

# The YORKER



Journal of the  
Melbourne Cricket  
Club Library

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*An Annotated Bibliography  
of Tendulkar Biographies.*

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*The evolution as India's cricket emblem*



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Submissions can be made to The Editor, *The Yorker*, MCC Library PO Box 175 East Melbourne 8002 or via email to [library@mcc.org.au](mailto:library@mcc.org.au)

### FRONT COVER:

Detail from the program of the 1932 Indian cricket tour of England.

(MCC Library collection)

### BACK COVER:

The 1967/68 blazer of Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi.

(Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M5761)



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## THIS ISSUE:

Welcome to the new look *Yorker*. The journal has not had a major change to its presentation since the summer of 2006/07, the first issue since the completion of the MCG's Northern Stand redevelopment and the opening of the current Library. The MCC Library wishes to acknowledge the work of staff from George Petrou Design, and James Howard in particular, in creating a new look for us. The content of the *Yorker* will remain unchanged, with articles relating to the Melbourne Cricket Club, its ground and heritage collections, Australian sports history generally, and sports related articles from the MCC Library's community. The digital version of this issue will also expand on the *Yorker's* use of QR codes and hyperlinks to allow readers to explore the subjects of the articles for themselves.

## The YORKER

This issue of *The Yorker* is digital. However, if you prefer to read a hard copy, or do not have online access, you can still order print copies. Subscriptions are the perfect way of ensuring you do not miss out on an issue of *The Yorker*. You can even have it home delivered! Published each December, April

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# It Is All Beer and Skittles!

By James Brear & Lesley Smith

On level four of the Melbourne Cricket Club members' pavilion is the Skittles honour board. It records the club champions from 1887 to 1911, although skittles was played at the MCC well before, and after, these dates. The first skittles alley was erected in 1874, the club reporting in September, 1874, "the 'old cow shed' in the further reserve has been turned to profitable account... the elderly members... can there shake the dust of Collins St. from off their feet... and partake... the sole delights of the British workman's paradise - 'beer and skittles'."<sup>1</sup> Whilst at this stage skittles was primarily a social event, no doubt it became more serious in October, 1876, when the Richmond and Melbourne Cricket Clubs battled it out in the skittle alley due to the abandonment of the day's play because of inclement weather.<sup>2</sup>

Today we think of skittles as a form of ten pin bowling, but the game that became a sporting section of the MCC had a totally different format. One of the few similarities was the "pins" or skittles, but only nine were used in skittles. However the shape was very different to a ten-pin in that it was almost like a truncated bomb or torpedo. There was no bowling ball, instead a "cheese", a "squashed" spherical shape, often made of redgum, was thrown at the skittles rather than bowled. The skittles were set, not more than 24 inches apart, on a "frame",



a square shaped, slightly raised wooden platform set at 45 degrees, which appeared as a diamond figure. The frame was 54 inches square, 21 feet distant from the start of the "run". The first three feet of the run was referred to as "At Home", from where the cheese was thrown, and the alley was three and one half feet wide. When thrown the cheese had to lob on the frame, otherwise a foul was called, and any skittles that were knocked over were re-stood.

Skittles was played in singles and team formats. In singles play, an agreed number of frames had to be won, known as a "chalk" or "horse". A chalk was scored by taking less throws than the opponent to knock down the nine skittles. In championship play, 15 was often the required number of chawks, some matches taking 45 frames, as many were tied, before the target was reached.<sup>3</sup> Teams usually consisted of ten players, whose total scores were added, and compared with the same set from the opposition. The team with the lowest figure then won that chalk. Team events were usually the first to win 11 chawks. Sometimes a time limit was imposed, the team having won the most chawks by that stage being declared the winner.

*There was no bowling ball, instead a "cheese", a "squashed" spherical shape, often made of redgum, was thrown at the skittles rather than bowled.*

This form of skittles is now known as "Old English" or "London" skittles. It was played in English pubs and social clubs, and still exists today in the Freemasons Arms,

**Top:** MCC skittles team, premiers 1896.  
(Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M8679)

## Learn to play the game:



A video of the game can be seen here:  
<https://youtu.be/T5qNcJcN550>





J. BEATERSHAW H. M'DERMOTT C. FHELAN G. E. LEWIS W. CULPITT C. BOND H. A. HODGKINSON  
E. WING A. GORDON G. DITCHBURN G. GORDON T. S. THOMAS

PREMIERS 1899

Hampstead, London.<sup>4</sup> In 1876 the MCC announced plans for a new pavilion and a public grandstand. The grandstand was to include "a skating rink, gymnasium (with appliances for fencing and boxing), skittle and bowling alleys." The grandstand became known as the "reversible stand", a unique structure from which spectators could watch cricket on the MCC turf in summer, and, in winter, the seats reversed to enable the watching of football in Yarra Park. The skating rink was proposed to be under the stand and "as there is no similar rink in the colony it would probably be a great attraction to ladies as well as gentlemen."<sup>5</sup> Sadly the rink did not eventuate.

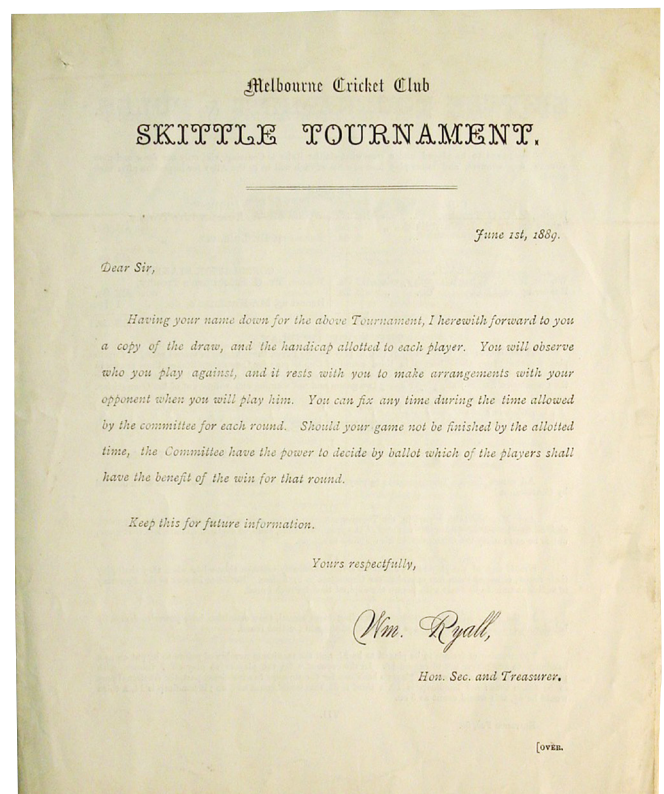
Although it was proposed the new stand would house the skittle alley, this did not happen for several years. In 1880 the skittles alley was moved closer to the pavilion to accommodate a lawn tennis court. "Gas has been laid on, and the pavilion, refreshment bars, skittle alley and grandstand can all be now brilliantly lighted."<sup>6</sup> In 1882 the alley was moved into the new stand, the grandstand account "providing 203 pound, 2 s. and 3d. for painting, cost of new skittle alley, and effecting repairs."<sup>7</sup> This became "a double skittle alley under the grandstand... fitted up with everything necessary for the comfort of the players."<sup>8</sup> The MCC Annual Report for 1882/83 noted the "skittle saloon... has almost been entirely reconstructed and fitted. The two old frames, which were found to be very defective, have been replaced by new ones, constructed upon a greatly improved plan, and laid upon a solid foundation of brickwork. The walls have been carefully padded where necessary, and comfortable raised seats have been provided, and the whole place, in its altered aspect, has

**Top:** MCC skittles team, premiers 1899.  
(Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M8682)

**Right:** First page June 1, 1889, MCC skittles tournament.  
(Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M4743)

been pronounced by competent judges a model of its kind – as perfect in all its appointments as any in Australia."<sup>9</sup>

Skittles remained a popular social event for members until a devastating day in 1884. According to newspaper reports, on Saturday August 30, "several members of the club were playing in the skittle alley. This was closed at half past six, and not again opened. The popular theory is that a lighted cigar stump must have smouldered in the dry sawdust, a layer of which covers the skittle alley, and that during the night this burned slowly until one of the walls was reached. The fire appeared to have burned through from the skittle alley at the western end of the building... in about 20 minutes the whole stand was on fire."<sup>10</sup> The *Ballarat Star* was one source not wholly convinced with the "cigar stump" theory. The *Star's* Melbourne correspondent wrote, "all Saturday night a terrible north wind was blowing a gale...a gale such as this would have fanned any mouldering fire into a blaze long before a quarter past nine on Sunday morning."<sup>11</sup> "At about 20 minutes to 9 o'clock, the club curator, McAlpine, walked round the ground, passing through the grandstand reserve, and there was then nothing to indicate a fire in the building." One of his children raised the alarm shortly after, and although McAlpine immediately attacked the blaze with a hose used for watering the ground, it had little effect. The "Fitzroy Temperance, Fitzroy, Richmond, East Melbourne, Collingwood, Simpson's rd, Carlton Brewery, Prahran, Yorkshire Brewery, Windsor and Shamrock Brewery brigades all attended but were unable to save the grandstand."<sup>12</sup> Such was the intensity of the fire "parts of the picket fence in front of the stand, distant about 30 feet, were charred through, and the grass on the playing portion of the ground was burnt off for at least five yards."<sup>13</sup>



Melbourne Cricket Club

## SKITTLE TOURNAMENT.

June 1st, 1889.

Dear Sir,

Having your name down for the above Tournament, I herewith forward to you a copy of the draw, and the handicap allotted to each player. You will observe who you play against, and it rests with you to make arrangements with your opponent when you will play him. You can fix any time during the time allowed by the committee for each round. Should your game not be finished by the allotted time, the Committee have the power to decide by ballot which of the players shall have the benefit of the win for that round.

Keep this for future information.

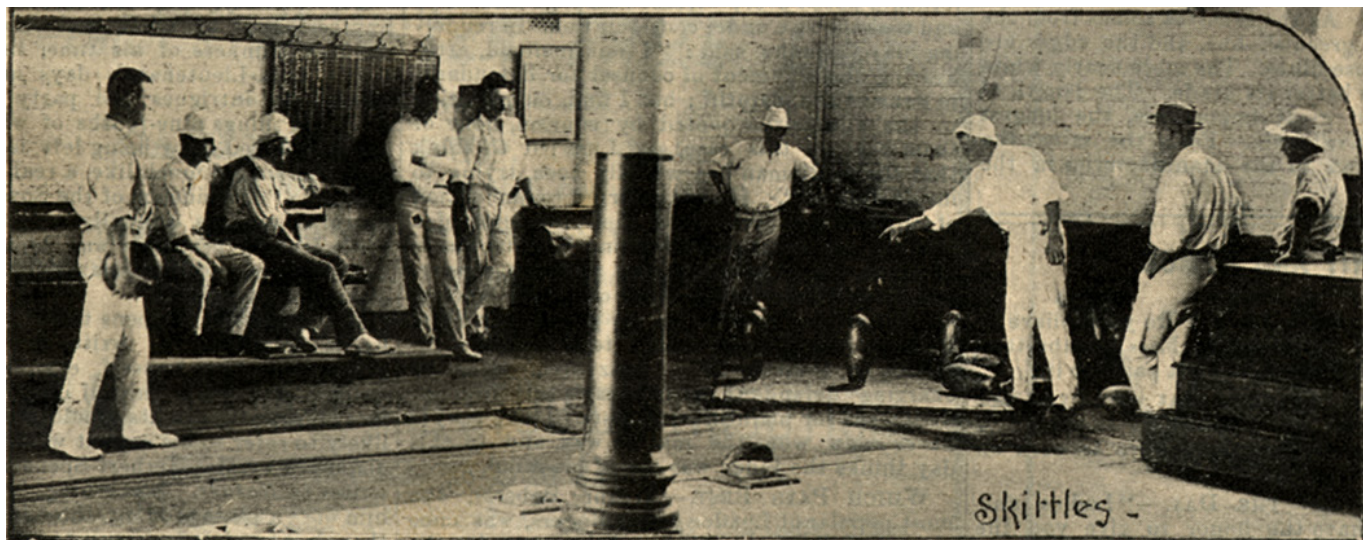
Yours respectfully,

Wm. Ryall,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

[over.]





The *Ballarat Star* also reported "the fire was first noticed before the caretaker was called to it in a heap of shavings and refuse adjacent to the building, and that a suspicious-looking tramp was observed at the time scuttling away from the boundary fence."<sup>14</sup> Further, "fire was seen to exist in the upper branches of a tree close to the ground."<sup>15</sup> The previously mentioned north wind would have sent the flames and embers towards the stand. The wind may well have changed direction as *The Age* reported "half a gale of wind was blowing from the westward at the time, and as the building is nearly due east and west, the wind swept straight along its whole length."<sup>16</sup>

With Alfred Shaw's XI due to play against Victoria on November 14, followed by two Test matches at the ground, the MCC wasted no time in building a temporary stand. The stand catered for 1800 patrons, "every one of whom can get a capital view of the game, which is more than could be said of the old stand... The stand reflects equal credit on the club's architect (Mr. Salway), and on the contractors, Messrs. Oldfield and Lindley, who fulfilled their contract in less than six weeks, and in such a way that no fault could be found even with the driving home of a nail."<sup>17</sup> Due to the time constraints this temporary stand was built on the lawn in front of the ruins of the reversible stand. It would later be removed to reinstate the lawns in front of the new grandstand. In the temporary stand "there are bars, luncheon rooms for ladies and gentlemen, ladies' retiring-rooms, and even a skittle alley would have been provided only for the interference of certain public

**Top:** The skittles rink within the MCG Grandstand as published in *Leader*, October 18, 1895. (MCC Library collection)

**Right:** The MCC's 1910 "Winter Engagements" fixture. (Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M7988)

officials, who would not allow one of the numerous uprights to be cut away to make room for the alley."<sup>18</sup>

Work started on the new stand on March 5, 1885, just prior to the fifth Test against Shaw's XI. This was possible as it was built behind the temporary stand on the site of the "reversible" stand. The new grandstand, completed in December, 1885, just nine months after commencement, came to be known as "The Grandstand". Underneath, "An excellent skittle saloon, with two frames, has been provided, and the comfort of the players has received special attention. Many members take advantage of this amusement, and the game is now in a flourishing condition."<sup>19</sup> As evidence of this, sixty-four members took part in the Wardill Tournament vying for trophies donated by Messrs. Wardill, Simmons and Strutt.<sup>20</sup> In later years Australian Test captain, Warwick Armstrong, would compete in this tournament.

M.F.C. Engagements, 1910.		
DATE.	AGAINST.	GROUNDS
April 30	Geelong	M.C.C.
May 7	Richmond	Richmond
" 14	Carlton	M.C.C.
" 21	St. Kilda	St. Kilda
" 28	Collingwood	Collingwood
June 4	Essendon	M.C.C.
" 6	South Melbourne	South Melbourne
" 11	Fitzroy	M.C.C.
" 25	University	E.M.C.C.
July 2	Geelong	Melbourne
" 9	Richmond	Geelong
" 16	Carlton	M.C.C.
" 23	St. Kilda	Carlton
" 30	Collingwood	M.C.C.
Aug. 13	Essendon	M.C.C.
" 20	South Melbourne	E.M.C.C.
" 27	Fitzroy	M.C.C.
Sept. 3	University	Fitzroy
" 10	Semi Final	M.C.C.
" 17	Semi Final	do.
" 24	Finals if necessary	do.
Oct. 1	Finals if necessary	do.

M.C.C. Skittle Club Fixtures.				
DATE.	DAY	CLUB.	WHERE PLAYED.	RESULT
May 17	Tues.	Richmond	Richmond	
" 24	"	East Melbourne	M.C.C.	
" 31	"	South Melbourne	South Melb.	
June 7	"	Association Fours	South Melb.	
" 14	"	Richmond	M.C.C.	
" 21	"	East Melbourne	East Melb.	
" 28	"	South Melbourne	M.C.C.	
July 5	"	Association Pairs	Richmond	
" 12	"	Richmond	Richmond	
" 19	"	East Melbourne	M.C.C.	
" 26	"	South Melbourne	South Melb.	
Aug. 2	"	Association Singles	East Melb.	
" 9	"	Richmond	M.C.C.	
" 16	"	East Melbourne	East Melb.	
" 23	"	Association Singles	M.C.C.	
" 30	"	South Melbourne	M.C.C.	

## M. C. C.

### WINTER ENGAGEMENTS

1910.

FOOTBALL  
LACROSSE  
TENNIS . .  
SKITTLES  
BASEBALL

*Engagements.*

E. Whitehead & Co., Printers, Melb.



# SKITTLE TOURNAMENT & RULES

The Tournament will be played under the Bagnall-Wilde System—one draw, and then winners play winners.

## PRIZES.

The M.C.C. Committee have donated the sum of £10 10s. towards the prizes.

<b>CUP.</b>		<b>PLATE.</b>	
Winner takes Trophy ... value	£5 5 0	Winner takes Trophy ... value	£2 2 0
Runner-up takes Trophy ... "	3 3 0	Runner-up takes Trophy ... "	10 6
Third Prize, Trophy ... "	2 2 0	<b>STAKES.</b>	
Fourth Prize, Trophy ... "	1 1 0	Winner takes Trophy ... value	£1 1 0
<b>PURSE.</b>		<b>VETERAN.</b>	
Winner takes Trophy ... "	£1 1 0	Winner takes Trophy ... value	£0 10 6
Runner-up takes Trophy ... "	10 6	<b>CONSOLATION.</b>	
		Winner takes Trophy ... value	£0 10 6

## THE MODE OF PLAY.

Those players beaten in first round of Cup to play for the Purse; those beaten in second round to play for Plate; those beaten in third round of the Cup to play for Stakes; those beaten in fourth round to play for Veteran. Those not winning a prize are entitled to play for the Consolation Prize on the final night of the Competition; seven frames to be played, with proportionate handicap. The above games to be governed by Rule 6, viz., from "the players to play off seven frames," &c.

## Rules.

- I. The M.C.C. Skittle Committee to have the entire management of the Tournament and all games to be played under the Rules of the Amateur Skittle Association of Victoria.
- II. All games for the Tournament to be played on the M.C.C. frames: choice of frames and umpire to be decided by contestants.
- III. Any member taking part in the Tournament, after having arranged a meeting with his opponent, and failing to attend within 30 minutes of the prescribed time, shall be declared to have lost that game, unless he can satisfy the Committee of his inability to attend.
- IV. Should any of the players be unable to arrange amicably between themselves when they shall play their round, either of them can appeal to the Committee to fix a time. Notice to be sent to the Secretary in sufficient time to be dealt with before the expired time for such round.
- V. In the event of neither contestants sending in an appeal, the Committee have power to decide by draw which of the players shall have the win for that round.
- VI. The number of frames to be played to be 21 and the maximum number of points to be put on as a handicap to any player not to exceed 21. In the event of a tie, the players to play off seven frames with proportionate handicap. Should a player's handicap for the tie come to a fractional part, the fractional part to be taken thus; say handicap is 10, a third  $\frac{3}{3}$ , this would count as 3 on; if handicap is 14, a third would be  $\frac{4}{3}$ , this would count as 5 on.
- VII. Entrance 2s. 6d.

## THE DRAW.

NAMES.	FIRST ROUND.	HANDICAPS.	ADDRESSES.
H. G. Thomasson	2 on		" Fernleigh," St. John's Avenue, Camberwell.
G. V. Wood	4 on		Norwich Union, Queen Street.
J. D. Farquhar	3 minus		227 Lonsdale Street.
B. Pyman	5 on		Messrs. J. S. Corden & Co., Spencer-street.
S. G. McFarlane	12 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
T. Mills	0 on		State Treasury, Melbourne.
G. Lauder	0 on		Flinders-street, Northcote.
R. Goddard	0 on		" Edilville," Punt Road, South Yarra.
W. E. Chelwell	11 on		" Werna," 80 Blythe-street, Brunswick.
J. Cox	4 on		High-street, Armadale.
W. A. EdsClendinnen	0 on		Elphin Grove, Glenferrie.
W. McB. Wheeler	10 on		Mozart-street, St. Kilda.
C. P. Macartney	0 on		Mount Lyell Co., Queen-street.
J. Henry Wilson	0 on		Waltham-street, Richmond.
C. Clark	4 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
A. P. Kelly	0 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
R. O. Moore	14 on		Electric Light Co., 19 Queen-street.
H. T. Talloch	14 on		c/o Messrs. J. K. Merrit & Co., 285A Little Collins-street.
H. A. Chelwell	18 on		" Viola," Moore-street, Moonee Ponds.
G. B. Gordon	8 on		12 Queen-street.
C. W. Caldwell	0 on		12 Powlett-street, East Melbourne.
J. Meagher	0 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
H. E. Morton	0 on		Town Hall, Melbourne.
F. Challingsworth	17 on		Swan-street, Bursley.
S. A. Aitkin	8 on		Bank of Victoria, Collins-street.
F. H. Pyman	15 on		Messrs. Youngusband, Row and Co., King-st.
W. H. Loughrey	3 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
W. W. Armstrong	8 on		Hawthorn-road, Caulfield.
C. Pitman	6 on		55 Park-street, St. Kilda.
A. C. Pyman	4 on		Messrs. Ostermeyer, Dewez and Co., Collins-st.
R. G. Booth	5 on		24 St. George's-road, Malvern
C. H. Peryman	6 on		Normanby-place, off Bridge-road, Richmond.
L. D. Johnston	4 on		68 Jolimont-street, Jolimont.
M. Stokes	6 on		Claremont-street, South Yarra.
W. A. Stokes	10 on		Messrs. Youngusband, Row and Co., King-st.
R. E. Woodhouse	0 on		362 Park-street, South Melbourne.
W. Ryall	12 on		Bank of Victoria, Collins Street.
V. Hughes	6 on		63 Queen-street.
W. A. Anderson	5 on		" Rosemont," Boyd-street, South Yarra.
C. T. Smith	4 on		Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co., Flinders-lane.
D. B. Bowers	0 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
P. J. Wilson Gillan	4 on		Hildebrandt-crescent, Hawthorn.
C. Higgins	0 on		E. S. and A. Bank, Collins-street.
H. Culliton	9 on		Norwich Union, Queen-street.
A. J. Madden	8 on		c/o M.C.C. Office, 352 Collins-street.
T. Quarterman	20 on		Lands Dept., Treasury, Melbourne.
G. Ditchburn	12 on		122 Palmer-street, Fitzroy.
W. G. Hickford	15 on		" Roseneath," Fermanagh-road, Camberwell.
B. J. Davies	18 on		175 Park-street, Parkville.
J. A. Lake	0 on		156 Collins-street.
J. A. Bruce	16 on		Farkville.
E. P. Kennedy	10 on		Messrs. Ball & Welch, Flinders-street.
G. E. Lewis	21 on		485 Chapel-street, South Yarra.
A. A. Bright	3 minus		Commonwealth Treasury.
H. S. Richards	0 on		Sydney-road, Royal Park.
W. J. Evans	0 on		Royal Bank Chambers, Elizabeth-street.
A. Oastler	3 on		Lands Dept., Treasury, Buildings Melbourne.
A. Strahan	10 on		1 Lisson-grove, Hawthorn.
A. W. H. Gordon	10 on		Commonwealth Treasury.
W. G. Batten	20 on		Mercur Road, Malvern.
R. G. Johnstone	5 on		3 Palmer-street, Jolimont.
I. Prescott	10 on		Equitable Building, Collins-street.
A. P. Propsting	9 on		Commonwealth Treasury, Spring-street.
J. Heathershaw	3 minus		
	16 on		

To illustrate how the games are played:—We take two players, say Jones with a handicap of 21 on against Smith with 3 on; they each play 21 frames; Jones goes 47 (handicap of 18 added on) and 65; Smith goes 60 (handicap of 3 added on), total 63—Smith wins.

With the increasing popularity of skittles, in May, 1887, a meeting was held at the MCC "to frame rules... for the better management of the game, and also to form an association to act as a court of appeal."<sup>21</sup> The Amateur Skittle Association comprised of members from the Melbourne, East Melbourne, and Richmond Cricket Clubs, and the West and North Brighton, St. Kilda, Melbourne, West Melbourne and Richmond Bowling Clubs. Rules were agreed to and published,<sup>22</sup> and a fixture of matches was arranged for the season.<sup>23</sup> MCC member and skittler, William Ryall, was elected secretary of the association. The *Sportsman* newspaper took up the skittle cause, reporting on matches with regular columns by "Cheese".

In 1888 the playing of skittles was nearing its peak. "Cheese" wrote "Of late years the game of skittles has been making very rapid strides... in Melbourne and suburbs. Skittles as a game ranks much... higher here in the scale of games than in... England." In England the game was mainly associated

Top: The draw for the MCC's skittles tournament. Among the contestants was MCC Member and Test cricketer Warwick Armstrong. (Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M9210)

with pubs, while "here it is known almost altogether in connection with the various cricket and bowling clubs." "Cheese" also expected the South Melbourne and Brighton Cricket Clubs would install skittle alleys and join the aforementioned clubs in the Amateur Skittle Association. It was considered "harmless but healthful" as "All the muscles are brought in to play in the game which often lasts some two or three hours. During that time... an 11, 12, or 13 pound cheese has to be thrown a distance of some 21 feet before it comes in contact with the pins."<sup>24</sup> By this time the committee had "formed a second ten, who are at present time holding the pride of place, having only lost one match this season."<sup>25</sup>

To further the popularity of skittles "Cheese" lobbied the clubs to introduce the game to ladies. He considered "the support of the fair sex is absolutely essential in the interests of the game... let them be eye-witnesses of the harmless amusements that the players indulge in." "Cheese" pointed out "Some of our best players are heads of families, whose action in having the genial warmth of the fireside and pleasant associations (beer and skittles) is invariably condemned."<sup>26</sup> With the support and participation of the



ladies, "Cheese" believed the dubious reputation of skittles (due to its association with beer) would be enhanced.

Two men were the principal driving forces behind the success of skittles. S. Willis, a member, and vice-president, of the East Melbourne Cricket Club, was the inaugural President of the Association. He donated a trophy, the "Willis Trophy", for the Association championship which attracted 32 competitors when first offered in 1888.<sup>27</sup> William Ryall

*...the support of the fair sex is absolutely essential in the interests of the game...*

was the honorary secretary of the Amateur Skittles Association from its inception in 1887 (to 1895?) and secretary of the MCC Skittles section, a champion player. He won the MCC Skittles championship from 1887 to 1893, represented the club in the First Ten, and was the recipient of the "Willis Trophy" as the Association champion in 1891<sup>28</sup>. Ryall was also a cricketer of note, playing in the club's first XI, and was an MCC Committee member from 1888-89 to 1894-95.

With Ryall's prominence as the Association secretary, and the club's new facilities, the MCC was at the forefront of the sport throughout the eighties and nineties. The club champion was a coveted title, dominated by four men, who between them won 22 of the 24 tournaments. Apart from Ryall, brothers A.W.H. and G.S. Gordon, and G.E. Lewis, feature heavily on the honour board. A.W.H. Gordon won five titles and was runner-up on eight occasions. G. S. Gordon achieved the same number of victories and was second once. Finally, G.E. Lewis also had five wins, with five second placings. In addition to Ryall's Amateur Skittles Association victory in 1891, the MCC Skittles team won the premiership on five successive occasions from 1895 to 1899.<sup>29</sup>

Skittles remained a prominent part of Melbourne's sporting arena after the turn of the century with the Melbourne, East Melbourne, Richmond, and South Melbourne Cricket Clubs, and the Windsor Bowling Club the main contenders. "Cheese" appears to have stopped writing his regular columns in the *Sportsman* in 1893, but in 1911 and 1912, "Floorer" wrote exclusively on skittles for the *Record*.

"Floorer" took his nom-de-plume from the term used to describe knocking all nine skittles down at once – a strike in today's terms. After 1912, skittles fell out of favour. The MCC did not hold a championship tournament, and there is no mention of the association in the press. The skittles section had 19 pounds, sixteen shillings and threepence in its account in 1911-12, which dwindled to three pounds, one shilling the following year. By 1913-14 there was nothing left in the account.<sup>30</sup>

After the First World War skittles appears again briefly under the umbrella of the bowling section. Skittles is included along with miniature rifle shooting and billiards, in a tournament against the Northcote and Alma clubs in 1919, and again the following year.

Skittles can lay claim to being the first additional sport introduced to the MCC although it does not appear to have become a sporting section of the club until 1887, when the Amateur Skittles Association was formed.

YEAR	CHAMPION	RUNNER UP
1887	W. RYALL	T.W. GAGGIN
1888	W. RYALL	A.J. BECKWITH
1889	W. RYALL	R.P. DICKSON
1890	W. RYALL	R.P. DICKSON
1891	W. RYALL	T. WARBURTON
1892	W. RYALL	C. DITCHBURN
1893	W. RYALL	A.W.H. GORDON
1895	A.W.H. GORDON	C.S. GORDON
1896	C.S. GORDON	C.E. LEWIS
1897	A.W.H. GORDON	C.E. LEWIS
1898	C.E. LEWIS	J. HEATHERSHAW
1899	C.S. GORDON	J.S. THOMAS
1900	C.S. GORDON	A.W.H. GORDON
1901	C.S. GORDON	A.W.H. GORDON
1902	C.S. GORDON	A.W.H. GORDON
1903	A.W.H. GORDON	G.E. LEWIS
1904	C.E. LEWIS	A.W.H. GORDON
1905	H.E. MORTON	G.E. LEWIS
1906	G.E. LEWIS	A.W.H. GORDON
1907	G.E. LEWIS	A.W.H. GORDON
1908	A.S. CARTER	H.A. CHELLEW
1909	A.W.H. GORDON	G.E. LEWIS
1910	A.W.H. GORDON	G. DITCHBURN
1911	G.E. LEWIS	A.W.H. GORDON

**Right:** The Melbourne Cricket Club's Skittles Club honour board. It is currently displayed on level 4 of the MCC Members' Reserve.

**James Brear and Lesley Smith are MCC Library volunteers**

## Endnotes:

- [1. The Australasian, September 12, 1874, p.12](#)
- [2. The Australasian, October 21, 1876, p.11](#)
- [3. Sportsman, July 31, 1888, p.8](#)
- [4. www.londonskittles.co.uk](#)
- [5. Argus, June 14, 1876, p.7](#)
- [6. Australasian, September 4, 1880, p.12](#)
- [7. The Herald, September 9, 1882, p.2](#)
- [8. Leader, February 25, 1882, p.13](#)
- [9. MCC Annual Report 1882-83, p.8](#)
- [10. Argus, September 1, 1884, p.6](#)
- [11. Ballarat Star, September 2, 1884, p.2](#)
- [12. Argus, September 1, 1884, p.6](#)
- [13. The Age, September 1, 1884, p.5](#)
- [14. The Ballarat Star September 2, 1884, p.2](#)
- [15. Ibid](#)
- [16. The Age, September 1, 1884, p.5](#)
- [17. Australasian, November 22, 1884, p.20](#)
- [18. Ibid](#)
- [19. MCC Annual Report, 1885-86, p.9](#)
- [20. MCC Annual Report, 1885-86, p.18](#)
- [21. Sportsman, May 11, 1887, p.3](#)
- [22. Sportsman, June 29, 1887, p.8](#)
- [23. Sportsman, June 8, 1887, p.7](#)
- [24. Sportsman, April 25, 1888, p.3](#)
- [25. MCC Annual Report, 1887-88, p.18](#)
- [26. Sportsman, June 13, 1888, p.4](#)
- [27. Sportsman, June 6, 1888, p.6](#)
- [28. Sportsman, September 29, 1891, p.6](#)
- [29. MCC Annual Report, 1899-1900, p.20](#)
- [30. MCC Annual Reports, 1911-12, p.53; 1912-13, p.51; 1913-14, p.56](#)

*Symbols we play under:*

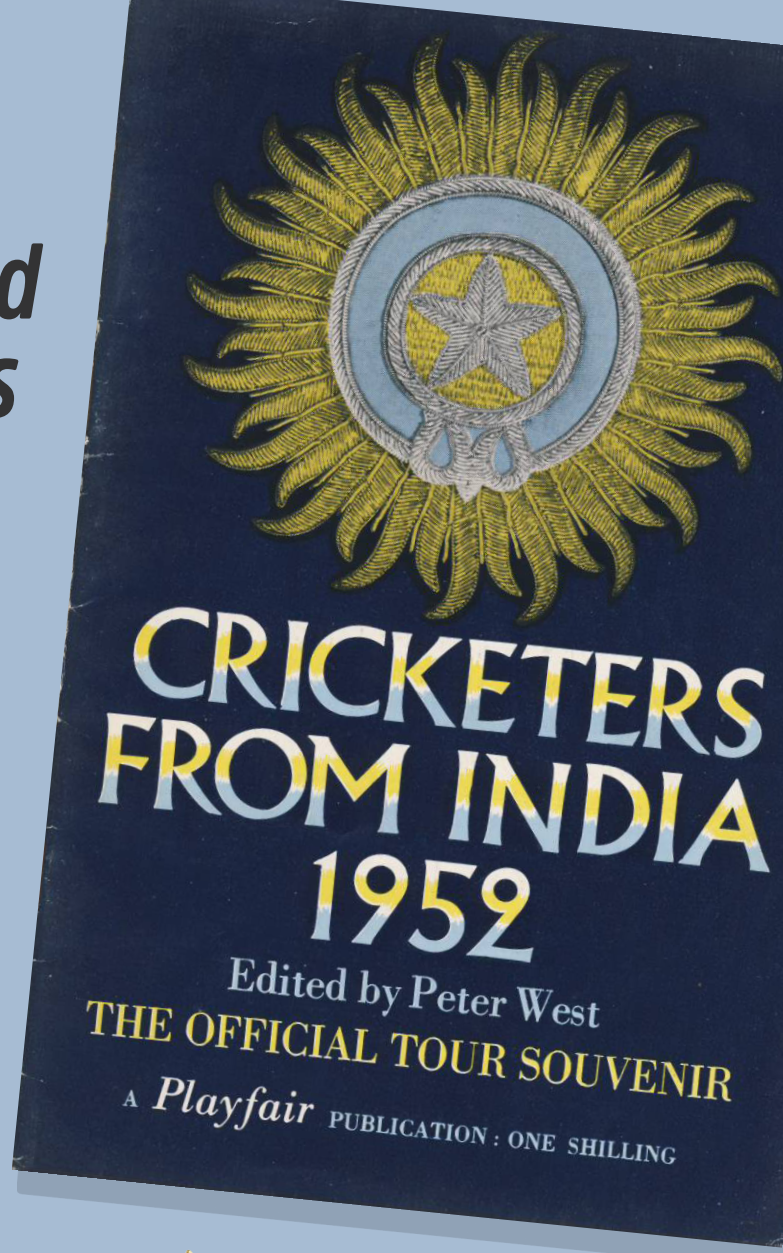
# *The “Star of India” and its evolution as India’s cricket emblem.*

*By David Studham*

The traditional emblem on the Indian cricket Test cap, and that of the [Board of Control for Cricket in India](#) is based upon the breast badge of the “[Most Exalted Order of the Star of India](#)”, which was the senior of the three orders of chivalry, now obsolescent, instituted to mark service to the British Raj in the Indian sub-continent. The Order was [established in June 1861](#), with the first investitures held - in India and at Windsor - on 1 November 1861. The [last appointments](#) were dated the day prior to Indian independence in 1947.

As India did not have an official coat of arms, representations of the breast badge of the Order of the Star of India was soon used as an official symbol of the Raj, and from the early 1880s began to appear upon [a number of official flags](#) including for the Viceroy and other Indian Governors, the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, as the ensign of the Indian Marine, and later as Jack of the Royal Indian Navy. Over time it became seen as the symbol of India, and by the early twentieth century it appeared in the

Tour souvenir for the 1952 Indian tour of the British Isles.  
(MCC Library collection)



## *The Indian state emblem.*

The Indian [state emblem](#) is an adaptation from the [Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka](#). In the original, there are four lions, standing back to back, mounted on an abacus with a frieze carrying sculptures in high relief of an elephant, a galloping

wheel, a bull and a lion separated by intervening wheels over a bell-shaped lotus. Carved out of a single block of polished sandstone, the Capital is crowned by the Wheel of the Law (Dharma Chakra). The Dharmachakra feature on the centre of the Indian national flag.

सत्यमेव जयते



## *Queen Victoria's breast badge of the Order of the Star of India.*

The breast badge worn only by Knights Grand Commanders had a round sunburst, with twenty-six large rays alternating with twenty-six small rays. In the centre was a five-pointed star of silver set with diamonds and set upon a gold and blue enameled ribbon bearing the motto of the order, “*Heaven’s Light our Guide*” in diamonds on a pale blue ground in silver and also set with diamonds. The British Sovereign was, and still is, Sovereign of the Order. The next-most senior member was the Grand Master; the position was held, ex officio, by the Viceroy of India.



centre of unofficial “British Empire” flags, used as the representation of India, along side the arms of the dominions and the southern cross stars of New Zealand.

It was also embraced by Indian sporting teams for use on for their formal uniforms. The flag of India flown at Olympic Games from 1920 to 1936 included a representation of the “Star of India”. Both their formal and playing uniforms also featured the “Star” as their national emblem. Only at the London games of 1948 did the “Tiranga” of Independent India debut at the Olympic Games.

The Board of Control for Cricket (BCCI) in India was formally established in December 1928, and their first representative Test side toured England in 1932. To celebrate the occasion, the BCCI produced a pre-tour souvenir entitled “Indian cricket tour to England, 1932”, complete with an embossed “Star of India” symbol on the cover. It contains details on cricket in India, the Board of Control for Cricket in India, the Tour to England committee, a program of matches, and player profiles.

The players on the inaugural Test tour were outfitted in navy blazers and caps with ornate bullion embroidery of the “Star of India” emblem on the pocket and front of the cap. This set the Indian cricketers’ livery colours as navy with the sky blue and gold taken from the “Star of India”. The symbol became the traditional emblem for the team from 1932 until the Commonwealth tour of India in 1951/52. For the 1952 Test tour of England the Indian team blazers and caps sported the “Lion Capital of Ashoka”, the official state emblem of India since the formation of the republic on January 26, 1950. The [Silver Jubilee history of the](#)



BCCI, published in 1953 has the “Lion Capital of Ashoka” embossed on the front cover, and the state emblem featured at the head of a silver plaque presented for the BCCI’s jubilee.

The Indian team uniform continued to use the “Lion Capital of Ashoka” as their official emblem at least up to the 1964/65 tour of India by New Zealand. However, by the time of the Indian tours to England in 1967 and then of Australia and New Zealand during the southern summer of 1967/68, the team emblem had returned to the “Star of India”. From the early 1970s the motto on the sky blue ribbon of the badge had been replaced with the words “Indian Cricket Team”. Later in the early 1990s it was replaced by “Board of Control for Cricket in India” and it has remained the same since.

Why did the Indian Cricket team stop wearing the national emblem upon their uniforms and revert back to their sporting national association’s original symbol? The answer seems to be linked to two things, the progressive [restriction by the Indian Government](#) of the use of the “Lion Capital of Ashoka”, and early instances of the BCCI’s determination to assert more of their status as independent from Government.

A classic example of that can be seen from the “Board of Control for Cricket in India, (BCCI) v. Zee Telefilms Ltd” court case, where on 29th September, 2004, [BCCI lawyer K.K. Venugopal told the Supreme Court](#) that “if India plays England, it is a match played by the official team of the BCCI and not the official team of India”. [He continued](#), “We do not even fly the National Flag nor use any National Emblem in the activities of the board”.

Therefore, the historic logo of the BCCI appears on the Indian team’s cap, shirt and blazer.

**Above:** Ian Johnson collection, MCC Museum. Indian blazer pocket from 1956/57 Australian tour of India. Johnson’s final as Australian captain. (Melbourne Cricket Club collection, M16881.41)

**Left:** Tour souvenir for the 1959/60 Indian tour of Australia. (MCC Library collection)

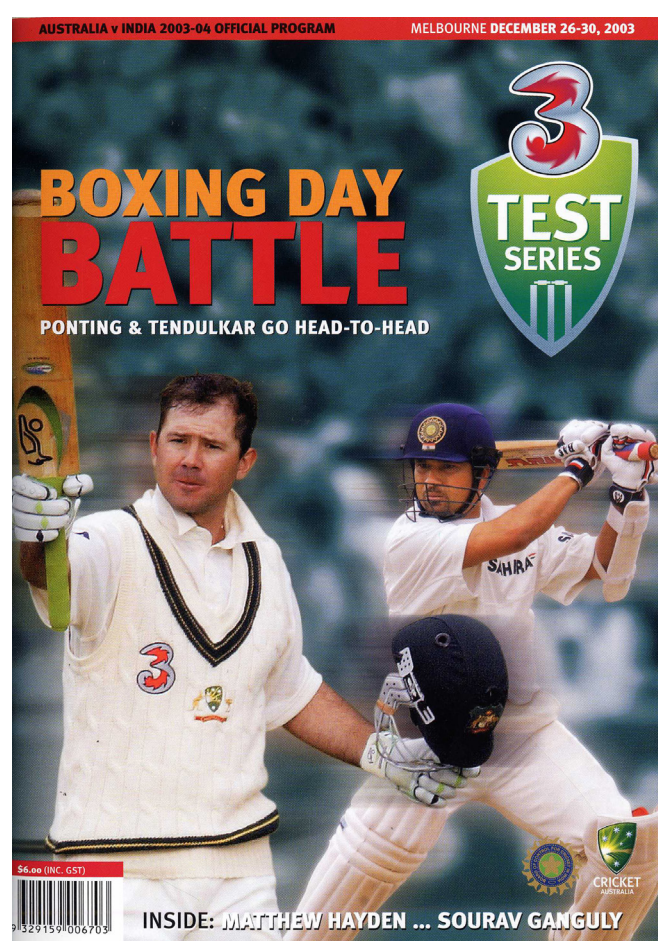




# “You can’t wear your hearts on your sleeves, or helmets”!

## Sachin Tendulkar and the battle to place the “Tiranga” on Indian Cricketers helmets

In 2001 during India’s Test tour of South Africa, [Sachin Tendulkar](#) started to wear a representation of the Indian national flag, the “[Tiranga](#)”, on his helmet, underneath the BCCI’s Star emblem. He wore it as a symbol of pride in his country, and as a former captain of the team.



Unfortunately this contravened Indian laws protecting the honour of the flag, which had become law in 1971. By 2004 it had become a controversial issue. [The Hindu](#) noted that “The use of National colours on the cricketing gear has been in vogue for a few years now. Apart from cricket and hockey, the National colours are also used by choice on the sporting apparels ordered by the Indian Olympic Association for contingents for multi-discipline events like the Olympic Games and the Asian Games. The flag itself had been embroidered into the competition uniform worn by the Indian sportspersons in many such events in recent times.”

In February 2005 the Indian Government sought to enforce

the law, issuing directives that the insult to the National Honour must stop, and that sportsmen and women should stop wearing the Indian flag on their uniforms. [India Today](#) commented “When an under secretary in the Department of Home Affairs cited the Flag Code of India, the country’s top athletes were told they were not permitted to wear their heart on their sleeves, or indeed their helmets.”

As a result of the directive Tendulkar and his colleague reluctantly removed the flag patches from their helmets. The BCCI supported their players and [appealed to the government](#) on behalf of Tendulkar and his colleagues, while other sporting bodies and leading Indian athletes also lobbied for an exemption from the law. Public support for the national sports stars led to more pressure on the Government about the need for respectful change.

As a response in December 2005 the Indian Parliament voted to amend the Act. The [2006 edition of Wisden](#) reported “The Indian government has reversed a ruling that barred Sachin Tendulkar from displaying the national flag on his helmet.

The cabinet said it will amend the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, and will allow the flag to be used on sporting uniforms – but not below the belt or on underwear. (Mid-day, Mumbai)”.

Tendulkar and his colleagues replaced the flag patches on their helmets, but this time above the BCCI’s star emblem, in a place of honour.



**Left:** Program for the 2003 Boxing Day Test at the MCG. Sachin Tendulkar is shown wearing the Indian flag beneath the BCCI badge. (MCC Library collection)

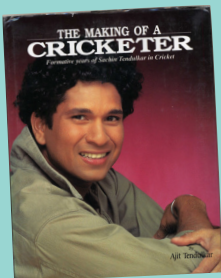
**Above:** Virat Kohli is photographed on the cover of a biography wearing the Indian flag above the BCCI badge. (MCC Library collection)



# An Annotated Bibliography of Tendulkar Biographies

By Ann Rusden, Lesley Smith, Edward Cohen & Gaye Fitzpatrick

Sachin Tendulkar is one of the most marketable brands in world cricket. As the outstanding batsman of his generation from a country obsessed with the fortunes of its cricket team, Tendulkar's popularity has led to a vast number of articles and publications about, and inspired by, him. More biographies have been published about Tendulkar than any other cricketer of his era. The MCC Library holds many of these titles and we present them as an annotated bibliography below.

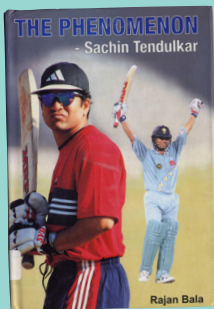


**Ajit Tendulkar**  
*The Making of a Cricketer: Formative Years of Sachin Tendulkar in Cricket*

Ajit Tendulkar for ten' Promotions, Mumbai, 1996.

Written by Sachin Tendulkar's older brother Ajit, this biography describes

Sachin's formative years in Cricket, from his schooldays to Test cricket – a period of five years. It is well illustrated with many colour photographs of young Sachin.

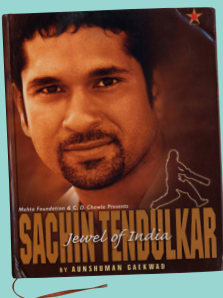


**Rajan Bala, with statistics by Sudhir Vaidya**  
*The Phenomenon: Sachin Tendulkar*

The Marine Sports, Mumbai, 1999.

A well-respected cricket writer in India Rajan Bala has written about Sachin's career from his first Test at age 16 until the age of 26, by which time he was truly a cricket

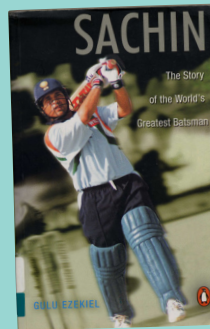
phenomenon – as the title indicates. The second half of the book are Tendulkar's statistics by Sudhir Vaidya, including score sheets of all his Test and One Day International centuries at the time of publication.



**Aunshuman Gaekwad**  
*Sachin Tendulkar: Jewel of India*  
Saistar Publications, Mumbai, 2002.

Aunshuman Gaekwad's biography is aptly titled *Jewel of India* as the narrative and the statistics illustrate. These finish with Tendulkar's 30th Test century.

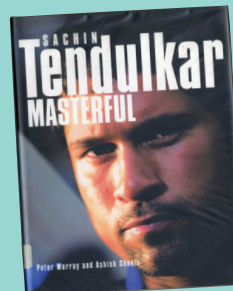
The final chapter is a series of questions put by the author to Tendulkar's wife Anjali. This interview is reproduced verbatim.



**Gulu Ezekiel**  
*Sachin: the story of the world's greatest batsman*

Penguin Books, New Delhi, 2002.

Sports writer Gulu Ezekiel has used more than a decade of interviews, press reports and conversations to produce an accurate and sympathetic account of Tendulkar and his passion for cricket.

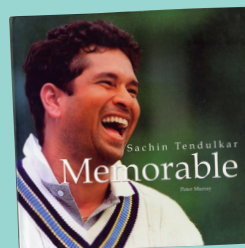


**Peter Murray and Ashish Shukla**  
*Sachin Tendulkar Masterful*

Murray Advertising and Publishing, Adelaide, 2002.

Over 60 beautiful colour images of Tendulkar arrayed throughout this book add much to the account of Tendulkar's life in and out of cricket by Paul Murray and Ashish Shukla.

It included Ramakant Achrekar, who played a vital role in Tendulkar's development.

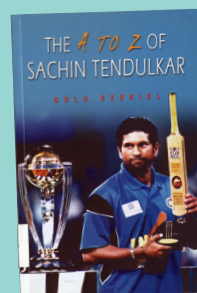


**Peter Murray**  
*Sachin Tendulkar: Memorable*

India Book Distributors, Mumbai, 2003.

The blurb described it as a "photo album of Tendulkar's greatest moments – some good some bad".

The full page photographs are well chosen and clearly and succinctly described beside each image.

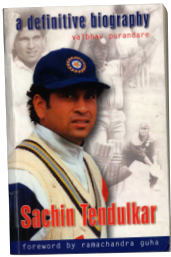


**Gulu Ezekiel**  
*The A to Z of Sachin Tendulkar*

USB Publishers' Distributors, New Delhi, 2005

As the title implies Gulu Ezekiel has used a novel approach to recording Tendulkar's life and cricket career. The format is engaging, and sometimes amusing, as it tackles aspects of his life according to theme, from A for Abdul Quadir, to Z for Zimbabwe.

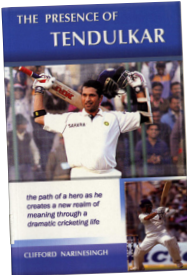




Vaibhav Purandare  
***Sachin Tendulkar: A Definitive Biography***

Roli Books, New Delhi 2005.

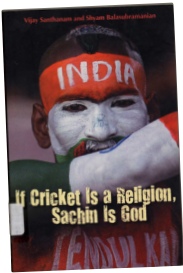
This is a detailed account of Tendulkar's life, from his childhood to 2004, with an emphasis on his remarkable achievements in cricket. It is aptly titled definitive.



Clifford Narinesingh  
***The Presence of Tendulkar***

Marine Sports and Royards, Mumbai, 2006.

The author, Clifford Narinesingh, describes Tendulkar as "living legendary icon". In this very well researched account of Tendulkar's career, Narinesingh celebrates Tendulkar's "creative skill and extraordinary accomplishments".

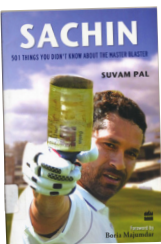


Vijay Santhanam and Shyam Balasubramanian  
***If Cricket is a Religion, Sachin is God***

HarperCollins India with India Today, New Delhi, 2009.

The authors of this book take a statistical approach to their subject. Vijay Santhanam and Shyam Balasubramanian present the case

that "Sachin is God" by quantifying his life story, cricketing achievements, and impact on Indians. Anecdotal and subjective opinions are presented to reinforce the authors' statistical analysis – an analysis that purports Tendulkar's superiority to other cricketers.



Suvam Pal  
***Sachin: 501 things you didn't know about the Master Blaster***

HarperCollins Publishers India and The India Today Group, Noida (India), 2011

A great book for quizmasters and organisers of cricket trivia nights. The author Suvam Pal has amassed 501 questions on Sachin Tendulkar's cricket career and his life. The chapters are interspersed with interesting Tendulkar facts.

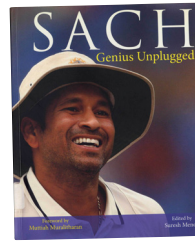


Gautama Bhattacharya  
***Sach***

Vikas, New Delhi, 2011.

This book is a compilation of 83 prominent cricketers and commentators discussing, and usually praising, Sachin Tendulkar. The foreword was by

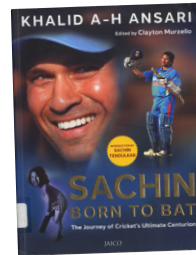
Mahendra Singh Dhoni, and it also includes Greg Chapell's insight into his at times fragile relationship with the subject, when Chapell was coaching India.



Suresh Menon (ed.)  
***Sach: Genius Unplugged***

Westland, New Delhi, [2011]

A compact book with chapters on Tendulkar contributed by cricketers and writers. The former includes such luminaries as Rahul Dravid, Anil Kumble and Bishan Bedi, with the latter from wordsmiths like Gideon Haigh, Greg Baum and Peter Roebuck. Roebuck wrote of Tendulkar, "He resembles Mozart. A prodigy incapable even in childhood of producing an ugly note."



Khalid A-H Ansari and Clayton Murzello (ed.)  
***Sachin: Born to Bat: The Journey of Cricket's Ultimate Centurion***

Jaico Publishing House, Ahmedabad, 2012.

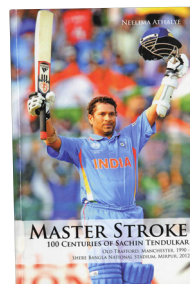
Introduced by Sachin Tendulkar, this anthology endeavours "to explore the role of the mind, body and soul" of Sachin Tendulkar. Sunil Gavaskar, Harsha Bhogle, Ian Chappell and Peter Roebuck are a few of the coaches, cricketers, and famous cricket enthusiasts, who made contributions to the book. The articles are generously accompanied by photographs from his career.



Nirmal Shekar (ed.)  
***Sachin: Tribute to a Legend***

Kasturi & Sons Ltd. Chennai, 2012.

Tendulkar was the first player to score 100 centuries at international level. A special issue of the *The Hindu* magazine, and edited by its sports editor, celebrates Tendulkar's century of centuries across all formats of international cricket. Each century is covered by a colour single page account, including the match summary.

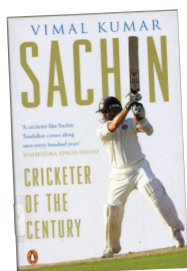


Neelima Athalye  
***Master stroke: 100 centuries of Sachin Tendulkar: Old Trafford, Manchester 1990 - Shere Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur 2012***

Sakal Publications, Pune (India), 2012.

Published shortly after Tendulkar made his 100th century, this book chronicles each of Tendulkar's centuries in word and picture. All of his centuries are recorded with a scorecard, as well as some commentary, placing Tendulkar's tons in particular context.



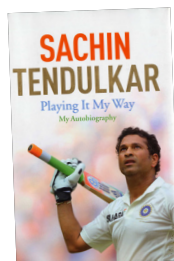


Vimal Kumar  
***Sachin: Cricketer of the Century***

Penguin Books, New Delhi, 2013.

A reflection on Tendulkar's 100 international centuries. The centuries are arranged in two sections according to format, Test and One Day International. It includes commentaries on Tendulkar as well as particular

matches and innings by his opponents, teammates and commentators.

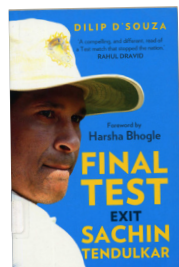


Sachin Tendulkar with Boria Majumdar  
***Sachin Tendulkar: Playing It My Way: My Autobiography***

Hodder & Stoughton, London, 2014.

Sachin Tendulkar played his final Test in November 2013. Within the year a number

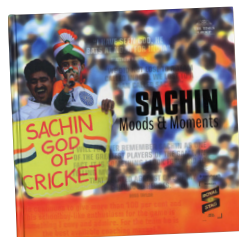
of Tendulkar biographies were published, including his autobiography. It covers his childhood until his retirement. Of this book Suresh Menon of ESPNcricinfo wrote that, "His autobiography merely endorses the public image of the man, instead of giving us the insights we've been craving".



Dilip D'Souza  
***Final Test: Exit Sachin Tendulkar***

Random House India, Haryana (India), 2014.

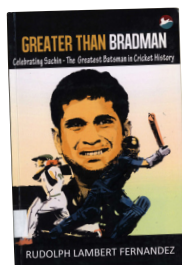
Dilip D'Souza's account of Tendulkar's final match and the hype and emotion that surrounded it. His 200th and final Test was against the West Indies in his home city of Mumbai.



Jai Narayan Ram (ed.)  
***Sachin: Moods & Moments***

Bennett, Coleman & Co., New Delhi, 2014.

A photographic celebration of Sachin Tendulkar's career.

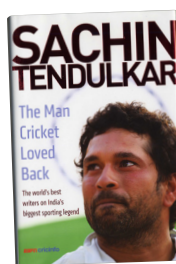


Rudolph Lambert Fernandez  
***Greater than Bradman: Celebrating Sachin - the greatest batsman in cricket history***

Cinnamon Teal Publishing, Goa (India), 2014.

The book asserts that Tendulkar "is the greatest batsman in cricket history".

Fernandez analyses international (not domestic) cricket statistics to compare Sachin Tendulkar with Don Bradman, the prolific run scorer of the 1930s and 1940s.

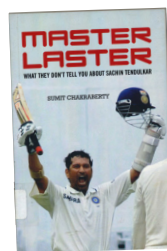


ESPNcricinfo  
***Sachin Tendulkar: The Man Cricket Loved Back: The world's best writers on India's biggest sporting legend***

Penguin Viking, New Delhi, 2014.

An anthology published soon after Tendulkar retired from Test cricket by the authoritative cricket website ESPNcricinfo.

Introduced by ESPNcricinfo's editor-in-chief Sambit Bal, the book includes contributions, both historical and commissioned pieces, from Tendulkar's teammates, rivals and respected writers such as Gideon Haigh. It also republished historical interviews with Tendulkar.

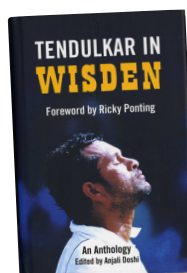


Sumit Chakrabarty  
***Master Laster: what they don't tell you about Sachin Tendulkar***

Hay House, New Delhi, 2014.

A critical reappraisal of Sachin Tendulkar's on field legacy. It approaches Tendulkar from the perspective that

cricket is a team sport. Chakrabarty uses statistics to suggest that Tendulkar rarely made great numbers of runs when they were needed by the team. For example he noted only one of his 51 Test centuries was scored during a successful second innings run chase.

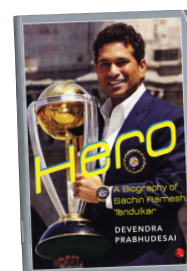


Anjali Doshi (ed.)  
***Tendulkar in Wisden: An Anthology***

Bloomsbury, New Delhi, 2016.

A compilation of articles about Tendulkar, and accounts of his greatest innings, as published in Wisden publications from 1989. Includes historical interviews with Tendulkar

and reflections by his peers and cricket writers such as Mike Coward.



Devendra Prabhudesai,  
***Hero: A Biography of Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar***

Rupa Publications India, New Delhi, 2017

A detailed 496 page biography incorporating Tendulkar's great achievements and his occasional low moments.



## A Treasure of the MCC Library Collection

# The Tarraville Cricket Club's 1858 Minute Book

By Trevor Ruddell



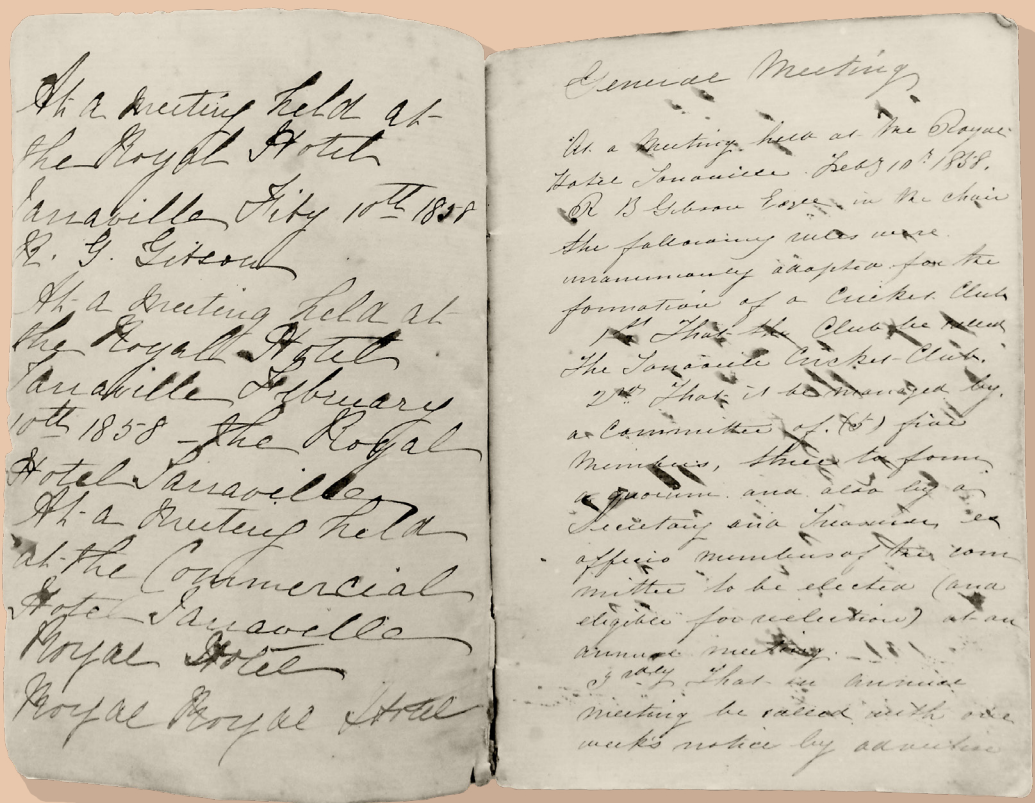
Tarraville, situated on the Tarra River, about five kilometres east of Alberton in South Gippsland was first surveyed in 1843. In 1841 Port Albert was established as the major supply port for pioneers between Sydney and Melbourne, until completion of the railway in 1878 which connected Melbourne to Sale. In the 1850s Tarraville was the largest town in Gippsland with a population of 219, mainly English, Irish & Scottish free settlers. The little village boasted 50 buildings and communications to Port Phillip, Melbourne was exclusively by sea via Port Albert. For some decades the district was as closely connected to Northern Tasmania as it was to the Port Phillip settlement. It would not be until the 1860s that wheeled vehicles navigated Moe Swamp, and the mid-1860s before stagecoaches regularly travelled from Melbourne to Gippsland. In 1892 a railway service extended to Port Albert.

The isolated early settlers of Tarraville created institutions familiar to most small colonial towns of the 1850s, such as Anglican, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic churches, a police office, a mechanics institute, and a hotel – the Royal Hotel.

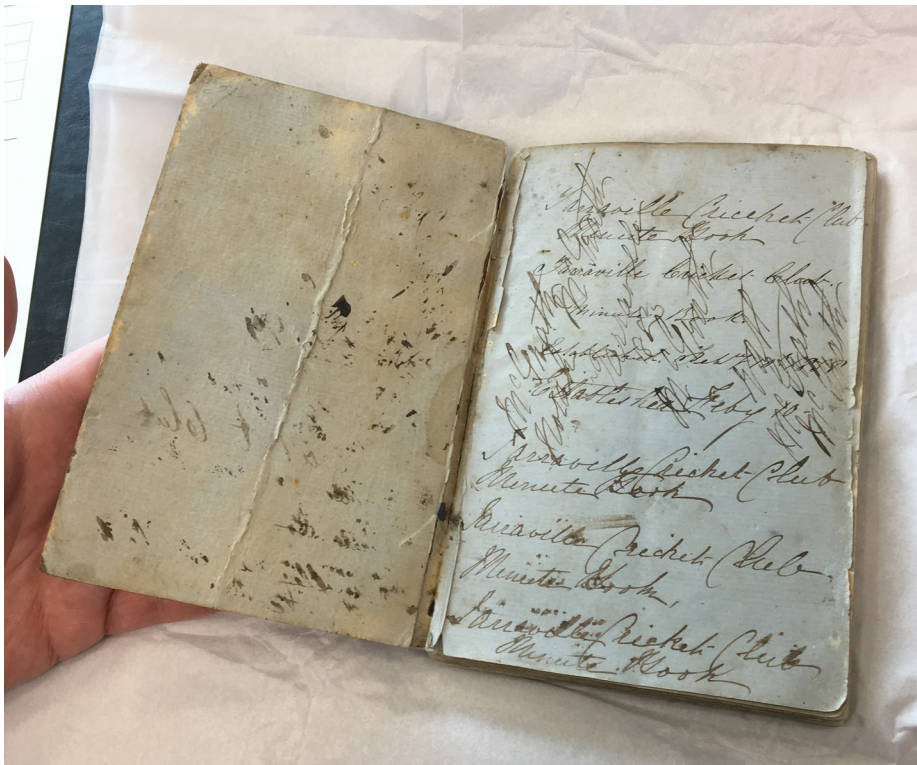
It was at this Royal Hotel that the first attempts were made to establish a cricket club in the town during October 1857. On February 2, 1858, a cricket team from Port Albert journeyed to Tarraville for a match. The men from Tarra won by an innings and 25 runs. While cricket was not unknown to Tarraville, the Tarraville Cricket Club was formally constituted on February 10, 1858. Given the town's isolation, Tarraville's early club matches were against the South Gippsland Cricket Club, based

at Port Albert. Such was the dearth of competition, the two clubs would co-operate in matches, such as that between married and single members of the clubs. This married versus single match began on January 1, 1859, but was not terminated until November 21, the same year (the married men won by eight wickets).

Earlier this year the MCC Library was contacted by Helen Hill, a descendant of the Lamb family. John Lamb was named as one of the 23 inaugural members of the Tarraville Cricket Club.<sup>1</sup> The Lamb family's heritage collections were inherited by Helen Hill née Lamb in 1972. "Before I inherited the collection," Helen wrote, "it had been stored in boxes and old tea chests and kept in roof spaces, a stable loft, a farm







the club, and lists of members from the 1858/59 season – such as John Lamb. John Lamb purchased a half acre block in Tarraville on October 12, 1857.<sup>2</sup> Decimus Lamb, a young surveyor, son of John Lamb, Master of Corpus Christi Cambridge arrived at Sydney 1851 and came to Gippsland via Deniliquin.

The Lamb family's association with Tarraville cricket continued into the early twentieth century. Helen recalled her father, Robert Lamb's "story of the Sandringham Cricket Club's annual visits to play cricket against Tarraville. The Ray / Lamb families were part of hosting the event and cricketers during the days they were in Tarraville." A Tarraville Cricket Club still exists and plays in the Alberton Cricket Association.

The Tarraville 1858-72 minute book is more than a family heirloom or memento, it is a tangible link to early organised cricket in South Gippsland. Helen kindly donated it to the [MCC Library](#) on behalf of

the Lamb/Ray family in November 2018. It joins a diverse array of items in the MCC's heritage collections from other Australian sporting bodies at all levels of competition – from the Victorian Football League to the defunct Federal Football League, from the Australian and Victorian Women's Cricket Archives to the McConchie Family Cricket Minutes. The Tarraville Cricket Club minute book is a unique item, and a relic from the cradle days of organized sport in Gippsland.

barn, a garage. In all, five different locations. It survived the 1983 Macedon Ash Wednesday fires under my care. Taking into account the number of moves and times it could have been thrown out or destroyed, it survived the passage of time remarkably well." These boxes contained, "stuff covering three generations of family memorabilia from early settlers to mid-twentieth century. I then stored it for another 46 years until I retired..."

Among the many items was an old wooden ship cabin box engraved with the name of Decimus Lamb. In it was a small 17.5 x 10cm hard cover book. It was the Tarraville club's original minute book covering a period from its first meeting on February 10, 1858 to October 10, 1872. Each entry was written in cursive and on many pages, the text was written across a page one way and then turned 180 degrees and written over the previous words. As well as minutes from that and subsequent meetings it included the early rules of

**Right:** Helen Hill and MCC Deputy Librarian Trevor Ruddell discuss the minute book.

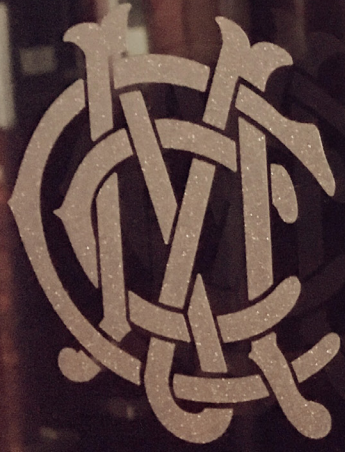


## Hyperlinks

1. ["Tarraville Cricket Club", Gippsland Guardian, February 12, 1858, p.2](#)
2. [Gippsland Times, March 4, 1918, p.3. Town of Tarraville: Parish of Tarra Tarra: County of Buln Buln \(map\), Department of Lands and Survey, Melbourne, 1 April 1932.](#)

[Town of Tarraville: Parish of Tarra Tarra: County of Buln Buln \(map\), Department of Lands and Survey, Melbourne, 1 April 1932](#)





# Library

## *From Season to Season: Life in the MCC Library*

*By Lynda Carroll*



**In late 2017 Lynda Carroll joined the MCC Library's cohort of match day casual staff. Lynda joined the team with an extensive knowledge of sports literature and heritage – particularly that of Australian football and the Melbourne Football Club, the topic of her PhD. A member of the MCC and a life member of the football club, she has authored a number of books on her beloved Dees and is a regular contributor to football publications such as the *Football Record*. At the end of her first year at the Library she reflected on her experiences here.**

As life at the MCG continues at its regular pace, with football giving way to cricket, interspersed with the occasional novelty of a concert, rugby or wrestling, one area of the ground continues to draw the crowds all year round.

A steady murmur can usually be found here, probably in much the same way as when the first reading room was put in place in 1881, just a few years after the donation of thirteen bound volumes of *The Australasian* saw the foundation of the MCC Library in 1873.

The Library – in its present location since 2006 – has continued to expand and provide an integral resource ever since. Here is the heart of information and wonderful stories, a meeting place, a welcome retreat on a busy day,

and a spectacular viewing platform to the city skyline in all weathers. Many are surprised at the expanse of the Library when they first visit, while others attend weekly, making it part of their regular MCG routine.

Living a cricket season and a football season – with much activity besides – gives an insight into this special corner of the MCG.

As quiet Sheffield Shield days and zippy State one-dayers gave way to the explosion of a Boxing Day Test – against the 'old enemy' – 2017 wound up with a buzz of activity. As the rain fell on the fourth day, and Alastair Cook's record 244\* runs registered on both the ground and the scoreboard display above the Percy Beames Bar, it was another statistic to be utilised in the Library, particularly the regular fact sheets.







The Library's fact sheets – compiled by a dedicated band of volunteers – are a favourite feature for many from the media to members, covering stats, stories and minutiae around every game on the MCG, and providing answers to most sporting conundrums. However, there are always surprises, as queries noted during each game clearly display. A prime example emerged with one patron wondering about the use of the AFL coaches' boxes during the cricket season. This was soon established – one, at least, is accommodation for the third umpire.

With a constant stream of patrons – 1101 on that inclement fourth day of the Boxing Day Test – new members were welcomed, and others such as Trevor Finlayson – author of the Monash University Cricket Club history – tracked down their works on the shelves. On Day Five, practicalities were addressed, with patrons keen to sort out their subscriptions to *The Yorker* for the upcoming year, and – far from the nineteenth century now – Wi Fi access being sorted out for others.

While a serene Melbourne Cricket Club versus Marylebone Cricket Club fixture rounded out the year, Melbourne Stars took on Brisbane Heat on January 2, 2018, in a BBL encounter that literally provided a scorching start to 2018. This was echoed by a BBL and WBBL double just days later, with Melbourne Stars v Melbourne Renegades drawing on local allegiances, and 297 patrons taking a break from the heat in the Library. Evidence of a younger crowd came with requests for children's sporting books – a colourful feature of the Library's collection – and discussions of cricket ranging from the East Doncaster Cricket Club to Test century publications.

As the weather started to cool, and cricket left the pitch, the tenor of discussions

**Above:** MCC Library volunteers Edward Cohen and Gaye Fitzpatrick proof read the Spring 2018 Yorker.

**Right:** The Demons enter the field prior to the first semi final against Hawthorn.

changed, with one of the first signs being a query regarding Melbourne Football Club publications. As the goalposts were restored to their rightful place, it was time for the ball to be bounced on Season 2018.

Kicking off with the Richmond v Carlton blockbuster in Round One, it was evident during this first weekend that the Library was new to many, and loved by many others. The first double century attendance came at the Melbourne vs Geelong encounter, and note was made of the attendance: "In the first 1¼ hours about 8-9 'first timers' in Library – welcomed them and issued bookmarks."

The bookmarks are a feature of Library life, ornately illustrated and a collectable in their own right, as well as carrying contact details and opening hours information. "Take a bookmark!" is a constant match day refrain, enabling visitors to follow up everything from detailed queries to donation prospects during the week.

Along with the 'first timers' making their way to the Library, the student population regularly found refuge, tapping away in relative peace until the doors closed at the end of half time. "Thank you for the hospitality!" was the frequent response, as anxious figures headed off, laptops stashed and notes bulging from bags.

The variety of topics canvassed would boggle many a mind. When Geelong took on Hawthorn in Round Two, the request from one of the 273 in attendance was for boxing books. When







Richmond played Hawthorn in Round Three, basketball books were in favour. When the Blues met the Bombers in Round Eight, of the 138 in attendance, at least two were seeking surfing and horse racing related material.

Of course, football discussions and queries held sway, from tracking down a photo of an 1897 Essendon playing ancestor, to looking at the 1900 Melbourne premiership side (a fine lineup!). Praise was also offered continually for the fact sheets, with many patrons collecting every one issued.

Match day aside, the Library is always a hive of activity, and this was especially the case for Rare Book Week in July. Playing host to the launch of Daniel Oakman's *Oppy: The Life of Sir Hubert Opperman*, as well as a panel discussion regarding the collection of sporting books, it was testament that many publications have started their life in this corner of the MCG.

Book launches are a welcome Library highlight, and 2018 was no exception. From James Coventry's *Footballistics*, traversing data analysis in football, to Dan Eddy's *The Norm Smith Medallists*, complemented by the presence of Greg Williams, Gary Ayres, David Parkin and Simon Madden; from Craig Reece's *Patriotic Cricketers*, investigating East Melbourne and Hawthorn Cricket Club players who served in the First World War, to Stephen Walters' *A Forgotten Adventure*, exploring Australia's cricket tour to New Zealand in 1946, every launch was a memorable and valued occasion. We were treated to the introduction of Ian Syson's *The Game That Never Happened: The Vanishing History of Soccer in Australia*, and enthralled by Gideon Haigh's timely publication

**Top Left:** At the launch with Dan Eddy (far right) for his *The Norm Smith Medallists* book launch are (left to right) Greg Williams, Gary Ayres, David Parkin and Simon Madden.

**Top Right:** Stephen Walters at the event for his book, *A Forgotten Adventure*.

**Centre:** Russell Jackson, Gideon Haigh and MCC Librarian David Studham discuss rare sports books for Rare Book Week.



of *Crossing The Line: How Australian cricket lost its way*.

Books naturally need readers, and many who visit the Library are dedicated bookworms. Evidence of this came when a patron at the Essendon v Geelong game queried reading access during the week. Informed that he could make an appointment – whether MCC member or not – to arrange a weekday visit, the patron explained that he had been "reading the same volume for five years". Whether it was an extremely long volume, or whether repeat readings were involved, was not ascertained.

The season ticked on, with special features highlighting the evolution of events and occasions. Displays in the foyer and immediately outside the Library were noted by many, with early June compliments on the soccer World Cup displays, following those relating to the Commonwealth Games, and poignancy as tribute was paid to MCC members who died in the Great War, recognised by the *We Will Remember Them* display. Various sections of the MCC membership also made use of the Library's admired spaces and view, with the MCC Young Members holding their Gin Appreciation Night at the end of May.



Another special event came to the MCG in early June, with New South Wales and Queensland facing off in a firework sparkled Rugby League State of Origin encounter. While many of the 152 who visited the Library were first timers, the queries followed the trend of unpredictability, with requests to be directed to motor sports books, as well as detailed research into VFA history.

Requests on diverse topics – ranging from racing pigeons to Tottenham Hotspur, the 1948 Invincibles and tennis – continued flooding in on match days as the AFL finals loomed. With the first three finals each drawing crowds of over 400 to the Library, spirits were high throughout the ground. On grand final day, over 750 made their way through the bookshelves, from regulars to annual visitors, avid readers and wanderers gazing in amazement at the mass of people outside.

It was a memorable day at the end of a full season. The last query of the grand final was awaited with interest. Would it be another question about an obscure sport, a family member or opening hours?

“Do you have the fixtures for the Sheffield Shield yet?”

The season ends, the season starts, and life in the MCC Library continues.



**Top Right:** The fireworks display that preceded the Rugby League State of Origin match.

**Bottom Left:** The view from the Library reference desk during the AFL finals.

**Bottom Right:** The view from the MCC Library's windows on grand final day.





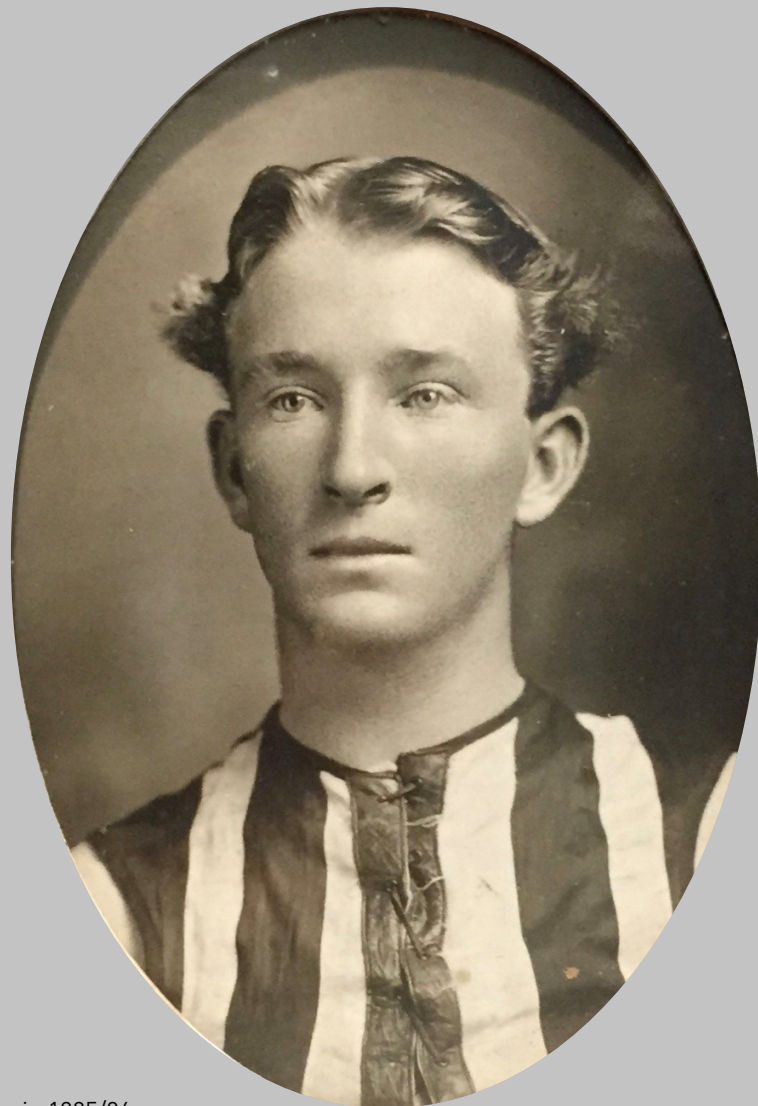
# Patrick 'Paddy' Gilchrist

*- among the greatest Victorian bowlers of all time!*

*By Stephen Flemming & Stephen Tully*

Patrick "Paddy" was a star all-round sportsman in the first few decades of the twentieth century, a special talent at both cricket and Australian Rules football.<sup>1</sup> As a cricketer he achieved records the likes of which will probably never be surpassed in suburban cricket circles. You won't find his name in *Wisden*, in the annals of the state's greatest players or in District Cricket records, but it is in the obscurity of suburban club archives where local newspapers and publications record his amazing achievements. When these are examined, a bowler of unrivalled proportions is revealed. Paddy is on record as having captured over 1480 first XI wickets (he never played below first XI level in his career) from over 220 matches while representing a handful of clubs in Melbourne's suburban associations. His career also included nineteen matches and thirty seven wickets post World War I at the North Melbourne Cricket Club, while they were participating in Melbourne's District Cricket competition.

Paddy was born on November 10, 1889, in Richmond and grew up on the then fringes of Melbourne's eastern suburbs in Blackburn and Mitcham. He first appeared in local cricket



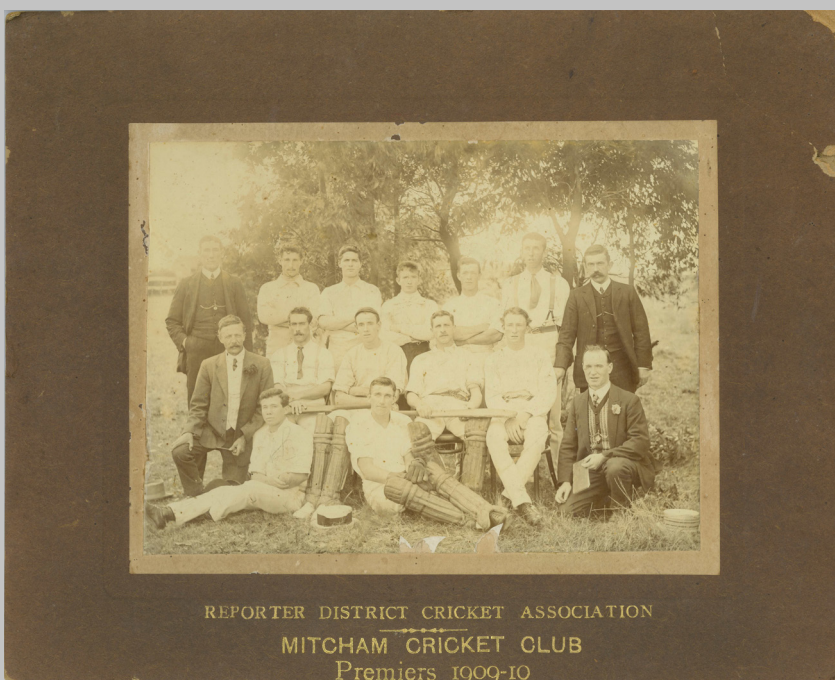
in 1905/06 debuting for the Blackburn Cricket Club in Round Two against St. Barnabas when he took 7/16 on the first Saturday played (Round 1 was washed out). At the end of his first season he had taken 33 wickets at 5.91 as a 17 year old! In an extraordinary achievement, for a youth of his age, he also won the 1905/06 Reporter District Cricket Association (RDCA) senior grade bowling average. This was the portent of things to come as he embarked on an incredible career over the next 20 or so seasons at five clubs in the RDCA.<sup>2</sup>

In 1906/07 he played the first round of the season for Blackburn before joining the Mitcham Cricket Club where he played for six of the following seven seasons, except for 1908/09 when he returned to Blackburn. In the 1906/07 season Mitcham Cricket Club had joined the Boroondara Electorate competition which consisted of clubs from Melbourne's

**Top Right:** Patrick "Paddy" Gilchrist as he appeared in a mounted photograph to celebrate Collingwood's 1910 premiership (Courtesy of Michael Roberts).

**Left:** The Mitcham Cricket Club, premiers 1909/10. Paddy Gilchrist is seated on the far right. (Courtesy of the Mitcham Cricket Club).

**Facing:** The 1911 grand final between Collingwood and Essendon. Paddy Gilchrist is wearing the number 5 guernsey. *Australasian*, September 23, 1911. (MCC Library collection)



inner eastern suburbs such as Camberwell, Canterbury, Box Hill and Surrey Hills. After taking 7/49 in the first match (6/18 & 1/31) for Blackburn, Paddy became the main strike bowler for Mitcham as he switched competitions and ended the season with another 30+ wicket haul. On January 19, 1907, he was selected to represent the Boroondara electorate competition in a representative match against the Victorian Junior Cricket Association (VJCA) – then the dominant sub-district cricket association in Melbourne.<sup>3</sup> The Boroondara team won the match with Paddy's 5/30 undoubtedly going a long way towards helping them do so.

Mitcham returned to the RDCA in 1907/08 when he again commenced the season in great form, taking his first 10 wicket match haul (10/35) in a Round 1 match against St. Barnabas. At the end of the season his wicket tally was 36 at 9.69 as he finished second in the association averages.

In 1908/09 he returned to his old club, Blackburn, and commenced the first of fourteen seasons in his career when he would take over 50 wickets. The highlight was his performance against Warrandyte when he took 8/10 & 6/15 (14/25 in the match) which was followed up in the next round by 11/62 against St. Barnabas who must have been heartily sick of being "run through" by Gilchrist every time he opposed them. At the season's end, Blackburn were defeated by Canterbury in the grand final, with Paddy contributing 50 and five wickets in the losing effort. He gained some solace however, when the RDCA announced at their annual "Smoke Night", that he had won the section's bowling average, having taken 61 wickets at the incredible average of just 4.65.

At the commencement of the 1909/10 season, Mitcham staged a coup by recruiting Paddy back to the club and he didn't let them down, leading all-comers again to a senior grade bowling average by taking 43 wickets in the home and away season at 4.18. His performances during the season included 8/25 and 4/18 (12/43 in the match) against Mooroolbark, 11/33 in the match against Croydon and he also showed his batting prowess with a highest score of 99 (caught). His batting and bowling led Mitcham into the finals when he almost single handedly snared the premierships for them, taking 12/47 in the semi final against East Burwood and 5/48 in the grand final victory against Canterbury, who were consigned to be runner up for the third season in succession.

Apart from his cricket exploits he was also becoming widely renowned for his football skill as a roving forward for Mitcham

and Blackburn, sharing in premierships and goal kicking awards in his first few seasons, while playing in the Reporter District Football Association (RDFA). As the 1910 RDFA season began he did his prospects of playing at a higher level no harm, when he opened the season with a rush of goals. Appointed captain of Mitcham he led from the front kicking goals in each match of the home and away season.<sup>4</sup>

Mitcham lost the challenge final to the powerful Camberwell F.C.<sup>5</sup> The match was played on July 16, 1910, however with the 1910 RDFA season shortened, and Victorian Football League (VFL) matches still in progress, Gilchrist's prowess at the winter sport was sought after. The following week, on July 23 (Round 13 of the VFL season), he debuted for the Collingwood Football Club's first XVIII at Essendon. He played the last seven matches of the home and away season, then the preliminary final and grand final when Collingwood defeated arch rivals Carlton by 14 points in just his ninth game. He played in the forward line alongside the great Dick Lee and contributed well in the remaining games of the season and throughout the final series.

*Gilchrist was given the honour of being the first player to wear Collingwood's number 5 guernsey*

The 1910/11 season began at Mitcham with Gilchrist absent for the pre-Christmas period, however with other star players covering for his absence they were still a force to be reckoned with. Gilchrist resumed playing in February 1911 and Mitcham were installed as hot favourites to win back to back RDCA premierships. He didn't let his team mates down in the remaining five matches, taking 36 wickets at 5.25 (including a Hat Trick) and winning not only another Premiership but also another Association Bowling average.

Gilchrist continued playing football for Collingwood in the 1911 season, when he played 17 of the 20 rounds of the VFL season, including the first semi final and the grand final which was lost by a goal to Essendon in a very close contest – 5 goals 11 behinds to 4 goals 11 behinds. The final was significant for future generations of VFL (AFL) followers as it was the first time that numbers were worn on the playing jerseys. Gilchrist was given the honour of being the first player to wear Collingwood's number 5 guernsey, since worn





by many other Magpie greats such as Gordon Coventry, Harry Collier, Terry Waters and Nathan Buckley.

At the conclusion of the 1911/12 cricket season both Templestowe and Mitcham had won 13 and lost one home and away matches. However, Templestowe was declared premiers by two points, 32 points to 30. In matches between Templestowe and Mitcham the score stood one all, so perhaps it was a shame that no grand final match ensued as it would have been a great battle between the two clubs.<sup>6</sup> To make the Mitcham supporters feel a little more

### ***Gilchrist took up the mantle as the association's number one bowler again in 1912/13***

aggrieved about their runners-up designation, Templestowe's extra two points came courtesy of an outright victory against the bottom placed team from their division – Ringwood. Ringwood took the field on day 2 of their final round match with only eight players, suggesting that this outright victory may be less meritorious than one normally achieved against a full team of 11. For the first time in several seasons Gilchrist was pipped for the Association's bowling award. Bert Chivers from the premier team; Templestowe, took 49 wickets at 6.71, just edging out Gilchrist who took 72 wickets at 6.74 from twelve matches.

Gilchrist spent much of the 1912 VFL season at Collingwood injured as the competitive levels he was playing football and cricket at, were starting to take their toll on his body. He could only manage eight of the eighteen matches played, and was beset by muscular injuries, as Collingwood slipped out of finals contention winning only nine of 18 matches played.

Determined to get Mitcham another cricket premiership Gilchrist took up the mantle as the association's number one bowler again in 1912/13 and was integral to the drama as the premiership season went right down to the wire with the final home and away match played at Surrey Park between the first placed Surrey Hills (21 points) and the second placed Mitcham (19 points). Mitcham needed to win the match outright to claim the premiership after falling behind the ladder leaders in Round 9 when they tied with 1911/12 nemesis Templestowe. Unfortunately, during the week, while training for football, Paddy sustained an injury which prevented him taking part in the final round. With his

The Ferntree Gully Football Club of 1913. Paddy Gilchrist is seated fourth from the left. [Courtesy of the Mitcham Cricket Club].

absence any chance Mitcham had of pulling off an outright victory were gone, and they had to settle for the runners-up position. Normal order was returned at the 1912/13 annual smoke night, when Gilchrist won another association bowling award (his fourth in five seasons) – this time accumulating 76 wickets at 4.66.

When the VFL resumed in 1913 he returned to Collingwood but played only in the Round 1 victory over Melbourne before the pressure of an impending wedding and the lure of better working conditions drew him out to the Ferntree Gully Football Club, as probably its first "professional" player. Gilchrist was offered cheap accommodation and employment by Henry Monk, father of Melbourne Football Club star player Miles "Bobby" Monk. At the time Monk was president of the Ferntree Gully football and cricket clubs.<sup>7</sup> Perhaps with sound reason, Paddy thought that the financial security of a good job and cheap accommodation was going to give his marriage a good start.

Gilchrist had played 37 matches for Collingwood (including the 1910 VFL grand final victory), where he kicked 37 goals and was stationed in the forward pocket alongside club legend Dick Lee, and played alongside other Collingwood pre-War greats such as Jock McHale, George Angus, Dan Minogue and Ted Rowell.

Having opened the new Ferntree Gully Recreation Reserve in 1912 and then won the RDFA Premiership in 1912, Monk and his very capable Secretary; George Lovell, were determined to do it all again. When Gilchrist came into the frame as a possible recruit, not only did they get their man, but in doing so almost guaranteed the delivery of a second premiership win in 1913, which duly arrived. At the time Monk and Lovell were one of the most influential administrative teams in the eastern suburban sporting landscape. With a new reserve and pavilion to call home, they soon convinced Gilchrist to turn out in the summer months for the Ferntree Gully Cricket Club. When the 1913/14 summer commenced, he greatly assisted the RDCA newcomers to quickly establish



themselves in the top bracket and into immediate contention for the premiership.

They won eight of the nine rounds played and met eventual premiers Surrey Hills in the semi final match when there was a complicated cross over between opposing teams in the two halves of the competition. Ferntree Gully dismissed Surrey Hills for 171 and was in a powerful position at 1/97 (Gilchrist 66\*) at stumps after the first day's play. Ferntree Gully's two trump batsmen were dismissed relatively cheaply on day 2 and the team then crashed to be all out for 155 (one man absent) with Gilchrist the last man dismissed for a defiant 90. When the season concluded he had again dominated with the ball, going oh so close to winning yet another RDFA Bowling average, this time by taking 71 Wickets at 6.31.

After being refused a Clearance to Echuca for the 1914 football season, he returned to Mitcham playing just a handful of matches. As the Great War began, he concentrated his sporting exploits on the cricket field, transferring allegiances to the Ringwood Cricket Club, as the Ferntree Gully Cricket Club went into recess. His playing performances at Ringwood make "boys own" reading.

In the 1914/15 and 1915/16 summers, he took an incredible 272 wickets from just 28 matches, which included 10 wickets in a match sixteen times! His best efforts included 15/29 (8/13 & 7/16) against East Burwood in 1914/15, 15/30 (8/3 & 7/27) against Blackburn in 1915/16 (a match in which he also made 101) and in the best all round double ever recorded in the BHRDCA's 130-plus year history; 11/57 (5/31 & 6/26) &

***Gilchrist was described as "...the greatest all round player seen in the competition since its beginning."***

201 against East Burwood in 1915/16. He won back to back association batting and bowling averages with 683 runs at 40.17 and 137 wickets at 6.96 in 1913/14 and 684 runs at 40.24 and 135 wickets at 6.30 in 1914/15. Ringwood, not surprisingly won both premierships, with Gilchrist being described at the 1915/16 Smoke night as "...the greatest all round player seen in the competition since its beginning."

In 1916, with the Great War absorbing the contributions of many "of age" males in the population, Paddy signed up for military service. He enlisted as a driver on January 10, 1916 in the 2nd Australian Divisional Ammunition column, joining the 6th Field Artillery Brigade, with the 6th Division reinforcements who travelled to England from Melbourne (via Tasmania) on HMAT *Berrima*. He listed his occupation as a tile maker (at the Mitcham Tile Company) upon enlistment, and his next of kin was named as his mother; Mary Ann of Whitehorse Road, Mitcham. When the War ended, he returned to Australia from England on the S.S. *Swakopmund*, on June 15, 1919.

After World War I, Paddy resumed his football career at Mitcham, where he played an instrumental role in the 1919 premiership victory when Mitcham defeated Canterbury by a solitary goal.<sup>8</sup> He also resumed his cricket career, playing for Ringwood in 1919/20, and captured 95 wickets at 8.37 in another stellar season. He finished second in the RDCA Bowling averages behind Bill Allen, who had played for Victoria prior to the war and was also playing league football for Melbourne in the VFL. Among his season highlights were two outstanding individual performances; in the Round 4

match against Doncaster he took 10/25 in their 1st Innings (16/54 in the match) and then, when representing the RDCA in their annual challenge match against the Melbourne Cricket Club (played at the MCG on ANA Day – January 26, 1920), he took 7/37 and scored 56 in a match when the RDCA representative team soundly defeated the all-powerful M.C.C. by 200 runs.

What led to his next move is unknown, however on the cusp of turning 31 years of age Paddy was lured to Victorian District Cricket (later renamed Premier Cricket) ranks, moving to the North Melbourne club with whom he represented for the next three seasons from 1920/21 until January 1923. During this period, he played 19 1st XI games taking 37 wickets at 27.67 with best figures of 6/38 and twice capturing 5 wickets in an innings. He made 170 runs at 9.44 with a top score of 20. His record indicates a useful career at district level without being outstanding which is perhaps not surprising considering his age. One highlight of his District Cricket career occurred at the end of the 1920/21 season when North Melbourne played a match against the RDCA representative team on Easter Monday at Box Hill.<sup>9</sup> Bowling for North Melbourne against many of his pre-war peers, Paddy took all 10 wickets in an innings for the second time in his career, ending the match with figures of 10/19 from his 10 overs. Ten wickets in an innings is a rare feat but to do it against an association representative team, usually made up of the best players in the competition, is an incredible achievement.

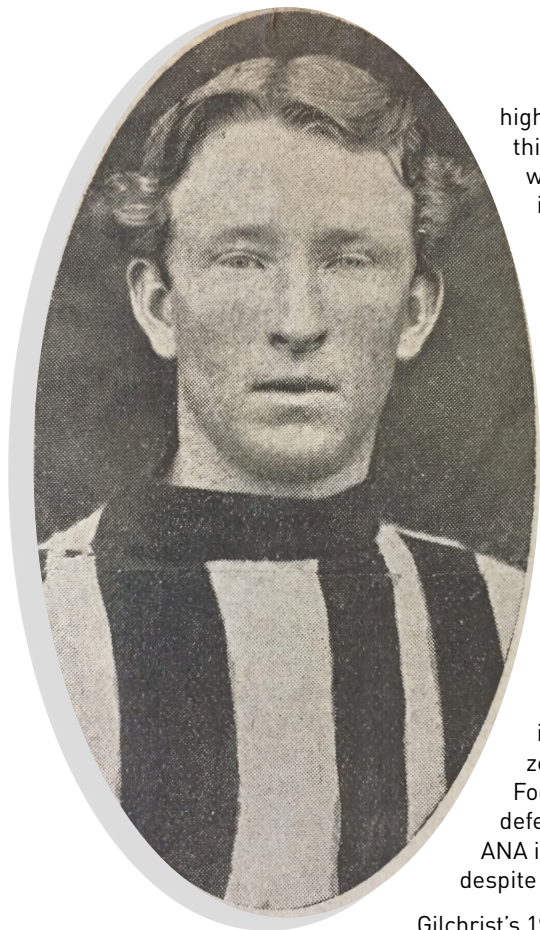
His District Cricket career ended in 1923 and he missed the 1923/24 local cricket season as the birth of his first child occurred (apart from a handful of midweek matches when he represented the *Herald* cricket team). He did however resume football hostilities as one of the first captain-coaches appointed to a Victorian country club, where he was sought after as an ex-VFL and VFA player of some renown.<sup>10</sup> He captain-coached the Castlemaine Foundry cricket team in 1924 and then the Mortlake Football Club in 1925.

He resumed playing cricket in the RDCA for Doncaster Cricket Club post-Christmas in 1924/25 and also played for them in the following season prior to Christmas in the 1925/26 season, before commencing a playing career, post-Christmas, with the South Melbourne Footballers Cricket Club (SMFCC) in the VJCA.<sup>11</sup> For the next six seasons Gilchrist dominated the VJCA as one of the greatest bowlers in the association's long history.

After playing for Doncaster in the first four matches of the 1925/26 season (27 wickets at 9.93), he moved to the SMFCC and proceeded to add sixty one wickets to end the season with 88 wickets. Included among his best efforts for the season were 12/69 (8/36 including a hat trick and 4/33 in the match) against Yarraville and 10/95 in the match against Flemington-Kensington. In a rare cricket disappointment his team went down to Richmond City in the 1925/26 semi final, but Gilchrist, who contributed 9/85 for the match could hardly be blamed. He was duly rewarded with another individual gong at the end of the season when the VJCA announced he was the Bowling Average winner with 52 wickets at 8.31.

As the 1926/27 season commenced, Gilchrist was joined in the attack by well known South Melbourne Football Club identity; Roy Cazaly as they united to become the most formidable bowling attack in the competition. Paddy led all comers again with 123 wickets at 6.37 including six 10 wicket match hauls, led by his performance of 15/76 against their 1925/26 vanquishers; Richmond City. This match was





highlighted by his third haul of ten wickets in an innings when he equalled his earlier effort against Doncaster in 1919/20, taking 10/25. Earlier in the season he had also taken match figures of 12/48 against Ascot Vale and this match featured his fourth senior grade hat trick. Unfortunately, it all came to zero again as the Footballer's were defeated by Clifton Hill ANA in the grand final, despite Gilchrist's 6/44.

Gilchrist's 1927/28 season for the SMFCC was curtailed by an illness, but not before he had commenced the season with a bang against Middle Park. In yet another stellar season opener he skittled the Middle Park batsmen, taking 12/57, including another hat trick. Four rounds later his illness and recovery took priority over cricket and his season record read:

**Matches Played:** four  
**Wickets Taken:** 39 at 7/79  
**Runs Made:** 184 at 46.00

He resumed playing cricket for the SMFCC the following season in December 1928 and had an immediate impact in the Round 5 match against Havelock, with the amazing match double of 13/47 (8/26 including his fifth hat trick and 5/21) and a century (100 not out). Despite his best efforts (59 wickets at 8.47 and 300 runs at 50.00), he finished the 1928/29 season without reward again as the SMFCC were bundled out of the finals by a rampant Richmond Districts, who won the semi final comfortably (despite Gilchrist taking 6/120 and making 61 in the match).

Soon after the start of the 1929/30, he turned 40 years of age but was still a force to be reckoned with in the VJCA. At the end of the season he had taken 60 wickets at 9.28 and twice added to his 10 wicket match hauls. Once again, however, it was not enough to propel his team into the grand final, with arch rivals Richmond Districts accounting for South Melbourne Footballers in the semi final.

As the 1930/31 season commenced two important decisions were made that would draw down the curtain on Gilchrist's illustrious sporting career. The most significant of these was the VJCA announcement that all rounds played after Christmas in the senior grade would be moved to Turf wickets and that all clubs would be required to identify a turf venue that they could establish as their home base. The club had already made overtures to the South Melbourne Council

and the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works (Manager of the Albert Park Lake complex) for permanent use of an oval in either Albert Park, Middle Park, Port Melbourne or South Melbourne, but were refused and were resigned to the fact that this would be their last season in the VJCA.

The second of these decisions was Gilchrist's appointment, in his final season, to the captaincy of the SMFCC.<sup>12</sup> A big effort was made by the club to help Paddy go out on top and his contribution as on field leader ensured this would be the case. Five times he took 10 wickets in a match with his performances in the last two games of the season being the highlights.

His performance of 13/55 (6/32 and 7/23) was the most significant contribution in the SMFCC semi final victory over Tooronga. He then backed up this performance in the grand final against Richmond Districts when he took 10/49 (5/28 and 5/21) in the match. This effort coupled with his batting contribution (22 and 38) ensured that a long awaited premiership was a fitting way to end his stellar career. At the conclusion of Gilchrist's final season he had taken 89 wickets at 5.09 and while his batting prowess had waned, he had still contributed a useful 250 runs at 25.00.<sup>13</sup>

*...must be among the greatest of all time at any level of cricket in Australia.*

The 1930/31 VJCA premiership brought the curtain down on an amazing cricket journey that, although interrupted by war, had spanned almost three decades and must be among the greatest of all time at any level of cricket in Australia. His talents as a cricketer, especially as a bowler, enabled him to excel at all levels he played at. There also cannot have been too many footballers who have walked straight from their suburban team, mid-season, into a VFL Senior team, and played in a winning VFL premiership side just nine matches later.

Alongside this football achievement, his cricket career summary makes incredible reading<sup>14</sup>.

**Matches played** – 226, **Runs made** – 5,640 at 34.39,  
**Wickets taken** – 1,484 at 7.45

**Premierships** – 6: 5 in the RDCA and 1 in the VJCA

**Runner Up** – 5: 3 in the RDCA and 2 in the VJCA

**Association Batting Averages** – 2: 1914/15 (Ringwood), 1915/16 (Ringwood)

**Runner Up** – Nil:

**Association Bowling Averages** – 10: 1905/06 (Blackburn), 1908/09 (Blackburn), 1909/10 (Mitcham), 1910/11 (Mitcham), 1912/13 (Mitcham), 1914/15 (Ringwood), 1915/16 (Ringwood), 1925/26 (Sth. Melb. Footballers), 1926/27 (Sth. Melb. Footballers), 1928/29 (Sth. Melb. Footballers)

**Runner Up** – 5: 1907/08 (Mitcham), 1911/12 (Mitcham), 1913/14 (Ferntree Gully), 1919/20 (Ringwood), 1930/31 (Sth. Melb. Footballers)<sup>15</sup>

**Highest Scores (≥90)** – 201, 101, 100\*, 99, 98\*, 93, 90, 90

**Best Bowling (Innings)** – 10/19, 10/25, 10/25

**Best Bowling (Match)** – 16/54, 15/29, 15/30, 15/76, 14/25,

14/33, 14/53, 14/95,  
14/113

**Career Hat Tricks – 6**

**10 or more Wkts/Match**  
– 51 times, **7 or more**  
**Wkts/Inn's** – 47 times, **5**  
**or more Wkts/Inn's** – 155  
times

Apart from his short stay residing at Ferntree Gully and while he was away from Melbourne at his country football clubs, he lived in Mitcham for much of his life until the 1960s. The grandson of Paddy's brother Tom, his grandnephew; Glen, recalled visiting Paddy in the 1950s and seeing a pile of "silver" sporting trophies under his house. What a collection they would have been.

Patrick "Paddy" Gilchrist passed away aged 80 on August 7, 1970, at the Heidelberg Repat Hospital



and is buried at Box Hill Cemetery in the same plot as his brother Thomas (1889-1964) and Thomas' son William Alfred (c.1925 -2003). As well as his brother, Thomas, he had two sisters, Frances and Lena. He was married to Agnes who pre-deceased him, while only child Patrick (also Paddy) Jnr. was married to Dorothy and they had four children, Shane, Gary, Bob and Karen.

**Stephen Flemming is a MCC Library Volunteer and Statistician with the Ferntree Gully Cricket Club. Stephen Tully is a Mitcham Cricket Club historian.**

## Endnotes:

1. So familiar was his moniker 'Paddy', that often local press referred to him as Paddy instead of his real name; Patrick
2. The Reporter District Cricket Association (now known as the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association - BHRDCA) is the oldest hard wicket competition still operating in Victoria – Established 1890
3. The Victorian Sub District Cricket Association did not commence until 1908
4. The 1910 RDFA Season was contested among 10 Clubs who played each other once before a series of Challenge finals was played between the top teams to determine the Premier.
5. Camberwell won a Hat Trick of premierships in the RDFA – 1907, 1908 & 1909 and while Runners up in 1910, they also emerged victorious in 1911, before, post World War One, becoming a VFA team in the mid 1920's
6. In many suburban sporting competitions prior to World War One the Premier was decided by ladder position, and not by a contested final series at the end of the Home and Away rounds
7. Paddy married his wife Agnes during the Christmas break of the 1913/14 cricket season
8. He also led Mitcham FC as Captain to a premiership in the RDFA in 1921 before taking up Captain/Coach roles in Country Victoria
9. District club's often toured Victoria post season playing against local and Association representative teams
10. Paddy Gilchrist also played a handful of games for the Footscray Football Club (pre VFL years) in the War years and in the early 1920's
11. VJCA – Victorian Junior Cricket Association – at the time ranked below District or Premier cricket (commenced 1906) and Sub District cricket (commenced 1908)
12. He had already announced to the SMFCC Committee and Players that this would be his final season
13. In his final season, Paddy won his 10th Association Bowling average (and he was Runner up on 5 other occasions)
14. Of the 226 matches identified during this research, the authors are aware that these records cover probably about 95% of Paddy's career achievements, with some innings results not well recorded in local newspapers or maintained in Club or cricket archives anywhere else researched.
15. Batting and Bowling Averages are awarded only for runs made and wickets taken in Home & Away seasons and do not include performances in finals matches

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*In Sickness and in Health*

# **A Nation's Undying Love for the Game**

*By Andrew Young*

**Andrew Young is a provisional member of the Melbourne Cricket Club. He wrote this article for his journalism class for a Bachelor of Arts course at the University of Melbourne, with a Major in Media Communications.**

"He cheated. He did the wrong thing - why did he do the wrong thing?"

I have known seven-year-old Charlie McQuire for just under a year now - having first met his father, Anthony, who is a specialist mental skills coach at the Melbourne University Cricket Club. And that is how Charlie surmised the actions of his then hero, David Warner, when his role in the Cape-Town ball tampering fiasco became apparent.

What is striking about Charlie, who comes to all of our club matches, is his undying passion for sport, and more specifically, cricket. In an era where sport has come to be seen as a commodity to be bought and sold by advertisers, and where cricket in particular in Australia, has recently been rocked by player pay disputes, the ball tampering scandal, and the most recent television rights deal, it's easy to see how the cricket can get lost. It's easy to see why young

people might miss the point - and fall in love with the bright lights, Kids' (or should that be KidZ) Zones, and various paraphernalia which inevitably accompanies the game at the highest level. Cricket, in a professional setting is losing its purity, and has undergone significant



change and trauma, and attitudes seem to be changing amongst those who play it. After all, if not playing for big bucks and in front of big crowds, why play at all? Stories like Charlie's are both refreshing and fortifying; the unfettered passion which pervades his sporting pursuits is a pertinent reminder that when it comes to cricket at the grass roots, the game itself trumps all.

I visited the McQuire household last week for a post season review with Anthony, and after chatting cricket for a while, it was time to play. Charlie hurries to retrieve his two favourite bats, a pair of gloves and helmet, before taking guard; readying himself for my medium-pacers. He sets an imaginary field, "the tree and the window are out, over the roof is six." Anthony takes his place as wicket-keeper, playfully chirping his son. It quickly becomes apparent that anything I dish up is fodder for the youngster, who deposits two of my first six deliveries over the aforementioned roof. With a technique shaped by a desire to hit the ball hard and exude maximum enjoyment, not to mirror the proverbial cricketing 'textbook', Charlie whips straight balls through mid-wicket, and takes a liking to lofting anything wide over an imaginary cover fieldsman. Before long, he proudly proclaims he has made his way to 96, just four runs shy of yet another backyard century. The next ball is clubbed through the leg side for two, 98. Then he plays and misses outside his off stump; regardless of age or motivation, the 'nervous nineties' afflict any batsman. Nevertheless, he calmly plays the next ball down the ground, and is quick to raise his arms in a well-rehearsed celebration routine. Another hundred, well batted Charlie.

Charlie can't explain why he loves playing cricket; it's just something he enjoys doing. His father tells me "it's a natural affection." Charlie hasn't fallen for the advertising, or the



carnival-like attraction of a night at the Big Bash League. Nor does he know or care about the potential to make a squillion from playing the game, or the status that could come with it. Test cricket is his favourite format, and he cried when David Warner gave his post sandpaper press conference. Raw passion and pure innocence define Charlie's relationship with cricket, and these intrinsic traits are what make sport, at its most fundamental level, so special.

Esteemed cricket writer and broadcaster, Mike Coward, shares concerns about the game's direction. For Coward, who has seen cricket transition through World Series, and now the growth of the shorter formats of the game, he is not sure how much revolution he can take. As for the English Cricket Board's most recent proposal for 100 ball cricket, well that leaves him stumped. Indeed, money talks but at times it seems to talk louder than the 140 year history of Test Match cricket. He describes twenty-twenty cricket as "unwriteable", and includes One Day cricket in the conversation when suggesting short form cricket is not particularly memorable, with World Cup matches being the only ones he tends to remember, though he called over 300 ODI's. So, for a man whose value in a game is "that it can be recalled", he finds himself a touch disillusioned with the state of cricket at the top level.

Happily, though, Mike's work as an ambassador for the Bradman Foundation and a director of the LBW Trust - Learning for a Better World, which utilises the cricket community to promote education and opportunity in the developing world - continually reassures him of the enduring strength and appeal of cricket, as well as the passion of its people. Regarding the Trust, he mentions the importance of cricket and cricketers broadening their reach and using their impact for good, espousing values of humility, courage and skill. He cites former New South Wales representative, Ryan Carters, as someone who truly understood his role as custodian of the game when playing and now someone who is having a positive impact more broadly as a member of the LBW Trust.

I shared an hour and a half in the car with Mike on the way back from Bowral on Saturday, where the Bradman Foundation held their Chairman's XI match and luncheon to round out the season. Though the weather was gloomy and largely unfit for cricket, a group of us, comprised of foundation members, board directors and general cricket tragics assembled at the Bradman Oval to embrace the spirit of cricket. I opened the batting alongside Mark Faraday,

executive lawyer at Henry William Lawyers in Sydney, was captained by Andrew Wildblood, then executive Director of Telstra Business and Enterprise, and fielded next to ex-international cricket umpire, Simon Taufel. While the match was not particularly close, and we spent large parts of it with hands in pockets, bent double against the cold, it highlighted cricket's unique ability to bring together a cross-section of people with a shared love of the game.

After the match, we moved into the Bradman Museum for lunch, where Mike Coward interviewed the last remaining member of the famous Australian "Invincibles" team, Neil Harvey. A voice of distinction in cricketing circles, Harvey spoke fondly of his experiences as a cricketer - experiences for which he, like his contemporaries, was not paid. He recalled that he did not even have a bat of his own during his first Test matches, but he did harbour an unwavering passion for the game and its impact. Travelling to England in 1948, he saw the galvanising effect of cricket in post war England, as the Ashes provided a distraction from the pain and struggle for the locals. This is the power of cricket, and the wonder that must be retained, for as much as cricket is a game, when played in the right spirit, it can be so much more.

While the game has endured a tumultuous period in the professional environment and there is not necessarily an end in sight, Mike Coward highlighted that there has been some good to come from it: that being the re-affirmation of the importance of the spirit of cricket. If the customs and tradition of the game were not respected broadly in the cricket community, incidents such as the most recent ball tampering debacle, would pass largely unpunished. That the guilty trio all face up to 12 months on the sidelines highlights the value we, as a cricketing public, place on respecting the game.

That it can, in the face of challenge and change, inspire a life's work of cricket writing and broadcasting, exude passionate remembrance from a former Test legend, and foster heartfelt joy for a seven-year-old who is yet to play his first competitive match, is testament to its multi-dimensional appeal.

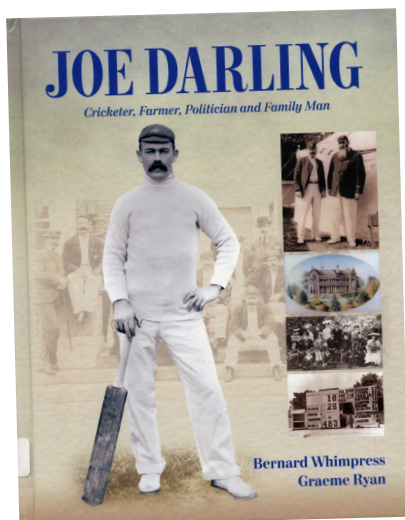
As for Charlie's innocent and troubled wonderings, may he never find a viable answer.

*Raw passion and pure innocence define Charlie's relationship with cricket and these intrinsic traits are what make sport*





# BOOK REVIEWS



Bernard Whimpress & Graeme Ryan

## ***Joe Darling: Cricketer, Farmer and Family Man***

Ryan Publishing, Melbourne, 2018  
ISBN: 97818769857

*Joe Darling: Cricketer, Farmer and Family Man* was written by Bernard Whimpress, one of Australia's foremost cricket historians, and is the first biography of this

great Federation cricketer. Joseph Darling was born in 1870 to a prosperous South Australian family. He was educated at Adelaide's patrician Prince Alfred College, a school that inculcated a sporting culture throughout its student body. Darling was an athletic prodigy. After making an impressive 252 for his school, the 15 year old Darling played with a side that was largely composed of South Australian first-class players, alongside the Victorian Harry Trott, against an Australian XI.

Darling's early cricket career was interrupted with duties as a pastoralist; however, his progression to the Australian captaincy was rapid. His first first-class match for South Australia against New South Wales was in December 1893. Darling made his Test debut in the summer of 1894/95 and was one of four South Australians selected for the 1896 Ashes tour. For his next tour in 1899 he was elected to captain Australia. Images of the moustachioed Darling are striking. Though he stood a modest 5'8" he was described by an English contemporary as, "a strong personality and a man quite worth knowing apart from his association of the virile pastime... There is a force of character to his face... At once it is apparent that he was born to be a leader in whatever society Fate placed him..." (pp.182-183). His Test career ended after the 1905 tour. In 34 Tests, 21 as captain, Darling scored 1657 runs at an average of 28.76, with a highest score of 178.

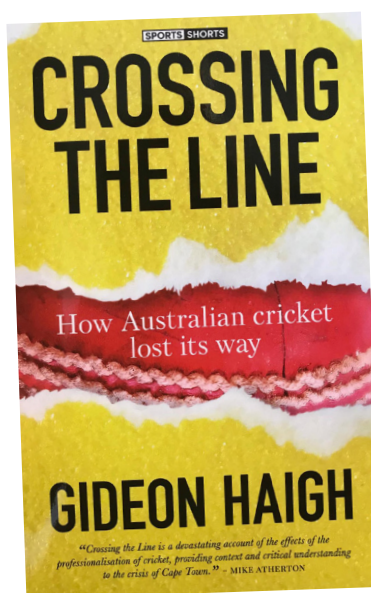
The descriptions of Darling's Ashes tours, his cricket career and captaincy are covered in detail and complemented with images sourced from public and private collections. The book also includes transcripts of Darling's thoughts upon leading cricketers of the era – such as WG Grace, George Giffen, Syd Gregory, Victor Trumper, Ranji, and the English paceman Ernie Jones.

Darling's opinions on the game generally are also expertly discussed in the book. Darling was a vociferous critic of many of the game's administrators. He was a South

Australian delegate to the Australian Cricket Council from 1897 to 1900, and its successor the Australian Board of Control in 1907 and 1908, and was a Tasmanian delegate in 1924. However, Darling was generally an advocate for past and present players. He criticised administrators who "had no practical experience as cricketers" yet saw themselves fit to rule upon the game and over leading players.

Darling was more than just a cricketer. While much of the book is dedicated to his cricket achievements it also details Darling's Australian football career in Adelaide during the 1880s. His work as a pastoralist and politician in South Australia and Tasmania are extensively dealt with, as well as his family life – he had 15 children. The appendices profile the lives of some of his descendants, and are evocative of a family history. *Joe Darling: Cricketer, Farmer and Family Man* was commissioned by Joe's great great grand niece, and current MCC committee member Clare Cannon. Joe Darling's legacy is more than a pile of runs and cricket records. He was a successful farmer and politician, and the patriarch of a large and notable family.

**Trevor Ruddell**



## Gideon Haigh ***Crossing the Line: How Australian Cricket Lost Its Way***

Slattery Media Group, Melbourne, 2018  
ISBN: 9781921778940

The title of Gideon Haigh's latest work refers to the belief of Australian cricketers and administrators that aggressive and intimidating behaviour on and off the field is acceptable as long as it doesn't "cross the line". Such line, it would seem, is determined by those players and administrators themselves. A number of supporters of the game might

well argue that the placement of the line is far too distant from where it should be.

As a result of the "sandpaper" debacle in South Africa in March 2018, Haigh has chosen to take us back several decades, in his own "cultural review", to trace how and why the behaviour of our players and the overall state of Australian cricket have reached this nadir. As always, he presents a thoroughly researched work which will be of great interest to those who are lovers of the game.

Haigh pulls no punches. His in depth analysis of the performance of Cricket Australia's numerous administrators, and in particular Pat Howard, James Sutherland, Darren

Lehmann and Greg Chappell, and their part in the development of the attitude and demeanour of the players, is put under the microscope and is shown to be of no little effect.

The author shows us that Cricket Australia's mantra appears to be that first and foremost the game is there primarily as a form of entertainment, at the cost of its ethics and morals. This incidentally has brought about the sad reduction in importance of the Sheffield Shield competition. He further tells us that he believes Cricket Australia has become an "events management company".

The unpleasant aggression of the Australian players, both on and off the field, is examined without fear, and is everpresent in the background throughout the book. The likes of David Warner, Shane Warne, Brad Haddin and Matthew Wade are not shown in a good light. Haigh describes the Australian team as "backyard bullies and foreign fainthearts". Also included briefly is a fascinating and uncomplimentary insight into the day to day functioning of Cricket Australia's office.

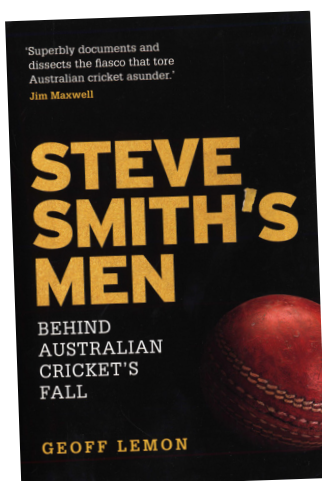
We are told that, sadly, the expectations heaped upon the players both internally and externally have brought many of them to the point where a "win at all cost" attitude means that "crossing the line" happens, both on and off the field. Also we are told that players have become less and less happy in their work for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the total monitoring of their lives on and off the field.

Haigh sets out, and in my view succeeds, to show why cricket in this country has reached a point where major changes in the attitude of the administrators need to be made, to enable players to develop and enjoy the game for which they derive their significant incomes.

We are fortunate in this country to have a writer as insightful and knowledgeable about the game, who continues to provide us with such well researched works as this.

This is the first in a series of the publisher's "Sports Shorts" collection of extended essays in small format book form, and is thoroughly recommended.

**Quentin Miller**



front cover is actually printed with what feels like sandpaper.

This is a thoroughly enjoyable read, with the author using singularly Australian vernacular, but in a delightfully

descriptive way. For example, the heading for Chapter 15 which describes the sandpaper incident, is "Excrement Hits Ventilator".

He takes us through the development of Steve Smith and David Warner, from their early years through to the present day, without holding back on strong criticism of their behavior — both on and off the field. He variously describes Smith as "dull", "single minded" and "obsessive".

He starts his analysis of what led up to the Cape Town catastrophe back in the two Ashes series prior to the South African tour, and gives many examples of the unpleasant aggression endemic in the Australian side at that stage and before. Lemon tells us in his own words: "This book is not a moral judgement... but (I am) trying to understand what I heard and saw across that South African tour and the five preceding years. It's the story of how a team hit a wall and burst into flames."

It is clear that the author feels that David Warner has been the main protagonist of the unpleasant aggression on and off the field, and that Steve Smith was lacking the leadership ability or will to temper this. He also makes it clear that Cricket Australia was happy to let the situation continue as long as the team was winning, and in fact showed its unedifying and jingoistic lack of decency in the celebrations after the 2017/18 Ashes win.

Other matters covered include the appalling effect on David Warner's partner Candice Falzon and the disgraceful treatment of her by the press, the public in general, and also members of the board of Cricket South Africa.

The author was covering the South African tour as a commentator and journalist, so was present at the press conferences after the sandpaper incident, as well as broadcasting as the disaster unfolded, so we are provided with a first hand account of it all.

It is fascinating to read of the stunning effect of the incident on the various commentators, including the doyen Jim Maxwell, who found it hard to cope with, on the culprits themselves, and on the various members of the world press. Cricket Australia does not come out of it covered in glory.

Just as interesting is Lemon's raising the point that, without justifying the behaviour, maybe the huge furore was an over reaction. He gives us many examples of ball tampering over the years, and argues that this has been happening with players and officials turning a blind eye, and accepting that it was part of the game, for many decades. The influence of Darren Lehmann is examined in detail and, is also not shown in a good light.

With regard to the aggressive behaviour on the field, the author feels that Tim Paine will make an effort to rein this in but may suffer the consequences if the team is unsuccessful, and that aggression on the field will not go away, but that hopefully the line that has been crossed far too often will be drawn back a long way.

This is recommended reading for not only cricket enthusiasts but also those who are interested in the psychology of the game and its players.

**Quentin Miller**

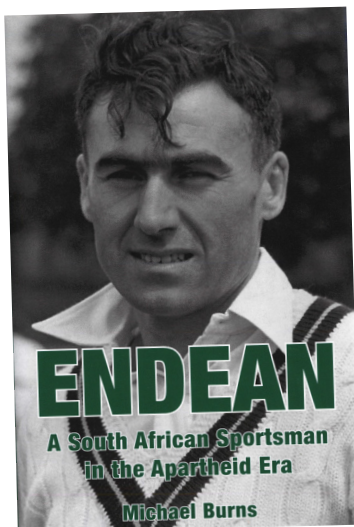
**Geoff Lemon**

### ***Steve Smith's Men: Behind Australian Cricket's Fall***

Hardie Grant Books:  
Melbourne, 2018  
ISBN: 9781743795095

Journalist and commentator Geoff Lemon leaves us in no doubt that his analysis of Australian cricket culture — both before and after the "sandpaper" incident in Cape Town — will be provided with no little humour when the reader notices that the title on the





Michael Burns

***Endean: A South African Sportsman in the Apartheid Era***

Nightwatchman Books,  
Surrey (UK), 2017  
ISBN: 9780956851079

For all but the keenest student of the game, Endean may be a name only recalled by those with a passing interest in records through his involvement in two of the more bizarre dismissals in

Test cricket. The first was against England at The Oval in 1951, when Len Hutton was adjudged to have 'obstructed the field', the batsman in the act of protecting his wicket knocked the ball away from Endean who was attempting a catch. The second occurred at Cape Town in 1956/57, also against England, when Endean the batsman palmed the ball away from his stumps and was given out "handled ball".

Russell Endean was in fact an integral member of the South African Test team throughout the 1950s. A neat strokemaker with a fine defensive technique, his versatility enabled him to contribute effectively anywhere in the batting order from numbers one to six. His determination and capacity to bat for long periods of time led to the coining of the term 'Endless Endean' during the 1952/53 tour of Australia. It was in the field, however, where he was at his most brilliant. In his account of the 1952/53 series, Australian author and broadcaster Johnnie Moyes could not "remember any cricketer who took so many exceptional catches during a tour of Australia as Endean did, and he gathered them in so many different positions in the field – outfield, slip, cover, mid-wicket, silly mid-on. And the contortionist positions in which he took the catches were as diversified as the field positions he occupied". The most famous of these was at long-on at the southern end of the MCG in the Second Test to dismiss Keith Miller, completed one-handed, high above his head, while leaning on the fence – one of the most remarkable ever taken at the ground.

This book's account of that tour had particular relevance for this reviewer, who witnessed Test cricket for the first time during the second day of the final game of the series. It revived the now-distant memories of a 10-year-old more interested in the performance of his hero, Neil Harvey, as he progressed from 37 not out overnight to an eventual 205. Other recollections include the persevering blond-headed South African paceman Eddie Fuller, who eventually ended Harvey's epic, the emergence from the pavilion of the slight figure of 17-year-old Australian debutant, Ian Craig, and the overall athleticism of the South African fielding.

That tour was also the most successful statistically of Endean's Test career. His overall record is far from outstanding at first glance but, as is often the case, figures do not tell the whole story. There were many occasions in other series when his disciplined approach and ability to anchor an innings were of inestimable value to his side.

# ROGER PAGE

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Unlike many player biographies, Endean's career statistics are confined to a single page, incorporating a season-by-season Test summary and century listing, followed by a single-line total for all first-class cricket and a record of double centuries. This is not intended as a criticism, as too many figures can become a little tedious to all but those of a statistical bent. In Endean's table, however, there is an obvious error, mistakenly listing the figures of his five home Tests against New Zealand in 1953/54 as an Australian series.

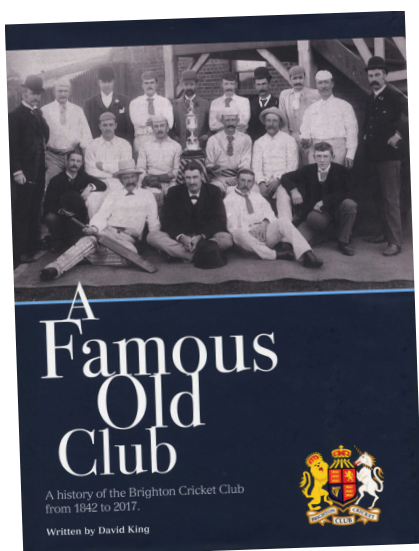
Endean was typical of most international players of his time in a predominantly amateur era, being required to work five days a week with cricket confined to weekends. In his case, it was often a matter of arranging annual leave for domestic first-class appearances, as well as extended leave when selected for Test matches or overseas tours.

Despite the inclusion of apartheid in the book's sub-title, it is only mentioned sparingly overall in the text. Endean appears to have been fairly ambivalent about the policy during his playing days, although we supported, post-retirement, coloured South African Basil D'Oliveira's right to tour his homeland in 1968 after gaining England selection.

The biography has been meticulously and painstakingly researched. Author Michael Burns became acquainted with Endean as a team-mate in London club cricket, after the South African had moved to England. He not only gained an insight into his subject's character but also become known to members of the family, who gave this work their support after Endean's passing by providing personal background, as well as access to scrapbooks and photograph albums. The narrative is well written, with detailed descriptions of the cricket interwoven with aspects of Endean's other interests and experiences. A minor irritation is the constant misspelling of Australian Services cricketer and journalist R.S. Whittington's name as 'Whittington' throughout the text.

The completed work does justice to a reserved, undemonstrative sportsman who was admired and greatly respected by friend and foe alike both on and off the cricket field.

### Ray Webster



### David King *A famous old club: a history of the Brighton Cricket Club from 1842 to 2017*

Brighton Cricket Club, Brighton, 2017  
ISBN:  
9780646977829

The Brighton Cricket Club's 175 year history, is celebrated in this detailed, well researched and well written

history. In August 1842, Henry Dendy and Johathan Binns Were, founders of the new settlement of Brighton, established the Brighton Cricket

Club. The second oldest club in the Colony, Brighton enjoyed an auspicious early rivalry with the oldest, the Melbourne Cricket Club.

Interesting historical links between the Melbourne Cricket Club and Brighton Cricket Club are discussed. The MCC gained players such as the Nagle twins (Lisle and Vern), Roy Jewell, Jack Daniel, Jack Green, John Cooper and Jack Iverson from Brighton. A list is included of all players who have appeared in first eleven teams for both Brighton and Melbourne. Each season is recounted, premiership years are highlighted and a Team of the Decade included where appropriate. The attention to detail is a feature of this 594 page book with the Brightonians rich history intertwined with events in the world away from cricket. In 1908 Brighton was a foundation member of Melbourne's Sub District Cricket Association competition.

This title includes many engaging stories of players who were also leading figures in Victorian society. Brighton cricketers included Sir Thomas Bent, who was later Victorian Premier, Captain Robert C. Grieve, who won the Victoria Cross in 1917, and cricket writers and journalists Jack Worrall and Ray Robertson. A comprehensive list of the Brighton cricketers who also played football at VFL/AFL level includes Melbourne 1900 premiership players Bill McClelland and Jack Purse, as well as dual Brownlow Medalist and 1926 Melbourne premiership player Ivor Warne-Smith. William "Bill" McClelland became president of both the Melbourne Cricket Club and the Victorian Football League.

The inclusion of 188 comprehensive biographies of club players and officials adds a further dimension to the narrative. This is followed by the records of another 213 notable players and a complete register of all known players from 1842 to 2017. The appendices cover the first, second, third and fourth elevens, international cricketers to represent the club, batting and bowling averages, notable bowling and batting performances, premierships, club champions, captains and officials. Some of the Australian Test cricketers to have represented the club included Shane Warne, Lisle Nagel, Arthur Coningham, Jack Iverson, Colin McDonald and George Palmer.

An excellent collection of photographs includes images of teams, trophies and local landmarks such as the Brighton Beach Pavilion. Individual photographs of players, officials and opponents are used very well to illustrate the margins. The number of photographs is impressive. An index provides easy access to all information.

The author and club historian David King is one of a handful of players to reach 300 games with the club. King played with the Melbourne Cricket Club and three other District teams before thirty seasons and 348 games with Brighton. He retired in 2008 aged 56. He is a life member, first eleven scorer and statistician whose passion for the club is self-evident in this publication.

The title "A famous old club" was from a newspaper headline referring to Brighton Cricket Club shortly after the Great War. The author rightly believed, "the club was already thought of in those terms one hundred years ago!"

### David Allen





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