



# SUSSEX CRICKET SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

Founded : 1965

Patron: John Barclay DL

President: David Bowden MBE

Chair: Malcolm Griffin

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Website:

[www.sussexcricketsociety.org](http://www.sussexcricketsociety.org)

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### 2021/2022 Society

#### Programme

#### **Wed 13 Oct 2021**

AGM 7:00 pm followed by  
Member Meeting,  
Speaker Bob Warren

#### **Wed 27 Oct 2021**

Autumn Lunch 12 noon  
Speakers Fred Rumsey  
& Stephen Chalke

#### **Wed 3 Nov 2021**

Member Meeting 7:30 pm  
Speaker Sir Rod Aldridge  
Venue : Pavilion, County  
Ground, Hove

#### **Tues 7 Dec 2022**

Member Meeting 7:30 pm  
Speakers Ian Gould &  
Bruce Talbot

#### **Wed 5 Jan 2022**

2.15pm "Afternoon Tea"  
Speaker Roger Knight  
**\*\*POSTPONED\*\***

#### **Tues 8 Feb 2022**

Member Meeting 2:15 pm  
Speaker Andy Mackay

#### **Wed 2 Mar 2022**

Member Meeting 7:30 pm  
Speaker Alexia Walker

#### **Wed 23 Mar 2022**

Spring Lunch 12 noon  
Speaker Annie Chave

*Any views expressed in the newsletter are those of the writer, not those of the Committee of the Society.*

***The Society wish all members a happy and healthy new year.***

**5<sup>th</sup> January Roger Knight Meeting – POSTPONED.** Sadly we have decided to postpone the much-anticipated Roger Knight January afternoon event, this is due to the resurgent pandemic plus present doubts around possible future restrictions. We felt that this was the best option in uncertain times and it was key to take and announce it in good time. Please note the deliberate use of the word "*postponed*" as we very much hope to book Roger Knight to speak to the Society in the future. The postponement while sensible is still regretted as apart from hearing from Roger Knight, we were also looking forward to our first "afternoon tea" initiative, hopefully something that will be tried at some point in the future. We will of course keep you informed with a future date for this meeting.

### **December Evening Meeting - Ian "Gunner" Gould**

Starting with his career as a goalkeeper at the Arsenal Football Club ["football was great fun in those days"] Ian "Gunner" Gould in conversation with Bruce Talbot entertained 36 members at the Society's December meeting compensating for a foul evening weather wise. His first-class cricket began with Middlesex at Lord's. "I never felt very comfortable there. The dressing room was full of posh boys with only Gattling in one corner and me in another by the toilet". He went on to enthuse about his cricketing career at Sussex which followed. Gould especially praised Colin Wells, "an unlucky player who in these days of franchise cricket would have been a very rich man".

1986 was a great year for Sussex Cricket and saw Gunner as captain, the season culminated in the winning of the Nat West Trophy against Lancashire at Lord's. However 1987 saw the departure of many of the team's stars and eventually he left to become coach for Middlesex Second IX where he stayed for ten years.

Gould got into umpiring by accident, substituting for umpires who were unavailable for various reasons. He found learning the laws of cricket difficult as was the examination but prevailing, he joined the first-class panel and was promoted to international status in 2006. His first Test was with Darrell Hair, but the greatest Test in which he officiated was at Cape Town when South Africa hosted India, Tendulkar and Dravid batting imperiously.

Ian Gould misses the game but will enjoy watching Sussex from a deck chair at Hove. After the break, he and Bruce Talbot, the well-known local sports journalist, answered questions including an interesting debate on the difference between "banter" and "sledging". Surprisingly there was no mention all evening of his role in the "Sand-paper" scandal, but for more on that you will have to read his autobiography *Gunner: My Life in Cricket*.

Thanks to David Harrison for this review

**David Bowden MBE** – David's MBE was announced in the Queen's 2020 Birthday Honours List. The formal investiture took place on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at Brighton Town Hall with the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex presenting the award. Congratulations David, a well-deserved honour representing considerable service to cricket and the community over many years.

**Society Player of the Year 2021 Award.** There is still time to place your vote for our annual award. The winner will be announced in January, probably in the newsletter at the end of the month. Each winner is recorded on the honours board in the foyer of the County Ground Pavilion. To vote please contact Chris Scovell either in writing, email or by phone – see contact details on page 1.

### **Sussex Cricket Museum**



I was pleased to hear that the Museum won the “Howard Milton Award for Cricket Scholarship”, a national award run by The Cricket Society ahead of a very strong list of cricket writers, historians, academics and librarians. Jon Filby and Nicholas Sharp accepted the award at the Cricket Society’s Autumn lunch at the Oval in October. Nicholas told me that *“The award, apart from being a surprise and a big feather in the cap of the museum, was a reward for all the hard work put in by the trustees, the curator and volunteers”*. This is a well-deserved award which I think acknowledges the hard work put in whether with displays in the Museum, pictures in the

Pavilion and their various publications. The Museum for those that may not know is sited at the south end of the Pavilion at the County Ground, just outside the “members only area” and well worth a visit when open on match days.

### **Sussex News**

I was disappointed, though possibly not that surprised, when I read that Sussex agreed to **Ben Brown’s** request to leave the club. With a couple of years remaining on his contract I was hoping that Ben would stay but he was presumably unhappy at the way things went in 2021. With Oli Carter taking over the wicket keeping role, Ben did well with the bat in the latter weeks of the season when promoted in the order to number three. He has been a fine servant to the County over many years having made his first team debut in 2007. The Society wish Ben the best in whatever direction his future takes.

As one door closed another opens, as Sussex announced that the 29 year old Pakistani **Mohammed Rizwan** will be joining for much of the 2022 season. A wicket-keeper / top order batter, he has become a regular for Pakistan in all three formats. In Tests he averages just over 42 from 19 matches and shone in the recent World T20 Cup scoring 281 runs in 6 matches at a strike rate of 127. He is due to join in April after Pakistan host Australia (the last match, an ODI is set for 5<sup>th</sup> April). He is likely to play some Championship games before the T20 Blast which I think is due to start in mid/late May and run through Finals Day in mid July.

My early thoughts were that he will be a more than ideal replacement for Phil Salt in the T20 side (opening bat and ‘keeper) and should strengthen the batting. How many Championship games he plays presumably depends on when he becomes available given his Pakistan commitments; the announced leaving date in mid-July; and the yet to be announced 2022 County schedule. All that said he is potentially an exciting acquisition both as a player and to guide and assist the development of Oli Carter. Carter should still get plenty of playing opportunities.

Another boost to the Blast squad is that Rashid Khan is returning. So three overseas players, (including Travis Head) assuming they are all fit for these games with only two to play.

**James Coles and Dan Ibrahim with England Under 19.** England lost their five match ODI series in Sri Lanka (December) 3-2. James Coles played in three games totalling 30 runs and taking 1/68 in 22 overs, Ibrahim two matches one run and no wickets. Hopefully both still just 17 will have benefitted from their experience of playing in different conditions. James has since been selected as part of an England squad of 15 for the Under 19 World Cup squad, matches in the Caribbean starting in the latter part of January.

In Australia in the opening two **Ashes Tests** both Robinson and Head have performed creditably. Robinson's bowling was roundly praised particularly in Brisbane. Head, batting with freedom, made a fine free striking 152 from 148 balls in a “player of the match” performance in Brisbane then followed it with another run-a-ball fifty in the second innings in Adelaide. But no joy for England who are now (22 Dec) two down, only Australia in 1936/7 have come back from two down to win an Ashes series.

**Ajaz Patel joins the ten wickets in a Test innings club,** the only others being Jim Laker and Anil Kumble. The New Zealand left arm spinner took all “ten” against India at Mumbai in early December, 10/119 in 47.5 overs, and followed this with a further 4/106 in the second innings yet still finished on the losing side, New Zealand making just 62 and 167. Patel’s figures were the best for both an innings and match in a losing cause.