



SUSSEX CRICKET SOCIETY. **NEWSLETTER**

FOUNDED: 1965

CHAIR: DAVID BOWDEN MBE

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

www.sussexcricketsociety.org

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Future Dates 2024/25

December 11

**Christmas lunch
speaker Graham
Gooch OBE**

**January 15, speaker
Jonathan Agnew MBE**

February 19, speaker
John Simpson, Sussex
captain

March 19 speaker to be
advised

Previous 2024/5 speakers

July 7 Barry Richards
Sept. 25 Jeff Thomson
Oct 23 AGM plus Jon
Filby & Peter Fitzboyden
Nov 20 John Barclay,
John Snow &
Peter Graves

Upcoming Events The Christmas Lunch on 11th December (speaker Graham Gooch OBE) is the halfway point of the Society's 2024/5 season of events. There may still be time to apply (£35 per person, booking form with the last newsletter) you need to contact Ivor Evans (details below) before making a payment and by 1st December at the latest.

Our first 2025 event, January 15th an afternoon tea with Jonathan Agnew MBE the speaker. Venue Cow Corner in the County Ground, Hove, starting at 2pm. Best known as a BBC commentator, his playing days were for Leicestershire (opening bowler). He also represented England in three Tests and the same number of ODIs. In 1991 he started his national radio role as part of BBC's TMS team and has been a regular voice on TMS since then. Also in 1991 he was appointed as the BBC cricket correspondent. Despite retiring from that position at the end of the final Test against Pakistan about a month ago, he will remain as the lead commentator on TMS. We can expect a popular, interesting entertaining and informative afternoon.

The schedule is start 2.00pm, tea about 3.00 after the talk then Q&A

Booking Details Pre-booking with payment (**£22 per person**) is essential To apply please contact Ivor Evans - email sussex.scs@btinternet.com (note the full stop between sussex and scs), phone 07976 754411, post Beauchamps, Littleworth Lane, Partridge Green, RH13 8JF, by **5th January** at the latest. Early bookings are recommended.

When applying please provide Ivor with the following details: your name; names of anyone coming with you; any dietary / food allergy requirements for each person; who you would like to sit with (see note below) and finally your selected payment method. Payment can be made by Bank Transfer to Sussex Cricket Society (Sort Code 60-13-09 Account No. 57843570) please show "JAN TEA and your name" as the payment reference, or by cheque payable to Sussex Cricket Society sent to Ivor with your application. Transfer is by far our preferred option.

Even if you pay by transfer, it is important that you let Ivor know that you have paid and booked. Members who pay by bank transfer are reminded to make the transfer at the same time as they book.

When booking for more than one person, members are asked to identify who of their party are, and who are not, members of the Society.

Seating requests - every effort will be made to meet your requests to place you with friends and associates, but this cannot be guaranteed.

The cut-off date for booking is 5th January 2025. After this date there will be no refunds for any cancelled booking (Reason: the caterers require the final numbers by the cut-off date and charge the Society for that number.)

Car parking will be free within the Ground for the Tea subject to availability with the normal parking warden being stood down. Members/guests must not leave their cars at the Ground post event, especially overnight.

Society AGM in October – the minutes from October's AGM are provided with this newsletter.

New Members welcome this month to Nick Maskelne, Wesley Wright, Michael Randall, John Lloyd, Michael Connor, Rob Boddie, Mr & Mrs McEwen.

For interest five of these joined via the Society website. Since we started accepting members via the website in October 2023 35 people have joined in this way. Eleven of these have now been members for over a year so we have also collected their first renewal automatically via the website, but only after notifying each in advance that the collection was being made. Using the website in this regard has proved a success as indeed has been the news posts on the Sussex Cricket website.

Guests Attending Society Events

I hope members would agree that the quality of the speakers that the Society has been able to secure have been of a very high calibre with the likes of Mark Ramprakash, David Gower, Geoff Miller, Graham Gooch, and with Jonathan Agnew to come in January 2025. The Society continues to explore opportunities for other high-profile cricketers to come and talk to the Society.

Well known speakers invariably come at a cost. The Society needs to maximise its income in order to attract speakers. The Society would like to remind members that according to the constitution they can bring a friend to any meeting, but the same person should not attend more than twice during the winter season. If guests enjoy the Society experience why not encourage them to join?

Jofra Archer – has signed for Rajasthan Royals for the 2025 IPL which starts on March 14 with the final on May 25. So this sounds as though it will restrict / remove any early season appearances for Sussex. If there are ideas of a Test recall in 2025 will he need to play some county cricket even if just to confirm fitness if not his obvious ability in the longer form?

Women's Cricket In the Women's ICC World T20 New Zealand beat South Africa in the final to clinch the title. A rather convincing win for New Zealand who posted 158/5 in the final then restricted South Africa to 126/9. In the semis New Zealand beat West Indies, and in what many saw as a surprise South Africa comprehensively beat pre-tournament favourites Australia in the other semi. England failed to qualify for the final four losing out on net run rate to West Indies and South Africa in the group stages. Congratulations to New Zealand.

Originally intended to be held in Bangladesh, the World T20 was moved, at a fairly late stage, to United Arab Emirates with matches being played in Sharjah and Dubai, the latter hosting the final.

In other womens news Sussex duo Freya Kemp and Danni Wyatt-Hodge have been selected for England's tour of South Africa starting late November running up to just before Christmas for both white ball and the Test match (15th Dec). Also in the white ball squad is Paige Scolfield who came through the Sussex youth system. Though after the squads were announced, came news that Danni Wyatt-Hodge will be leaving Sussex to join Surrey in 2025, Surrey, unlike Sussex being one of the eight professional tier one women's counties.

Mens International cricket. England had an eventful three test tour to Pakistan. In the first test after Pakistan scored 556 in the first innings England replied with 823/7 declared at just over 5 runs per over. Joe Root 262 and Harry Brook 317 (We all know how good Joe Root is and I feel Harry Brook will become another outstanding batter as well.) From there Pakistan slightly demoralised slumped to 220 all out leaving England victors by an innings despite conceding 556 in the first innings. The second and third tests were entirely different with Pakistan taking advantage of spinning conditions to record two victories with England failing their trials by spin. In the last two games the spinners Sajid Khan and Noman Ali shared 39 of the 40 English wickets (the other falling to leg spinner Zahid Mahmood). Experienced bowlers in helpful conditions won the series. England next have a three test series in New Zealand starting later this month where they should find conditions more familiar than Pakistan. Though the Kiwis are coming off very much a surprise series win in India winning all three tests based on a bowling combination of pace and spin, with impressive batting led by Rachin Ravindra and Will Young.