



MCC LIBRARY FACT SHEET DAY 3 - DECEMBER 28, 2023

2023 BOXING DAY TEST AUSTRALIA V PAKISTAN

To mark the eleventh Australia v Pakistan Test at the MCG, the MCC Library Fact Sheets examine each of the ten previous Tests between the countries played on the ground between 1964/65 and 2016/17. Today's Fact Sheet looks at the fifth and sixth matches.

1981/82

Played on December 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15, 1981 (Third Test) Pakistan won by an innings and 82 runs

PAKISTAN 8/500 dec (Mudassar Nazar 95, Zaheer Abbas 90, Majid Khan 74, Imran Khan 70*, Javed Miandad 62, Wasim Raja 50; B. Yardley 7/187); **defeated AUSTRALIA 293** (G.M. Wood 100; Imran Khan 3/41, Iqbal Qasim 3/104) **and 125** (Iqbal Qasim 4/44, Sarfraz Nawaz 3/11).

Pakistan's fifth tour of Australia comprised eight first-class matches, including three Tests, all played before Christmas. In addition, it took part in the triangular World Series Cup competition with Australia and the West Indies. In an oddly-arranged itinerary, the MCG hosted the Third Test against Pakistan in mid-December and the First Test of the subsequent series against the West Indies a fortnight later. The former began on December 11, the earliest date in a season that a Test has been played at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Australia outplayed Pakistan in the first two Tests, winning by 286 runs at Perth and 10 wickets at Brisbane. The opening Test was marred by an ugly on-field confrontation on the fourth day's play at Perth between Dennis Lillee and the Pakistan captain Javed Miandad.

With the series already decided, the MCG Test attracted little interest from the public, with only 33,743 spectators attending over the five days. Pakistan gained a substantial advantage by winning the toss and batting first on a pitch almost completely devoid of grass. Although none of the visitors reached three figures, Mudassar Nazar (273 minutes, 202 balls, 9 fours), Zaheer Abbas (221 minutes, 174 balls, 9 fours), Majid Khan (188 minutes, 155 balls, 7 fours), Imran Khan (155 minutes, 111 balls, 5 fours), Miandad (168 minutes, 129 balls, 4 fours) and Wasim Raja (164 minutes, 132 balls, 4 fours) all made half-centuries ahead of a declaration late on the second day. Off-spinner Bruce Yardley delivered a marathon 66 overs in claiming his Test-best figures of 7/187.

Australia began the third day at 0/15, but there were already ominous signs that the pitch was starting to break up with several deliveries keeping low. Only 182 runs for the loss of four wickets were added during the day as the home batsmen struggled to build a competitive reply. Next day, despite Graeme Wood (375 minutes, 305 balls, 3 fours) completing a gritty century, the Australians lost their last four wickets for only seven runs, thus failing to avoid the follow-on by the same number of runs.

By stumps on the fourth day, with the wicket steadily deteriorating, the second Australian innings was in tatters at 5/78, following the dismissal of opener Bruce Laird (175 minutes, 132 balls, 1 four) in the final over. The Pakistanis needed only 82 minutes next day to complete an innings victory. Left-arm spinner Iqbal Qasim finished with match figures of 7/148 from 79 overs.

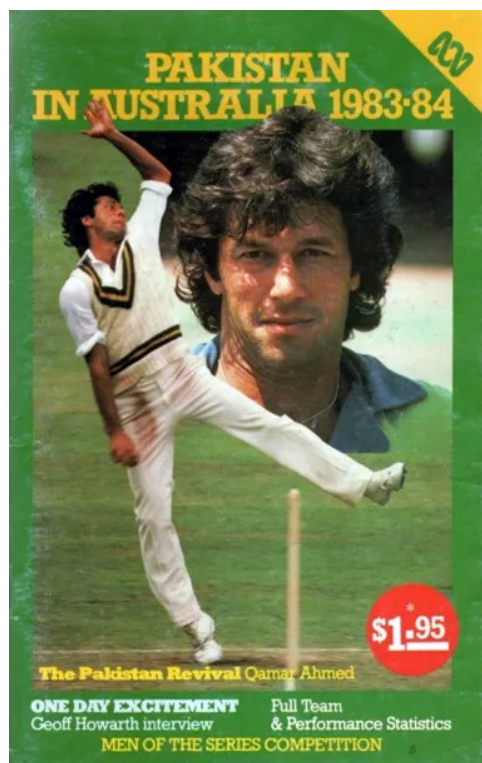
A fortnight later, in a remarkable reversal of fortune, Australia gained a notable 58-run victory over the all-powerful West Indies at the MCG, highlighted by a remarkable hundred by Kim Hughes and a 10-wicket haul by Lillee.



1983/84

Played on December 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30, 1983 (Fourth Test)
Drawn

PAKISTAN 470 (Mohsin Khan 152, Imran Khan 83, Abdul Qadir 45, Zaheer Abbas 44; J.N. Maguire 3/111) **and 7/238** (Imran Khan 72*, Zaheer Abbas 50; D.K. Lillee 3/71); **drew with AUSTRALIA 555** (G.N. Yallop 268, K.J. Hughes 94, G.R.J. Matthews 75; Abdul Qadir 5/166, Azeem Hafeez 3/115).



Pakistan's first, and to date only, five-Test tour of Australia was undermined by administrative turmoil. The selectors initially controversially overlooked Imran Khan, who had recently been unable to bowl because of a stress fracture of his left shin, and named Zaheer Abbas as captain. The Pakistan Board then reacted by sacking the selectors and installing Imran as captain, with Zaheer as his deputy. The whole episode had an unsettling effect on the side and Imran's subsequent inability to bowl at all on the tour left the attack severely undermanned.

After losing the First Test at Perth by an innings, the tourists were saved from impending defeat in the Second at Brisbane when rain prevented any play on the final day. A much-improved batting performance on a typically flat Adelaide Oval pitch enabled them to also draw the Third.

Imran, having missed the first three Tests, returned to lead the side at the MCG and began well by giving his side first use of a perfect batting surface on winning the toss. A superb knock by Mohsin Khan (354 minutes, 239 balls, 18 fours and a six) established a momentum on the first day that Imran (233 minutes, 169 balls, 10 fours) maintained on the second.

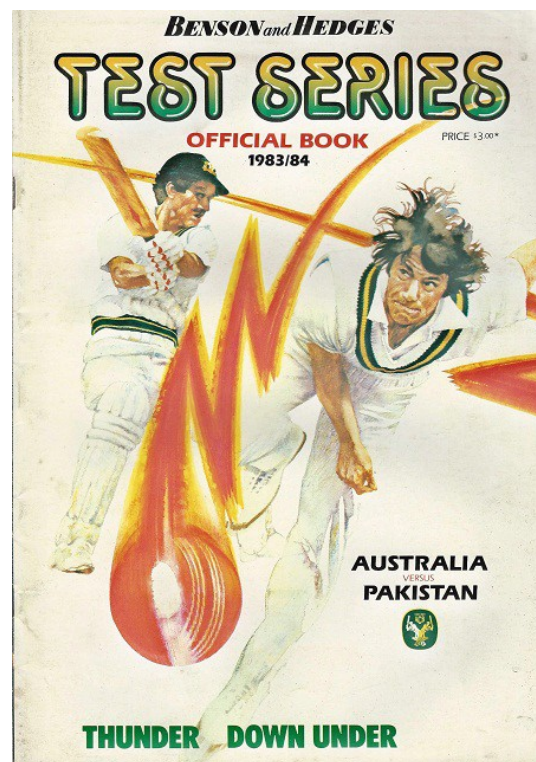
Graham Yallop (716 minutes, 517 balls, 29 fours) underpinned the Australian reply, constructing what was considered one of the greatest played at the ground since the Second World War. Entering with his side at 1/21 late on the second day, he batted throughout the third and into the fourth before being ninth out at 553.

Along the way, he shared partnerships of 203 for the third wicket with Kim Hughes (248 minutes, 185 balls, 10 fours) and 185 for the seventh with Greg Matthews (252 minutes, 210 balls, 11 fours). Leg-spinner Abdul Qadir claimed 5/166 from 54.3 overs.

Pakistan slumped to 3/38 at stumps and an exciting last day was in prospect. The MCG pitch, however, which had been much-maligned in recent seasons, remained true and the visitors, led by Imran (222 minutes, 153 balls, 8 fours), Zaheer (148 minutes, 123 balls, 6 fours) and opener Mudassar Nazar (35), who had earlier held on grimly for 192 minutes, kept the Australian bowlers at bay to draw the game.

Australia went on to clinch the series 2-1 by winning the Fifth Test at Sydney by 10 wickets in a match made especially memorable by the final Test appearances of three of the country's all-time greats in Greg Chappell (182 in his final innings), Dennis Lillee (match figures of 8/153) and Rod Marsh (five catches in the second innings).

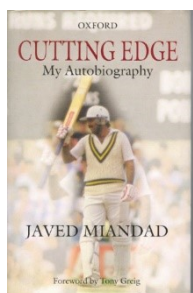
The overall attendance was 111,611, with 40,240 being present on Boxing Day.



JAVED MIANDAD

Mohammad Javed Miandad was described by Ian Chappell as one of the finest batsmen in the history of cricket. He captained Pakistan in 1981/82 against Australia, New Zealand, and later Sri Lanka and in 1985 against New Zealand. He was described by ESPNcricinfo as “the greatest batsman Pakistan has ever produced.” Playing in Tests and One-Day Internationals between 1975 and 1996, he amassed 8832 Test runs at an average of 52.57 in 124 Tests and 7,381 runs at an average of 41.70 in 233 One-Day Internationals. A right arm leg spin bowler, his Test bowling average was 40.11 and his One-Day International average was 42.42.

He is remembered fondly by all Pakistani cricket followers for hitting a last ball six off Indian bowler Chetan, when his side needed four runs to win the final of the 1986 Austral-Asia Cup final. However, he is probably best remembered in Australia for his run-in with Dennis Lillee in the Perth Test in 1981/82. Miandad had tried to run a quick single, but Lillee appeared to block him, at which point things got heated, with Lillee kicking Miandad on the knee. Miandad raised his bat, threatening to hit Lillee, and it took the two umpires and Australian captain Greg Chappell to calm things down.



In the foreword to Miandad’s autobiography “Cutting Edge”, Tony Greig says “he captained and coached his country with distinction” and “I do not think there could have ever been a cricketer with a better temperament.”

He made six Test double centuries, the most of any Pakistan cricketer, and the sixth most overall. With Sachin Tendulkar and Mithali Raj, he is one of the only three players to have competed in six World Cup series.

Miandad is one of four brothers to play first class cricket for Pakistan, Anwar, Sohail and Bashir also achieving this, and a nephew, Faisal Iqbal, has also played Test cricket for his country.

In 1992 he was decorated by the Pakistan President with the Sitari-i-Imtiaz the third highest honour awarded in Pakistan. He was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame in 2009.

Test Batting and Fielding On Melbourne Cricket Ground by Javed Miandad

Matches	Inns	Not Out	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct
5	9	0	218	65	24.22	0	2	3

A Bit of History

In 1998 at Peshawar, Mark Taylor batted for two whole days, finishing the second day not out on 334 runs, thereby equalling Don Bradman’s highest Test score. Much conjecture has taken place since as to whether he then declared Australia’s innings closed so that he did not eclipse Bradman’s record. However it is generally accepted that, with four wickets down for 599 runs, Taylor, as captain of the Australians, felt it was more sensible to have the Pakistanis face his opening bowlers, Glenn McGrath and Damien Fleming, first up on the third day.



150 YEARS - 150 TREASURES

The 150th Anniversary of the Library collection is being celebrated across 12 months commencing with the launch of the MCC Library – 150th Treasures exhibition on September 6. These treasures will be posted on the @MelbCCLibrary Instagram account. This is not a countdown, instead over 150 posts, typically Mondays to Fridays, across the 12 months on dates appropriate to items, with some on public holidays such Grand Final Eve, Melbourne Cup Day & Boxing Day.

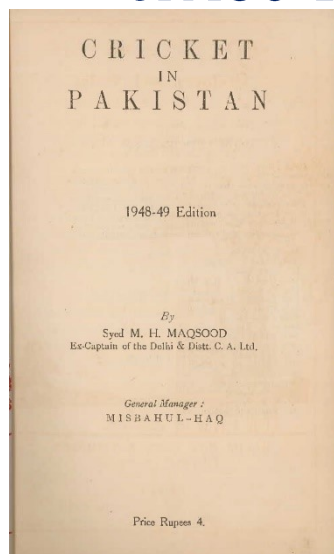
Highlights of the exhibition are displayed in the MCC Library foyer, with three rotations across the 12 months, we started with predominantly football-themed items in September, and moved to cricket-themed and summer sports items from December, & finally Olympic & general sport-themed items will be installed at the end of April and conclude in August 2024. Tours of specific groups of Library treasures will take place across the year & will be advertised on the MCC Library’s social media & the Club’s website.



Search Instagram for the hashtag [#MelbCCLibrary150years150treasures](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/MelbCCLibrary150years150treasures)

150 YEARS - 150 TREASURES

67/150 DECEMBER 28 – CRICKET IN PAKISTAN



[edited] by Syed M.H. Maqsood Honorary Editor : Syed M.H. Maqsood.
Karachi: Universal Cricket Club, 1949, 1951 & 1954.

An annual of Pakistani cricket which discusses Test, domestic & University cricket. It also includes information about the rules & techniques of cricket by leading players. Players & officials from Pakistani cricket are profiled. Players & officials from Pakistani cricket are profiled.

Includes an account of the 1948/49 West Indies tour of Pakistan, the first visitors to Pakistan. pp75-83.

This was the first Pakistan cricket annual, indeed the first book on Pakistan cricket. The second edition was published in 1951, and the third - and final- edition in 1954. The “*Bibliography of Pakistan Cricket 1947-2009*” notes that, Padwick [the Bibliography of cricket] has not really comprehended the historical nature of these books, which Maqsood first wrote under the flag of British India. His initial work, “*Who’s Who in Indian Cricket*” ran to six editions between 1940 and 1947.

Rare 911 CP

[MCC Library Rec # 13857]

1/150 SEPTEMBER 6 – THE AUSTRALASIAN

The proprietor of the Australasian donated 13 bound volumes of this newspaper to the Club. It covered the period from 1866 to 1873 & was recorded in the minutes of the MCC Annual Meeting on September 6, 1873. This date is regarded as foundation date for the MCC Library.

The *Australasian* was launched in Melbourne as a weekly newspaper by the proprietors of the *Argus* in October 1864. However, it was restructured into a new edition in April 1866. It is the 13 volumes from this date that were donated in September 1873.

Published on Saturdays, the newspaper covered a variety of topics including a range of sports – cricket, football, racing, angling, shooting, & later other sports such as cycling. The *Australasian* was published up to 1946 when it transformed into the glossy & colourful *Australasian Post* magazine.

The MCC Library’s 1866 bound edition of the *Australasian* opened at the “Supplement” page of volume 1, number 1, Saturday April 7. From this & 12 other volumes the MCC Library grew. Facing the supplement are illustrated advertisements for “A.J. Smith’s Book & Stationery Warehouse in Swanston Street” & “H.T. Dwight’s Book Depot near Parliament Houses”. Evidence of an early & strong books culture in Melbourne in 1866.

[MCC Library collection Rec # 1161/1866-1]



Fact Sheet research by MCC Library Volunteers Ray Webster OAM, Ross Perry and Quentin Miller assisted and edited by David Studham and Trevor Ruddell.

Sources consulted: Ray Webster’s *First-Class Cricket in Australia*. Vol. 2, *Wisden Cricketers’ Almanac* – various issues.
Thanks to our friends at <https://www.tastats.com.au> and www.cricketarhive.co.uk

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