



# SUSSEX CRICKET SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

SCS Founded: 1965

Patron: John Barclay DL

President: David Bowden MBE

Chairman: Malcolm Griffin

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Website:

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

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### **Newsletter**

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### **Hon. Treasurer**

Terry Burstow

## **2021/2022 Society Programme**

### **Wed 13 Oct**

AGM 7:00 pm followed by  
Member Meeting

### **Wed 27 Oct**

Autumn Lunch 12 noon

### **Wed 3 Nov**

Member Meeting 7:30 pm

### **Tues 7 Dec**

Member Meeting 7:30 pm

## **2022**

### **Wed 5 Jan**

Member Meeting 2:15 pm

### **Tues 8 Feb**

Member Meeting 2:15 pm

### **Wed 2 Mar**

Member Meeting 7:30 pm

### **Wed 23 Mar**

Spring Lunch 12 noon

Please note that all speaker bookings for all dates are still to be confirmed and will notified to you when they are confirmed.

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

### **Chairman's Comments**

I hope you are keeping well and have had your second round of inoculations; it looks as if there will be an end of season treat of a third inoculation.

The Committee are very pleased to welcome on your behalf **Terry Burstow as the Society's new Treasurer**, he joins a short list of excellent treasurers who have so successfully guided our finances over the years. Following Jim Grinsted will be easier thanks to the excellent way Jim kept Society finances and records. Thank you to the members who represented the Society at Jim's funeral, SCS will be making a donation to Jim's chosen charity Evelina Children's Heart Organisation. His ashes will be scattered at the County Ground.

As Chairman I would like to thank the Committee for all doing so much, much of which goes unnoticed. In preparation for 'the off' we are having monthly Committee meetings. Our Secretary David H. has made many contacts of 'local' 'Sussex speakers and hopes to have names next to the dates on our newsletters soon. Barbara Eagles has kindly agreed to become the Sussex Cricket Society Members Liaison Officer and will be around the ground to help our members with any queries they may have.

In view of the position the County Club, through no fault of their own, finds itself in, with regard to reduced crowds and cancelled games, it has been a unanimous decision of the Committee to pay the 'hire' fee for our meetings October 2021 – March 2022. Regrettably we cannot get the required date for our Christmas lunch this year, David H. will make all endeavours to book the first Saturday in December 2022. As a thank you to members for their patience and support during these difficult times the Committee has agreed to part subsidise the cost of the October 2021 lunch for members.

The Society are indebted to Bob Warren for the work he is doing on its behalf and look forward to meeting up with you all in mid – October.

Stay safe, Malcolm, email [malcolm.griffin@sky.com](mailto:malcolm.griffin@sky.com)

### **World Test Championship – Congratulations New Zealand**

Even if the qualification format may not have been ideal - different number of games played, Covid cancellation of some fixtures / series etc. the final at the "Hampshire Bowl" (renamed from Aegaeus Bowl for this game) was I felt an outstanding success. Full credit to ICC for setting aside a sixth day in the event of an earlier day(s) being lost, with rain causing two days lost it was needed. New Zealand were deserved victors and can now call themselves World Test champions making up for failing in the 2019 World Cup final. They have now won eight of their last nine Tests and impressed throughout with their common sense and no little skill with both bat and ball. They are a side very much on the mould of their outstanding captain Kane Williamson who did so much to blunt the India bowlers in the first innings and led their run chase on the last day. Their seam bowlers are impressive, I thought Kyle Jamieson was outstanding. India too performed creditably in conditions not natural to them or suiting their spin bowlers.

Attendance was obviously restricted by Covid requirements and also the poor weather, but the many present surely enjoyed the contest. The obvious enthusiasm and vitality of the supporters added to the occasion.

**Philip Jacobson RIP** Sad to relate that long time Society member Philip Jacobson has died. He was a good friend of the Society, regularly attending our various functions, and of course a keen supporter of the County club usually watching at Hove with a group of friends. He also worked hard for the former Supporters Club in their efforts to raise funds for Sussex Cricket. He will be much missed by his family and many friends.

### **Sussex / County News**

**T20 Blast**. The early run of three victories came to a damp end with as many as five games abandoned due to rain (unfortunate with the Surrey home game when bad light ceased play with just one ball left to allow a result - Sussex being ahead of DLS at that point). No other County have had so many games rained off (so much for the normal view of a dry south coast!) but now after a couple of wins Sussex stand in second place in the South group with a decent chance of a potentially lucrative home quarter final as well of course as an opportunity for progression to Finals day. Rashid Khan may be back to boost Sussex hopes. Archie Lenham continues to impress with both his leg spin bowling and fielding.

**Championship** – Two games were played in early July breaking up the run of T20 group games. The Glamorgan game was notable for the absence of players on both sides isolating after being identified as Covid contacts. Sussex had eight players missing, though not all might have been in a starting eleven, for instance Clark/Coles and Atkins/Hunt/Crocombe may conceivably have been competing for two or three places, though another isolating, Ollie Robinson, would likely have played. All this meant a first class debut for Oli Carter (a 19 year old wicket keeper / batsman from Eastbourne). Glamorgan were missing three, Selman, Labuschagne and Nesar for the same reason.

In the game, Dan Ibrahim impressed in the first innings with the mature manner that he built an innings making 58. Ali Orr contributed 80 in the second innings driving fluently, Ben Brown made a determined century. Both these latter efforts coming after Sussex were 19/3 then 62/4. On the last afternoon Jack Carson again bowled well as Sussex pushed for an unlikely victory. So despite the draw, once more many positives for Sussex in with the performances of the youngsters. Then a draw with a Covid ravaged and much depleted Kent at Canterbury. Kent had to select an entirely new squad at short notice and were far more depleted than Sussex the previous week. Former Sussex batsman Harry Finch made his Kent debut, his century in Kent's second innings helped Kent to draw the game. This match also saw Orr making a maiden County century.

These two results mean that both Sussex and Kent are set to play in Division 3 when the Championship returns at the end of August and joined there by the bottom two teams on the other groups, Worcestershire, Derbyshire, Middlesex and Leicestershire. The four games then will see Counties playing only sides from another group, so Sussex will not face Kent again. Fixture details are yet at the time of writing to be announced.

**Clubs – National Village Cup** Both Crowhurst Park and West Chiltington won their matches in the round of the last 32, but then lost their last 16 matches, Crowhurst Park to Foxton from Cambridgeshire and West Chiltington to Stoke Green (Bucks).

**Clubs - Sussex Premier League** Preston Nomads now head the League with East Grinstead just a handful of points behind. Nomads had a convincing win over the then leaders, Roffey on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Nomads made 277 (Jake Hutson who played for Sussex against South Africa A at Arundel a few years ago contributing an unbeaten 162) then bowled Roffey out for just 94. This set the course for both teams over the five rounds since the last newsletter. Nomads went on to win two more games, one loss to Brighton & Hove in a low scoring game and one abandonment. For Roffey just one win. The real “movers” have been East Grinstead (Leo Cammish has made two centuries and a couple of scores in the 80s in recent weeks) racked up four wins and one loss in their last five games including a convincing win over Eastbourne, with the one loss coming at Three Bridges. Eastbourne like Roffey, only won one match out of five while missing players away on County duty.

### **The Hundred - Preview**

Ok it may not be everyone's cup of tea, well at least yet, but it is due to start on 22<sup>nd</sup> July with Oval Invincibles taking on Manchester Originals, and running through to 21<sup>st</sup> August. A new format and one that will introduce an innings lasting 100 balls, “franchised” teams with new names, matches set for the main test / international grounds. At least it will remain bat and ball. Some positives, firstly all teams have both a men's and women's side (The Hundred could be a real boost to the women's game). Secondly some games will be televised live by BBC. A downside is that when the Royal London 50 over competition begins (also later this month) many County stars will not be representing their Counties but rather the new franchises, I wonder what impact this will have on interest in the County 50 over competition. I believe up to ten Sussex players (if including Rashid Khan and Jofra Archer) have been contracted and allocated around the various new teams. Who will win? who knows. I just hope it turns out to be a success given the investment put into it.