershire man and PCA member Alastair Hignell CBE, who also played rugby union professionally, became involved with Sporting Memories at the charity's December 2020 conference.

Susie Brindley, COO for England and Wales, says: "We were absolutely delighted when Alastair said he would comper our conference and interview our guests. Following our conference, Alastair agreed to become a Sporting Memories Patron and since then has been tirelessly championing our work – in the media, through sporting bodies and with those involved in sport, as well as collecting conversations and memories."



For me it's like a breath of fresh air, especially since retiring from work. It's given me another set of people to talk about sport with... going back to our first involvement from childhood. It's a bit like an extended family. Jon, Sporting Memories Club member



Many current and former professional cricketers, including Alastair, have contributed their own first-hand experiences to the Sporting Memories Foundation. Below is a small collection of individual highlights.

ALASTAIR HIGNELL defies convention when facing his first ball in professional cricket, 1974

"I was 18. I was batting number three and facing Robin Jackman. As I took guard, a nearby fielder raised an arm and shouted to the bowler: "Oi, Jackers...one off!" Jackman nodded and started to race in. When he arrived at the wicket, though, he slowed right down to deliver a gentle ankle high full-toss. I managed to shovel it into a gap for two, completely forgetting the time-honoured custom that decreed that debutants should be helped to get off the mark in their first ever innings – with a single. Needless to say, I got in a fearful tangle to a vicious bouncer the next ball, spooning a gentle catch to cover."



MIKE PROCTER on defeating Hampshire to reach the Benson & Hedges Cup final, 1977

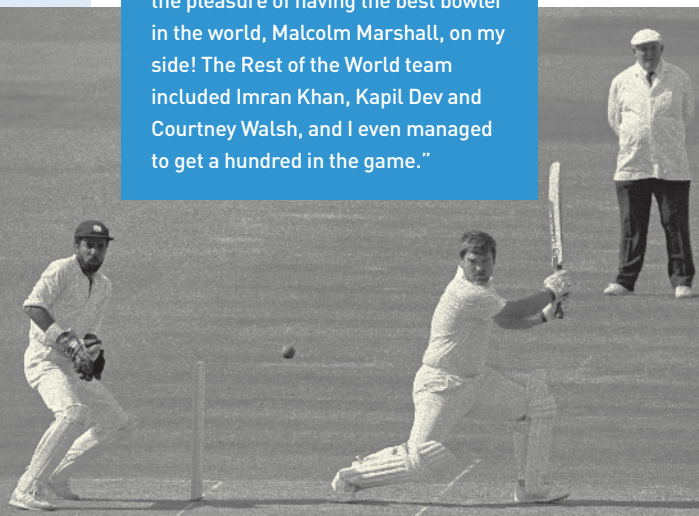
"To me it wasn't simply the winning of the match that gave me the most pleasure, it was that we were now heading to Lord's. The Gloucestershire fans were in magnificent voice that day, chanting 'Gloucestershire' and 'Proctershire', it was a superb team performance and a trip to the final meant so much to everyone involved."

MIKE GATTING takes to the field with the very best, 1987

"One of my best highlights at Lord's was playing for the MCC in their bi-centenary game in 1987 against the Rest of the World. It was a great day, and there was a large crowd for all five days. It was the first time I'd had the pleasure of having the best bowler in the world, Malcolm Marshall, on my side! The Rest of the World team included Imran Khan, Kapil Dev and Courtney Walsh, and I even managed to get a hundred in the game."

Warwickshire's PCA rep OLIVER HANNON-DALBY claims a notable scalp for his first professional wicket, 2008

"My best memory has to be my debut, getting Mark Ramprakash on a flat one at the Oval. However, I also remember Mark Butcher was whacking me all over at the other end!"



Perhaps you or someone you know would be interested in joining a Sporting Memories Club? Or would like to learn new skills as a volunteer. You could even contribute a sporting memory. Find out more by visiting www.thesmf.co.uk.



RANK & FILE



New for 2021 and beyond, the PCA's hugely influential MVP index is benefitting from a much deserved revamp

Cricket is undeniably a team sport. However, almost every successful side in the game's history has been built on the outstanding contributions of individual players.

Since 2006, the PCA has recognised that fact by tracking the top performers in the English game, both domestic and international, via its Most Valuable Player (MVP) Rankings algorithm. Ahead of the 2021 domestic

season, the PCA has built upon the model to reconfigure and relaunch the MVP to bring it up to speed with the ever-changing dynamic of the modern game.

To achieve this, the Association has partnered with the game's leading analytics provider CricViz. With access to the world's most extensive cricket database, CricViz's team of data scientists, programmers and analysts uses unique predictive models to provide analysis and insight to clients around the world.

Working with CricViz, the PCA conducted surveys, focus groups and spoke directly to influential professional cricketers in England and Wales from across both the men's and women's game to discover their views on what should constitute the MVP formula. The findings, combined with CricViz's existing expertise, have been used to further develop the MVP formula, which has taken effect ahead of the beginning of the domestic season on Thursday 8 April.





MVP

How Does It Work?

- Points are earned by comparing performance to the average or expected performance in each format
- 'Traditional' stats such as runs, wickets, economy rates and strike rates are also taken into account

BATTING

- More value placed on top-order runs
- Red-ball cricket:
 - Runs carry more value in lower scoring games
- White-ball cricket:
 - Performances carry more value based on the influence they have on the game according to CricViz
 - The average scores on that ground are taken into account

BOWLING

- Top-order wickets are more valuable
- Red-ball cricket
 - Wickets carry more value in higher scoring games
- White-ball cricket
 - Performances carry more value based on the influence they have on the game according to CricViz
 - The average scores on that ground are taken into account

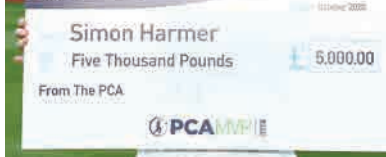
FIELDING

- Catches (outfielders earn more than wicketkeepers)
- Run-outs
- Stumpings

BONUS POINTS

- Captain of winning team
- Every member on winning team
- MVP of the Match

Batting Points + Bowling Points + Fielding Points + Bonus Points = MVP



Prize Fund

Prize money for the men's domestic MVP Rankings will be doubled in 2021, offering six chances to win significant cash prizes for on-field performances.

- OVERALL DOMESTIC MEN'S MVP = £10,000
- RUNNER-UP IN OVERALL MVP = £2,500
- LV= COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP MVP = £2,500
- VITALITY BLAST MVP = £2,500
- ROYAL LONDON CUP MVP = £2,500
- THE HUNDRED MVP = TBC

There will also be a prize pot for the women's domestic MVPs, however the exact amounts are yet to be confirmed as of April 2021.

The new MVP will be applied to every domestic fixture in England and Wales during the 2021 season and beyond. Players will earn cumulative points in each of the four men's competitions and the three women's tournaments, including The Hundred, with an MVP for each competition named after the final fixture as well as a cross-format Overall MVP.

The same rules will apply to the England squads, with Test, ODI and IT20 MVPs running simultaneously alongside the Overall MVP.

To make the MVP a more user-friendly experience, the PCA is in the process of rebranding the Rankings and

launching a brand-new website where users can browse the MVP according to each team, discipline and more. On the back of these developments, cricket players, journalists and fans will gain access to an unprecedented level of player data from the beginning of the 2021 season, meaning it is officially the year of the MVP.

Log on to thepca.co.uk/about-the-mvp/ to find out more.



Making A Real Mark

With demand for services at an all-time high, support has never been at more of a premium



In 2020...



94 mental health cases were supported by the PCT



35 of which are current players



A cumulative 563 therapy sessions were provided by the Trust



In addition, 20 further hardship cases were supported



114 cases is a huge increase on the figure of 33 from 2015



426 people supported with mental health problems since 2015

In the context of such unprecedented demand, the Trust switched to a new mental health support provider in 2020 - the Sporting Chance Clinic, founded by Tony Adams and based near Petersfield, Hampshire.

Sporting Chance has since provided support for PCA members including Hampshire's Chris Wood, who last year revealed his 11-year battle with gambling addiction in an emotional podcast appearance with Adams.

We caught up with Chris to find out how he has been doing since revealing his story.

"The reaction to the podcast was extremely positive," says Wood. "The fear of being judged by my peers was what held me back from revealing my story, but the reaction I got from everybody was just overwhelming.



"That spurred me on to take up a new role with EPIC Risk Management (the PCA's gambling harm risk awareness provider), where I'm working with Patrick Foster, who used to play for

Northamptonshire and has a similar story to me."

Wood, who had no experience of public speaking prior to joining EPIC, presented at one in-person seminar before the COVID-19 restrictions were reintroduced, and admits that he felt nervous before he took to the stage.

"It was extremely nerve-wracking, purely because cricket's all I've ever known. I felt vulnerable but I enjoyed sharing my story to around 200 school kids, and we've since moved onto Zoom to do the professional cricket academies, which obviously presents its own challenges.

"In terms of cricket, I feel like I've played with a lot more freedom since revealing my story, and I'm eternally grateful for the support of the Professional Cricketers' Trust. We need to do all we can to support the charity, because you never know when you might need it."



Chris Wood

Here are a few ways you can support your charity in 2021



PARIS TO LONDON 2021

Saddle up and cycle from Paris to London between 15-17 October!

Though spots are filling up fast,



there's still time to join our group of fundraisers and embark on this three-day bucket list bike ride between two of the world's most iconic cities.

Unable to join in October? Visit justgiving.com/professionalcricketerstrust to donate to our group of hardy fundraisers.

For more information and for details on how to sign up, email our Head of Fundraising Kathryn Ford at kathryn.ford@thepca.co.uk.

CLUB TOGETHER FOR CRICKET

Ahead of England's Test series against India in February, we launched our Club Together for Cricket campaign via the goalgiving platform.

Over 60 international and domestic stars, including the likes of Joe Root, Ben Stokes and Jos Buttler, have signed up to support the Trust through Club Together for Cricket.

How does it work? Well, you can pledge to donate an amount of your choice for every run scored, wicket taken and catch claimed by our fundraisers, meaning they are performing on the pitch to support PCA members off it.

Visit bit.ly/ClubTogetherCricket to find out more.



FESTIVAL OF CRICKET

Head down to the Wormsley Cricket Ground on Friday 30 July for the Trust's inaugural Festival of Cricket.

You can book a table for you and a group of friends or bring your family along to enjoy food, drink, fun and, above all, cricket!

Email kathryn.ford@thepca.co.uk to find out more and book your place.



5K FOR MAY

Run 5. Donate 5. Nominate 5.

Get out and get active this summer by taking part in the national 5k for May campaign in aid of the Trust.



AMAZONSMILE

You can now support the Trust as you shop online with Amazon. Simply visit the AmazonSmile homepage and when prompted select the Professional Cricketers' Trust as your chosen charitable organisation. The retailer will then donate a small amount to the Trust for every subsequent purchase you make!



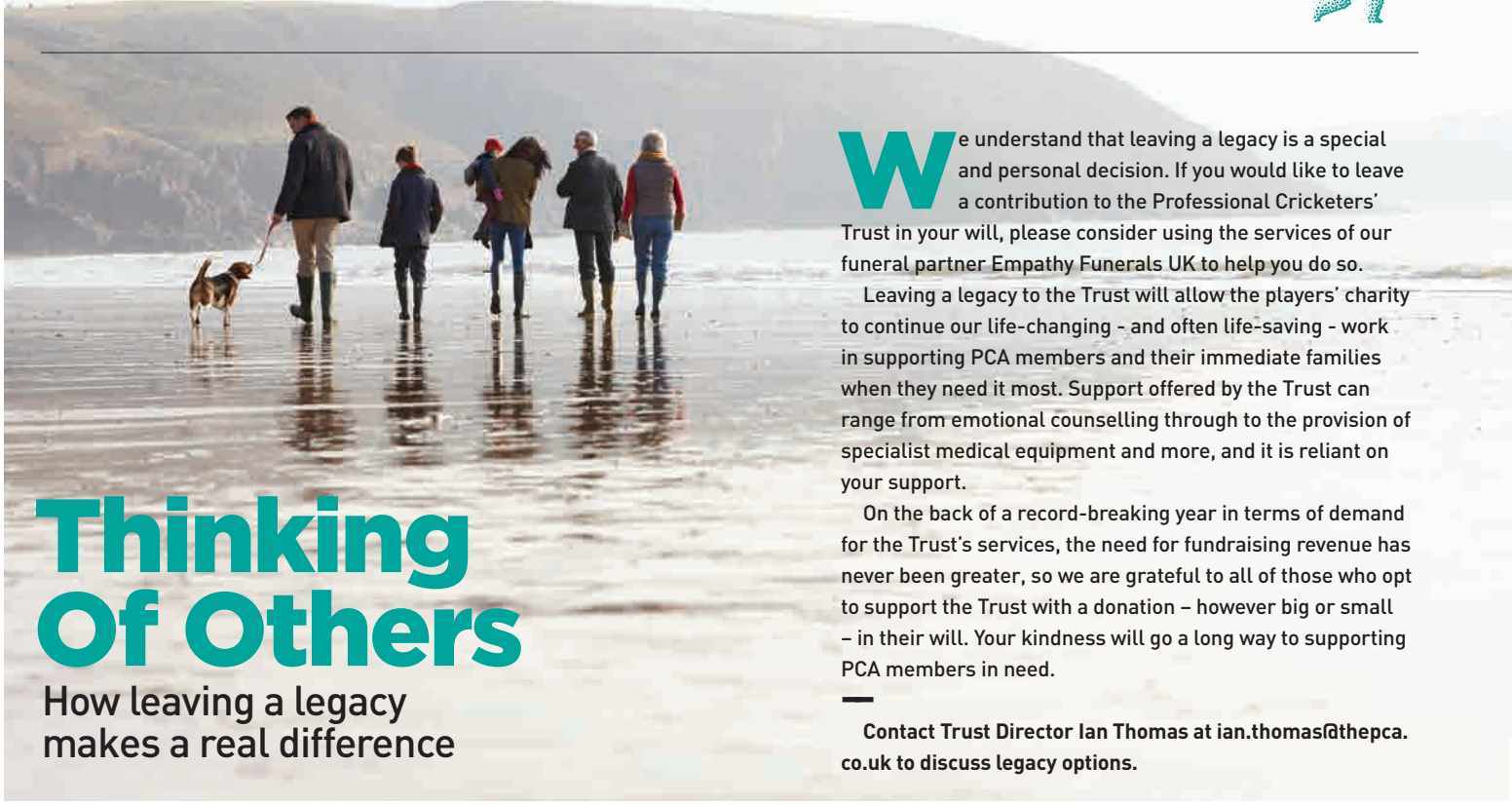
TRUST CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Trust's annual Christmas lunch is set to return on 8 December 2021.

If you would like to book a table or donate a prize to the fundraising auction, get in touch with Sam Relf at sam.relf@thepca.co.uk.

Visit bit.ly/CricketersTrustDonate to make a small contribution or thepca.co.uk/trust/get-involved/ to see what else you can do for the players' charity.

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



Thinking Of Others

How leaving a legacy makes a real difference

We understand that leaving a legacy is a special and personal decision. If you would like to leave a contribution to the Professional Cricketers' Trust in your will, please consider using the services of our funeral partner Empathy Funerals UK to help you do so.

Leaving a legacy to the Trust will allow the players' charity to continue our life-changing - and often life-saving - work in supporting PCA members and their immediate families when they need it most. Support offered by the Trust can range from emotional counselling through to the provision of specialist medical equipment and more, and it is reliant on your support.

On the back of a record-breaking year in terms of demand for the Trust's services, the need for fundraising revenue has never been greater, so we are grateful to all of those who opt to support the Trust with a donation - however big or small - in their will. Your kindness will go a long way to supporting PCA members in need.

—
Contact Trust Director Ian Thomas at ian.thomas@thepca.co.uk to discuss legacy options.



The best value Prepaid Funeral Plans available just got better, with added benefits for PCA members:

- Available to all members and their families
- Professional Cricketers' Trust contribution
- From just £14.65/month*
- Spread the cost by paying monthly up to 15 years
- Cremation fees fully covered
- Request your Plan fee back at any time
- Simple, easy to follow application procedure
- Independent, audited Trust Fund
- Financial Planning benefits
- Dedicated freephone number

A Funeral Plan not only provides protection against the rapid rise of funeral costs, but it will also take care of your wishes and arrangements in advance. One less thing to worry about.



Find out more by visiting us online at: www.empathyfuneralplans.co.uk/thepca

* price relates to our Direct Cremation Plan taken with a £250 deposit and paid over 15 years by Direct Debit



A FRESH

START

As cricket recovers from its greatest test, the PCA has fresh impetus as a result of a number of both structural and personnel changes to its leadership team.

Led by new Chief Executive Rob Lynch, the players' association is in the process of placing renewed focus on advocacy and affinity for its 3,500-strong membership to reflect the ever-changing nature of the global cricketing landscape. In addition, the PCA is developing ways to diversify its revenue streams in light of the financial challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

With this focus in mind, Lynch, who has a strong background in the commercial side of the sport, will be supported by a brand-new Cricket Department, led by Director of Cricket Operations Daryl Mitchell, who brings 17 years of playing experience as well as four years as PCA Chair with him into the role. Mitchell will be reliant on player input from the PCA Players' Committee in particular, now led by Middlesex's James Harris after he was elected as the new Chair at the Association's 2021 AGM. ➤➤➤



The trio form the core of the PCA's leadership team, which also

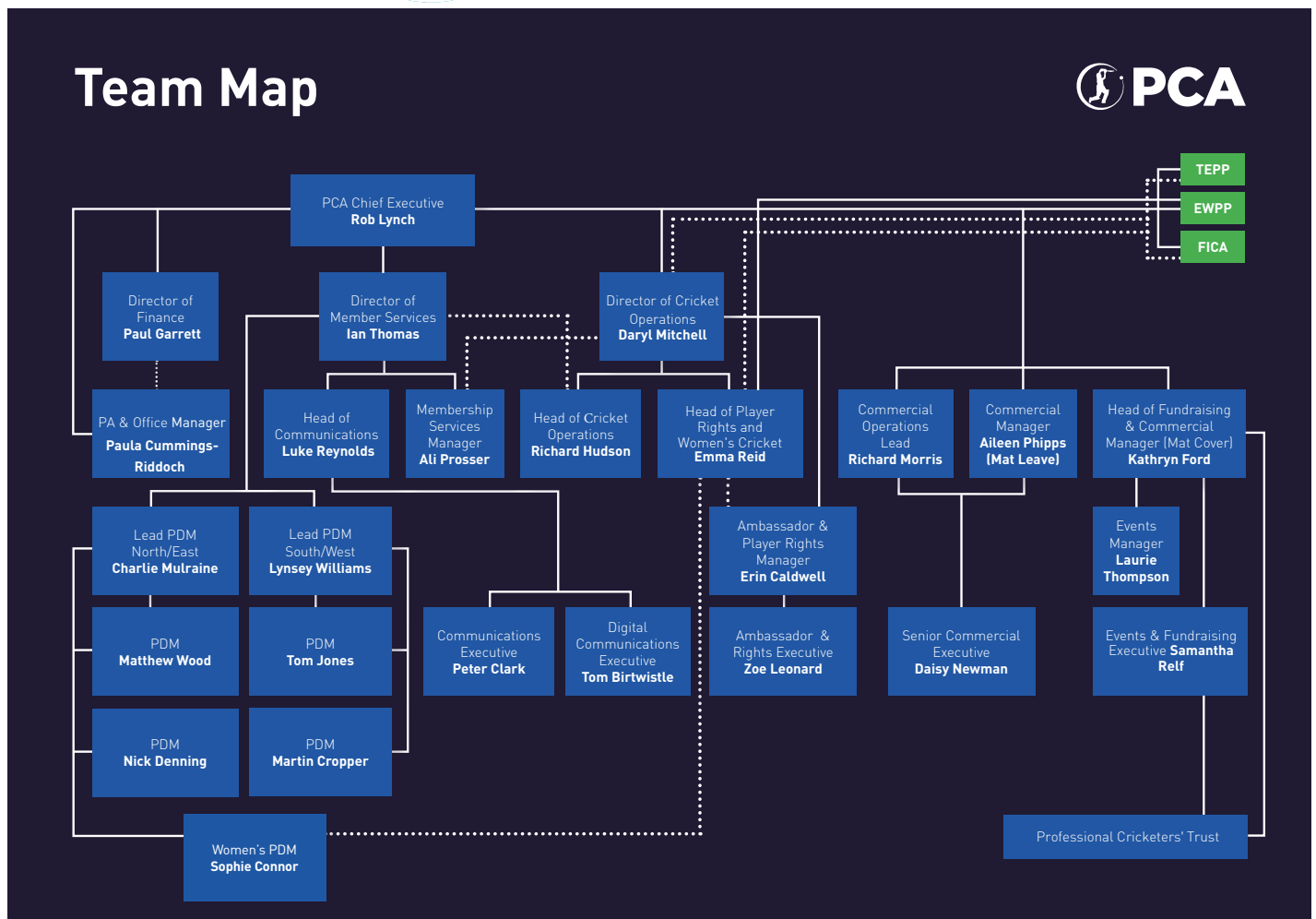
contains Director of Member Services Ian Thomas and Director of Finance Paul Garrett, as well as Vice Chairs Heather Knight and Anuj Dal, who was promoted to the position upon Harris' appointment. The group of seven are central to the successful delivery of the PCA's future objectives, and working together through one of the toughest periods in cricket's recent history will stand them in good stead, as Lynch explains.

Administrative Changes

The first few months after (former Chief Executive) Tony Irish's departure in July 2020 were some of the most challenging of my career, but becoming the Chief Executive of the PCA was also a massive opportunity that I couldn't turn down. I want to give our Non-Executive Chairman Julian Metherell a lot of credit for being an invaluable sounding board for me with his experience and guidance. Daryl Mitchell has provided me with an outstanding knowledge of both the game and the PCA, and I

would also like to thank both Ian Thomas and Paul Garrett for their help and commitment, as well as all our talented staff during my time as Chief Executive so far.

"It's been well documented that cricket came together and worked collaboratively during the pandemic. I think the PCA has a firm but fair relationship with the ECB and the 18 first-class counties, so being able to get around the virtual table and have discussions has been very constructive during my time so far. There will be difficult discussions from time to time,





but I think it's possible to have those conversations in a respectful environment to produce a healthy outcome.

"Early on in the pandemic, we realised that we couldn't look too far ahead, and that mindset enabled us to focus on what was directly in front of us. We've used the analogy of playing the ball in front of us, which is very much the ethos that I'd like the PCA to adhere to moving forward in the rapidly changing environment that we are operating in."

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) is an area where the PCA has had to respond in order to be held accountable by its members, and during Lynch's time as Chief Executive, the PCA has already partnered with the EW Group to roll out education on the topic to all current professionals. In addition, in late 2020 Lynch oversaw the introduction of 41 new domestic female pros into the PCA, illustrating the Association's commitment to making cricket a game for all.

"Our EDI work is of vital importance. When we were rightfully questioned by our members, I think we did well to listen to them in order to develop a considered response to the nuanced and complicated issue of diversity in cricket. Women's cricket is also very high on our agenda, and the creation of the Women's Player Committee will continue to help us in the fight for equality between the men's and women's game, whilst also recognising the specific needs of both."

Amongst other key issues facing Lynch and the new PCA leadership are the development of the Association's commercial operation that was dramatically impacted by the pandemic, which includes the introduction of a collective commercial rights project for the PCA membership as a whole.



“We’ve used the analogy of playing the ball in front of us, which is very much the ethos that I’d like the PCA to adhere to moving forward in the rapidly changing environment that we are operating in. Rob Lynch

"The power of our members' individual rights pooled together has significant potential to develop new opportunities for the PCA and our stakeholders. There are three core areas to this: firstly to enable us to better challenge third parties that we believe are using members' rights without permission. Secondly, we are putting a renewed energy into our Most Valuable Player (MVP) Rankings product and believe it can generate commercial interest. Finally, we are confident of creating new revenue-generating opportunities through player data, wearable technology and hopefully within broadcast."

As part of that, Lynch believes that a healthy relationship between the PCA and both the Team England Player Partnership (TEPP) and the England Women's Player Partnership (EWPP)

are of paramount importance to the health of the PCA in the future.

"Our service provision to England players is a key strategic objective of the PCA, and I'm grateful to have the experience and knowledge of Bob Mitchell and Richard Bevan to help us deliver that high standard of support to the England teams, who are our crown jewels. We have a lot to do in this area and I look forward to being able to spend time in both of the England environments this year." ➤➤➤





In order to implement the wide range of initiatives to

help move the PCA forward in his mould, Lynch is aiming to instill an ethos of collaboration within the PCA executive, which has recently been restructured to include a new Cricket Department. The new department's objectives include protecting player rights, helping players to negotiate contracts, providing them with comprehensive insurance cover, negotiating with the ECB on issues such as playing regulations and more.

"The cricket landscape is changing," says PCA Director of Cricket Operations Mitchell, "with more T20 tournaments taking place worldwide and The Hundred starting as well. The PCA Board felt that having a specific Cricket Department was necessary and a route that we wanted to go down. Rob has set out his strategy for the direction he wants to take the PCA, and I see the Cricket Department being an integral part of that - it just ticks off a number of boxes."

In his new role, Mitchell, who will continue his playing duties with Worcestershire in the first-class and T20 formats whilst working full-time

“We want to make sure that we’re player-centric... We are there for our members’ needs and that’s what drives this organisation forward and is its core purpose. *Daryl Mitchell*

for the PCA in the winter, will draw upon his considerable experience as both a player and administrator of the game. With over 500 professional appearances and over 19,000 career runs to his name, the New Road stalwart has also been involved numerous key negotiations during his four-year stint as Chair. These include the creation of The Hundred, the negotiation of the County Partnership Agreement (CPA), rolling out of the new standard contract and leading the players’ committee regarding cuts discussions during COVID-19. Communication, as Mitchell explains, will be key to his success as Director of Cricket Operations.

“We want to make sure that we’re

player-centric, and I think from my position as a player I can definitely contribute to that. We are there for our members’ needs and that’s what drives this organisation forward and is its core purpose. It’s really important that we build that affinity across all aspects of our membership, and the real key to achieving that will be being out there on the ground, since it feels like I’ve been stuck on Zoom forever!

“In particular, I’m really looking forward to doing more work with James Harris. I managed to get Vice Chairs in place during my time as Chair so I’ve worked with Jimmy a lot over the past 12 months. He’s very much respected by the players and will bring a lot to the role throughout his term.”



New Chair

Sitting at the very top of the PCA, the Chair is the most important individual position within the Association, overseeing the activities of the Players' Committee and helping to shape the future direction of the organisation in the both the short and long term. Since the formation of the PCA in 1967, each and every PCA Chair has been one of the most respected figures on the domestic cricket circuit, and Harris is no different.

The Welshman is the 15th leader of the PCA and the first to come from Middlesex. Harris already has an excellent working knowledge of the PCA, having been brought in as Vice Chair in 2020 by his predecessor Mitchell. Reflecting on his key aims for his initial two-year term as Chair, the seamer sees the navigation of the COVID-19 pandemic as vital to making the most of the opportunities including The Hundred.

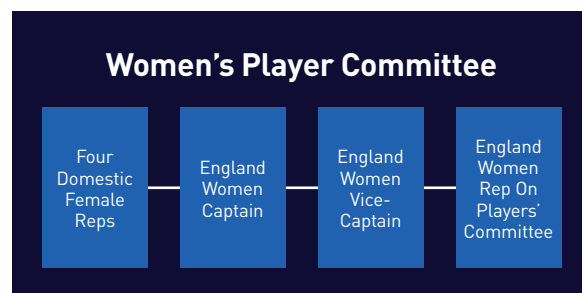
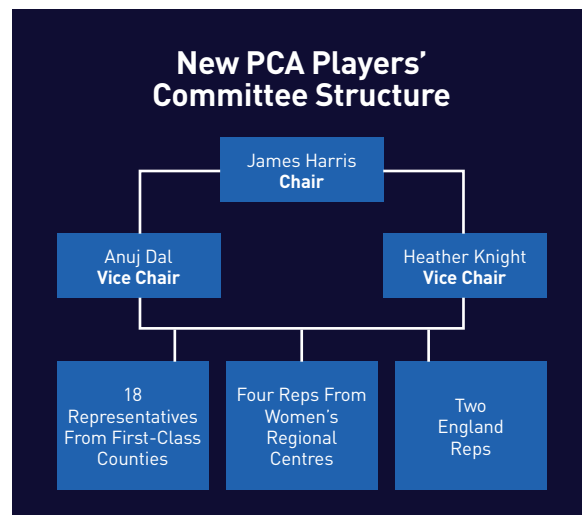
"Absolutely the most important thing for me as the new Chair of the PCA is to see us through the back-end of this pandemic. The game is fortunate to be in a relatively healthy place considering the challenges of last twelve months and the ECB deserve a lot of credit for that, getting

international and domestic cricket back on.

"The Hundred is absolutely vital for cricket going forward, as much of the TV broadcast deal is based around it being a success. It's an incredibly exciting prospect, especially as it's due to take place at a time of year when there's very little other cricket being played around the world, so all eyes will be on the tournament. The PCA has a big role to play in tournaments like The Hundred, for us it's all about how we can best support our members in what will be a new experience for many, especially those who have not played franchise cricket before.

"On top of supporting some of the sport's most established names, it's also been wonderful to help our new female members begin their journey in professional cricket. Equality in general is very important and very important for cricket. Cricket is a global game and we want everybody to be welcome and feel supported whilst playing it. The PCA is doing everything that it can to support its members so that they're able to feel free and enjoy playing the game that they love."

Like Mitchell, Harris will make use of his considerable and varied experience in the game to thrive in the role of Chair. However, his ambition



for his time at the top of the PCA is a simple one.

"Cricket is a fantastic game and has shaped my life to this point. The PCA is a great organisation that does so much for so many people and I see this as my way of giving back. My biggest goal for my time as Chair is to leave the PCA and the game in a better place for others to follow." ●



Joe Root



Keep On Running

Joe Root and Andy Flower



Joe Root passed a hundred Test caps against India this winter. Andy Afford casts an eye over a career showing few signs of fatigue.



Throughout time Yorkshire has maintained a tradition for producing master technicians.

Batsmen that did things 'correctly'. They showed the bowler the maker's name. Played all-the-way-forward and right-the-way-back. Left the ball when the width of a gnat's ear outside off stump. And built an innings. All bound by the premise of a good defence and the inevitability of their crease occupation leading to runs being scored by the ton. Joe Root is not only the latest of that ilk. He might even be the very best. Tha' knows...

From a Test debut against India at Nagpur in 2012, to a hundredth cap against the same opposition at Chennai in 2021, consistency has been pretty much the watch word. The technical set-up may have been inevitably fiddled with over time, but the approach to how he scores his runs has remained nigh on unchanged. And that is, effectively, ensure that the ball remains on the carpet where possible. Duck not hook. Knock the ball into the gaps. And just keep on running.

Andy Flower was England coach when the freshest of faced Root entered

international cricket. The 22-year-old making 73 and 20 not out against an India attack that included two bowlers (Ishant Sharma and Ravi Ashwin) that coincidentally played in his hundredth Test. Both are revered in their part of the world, every bit as Root is in his.

Flower said of the early Root, "I thought Joe had a nice blend of perspective, knowledge and understanding of the game. He also had a popularity among the players. Even as a young guy who liked messing around a little, he had the respect of people around him. He clearly had qualities that could make him a future captain."

Root's 218 at Chennai, made as England's most-winning captain, not only led to his side's victory, but registered itself as the highest-ever score made by a 'century-of-Tests' maker. The win also made it six successive wins for England in Asia. Another record. And no mean achievement for someone whose captaincy credentials has at times been under scrutiny. Mainly, as is the way of these things, when form has dipped with the bat.

Scores this winter to date of 228, 1, 186, 11, 218, 40, 6, 33, 17, 19, 5 and 30 signpost a run of unprecedented form. Not to mention his spell of 5-8 with the ball. India on the receiving end of the most devastating five-fer in history on that now infamous 'gravel-based' pitch at Ahmedabad. This in itself being the cheapest ever five-wicket haul. But it will no doubt be the run glut that will be especially satisfying for Root. Coming after a dry spell that hadn't realised a Test hundred for approaching a calendar year. ➡

In conversation with India's Virat Kohli.





His are runs not only to admire, but also to weigh. By the ton.

His dominance in Sri Lanka – again played in archetypally subcontinental conditions – was bound in his aforementioned technique. Spearheaded by an attacking game that is built around sweeping the spinners successfully either side of the wicket. Supported by a confidence to defend when necessary. Held steady by the patience of Job. And the volume of runs being generated, powered by a ‘great engine’.

Although now a family man with young children, Root entered the international scene looking no older than your average milk monitor. He brought with him a dynamism to England’s middle-order that saw him playing almost instantly in all formats. Making two hundreds in his first eight Tests.

One of which being an epic 180 against Australia at Lord’s. Graham Thorpe, another of England’s illustrious 100 club, and current batting coach said of Root, “What I saw early on was character. His work ethic remains fantastic and he has also kept his love for the game. He loves learning and doesn’t want to stand still. He also has a great hunger to score runs.”

A batting average at better than 50 from 149 ODIs (16 hundreds) and over 35 in T20Is (90* v Australia at Southampton in 2013) speaks of a batsman that is more than just keen to do well. These are the stats of someone that does most things well, even when looking to shift the ball around the ground apace. Without the power game that facilitates mis-hitting the white ball to all corners of the stand, his manipulation of situations, surfaces and

BELOW: On his way to a hundred for Yorkshire against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge, 2019



Joe Root celebrates reaching his century during the Group Stage match of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 between England and West Indies at The Hampshire Bowl

In Statistics

NAME: Joseph Edward Root
BORN: Sheffield, December 30, 1990
AGE: 30

INTERNATIONAL CAREER:
 2012 – 2021

TESTS: 102
RUNS: 8582
HUNDREDS: 20
FIFTIES: 49
HIGHEST SCORE:
 254 v Pakistan, Manchester, 2016
AVE: 49.60

ODIS: 149
RUNS: 5962
HUNDREDS: 16
FIFTIES: 33
HIGHEST SCORE:
 133* v Bangladesh, The Oval, 2017
AVE: 50.10

T20IS: 32
RUNS: 893
FIFTIES: 5
HIGHEST SCORE:
 90* v Australia, Southampton, 2013
AVE: 35.72

90 not out: Against Australia at Southampton, 2013



strike has made him a vital component in the team’s rise in the 50-over game. Culminating in the run that saw Eoin Morgan’s men crowned World Cup winners in 2019.

In Test cricket, India’s Virat Kohli was also on the field for the Root debut, him making two parts of what is currently being described as cricket’s so called ‘big four’. The others being Australia’s Steve Smith and Kane Williamson of New Zealand. “As an international cricketer you understand impact players when you see them,” commented Kohli. “And Joe has been one of them for a while now.

“Joe is always that vital wicket that we look to get early. That is a compliment to his game, to the longevity and consistency over so many years. Hopefully in the future we can sit down and have a nice long chat about how our journeys have gone and playing each other over so many years.”

Only now behind Graham Gooch (118 Tests, 8900 runs, 42.58 ave., 20 hundreds) and Sir Alastair Cook (161 Tests, 12,472 runs, 45.35 ave., 33 hundreds) and still a young man, it appears Root has every chance of summiting the mountain. His average is the best of England’s top 10 run-getters. And of the top twenty names, it is only Hobbs, Compton, Barrington, Hutton and Hammond averaging more, but all in fewer games.

It is a list to admire. It is also a list that shows the impact made upon it by England’s recent cast of stars. And also the success the national side has had over the past 20 years. Five of the top 12 names – Cook, Root, Pietersen, Bell and Strauss – all lined up together.

While it’s acknowledged that taking 20 wickets is the key to winning Tests. Without runs being put on the board consistently, series wins become hard to come by. This makes the likes of Joe Root so valuable. His are runs not only to admire, but also to weigh. By the ton.

RIGHT: Joe Root, back left, celebrates England's World Cup win at Lord's 2019



AN EXCLUSIVE CLUB...

ENGLAND PLAYERS TO PASS 100 CAPS



SIR ALASTAIR COOK: 161 CAPS

Most Test appearances, most runs scored, most centuries made. He even bowled out with a hundred against India at the Oval in 2018. Followed up by a knighthood a year later.



JAMES ANDERSON: 160

The most prolific seamer in Test history in terms of wickets taken and balls bowled. At 38, chances are he'll add the accolade of England's most-capped player during the summer. Miraculous for a fast bowler.



STUART BROAD: 146

Hot on Anderson's heels. A stellar 2020 saw successes recognised with a BBC Sports Personality of the Year Award nomination. A bowler who now marries those famed match-winning spells with metronomic reliability.



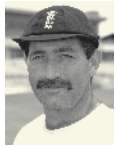
ALEC STEWART: 133

Surrey through and through, the county's current Director of Cricket redefined England's expectation of the keeper-batsman, by proving his worth as either. Another England captain, another man to make a hundred on his century of Tests. This time against West Indies at Old Trafford in 2000.



IAN BELL: 118

Easy (on the eye) like the proverbial Sunday morning, Ian Bell remained a real batting stylist throughout his career. A five-time Ashes winner – he was the last of the class of 2005 to retire – the Warwickshire right-hander offered understated elegance to any middle-order.



GRAHAM GOOCH: 118

Fierce, fit and focused, Gooch added quality to the national side for 20 years. His 333 against India at Lord's in 1990 remains the country's highest innings of the post-war era and the defining moment of a high-on peerless career for both Essex and England. A former President and great supporter of the PCA.



DAVID GOWER: 117

Defining the very idea of what is to be a 'stylish left-hander' is any photograph of David Gower. From pulling his first ball in Test cricket for four against Pakistan at Edgbaston in 1978, to his final stint in the commentary box with Sky Sports, he has remained an elegantly understated figure of the English game.



MICHAEL ATHERTON: 115

So talented is Michael Atherton as a writer and broadcaster, it's easy to forget that on occasions it felt like he alone was England's only end not open. Gritty to the point of stoic, poignantly Atherton's hundredth Test appearance coincided with England's other man-of-the-'90s, Alec Stewart in 2000.



SIR COLIN COWDREY: 114

The first ever cricketer to break the hundred-cap mark, passed during the 1968 Ashes, Cowdrey also reeled off a century to match the occasion. He later earned a knighthood and in doing so cricket's first peerage.



SIR GEOFFREY BOYCOTT: 108

There was no corridor of uncertainty whatsoever for this most single-minded of opener and broadcaster. Ever reliable,

his hundredth first-class hundred was registered on his home ground of Headingley against Australia in 1977. The first player to pass the landmark with a Test ton



KEVIN PIETERSEN: 104

Pieteresen was one undeniably one of England's best-ever batsmen of the modern era. His influence on the sport was such that a whole array of new strokes were attributed to the sometimes maverick personality and technician. Named England's captain in 2008, he was between 2005-2014 absolute box office.



SIR IAN BOTHAM: 102

He batted. He bowled. He caught pigeons in the slip cordon. 1981 will be forever Botham's summer. As colourful when in the comms box as he was on the field. An England captain. A knighthood for service to cricket and for monies raised for Leukaemia Research eventuated in 2014. A life peerage in 2020.



SIR ANDREW STRAUSS: 100

Captain for 50 of his 100 Tests says much for the left-hander's leadership qualities. Winning in Australia in 2010/11 proving seminal. His tenure as ECB's Director of England Cricket oversaw England's winning of the 50-over World Cup.



GRAHAM THORPE: 100

A wholly articulate left-hander, Thorpe completed a Test hundred against Australia on debut in 1993. Equally as good against spin as pace, his role as England's assistant coach sees him now working with what is effectively the national team's new international intake. ●



HENRY CROCOMBE
Sussex
Bowler

Fast bowler Crocombe makes it three players at Hove having learned their cricket under the tutelage of former club captain, Alan Wells, at Bede's School in the idyllic setting of Upper Dicker within the county's South Downs National Park. Four first-team appearances have included a two-wicket return against Surrey for the promising paceman.



TOM LAMMONBY
Somerset
All-rounder

Left-handed with ball and bat, the Devon-born 20-year-old has impressed everyone who has seen him play. A T20 debut in 2019, the southpaw pushed on in 2020, managing six matches in what was a four-day debut season. Culminating in the Bob Willis Trophy final decider at Lord's, playing against eventual champions Essex. A first innings duck was followed by a mercurial and headline-grabbing 116 in the second. A left-arm seamer and fluent opening batsman, 2021 looms large.



Give 'em a Follow...

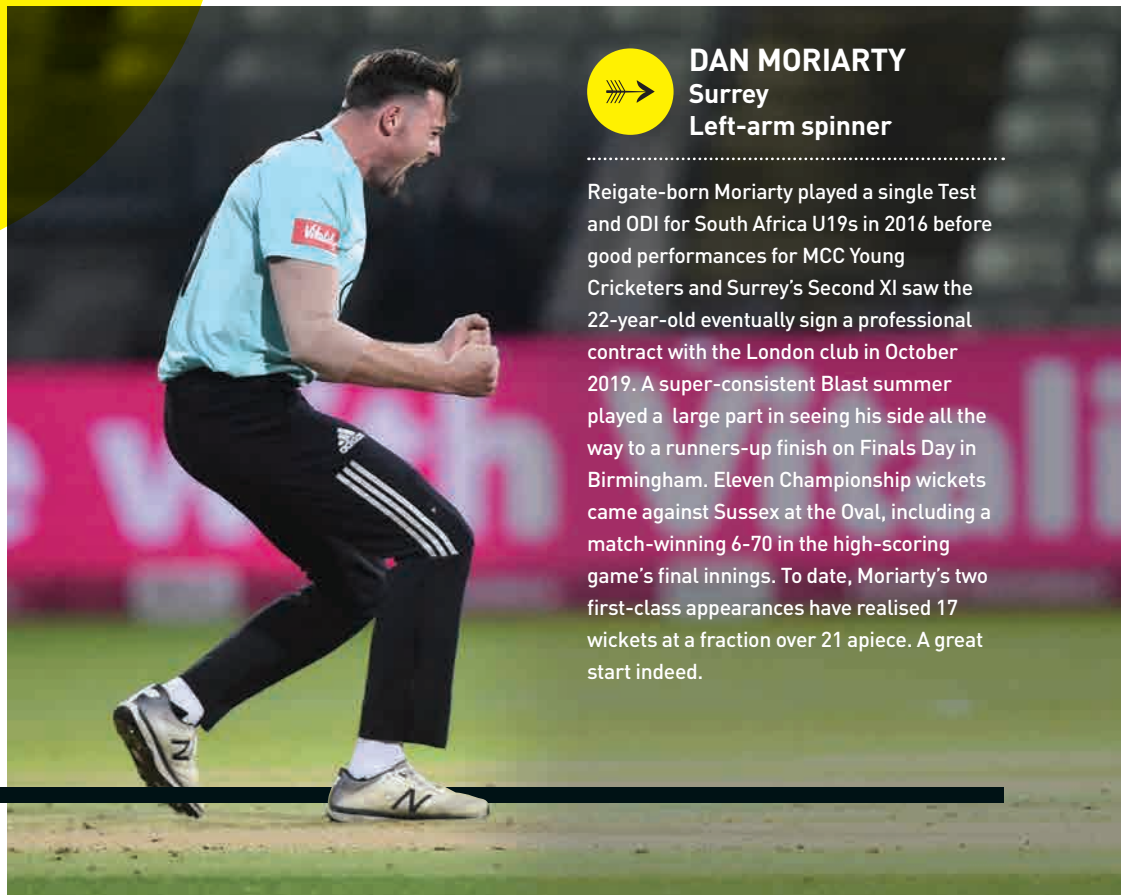
2021's Ones To Watch

Last summer's adapted season structure threw up more opportunities for young stars to shine than most. Here's a list of some exciting talents to keep an eye on in county cricket this term. And beyond.



DAN MORIARTY
Surrey
Left-arm spinner

Reigate-born Moriarty played a single Test and ODI for South Africa U19s in 2016 before good performances for MCC Young Cricketers and Surrey's Second XI saw the 22-year-old eventually sign a professional contract with the London club in October 2019. A super-consistent Blast summer played a large part in seeing his side all the way to a runners-up finish on Finals Day in Birmingham. Eleven Championship wickets came against Sussex at the Oval, including a match-winning 6-70 in the high-scoring game's final innings. To date, Moriarty's two first-class appearances have realised 17 wickets at a fraction over 21 apiece. A great start indeed.





FEROZE KHUSHI

**Essex
Batsman**

Playing four group stage four-dayers in 2020, Feroze Khushi is described as a patient and deft right-hander. A maiden fifty (66) was made against Surrey at Chelmsford last summer. On that day, there were 10 homegrown players in the Essex line-up. Khushi looks to be the next Man of Essex set to keep that particular production line rolling.

“ Feroze Khushi is described as a patient and deft right-hander. ”



MIKE JONES

**Durham
Batsman**

Ormskirk-born top-order man Jones has already played eight ODIs for Scotland, with a best of 87 made against Ireland in Dubai. The 23-year-old put together a career-best 82 last summer from the number three spot, holding off a Nottinghamshire attack striving for its first four-day win in two years.



JOE CRACKNELL

**Middlesex
Batsman**

Five T20 appearances (four last summer) showed enough promise for keeper-batsman Cracknell to be earmarked as one to keep tabs on. The Enfield-born right-hander made an even 50 (21 balls) against Kent as well as scores of 28 and 37 against Surrey and Sussex respectively. With experienced keeper John Simpson holding sway in the first-team, four-day opportunities have remained at a premium for the hard-hitting 21-year-old gloveman. ➔

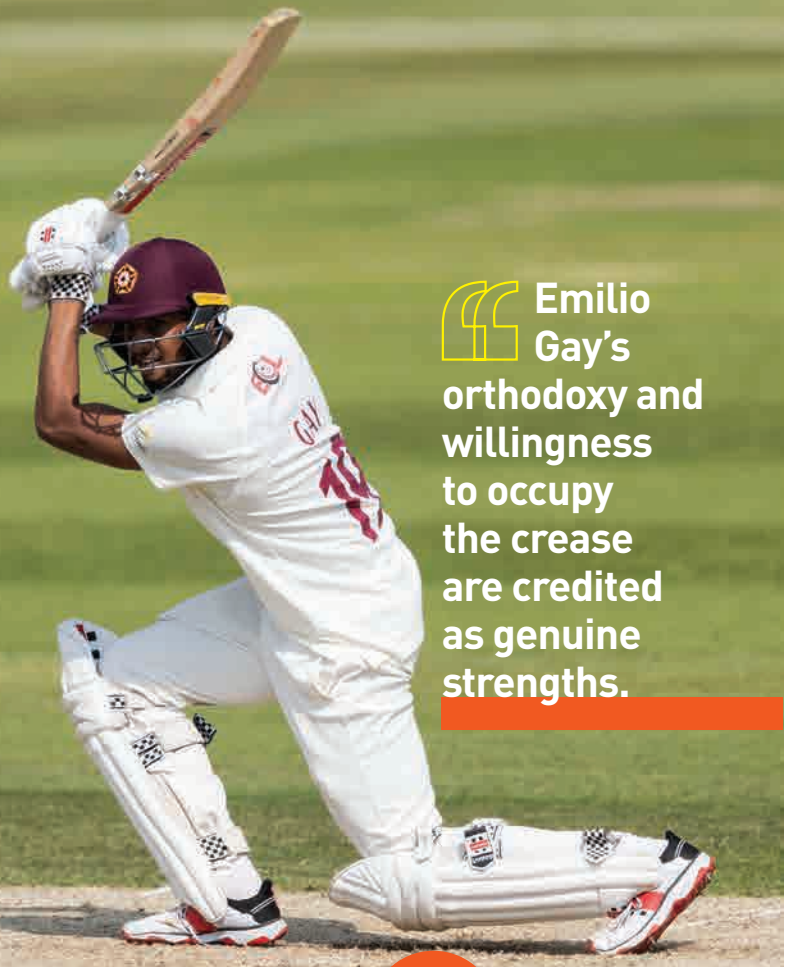


Ones To Watch



EMILIO GAY Northamptonshire Batsman

Bedford School appears to be the launch pad for the career of another 'decent' left-handed opener in the form of 21-year-old Emilio Gay. Born in the county town, a top score of 77 not out was made against Glamorgan at Northampton last August, with the batsman's orthodoxy and willingness to occupy the crease credited as genuine strengths.



“ Emilio Gay's orthodoxy and willingness to occupy the crease are credited as genuine strengths.”



SCOTT CURRIE Hampshire All-rounder

Another member of the England U19 World Cup squad, Currie made a strong showing when on first-class debut against Kent at Canterbury last summer. In what proved a losing cause, the former Portsmouth FC junior contributed 38 first-innings runs, backed up by 3-42 with the ball. Born in Poole, the 19-year-old is another cricketer hailing from Dorset.



PREM SISODIYA Glamorgan Left-arm spinner

A breakthrough 2020 season in the Blast saw the 22-year-old return 10 wickets in nine matches at a miserly 6.44 runs per over. Success when bowling in the powerplay phase, delivering the ball from a tall and upright bowling action, Sisodiya is a product of the Welsh club's youth system. He first announced himself on the scene when playing for Cardiff UCCE, taking five Somerset wickets in 2018. ➡



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Ones To Watch



JORDAN COX Kent Wicketkeeper- batsman

It was a sumptuous unbeaten 238, made in a team total of 530-1, that catapulted right-hander Cox into the headlines. Made against Sussex at Canterbury, he was the first cricketer born in the 21st century to pass three figures. With Kent since the age of 10, the 20-year-old made his debut the previous summer, emerging instantly as a player to watch from the England U19 side.



A sumptuous unbeaten 238 made Cox the first cricketer born in the 21st century to pass three figures.



JOEY EVISON Nottinghamshire All-rounder

Lincolnshire-born Evison played a single four-day game in 2020, contributing with bat and ball against Derbyshire at Trent Bridge. An extended spell on the sidelines with a foot injury prevented what

would have surely been an extended run in the side. Fluent with the bat and particularly strong when hitting over the off-side, the 19-year-old also swings the ball away from the right-hander. A debut the previous season saw the former Stamford schoolboy produce a nerveless 45 against a good Warwickshire attack at Trent Bridge.



JACK MORLEY Lancashire Left-arm spinner

A match-winning debut, one that realised four second-innings Derbyshire wickets, sees the Red Rose county's ability to identify and turn our quality SLAs seemingly undiminished. Bowling for long spells in that game with equally inexperienced left-arter, Tom Hartley, the spin pairing follow in the footsteps of the likes of Gary Keedy, Stephen Parry and Simon Kerrigan. ●



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BELOW:
A World Cup
winner in 2009.

Setting The Scene

The PCA's Head of Communications, Luke Reynolds, caught up with PCA President Charlotte Edwards to discuss The Hundred, her vision for the PCA and the game generally.

Photo Shoot: Jake Morley

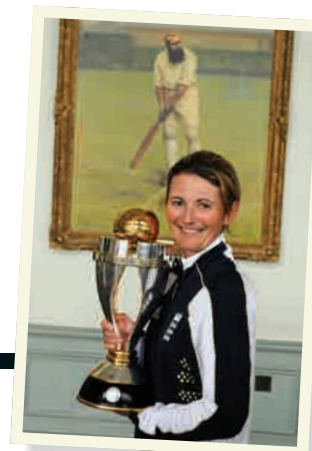
A legend of the English game, Charlotte Edwards was recently named the first female President of the PCA, succeeding the outgoing Graham Gooch.

Edwards' impressive CV includes over 300 appearances, made across an international career spanning 20 years. During which she scored over 10,000 runs in all formats. She is a four-time Ashes winner and has led England to victory in both 50-over and 20-over World Cups.

An established figure on the coaching circuit, the 41-year-old will combine her duties with her current role as Head Coach of Southern Vipers.

What are your views on how the game currently stands?

I hope we don't lose momentum now as a result of COVID-19, and it is a real concern with the potential financial implications of the pandemic. We need to start where we left off in March 2020. Our men's and women's teams are both reigning world champions, and I think there are plenty of young people out there who want to play the game. There's lots to be excited about and that's why I think cricket in this country remains on the up. ➤➤➤





ABOVE:
Photographed
at Southampton,
March 2021.
RIGHT:
In Ashes action,
Cardiff 2015.

How crucial is The Hundred and what benefits can it bring to the game if it proves to be a success?

I've been out to Australia and seen the difference the Big Bash League and Women's Big Bash League have made out there, so I feel that this new format of the game can have the same impact in England. It will bring in a whole new audience on terrestrial TV and it could be huge for our game having men's and women's teams playing on the same day in front of the same audience, showing that it's a sport for everyone. It all starts in July and hopefully we'll start seeing the benefits instantly.

Seeing those role models on free-to-air TV has only got to be a good thing, hasn't it?

Free-to-air makes such a big difference. It's hard to believe that before the recent India series, we hadn't seen Test cricket on terrestrial TV since 2005. The difference it will make to young

“ Free-to-air makes such a big difference. We hadn't seen Test cricket on terrestrial TV since 2005.

boys and girls watching those games is huge. They will want to be those people on the screen. They'll have some really strong role models, not just from England but from across the world. It's going to be a spectacle and the game will grow as a result.

How will your role with Southern Vipers help you to understand the day-to-day issues the players face?

I think it can only be a positive thing for this role, because I am literally in the centre of things, especially for these new players who are just



becoming professionals. They will have to deal with the pressures that come with having a contract, but hopefully I can be part of that support network they need.

In June the PCA celebrates 10 years since the England Women's team became members, what are your thoughts looking back at that time?

I remember at the time it felt a significant moment. Angus Porter was the CEO and I know he was really pushing for the women to be members and I think that was the first sign from the PCA that they saw us as professionals. That was a big step and it gradually built over the next few years, it felt like the beginning of some real momentum.

The PCA then had a massive part to play in making the international side professional. It seems like such a long time ago now, but I do remember it all came very quickly in the end with the ECB offering us contracts in 2014.

Your thoughts on the PCA now having female representation on the Players' Committee, as well as a brand-new Women's Player Committee?

To have a Women's Player Committee will be really important, ensuring players can share experiences. Though many women's issues won't affect the men, we've got to work together as much as we can to grow both games.

How important will the support of the Professional Cricketers' Trust be to those new PCA members?

Looking at the stories of players who the Trust has helped, you can see how the charity will go on to support those players currently in the game. I think

that is such an important part of the PCA, hence why I'm wanting to get on a bike to cycle from Paris to London this October to raise funds. The money that is raised from those events is important not just for current players but past players as well.

And in terms of accessing the personal development support that's available to them - how important is that and for the new members to understand?

It's a massive plus. I want them to have as much opportunity as possible to help prepare for life after the game. It's such an important thing and it helps to do it while still playing, because there's not the fear of retirement looming or losing a contract. I want there to be lots of workshops and other resources to be on offer.

Do you think the new women cricketers will enter the game as more rounded individuals?

Absolutely. These girls coming in have worked and had a life outside of the game. They're at a really good point to be able to dedicate themselves to cricket. Equally, they've got stuff going on in the background that can help them to prepare for life. We don't want them to just give everything up for a contract.

Fast forward a few years, what would you like the women's game to look like?

In the next three years I would hope that we have 15 fully paid professional cricketers in each region, and I think that has to be the aspiration. I agree with what the ECB has done so far, but I hope we're going to see fully professional teams where everyone can have the same opportunities in the

“ Our aim is to produce players who are ready to play for England from their first game, not their twentieth. ”

squad. We've already seen the benefits this structure has made, so I can't wait to see how far it's going to grow in the next four years.

How much does that professional structure aid the development of the international team?

I think we've made really positive steps. Our aim is to produce players who are ready to play for England from their first game, not their twentieth. That's a big goal of ours through the new professional structure and The Hundred and I think it's going to benefit the national team in years to come. ●

BELOW:
Pictured with the Ashes trophy at the Angel of the North in 2013.





England Women's Player Partnership

Established on the eve of the successful 2017 World Cup, the England Women's Player Partnership (EWPP) was created to represent England Women's players, focusing on the negotiation of Central Contracts with the ECB and protecting employment rights.

The partnership will be four years old this summer and the PCA has recently developed a strategy framework focusing on improving the delivery to EWPP and providing a high standard of service provision to the members. This framework will focus on:

- ⇒ Defining internal PCA roles within the new Cricket Department as well as the remit of the women's player committee and EWPP management committee
- ⇒ Representing the collective player view in the best possible way
- ⇒ Being forward focused by looking at both the immediate priorities as well as agree what the longer term stepping stones are develop the game
- ⇒ Being commercially ambitious, creative and progressive
- ⇒ Developing strong relationships to directly influence the ECB

The immediate focus has been on improving governance and strategic processes, which firstly focused on reviewing both the management committee and the remit it has. EWPP's aim is to

ensure that there are structured processes in place for decision-making including regular committee meetings and regular player communication with both formal and informal opportunities for feedback.

One of the biggest developments is the expansion of the EWPP management committee, rising from three members to nine to ensure greater player representation, as well as two independent roles to bring greater depth and experiences from outside of the game.

These changes were approved by the players in January 2020 and as such the new EWPP management committee comprises of:

EWPP COMMITTEE

- PCA CHIEF EXECUTIVE Rob Lynch
- PCA HEAD OF PLAYER RIGHTS & WOMEN'S CRICKET Emma Reid
- ENGLAND CAPTAIN Heather Knight
- ENGLAND VICE CAPTAIN Anya Shrubsole
- 2 x ENGLAND PLAYERS Amy Jones & Georgia Elwiss
- FORMER ENGLAND PLAYER Isa Guha
- 2 x INDEPENDENT MEMBERS Frazer Gibney & TBC

View From The Top

HEATHER KNIGHT: "It's great that the EWPP committee is expanding in line with the growth of the women's game in recent years. More player input and independent voices from outside the game will hopefully enable the EWPP to continue to grow and push the women's game forward."

ROB LYNCH: "The growth of women's cricket is vitally important to the PCA as we strive to ensure our female members who represent England receive the same levels of support as the men's players. We are fortunate that we can take many learnings from the Team England Player Partnership and implement them into EWPP as the partnership grows in size and influence."





Building Back

Better

In 2019 Tash Farrant's world came tumbling down around her. After making an England debut aged just 17, six short years later her England central contract was terminated. It was a situation that, having entered international cricket straight from education, life beyond the game was not at the forefront of her mind.

She found herself having to learn about life outside the sport quickly. Especially without a domestic structure to return to. Back then, it was a very straightforward set of circumstances: England or nothing. As professional contracts didn't exist more widely for the women cricketers. And that can be a hard pill to swallow sometimes.

"In pro sport it is normal that people lose contracts. I was devastated at the time, no doubt about it," says Farrant. "It did feel like the end of the world, as I had nothing else to look to, to work towards or to take my mind off what had happened to me. ➤➤➤"

Tash Farrant talks to Emily Marshall about her return to international cricket and the positives of more widely available professional contracts.



Going to New Zealand with England this February, I felt so much more relaxed.

Tash Farrant

“Cricket was all I knew. I was in the England set-up at 15. Cricket definitely felt like the be all and end all. Looking back, it was good for me to gain perspective by returning to normal life. But with no professional structure for me to fall back on, it felt as though my career had come to a close.”

This is where women’s cricket has been transformed over the past 12 months. Undeniably a year that for so many people was the toughest they’d faced, however for 41 women’s cricketers it had been the year they had dreamt of for so long.

A new tournament was announced. It became known as the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy and saw eight regional women’s teams compete in 50-over games. With this good news came even more, with the announcement that 41 domestic players would sign the first female professional domestic contracts.

Uncertainty over COVID-19 meant hitting the pause button, but players selected were still able to sign formal retainers. The good news continued via the return of professional sport last June, enabling the tournament to get underway.



IN BRIEF...

NAME: Natasha Eleni Farrant

BORN: May 29, 1996

AGE: 24

TEAMS: England, Kent Women, South East Stars

STYLE: Left-hand bat, Left-arm medium bowler

ODIS: 3

T20IS: 15

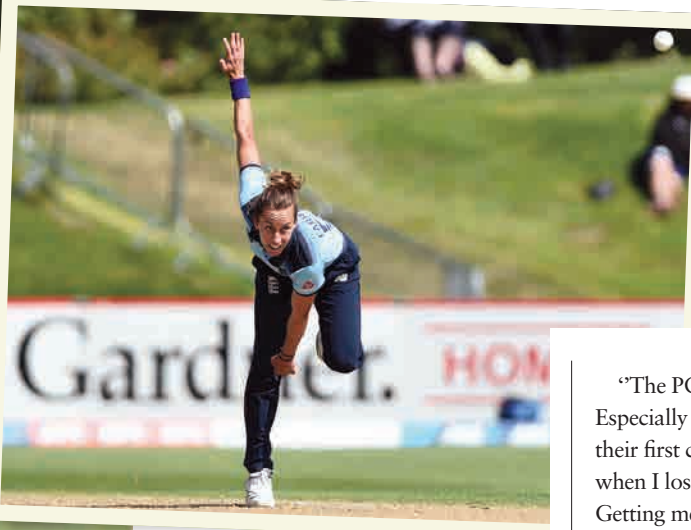
ABOUT: Born in Greece and raised in Italy and Singapore, the left-arm seamer was playing for the Sevenoaks School boys’ team aged 11. A Kent debut in 2012 aged 16, she went on to play for England at Port of Spain against West Indies the following year. After a two-and-a-half year absence from international cricket, she resumed her England career against New Zealand in February, taking 2-31 at Christchurch.

It was a great success, seeing over 100 cricketers afforded the taste of a professional cricket tournament. For many it also meant gaining invaluable experience, competing with the crème da la crème.

For Tash Farrant, it was everything she needed and more. Game time, a contract and freedom. “In lockdown, when I received that call about the domestic contracts and structure, it was an amazing feeling. I feel fully committed to South East Stars and I feel very good about my game. It has been really pleasing to show that all of my hard work and efforts to come back after that initial disappointment has paid off.

“I do believe that the support the domestic contracts give players is going to be amazing, really. I think everyone

ABOVE: In action for England against New Zealand. Christchurch, February 2021.



“The PCA has also been great. Especially for those girls having signed their first contract. They helped me when I lost my England contract. Getting me back up and running. With that structure and support in place they can help players in a number of ways.”

It is clear that the previous pressures exerted on players in international games – them possibly being career-ending before it had started for women – was a daunting experience. Not only do we now see increased visibility and professionalism for women’s cricket, but we also the freedom to play and express their passion for the game.

For Farrant it was about overcoming disaster, coming back stronger than ever, finding that confidence to go out and perform. Safe in the knowledge that no matter what happens at the game’s highest level, players now have a structure beneath to sustain them. It is so important for women’s cricket.

Revolutionary, even. ●

had on her mind. “Going to New Zealand with England this February, I felt so much more relaxed,” said the 24-year-old left-arm seamer. “This time I didn’t feel my whole career and as a consequence my job depended on how I performed in any one game. Sometimes that would be all I could think about. I can now go out, try to impress, but feel safe in the knowledge that I have something to fall back on.”

“Getting back in the England team came a lot quicker than I expected, and my performances with South East Stars definitely helped.”

The new contracts have obviously had positive repercussions almost immediately. And it’s an impact that will be felt for many years to come, seeing the current crop of academy and pathway cricketer with a very clear means of progressing. With them benefitting from a new domestic structure that provides the foundation for international cricket.

“The new structure and contracts are amazing,” said Farrant. “Not just for us, but for all the players who will come next. The support is great. It makes cricket a viable career, which before for women was often not possible.”

“To earn experience in that professional environment, before playing for England, is so vital. That balance is key. I think I was a little naive as to what professional cricket looked like. It was all-consuming to me then, and I forgot the value of things outside of cricket So to have the experience prior to that will be so beneficial to players now.”



I do believe that the support the domestic contracts give players is going to be amazing, really. *Tash Farrant*

will perform better on the field because of them. Which is only going to be a good thing for women’s cricket.”

The one aspect of earning herself a contract that stood out most for Farrant was how it reduced the pressure she felt on performing. After previously being stripped of her contract, it’s something that she always





Opportunity Knocks!

The COVID-19 pandemic, lockdown, furlough, bubbles and face masks. Who could have predicted the last 12 months?
Words by Matt Wood

In many ways, 2020 was a year to forget. When professional and recreational sport ground to a halt, the very things that we love and that energise us were taken from us. People will hold their own memories of lockdown and will reflect on them in different ways.

The coronavirus pandemic has triggered a surge in the number of businesses being set up in many of the world's largest economies. As entrepreneurs seek to respond to the

rapidly changing needs of individuals and companies, our own members got to work on some new ideas too.

Lockdown gave everybody chance to reflect and reassess, and for some it presented the space and opportunity to go and make a change. Cricketers can sometimes blame heavy schedules and training regimes for not being able to do 'other stuff'.

We've focussed on two current players who refused to use lockdown as an excuse or a reason to down tools and give up on 2020 as a lost year.



Starting with Worcestershire and Southern Brave star Ross Whiteley. The big-hitting batsman didn't waste much time, with the idea of sitting around not crossing his mind when there were jobs to do and passions to fuel.

With a design degree from his time at university under the belt, and having bought a house in the last year to renovate, the time was right. The 32-year-old was keen to project manage the whole renovation process and, more importantly, keen to get his hands dirty himself.

"It was basically a full rip out job, we stripped the house back to its bare bones," said Whiteley. "I had plans done for an extension and set about all the works on my own. I have always had a bit of a passion for building, having grown up around the trade. My brother and father are heavily involved and a lot of my mates are also in the business.

"In the off-seasons I would go on site with them and learn as much as I could, and they loved the cheap labour! I would watch and learn and pick their brains as much as I could.



Hopefully I have got plenty more cricket in me yet but the thought of upskilling and getting a few qualifications in the trade excites me. Ross Whiteley

The banter on site is always good and reminds me of the dressing room sometimes.

"I was confident with most of the trades, as I'm not a qualified electrician

I left all the electrical installation to the professionals and I also had a plasterer to come in and give it a quality finish as this is something that everyone will see.

"When I bought the house, it had a decent garden and in the back of my mind I always wanted to build my own man cave in the garden. As soon as lockdown began, we had some plans drawn up by an architect and we submitted a planning application.

"I began the dig out which was fun, and the bit I enjoyed probably the most was the bricklaying of the foundation. We soon got the shell up and could then start with the landscaping between the house and the cave. It's exciting when you see it



coming out of the ground and it starts to take shape.

"This is definitely something I would like to plan more towards for life after cricket. Hopefully I have got plenty more cricket in me yet but the thought of upskilling and getting a few qualifications in the trade excites me and could shape the future off-seasons. I am not sure if the trades alone will be for me, but I quite like the idea of flipping a few properties if the opportunities are there.

"COVID and lockdown have certainly allowed me to explore more, both things I like and things I may not like, so I'm looking forward to building a more solid transition plan as a result of it all." ➡➡➡





Yorkshire opening batsman Tom Kohler-Cadmore had a similar mindset when the uncertainty of the pandemic could have put a sudden halt to the plans of a fledgling business. The 26-year-old England Lions player had big ambitions and like many PCA members, he approached the challenging way of life as an opportunity rather than an excuse.

“In March of last year my brother Ben and myself co-founded Elite Lids,” said Kohler-Cadmore. “The idea was born from Australia after spending several winters out there. We thought it would be a good idea to get club helmets with the badge on for Ben’s club in Yorkshire, the idea being that they looked brilliant, the players loved them and it created the illusion of bringing more professionalism to the club.

“We hooked up with my sponsor at Masuri and by just doing some basic maths with the number of cricket clubs not just in Yorkshire, but in the whole country, the numbers were attractive.

We were apprehensive about setting the company up during the initial COVID lockdown especially as recreational cricket had been reduced, but we knew moving forward this could be a great opportunity.

“We had to decide our best route to market so we got some advice on website design and ecommerce platforms. We outsourced this as the project was too big for us to start building our own website. It was important that we got all the structures in place for when the demand hits.

“Learning on the job is exciting, I can draw on skills I have developed through playing professional cricket for this. We have to be agile in the ways we work and move quickly with new information. We are definitely on a steep learning curve now and feel that a good solid foundation will allow us to grow the business.

“Communication is key and how we work with partners moving forward. We are looking forward to forging good relationships with many sectors outside like education, where the market could be huge. Getting out and meeting people again feels a way off still but there are other options via Zoom and Microsoft Teams.”

Lockdown life came as a shock to the system for many and we may not be out of the woods yet, but the amount of time we have in a day or week is finite so how we use it is important. Our members have been allowed time to reassess and change the way they do things.

The one thing we can rely on is that even in hard times opportunities will still present themselves, on and off the field. ●



Learning on the job is exciting. I can draw on skills I have developed through playing professional cricket. Tom Kohler-Cadmore

Four key areas of Personal Development & Welfare Programme



Change & Transition



Personal Behaviours



Career Development



Wellbeing & Welfare

Futures Awards

The PCA Futures Awards recognises those members who have exceeded expectation when it comes to their personal development away from playing the game.

Established in 2013 as the 'Scholarship Awards', the initiative has supported past and present players with financial rewards to further develop themselves to great success.

The awards are returning and will reflect top achievers in 2020 and 2021 when applications open later this year. After completing an application form, successful applicants will be invited to present on the positive impact of their personal development to a panel with winners split into three categories.

Options for your personal development are limitless and it does not have to be a

traditional qualification.

Recent years have seen former Surrey seamer Tim Linley present a Dragons' Den style pitch with his ambition to open his own coffee shop turned into a reality shortly afterwards. Meanwhile, Glamorgan all-rounder Andrew Salter expanded his motorcycle club business after being the overall winner in 2020 and Geraint Jones funded further qualifications after the on-call firefighter won a bursary.

For more details on the Futures Awards speak to your PDM or visit thepca.co.uk



Andrew Salter



Geraint Jones



Tim Linley

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CAREERS

CONSIDER CONSTRUCTION

An Industry Breaking New Ground

Steve Durdant-Hollamby, Divisional Managing Director for PCA commercial partner Polypipe, explains why retiring cricketers should consider a second career in construction.

“Construction is a mainstay of our economy, employing more than three million people in the UK across a wide and increasingly diverse range of disciplines.

“One particular area of construction that is seeing significant change is water management. Climate change and shifting weather patterns are putting lots of areas of the UK and their wider eco systems at risk of flooding and long term damage. To mitigate this, the water management industry is ramping up its use of smart technology in partnership with more advanced and integrated drainage structures to protect the places we live, work, and play.

“This next generation of water management is called Green Urbanisation, a holistic approach that goes beyond conventional drainage, creating an extended network that supports multifunctional sustainable landscapes across cities, transport infrastructure and commercial developments.

“Green Urbanisation has roots in sport too, with intelligent water management solutions used to create high-quality, multi-functional playing arenas for professional sport. Such stadia – particularly those in Premier League football, place rainwater management at the heart of their sustainability objectives. Reusing this free resource, which would normally go directly into the sewer, replaces drinking water for pitch irrigation, reduces energy consumption and enables attractive green areas to be created around the stadium complex – essential if the venue is to be truly versatile, hosting other sports and revenue generating events.

“Green Urbanisation is set to revolutionise how we think about and use water. But achieving this requires people; particularly those who are team players, who thrive off others and who are passionate and motivated. For retiring



cricketers, the construction industry, and specifically water management, is where these skills can flourish.

“Joining the water management industry now is an opportunity to influence change, to broaden the horizons of others and to be central to the ideas that will transform how people live their life in the future. Get in touch with Polypipe at polypipe.com/careers to start your journey towards a second career in an ever-changing industry.” ●



“For retiring cricketers, the construction industry, and specifically water management, is where these skills can flourish. Steve Durdant-Hollamby, Divisional Managing Director for Polypipe Civils and Green Infrastructure

PHOTOGRAPH:
Matt Bright
mattbright.co.uk

MEET THE REP

Naomi Dattani (Lightning & Sunrisers)



Though she's new to the PCA, Naomi Dattani is one of the most established names in domestic women's cricket.

The current captain of Middlesex Women, a position she has held for four years, Dattani was awarded her first full-time professional contract by the Sunrisers regional centre in December 2020, a moment which she admits resulted in some "happy tears" on the drive home.

As one of the 41 new female PCA members, Dattani will represent both Sunrisers and Lightning on the PCA Players' Committee, alongside three other new female reps in Sophie Luff (Central Sparks & Western Storm), Alex Hartley (Northern Diamonds & Thunder) and Tara Norris (South East Stars and Southern Vipers).

She will also have a seat on the brand-new Women's Player Committee, which includes the four new female reps as well as England captain Heather Knight, vice-captain Anya Shrubsole and England Women's existing rep on the Players' Committee Kate Cross.

Dattani is relishing her new responsibilities, and says she will draw upon her previous experience to help her voice the opinions of players at an executive level.

"Behind the scenes, I've always tried to help players around me, so I thought it was a really natural fit to go for this PCA role and be that person who communicates back and forth between the dressing rooms, the PCA and the ECB.

"We had an informal chat, and I wasn't sure who else was going for it from Sunrisers and Lightning, so I put myself forward and was delighted when I received an email back from the PCA saying that I was going to be the rep.

"I'm very grateful to have this opportunity over the next few years and to be able to help

the women's game grow."

Dattani has already been inducted into the PCA at Rookie Camp, and attended the 2021 AGM as rep, where she learned more about how the PCA will support its members in what is a huge year for the women's game.

"I wasn't sure what to expect at the AGM, but it really opened my eyes as to how much the PCA does and how many opportunities there are that we have to help make really important decisions moving forward.

"We're at a huge moment for the women's game, it's been on the up for years but there's still so much we can do to improve it, so having the chance to help that process as rep is really exciting." ●

For more information on the PCA Players' Committee, and to find out who represents each professional squad, visit thepca.co.uk/committee



Always on...
GOODFORM



A Remarkable Journey With Goodform

A long-term partner of the PCA, sports marketing agency Goodform specialises in data-led insight, and supports the PCA with the email communications that it uses to keep in touch with you, the member. Read on to discover what else Goodform can offer you moving forward.

The PCA and Goodform's long-standing relationship started 18 years ago, in 2003. Pen was put to paper at the time by Goodform Owner, former Marketing Director of Warwickshire County Cricket and fellow PCA member, the late Stuart Dalrymple; and Jason Ratcliffe, the former Deputy Chief Executive of the PCA who played with Stuart at Warwickshire. Fast-forward to 2021 and the relationship between the PCA and Goodform has evolved with the ever-changing dynamics of the sport industry.

Initially assigned to connect data across the PCA, Goodform was announced as the PCA's Official CRM partner in 2011, and today also builds and consults on email campaigns designed to inform and strike an accord with you, the PCA member. Goodform works with a range of other sports rights holders and National Governing Bodies, specialising in driving insight-led fan engagement stemming from data and research.



Goodform builds and consults on email campaigns designed to inform and strike an accord with you, the PCA member.



Goodform Owner,
Alison Dalrymple



SO, WHAT'S NEXT?

From global and national cricket bodies, to venues, to counties; cricket's stakeholders have a duty to truly understand how to meet the needs and desires of their audience. Goodform aims to unlock this through increasing the value of audience data, and by giving a voice to cricket fans, members and participants, through research.

Goodform's insight-led approach will help steer content, communications, experiences and most importantly decision-making, that will resonate across cricket.

As sport industry specialists, Goodform are always on the pulse for sport industry specialism. If you'd like to discuss your knowledge, experience and viewpoint on cricket, and sport, say hello to Goodform at hello@goodformgroup.co.uk.

 **THE PCA AND GOODFORM, TOGETHER, HEAD INTO 2021 WITH OPTIMISM.**

GOODFORM

FINANCE

Taking The Right Precautions



Insurance Age Top 100 Independent Broker Kerry London is a loyal commercial partner of the PCA. Regional Managing Director Dean Calaz takes a closer look at some of the insurance covers that Kerry London provides for professional cricketers.

“Of course, no-one wants to think about the worst, but being prepared makes financial sense, as well as providing peace of mind that you are covered no matter what. Peace of mind that you’re looking after the financial security of yourself and your family.”

Reflecting on the changing formats of the sport and the increased earning potential from competitions such as The Hundred, Calaz is passionate that professional sportsmen and women should have the information that they need to make the right decisions for their personal circumstances.

“Should you have to retire from professional sport due to illness or career-ending injury, Permanent Total Disablement (PTD) Insurance is designed to pay you a proportion of your salary if you are permanently unable to play cricket and will remain unable to do so for the rest of your life. That’s whether the injury is sustained on or off the field or in training. The team at Kerry London has a long history of working closely with elite cricketers, cricket governing bodies, clubs and agents to offer advice and reassurance to get the right PTD insurance in place for your needs.”

The PCA generously provides a basic level of PTD cover as part of your membership, but they strongly recommend increasing your cover amount to suit your specific needs and protect your future earnings. Kerry London can guide you through how insurance can pick up where your contract



It makes sense for many players to explore increasing their level of cover. Dean Calaz, Regional Managing Director at Kerry London,



cover ends – ensuring your future and your family are appropriately supported.

Calaz comments “In recent years, it has become clear that the cover provided by the representative bodies, whilst significant, is far below the potential career earnings of many professional sportspeople, especially in the modern landscape with new format tournaments and franchise cricket. It therefore makes sense for many players to explore increasing their level of cover.”

The team at Kerry London understand the challenges that professional sports players face. Our products are designed by insurance experts, with strong understanding and backgrounds in sport. Speak to Kerry London today to find out how you can best protect yourself and your loved ones. ●



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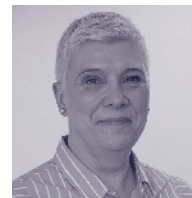
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We take care of our own.



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.

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Obits

COMPILED BY KENNETH SHENTON



JOEY BENJAMIN (1961-2021)

WARWICKSHIRE, SURREY

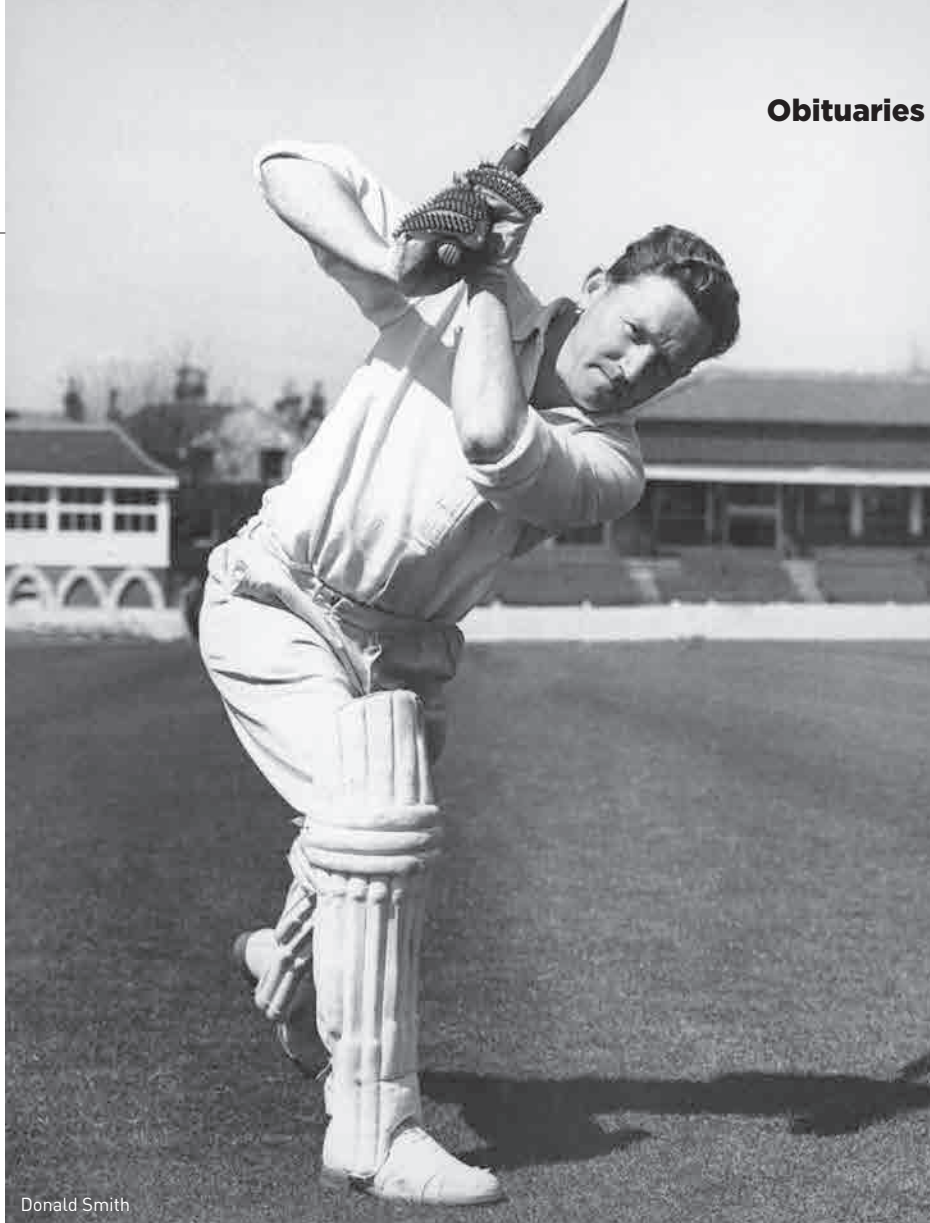
Born in St Kitts, the popular right-arm seamer signed for Warwickshire at the age of 27 after a hugely successful Minor Counties career with Staffordshire.

Opportunities proving limited at Edgbaston – his progress blocked by a stellar seam attack that included the likes of such luminaries as Allan Donald, Tim Munton and Gladstone Small – he joined Surrey for a what proved a hugely successful spell from 1992 to 1999.

County success drove an England call-up, seeing him play a single, yet notable, Test. It being ‘Devon Malcolm’s match’ against South Africa in 1994. Selected for the 1994-95 Ashes tour without playing, this was due in no small part to contracting chickenpox, he added two ODI appearances against Australia and Zimbabwe respectively.

As a bowler, Benjamin was described as having a ‘great wrist’, seeing him able to move the ball around on even the most placid of surfaces. His career-best of 6-19 came against Nottinghamshire in his second season with Surrey. It was a summer that realised 64 first-class wickets and saw him named the county’s Player of the Year. Finishing with 387 first-class wickets, coaching became a second career. Working at Reigate Grammar School.

Such was the esteem in which the ever-amiable pace bowler was held, England players wore black armbands during the opening T20I against India in Ahmedabad as a mark of respect. He died from a heart attack aged 60.



Donald Smith

DONALD SMITH (1923-2021)

SUSSEX

Representing the immediate post-war generation of players that achieved so much in reviving the English game Donald Smith was our oldest living male international cricketer. A powerful lefthanded opening batsman and a useful left-arm medium pacer, he played for Sussex from 1946 until 1962, winning three Test caps against the West Indies in 1957.

Born at Broadwater, Worthing, Donald Victor Smith first played at Lord’s for Sussex Home Guard in 1942. After active service with the RAF, he joined the Sussex staff in 1946. Taking time to assert himself, he flourished when promoted up the order to open with John Langridge. Capped in 1950, that year his 1,505 runs included a career-best total of 206 not out made against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge.

In 1957, having taken a sparkling unbeaten 147 off the visiting West Indies attack at Hove, Smith, now aged 34, became the first Worthing-born player to win an England cap. While scoring over 2,000 runs in all matches that summer, his three-match Test career returned a modest 25 runs and one wicket. In all cricket, passing 1,000 runs eight times, his total of 15,935 runs included 17 centuries. He also took 308 wickets and claimed 232 catches.

While running a successful rose growing business, following his retirement Smith went on to spend 20 years coaching at Lancing College. Taking charge of the Sri Lankan national team in 1984 and 1986, in between, a visit to Australia with Lancing College gave him the opportunity to rekindle an old romance. Subsequently moving permanently to Australia, he settled in Adelaide, got married and coached at St Peter’s College. He later became an Australian citizen. He was 97. ➤➤➤

Obituaries



ROBIN JACKMAN (1945-2020)

SURREY

Born in India, the son of a serving officer in the Ghurkha Regiment and a nephew of the actor, Patrick Cargill, Robin David Jackman – universally known as ‘Jackers’ – gave Surrey cricket 18 years of unswerving devotion.

A well-built and hard-working right-arm fast-medium bowler and a more than useful tail-end batsman, his winters were invariably spent playing and coaching for both Zimbabwe and Western Province in South Africa.

Educated at St Edmund’s School, Canterbury and beginning as an off-spin bowler, Jackman joined the Surrey staff in 1964 but had to wait until 1968 before holding down a regular place. He was capped in 1970.

Fit, strong and aggressive, within 10 years this more than willing workhorse had taken more than 1,100 wickets. During 1980 he became the first bowler that season to claim 100 victims, 67 of whom were top-order batsmen.

He eventually got his England chance, aged 35, in 1981, when Bob Willis broke down in the West Indies. Making his debut in Bridgetown, he took a wicket with his fifth ball. However, because of his South African links, his arrival in Guyana fell foul of local politicians and he was served with a deportation order. He did then play in the Kingston Test match, making two further appearances the following year against Pakistan.

Retiring in 1982, he made 399 Surrey appearances taking 1,402 wickets, with a career-best 8-40 for Zimbabwe against Natal in Durban in 1972. He also appeared in 15 one-day internationals, where his four Test caps brought him 14 wickets. After cricket, Jackman went on to be a hugely popular and enduring voice and personality within cricket broadcasting, particularly in South Africa.



EZRA MOSELEY (1958-2021)

GLAMORGAN

Former West Indies pace bowler Ezra Moseley has died from injuries sustained in a road traffic accident when out riding his bicycle on his home island of Barbados.

Playing for Glamorgan between 1980 and 1986, but for serious back problems starting in 1982, a career tally of 279 first-class wickets would no doubt have been much higher.

He toured South Africa as part of the unofficial West Indian tours in 1982/83 and 1983/84. In going on to play two official Tests for West Indies against England in 1989/90, Moseley was the only ‘rebel’ afforded the honour.

In that series he formed part of a potent pace attack alongside Curtly Ambrose, Ian Bishop and Courtney Walsh. Moseley’s express pace breaking the hand of Graham Gooch, the tourist’s captain, when on Test debut at Port-of-Spain. He also appeared in nine ODIs.

He retired at the end of the 1991/92 season after a final stint in South Africa, this time with Northern Transvaal. After retirement he remained in the game as a coach. His time at St Michael, one of Barbados’s top secondary schools, being seen as key in the development of West Indies captain, Jason Holder. He also served as a national selector for Barbados men’s and women’s team. As well as a successful spell as assistant coach for the West Indies’ women, the side lifting the 2016 Women’s World T20 in India.

Hugh Morris, Glamorgan’s Chief Executive and former team-mate, was quick to point out Moseley’s prowess, “He was a fantastic bowler, and had it not been for a serious back injury in his early career, would have challenged the great West Indian fast bowlers of the 1980s and 1990s for a regular place in their team.” He was 63.

MALCOLM SCOTT (1936-2020)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

A fine all-round sportsman, Malcolm Scott was a throwback to the days when football and cricket knew their places in the sporting calendar. While perhaps best known for making 30 (old) First Division appearances for Newcastle United, he was also an orthodox slow left-arm bowler and a more than useful lower-order batsman who spent his summers at Wantage Road, Northamptonshire.

After leaving school in his native South Shields, Malcolm Ernest Scott served an apprenticeship in the local shipyard before undertaking his National Service with the RAF. Signing for Newcastle United in 1955, he was a tough-tackling centre half, formidable in the air but also comfortable with the ball at his feet. The following year he made his Magpies debut in the 6-1 drubbing by Manchester United at Old Trafford. Released in 1961, he later played for Darlington and York City.

Between 1953 and 1956, appearing 26 times for Durham in the Minor Counties Championship, Scott then made his first-class debut for Combined Services in 1958. Moving to Wantage Road the following year, his best season was 1964 when, having bowled 14 consecutive maiden overs against Cambridge University, 113 wickets brought him his county cap. Three years later, doubts about his action saw him banned for the last games of the season.

Making 185 appearances for Northants between 1959 and 1969, he compiled 2,445 runs with a top score of 62. With his bowling he captured 461 wickets, including a best return of 7-32 against Sussex at Hastings in 1964. He also held 92 catches. He later coached in South Africa before returning to the Midlands to work in education. In 2009 he published a touching memoir entitled, *A Geordie All-Rounder*.





DAVID MORDAUNT (1937-2020)

SUSSEX

One of four generations of Mordaunts educated at Wellington College, David John Mordaunt was a hard-hitting right-handed middle-order batsman and occasional medium-fast right-arm bowler who, between 1958 and 1960, made 19 first-class appearances for Sussex. Combining his cricketing career with that of a schoolmaster, he later played for Berkshire in the Minor Counties Championship as well as appearing regularly for MCC.

Having completed his National Service, he made his first-class debut for Sussex against Oxford University at The Parks in May, 1958. Having opened his account with a duck he then scored 96 in the second innings, caught on the boundary as he attempted to complete his century with a fourth sixth. In all, a career total of 568 runs included five half-centuries. With the ball he took 19 wickets with a best return of 5-42 against Cambridge University at Fenner's in May, 1960.

Having taught at Summer Fields in Oxford, he later returned to his old school to teach and take charge of the cricket. He went on to make 40 appearances for Berkshire in the Minor Counties Championship, scoring 2,155 runs and taking 63 wickets. In the county's 1965 Gillette Cup encounter with Somerset, his 60 included four sixes off the bowling of Bill Alley and won him the Man of the Match Award. He also toured Canada and both North and South America with MCC.

GRAHAM COWDREY (1964-2020)

KENT

Easily overburdened by his heritage, Graham Robert Cowdrey, was the youngest son of the former Kent and England cricket captain, Baron Cowdrey of Tonbridge. Following both his father and elder brother, Chris, into



Graham Cowdrey

the Kent side, Graham was an attacking right-handed middle-order batsman and very-occasional right-handed medium-pace bowler. Chris' son Fabian being the third generation of cricketing Cowdreys.

Despite a stocky build he was regarded as extremely quick between the wickets and an excellent fielder. A schoolboy run machine while at Tonbridge School, after appearances for England Young Cricketers, Cowdrey made his first-class debut for Kent in 1984. Capped four years later - and by then adding graft to an abundant repertoire of attacking shots - his three best seasons with the bat were 1990-92, where he comfortably passing 1,000 runs in each of them. Three years later, having lost the Benson and Hedges Final to Lancashire, an unbeaten 101 at Lord's, helped bring Kent the Sunday League title.

That same season, against Derbyshire at Maidstone, a fourth wicket partnership of 368 with Aravinda de Silva, helped create a then Kent batting record for any wicket. Between 1984 and 1998, Cowdrey made 179 appearances for the county, amassing 8,858 runs including a top-score of 147 made against Gloucestershire at Bristol in 1992. In one-day cricket he totalled 5,142 runs and took 35 wickets.

Enjoying a successful benefit in 1997, he later worked in finance and fund raising. Universally known as 'Van' on account of his passion - to the point of obsession - for the music of Irish singer-songwriter, Van Morrison, he was also a keen student of the turf. He married jockey, Maxine Juster, in 1993 with the couple sharing three children. However, both privately and professionally he had found life extremely tough post-cricket, before a return to the game in 2016 offered some stability as one of the English Cricket Board's Liaison Officers. He was 56.



ROGER TATTERSALL (1952-2020)

LANCASHIRE

A native of Nelson in Lancashire, Roger Hartley Tattersall was educated at the Leys School in Cambridge. A left-arm medium-pace bowler and left-handed lower-order batsman, he made a notable impact when first playing Lancashire League cricket for his hometown club as a talented 18-year-old. Astutely guided by Nelson's veteran Australian professional, Neil Hawke, he topped the club's bowling averages when claiming 33 wickets at 11.61 apiece.

The following season brought a first-class debut for Lancashire, opening the county's attack and taking 1-44 in the game against Warwickshire. He played one further three-day game that season. Finding wickets hard to come by, he remained on the Old Trafford staff until 1973, making 13 appearances in the Minor Counties Championship, his 27 wickets included a career best 6-45, recorded against Northumberland at Osborne Avenue, Jesmond.



BRIAN BOOTH (1935-2020)

LANCASHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE

A powerful right-handed middle-order or opening batsman and a more than useful leg break bowler, although playing largely without fanfare, Brian Joseph Booth was regarded as a prodigious worker of the ball.

Spending the first half of his career during one of the most turbulent and unhappy periods in the red rose county's history, he later spent 10 seasons with Leicestershire.



Born in Blackburn, Booth made his first-class debut against Scotland at Paisley in 1956. He passed a thousand runs for the first time in 1961, gaining him his county cap. Moving to Leicestershire in 1964, he passed a the landmark for the next six seasons.

His best being 1,567 in 1965. Later that same season, he achieved a feat unique for a Leicestershire batsman, compiling a century in each innings, 109 and 104, against Middlesex at the home of cricket.

He made 118 appearances for Lancashire (five centuries), and 292 for Leicestershire. His tally for the Foxes of more than 10,000 runs included a further 13 hundreds. As a bowler, his 111 wickets for Lancashire includes a best ever return of 7-143 against Worcestershire at Southport in August, 1959. He added a further 35 wickets while at Grace Road.



JOHN SEDGLEY (1939-2020)

WORCESTERSHIRE

John Brian Sedgley made 15 first-class appearances for Worcestershire between 1959 and 1961 as a neat and tidy righthanded middle-order or opening batsman. Universally known as Jack and a native of West Bromwich, he graduated through the ranks of the Birmingham and District Cricket League, making his first-class debut in May 1959, against Cambridge University at Fenners.

His best season came 12 months later when making 11 appearances, contributing 316 runs, including a top score of 95 made against Derbyshire at Derby in June. Opening the batting alongside Ron Headley, he then shared a fifth wicket stand of 141 with captain George Dews, before being run out five runs short of what would have been a maiden century. Over his career he compiled two half-centuries. Back in the Birmingham League he played for Dudley, Stourbridge, Old Hill, Mosely, and Mitchell and Butlers, twice

representing the League in the League Cricket Conference President's Trophy. He was 81.



JOHN CARTER (1935-2021)

LEICESTERSHIRE

Following in his father's footsteps, John William Carter, made his Minor Counties debut for Oxfordshire, aged 18 and still a pupil at Magdalen College School, Oxford. A stylish right-handed opening or middle-order batsman, he joined Leicestershire three years later, making his first-class debut in 1959 against Oxford University at the Parks. He appeared a further six times that season, recording a top score of 41 made against Hampshire at Grace Road. Returning to Oxfordshire, he played his final game in the 1961 Challenge Match against Somerset at Taunton.

An accountant by profession, he also played hockey to a high standard. Having started his club career with Cowley St John, he later appeared for Leicester Nomads, Oxford City, Gerrards Cross and Beaconsfield. For more than a quarter of a century he also represented South Oxfordshire Amateurs. Initially bringing his professional talents to bear as their Treasurer, he later took on secretarial duties before being elected President in 1991. He died following a long illness aged 85.

JOHN EDRICH (1937-2020)

SURREY

A distinguished member of the illustrious Norfolk-born Edrich clan, John was a compact yet prolific left-handed opening batsman, who played for Surrey from 1959 until 1978, winning 77 Test caps for England along the way. A batsman of steadfast application, he became only the third lefthander, after Phil Mead and Frank Woolley, to score a hundred first-class centuries.

Born in the village of Blofeld, John Hugh Edrich first played for Norfolk in 1954, making his first-class debut for Combined Services two



years later and his Surrey debut in 1958. The following season he scored a century in each innings against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge, before proceeding to knock off four more before the middle of July. Over his career he passed a thousand runs 19 times and as many as 2,000 on six occasions. His best being 2,482 made in 1962.

For 12 years a member of the England team, he became one of the most dependable of postwar openers. Of his 5,138 Test runs, 2,664 were made facing Australia at a time when Lillee and Thomson were in their pomp. He proved no less successful against the West Indies – this time defying Hall and Griffith - he subsequently went on to stand firm against Roberts, Holding and Daniel et al when Clive Lloyd's men ruled the cricketing universe.

New Zealand at Headingley in 1965, saw Edrich hit his best ever total, an imperious 310 not out. He captained England once. In Australia on the 1974/5 tour. He also took charge of Surrey for five seasons from 1973 until 1977, winning the Benson and Hedges Cup in 1974. Over his career he amassed 19,790 first-class runs for Surrey including 103 centuries.

He was awarded an MBE in 1977 for services to the sport. After a brief spell as a Test selector, from his base in Scotland, he enjoyed a successful business career. Latterly he had fought a long battle with a rare form of leukaemia.

ARTHUR LAWRENCE (1930-2020)

SUSSEX

A native of Marlborough in Wiltshire and a product of the local grammar school, Arthur Alfred Kenneth Lawrence played for Sussex from 1951 until 1956. A stylish righthanded middle-order or opening batsman and a fine close to the wicket fielder - particularly in the slips - he was also an occasional leg break bowler. The winter months invariably found him playing football for Arundel.

Initially seen as a successor to John Langridge, however like many young cricketers on the Sussex staff during the 1950s, whenever the amateur players were available - often midway through the season - the professionals found themselves relegated to the Second XI. Making 28 appearances for the county in total with a first-class debut in 1952. His final total of 632 runs includes a top score of 63 not out made against Oxford University at Hove in 1955. He took 28 catches and a single wicket.



TIM SELWOOD (1944-2021)

MIDDLESEX

A fine squash player, golfer and cricketer, though born at Prestatyn in North Wales, Tim Selwood spent his formative years growing up in North London. Educated at William Ellis Grammar School, he later undertook a teacher training course at St Luke's College, Exeter. An attacking right-handed opening batsman and occasional right-arm medium-paced bowler, he first made his mark playing for Finchley Cricket Club.

He secured a first-class debut in 1966, against Somerset at Clarence Park, Weston-super-Mare, but was unable to establish a regular place in the side. Between then and 1973 he went on to make a further nineteen appearances. With a top score of 89 made against the touring Pakistan team when in New Zealand playing and coaching for Central Districts in 1973.

Moving into league cricket in the North East the following year, that season he also made four appearances for Durham in the Minor Counties Championship. He later played for Stenhousemuir. After teaching at Belmont School in North London, coaching assignments took him to both South Africa and Australia. Son Steven followed his father into professional cricket, playing for both Derbyshire and Dorset.



PETER SUTCLIFFE (1932-2021)

YORKSHIRE

On the Yorkshire staff between 1951 and 1954, off-spinner Sutcliffe also played Minor Counties cricket for Hertfordshire, Lancashire (2nd XI), Cheshire and Cumbria.

It was for his work at the National Cricket Association in the 1970s that framed a career in the game. Appointed as the first Director of Coaching at the NCA in 1971 - then working from an office at the top of the Lord's pavilion towers - Sutcliffe was said to have overhauled coaching, introducing the proficiency award scheme, playing its part in rewriting the MCC coaching manual.

By placing emphasis on encouraging state primary school teachers to teach cricket, Sutcliffe created initiatives designed to popularise junior cricket in clubs across the country. He also drew up the first set of rules for junior 8-a-side pairs cricket, ushering in inter-club matches in the same format. He is also credited with developing the half red half white coaching ball.

In 1976 he left the NCA to join the Sports Council, but remained an enthusiast coach and course coordinator. He also wrote two well-received books – Teaching Cricket Simply and Teach Your Child Cricket.

An ECB Senior Staff Coach into his late 70s, he is survived by three sons in Simon, Mark and Ian. Simon winning a cricket Blue at Oxford, then spending three years on the playing staff at Warwickshire in the early 1980s.

ALAN RAYMENT (1928-2020)

HAMPSHIRE

Following the death of the distinguished cricketer and war hero, centenarian John Manners, earlier this year, Alan Rayment, who has died aged 92, had become Hampshire's oldest surviving first class cricketer.

Universally known as Punchy, he was an

enterprising and attacking right handed middle order batsman, an occasional medium pace bowler and was also a fine outfielder, particularly patrolling in the covers. He played for Hampshire from 1949 until 1958.

Born in North London but evacuated to Yorkshire during the blitz, Alan William Harrington Rayment was educated at Finchley County School. A fine all round sportsman, as a youngster he also had trials with Tottenham Hotspur. While on National Service he represented the Royal Air Force, making his first class debut in 1947, playing for the Combined Services against Northamptonshire. The following season he made a number of appearances for Middlesex Second XI.

However, such was the strength of the Middlesex team that Rayment was forced to move to Northlands Road for regular cricket. He earned £5.00 per week. Making 198 appearances, his 6,338 runs included a top score of 126, made against Gloucestershire at Ashley Down Ground, Bristol, in 1953.

Twelve months earlier, his tally of 1,056 runs had earned him his county cap. He also passed 1,000 runs in 1956. Claiming nineteen wickets as a bowler, he also took eighty six catches.

After stepping down from first class cricket, Rayment stayed on to coach and captain the Hampshire Second XI. Having had a spell coaching at Lord's, among numerous other enterprises, being an enthusiastic ballroom dancer, together with his wife, Betty, the couple ran a successful Southampton dance school. In 2013, he wrote and published a highly entertaining memoir of his early days in North London which he titled *Punchy Through the Covers*.



Alan Rayment

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Last Man



LEFT: With like-minded friends. BELOW: Boots, boots and more boots.



My Passion

Former Yorkshire spinner James Logan on his love for football boots

Growing up in Leeds, I've always been a massive Leeds United fan and have always gone from a young age to Elland Road to watch.

Like everyone, I would idolise certain players, and would always take notice of what football boots they were wearing, associating certain players to certain boots. I know they didn't play for Leeds, but players like David Beckham and Steven Gerrard are always associated with Adidas Predators, and they would be the boots you'd want to wear.

I played quite a lot when I was a kid, right up until cricket became serious for me, and I had to stop playing. The worry was always about getting injured, damaging any chance of playing cricket professionally.

As a result of my passion, I have a lot of boots still stored in my house and although I'm not playing football at the minute I still like to think that if I was to play football again, I'd really want to be wearing a specific style of boot.

I found out that there's a lot of people who also love these older style boots and that there's actually a high demand for them. Especially the ones that have been discontinued and are hard to find.

Some of the boots that I wore as a kid, people are interested in now. It is a nice throwback to see the boots you wore still being bought and collected.

I started a business, as a result, called 'Soccer Supplier'. Two friends and I locate boots that are hard to find and



Our first big sale was to Barnsley captain Alex Mowatt. James Logan

then sell them on through online platforms depop and Instagram. Initially it started slowly, but through social media and word of mouth we've really started to grow.

Our first big sale was to Barnsley captain Alex Mowatt and since then we've sold to Reading captain Liam Moore and Moussa Djenepo from Southampton.

We are now selling it to a mix of people with grassroot level players and professional players messaging us on our Instagram @soccersupplier_.

It is really nice to be involved with your best mates, doing something that you're all passionate about. Growing up we all loved football and people would always talk about their newest football boots, so to be involved in something like this is great.

Once we can go back watching football again, if I could go to a Leeds game and see a player wearing a pair of boots that we've found for them, then that would be a really special feeling. ●

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