



THE SUSSEX MARTLETS

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Tim Mynott receives his England Over-60s Cap

from John Foster, the captain, before the start of the second ODI in Melbourne

Not many Martlets have been awarded an England cap and for Tim Mynott it was a day to remember:

“There was dew on the grass from overnight and it was therefore difficult to complete our 20 mins warm-up properly, as we were sliding around in the outfield.

As we jogged around the boundary, we were all a bit unnerved by many signs by the lake near the boundary reading ‘Warning – snakes near the lake.’ (Clearly an Aussie ruse to put off the Poms!)

Tim was not put off and the lake features again in Tim’s story – see p.15.

Despite now living in Wiltshire, Tim Mynott is very much Sussex born and bred. Tim started playing for the

Junior Martlets in 1967 when he was 13 and still at Chelmsford Hall School in Eastbourne and claims to have lots of Martlet memories:

“Playing at Arundel was always a highlight, as there were usually county and ex-Test players in the Martlets or playing for the opposition. Another favourite memory was playing several times at Little Common with the most delightful match manager!” he recalls. (This piece of blatant flattery may contravene the Bribery Act...)

The only sign of ageing Tim reveals is he noted in the recent statistical survey provided by Peter Hartland that he had scored a century for the Martlets, but unfortunately he has no memory of where or when this was!

Desmond Devitt

THE CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW 2016



It is pleasing to report that Sussex Martlets had a great year in 2016.

I say this in the context of the analogy I often use of the “flywheel” and the “doomloop” – other analogies exist – as the Sussex Martlets is not immune from either phenomena. But in our case, the work started by my predecessor John Ashworth and continued since is really paying dividends.

Setting the tone for Sussex Martlets cricket as aspirational and inclusive, whilst respecting our traditions, followed by getting our membership list up to date, increasing our playing membership, ensuring the Club collects all subscriptions and match fees due (tedious for some – I know), and embracing modern technology by updating our website and our electronic communications, has all meant that the Club is as well regarded as it has ever been.

This regard only comes from demonstrable results. For the second year running, we have fulfilled all our cricket fixtures (apart from one) and are winning as many games as losing them. More importantly our cricket is being played in the right spirit, striving to win but playing fairly, and with a number of close finishes – the Sussex Martlets v Junior Martlets being a classic, with the match drawn with the scores tied.

Our wider influence also continues. The committee received a presentation from Jon Filby, a non-executive director of Sussex Cricket, about the Sussex Cricket integration project. Consequently the Club transferred its Vice Presidency of ‘Sussex Cricket in the Community’ to the newly formed ‘Sussex Cricket Foundation.’

Reflecting our strong connection with Arundel, a pre-season meeting was held out of which the Chairman’s Table concept emerged with the respective chairmen of the Sussex Martlets and the Friends of Arundel Castle Cricket Club hosting a day at the Arundel Cricket Festival, attended later on by the Duke of Norfolk.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of a band of volunteers who make possible cricket and golf for the Sussex Martlets. Elsewhere in ‘The Martlet’ is fulsome tribute to the “Three Amigos” of **Adrian Ford**, **Nigel Russell** and **Chris Gray**, who collectively have given nearly 100 years of service to the Club.

We must also thank **Craig Talbot**, who has concluded his time as Fixture Secretary and is succeeded by **Alan Newman**, who has made a sterling start making the 2017 cricket season an eye watering feast of

opportunity with a number of new fixtures and also some returning fixtures from our past, in some cases our very distant past.

There are two other important appointments. **Peter Hartland** has accepted the role of Club Archivist in succession to the late David Gibbs, author of the Martlet’s centenary history ‘Summers by the Sea.’ Peter’s work output has been prodigious and if you have not read his article ‘Main Records 1905-2016’ already, then I strongly recommend you visit the news section of the website.

Importantly, especially from my point of view, I am also pleased to report that **Richard Iago** has agreed to become our Hon. Secretary with effect from the 2017 Annual General Meeting. Richard is back in Sussex on a permanent basis and again playing for the Sussex Martlets, as is his son Gregory for the Junior Martlets. Richard will bring a steady hand to the role and the committee very much looks forward to him joining its ranks.

Our thanks very much go to **Brian O’Gorman**, who stepped into the breach as Acting Hon. Secretary following the vacancy remaining after the 2016 AGM and has given the committee a very wise sense of perspective.

Returning committee member **John Goodacre** is to be congratulated on two fronts. Recognising filling committee vacancies can be problematic; his solution was to propose abolishing the posts concerned. Jobs filled, sort of! More importantly, his recommendation that the Club should rebrand the seniors section as the Sussex Martlets Over-40s side makes great sense and has been implemented.

These mentions are but a small reflection of the work undertaken in the name of the Sussex Martlets and I hope you will join me in thanking all involved in making and keeping the Sussex Martlets in good heart.

I look forward to seeing you on a cricket field or a golf course in 2017, as we have a great season planned for this year.

Stuart Ritchie

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Sussex v South Africa game on **Friday 19th May** (50 overs, 2pm start).

Martlets v Billingshurst Charity game at the County Ground, on **Monday 4th September**.

Dinner – **Friday 13th October** – please save the date and contact Paul Walker with ideas for a guest speaker.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT



Since the honour of being SS was bestowed upon me I have overseen 3 main events, (with the help and guidance of the Chair):

1. The 20/20 Sussex v Somerset

This event can, I hope, be viewed as a success. Despite a chilly wind, the Martlet party of 30 or so enjoyed a tasty supper and some decent cricket and a Sussex win.

In terms of the organisation, it was an interesting and enlightening experience of the modern fashion of waiting to the last minute before committing to anything!

In fairness, many of our party had committed and paid at an early stage. However, others did not. The final few days before the event were particularly challenging. Sussex were reasonably understanding and fairly flexible. Especially when various tickets went missing in the post or were sent to the wrong Peter Ross (who had welcomed their arrival without query – I think he thought they were a present from the Club!)

2. Sussex Foundation Lunch

The Tuffers no show! There was some initial interest for this function, however, Phil Tuffnell pulled out at the same time as those interested members went into hiding!

Harry Redknapp and Alec Stewart were not quite the same – although they were not bad at all. In fact the lunch was great fun. Our table (in the form of Will Rydon's credit card) bid (and won) a match at the County Ground in September 2017!

Our opponents will be Billingshurst CC (who made up the remainder of our table. They were a very pleasant bunch who are keen to form a connection with our Club. I will match-manage this fixture and it will be very much a social event. A slightly higher than standard match fee (ie £80 approx) if we have a 12th man, will cover the costs of the bid. I am hoping that players can be sponsored by friends and family, as the Sussex Cricket Foundation is a worthwhile cause and we can make this into a memorable day.

3. Annual Dinner

This was an experience! I take my hat off to previous organisers. The initial response to round-robin emails and even personal texts was, in general, poor. Many members had to be continually cajoled and persuaded. I fear this is simply the state of play in 2016.

In a bygone age the annual dinner of any cricket club was a must-do event. Now some members will say "I will try and come if I am in Sussex that weekend." The dinner should be the reason they are in Sussex that weekend!! Rant over.

Thanks to Stuart Ritchie for recruiting Johnny Wills to grill the old guard.

The dinner was thrown open gender-wise. This was quite right. We have female playing members and the more the merrier was definitely the case.

I hope all who attended had an enjoyable evening..... despite the shocking news of the 2016 Bowling Award! (See page 8)

Paul Walker

THE THREE AMIGOS



Chris Gray, Nigel Russell & Adrian Ford (demob happy?)

The Club's Annual Dinner paid tribute to three members of the Club whose service to the committee came to an end at the 2016 Annual General Meeting. Now better known as "The Three Amigos", Club Chairman Stuart Ritchie introduced **Adrian Ford**, **Nigel Russell** and **Chris Gray** to the members gathered in the Long Room at the Hove County Ground.

Adrian Ford had served on the committee since 1973. He was part of the group who oversaw the revitalisation of the Club in the early 1990s and became the Club's first Chairman. He is fifth on the Martlets all time run scoring list with over 6,000 runs.

Nigel Russell, who served on the committee from 1988, was also a part of the group who oversaw the revitalisation of the Club, becoming the Club's third Chairman. Known as an accurate off-spinner and valuable middle order batsman, he was a useful member of any side.

Last but not least, **Chris Gray** served on the committee from 1998 and accomplished much, including revitalising the Annual Dinner. He was an

accomplished all-rounder; a lively opening bowler and hard-hitting batsman.

Thus, having introduced Adrian, Nigel and Chris, the Chairman handed over to ITV's and the Martlet's own newscaster extraordinaire, Jonathan Wills, otherwise known as Willsy, to interview "The Three Amigos" on their reminiscences of and future hopes for the Sussex Martlets.

Willsy started by lamenting his presence in Norfolk precluding his playing cricket in Sussex. Explaining he had become a social media cricketing voyeur, he reflected on Paul Walker's posts of his cricketing injuries and his bowling performance of 2 for 64, that was 2 overs for 64! He also noted with regular frequency the batting reports of one certain "M Murray 75 n.o." or to use his correct name "Michael – 75 n.o., that is 75 runs not out taking the Martlets home to victory again — Murray". He hoped there would be a time again when if he could not play in Sussex, he could instead idly stand by and watch this wonderful game.

Admitting wonderment at nearly 100 years of committee membership, Willsy confessed he had no annual leave left to attend the Annual Dinner and in case his employers found out about his visit to Hove, instead invited to the stage David Gower, Jimmy Anderson and Graham Swann!

Willsy gave his recollections of "The Three Amigos". First up was batting with Fordy at Arundel against a touring Australian side. Fordy took the brunt of the attack (black and blue he was). Edging each ball to third man he generously always returned for the second run. After eight overs, Willsy goes to give his appreciation, only to be told by Fordy he was trying to get out!

Next to receive the Willsy treatment was Chris Gray, whom he described as a complete animal the moment he crossed the white line of the boundary. Steaming in, his bowling was quick, hostile, swinging both ways, and all appeals were excitable. He was a man whose bark was as good as his bite, especially when taking a '5-for' against the Wednesday afternoon Hurstpierpoint Under 14 Second XI!

Finally, with some hesitation, Willsy talked about Nigel Russell and the Berlin tour of 1989. The Berlin wall was about to come down, a fact unconnected with the Martlets tour, and Nigel decides the tour party should visit Checkpoint Charlie. He instructs his fellow tourists to dress subtly as the East German Stasi will be following our every step. About to leave and Russell arrives in full mess kit – crisp dinner jacket, red trousers, medals on parade and wearing his spurs too!

It was time for "The Three Amigos" to reminisce. Chris Gray played cricket at Rottingdean – and it was with this team that he first learnt of the Sussex Martlets. He

soon became a Martlet himself and managed sides at Arundel and throughout the county, playing cricket at the highest standard. He would always remember his last game, playing for his former pupil Ben Green at 24 hours' notice. Ben came up to him and said he wouldn't need him to bowl, but would he bat at 7? Expecting a lazy morning reading the newspaper, Chris found himself batting after 25 mins, with the Martlets already five down. That he went on to bat both before and after lunch scoring 32 runs at Arundel, allowed him to leave this his final game with a degree of quiet satisfaction.

Nigel Russell's first game was for Eddie Harrison and Alistair Hunter – his purpose was to be the fielder wherever needed, as the elder statesmen looked on. Of greater significance to Nigel was the deep and long lasting friendships he made through the Martlets – particularly remembering David Nicholson and Michael Wingfield-Digby. For Nigel, the Sussex Martlets was all about friends and wonderful company, a Club with a huge history and a deeply satisfying culture.

Last, but not least, Fordy summed up the Martlets as the 3 C's — namely of cricket, camaraderie and characters. In 1961 he played his first junior game and in 1965 his first senior game. His first annual dinner was at the Dudley Hotel. He described his Martlets career as the most wonderful experience and that many of the players in the 1950s and 1960s could have played for the county.

Looking to the future, Chris Gray thought 36 fixtures was about the right number of games each year. Playing at beautiful grounds such as Arundel and schools grounds, it was important to keep the amateur feeling of our matches by playing hard but with great friendship. He lamented league cricket and wanted to encourage younger cricketers to join, as the continual revitalisation of the membership would ensure the Club would do well in the future.

Nigel Russell recognised that in the past, the Sussex Martlets had been an exclusive club with its membership drawn from a rarefied part of society. In the late 1990s, the Club started to move in the right direction by being more inclusive. But there are worrying signs of how little cricket is being played by children and participation in cricket needs to increase. He recognised the Sussex Martlets were not going to be agents of social change, but the Club should at least keep up and be parallel with rest of the cricketing world. His mantra as Chairman was that the Club should be "relevant and sustainable" and provide the kind of cricket we all enjoy.

Finally, Adrian Ford reflected on the pressures faced by young cricketers today, remembering in his prime playing 45 cricket matches a season whilst in full time employment. This would be inconceivable now. His

hope for the Club was we would have a strong core of players but that we should not let the Club rest on its past successes. He encouraged individuals to get involved and volunteer, he encouraged camaraderie and above all, he said the Club should play its cricket hard and should play it fair. Fordy thought of 1905 and onwards, a tremendous history, a terrific club and called for the members to carry it forward.

Willsy concluded in praise of three magnificent gentlemen, who were then awarded, by the Club's Chairman, Martlets engraved cufflinks as a small memento of their long service on the committee of the Sussex Martlets.

Stuart Ritchie

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

Won 13, Lost 13, Tied 1, Drew 2, Cancelled/Abandoned 7.



The 36 scheduled matches of the Martlets 2016 season resulted in 13 wins, 13 losses, 1 tie, 2 draws, and 7 matches cancelled or lost to the weather. In addition, the Martlets retained the Sandy Ross Trophy, emerging victorious from the T20 day.

The season started on a high for the Martlets, with a 3-wicket victory at Arundel over Eastbourne College, thanks to 80 from Campopiano and 4 wickets from David Twine, before the MCC brought us back down to earth in the first of our marquee fixtures, by chasing down 290 in just 40 overs, again at Arundel. A further loss then followed at Brighton College before an epic unbeaten 150 from Jacob Montgomery paved the way for an 18-run victory at Seaford College.

The see-saw pattern of our early season continued with a 7-run loss to Hurstpierpoint College followed by victory over Downside Wanderers, the latter achieved thanks to the second century opening partnership between Phil Roper and Michael Murray in successive years of this fixture.

May was completed by 2 huge losses – by 135 runs to the Aldridge Academy at Arundel, in which Josh Burrows' impressive 7-wicket haul was trumped by an unbeaten 151 for the Academy by Sussex youngster Tom Haines, and by 78 runs to Goodwood, despite manager Paul Walker literally shedding blood for the cause!

The first fixture of June, a comprehensive 94-run victory at Newick's picturesque outground at Temple Grove, saw the Chairman (Stuart Ritchie) compile an aggressive 63 before Henry Cope's left-arm wrist-spin bamboozled Newick's batsmen to the tune of 5-15.

After many years of being hit by the weather, the fixture at Ardingly College was finally played. Half-centuries from Hector Loughton, Adam Davies, and Jofra Archer allowed the Martlets to declare at what seemed an imposing 275-6. However, Junior Martlet Harry Rollings took a liking to the Martlets' bowling, flaying the ball to all parts in an outstanding innings of 188 and paving the way for a 9-wicket Ardingly victory with over 20 overs to spare.

Consecutive victories finally arrived in late June with Adam Davies' 80 & 5-36 underpinning the comfortable win at Christ's Hospital, and George Martin (56) leading the successful chase against Warwickshire Pilgrims at the Saffrons.

Our season then hit a rut, with losses to Lancing College, Cuckfield CC (despite a splendid 136 from Hector Loughton), and West Chiltington, where half-centuries from Nick Ratcliffe and Peter Lamb were bettered by an innings of 130 from West Chilt's overseas player. Sam Carter masterminded a return to winning ways against Lancing Rovers, thanks in no small part to Dan Joseph's 5-18 and Jens Richardson's 78*. The fixture at Tonbridge School against the Yellowhammers heralded the usual feast of run-scoring, with almost 600 runs scored in the day. Ben Davies' 4 wickets helped to keep the Yellowhammers total to a manageable level before Tom Cummins (76), Adam Davies (70*), and Ben Pullan (54) saw us home by 5 wickets.

The annual fixture against St James's produced an exciting (if somewhat bizarre) tie, the only one of the season. Owain Jones led the way for the Martlets with 96 from just 69 balls (including seven 6s) in a 40-over total of 198-5. In reply, Ben Candfield's 3 wickets helped reduce 10-man St James's to 59-5 (effectively for 6) before Adam Davies, playing for the opposition, seemed to have won the game for his Sussex League club with a typically effervescent innings of 87 from 82 balls. However, with just 9 runs required for victory, a moment of good fortune for the Martlets saw Darryl Rebbetts deflect a drive in his follow-through onto the stumps with Davies out of his ground. St James's then brought the scores level before Rebbetts proved the hero again, clean bowling two batsmen off successive balls. With St James's 10th man (Martlet Joe Waylett) unexpectedly having to leave early to attend a family function, Rebbetts was denied the chance of a hat-trick and the match was declared a tie.

Losses followed at Mayfield CC and to Brighton Brunswick at Hove, before we returned to winning ways in an astonishing match at Hurstpierpoint College against the Old Hurstjohnians.

Electing to bat first, skipper Darryl Rebbetts was preparing himself for an inquisition as the Martlets tumbled to 96-6. However, Ben Davies, who had come
(continued on p.7)

MATCH RESULTS 2016

May 5th – Eastbourne College 199 in 53.4 overs. Sussex Martlets 203-7 in 39.3 overs (M Campopiano 80). **Won by 3 wickets.**

May 8th – Sussex Martlets 289-9 in 55 overs (G Holman 58, J Lamb 54, M Reynolds 53; C Paget 4-39). MCC 292-4 in 39.1 overs (O Durell 105, W MacVicar 73, C Hammond 60). **Lost by 6 wickets.**

May 12th – Brighton College 204-8 in 35 overs (M Smith 77, T Chalmers 61). Sussex Martlets 157-8 in 35 overs (D Sear 4-17). **Lost by 47 runs.**

May 17th – Sussex Martlets 244-3 in 42 overs (J Montgomery 150*). Seaford College 226 all out in 51.3 overs (J Medley 50; J Waylett 4-52). **Won by 18 runs.**

May 19th – Hurstpierpoint College 223-8 in 35 overs (R Whyte 108). Sussex Martlets 215 all out in 34.4 overs (M Murray 59, R Sharma 53). **Lost by seven runs.**

May 22nd – Sussex Martlets 269-6 dec in 51 overs (P Roper 69, M Murray 62, D Smith 51). Downside Wanderers 215 all out in 41.2 overs. **Won by 54 runs.**

May 26th – Aldridge Academy 316-8 in 48 overs (T Haines 151*, J Burrows 7-90). Sussex Martlets 167 in 37.5 overs (M Trubshaw 58*). **Lost by 135 runs.**

May 29th – Goodwood CC 256-5 in 40 overs (S Ejaz 84, P Lamb 60). Sussex Martlets 178 in 36.1 overs. **Lost by 78 runs.**

June 5th – Sussex Martlets 225-5 in 40 overs (S Ritchie 63, J Montgomery 55). Newick CC 131 in 31.5 overs (H Cope 5-15). **Won by 94 runs.**

June 8th – Sussex Martlets 275-5 dec in 50 overs. Ardingly College 276-2 in 40.2 overs (H Rollings 188, T Clark 59). **Lost by 8 wickets.**

June 12th – Sussex Martlets v Frogs CC. **Match cancelled.**

June 22nd – Sussex Martlets 200-8 (A Davies 80, J Hughes 38, S Warrender 25*, S Hannon 5-40). Christ's Hospital 149 all out (W Freeman 73, E Swinn-Ward 33, A Davies 5-36). **Won by 51 runs.**

June 26th – Warwickshire Pilgrims 231-7 in 40 overs (S French 64, R Rigby 50). Sussex Martlets 233-6 in 37.1 overs (G Martin 56). **Won by 4 wickets.**

June 27th – Sussex Martlets 185 all out in 46 overs (W Fazakerley 5-56). Lancing College 186-6 in 39.1 overs. **Lost by 4 wickets.**

June 30th – Sussex Martlets v Worth School. **Match abandoned.**

July 3rd – Sussex Martlets 219-9 declared in 38.5 overs (H Loughton 136). Cuckfield 221-7 in 36.4 overs (T Morrison 113*). **Lost by 3 wickets.**

July 7th – Sussex Martlets 235 all out in 53 overs (N Ratcliffe 69, P Lamb 51). West Chiltington 237-4 in 37.1 overs. **Lost by 6 wickets.**

July 11th – Lancing Rovers 167 in 36.5 overs (J Betts 67; D Joseph 5-18). Sussex Martlets 168-6 in 47.2 overs (J Richardson 78*). **Won by 4 wickets.**

July 13th – Sussex Martlets v Eastbourne CC. **Match cancelled.**

July 18th – Yellowhammers 294 in 49.1 overs (MaGregor 89; B Davies 4-74). Sussex Martlets 296-5 in 47 overs (T Cummins 76, A Davies 70*, B Pullan 54). **Won by 5 wickets.**

July 19th – Sussex Martlets 198-5 in 40 overs. St James's Montefiore 198 all out in 37 overs. **Match tied.**

July 27th – Sussex Martlets 198-7 in 35 overs. Mayfield 201-6 in 32.4 overs. **Lost by 4 wickets.**

July 29th – Brighton Brunswick 236-7 in 40 overs (B Gaylor 75). Sussex Martlets 208 in 38.2 overs (D Rebbetts 58). **Lost by 28 runs.**

Aug 2nd – Sussex Martlets v Cryptics CC. **Match abandoned.**

Aug 5th – Sussex Martlets 289 all out in 42.2 overs (B Davies 171, M Reynolds 68, J Brichaut 5-74, D Burston 2-43). Old Hurstjohnnians 108 all out. **Won by 181 runs.**

Aug 7th – Sussex Martlets v Hampshire Hogs. **Match cancelled.**

Aug 12th – Sussex Martlets 243-6 dec (G Read 58, M Campopiano 50; B Heber 3-54). Junior Sussex Martlets 243-3 (H Moorat 92, D Young 89). **Match drawn.**

Aug 14th – Lady Mary's XI 251-7 dec in 51 overs. Sussex Martlets 215-9 in 43 overs (J Montgomery 119, A Janmohamed 56). **Match drawn.**

Aug 18th – Sussex Martlets vs Horsham CC. **Match cancelled.**

Aug 21st – Sussex Martlets 165-9 dec. in 51 overs). Eton Ramblers 164 in 40.2 overs (M Murray 4-12). **Won by 1 run.**

Aug 24th – Stragglers of Asia 148 in 37.5 overs (J Lodwick 47, J Cavanagh 37; P Hartland 3-37, H Kalsi 2-3). Sussex Martlets 149-0 in 18.4 overs (D Young 89*, M Campopiano 54*). **Won by 10 wickets.**

Aug 28th – Sussex Martlets v Ditchling CC. **Match cancelled.**

Aug 30th – Sussex Martlets 134 all out in 34 overs. Band of Brothers 137-2 in 27.4 overs. **Lost by 8 wickets.**

Sept 4th – **SANDY ROSS T20 CUP.**

Semi-final 1: Sussex Martlets 132-8. Haileybury Hermits 97 all out. **Won by 35 runs.**

Semi-final 2: Cryptics 137-9 lost to Free Foresters 138-4 by 6 wickets.

Third-place play-off: Haileybury Hermits 133 beat Cryptics 81 all out by 52 runs.

Final: Sussex Martlets 144-5. Free Foresters 143 all out. **Won by one run.**

Sept 6th – Old Georgians 193 in 48.5 overs (M Wimrich 65, J Tindall 51; M Pretorius 7-33). Sussex Martlets 197-5 in 32.4 overs (J Hunt 58*, M Pretorius 53*). **Won by 5 wickets.**

Sept 9th – Hurlingham Club 257-4 (M Wales 98; T Fairfax 2-23). Sussex Martlets 221 all out (S Champman 6-67). **Lost by 36 runs.**

Sept 11th – Sussex Martlets 220-7 in 40 overs (M Pretorius 98*). Armadillos 140 all out in 27 overs (P Walker 4-33). **Won by 80 runs.**

SENIOR MARTLETS (Over 40s)

July 20th – Cuckfield Over-40s 183-8 in 35 overs (E Burton 5-28). Sussex Martlets Over-40s 167-8. **Lost by 16 runs.**

Aug 10th – Sussex Martlets Over-40s 219-6 in 35 overs (D Mann 103*, J Goodacre 54). Rottingdean Over-40s 145. **Won by 74 runs.**

Aug 15th – XL Club 233-4 in 30 overs. Sussex Martlets Over-40s 197-6 in 30 overs (B Ferns 62). **Lost by 36 runs.**

Aug 24th – Sussex Martlets Over-40s 203-8 in 35 overs. (D Mann 62, J Goodacre 32). St James's Montefiore Over-40s 108 all out (D Horsham 2-9, R Christie 2-13, A Cantrell 2-26). **Won by 95 runs.**

LEADING BATTING AVERAGES

(Qualification: 5 innings)

| | Innings | N.O | H.S | Runs | Average |
|-------------------|---------|-----|------|------|---------|
| Jacob Montgomery | 6 | 1 | 150* | 380 | 76.00 |
| Adam Davies | 5 | 1 | 80 | 276 | 69.00 |
| Marcus Campopiano | 9 | 2 | 80 | 364 | 52.00 |
| Hector Loughton | 7 | 0 | 136 | 276 | 39.43 |
| Matt Reynolds | 8 | 1 | 53 | 219 | 31.29 |

Centurions: Ben Davies, Jacob Montgomery, Hector Loughton.

LEADING BOWLING AVERAGES

(Qualification: 6 wickets)

| | Overs | Maidens | Runs | Wkts | Average |
|-----------------|-------|---------|------|------|---------|
| Marno Pretorius | 21.5 | 8 | 50 | 9 | 5.56 |
| Matt Sawyer | 8 | 2 | 47 | 6 | 7.83 |
| Daniel Smith | 15 | 2 | 61 | 7 | 8.71 |
| Josh Burrows | 43 | 1 | 210 | 12 | 17.50 |
| Henry Cope | 46 | 8 | 206 | 10 | 20.60 |

5 wkts in an innings: Marno Pretorius, Josh Burrows, Henry Cope, Dan Joseph, Adam Davies.

(continued from p.5)

in at 7, started to find the boundary with regularity and proceeded to produce a masterclass in big hitting. Davies contributed almost 80% of the runs scored while he was at the crease, scoring a whirlwind 171 from just 105 balls before being the last man out. Perhaps shell-shocked by Davies' fireworks, the OJs never looked like chasing down the Martlets total of 289, and were bowled out for just 183.

The VPs day fixture against the Junior Martlets at Arundel Castle produced the usual exciting finish, although this year the Juniors were the only side with a chance of winning at the end. Winning the toss and batting, the Martlets were rarely troubled by the JM attack, but were never able to accelerate against some disciplined spin-bowling. George Read led the way with 58 and there was another 50 from Campopiano, but the

total of 245-6 declared from 54 overs seemed no more than par. The JM openers, Young & Moorat, led credence to this theory with an impressive opening partnership of 163 in just 35 overs. With just 13 overs left and the Martlets already in defensive damage-limitation mode, only one more wicket fell as the game entered the final over with the JMs requiring 9 for victory. Darryl Rebbetts was chosen to bowl the last over, and to the consternation of his skipper bowled a wide to narrow the scores. The JMs whittled the target down to 2 required from the final ball, which found the skipper perfectly placed at fly-slip to effect a run out with the scores level.

The Lady Mary's XI fixture was notable for an opening stand of 142 between Jacob Montgomery and Abeer Janmohamed (making his first Martlets appearance for some time). The asking rate, which was already a-run-a-ball from the very start of the innings, was steadily

climbing though, and the introduction of the left-arm spin of former Hampshire pro Raj Maru turned the game in the LM XI's favour. Maru took 4-39 in his 8 overs, and when Montgomery was finally dismissed run out for an impressive 119, any remote chance of a Martlets victory disappeared. It was eventually left to our last pair of Alex Collins and Evette Burton to see out the final 8 balls for a draw.

The game against Eton Ramblers produced an exciting, if slightly damp, finish. In bright sunshine, The Martlets reached 165-9 against some disciplined Ramblers bowling. Despite including former Leicestershire seamer Alex Wyatt in our attack, Eton's innings got off to a fast start, and it took the introduction of Paul Walker and a steady drizzle that started just after tea to change things. Walker took 3 wickets, each celebrated in his customary low-key manner (!) but we entered the last hour requiring 6 wickets with just 57 runs to play with. Peter Lamb chipped in with 2 wickets, before, with the rain getting heavier, skipper Murray delivered the coup-de-grace with a spell of 4-12 to steal victory by 1 run!

The Stragglers of Asia were ruthlessly dealt with, Dan Young and Marcus Campopiano knocking off the 148 runs required in just 18 overs, before we were rolled over by Band of Brothers for just 134 at Arundel en route to an 8-wicket loss.

The Martlets retained the Sandy Ross T20 Cup in nail-biting fashion. Having beaten Haileybury Hermits in the semi-final, Marcus Campopiano's unbeaten 56 led us to a challenging total of 144-5 in the final against Free Foresters. A see-saw Foresters innings saw them needing just 4 runs for victory from the final over, but with only 2 wickets in hand. The equation came down to 2 required from the last ball with the last man at the crease, and a run out secured the cup for the Martlets.

Marno Pretorius was the catalyst for our two remaining victories, taking 7-33 in the 5-wicket win against Old Georgians at Arundel, and smashing an unbeaten 98 from just 54 balls to lead us to an 80-run victory in the season finale against the Armadillos at Sheffield Park.

Michael Murray

MARTLETS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Best Batsman



There were a number of batsmen in contention this year. In alphabetical order: Marcus Campopiano, Adam Davies, Ben Davies, Hector Loughton and Peter Lamb. With total runs scored of 364, the award went to **Marcus Campopiano**.

Best Bowler



There were a number of bowlers in contention. In alphabetical order: Josh Burrows, Henry Cope, Mark Trubshaw and Paul Walker. Surprisingly, Josh Burrows "7-for" including a hatrick against Aldwick Academy at Arundel was not enough. Instead, with 14 wickets, the award went to **Paul Walker**.

Best Junior



This young man was undoubtedly the find of the season for the Junior Martlets. He is a 15 year old member of the Brighton College 1st XI and in his first 3 games he scored 55, 53, and 100, the latter against the Brighton and Hove City Clubs. He was then part of the nearly match winning opening partnership in the Arundel game, when he and Dan Young put on 163 for the first wicket against the Club. His 92 was notable for his range of shots and unflappability at the crease. The maths will tell you he scored exactly 300 at an average of 75. His loyal approach to the Martlets too was much appreciated. The Juniors' manager is more than delighted at the prospect of having him playing for the Juniors against the Club at Arundel for the next 3 years! The award went to **Harry Moorat**.

Best Overseas Player



The Martlets encourages the overseas players of Sussex Clubs to play midweek and on Sundays in our wandering cricket. It gives us a fillip to our competitiveness and it allows the overseas players to be engaged in the traditions of the game. It has proved a mutually beneficial policy. This year, there have been two contenders in Jacob Montgomery and Marno Pretorius. With 380 runs and 5 wickets, the award went to **Jacob Montgomery**.

Martlet of the Year



This year the Club wished to recognise a gentleman who has given steadfast service to the Club, but in an unassuming way over many years. In particular our gratitude is due for the revitalisation of the Club's Annual Dinner. With our grateful thanks, the award went to **Chris Gray**, or as he is sometimes known, CWG.

Stuart Ritchie

JUNIOR MARTLETS 2016

**Played 4 Won 2 Lost 1 Drawn 1 (scores level)
Cancelled 2.**

Junior Band of Brothers 175-7 (35 overs). Junior Martlets 144 all out. Lost by 31 runs.

Opening bowlers James Brahaut and Tom Heath found the going quite hard against a Tonbridge School batting attack, although useful deliveries made sure the batsmen didn't have it all their own way. Ed Miller, one of 5 debutants in Martlet colours, came on first change bowling an accurate line. The spin attack really did change the face of the game after 60 had been rattled up in 9 overs. Toby Shepperson (2-30), a 14 year old leg spinner, bowled with real control removing both openers in his second over. The off spin of Ben Heber (2-22) at the other end proved hard to get away. Jack Troak (2-27) then bamboozled the batsmen with his leg breaks. His second wicket produced the best theatre of the afternoon. The batsman lofted the ball towards extra cover, where Jack had conveniently placed Krishan Nayee; the bowler however launched himself to his left at a gallop crying "Jack's ball!" To his eternal credit Krishan's eyes only briefly flickered away from the ball, but the hands remained steady. So Jack's second cry became "Jack's ball...oh well caught!" After 35 overs the Band of Brothers had 175.

That score was certainly a reachable target. Josh Medley and Harry Moorat had a good partnership, but a fine low catch removed Medley just as the runs had begun to flow. Ludo Milne (20) looked good too until the leg spinner lured him down the track. That was the story of the innings. Batsmen got in then got out, apart from Harry Moorat (55), whose mature display deserved long-stay partners. We ended 31 runs behind.

U16 match: Hampshire Hoggets 223-8 (40 overs). Junior Martlets 224-6 (38.1 overs). Won by 4 wickets.

The opening bowlers, Rafe Liebers and James Brahaut bowled steadily, beating the bat on a number of occasions but without much luck. James dismissed one of the openers after which the runs began to flow. After 20 overs the score stood at 113-1 and we turned to spin. The double leg break attack of Will Collard and Toby Shepperson (3-34) turned the game. They immediately cut the scoring rate and induced many false shots. Will made the initial breakthrough. Toby then bowled their top scorer before performing what seems to be becoming a habit of taking two wickets in one over. Krishan Nayee introduced some off spin into the game. A late innings flurry of runs came, helped perhaps by some "elderly" Martlets fielding and took the score to 223.

This target was quite a mountain to climb for what was a young under 16 side, most of them being U.14s or 15s. What impressed from the outset was that they

clearly didn't share my concerns and batted with confidence and maturity and this despite losing Ash Kumar in the second over with the score on 2. Mason Robinson and Harry Moorat proceeded to build a firm foundation, playing with increasing freedom and real style. They put on 99 together before Mason mistimed one to be caught for 41. Harry then skied one after making 53 with the score on 119. Josh Gander (26*) then showed huge patience in acting as the sheet anchor for the remainder of the innings. Will Collard looked to score well until he was trapped LBW. James Brahaut was the eventual hero, scoring 42 including seven 4s to bring us up to the required rate. One hit too far brought Toby Shepperson to the wicket for the final scene. Both he and Josh unleashed some fine boundary shots to take us to victory with almost two overs to spare.

Junior Martlets 224-8 (40 overs). Brighton & Hove City Clubs 214-6 (40 overs). Won by 10 runs.

With Harry Rollings falling early to one that kept low, Josh Medley was joined by Harry Moorat, who carried on where he had left off the previous day. Both began to score freely, playing a range of handsome shots. Sadly Josh ended up by being caught low down by the keeper, but Harry and Jack Fletcher-Price (26) then attacked the bowling to take the total beyond 100 at the half way stage. Harry was joined by Tom Chalmers (34) who hit lustily. Showing great powers of concentration Harry, despite a quiet time in the nineties, navigated his way to a fine century of real style. In three games he had scored 208 runs; a Martlet find if ever there was one! A few quick wickets fell at the end, as we tried to push the total as far as it would go, which was 224.

We were perhaps short of a seamer for our attack and the openers took a while to focus the radar but removed one opener with the total on 24. There then followed a long stand of 120, although the three-pronged spin attack restricted the scoring rate so that with 10 overs to go 70 were still required. Will Collard with his leg spin was the pick of the spinners and conceded only 21 in his 8 overs. Joe White (2-61) only conceded 9 runs in his last 3 overs. The rate required rose from 8 to 9 and beyond. By the last over 19 were needed. James Brahaut kept his nerve and we won through.

WANDERING CLUBS T20 DAY

(The Junior Martlets, Hampshire Hoggets & the Junior Band of Brothers, at Hurstpierpoint College).

Junior Band of Brothers 145-6. Junior Martlets 137-5. Lost by 8 runs.

A feature of the Junior BB's innings was the very accurate opening spell by 14 year old Josh Gander (2-18), who got the number 4 with one which cut in and bowled him round his legs. This was followed by a fine stand, which was eventually broken by Tom Heath

(2-26). Lex Wills, behind the stumps, put in a tidy performance too. In fact he only conceded one bye in the whole day. Tight bowling and quick wickets at the end restricted the total to 145.

The captain, Ash Kumar (53) and Harry Moorat (28) established a firm base with some fine shots to put on over 80 for the second wicket. Harry then got too far under one from the off spinner to be caught. Ash progressed towards his fifty in company with Tom Heath (27), who helped improve the scoring rate at just the right moment. We needed 23 off the last 3 overs, but sadly both were out in the last two overs and we were stranded 8 runs short at the end.

After lunch, in the second match, the Junior BB (171-6) beat the Hoggets (143-5) by 28 runs to reach the final.

THE FINAL: Junior Martlets 100-9. Hampshire Hoggets 102-2. Lost by 8 wickets.

A shaky and rather slow start saw the Junior Martlets at 16-2 after 5 overs with the two important potential run scorers back in the pavilion. Greg Iago tried to move things forward, but after scoring 15 attempted to lift one into the distance only to hear the rattle of timber. Enter Toby Shepperson; his 42 gave real backbone to the innings, but sadly the overs and partners ran out to leave the Junior Martlets with a total that was always going to be hard to defend, particularly as injury had depleted the bowling attack.

The Hoggets were clearly in a hurry from the outset and in fact final destruction came after only 13 overs, as the sun began to set.

The day was an experiment, which all agreed was well worth repeating.

Sussex Martlets 243-6 dec. Junior Martlets 243-3. Match Drawn.

What a day! The weather was remarkable, the cricket of genuine quality and nail biting. It was, in short, just what makes for a perfect day at Arundel. Having elected to bat, the Martlet openers made a steady start posting 37 in the first 10 overs. There were accurate spells from Joe White, Ben Hawkes and left armer James Brehaut. Spin then entered the equation and induced misses and edges that didn't quite go to hand. Jack Troak, the Juniors' captain, induced false shots with his flighted leg breaks, while the off spin of Ben Heber (3-54) produced the first wicket of the day. Immediately before lunch Adam Cooper, another very useful off spinner, bowled the other opener, so that at the break the score stood at 132-2. After that the batsmen were kept in very reasonable check until a very effective pre-declaration flurry came, which helped take the Martlets to the final total of 243-6. The Juniors' spin attack excited much favourable comment from those around

the boundary and I for one particularly enjoyed the Troak gasps of disbelief when each flighted ball didn't take a wicket!

Harry Moorat and Dan Young opened the innings and I have to say the reluctant heroes made a pretty good fist of it. After starting gently the strokes began to flow with Harry cutting superbly and driving on the up and Dan enjoying the drive and the leg side. The score stood at 72 at tea after 15 overs. Twenty overs later Harry was eventually trapped LBW by Mark Trubshaw for 92, after they had amassed 163 for the first wicket. It was an outstanding partnership.

Twelve overs now remained to gather in the remaining 80 runs. Despite a gallant innings from Joe Gilligan (36*), a keeper batsman of quality, the well placed fielders made the rate a difficult one to match. However Johnny Barclay did assure me it was in the bag for the boys...! It finally came down to two off the last ball and Ross Whyte was run out going for the second run. Scores level — a draw. And people say draws are boring!

I have nothing but admiration for a fine group of young cricketers, who produced one of the finest games of cricket you'd want to see. My thanks to the umpires and scorers and the Arundel authorities for their contribution to the day and giving all present a few hours on one of the most beautiful cricket grounds the World has to offer.

Finally, Jack Troak and Joe White made their last appearances for the Juniors after several years of real loyalty. For that I am most grateful, as I am to Jack for his special brand of captaincy, which transforms a group of cricketers into a unit with natural ease.

John Bettridge



*Joe Gilligan Ben Heber James Brehaut Joe White
Adam Cooper Ben Hawkes
Harry Moorat Harry Rollings Jack Troak (Capt.)
Daniel Young Ross Whyte*

GEORGE GARTON



The last time George Garton appeared in Martlets colours was way back in 2012 and – in the nicest possible way – he hopes that he will have only limited opportunities to play for the club again any time soon.

After a breakthrough year in 2016, in which George made first-team debuts for Sussex in all three formats, the 19-year-old received a call asking him to join the England Pace Programme again, this time for a full winter including a two-week training camp in South Africa in January.

Alongside five other promising fast bowlers, George has spent the offseason improving the strength and conditioning of his body so that he can keep his bowling fast and accurate, and his career on its upward trajectory.

“It’s not a bad call to receive, to be told that you’re in the England pace set-up,” George enthused. “They said last year, when I was only 18 and the joint youngest ever to be put on the programme, that they might want me on the scheme for two or three years, so it was in the back of my mind. But it was definitely a vote of confidence.”

For the England coaches, the decision to pull George under their wing was probably an easy one. Still not long graduated from Hurstpierpoint College, George gave notice of his talents last year with impressive performances for Sussex and for England Lions – notably 3-93 in his first ever County Championship match, against Northamptonshire; 4-43 for England Lions against Sri Lanka A (in a match that made headlines when Ben Duckett and Daniel Bell-Drummond shared a 367-run partnership); and 4-16 in three overs in a Twenty20 against Glamorgan.

Sussex know they have a talent on their hands, but with talent comes expectation and George is doing everything he can to make sure that next season is better than last.

“Last year went well for me and I showed what I can do, so they [Sussex] will expect me to be a year more experienced, a year stronger and to come back and put in a few more performances,” he says. “Last year was a bit of a trial, this year there’s a bit more expectation.”

Should the season start *freakishly* well, George says he and other young players on the county circuit have been cheered by the way the England selectors have been willing to put their faith in young players. George has played representative cricket with the likes of Duckett, 22, and Haseeb Hameed, 20, both of whom were whisked into the England Test team this winter.

Bowlers do not tend to be fast-tracked as hastily as batsmen, but Garton says that the hints dropped recently by England selectors at all levels suggest that if you’re good enough, you’re old enough.

“There are a lot of good bowlers in England who aren’t even playing for England at the moment – so there’s a long road ahead to just get your name forward and get recognised. But you look at Ducky [Duckett] and Has [Haseeb Hameed] and it’s an exciting time to be a young player.

“The England selectors are looking for young talent to come through and take over. That’s encouraging for me and for other young players on the circuit.”

It is also an exciting time to be a seam bowler at Sussex. The county has been collecting seamers over the past few seasons as if they have been going out of fashion. As well as George, Chris Jordan will be available this year when not on England duty, Ajmal Shahzad has been retained, Jofra Archer, Stuart Whittingham and Abidine Sakande have all signed contracts for 2017, Ollie Robinson enjoyed success with the ball last year and Tymal Mills, probably the quickest bowler in England, is available for Twenty20s.

Working closely with all those players is Steve Magoffin, the third-leading wicket taker in the second division with 62 Championship wickets last year and a highly-respected mentor to anyone bowling seam-up at Hove.

“It’s an exciting time for Sussex cricket, especially with our seam bowling,” says Garton. “We’ve got a pool of young quick bowlers coming through. The pitch is decent and there’s a lot of competition for places. We all work together and talk to each other and everyone tries to pick Mags’ [Magoffin’s] brains because he’s got so much experience.”

Also not expecting to see a great deal of George next year his club, Horsham, for whom he could only be available four times last season. He says he will play league cricket in 2017 if he has the opportunity.

"If I'm playing cricket then I'm happy. If that's for the first team at Horsham then I'll put in 100 per cent and the same goes if I'm playing for the first team at Sussex or England Lions. All cricket is good cricket.

"Since I made my first-class debut I've got a bit more stick off the lads at Horsham. But the captain's always good and it doesn't feel like there's any more pressure. But you expect do well and the lads probably expect you to do well too."

Josh Burrows

THE GOLFING SOCIETY 2016

The Society had an enjoyable year's golf although the results could have been better, with only one win – although we lost only narrowly to Rye.

Having moved the Crowborough match to the summer, the weather tricked us by producing fog then rain. We shall repeat the summer date next year in the hope the weather gods shine on us.

We were unable to play at Littlestone in April, as they were unfortunately unable to raise a side. However the match has been arranged again for 2017, when the incoming captain has taken over the match manager's role.

My thanks to all the match managers for their efforts in raising sides and running their matches. Your hard work is really appreciated by the members.

My special thanks to Nigel Smith, who after 10 years as manager of the West Sussex match, is stepping down from the role. Your Hon. Sec. will act as interim manager for the 2017 match, following which I am very pleased that Mark Bowden has agreed to step into Nigel's shoes.

MATCH REPORTS

v West Sussex GC April 10th

With half the Martlets side WSGC members, we enjoyed a congenial but nonetheless competitive day. The Martlets went into lunch 5:3 down, a score that

was repeated in the afternoon matches, giving an overall result of a 10:6 loss.

v Royal Ashdown GC April 17th

After a wet week, we were fortunate to play this lovely course on a fine day. We were outplayed in the morning losing the matches 4½:1½.

In the afternoon we fared a little better losing 3½:2½, so losing the match overall 8:4

v Littlestone GC April 24th

Sadly, this match was not played this year as Littlestone were unable to raise a team.

v Crowborough Beacon GC June 12th

Despite moving the Grant Skinner Memorial fixture from March to more favourable weather conditions in June, we played much of the round in mist and/or persistent drizzle/rain. However, all present agreed that course conditions, with much better greens at this time of the year, proved a popular decision, and we hope to find a diary space in June 2017.

Regrettably the shortened format of 18 holes did nothing to improve the Martlets' results against CBGC and we once again went down against hardcore match players, losing 4½:1½ points. We look forward to 2017 and a step towards balancing the score-line!

v Piltown GC 25th September

Due to a late injury we played 11 v 12 in the morning. Robert Forster valiantly took on two and came up just short. We lunched 3½:2½ down.

In the afternoon we played 5 matches. We were grateful to Piltown member Geoffrey Longfield, making his Martlets debut. At aged 80+ surely one of the oldest, if not the oldest debutant?

The Martlets lunched very well and ran out 5-0 winners in the afternoon series of matches to complete a historic (during Simon Baillie Hamilton's tenure!) victory 7½:3½.

v Cooden Beach GC 2nd October

We lost a close match 3:2 in the morning. Simon Baillie Hamilton and Mark Bowden, and Andy Rogers and



West Sussex Golf Club – our new home.

Allan Gormley recorded wins. Roberts Reed and Forster lost only due to a missed putt on the 17th.

With the Ryder Cup on TV, the teams agreed to watch that rather than play the afternoon round (probably not a good decision in retrospect).

v Rye GC 16th October

A traditional match of two rounds of foursomes on the famous Rye links.

We performed well in the morning going into lunch 4:2 up. The Rye lunch was enjoyed perhaps a little too much, with the Martlets losing three matches and halving 3 to lose the day overall 6½: 5½.

A SUSSEX MARTLETS HOME COURSE

Although we play matches at some fine courses, the Society has until now never had a home course and thus been able to offer reciprocal matches.

In November 1933, the Sussex Martlets Golfing Society played its first match against the West Sussex Golf Club. The Martlets team included AER Gilligan, the England cricket captain. In honour of this, the annual match is played for the AER Gilligan putter, which hangs (blade left or right as appropriate) in the West Sussex clubhouse.

I am delighted that the West Sussex Golf Club has kindly agreed that as of now, West Sussex GC is officially the Sussex Martlets Golfing Society's home course.

In 2017 we shall host two events at the club, one in Spring and one in the Autumn, in addition to our usual match against the club.

Adrian White
(Hon. Secretary)

OBITUARY

NIGEL BLAKE

(20th February 1932 – 31st October 2016).



Nigel and Rusty who played lots of golf together in the 1970s

Nigel Blake's roots were in Sussex and he spent much of his life there. It was clear from his prep school days that he was going to be a capable all round games player winning colours in cricket, rugby and football as well as being a good boxer.

At Eton he was captain of boxing and won colours at rugby and football. Sadly it was a rugby injury which caused him to miss a season's cricket and cost him his chance of playing at Lord's in the Eton and Harrow match.

After school Nigel trained at Sandhurst prior to joining the Rifle Brigade as a subaltern in 1952. When he left the army in 1965 he settled in Kent and started a

career in the pub trade with Courages and then Charringtons, later becoming an expert in wine.

Nigel's main involvement with the Martlets was golf, there being no traceable record of him playing much cricket. He had joined Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club in 1954 but it wasn't until the 1960s that he began to be more serious about his golf. In the ensuing years he started to play regularly for the Martlets and in 1987 became Match Manager of the Martlets side against the Club which he then did very efficiently for the next 16 years.

There was one major incident during this time when in 1989, playing in the match, he suffered a heart attack climbing the hill at the 18th hole. Mercifully he survived and went on to play golf, mainly at Royal Ashdown, for many more years. He will be remembered by the Martlets Golf Secretary for his copious and amusing match reports. Eventually he persuaded me to take over as Match Manager in 2003.

He continued to retain an interest in the fixture and occasionally joined us for lunch on the day of the match.

Those who attended Nigel's service of thanksgiving will have identified with many of the tributes paid to him. He was without question a kind and generous man, eccentric at times but with an impish and mischievous sense of humour. If you ever played golf with him it was invariably enjoyable and fun.

David Scrivens

MARTLET MANAGERS OF FORMER YEARS

To a young cricketer, still at school, the first managers of matches that one meets seem to be people of immense authority and importance – and so they are; for the organisation and on-field play depend on them. It is no easy task to raise a cricket side – even more difficult to select a balanced one and then give all the chance of having an enjoyable and active day's play. Young managers, if they were wise, would learn much from them.

The first of my experience was **MD Neligan**, whom I had known from plentiful Junior Martlet cricket and against his Colts' teams visiting Middleton. This first match was at Horsham, one of MD's clubs and we won a resounding victory. He knew how to gather players – many of whom (Fuente, Lock, Sinnott and his own son, Tim) had been at his school, Broadwater Manor House.

In the same year (1954) I was asked to play v Lancing Rovers by Eddie Harrison, who must surely have raised more teams than any man in history, for Martlets, Hogs, Incogniti, Harrow Wanderers (and also Real Tennis). But we lost to a strong Rovers team that day, on a very wet pitch.

At that period everybody was aware of the redoubtable **JK Matthews**, who always ran the United Services game at Portsmouth and he really did tell the bowler to pitch them up!

Others were more haphazard, including one – so the story goes – who recruited 13, with 9 wicket keepers and to reduce numbers sent the only bowler home! But he never failed to talk to you about your insurance policy.

The Martlet managers did service for the same match year on year. So, Charlie Lowe did Oxted; Peter Murray Willis, Little Common; James Farmer, Ifield and Mike Pearce, Bognor. Newly recruited managers were given Ringmer as a try out. This was no sinecure and a good test of fortitude, reality and determination as Ringmer, on their own ground, were a tough nut to crack and no doubt remain so.

Real protagonists were Alistair Hunter, Jack Pollard and Eddie Harrison. These were the people who ran the important or prestige matches. **Dr Alistair Hunter**, one of cricket's total enthusiasts, ran the Cambridge Tour (with help from Peter Colleymore) which became an invaluable source of recruitment for the Club: Basil Woods being perhaps the most notable catch.

Alistair had very good knowledge of the game and could pick a young player with talent, perhaps as yet undeveloped. He had been at school at Winchester and had many a tale to tell of the legendary ER "Rockley"

Wilson, the England and Yorkshire cricketer, a master there for many years.

Alistair ran matches vs the Harrow Wanderers and the Young Cricketers, among others. Strong sides needed! He duly obliged and it was noticeable that players seemed to rise far above their ability for him. He had the precious knack of belief and encouragement. He was concerned for his team. One player at least has reason to be grateful to him for the chance to open and make an impression with a reasonable score.

Jack Pollard running Worthing, Middleton and Bank of England (away) – very strong teams – was always early in getting his invitations out and was prompt in following them up. A difficult man to refuse. Of course things did not always go smoothly and I remember perhaps the strongest possible team from the Club in 1959 having an almost total collapse against Middleton and just getting away with a draw. Cricket is not predictable. Jack had a knack of coming on to bowl his leg breaks and capture crucial wickets, but was generally reticent about putting himself forward.

So to **Eddie Harrison**. He ran most of all and always took charge of any new fixtures – there were many coming on to the list in the early years of his Secretaryship (1951 onwards). As a young man and a recent Sussex player he had the ability to win matches and frequently did. I remember him getting 9 wickets in an innings for Sussex II v Surrey at Middleton in 1948 and being in the field while he scored a 100 there in 1952, which did not save the Martlets from defeat as Horace Brearley (Yorkshire and Middlesex) – father of Mike – made a splendid 142 for Middleton.

Eddie also knew which people he liked to have on his side and encouraged them. At times Eddie was perhaps a bit inclined to let the match run on, but I recall Martlets v Harrow Wanderers at Hove (Eddie playing for the Wanderers) where Martlets had played all the cricket and were heading for victory, until a run-out and a quick wicket changed the balance and he at once went on to bowl, galvanised the fielding and polished off the tail. Harrow Wanderers won by 2 runs against all indications (1962).

We are indebted to all these men who arranged teams and did their best to organise a good day's play. Today's Sussex Martlets are their inheritors. Wonderful days!

Brian O'Gorman



A typical Martlet Mynott shot – bound for the afore-mentioned lake – see p.1)

OVER 60s ASHES TOUR TO AUSTRALIA

Find a new way of playing cricket and sure as toddlers fight over toys, England and Australia will find a way of playing each other for the Ashes.

It was, therefore, only a matter of time before the growing popularity of over-60s cricket prompted England and Australia's finest to organise reciprocal tours for the honour of calling themselves Ashes winners.

As of this winter, those bragging rights belong to the England team, who were helped to a 2-1 victory Down Under in November by one of the Martlets' own, Tim Mynott.

Having won the first "Test" (actually a 50-over one-day match) by six wickets, the series was secured with a victory in the second Test that was achieved largely thanks to Tim's unbeaten 31 runs from 39 balls. Batting at No 8, Tim came to the wicket with England's innings in the balance at 176-6. His shepherding of the tail meant England hauled themselves to 226-9 from their 50 overs, going on to win the match by just nine runs.

"I was very pleased about that match," Tim reflected. "It was a very exciting game indeed and meant that we were 2-0 up in the three-match series. One of my most memorable games ever, in fact."

The third and final match – a dead rubber at Sturt District CC – went to Australia, who chased down England's 225-8 with one over to spare. Tim made ten runs but did not bowl.

Though Tim is still a Martlets member, these days he is more usually found bowling seam-up for Wiltshire over-60s. Like the rest of the 18-strong touring party he

earned his place through a system of peer-selection based on performances in the over-60s county championship and national trials held at Leicestershire in January last year.

All players were self-funded or sponsored – at a cost of about £5,000 each – and unlike the Australian veterans the England team receives no financial support from the national governing body. The players might have been paying their own way, but this was no holiday.

"All players were asked to improve on their fitness to make sure the squad could cope with the rigours of a four week tour played in hot weather," Tim explained.

"We'd give any Premier League second XI a good game, but we'd struggle against a Premier League first team. The batting wouldn't be a problem, but the bowling and close fielding might be. People run so many quick singles these days. A match between the England over-60s and the Martlets would be a good game!"

The tour took place between November 19 and December 16, taking in a total of 13 one-day fixtures including the "Tests", for which the usual ODI fielding and bowling restrictions applied, but without the powerplays. Teams were also allowed 12 players – although only 11 fielders and batsmen.

Of those 13 matches, England won 11, losing only the dead-rubber Ashes match and a touring match against Victoria Country over-60s.

Tim thinks that the atmosphere that over-60s cricket is played in is similar to wandering cricket.

"It's very friendly cricket, which is the nice thing, along with being able to play competitive cricket at our age. We obviously want to win, but there is no animosity on the field. Our relationship with the Australian team is very friendly. They just love playing against the English as much as we love playing against them. We keep up the banter between the sides."

Organisers of over-60s cricket would like the ECB to show more interest in the county championship (won last season by Kent, who beat Cheshire in the play-off final). For the recent Ashes tour, the national governing body provided a set of Kookaburra cricket balls and a signed shirt, which was auctioned off to raise £2,000.

"I think the ECB should have more involvement," says Tim. "I'm very happy that they support all the junior cricket, and that's fine, but we've all played, represented and supported English cricket for 40 years and yet they're just not interested. I'll be having words with them over the next few years about it."

"We're allowed to put the three lions on the kit though. I imagine that we had to ask permission, but hopefully it was asked assertively. Anyway, just try and stop us!"

Josh Burrows

Observant Martlets may have noticed that Josh Burrows was the Times cricket correspondent for the recent ODI series in the West Indies. Ed

Over 60s Ashes results:

First ODI Test (Chisholm Oval, Canberra. Australia won the toss).

Australia 192-6 (Dave Russell 50, Wayne Broad 34; Trevor Shales 2-39, David Pegg 2-51).

England 193-4 in 35.1 overs (Neil Calvert 47, Chris Swadkin 42; Greg Stagg 2-19, P Drescher 1-16).

England won by 6 wickets.

Second ODI Test (Trinity Grammar, Bulleen. Australia won the toss).

England 226-9 (Neil Calvert 94, Mike Stafford 36; Wayne Broad 4-31, P Drescher 2-12).

Australia 217-9 (Mark Gaskell 85, Dave Russell 36; Chris Swadkin 4-38, Mike Stafford 3-40).

England won by 9 runs.

Third ODI Test (Sturt District CC, Australia won the toss)

England 225-8 (Mike Stafford 45, Neil Calvert 43; P Drescher 3-50, C Cook 1-31).

Australia 230-5 in 49 overs (Glen Richardson 63, P Drescher 50; Trevor Shales 2-55, Mike Stafford 2-58).

Australia won by 5 wickets.

NEW MEMBERS 2016/17

The Club welcomes into membership an excellent crop of new members.

New playing members:

Peter Baxter (plays for a Brighton nomadic team and joining Golf Society)

Evette Burton (former Kent & Surrey ladies player, a playing member of the MCC)

Nikki Chaudhuri (East Grinstead CC and Surrey U17 & U19 ladies player)

Ben Davies (East Grinstead CC)

Peter Lamb (Chichester Priory Park & Cardiff Metropolitan University)

Matthew Reynolds (Middleton CC, University of Chichester, qualified cricket coach)

Candidates for playing membership:

Harry Clark (Cuckfield CC, Sussex U13-U17, Ardingly College), James Self (Wisborough Green, Plymouth University).

Graduating Juniors:

Ben Candfield, George Read.

Non-playing members:

Daniel Gabriele (joining Golf Society), Allan Gormley (joining Golf Society), Andrew Spencer (taking social membership), Zac Toumazi (outgoing CEO of Sussex Cricket).

If you know of an individual who wishes to play cricket for the Sussex Martlets this summer, do please get in touch with me and remember the application form is available from the website of the Club.

Stuart Ritchie

As always, ideas and articles for *The Martlet* are gratefully received.
Please contact: Desmond Devitt (dpdevitt@btinternet.com), Flat 3, 15 Rawlinson Rd., Oxford OX2 6UE