



The Martlet

Issue Number 3

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MARTLETS IN OZ!!



Pictured at the Bradman Oval at Bowral in high spirits towards the end of a hugely enjoyable tour

Back Row (L to R) Charlie Hartridge, Mike Charman, Kevin Pope, Emma Ford, Christine Howard, Mike Howard, Valerie Manning, Keith Manning, Tom McIlwaine, Bas Zuiderent

Middle Row (L to R) Sheila Hartridge, Charlotte Hartridge, Andrew Hartridge, Alice Howard, Ivy Harnes, Rachel Howard, Lyndsey Edge, Jane Hunter, Rob Hunter, Katy Arnold, Shaun Humphries

Front Row (L to R) Mike Harrison, Alex Hoare, Liz Ford, Adrian Ford, Geoff Wills, Molly Wills, Ben Green, Dominic Clapp, Johnny Wills, Grant Morrish

Missing: Oliver Cove, David Cove, Jamie Nicholson, Teresa Wills and Leonora Wills.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Member,

The curtain has fallen on the Old Millennium and the Martlets have completed their 95th and last season of the twentieth century. It is a time to reflect with pride on our Club's history and the way in which it has provided so many cricketers with a means to enjoy the delights of wandering cricket played on wonderful grounds throughout our glorious county of Sussex. I believe our founders, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Hugh Collis who began "The Hove Long Vacation Club" in 1905 and subsequently changed the name to the Sussex Martlets in 1907, would be delighted to know that the Club has grown and prospered, upholding their vision to encourage amateur cricket in Sussex.

We enter the New Millennium as a strong, vibrant entity with much to look forward to. What better way to start than our Millennium Tour to Australia. The Martlet flag flew with pride at venues in Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales. (See Martlets in Oz - Australia Tour Diary).

In 2005 we will celebrate our Centenary and no doubt the Committee of that time will make it a year to remember.

Let us all look back with pride and gratitude to all past and present members who have supported the club in both playing and administrative capacities throughout the last century and look forward to the next century - full of fine strokes, great partnerships, and continued team (Club) spirit thus ensuring the Sussex Martlets prosper for a further Millennium!

Very best wishes,

Adrian Ford.

MARTLETS IN OZ AUSTRALIA TOUR DIARY

By Charlie Hartridge

Friday 11th February: "Mynott's minibuses" scoop up most members of the touring party from various pick up points throughout Sussex and drop off at Heathrow. We are given a fine send off by Sandy Ross, Nigel Russell and Derek Semmence. Clear check in and security and down last pints of English beer (Fosters !!). Still there is one tourist missing until Tom McIlwaine turns up at the last minute; could this be the start of a trend !!

Saturday 12th February: Arrive in Singapore about 18:00 local time and have the evening to explore the night life. Many of the party head straight for Raffles and the famous Long Bar for the obligatory Singapore Sling.

Sunday 13th February: All do our own thing in Singapore which is a clean and modern city. Electrical goods and fashion items are on many shopping lists. All meet up late afternoon for the flight down to Perth.

Monday 14th February: Touch down in Perth at 01:00 hours hoping for a quick transfer to our motel and some proper sleep. Instead we are delayed by customs who take a keen interest in our cricket bats and an even closer look at everybody's cricket boots, several pairs of which are taken away to be washed. Very kind indeed thank you!! Meet up with Alex Hoare, Geoff and Molly Wills and David and Oliver Cove who have travelled to Perth under their own steam. It's a small miracle, everybody is together. Serious practise session in the afternoon organised by our two professionals, Shaun and Bas, and get a first taste of playing in Perth; hot and exhausting. Still with the first match tomorrow everybody is in fine spirits.



Raring to go for our first match

Back (L to R): Mike Charman, Mike Harrison, Ben Green, Oliver Cove, Geoff Wills, Keith Manning, Bas Zuiderent, Home Umpire

Front: Alex Hoare, Charlie Hartridge, Grant Morrish, Dominic Clapp, Shaun Humphries

Tuesday 15th February: After half an hours play the Martlets (having chosen to bat) are 6 for 5 !! Whichever way you read that it means we are in some trouble. Grant Morrish with 35 and Charlie Hartridge, 36 effect some sort of a recovery and with a few good blows from Michael Harrison we end up 105 all out. This is no total to defend and the match is lost by 6 wickets with the young state player Chris Rogers scoring a classy 30 before retiring. To make matters worse, Grant Morrish one of our main bowlers pulls a stomach muscle and will not be able to bowl again on tour. We have been well looked after by the Midland Guildford Club at their beautiful ground, Lilac Hill and our opponents have included several senior members of the W. A. C. A. Confidence has taken a knock but spirits are soon revived by supper and some lovely wine laid on at the nearby Houghton winery.

Wednesday 16th February: After a short transfer to our hotel in Fremantle we assemble for our second match on the Stevens Oval against Fremantle C. C. The Martlets bowl and field well with Tom McIlwaine the star taking 5 good wickets and our opponents can only make 154 - 9 in their 45 overs. However after Shaun Humphries and Ben Green repair early damage with a fifth wicket stand of 59 the Martlet innings falls away badly to close at 128 - 7 after 45 overs. A second defeat and another disappointing batting performance.

Thursday 17th February: A few bleary eyes at breakfast for the relatively early departure on the three hour coach journey south down to Margaret River. Check in to holiday chalets close to Michael Wright's Voyager Estate, a fast expanding vineyard and winery. After an afternoon tour of the magnificent property we return to Michael's home for drinks and supper. See our first kangaroos and hear kookaburras during the evening.



Our hosts at Voyager Estate, Michael Wright (right) and his three helpers

Friday 18th February: Greg, our driver takes us on a superb sight seeing day. We visit some of the extensive caves in the area including an underground tour to see the best of the fantastic limestone formations, have lunch at Augusta and then go on to Leeuwin Point where the Indian Ocean meets the Southern Ocean.

Saturday 19th February: Another early departure for the coach ride back to Perth where tickets for the match at the WACA have been left for us by the hosts of our first match. Watch the Western Warriors easily defeat the Southern Redbacks in the semi final of their one day competition. We witness some outstanding fielding and also the rolling twelfth man in operation where at every opportunity the Warriors' fast bowler Jo Angel is replaced by a far superior fielder. This is the norm in Australian one day cricket where they bat eleven and field and bowl from twelve with only eleven on the field at any time. Some of the party have supper with the

former Sussex player Peter Ledden who now lives in Western Australia and thoughts turn momentarily to home as we catch the end of the England v France rugby international on the World Service in the taxi on the way back to our hotel.

Sunday 20th February: Pack up our bags, say goodbye to W. A. and fly 2300km to Adelaide, South Australia where of all things it has been raining hard and the forecast is very gloomy. Check into our motel and most of the party catch up with washing and postcards. A quiet day on tour.

Monday 21st February: Awoken by thunder, lightening and heavy rain which washes out today's scheduled match at Sturt CC. People disperse to see the sights of Adelaide and spend another relaxing day. Adelaide is ideal for this being very easy to get around. The Bradman exhibition and Adelaide Oval are highlights for the cricket lovers in the party !!

Tuesday 22nd February: Travel by coach from Adelaide up country to Berri, skirting the Barossa Valley and following the Murray River for the last part of the journey. On arrival at Berri the ground is very wet, nine holes of the local golf course are closed due to water logging, and it is no surprise (but never the less disappointing) to hear that our match tomorrow has also been cancelled. Visit Banrock Station vineyard and wetland reserve in the evening and are treated to a 'coat of arms' barbecue; Emu sausages and Kangaroo meat. More superb local wine is consumed on the veranda of the viewing station as the sun sets over the spectacular wilderness before us.



View from dining table at Banrock Station

Wednesday 23rd February: Most take a late breakfast after the events of last evening but all are present without exception for a long net session to make up for the game we should have been playing today. Afternoon to explore and relax, golf, jet skiing, shopping or enjoying the hotel pool. Entertained for supper by Robert Minns (Oxford and Kent) at his Bonney View winery where to start with the most enormous and delicious king prawns were served.



Robert Minns and Geoff Wills enjoy a glass

Thursday 24th February: Travel by coach back to Adelaide and to Reynella, the headquarters of BRL Hardy, where we are entertained to lunch and a tour of their bottling and despatch operations. A practice session is arranged at Sturt C. C. in the afternoon, in preparation for tomorrow's game against Kensington C. C., which definitely goes ahead.

Friday 25th February: Play at Kensington C. C., one of Adelaide's first grade clubs and the club where Don Bradman and Clarrie Grimmett played. Lose the toss and have to field first in another 45 over game. Kensington have put out a pretty strong side with a few first grade players and several older cricketers who have played at a high level. We bowl Kensington out for 218 with 3 more wickets for Tom McIlwaine but reckon this will take a lot of getting on a good pitch and an extremely slow outfield. This proves to be the case despite 59 from Dominic Clapp and 30 from Shaun Humphries and the Martlet innings closes on 178 - 8. Test cricketer

Greg Blewett, who plays for Kensington, drops in at tea time and chats with members of our party and Barry Jarman is also in attendance.



Team against Kensington C. C.

Back (L to R): Bas Zuiderent, Ben Green, Mike Harrison, Grant Morrish

Middle: Dominic Clapp, Charlie Hartridge, Mike Howard

Front: Rob Hunter, Tom McIlwaine, Alex Hoare, Shaun Humphries

Kensington C. C. who are very sociable, lay on a splendid supper after the match at a local hotel which we all enjoy despite still looking for our first win on tour.



Alex Hoare gets to grips with the opposition after the Kensington match

Saturday 26th February: Fly on to Sydney today and join up with reinforcements in the form of Johnny Wills plus family and Jamie Nicholson. It is good to see Jamie who has settled in Canberra and will be getting married in only ten days time. Check into our hotel mid afternoon and everybody heads straight out to explore Sydney.

Sunday 27th February: Wake up to what appears to be a gloomy day in Manchester rather than the hot sunshine we were expecting. Still we get to Waverley Oval and our opponents, Eastern Suburbs C. C. are waiting and ready to start on time. Another 45 over match. Bowl first again, in damp conditions and restrict our opponents to 183 - 6. Again the outfield is very slow and only Dominic Clapp with 46 makes any headway against tight bowling and the Martlets end up making only 126 - 6 in their 45 overs, well beaten again. Post match barbecue and hospitality laid on at this club famous for having had both Tony Greig and Geoff Boycott play for them in the 1970's

Monday 28th February: Most of the tour party enjoy a day on board the yacht 'Nerida' skippered by Sir James Hardy. Sail to all the landmarks of Sydney Harbour and even enjoy a lunch time swim when anchor is dropped only a few yards offshore.



Aboard 'Nerida' to sail around Sydney Harbour

Tuesday 29th February: Coach trip up to Penrith and then on to the ground at Paramatta to play Paramatta Districts C. C. This club is where Richie Benaud and Doug Walters played and standards are still very high. After choosing to bat the Martlets struggle to 82 all out in almost 40 overs, no sort of

total to defend and another heavy defeat is the result. Morale is now at a pretty low ebb as despite trying very hard we have made virtually no impact against any of our opposition to date.

Wednesday 1st March: A very hot day and Penrith have arranged a 50 over match and turn out a team who have clearly never played a midweek friendly in their lives !! The Martlets field first and concede 307 runs whilst taking only 4 wickets. This really is not too bad an effort in difficult hot conditions against some pretty useful players, none of whom give their wickets away. In reply the Martlets are bowled out for 157 with nobody getting to 30. This makes for another disappointing match where we have yet again not come close to giving our hosts a real game.

Thursday 2nd March: Coach tour to the Blue Mountains where we stop off to take in the spectacular scenery at several points. Cable car ride across the gorge at Katoomba followed by a near vertical descent by rail is enjoyed by most of the party, before booking in to the high class Fairmont Resort at Leura for some serious pool side relaxation and golf.

Friday 3rd March: Depart Fairmont Resort and head back to Sydney taking in a tour of the Olympic Park on the way. Afternoon free in Sydney and a number of the group head for Bondi Beach to show the locals a thing or two !!

Saturday 4th March: Free day in Sydney for all to explore and do their own thing. The weather is poor which causes the cancellation of proposed sky diving by Alex Hoare and Tom McIlwaine. At least we'll still have eleven fit players for tomorrow's match !!

Sunday 5th March: Travel a couple of hours south from Sydney to Bowral where Don Bradman was brought up and where there is a ground and museum in his name. We are playing the Bradman Friends XI, again in a 45 over match and the conditions are very English, damp and rather cool. The Martlets bat first and stuttered to 153 - 8 with 31 from Geoff Wills and 41 from Bas Zuiderent. However the highlight of our innings was an undefeated ninth

wicket partnership of 46 between Keith Manning 5 no and Shaun Humphries 39 no. In reply the Bradman Friends XI are in some trouble when their sixth wicket falls at 111 and there is real hope that we will end the tour with a win. Unfortunately this is not to be and our opponents get home by two wickets in what has been the closest match of the tour. The magnificent Mercure Hotel is a great venue for our 'final' supper at the end of a superb tour.



Tom McIlwaine in characteristic pose

Monday 6th March: A few of the party are feeling less than enthusiastic for the coach trip back to Sydney this morning. Arrive back in the city to have lunch and do last minute shopping before the drive out to the airport in pouring rain and our flight straight home.

Tuesday 7th March: Touch down at Heathrow at 6.30 am. The chance to stretch our legs when we refuelled at Bangkok seems an age ago and we are grateful that all we have to do is fall aboard one of 'Mynott's minibuses' and be driven home.



Happy Memories - Geoff Wills in his element at Voyager Estate

SID FARENDEN

1908 - 2000



Sid Farenden was a great lover and supporter of traditional English cricket be it on the village green at Barcombe, the playing fields at Hurstpierpoint College or on the Arundel Castle ground. Sid played until his 60th year for Barcombe and then turned to umpiring, standing in many Martlet matches and other fixtures at Arundel Castle. Latterly Sid took up scoring and was still regularly seen helping at Martlet matches. The funeral, on Wednesday 5th April at the Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin, Barcombe was attended by a large number of Sid's cricketing friends. He will be sadly missed at matches this coming summer.

THE JUNIOR MARTLETS

By John Bushell

The Junior Martlets enjoyed their best season for some years. The results, played 5, Won 1, Lost 1, Drawn 3 do not convey the full picture. The loss against the all-conquering Australian touring side, St. Peters, Adelaide, was no discredit and the strong Babes of Kent and Bluemantles sides were outplayed, in each match the last opposition wicket holding out when well behind the Juniors total. The senior Martlets had a battering at Arundel but again held out for a draw. A new fixture against Brighton and Hove C.C. under 16's organised by Derek Semmence resulted in a win for our Juniors who chased a total of 210 getting home in an exciting match by 2 wickets.

Individually there were a lot of good performances and particular mention must be made of Oliver Cove who batted and kept wicket to a high standard and captained the side very skillfully. Philip Mellows-Facer and Ben Bidwell (a lofty chip from a very prolific block) scored 100's (Ben's at Arundel coming off 47 balls) and Toby Gausden bowled consistently well.

We had a largest pool of players for some years, aged between 14 and 18 and drawn from a wide range of schools in both the private and state sectors. This is the result of groundwork put in over the past few years and the efforts of the enlarged committee. Derek Semmence and myself were helped by the input from Ham Whitty and particularly Dennis McAlister and the prospects for the millennium are good.

We have been approached about additional fixtures for next year and nets with professional coaching were arranged during the Xmas period.

Some members have been helpful in suggesting youngsters for the Juniors and I must ask all members to take this on board and put forward possible candidates to keep the momentum going.

CRICKET SEASON 1999

By Richard Gutteridge

Results Won 9 Lost 11 Drawn 9 Tied 1 Cancelled 6

1999 was another enjoyable season played in the true spirit of Martlets cricket.

The early part of the season escaped serious disruption from the rain and we pleasingly had victories over Midhust and Christs Hospital. Narrow defeats came in some excellent games of cricket, naming only two, the Band of Brothers and Wisborough Green where we lost on the last ball.

For the second year running we were second best against the MCC who brought with them a very experienced side.

Many of the team against the Sussex Academy experienced 'a first' taking part in a tied match. Both sides were bowled out for 152. The season's best bowling figures coming from Mike Abbingdon taking 8 for 35 off 22 overs.



Chris Gray presents a Martlet shield to Nicholas Creed at Arundel to mark Hurstpierpoint College's 150th anniversary

During July the wickets were hard and two good victories were against the Frogs and the H.A.C. Both these fixtures we are looking to host at Arundel in the near future.

On a roasting weekend in August we played against Middleton in a 40 overs match, beating them off the last ball. A further victory came against the Old Amplefordians.

The Senior against the Junior Martlets match this year saw an exceptional batting display from Ben Bidwell for the Juniors, scoring 101. The game diplomatically ended in a draw.

There is great emphasis placed on Junior Martlet cricket as this is the future of the Club. For their extraordinary efforts in making this side of the Club run smoothly we are indebted to John Bushell and Derek Semmence. We were delighted to start this year a new initiative to host a Sussex School at Arundel Castle. This year it was Hurstpierpoint and this coming season we look forward to playing Eastbourne College.

This year's results have again been encouraging for the Club but it is increasingly apparent that the

teams are made up of a small percentage of the total number of playing members. It would be fantastic if more members could turn out next year to support this historic club that plays at the most beautiful grounds in Sussex against extremely friendly but very competitive opposition !

My thanks to the committee for their support throughout the year, in particular Charlie Hartridge who has put so much time and effort to enable the Club to run so smoothly.

Lastly, the 2000 season has already started for some of our members, as Adrian Ford, after a huge amount of hard work and organisation, has taken a touring party to Australia. These members at least should be in good form for our first match on April 30th!!

THE DINNER – NOVEMBER 1999

By Nigel Russell

Following last year's successful Dinner at the Old Ship Hotel in Brighton, we decided on a re-match in November, but this time in the slightly smaller "Regency" room which created a more intimate atmosphere. Thanks to the hard work of the table organisers we kept up a good attendance record; this year some 79 members, guests, wives and friends booked in for an excellent evening of bonhomie, good food and wine.

With Sussex stars in South Africa and elsewhere, we turned to Middlesex for the evening's main speaker and we were delighted to welcome Angus Fraser, the England fast bowler, who gave us a frank and highly amusing version of life on the County circuit and in the England dressing room. It was interesting to see those who talked to him before and after dinner couldn't do so for long without rushing off to have their necks massaged. Angus is a big man! Fordy produced a masterful Chairman's speech (reminiscent of one of his Goodwood centuries!) and regaled us all what he intended to get up to on the Australia tour, with or without the remainder of the side! If his intention was to make the diners green with envy at the thought of the tour programme, he had more success than Peter

Mandelson's mortgage adviser! Thanks to the generosity of those attending, an eclectic, and not entirely incident-free raffle (the organisers must use different coloured tickets next year!) raised a staggering £400 on the night.

The evening was undoubtedly a great success and it has given us the confidence to continue this event on an annual basis. There was some criticism that more warning should have been served to members and this may have had the effect of limiting our potential numbers; the committee accept this and will try to give as much notice as possible, even if this does mean that a speaker has not been engaged at the time of going to press. As you from the 'For Your Diary' column on page 12, the Dinner is to be held on Saturday 28th October at The Old Ship Hotel, Brighton and the Committee hope that as many members as possible will be able to attend.

A MARTLET IN CALIFORNIA

By Sandy Ross

Some of you will already know that Sandy Ross was invited to captain a MCC cricket tour to California in September of last year. It was for Sandy the highlight of a cricketing career which has had many highlights, (all 10 wickets in a Sussex League match, playing for Haileybury in the 1993 Cricketer Cup Final, to name but two).

Here are some of Sandy's printable accounts of that Tour:

Following in the footsteps of the late Sir Charles Aubrey Smith, who did so much for cricket in California 70 years ago, our party of 23 – 15 players, umpire scorer and 6 ladies left Heathrow for San Francisco on Thursday 16th September. Day 1 include nets, a trip to Fisherman's Wharf and a house party. Down to business on Day 2 with a fixture against Marin C.C., a side which included former Glamorgan professional Malcolm Nash, now Director of Cricket in California. M.C.C. cruised home by 63 runs with contributions of 77 from Peter Hepworth (ex-Leicester) and 4 wickets from Guy Spellman (ex-Kent). The party were entertained by the British Consul, Peter Lindfield

and his wife later that evening. Sunday sightseeing which included a baseball match between Oakland and Kansas City Royals. Day 4 saw the start of an international festival with sides from Canada, the USA, the Bahamas and England at Piper Park Larkspur. Under J.A.R's illustrious captaincy (Editor getting carried away) the M.C.C. registered wins against Lucaya C.C (Bahamas) by 8 wickets, British Columbia C.C. by 7 wickets and drew with Marin C.C. thus securing the tournament win. Less demanding engagements during the festival were tours of Napa and Sonoma wineries, some golf and even a trip to Alcatraz. There was time on the San Francisco leg to win an international six-a-side competition and also to lose the only fixture of the tour to the Northern California Cricket Association by four runs ! The drive South then took in Yosemite National Park, Glacier Point, Mariposa, Monterey and Carmel before descending on Los Angeles. The next fixture was against a Southern California President's XI at Worsley Park, a venue used ten days previously by India and Australia 'A' teams. Outcome - a 7 wicket victory for M.C.C. More entertaining by the British Consul in L.A. Sightseeing to follow included Sunset Boulevard, Universal Studios, and Rodeo Drive. Time also for a curry at the "Jewel of India" Final game against a strong Southern California Cricket Association side which resulted in a 7 wicket victory. Yet more superb Californian hospitality before a departure for Heathrow on the 4th October.

"How difficult it was to return to old routines on our return after such a magnificent trip."

If the Martlets who recently travelled to Australia experience similar delights of touring abroad they too will have some tales to tell.

"BOMB STOPS PLAY ON THE COUNTY GROUND"

By Dan Mathews

(The Editor is indebted to Dan Matthews for the following account of why he did not play cricket at Hove in the summer of 1940).

" I am not sure of the actual date, but I well remember the German bombing of the County Ground at Hove. The date was probably in July or August 1940. The match could have been between my father's XI against a side picked from the County Club. In the side were my younger brother Tom (T.C.H.) Matthews, a medical student at Brighton Tech., Roly Leaky, Captain and wicket-keeper and a good left-hand bat from Tonbridge School, Cecil Somerset from Goring Castle and myself J B F. I had just been 'called up' and was making concrete units for underground shelters.

My father, Tom and Cecil Somerset, were on the pitch, or one of them was returning to the pavilion when the aeroplane dropped its load – luckily no bomb exploded, but there was a lot of earth around. I had just arrived at Hove Station when the sirens sounded. I managed to get to the ground with my cricket bag and took shelter at the turnstiles at the North-East side. No cricket for me! Cecil Somerset wanted to clear some of the debris and carry on with the game! Another bomb had landed on some houses on the South Side, Maurice Tate's end.

Two years later I was a member of a RAF bomber crew that was shot down just north-east of Essen – with me was Vic Saunders from Lancing, not a bad bowler. Before being locked up for the night I was interrogated by a German sergeant who offered me a lager, the best of many. He somehow knew that I was a Sussex boy, how I don't know. He did tell me that Brighton had been flattened and the brewery, where he had worked for a bit, was no longer. I dared not tell him that bombs had landed either side of the Southern Railway track at Lancing and a coach factory had been hit but that cricket was, to my knowledge, still being played on the County Ground."

THE GOLFING YEAR

By Ham Whitty

The highlight of the Martlets golfing year was undoubtedly the day at West Sussex on the 10th of April when the club kindly agreed an expanded match, and opened its doors to any other visiting Martlets, thus setting the scene for a presentation to

Dan Mathews after the match, following his retirement from 45 years as Hon. Secretary of the Golfing Society. About 35 Martlets were present for all or part of the day, of whom 28 played either for the Martlets or the Club, morning or afternoon or both. Of the non-players, for one reason or another, it was good to see Adrian Ford, Graham Dunbar, Peter Jagger, Gordon Smyth, David Shore, Chris Tod and Derek Bingley.

Ham Whitty led the presentation, with Ted Morgan and brother Paul both speaking about Dan. With the money collected from over 50 Martlets, Dan was presented with a Hill Billy Trolley, a Martlets jersey and a substantial cheque. In thanking his fellow Martlets, Dan reminisced characteristically about Martlet days gone by, both golfing and cricketing. It was a particular pleasure to welcome Dan's wife Liz among us for the day, and his sister who also attended the presentation. Our thanks are due to Geoff Seaton who organised the day and to the Club's members for their forbearance and hospitality.

Otherwise the Society played its full complement of matches against eight Sussex and Surrey Clubs, all of which were enjoyed, if not won, and we are indeed fortunate to be able to play on so many wonderful courses and to continue to be offered such warm hospitality. John Whittaker organised the second Martlets golf day at the Mid Sussex Club in April which has now become an established and enjoyable event, and in July, John with Anthony Shuttleworth represented the Society at a charity golf day at Rye in aid of the Rye Memorial Care Centre.

Looking ahead to the 2000 season we are delighted to have been offered a new fixture by the Brighton and Hove Golf Club which will be played on 30th September. We look forward to this, and it is interesting to note that it was at West Hove that the Society played its first matches, organised by the Sundius-Smith family for Sussex amateur cricketers wishing to play golf during the close season.

Anyone interested in playing Martlet golf please contact Ham Whitty.



Tom Morgan makes the presentation to Dan Matthews.

NON-PLAYING MEMBERS CORNER

By Peter Collymore

A small but select party including the Hon. Sec, the Editor and the 'Major' accompanied by some other low lights of the Turf descended on Goodwood on the 20th May to take on the bookies. After a splendid repast in the Charlton Hunt restaurant, affording a splendid view down the straight and across the Downs that all members know and love so well, it was time for the 'craic' to begin. Gray was seen ducking and weaving between the boards trying to get someone to lay his astute (his words) fancies. Needless to say no-one was able to give up the 'day-time job' as a result of their wagers but a

lot of fun was had by all and I am sure the occasion will be repeated in May this year during the three day meeting.

Last summer we met at Arundel Castle on Sunday August 15th on the occasion of the Club's fixture against the Earl of Arundel's XI, as we had done in 1998.

Rather fewer members turned up than last year but nevertheless we had a very pleasant day reminiscing about this and that. The weather was fine and the cricket was very enjoyable.

Very many thanks are due to Mike Charman and the staff for making us very welcome: the lunch was very pleasant so we enjoyed ourselves.

I hope that it will be possible to repeat the get-together again at the same time next year and possibly the same fixture in August but invitations will be sent in due course. It is good to see old friends at lunchtime or at any time during the day.

I understand that one of our number, Keith Jenkin, wrote separately to Non-Players to raise funds in support of the Club's tour down under in February 2000. Apparently between £500 and £600 was donated which I am sure came in useful.

MARTLET GOLF DAY

By Charlie Hartridge

Fifteen Martlets played at at Mid Sussex Golf Club on 14th April in the day organised annually by John Whittaker. Underfoot conditions were very wet and the rough almost impenetrable although the greens were surprisingly very fast and firm. Not surprisingly there were no great scores carded and the 34 points returned by Matt Seaton for second place was a good effort. However he was just headed by the wily Dennis McAlister with 35 points to take the day's honours.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 25th May: a Members **Race Day** at Goodwood. Contact either Chris Gray on 01273 832307 or Nigel Russell on 01825 712101. (free admission to the course for Sussex C. C. C. members)

Sunday August 20th: **Non Playing Members Day** at Arundel Castle when the Martlets play their annual fixture with the Earl of Arundel's XI. Please contact Peter Collymore 01798 342978 or Nigel Russell, 01825 712101.

Saturday 28th October: **Annual Dinner** to be held at the Old Ship Hotel in Brighton. Guest speakers will include David Gilbert, General Manager, Sussex C C C.

AUSSIE CRICKETERS IN SUSSEX

By Adrian Ford

After returning from Australia I was contacted by two young cricketers, Evan Richardson and Brett Weinert from Berri, in the country districts of South Australia. Both asked if it might be possible to arrange a summer's cricket for them here in Sussex. After several rounds of phone calls we have managed to get both fixed up with cricket, accommodation and jobs.

Evan, a quick bowler and middle order batsman, is going to be based at that well known watering hole, The Griffin at Fletching, thanks to Nigel Pullan. Evan will play cricket on Saturdays for Chiddingfold and for the Martlets and other clubs during the week.

Brett, who is a batsman who can bowl as well, will be based with Worthing Cricket Club with whom he

will play on Saturdays. Like Evan he is keen to play for the Martlets as much as possible at other times.

Match Managers: Please consider both Evan and Brett for your matches and contact Richard Gutteridge or Charlie Hartridge who will be able to put you in touch with them.

MARTLET CLOTHING

From Nick Wisdom

I now have an extensive stock of Martlet clothing at 13 South Road, Haywards Heath. This includes:

- Golf / Casual Sweaters
- Polo Shirts
- Cricket Shirts
- Cricket Hats
- T Shirts
- Sweat Tops
- Ties

Drop in or give me a call on 01444 451370

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

From The Hon. Secretary

Do you have and use an e-mail address ?? If you do, please drop me a line at chartridge@aol.com and I will send you Martlet information over the wires rather than through the post, whenever possible. This will make my job a little easier as well as saving the Club the cost of some postage.

AND FINALLY....

Once again the editor would be delighted to hear from any member young or old, playing or non-playing with comment, criticism and contribution for the next edition. Please contact Chris Gray who will be delighted to hear from you.

Do ensure that you support your Club and make 2000 a year to remember.