

# The Martlet

Issue Number 1

March 1998

#### From the Chairman

I am delighted to have been given the opportunity to write in the first issue of the Sussex Martlets Newsletter which is one of many initiatives being taken by the Committee. Following on from my last letter to Members, I can advise that the various sub-committees have been hard at work progressing many of the issues that arose from the Club questionnaire. The Cricket sub-committee have been very active and are producing new guidelines for match managers, reviewing our re list for the future and revisiting our criteria for candidate selection. Agreement has been reached on a Sussex Martlets Tour to Australia for three weeks in February 2000. The Cricket sub-committee have begun planning for this and further detail will be published as soon as possible. The initial proposals look very exciting with matches to be organised in Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne. In the meantime, may I suggest that all those members who feel they may be able to participate in the Tour start giving thought to their own plans now as the year 2000 is just around the corner!

The Finance & General sub-committee has been equally active initiating this newsletter, reviewing club subscriptions from which they have made recommendations to the Committee for a three tiered scheme to commence in 1999. Information on this will be circulated later in the year. They are preparing detail on prospective social functions, new club merchandise, developing the Golf section in conjunction with the Sussex Martlets Golfing Society and planning hard for the club Centenary in 2005.

The JuniorMartlet sub-committee is well underway with its review of this section of the club. Innovative ideas have been expressed and our current Juniors and those of the future will have much to look forward to and enjoy.

Information about our annual dinner is detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. However, I wish to express my pleasure and grateful thanks to Mr Robin Marlar for agreeing to be our guest speaker at the dinner. Robin is a distinguished member of our Club and in his new capacity as Chairman of the Sussex County Cricket Club, will be enlightening us on the developments taking place at Hove which will be of great interest to us all. We are endeavouring to get one further speaker for the evening and have issued invitations to other entertaining individuals from whom we await a response. The dinner will be a black tie function and open to Members, Wives, Partners and Guests. Our target number of attendees for the evening is 100 and the Committee are nominating a number of individuals as 'host activists' to generate tables of 10 to assist us in achieving our goal. I urge everybody to support us in our endeavour and, in particular, I would ask our

Vice-Presidents to seriously consider attending in support of the Club for here I must be contentious by stating that they have been conspicuous by their absence over the past years. The success of this dinner is dependent upon the willingness of our membership to support it. The response by members to the enquiry placed in the questionnaire as to whether the dinner should continue was a unanimous 'yes' so we sincerely hope the numbers attending will reflect the response. Please help us to make it an evening to remember.

Finally, I wish to congratulate the Editorial Team on the production of this excellent Newsletter which I hope will prove entertaining and informative to all our members. I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at the Annual Dinner. Belatedly, may I wish you all a very happy, healthy New Year. May a glorious Spring be followed by a long, hot Summer filled with great cricket and much success for the Sussex Martlets.

Very Best Wishes,

Adrian Ford

#### THE QUESTIONNAIRE

by Nigel Russell

Why is it that we have to rely on such a small nucleus of players for the majority of our matches? Why can't we appeal to a larger section of the membership? Why is it that more cricketers won't sign up for the golfing society? Why are numbers at the Dinner dwindling? Are we doing enough to encourage the young? Why is there a lack of support for tours? These and other questions were raised regularly at Committee meetings and on various patrols round the boundary. Answers did not appear to come easily and doubts about its ability to have a real feel for what Martlets wanted nagged the Committee: were we becoming too introspective?

It was time to test the waters of opinion! In December 1996 a working party was given the task of designing and distributing a questionnaire, of retrieving and interrogating replies, and finally of producing a conclusive report with recommendations. Not a small job, but in the final analysis, a thoroughly rewarding one in terms of results. Papers were sent out in February 1997, and filtered back to the Working Party right up to June. Thereafter the job really began, in sorting the information.

The most striking fact was the number of replies received and we were quite literally overwhelmed. We had 123 replies - 36% of the total membership, which was considerably more than we anticipated. Apathy amongst the Martlets? Certainly

not! That was one question immediately answered. But, for the report writers it was clear that we had bitten off more than we could chew, if a comprehensive report was to be produced that would provide a vital and necessary steer for the Committee in the future. To ease the burden and maintain the momentum, a "data capturing" agency was employed to give us a statistical analysis without conclusions. This was an enormous success, and although statistics can prove anything. the design of the analysis allowed the Working Party to draw rational conclusions based upon their experience within the Martlets. So what did we find?

In short, the Club was in generally in good heart, that the type of cricket played by the Martlets was popular and had considerable support. Arundel is clearly a strong pull for membership of the Club, but "cameraderie" was a close second. There was disappointment that we appeared to have lost our way in the social programme and that teams tended to be cliquey. Comment was passed about the organisational ability of some match managers, some felt (particularly the younger age groups) that Martlet cricket was too expensive for them. The issue of tours was not conclusively solved by the questionnaire, but the report highlighted the need to organise and sell trips well in advance to allow members to plan accordingly; this alone may encourage a greater response. Too many fixtures took place on Saturdays when the younger blades were already engaged in other league fixtures. There was support for special events for both the Millennium and our Centenary in 2005 but the strongest majority opinion focused on the need to sustain and develop the Junior We were particularly struck by the enormous Martlets.

response from Non-Players and it became immediately evident to the Committee that we as a Club had been guilty of neglecting this body of experience, service and support to the Martlets. So what is being done to capitalise on the positive and to reduce the negative?

You will have read the Chairman's column in this Newsletter in which he outlines the way ahead. The Committee has now been restructured into three sub-committees (Cricket, Finance & General, and Junior Martlets) to tackle these very issues and every Committee member will tell you that he has never worked at such a determined pace off the field for the Martlets, to resolve the areas identified for improvement. The Cricket sub-committee is examining, amongst other issues, the allocation and briefing of Match Managers, fixtures (including a reduction on Saturdays), tours, the tighter control of membership and the playing commitment of current members. Finance & General has been with providing you Newsletter, activating support from the Non-Playing members, approving and

introducing items of Club "dress", improving the social programme, including the Dinner, recommending suitable events for the Millennium and our Centenary, and over-seeing financial matters including subscriptions. The Junior Martlets sub-committee has the large responsibility of supervising and developing junior cricket in the Club.

Each of these sub-committees is now examining the conclusions of the questionnaire report and is working towards providing you a modern wandering Cricket Club which maintains the traditions of the past but looks firmly to the future. This not inconsiderable effort was generated quite simply by your thoughtful contributions: some generous, some severely critical, some practical, some interesting, not to say completely barking! But all were constructive and enormously helpful - thank you to all who took the time and effort to steer your Club in what we believe to be the right direction for the 21st Century.

#### Cricket in 1997

Although 1997 produced many fine weather cricket days, 10 games were either completely or partly lost to rain. This was the worst for many years.

Notable wins included the M.C.C. with a fine knock of 103 by Mark Semmence. The Band of Brothers with a knock of 153 by Richard Gutteridge, and 5 wickets by Ben Newton when beating the Buccaneers at the Castle. We also won against Seaford College, Middleton and Dorset Rangers, a new fixture.

#### **Batting Averages 1997** (5 innings or more)

	INNINGS	N.O	RUNS	AVERAGE
J.Goodacre	5	2	225	75.0
M.Semmence	7	1	323	53.8
D.Semmence	8	2	299	49.8
	7	1	221	36.8
C.Hartridge	9	1	261	32.6
ROUTH CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER	8	1	221	31.5
J.Wills	9	1	219	27.3
J.Newton	5	2	73	24.3
A.Ford	6	1	97	19.4
P.Fielding	5	0	. 93	18.6
D.Gutteridge	6	0	110	18.3



#### **Bowling Averages 1997**

(40 overs or more)

ALAMANA GENERALINA	OVERS	MAIDENS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVERAGE
A.Lutwyche	52	10	164	14	11.71
K.Manning	45	9	163	11	14.81
B.Newton	40.2	7	138	8	17.25
J.A.Ross	92.1	22	250	12	20.83
P.Goodwin	78.3	15	303	11	27.54
C.Oliver-Redgate	51	1	142	5	28.40
J. Wills	52	10	211	7	30.14
M Semmence	48	4	178	3	59.33
N.Russell	41	2	304	5	60.80
L.Atkins	43	9	138	2	69.00

Rain prevented any cricket for at least two weeks at the end of June and the beginning of July.

The sun came out again with a win against Lancing Rovers, Stragglers of Asia (Ben Bystry bowled well for 5 wickets) and Old Brightonians.

Although we lost to the Forty Club John Goodacre 145 not out and Richard Seager 114 not out, both batted well and made John Newton sit with his pads on for 3 hours!

## Calling all Junior Martlets By John Bushell

Most members will be aware of the Junior Martlets and of their importance in the structure of the Club. However, I thought a few words about their make-up and the contribution members can make would be of value.

I s between the age of 15 and 18 are eligible from all sectors of education. In practice the main input is from local Public Schools, with very few coming from the state sector or schools outside the County.

There are 3 Junior Fixtures: Junior Bluemantles, Babes of Kent and Hampshire Hoggetts and the season concludes with the traditional match against the Senior Club at Arundel Castle. Plans are under consideration to widen this fixture list and try and attract younger boys in order to build up a loyalty factor.

All members are encouraged to put forward names of young cricketers (from age 14) they may know about from any area of education or through any cricket club. They will then be contacted about playing for the Junior Martlets.

Those wishing to play or put forward players should contact John Bushell on 01273 833565 or write to him at Pierpoint Lodge, Brighton Road, Hurstpierpoint. West Sussex BN6 9TS.

## Tony Pigott upbeat about the coming season By Chris Gray

The new chief executive of Sussex County Cricket Club was in a very positive mood when I spoke to him in his office in Hove at the end of January. He was very optimistic about the coming season and stressed the need for the County to be forward-looking and united in their handling of cricket. The priority was to build a team that includes not just the players, but also took on board administrators, ground staff, local clubs, schools and the media. From a 'blank sheet of paper' Tony emphasised the need for everyone who had the well-being of the County at heart to work hard in their own individual areas to ensure that Sussex competes and is successful in the modern game.

During the winter there have been some exciting signings, notably Dave Gilbert the former Surrey coach who comes in as deputy Chief executive. He will certainly bring a wealth of experience and is sure to make his presence felt. On the

playing side, the new captain, Chris Adams, was brought to Hove in the face of strong competition from virtually every other County in the championship; he has the enthusiasm and pedigree to lead from the front. A good indication that Sussex mean business was their attempt to sign Shane Warne. Despite being unsuccessful, supporters will not be disappointed by the arrival of the vastly talented and experienced Michael Bevan. Another interesting signing is Wasim Khan from Warwickshire who last season averaged 47. On the bowling front there is a balance of experience and youth. Seamers Paul Jarvis, Mark Robinson, James Kirtley and Jason Lewry along with Bevan and Amir Khan in the spin department. There are also plans afoot to improve the facilities at the County Ground not just for the cricket but on a commercial basis all the year round.

The players report back to Hove for the new season at the end of March and will spend some time using the sporting facilities at Christs Hospital School before going down to the West Country for a pre-season tour. All Martlets will be hoping for good things from the County this year - the vibes are certainly most encouraging.

#### **New for 1998**

Members should note the addition of three very attractive fixtures for the coming season. On July 8th we host Fettesian-Lorettonians at Esher. Even more exciting is the two match West Country Tour with games against Devon Dumplings at Knightshayes and Dorset Rangers at North Perrrott. Please apply early for the these games to avoid disappointment. More to follow on the Tour. A general reminder as well to all players to contact match managers when wishing to play in a fixture. Captains need your support and commitment at the earliest opportunity.

#### The Annual Dinner

This will be held in the Regency Room at the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton on Friday 3rd April. Tickets are £27 or £50 for a double. This to include a four-course meal and coffee. For those wishing to stay overnight the following rates have been agreed with the hotel: £65 single and £80 double. It will be a black tie occasion with partners and guests most welcome. The questionnaire circulated to members indicated a preference for a high quality black-tie event.

Our guest speaker is Robin Marlar, former captain of Sussex and Chairman of the Sussex County Cricket Club. This promises to be a splendid evening and we look forward to a good turn out from all the membership.



#### A few words of Wisdom

With another season on the horizon and the aroma of bats awash with linseed oil, there's no better time to review the new Sussex Martlet lines soon to be available at Wisdom Sports.

To compliment the cricket sweaters, shirts and caps, the range has been extended with a lambswool vee neck jersey in both claret and bottle green - this to retail at £35,00.

A sweat top in spruce green and a plain white tee shirt at £20.00 and £13.00 respectively completes the story. All these new lines will be embroidered with the Martlet logo and will be in stock in April.

With these additions the Martlets will now have a strong range for both playing and non-playing members.

For more information on the Martlet range contact Nick Wisdom on 01444-451370 or call in at **Wisdom Sports**, 13 South Road, Haywards Heath.

#### Sussex Martlets 1905-1955

When the old "Gentleman of Brighton" club came to an end, its place was taken by one which was known for a year as the Hove Long Vacation Club, the name being subsequently changed to the far more appropriate "Sussex Martlets." Hugh Collis, secretary until his death in 1915, was the principal founder of the club; among others were Dr. W.G. Heasman, A.F.Somerset, P.H.Latham, F.H.Gresson and Sir A. Conan Doyle. As these names would suggest, the Martlets in their early years turned out some extremely strong sides. Ranji is known to have played at least once, and others who joined at once were C.B.Fry, R.A.Young, H.I.Simms, C.L.A.Smith, H.P.Chaplin, R.B.Heygate, K.O.Goldie, K.R.B.Fry, J.K.Matthews, J.Flowers, S.S.Harris, W.L.Knowles, F.A.Phillips and Ernest Smith.

Unhappily, records were not kept – or, if they were kept, they were lost when hugh Collis died during the war. So there is little of the early history that can be rescued from oblivion. Fixture lists were much smaller in those days: apart from games against the Sussex Schools, the chief matches on the Martlets' card were those against Lord Sheffield's XI at Sheffield Park, F.H.Gresson's XI at Crowborough, Sir J. Colman's side at Reigate, the BlueMantles and the South Saxons. Even so, in 1907 H.L.Simms had phenomenal figures of 80 wickets for 11 runs apiece. In 1908 his figures were 92 wickets for 12 runs each. This is interesting, for Simms, though he often made runs for Sussex, was in those days never put on to bowl for the county except as a joke. In 1912, when he came back from India with Ranji, he was one of the best fast-medium bowlers in the country.

It was in 1907 also that the record individual score was made for the Martlets. K.R.B.Fry scoring 330 not out against Cuckfield. Some details of this match would be very welcome, for small as is the Cuckfield ground, it is hard to imagine that so vast a score coild be made in a two-day match with enough time to spare to get the opponents out twice! The runs were made in four hours and included twelve 6's and forty-six 4's. The Martlets declared at 555 for 5, F.A.Phillips also scoring a century.

When cricket restarted in 1919 the Martlets were badly placed, there being no secretary and no committee. However, G.V.Campbell undertook the task of making fixtures and raising a side. Much difficulty was experienced in making contact with old members, but in July we took the field at Lancing and from then on fulfilled all obligations somehow. Campbell and Asa Thomas ran all the matches between them. and there were three or four others who could be counted on for any match. The rest of the team was often harder to gather and was occasionally completed by the casual spectator. Not so, however, at Tunbridge Wells, where four players turned up to oppose the Bluemantles. (Campbell and four others were engaged in a frantic recruiting drive along the Brighton-Tunbridge Wells road.) Of the four players, two good batsmen and two were not. The good batsmen went in first and were both dismissed without scoring; the other two the sat on the splice till the arrival of the rest - but we only batted

From 1920 things became a little easier. H.P.Chaplin, captain of Sussex until 1914 and still worth his place in any county side, became one of the mainstays of the Martlets for the next 16 or 17 years. Colonel A.C. Watson scored many runs at a fabulous rate; N.J.Holloway, A.H.H.Gilligan and K.S. Duleepsinhji were occasionally available; J.K.Matthews and A.C.Somerset (original members and still, in 1954, on the active list) played a good deal. The bowling was something of a one- man show, but the batting could be formidable. In the later 1920's the Martlets went through a rather bad patch, which came to an end during and because of the Presidency of Arthur Belcher, Headmaster of Brighton College. That great man lent on all his influence and counsel to those who were striving for better things; and to him more than anyone was it due that by the mid-'thirties, the Martlets could claim to be at least the equal of any club in Sussex. From those days onward all the Sussex amateurs have joined the club, and other notable acquisitions were A.W.Pewtress, W.B.Franklin and A.L.Hilder.

Just before the war Gerry Campbell retired; at 55 his heart was as strong as ever, but his legs finally gave way. This is not surprising, for he had been the Eton fast bowler in 1902, and at the end he was bowling a medium-pace that was something more than "military." His stamina was incredible and his idea of a change of bowling was to change it at the other end. But if some bowlers were inclined to grumble at their lack of employment, his analysis was usually enough to silence them. He took over 1,000 wickets for the Martlets. Occasionally he made runs: invariably he floored his catches—but to men like Gerry Campbell all is forgiven.

An enterprising efffort by a former secretary led to the hasty organisation of a Martlets Week at Hove in 1945. Playing in the first match was one survivor from 1914 who had also played in the first match in 1919. Despite the weather, the Week was very successful, and culminated in the defeat of the R.A.A.F. by 4 runs.

In the last few years the Martlets, thanks chiefly to the energy and enthusiasm of the secretary E.E.Harrison, have prospered greatly, and in 1954 won 24 matches and lost only seven. But for rain the record would have been still more impressive. The last match on the programme was won against time, D.S.Sheppard making 115 not out in 68 minutes.

To celebrate their Jubilee the Martlets are to play the county on September 3. S.C.Griffith, R.G.Stainton, D.S.Sheppard, G.H.G.Doggart and D.C.Dickinson have promised to play if possible.

The Junior Martlets, so long and so enthusiastically run by Roger Green, is a club for Public School boys living in Sussex. Of late years, under the equally enthusiastic guidance of M.D.Neligan, they have had a considerable fixture list (and no small success) in August and September.

G.B. From the Cricketer Magazine, 1995

The following is a synopsis of the Martlet Tour of 1954, the tourists being known as the Wanderers.

#### **The Wanderers 1954 Tour**

The Wanderers 108 (F.Ahl, S.Skinner 20, W.C.Burton 17, L.Thomson 3 for 3,G.Cogger 2 for 23).

F.C.White's XI 112 for 1 (G.Potter 58\*, L.J.Lenham 28\*, A.K.Lawrence 20\*).

Middleton 128 (J.L.Hope 32, F.D.Ahl 5 for 26,A.C.Gadsby 3 for 22). The Wanderers 112, (C.Tredwell 25, W.T.Western 23, S.G.Smith 21, P.M.Robinson 4 for 33, B.O'Gorman 4 for 37).

The Wanderers 179 for 8 dec. (A.Clain 55, W.T.Western 41, R.G.Vincent 4 for 69,G.Sims 3 for 52).Littlehampton 164 for 5 (G.Sims 75,T.Norris 40).

Chichester Priory 55 (G.Randall 28,S.Skinner 4 for 4). The Wanderers 60 for 22 (1.Foster 42).

Lewes Priory 68 (J.Phillips 21,B.J.Garrett for 15). The Wanderers 72 for 7 (A.Penfold 38,H.Pett 3 for 30).

Boggor 136 for 9 declared (P. Moon 44 S. Letel.)

Bognor 136 for 9 declared (R.Moon 44,S.Isted 33\*,A.C.Gadsby 5 for 57). The Wanderers 126 for 8 (F.Hobbs 27, D.Malcolm 22\*,G.Quilter 4 for 34).

#### Calling All Non-Playing Members

The Committee has decided that the Club should regain contact with its non-playing members.

Recently many of our players, when boots are hung up, fade away over the boundary and lose contact with the club.

The Committee feels that nonplayers should be exhorted to play a part in the life of the Club. In addition it feels that someone

should be appointed to oversee this aspect of the Club's activities and has asked Peter Collymore to look into the matter. Preliminary ideas seem to focus on a special Members' Day or days to coincide with one of our matches at Arundel Castle.

If you have any ideas on this matter, please write to

Peter Collymore, 1 Barrington Cottage, Byworth, Petworth. West Sussex GU28 OHJ.

#### A Junior Martlet on Tour in India.

Matthew Imber has been the Hurstpierpoint College 1<sup>st</sup> XI wicketkeepper for the past 2 years and toured India with the College during the Christmas holidays. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> tour that Hurst have made to the Sub Continent; the first being in 1977. All of them have been masterminded by Derek Semmence, whose Indian connections go back many years.

My Memorable Moments in India

December 9<sup>th</sup>./10<sup>th</sup>. At last the big day had arrived and we left the College at 5.15 am. for the morning flight from Heathrow. The prospect of a month away was exciting but this was certainly made all the greater because none of us knew exactly what to expect. The initial visions of Delhi as we drove from the airport to our hotel made us all realise that we had arrived in another world. The shanty areas, the beggars and the cattle wandering the streets were a shock to see.

<u>December 11<sup>th</sup>.</u> The first match; we had our first experience on the mat. The opposition were strong; we were still asleep and the result was a loss!

December 13<sup>th</sup>./14<sup>th</sup>. The last two games in Delhi before moving on; against the Shanty Sports Club Rob Redford scored 111, backed up by Nick Creed's 73\*. Our 237 was enough despite our bowling. They really go for anything that is loose over here. Had more of a chance to talk to the opposition here and found how really friendly and hospitable the Indians are. A win against the British High Commission followed.

<u>December 15<sup>th</sup>.</u> Today will live long in the memory. We are now in Agra and saw the Taj Mahal. It is a beautiful building. The pure marble is something you almost can't believe when



Hurstpierpoint College v The Prince's XI, Udaipur

you see it. It's still very cold; they said we were heading for the Tropics this trip!

<u>December 17<sup>th</sup>.</u> The bus brought us on to Jaipur, "the pink city", yesterday. An interesting place but a street riot led to a curfew. We struggled against the Golchai Academy side; runs were not easy to come by, but a great experience all the same.

<u>December 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>.</u> We arrive in Udaipur and the hotel is amazing ...... During our stay we were invited to the City Palace and were entertained by the Maharana. After drinks and a meal we were shown round the palace including the Crystal Gallery. We also saw the famous Lake Palace..... James Bond fans will remember it. My last night was one to forget; it was my turn for the good old Delhi Belly!

December 29<sup>th</sup>./30<sup>th</sup>. We've been on the road for a while and are now in Baroda. We played the G.S.F.C. (Gujarat State Fertilizer Company), so the pitch was good! Today was my best game so far; we were up against the Kiron More Academy. Put in to bat we faced to accurate opening bowlers, who cut into the top order quickly. We recovered from 25 for 4 to 128 at the end. I managed 78, which was pleasing, but between us we didn't think that it was enough. Afterwards we discovered one of their players was a first class cricketer! The on-pitch entertainment was provided by the hairy pig that ran across the ground!

<u>December 31 st-January 3<sup>rd</sup>.</u> This was the holiday break for New Year. We said good-bye to the bus that had been with us all the way from Delhi and had the experience of an overnight rail journey to Bombay before flying on to Goa. Here its been sun, sea and sand with great food and an excellent hotel on the beach.

January 3<sup>rd</sup>.-4<sup>th</sup>. The catamaran journey back to Bombay was not all we thought it might be. Not for us the open deck, the sunshine and the flying fish but 9 hours crammed into the seats of the unventilated rear cabin. Bombay, or is it Mumbai, and its streets remind me of Delhi with the cows, the shanty areas and the people sleeping rough. I feel this tour has made me realise how much we take for granted back in England.

January 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. We've played everyday here and it's very hot and humid. The game on the madaan was an experience. We won easily but there were casual tennis ball games going on all over the field...amazing! The contrast came the next day when we played the Cricket Club of India at the Brabourne Stadium ...the Lords of the East....With some useful bowling from Rob Redford, Andrew Malkin and Nick Creed we restricted them to 230 runs from the 45 overs. Fine batting followed and we managed a 6 wicket victory with an over to spare. No one wandered across the out field here! It was a great place to have a win. Two more games have followed with the final one against the Hindu Gym.

<u>January 9<sup>th</sup>.</u> In the air and on the way home; everyone is saying this has been the experience of a lifetime.....the cricket and the country. Now for mock "A" levels!

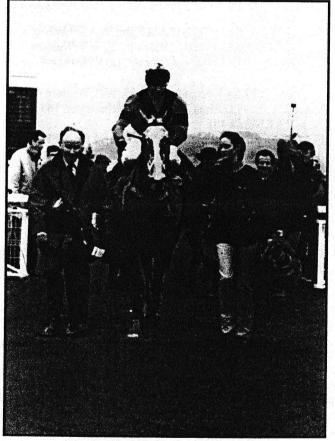


### Martlets in the News

Our best wishes to Mark Semmence who is a member of the MCC 'A' Team shortly to tour the Bahamas. The side is captained by Tim O'Gorman.

Congratulations to Giles Haywood a member of the England U.19 World Cup winning side, successful last month in South Africa. Giles' bowling figures of 3 for 18 off ten overs helped England to their much-deserved win against New Zealand.

From our racing correspondent comes the news of a highly successful partnership. Kendal Cavalier owned by Michael Wingfield-Digby and Rob Hunter has won its last two races over fences. On New Years Day at Cheltenham and more recently in a £20,000 race at Uttoxeter. Kendal Cavalier is entered for the Grand National (run on the day after the Annual Dinner) and is a live prospect. We wish the connections the very best of luck.



Michael Wingfield-Digby leads in Kendal Cavalier at Cheltenham.

From the Editors. Firstly we hope that you have enjoyed the first issue of the "Martlet" which is intended to be a bi-annual edition; the next one coming out in the autumn. Secondly this is very a much members magazine and it is imperative that we hear from you. Suggestions, contributions, criticisms all gratefully received and should be sent to Chris Gray and John Bettridge. Star House, Hurstpierpoint College, Hassocks. West Sussex BN6 9JS