

*Outside-edge 100\**

# Outside-edge

Issue 100 Not Out! Autumn 2017



The magazine of the Gloucestershire Exiles  
News and views on and about Gloucestershire County Cricket Club



*Welcome to this celebratory Autumn 2017 edition of outside-edge*

## ***Message from the Chair and the Editor***

Remarkably, this is the 100<sup>th</sup> issue of Outside-edge. When the Exiles were formed in June 1971, the first newsletter was three type-written pages of A4 sent to members in August of that year. Nigel Dean has reviewed all the issues and the bulk of this 100<sup>th</sup> issue is given over to Nigel's wonderful, evocative synthesis of highlights from numbers one to ninety-nine. Ron Lev has cast his mind back to the early days of the Exiles and Outside-edge to tell us of the many characters involved in producing our much-loved publication. Our former Editors, Mark Brunt and Howard Allen, reflect on their involvement and Chris Bell adds his appreciation. Roger Gibbons has written another of his wonderful articles, this time bringing to our attention the splendid GCCC Museum and Learning Centre. Ruth Sharville has produced an ingenious ditty for our amusement and, as ever, Tony Hickey has delivered some of his remarkable photographs to enliven this issue. Further thanks to Roger Gibbons for his photos from the archives. The Gloucestershire Exiles are so grateful to the ever-helpful Phil Richardson of Bristol Printing & Fulfilment for producing our magazine to such a high standard – thank you, Phil.

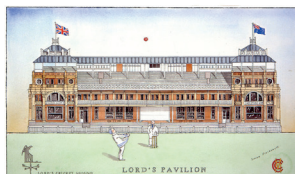
Some of you reading this will have been with us from the very start, whereas for some newer Exiles, this will be a very first taste of Outside-edge. Whatever your 'age' as a Gloucestershire Exile, I'm sure that you will all agree that the magazine makes fascinating reading. In these pages you'll get a potted history of the organisation. More than this, however, Nigel's review of the past issues shows us that Outside-edge is also a barometer of social and cricketing change, while some topics which seem very 'modern' surprise us by cropping up at regular intervals in the past. Most sports fans are sentimental souls and, for many of us, Outside-edge has been a reminder of home until we're able to return from Exile to the Promised Land. Living abroad in her twenties, in the pre-digital age, your Chair collected her issues from a variety of p.o. box addresses, always with great joy: not just for the cricket news, but also to read articles contributed by friends, many referenced in this issue. To all of you who have accompanied us on our journey thus far, thank you so much for reading and writing. On that note, our former Editor, Mark Brunt, has offered this advice to all prospective contributors:

*"To all of you who submitted pieces during my time as Editor I thank you, and to everyone who is reading this, there is an article in you somewhere and I am certain that Martin Jones would be delighted to hear from you when you have written it."*

### ***Gloucestershire Exiles kick off 2018 at Lord's***

Gloucestershire Exiles' **biennial dinner** will be held at **Lord's on Thursday, February 8th, 2018**. This major fundraising event is always popular and tickets for an evening of high quality food and fun in the historic committee dining room sell out fast. The guest speaker will be Ian Lovett, Deputy Chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board. By then Ian will, no doubt, have much to say about the winter Ashes tour as well as the wider future of the game in the UK.

Tickets are once more £100 for Exiles and £120 for guests, to include a four-course dinner and canapés. Dress code for men is lounge suits. For tickets, payment details or further information please contact Jon Paine on 07775 550495 and at [jon.paine@barclays.com](mailto:jon.paine@barclays.com)



## *Martin Jones' Review of the 2017 Season*

The 2017 season may have been one of Gloucestershire's most unremarkable with very little to really excite us. The season eventually petered out with a County Championship home defeat at the hands of Derbyshire. Further bad news came with the announcement that Jack Taylor had received a further bowling ban. Given the problems that he has had, it may be best for Jack to concentrate solely on batting.

A mid-table finish was respectable enough considering the problems incurred with players' injuries and unavailability but it seemed a position which we held constantly from the early part of the season and never looked likely to charge for promotion. The RL50 competition came and went so quickly that it hardly registered with those of us living away from Bristol. I was lucky enough to see a terrific win against Middlesex at Lord's inspired by Ian Cockbain (108\*) and Benny Howell (86\*) but there were only two other victories. The T20 Blast was anything but as we finished bottom of the group. This competition had a fairly farcical appearance as we were only two points behind the qualification places and several games were decimated by the weather. This, however, could not excuse our rather miserable performances in the latter games having risen to second place.



*A great season for Liam Norwell*



*James Bracey offered optimism for the future*

There were some good individual performances and memorable moments. Liam Norwell had an excellent season with 59 wickets at 17.39 in the Championship, placing him 4<sup>th</sup> in the Division 2 bowling averages. Liam was ably supported by his opening partner David Payne who picked up 25 wickets. Kieran Noema-Barnett should also be mentioned for a very decent 23 wickets at 32.04. As ever, the bowling averages in limited overs cricket can make grim reading, although Benny Howell once again proved his outstanding ability in this format and Chris Liddle did exceptionally well to take 18 wickets in the RL50 at 15.11. The batting was inconsistent although Chris Dent and Jack Taylor both scored two centuries (Jack's 143 and Chris's 135\* in the drawn game against Worcestershire at Cheltenham were particularly memorable) and Cameron Bancroft hit an excellent 206 against Kent at Bristol. James Bracey (who looks very promising) and Benny Howell only featured in the last few games of the Championship when both scored centuries. Michael Klinger and Ian Cockbain again led the way in the RL50 batting, each scoring centuries and averaging over 50. Benny Howell and Jack Taylor both averaged over 40.

Not our most memorable season and the inconsistencies must be as frustrating for the players and coaching staff as they are to those of us watching from the boundary edge. There was some irony in Essex's Division 1 success, given that they had been convincingly beaten in 2016. The signing of Ryan Higgins for 2018 looks very astute particularly in view of Middlesex members' dissatisfaction with his departure. Gaining greater consistency with both bat and ball is sure to be one of Richard Dawson's targets for next season.

## Mike Dunn reports on Exiles' Day 2017

No-one, apart from the organisers of the Exiles Cheltenham Lunch, could reasonably have foreseen that what was scheduled as a 4-day game would be over before the end of day two. Congratulations to 'Glos' on a splendid win, even if it did deprive us of our anticipated entertainment. There *was* some cricket to keep us interested with a Gloucestershire Past and Future side taking on a select team of club cricketers from around the county. It was good to watch the likes of Mark Alleyne and David Partridge in action again at the College Ground.



GLOS CCC		109	FOR 0
BANCROFT	47	OVERS	28.1
*DENT	55	REMAIN	28
EXTRAS	7	OVER RTE	LEVEL
LAST WKT		LAST MAN	
HOW OUT		Ov	Mds
*GUGTEN		6.1	0
SALTER		4	0
		Runs	Wkts
		21	0
		20	0
		1ST	2ND
GLOS CCC	141	PTS	TO WIN
GLAM CCC	117	3	26
		158	3

*Chris Dent hits out at Cheltenham in a remarkable two-day victory against Glamorgan*

Every cloud has a silver lining, however, and those who were not GCCC members at least had the bonus of free entry to the ground. The organisers clearly knew what to expect since the luncheon tickets came with a health warning: "Event will take place irrespective of match situation/weather". The match situation may have disappointed but the weather did not and such is the obvious appeal of this highlight of the Exiles' calendar that there were very few who failed to turn up, even representatives of the Glamorgan committee. Some tickets were sold on the day to make up for the no-shows and one new member was signed up. The lack of cricket was compensated by the opportunity to spend more time socialising and overall an enjoyable time was had by everyone. There had to be formalities and Treasurer Jon Paine handed over a cheque for £2000 representing the Exiles' fundraising efforts of the past year, which was gratefully and gracefully accepted by new GCCC President Marie Journeaux.

Mike Procter spoke about the work of his foundation in South Africa and donations and the proceeds of his book-signing efforts produced useful funds to continue to support its work.

Thanks to the generosity of GCCC and Exiles members there was a plethora of prizes for the raffle ranging from alcoholic beverages through signed GCCC memorabilia to books and prints. The raffle raised £575 and several eyebrows of those holding green tickets which did not make a single appearance in the winners' enclosure. Well they do say the taking part is more important than the winning!

All things considered, and in spite of the difficulties, I am sure that all 120-plus Exiles present had an enjoyable time raising an impressive profit of £1268. It is perhaps opportune to use this report to thank Ian Herdman for his input in the recent past in making this day such a success and also thanks to those who are working to ensure that his good work continues.



*Jack Taylor scores a memorable century at Cheltenham*

Those wanting a permanent reminder of the occasion might like to peruse the pictures available on the website of our photographer Tony Hickey. Tony's website link is <http://www.thphotography.net/>. When on the website, click on Galleries then on the Exiles picture. When prompted for a password, enter X2.

**Tony Hickey Photography**  
**172 Abbotswood Road, Brockworth, Gloucester GL3 4PF**  
**T: 01452 862897 M: 07767 400414**  
**Email: [tony@thphotography.net](mailto:tony@thphotography.net)**

### Calling prospective Committee Members!

- Do you love Gloucestershire cricket?
- Fancy getting a bit more involved in the Exiles?
- Can you find your way to a pub in Ealing about three times a year?

### Then we'd love you to join us!

Your Exiles' Committee is on the lookout for new members. We have enjoyable meetings where we plan our events, publications and discuss news from the club: as the *de facto* representatives of all GCCC members outside the county boundaries, Bristol looks to us to inform policy as well as raise vital funds for the Academy and Emerging Players programme.

Why not come along to one of our meetings and join us for the evening to see if this is for you?

Please contact Sarah or Nigel to discuss further – contact details at the back of this issue.

*Exiles' Day at Cheltenham 2017*



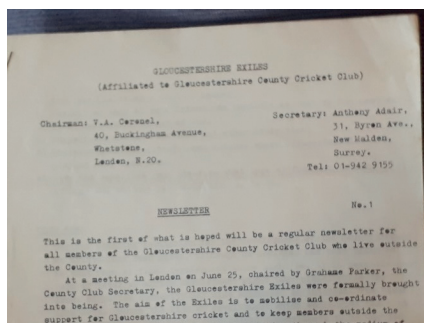
## ***Outside-edge: 100 NOT OUT!***

***Nigel Dean has trawled the Exiles' archive of Outside-edge numbers 1 to 99 for us. His remarkable survey of their contents follows, along with contributions from Editors and contributors past and present.***

What a task! Combing through 99 issues of Outside-edge in order to present but a fraction of the many highlights through the years was a daunting yet highly enjoyable task. I have tried to make it as comprehensive as possible but apologise that so much has failed to make the final cut for this piece. I found myself being diverted here and there for some time by so much quality writing. Outside-edge mirrors the story of the Exiles from its first tentative steps in 1971 through to the healthy and thriving organisation it is today. Above all, it is a warm and inclusive organisation for those who enjoy Gloucestershire cricket and the wider game. The title Outside-edge (OE as it is often referred to in this article) was not used in the formative years. It began life as the Gloucestershire Exiles Newsletter in 1971, just three pages, Xerox copied.

Former Editor **Ron Lev** remembers these early editions:

*"Wow! A century of Outside-edge in its various forms. The first edition was produced in early August 1971 following a meeting in London on June 25<sup>th</sup> chaired by Grahame Parker, the GCCC Secretary, when the Exiles were formally brought into being. The appointed Exiles' officials were Vincent Coronel as Chairman and Anthony Adair as Secretary. Early in April 1974, Anthony returned to Australia and was replaced by Ken Daniels who also took on the role as Editor. Up until then, the Newsletters were produced by a duplicating machine (Roneo?) which I think was operated by hand! The end product would be regarded as very unsatisfactory nowadays but, as membership was only £1, it was all that could be afforded. In the early years Ken Daniels always stated that each edition of 'Exiles' affairs' was his own view of the organisation and performances of the team and individuals."*



*The very first Outside-edge: a collector's item!*

Newsletter Number 1 reported the aim as “mobilising and co-ordinating support for Gloucestershire cricket and keeping members outside the county in closer touch with the club’s affairs through the newsletter.” Even then the Newsletter was unsure members should pay a subscription at all. “Disagreeable as this is, I hope most of you will agree that it is essential if the Exiles are to become properly established.” A questionnaire was included. Would members support a dinner in London at the House of Commons with speakers from Bristol? Or maybe a Thames river cruise? Cricket news of the day saw Mike Procter leading the race for the fastest 100 of the season; 79 minutes against Middlesex at Lord’s on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Zaheer Abbas would be joining the County the following season when Sadiq Mohammed would be residentially qualified. Those early members did indeed want a dinner at the House of Commons. A tour of the venerable Westminster institution was thrown in as well. Newsletter 3 reported a successful event with Tony Brown as guest speaker. Anthony Kershaw, MP for Stroud, generously sponsored it, leaving

tickets at just £3 per head. Michael Williams, Exiles member from Cornwall, apparently travelled furthest to attend. Ken Graveney and Tom Pugh were also there. News, too, of plans for a first Exiles Day at Cheltenham in August 1972 and the Exiles' first Annual General Meeting at the National Liberal Club in Whitehall Place. Venues for Exiles' functions were nothing if not grand. And at that first AGM, a 45-minute film, made by coach Graham Wiltshire, of Gloucestershire's tour of Zambia was shown. Newsletter 4 disappointingly reported from the AGM that Exiles membership was just 39.



*Our overseas stars from the 1970s: Mike Procter, Sadiq Mohammed, Zaheer Abbas*

June, 1972, saw Newsletter 5 reporting the formation of an Exiles cricket team. It also included two items from The Guardian featuring David Allen and Mike Procter that carried some hard-hitting quotes. Commenting on being dropped from the Gloucestershire senior team, Allen denied not trying his best. "I always try, always want to do well. No one's ever going to make me do better by treating me like a schoolboy." Procter told The Guardian: "I'd like to do the double but with fewer matches being played these days it looks highly unlikely." He bravely dismissed Geoffrey Boycott's talent: "I don't rate Boycott. He's a match saver not a match winner. Boycott never dominates. Therefore he is easy to bowl at." The Newsletter also stated that the Exiles should be trying to emulate another exiles supporters' organisation – the Somerset Wyverns. Their 180 members had raised £600 in 1971 for the Somerset club.

Gloucestershire's Exiles meanwhile held their second annual dinner in Pall Mall at the RAC Club. The recently retired Allen and his wife Joyce were the principal guests. Procter featured again in the issue. From John Woodcock's report in The Times of a match against Surrey, this doyen of cricket writers reported; "Then there was another example of Procter's virtuosity. Since joining Gloucestershire he has boasted humorously that he is a great off spinner lost to the game. Well, yesterday he was allowed for the first time for Gloucestershire to bowl off breaks, and being the golden cricketer he is, soon had the wickets of Younis, Intikhab and Storey for 4 runs in 10 overs." Come April, 1973, Bomber Wells was being welcomed as an Exiles member. Newsletter 8 rightly described him as "one of the richest characters in post-war cricket." The issue also revealed plans for a cheese and drinks party at The Oval following close of play in the Surrey-Gloucestershire match the following month. All Gloucestershire players were to attend. The forerunner of what became known as the popular Meet the Players function.

Newsletter 10 in January, 1974, noted the third annual dinner had a Gillette Cup triumph at Lord's to celebrate. Sussex were the team beaten in the final. Tony Brown, the winning captain, recounted how at 3.00 in the morning following the win, Jim Foat was to be found sitting on a sofa between Gary Sobers and Fred Trueman, clutching his medal in his hand and explaining how the trophy had been won. By November, 1974, Newsletter 13 reported on Gloucestershire's dire financial situation. With the bank refusing to extend Gloucestershire's overdraft facilities, Frank Twistleton, Club Chairman, launched a scheme aimed at



raising £25,000 to keep the club alive. By August '75 the club's saviour had come in the form of Phoenix Assurance, the County Club having agreed to sell them the leasehold on the County Ground subject to members' approval.



*One-day triumph in 1974*

A lovely piece with Reg Sinfield occupied Newsletter 15 from 1975. Reg played for Gloucestershire from 1924-1939. He had 1 England cap in the twilight of his career when Don Bradman was his first Test victim. Reg wrote: "I think myself extremely lucky to have played for Gloucestershire in their heyday with an array of great cricketers the like of which will never again be seen in a County side. First we had a magnificent captain in Bev Lyon in the Thirties who did so much to revive Gloucestershire cricket which had been in the doldrums for some years. Bev had a difficult side to manage. Who will forget the antics of that great left arm bowler Charlie Parker who, in my estimation, was the best in the world. An extraordinary fellow who bowled when he liked and came off just when he thought he would. Bev was the only one who could manage him. In Gloucestershire cricket I keep looking for a bit more local talent which at the moment does not seem to materialise no doubt due to the fact that we get far too many overseas players and the youngsters do not get a chance. With a restricted County Championship programme and in the one-day matches they have to get as many runs per over or out. We shall never get our future Test players if the County Championship is further restricted." Words that still ring true today.



*Reg Sinfield (Gloucestershire 1926-39)*

Moving on to December, 1977, the newsletter was celebrating the Benson and Hedges Cup success against Kent in another Lord's final one-day triumph. David Shepherd and Jack Davey were guests at the annual dinner and replica scorecards from the day signed by Gloucestershire players were on sale.

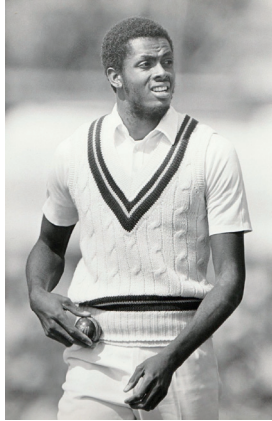
In the autumn of 1982, the newsletter took on the name of Outside-edge for the first time, Arthur Hawkins taking the credit for the new design. To herald a new Exiles era, membership was up to 230. Outside-edge (OE) in Spring 1984 saw Ron Lev take over the editorship from Ken Daniels. It reported on a stunning season for wicketkeeper Jack Russell, 63 dismissals. Also, a young West Indian fast bowler named Courtney Walsh had been offered a contract for that season. Fortunately he chose Gloucestershire over Northamptonshire. Spring 1985 brought the first magazine style OE. Ron Lev writes:

*"It was reduced from the previous A4 size to A5. This was achieved by photocopying and reductions, however, this created difficulties as the result produced too small a type face for many members. Much to my relief, our Committee member, Philip Bailey, offered to improve Outside-edge by handling its printing without charge. This new incarnation was Issue 47 (Autumn 1990) which had 48 pages and included the first photograph featuring our Officials during the match between the Exiles and the Yorkshire CCC Southern Group at Shiplake College. The next issue featured a photograph of Mark Alleyne on the front cover to be followed by my favourite photograph used, of Tony Wright (Club Captain) and Eddie Barlow (Club Senior Coach) enjoying a friendly 'face to face' chat in the Hammond Room."*

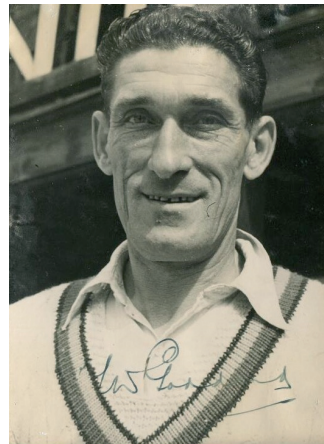
Captain David Graveney was a contributor on the changing times for the team. Zaheer had retired and John Childs moved on to Essex. But David was hopeful that the arrival of Brian Davison, Courtney Walsh, Jeremy Lloyds and Kevin Curran would have a beneficial effect. In issue 38 in Autumn '85, Graveney was able to write: "1985 has seen the resurrection of Gloucestershire. After a winter of much soul searching, the cricketers, including many new faces, embarked on a season knowing that only a dramatic reversal in fortunes would appease those who sought change, not least the appointment of a new captain." A stunning season it was. Third in the Championship was the highest placing since 1977 under Procter. And the side finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the John Player League, its best position to date. By issue 40 in Autumn '86, Exiles chairman Vincent Coronel was congratulating Graveney and Gloucestershire for finishing runners-up in the Championship. Walsh, with 118 victims, was the leading wicket-taker in the country. And there was an England recall for Bill Athey. OE 41 featured a piece by Jack Russell describing what it was like keeping to fast bowlers David 'Sid' Lawrence and Walsh. Jack recalled Sid presented a fearsome sight even aged 14 on a youth tour to Sussex. Wrote Jack: "I can still picture in my mind the sight of opposition batsmen walking to the wicket literally shaking with fear at the prospect of facing his bowling. He took a hat-trick that day." Clearly Sid loved Sussex. At Hove in 1985, he took 7-48. Jack recalled: "It was a day full of interruptions for a sweeping sea mist. Sid, on the way back to his mark, would disappear into the thick mist. Then suddenly like a train rushing from a tunnel entrance he would appear to thrust another high speed delivery."



Jack rated Courtney the more difficult to keep to because of what he made the ball do after it had pitched. "Then, from seemingly little extra effort, Courtney produces what I call the 'Exocet.' A much quicker delivery than all of his others, which as it comes through to me keeps going up and up. It's this delivery that causes the greatest amount of discussion between the slip fielders and myself, and inevitably ends with the conclusion that we are five yards too close."



Andy Wilson, another great Gloucestershire wicketkeeper, wrote in OE 42 in the Autumn of '87 of great memories playing with Wally Hammond and Tom Goddard. On Hammond: "On one memorable occasion, I partnered Wally in an 8<sup>th</sup> wicket stand of 239 against Lancashire. I joined him at the end of an over. As I reached the wicket, he came down the pitch and said very briefly: 'Run when I call you.' For the next 5 overs I failed to take strike. Wally played every sixth ball with consummate ease wherever it pitched. I ran when I was told!" On keeping to Tom Goddard: "I had a healthy respect for the dominating off-spinner. Off-spin is a wicketkeeper's poison and there is no known antidote. Tom Goddard, 6 feet 1 inch, and with hands as big as buckets, made the ball turn and lift from the off stump down the leg side. I still remember, sometimes in a cold sweat, a game against Somerset in 1947. On a sandy, shifting pitch Somerset mustered only 25 in their second knock. Tom Goddard took 5 wickets for 4 runs, including a hat-trick. Most of the match I had spent down the leg side being hit in the chest."



*Gloucestershire Greats: Walter Hammond and Tom Goddard*

**Ron Lev**, Editor of OE, wrote of the death of Reg Sinfield in issue 43, Spring 1988. He recalled brilliant memories including that Test wicket of the great Bradman. It happened in Reg's first over thanks to a magnificent catch by Les Ames. OE went glossy in Autumn 1990. Then in Spring 1991 an Exiles Player of the Year award was announced by Ron; the player to be voted for by members. Secretary Keith Lye reported that membership had reached a record 338. But, after 20 years as founder Chairman and father of the Exiles, Vincent Coronel announced he was standing down, handing over the reins to Mike Pimbury.

OE marked its 50<sup>th</sup> issue in Spring 1992 with Tony Wright, the Gloucestershire skipper, becoming the first holder of the newly instigated Exiles' Player of the Year Award. "For topping the averages and at the same time setting an example to the other players with his sportsmanship, leadership and ability." Grahame Parker OBE, former player and Secretary-Manager of Gloucestershire, sent a goodwill message. He had been prime mover of the establishment of the Exiles in 1971. And just like Wisden, OE was becoming a collector's item. Bill Coleman, from Braunton in Devon, was seeking a seller for OEs prior to number 35.

Issue 51 proved to be Ron Lev's final Outside-edge as its Editor and there followed just one edition in the very competent hands of Keith Lye as Acting Editor. Ron reflects on the highlights of his period of editorship:

*"As from my first edition, there has followed the popular contributions from our members, Club Officials and players. My single outstanding memory was the receipt of the very first contribution from a woman, Glenys Williams, the MCC curator of Lord's Museum, which appeared in Issue 46 (Autumn 1989/ Spring 1990), its title was Gloucestershire Cricket Links at Lord's. Well, we've gone one better in having Sarah Blown as our Chair writing in every issue. Our standards proved to be very influential with the club as its first printed edition of "No Boundaries" came out in Spring 1977 – seven years after our first Outside-edge which endorses the fact that supporters' groups can influence sports clubs' development."*



*Ron Lev*

OE 52 celebrated Courtney Walsh as Exiles Player of the Year for 1992. "By taking 92 wickets and producing match-winning performances in his benefit year, Walsh made an extraordinary contribution to Gloucestershire cricket in 1992. Where would we have been without him?" Ron Lev, now retiring Editor, reported the Exiles had donated an honours board for the Hammond Room at Bristol. This would carry the names of all Gloucestershire players who have appeared in international cricket.

The Editorship then passed to **Mark Brunt** who took on the role for the extended period of twenty issues – a remarkable record! Mark had to contend with a period of technological change. Here he recalls how his editorship came about and introduces us to a much-loved Exiles character, Arthur Hawkins:

*“My ten-year period as Editor of Outside-edge ran from Spring 1993 until Issue 74 and as I look back on it the most striking development in that time was the development in technology that we used. When Mike Pimbury first asked me to take over – in reality I was press-ganged when he said, “Your father was a journalist so you are just the person to take this on,” before walking off, taking away any chance I had to decline – I had little idea of what editing Outside-edge would entail and how to go about it. The Exiles had parted company with a previous printer and I knew so few Exiles that I was wary of where to secure enough articles, so it was very much a case of starting from scratch.*



Mark Brunt

*Up stepped recently-retired Arthur Hawkins, a former printer who had learnt his trade as a young man working at The Citizen in Gloucester, where my father had later worked as a Sub-Editor before taking over as Editor of the Gloucester Journal. Arthur offered to paste up all the typed sheets of articles ready for photo typesetting and arranged for a printer close to his home in Chelmsford to print the magazines. I would type the articles (so many then were submitted written by hand and even those that were submitted in a typed form were usually in a different font), and Arthur would then physically cut and paste them to fill the required number of pages. How bizarre that this was still being done just over 20 years ago. Sadly Arthur died after a few editions so we needed to look around again and I contacted Richard Lacey who ran his own printing business in Stroud and he kindly took on the printing. It felt right that Outside-edge was now coming out of Gloucestershire. Richard guided us on the developments that had taken place in the printing world with very reasonably-priced software packages now available, and so we headed towards the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century finally embracing the electronic age, initially sending him the articles on a disc from which he could arrange the layout, and more latterly sending everything by e-mail. Cut and paste had now taken on a whole new meaning. By then such things as proof-reading were far easier as the electronic communication was so quick and easy. Having recently re-read some of those earlier issues we would have benefitted from it. With some of the typos we almost rivalled The Guardian!”*

OE 53 in Autumn 1993 carried a fine obituary to Gloucestershire cricketer Charlie Barnett by Bill Lewis. Bill, originally from Cheltenham but living in Canterbury, wrote: “Charlie Barnett was not only a great attacking batsman. He was also a superb deep field, and a useful medium pace opening bowler, who once (against Essex at Clacton-on-Sea in 1936) took 6-17.” Sadly, OE was also paying tribute to opening batsman Martin Young, who too had passed away. This from John Light: “Elegance was the key word in other areas of Martin’s life. A senior club figure told Martin he was the only person he knew who could make ordering a gin and tonic (Gordon’s, of course) seem like a proposal of marriage.” Exiles member David Greenaway, of Surrey, was full of compliments for the Exiles tie. He reported it the best of the Gloucestershire or cricket related ties in his collection. And he told OE that at a Gloucestershire game against Surrey at Guildford, it was complimented on by the man who ran the Oval shop. Exile Dudley Box told how he had sent an OE containing his article “Memories of Lord’s” to MCC Secretary Lt. Col. Stephenson, who had passed our

magazine on to the Curator for placing in the Lord's Library. During the Second World War, Dudley had joined the RAF through No 1 Gate at the ground, as the RAF referred to the Grace Gate. There was now a plaque placed there stating: "Many entering the RAF through Gate No 1 Air Crew Reception Area at Lord's during the Second World War gave their lives. Our enjoyment of cricket reflects their sacrifices."

In this period, OE regularly included articles produced by some of its most prolific contributors. Mark remembers them:

*"As for securing enough articles, most of the time my early concerns were ill-founded. Producing Outside-edge does bring its pressures, as Howard Allen and Martin Jones will no doubt agree. One of the plus points of carrying out the role is the pleasure that Exiles tell us they have from receiving the magazine, but this in turn means that you want to give them something worth reading. In my period as Editor the County stopped publishing the No Boundaries magazine, leaving Outside-edge as the only physical newsletter about Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, a fact that was regularly commented on as many people still enjoy reading a hard copy publication rather than e-zines. Outside-edge has survived as a magazine and this is largely due to the array of contributors. In my time I could rely on people such as Keith Lye, Christopher Bell (I am delighted that he still contributes) and Bill Lewis, even though his hand-writing was at times almost undecipherable... There was also Nico Craven who kindly permitted extracts from his various books to be included, He used to send me a postcard at the start of each season with words of encouragement, always starting them with, "It's Wisden time!" What was always a delight, though, was receiving an article out of the blue from someone I had never met nor with whom I had ever had any contact, and invariably they were good."*

Contributor **Chris Bell** recalls his long association with Outside-edge:

*"Outside-edge at 100? Really? Well, that is something. The copies in my attic don't go quite that far back but well on the way there. It was my old University contemporary, Mike Pimbury (we first met watching Gloucestershire's traditional opening match in The Parks), who not only persuaded me to join the Exiles ("Well, you're always at Cheltenham like me") but also suggested, after checking that I'd duly paid up, that I might try and write something for Outside-edge. "After all, you used to write that stuff at Oxford." Well yes, I had from time to time, mostly theatre reviews for the student magazine, Isis. A generous suggestion from Mike really, as one of my more unkind pieces had been, I remembered, distinctly critical of a Pimbury performance."*



Chris Bell, Keith Lye and Bill Lewis at Exiles Day' 2009

*So anyway, I sent in a very tentative article and, to my considerable surprise, it was accepted. Successive editors since 1993 have continued to be indulgent. I love Gloucestershire cricket and have managed to attend almost every Cheltenham festival since watching the County play India in that first post-war season of 1946. In print I've been allowed to wander and meander and look, often in vain, for humour rather than statistics. So, over 23 years, that has really been appreciated. Thank you Outside-edge and, of course, the happiest of Birthdays!"*

OE's Spring edition of '94 announced Jack Russell as Exiles' Player of the Year for 1993. Wrote Christopher Bell: "Determination, character and willpower in a poor year for the County. He demonstrated his own personal skills as an example to his colleagues." In OE 56, Spring '95, Dennis Mason, of the Stroud News and Journal, recalled in an article entitled, "Erinoid Echoes", the eight years when Gloucestershire played in Stroud. Ken Smales, the Nottinghamshire player, took all 10 wickets for 66 in Gloucestershire's first innings in 1956. In 1961, one national newspaper writer described the pitch as "Death Valley" after so many wickets fell in games against Middlesex and Sussex. Gloucestershire won both, David Allen profiting as well as Fred Titmus. Issue 58 in the Spring of 1996 featured the obituary of Grahame Parker. In 1983, Grahame's love of the club had prompted him to write Gloucestershire Road, an impressive history of the County Club. OE said of the man so instrumental in the formation of the Exiles: "A kind, witty and scholarly man, much respected by all who knew him. He guided Gloucestershire through a difficult period in its history."

In 1996, the Exiles celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Day at Cheltenham. Members from Australia and Spain had flown in for it. Bomber Wells was guest of honour. He recalled cycling round Gloucester the night before his debut trying to borrow kit. Sadly issue 59 also contained the obituary of the Tetbury Twirler, Sam Cook, a first-class umpire after his playing days. Bill Coleman wrote: "Sam was playing at the time when cricketers had to make their own travel arrangements and few had cars. He frequently worried about getting back to Tetbury after close of play as the last bus left Bristol at 6.30pm. Colonel Henson, the Gloucestershire Secretary, often announced over the loudspeaker, 'Anyone going back to Tetbury for Cook?'"



Mark Alleyne (Gloucestershire 1986-2005)

OE 62 in the Summer of 1998 welcomed John Bracewell to Gloucestershire as Head Coach. The New Zealander was soon overseeing a remarkable run of one-day trophies along with skipper Mark Alleyne. The winter edition of '99 celebrated the double of the NatWest Trophy and the Super Cup. By this time Courtney Walsh had gone. Keith Lye's Press Review of the Season featured this from Michael Henderson in the Daily Telegraph on the perversity of cricket: "Courtney Walsh played with distinction for a decade and ended his days without so much as a pot to wash. Harvey had helped the County win two cups in a year of otherwise moderate attainment. Barnett, who spent twenty years at Derby before bailing out last winter, must feel he has been sprinkled with fairy dust. The wand, though, belongs to the batty man with the

gloves (Russell). The Citizen, Gloucester, quoted Bracewell thus: "It is vital that we survive in one-day cricket because that is the business of the club. We are on TV through one-day cricket, our kids buy coloured shirts with coloured gear on it and will come to the ground because of that. The members will probably have a heart attack hearing me say that, but that is the future." Gloucestershire were to do even better. Issue 67 reported three trophies in the cabinet in the same season: the Benson and Hedges Cup, the NatWest Trophy and the National League. David Foot in Wisden Cricket Monthly described the County as "The Lords of Lord's." OE 68 saw Keith Lye reviewing what was said about Mark Alleyne after he was named one of Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year. Bracewell called his captain a natural leader who had a great way with people. "The players like him and respect him as a man." Graham Russell in his Wisden review of the season reminded readers "A Trophy was once a beer sold in the club bars, not something they put in the committee room cabinet."

Soon, though, OE's then editor, Mark Brunt, was writing about acrimony in the camp. Up to six players were unhappy and threatening to leave. Part of the problem was money. "Salary slips were compared and the squabbles erupted," was how Rob Steen reported it in Wisden Cricket Monthly. Jeremy Snape, buoyed by his England selection, sought better terms. The County felt unable to meet his demands. Martyn Ball, in his benefit season, was unhappy about losing his place to Ian Fisher. Harvey was only offered a one-year deal instead of the two he was seeking. But much of the blame for the disharmony, wrote Brunt, was laid at Kim Barnett's door. He was sent home from the Cheltenham Festival. Players were unhappy with Bracewell's management style but the Club hierarchy gave both him and Alleyne a vote of confidence. Snape left. Barnett, after severance terms were eventually agreed, went too. Barnett had contributed over 3,000 first-class runs at an average of more than 41. New faces arrived at Bristol as the County signed Jonty Rhodes and Phil Weston.

How does the magazine reflect such ups and downs? Mark Brunt continued:

*"As for the content, I had the fortune to be producing Outside-edge when the County was having so much one-day success. We all love success, seeing it, being part of it, and reading about it. Fortunately for me writing about it was also popular. It was not all plain-sailing, though, as at the latter end of my time there was also the period of dissension in the County camp. It was always important to produce not only a positive and supportive magazine but also one which was not shy to comment on matters such as this. For a number of readers, even in this electronic age, Outside-edge is still their main source of information about Gloucestershire cricket."*



*John Bracewell (Gloucestershire Coach 1999-2004, 2009-14)*



OE 72 marked Tony Brown's 50 years' service to cricket as player, Manager, Chief Executive, international tour manager, pitch inspector and Chair of cricket. On his first visit to the County Ground, Bristol, as a boy of 10, Tony had seen Wally Hammond hit 214. Tony told David Foot he had fielded one of the great man's cover drives at the boundary ropes. "My fingers stung for an hour but by then I was hooked." OE 73, Spring 2004, reported the departure of John Bracewell, although he was to return for a second stint. He left on a high to coach his native New Zealand after Gloucestershire won the NatWest Trophy and promotion to Division 1 of the County Championship. Mark Brunt: "John Bracewell talked of leaving a legacy. Harvey was a key part in creating it."

At the end of Mark's tenure, Keith Lye again came to the rescue with Issues 73 to 76. Mark Brunt writes:

*"After ten years it was time to move on. Keith Lye, always such a stalwart of the Exiles and another who is no longer with us, kindly took on the role as Acting-Editor for a short while before Howard Allen took up the reins on a permanent basis, and what progress he made. Since that time I, too, have been able to enjoy that moment when the A5 envelope with a Bristol post mark drops through the letterbox. May Outside-edge continue for many years to come."*



*Craig Spearman (Gloucestershire 2002-9)*

Another key cog in the all conquering Gloucestershire side, Jack Russell, was soon forced into retirement by a chronic back injury. OE 74 reran David Foot's comments on Jack from the Wisden Cricketer: "Jack was one of our most exceptionally gifted as well as surreal wicketkeepers. Mesmeric in action and surely just a bit mad." That issue also reported that on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004, Craig Spearman scored 341 at Gloucester, the highest first-class innings by a Gloucestershire batsman, beating no less than W.G. Grace, who had made 318 not out at Cheltenham in 1876.

Gloucestershire bowler Mike Smith had strong words about his short lived England career when he retired. In issue 75 in Spring 2005, Smith wrote: "Mike Atherton, the captain, was one of the ones who did not want me around and his field settings when I came on to bowl (one slip, no gully, and a ring field, despite the Aussies being 45-4 at the time) kind of suggested a lack of faith in me. He bowled me in very short spells, forever changing the end I bowled at. He handed me the rope to hang myself and I did it nicely. Forget Graham Thorpe's dropped catch, trust me it was never happening. David Graveney's personal and public apology to me on my retirement from cricket was gladly received but when you reach cricketing heaven only to be greeted by selfishness and animosity, there really is no consolation. The welcome I got from some was subdued at best, at worst hostile." Smith added that during his team days with England, two players did not speak to him.



*Mike Smith (Gloucestershire 1991-2004)*

Issue 76 quoted David Foot in Wisden Cricket Monthly on the retirement of David Shepherd as a first-class umpire. “Cricket has lost its Falstaff but beneath the surface lurks a wise and shy man.”

It was reported that two leading Exiles, John Light and Roger Cooke, had become Chairman and Treasurer respectively of the County Club.

The next development came in Spring 2007 (Issue 79) with the use of colour after **Howard Allen** became Editor from Issue 77 (Spring 2006). His final contribution was Issue 89 (Spring 2012). Howard recalls how the role was part of a long love of writing:



*Howard Allen*

*“In 1951 as a young sixth former I wrote my first long historical essay. Since that date none of my writing has given me greater enjoyment than that on the ‘noble’ game. I cut my teeth whilst at school as the editor of The Cryptian and at Selwyn College as the cricket correspondent for the Selwyn College Calendar and then in my Wiltshire years I wrote annual reports for the Dauntseian.*

*However, the pinnacle of my literary work was associated with my seven years as editor of Outside-Edge. That work brought me into contact with a wide range of cricket’s most talented players and cricketers*

*enthusiasts. I take enormous pleasure from the superb way in which our current Editor, Martin Jones, has taken the production forward."*

Howard employed some unusual tactics for obtaining contributions to Outside-edge, but they usually paid off: Alistair Hignell wrote a lovely article after Howard cornered him in a Stroud supermarket car park!

OE 80 featured tributes to Arthur Milton, Gloucestershire's double international, who had died. From Frank Keating's piece in *The Spectator*: "I recall vividly still, the flush of 56 years ago when our fellow was picked for England at Wembley (Matthews dropped, Finney injured, wow! Third in line) and then when England called again, the chanceless debut century in the Headingley Test. The obits this week have logged all Milton's winter goals (for Arsenal) and 'assists' and his summer runs and wickets down to the last decimal point (only seven men in all history have held more catches). But to us behind the ropes all those years ago with a pound of plums, mum's sarnies and our autograph books, it was Arthur's congenially boyish enjoyment and constancy which most appealed, plus the jaunty, feelgood zest of his inborn talent and, of course, his buttercup hair."

The issue of Spring 2008 reported the departure of Mark Alleyne, who had followed a trophy-laden playing career with the job of Head Coach when John Bracewell left in 2005. Alleyne was the most successful captain in the club's history with eight one-day trophies. It was reported the club were hoping to have Bracewell back in 2009 as Director of Cricket. And the hopes were to be realised. Issue 82 reported on the passing of Bryan "Bomber" Wells. A Service of Thanksgiving was held in Gloucester Cathedral.



*Exiles favourite, Bryan "Bomber" Wells (Gloucestershire 1951-65)*

A tribute by David Foot appeared in *The Guardian* headlined: "Bye-bye Bomber. Sunny face of cricket past." Foot wrote: "The cricket playing son (of a diehard trade unionist father) was encouraged to learn his trade as a printer and, when rain held up play, he dared verbally to unfurl the Red Flag in a dressing room inclined to reactionary imbalance. But his opinions were softened by a jovial countenance and his inherent sense of fun. He knew everyone on the local boundary, juggling his anecdotes like surprises and new cameos in the batting order. All of them were based in truth and his astute observation of the human condition. There was no meanness of spirit, no slanderous menace." As Editor, Howard Allen pointed out, Bomber's cricketing skills should not be overlooked. "Brian Close, the hardened professional, thought Bomber's unpredictability made him the most dangerous of the trio of Gloucestershire spinners."

Spring 2009 saw OE reporting on the death of Vincent Coronel, the first and longest serving Chairman of

the Exiles. A Londoner by birth, Vincent's admiration for Walter Hammond was the start of a lifelong loyalty to Gloucestershire. During the Seventies and Eighties, Vincent, along with Secretary Ken Daniels and the committee, instigated many of the Exiles' distinctive events. The Exiles had much to thank him for. Sadly tributes to those passed on kept coming. David Foot on David Shepherd in Issue 85: "Both as a player and an umpire, he entertained the public. But behind the hopping he was a private man. For all his honest, gentle, decent, even unworldly qualities, Shep was an intensely nervous, home-loving and, eventually perhaps, even a lonely man. Above all, he was a cricket man, a player and umpire we all loved."



*David 'Shep' Shepherd (Gloucestershire 1965-79)*

In issue 86, Neville Denson penned an appreciation of Nico Craven, that inimitable cricket lover and writer and great contributor to OE. Nico (as he himself would point out, rhymes with psycho) had died aged 84. Neville wrote of him: "Nico was the quintessentially English country gentleman in the finest sense of the word. He loved village events, from the Christmas fayre to the village cricket match and, perhaps as much, he loved the food that went with them." Neville added: "Linking his love of cricket and home-made food, I'm sure the result of village games never left him too upset – so long as 'tea top-scored.'

Issue 89, Spring 2012, reported deeply disappointing news for the County Club. Bristol City Council had rejected a GCCC/Linden Homes application to build residential apartments at the ground. The project would have provided the funding to carry out the ground improvements, including floodlights, for which planning permission had already been granted. Rex Body, County Club Chairman, called it a devastating setback. Immediate past President John Light, in his column in the Wilts and Gloucs Standard, said the County had been betrayed by Bristol planners. A much modified scheme eventually went ahead to give us the County Ground we have today.

Issue 90 was the first issue collated by our current Editor, Martin Jones. In taking over from Howard Allen, Martin followed the practice of using colour photographs mostly supplied by the redoubtable Tony Hickey.



*The current Editor*

In Spring 2013, issue 91 celebrated Mike Procter. It included this from Alan Gibson in Wisden Almanack 1982: "Procter's batting was underestimated, at least in England. His bowling took the eye. However, it was Gloucestershire who made him more of a bowler than a batsman, because they needed, at that time, his wickets more than his runs. Procter's batting was not unlike Hammond's. It was classical, included a majestic cover drive, and was correct even when he was attacking, as he usually was. He could give even the 40-over bashes a touch of dignity and beauty." The issue also included tributes to Keith Lye, Bill Lewis, Frank Keating and former Gloucestershire Chairman Alan Haines, who had worked tirelessly to keep county cricket alive in the city of Gloucester.

In an edited version of John Light's appreciation of Keith Lye given at his funeral, John described Keith's selflessness. "All he did was for others, either those around him or those further away. He took up difficult causes without fear or favour – often at a cost to himself. Another word is conscience. He was surely the conscience of the Exiles; we could never cut corners with Keith around. We had to do our duty to the members. He would not have had it otherwise. If there was a vacancy on the committee or a job to be done, Keith would always fill in. He was one of the rocks on which this organisation was built."

Sarah Blown, Exiles Chair, paid tribute to the Cheltonian Bill Lewis, who had subsequently moved to Canterbury. Bill, who had died at 92, was a great contributor over many years. "A thoughtful man with clear views," wrote Sarah. "Bill's writing often contained surprising personal insights and unexpected findings. As in his writing, so in his life: did any of us know that Bill had been a scriptwriter for films, numbering Laurence Olivier amongst the many actors he had met? Or that he taught Arabella Churchill, Winston's left-field granddaughter, and Tim Brooke-Taylor? Bill, the Glastonbury Festival and The Goodies – who knew?"

Spring 2015 and issue 95 welcomed Richard Dawson, the former Gloucestershire player, back to the club as Head Coach, John Bracewell having left after his second spell at Bristol. John Light wrote of Dawson's appointment: "I have just recovered. Mike Gatting hugged me! We were both guests at the Cotswold School, Bourton-on-the-Water, which is now an MCC Hub School. On seeing me, Mike ran up and enveloped me. 'What a great appointment! Dawse will take you places. He has had a smashing year at Yorkshire with Dizzy. You could not have done better'." Gatting's opinion was spot on. Dawson, together with assistant Ian Harvey, guided the County to silverware in his first season. The Royal London One-Day Cup was won at Lord's, thanks to a last over of high drama against Surrey. Issue 96 proudly displayed the trophy lift on its front cover. Sadly, it also reported the deaths of brothers Tom and Ken Graveney, former Gloucestershire players. Geoffrey Boycott paid tribute to Tom: "I am luckier than most people because I managed to bat with my boyhood hero. He was lovely to bat with. He talked to you and just looked a graceful player. His cover drive was like Michael Vaughan's – elegant. He was stylish and pleasing on the eye. He was a bloody good player. You don't score 122 first-class hundreds if you are not a good player." Douglas Miller remembered how Tom always felt bedevilled by the epithet so freely applied to his batting – elegant. Tom once told Douglas across the lunch table: "It's all very well being elegant until you lose your middle pole – then they say you are casual. That's why I always felt sorry for David Gower."

So that's it folks. My trawl through the back numbers of Outside-edge. I hope it's been a joy for you too, accompanying me through just some of the many highlights. 100 not out. Here's to the double century.



**Action from the 2017 Season**



*Cameron Bancroft v. Glamorgan at Cheltenham*



*Michael Klinger v. Glamorgan at Bristol*



*Matt Taylor misjudges a skier but hangs on for a remarkable catch to dismiss Kent's Sam Billings at Cheltenham*



*Bristol under lights.*

## Champagne Moment at Cheltenham!



*George Hankins leaps to catch but realises that he is falling over the boundary*



*George flips the ball upwards as he falls back*



*Michael Klinger races to catch the ball before it drops to the ground*



*Michael dives to make the catch*



*A celebratory jog back to the square*



*Joy unconfined!*

***George Hankins and Michael Klinger combine to pull off a remarkable catch v. Sussex in the T20 game at Cheltenham before rain caused the abandonment of play.***

## ***Roger Gibbons describes some of the highlights of the new GCCC Museum***

At lunchtime on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017, Mark Alleyne removed the bails from a set of stumps placed in the doorway inside the Stumps Café at the Ashley Down End of the Brightside County Ground to celebrate the official opening of the new Museum and Learning Centre. Following the redevelopment of the ground, the old Museum, described by GCCC Heritage Trust Chairman Rex Body as “almost a small cupboard”, was consigned to history, as was the Learning Centre in the former Jessop Stand.

After three years of fundraising and planning, the new facility which comprises themed displays based around various topics, England Cricketers, Overseas Stars, the “One-day Kings” successes, history of the grounds, bats and balls and W.G. Grace, was finally brought into existence. It also contains a memorial to the eighteen players who lost their lives in the Great War. Our partners in the design and construction, Clip Exhibition and Display, were of tremendous help to us and for those who have already visited us, you will have seen how they have taken our basic thoughts and ideas and transformed them into something more than “just a museum”. As well as providing what would be expected of a museum, it is also the intention that it should be used as an educational facility for schools and local groups and plans are already in hand to host a visit in the early months of 2018 by the Friends of the Bristol Museums Group, and a couple of Cricket Societies have also expressed an interest in visiting.



*Richard Matthews at the Museum and Learning Centre*

It is open on all County match days for an hour before the start of play and in Championship games during the lunch interval. Where possible, but we hope not too often, it will be open during prolonged bad weather breaks. Our 600+ visitors this season have included current and former players as well as families of some from times past. The photograph above shows Richard Matthews, grandson of T.G. Matthews who played alongside W. G. Grace in Gloucestershire’s first ever game against Surrey in 1870 alongside his grandfather’s friend and hero. Incidentally, the bat that Richard is holding was used by his grandfather in 1872 when he scored 201 for the County against Surrey at Clifton College, the first double century both for Gloucestershire and in county cricket and features in the Bats and Balls display in the museum.

You will spot in the background of the photograph some coloured discs. That is our “Ball Wall”. As part of the Educational programme, each of the discs has a question relating to the display relevant to its colour. There is a frieze running round the room in the club colours and each of the displays is linked to one of the colours. The premises are provided by the Club, but the facility is managed by GCCC Heritage Trust, a separate Independent Charity. Admission is free, but there is a donations box and we also have a Friends group. Membership costs £10 per annum (administratively £30 for a three year membership is much more convenient!) and, as a Registered Charity, we are able to claim Gift Aid on such donations.



The four Trustees are Rex and Wendy Body, Roger Gibbons and, Chair of the Exiles, Sarah Blowen. If anyone wants further information about the Trust, they should contact the Trust Secretary, Wendy Body, [wendybody254@btinternet.com](mailto:wendybody254@btinternet.com)

You can see videos of the Museum on You Tube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5SBrx8INcU0>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scQ\\_igkdkqw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scQ_igkdkqw)

### ***Cricket Ditty for Gloucestershire by Ruth Sharville***

As I sat on a WINDAYBANK  
A KING FISHER I saw  
It dived into the WATERS there  
And caught a fish, I'm SHAW.

No PIKE or HERRING was this fish,  
In this MIDWINTER LAKE,  
But just a WIGLEY tiddler. Still  
A BIRD meal did it make.

A DIPPER in the nearby BROOKE  
Ignored the BEWICK swan  
Who swam serenely to the REEDS  
Away from everyone.

And was this swan a cob or PEN?  
DUCK, drake I can discern,  
But less these swans. It mattered NOTT.  
I walked through BRACKEN fern,

Continuing down to the DALE,  
Past HEDGES, to a BUSH,  
Beyond which was a ROEBUCK WHITE  
Partaking of the lush

GREEN grass, which grew upon the HILL,  
And what is MOORE, a HINDE  
Enjoyed the peace and solitude,  
With eating on her mind.

That made me think that I should HUNT  
The KITCAT that I had.  
(I'd called at LIDDLE on my way -  
Their MAINPRICE isn't bad.)

I carried on my walk, up to  
The village CHURCH, and there  
I met a CARPENTER, who DREW  
Designs for carvings fair.

He chose the WRIGHT WOOD for the job.  
The TURNER then assisted,  
And soon an ANGEL they had carved.  
They looked at it and kissed it!

Inside, the WINDOWS caught my eye,  
And a bright BANER. JEE!  
A stone said that a man died of  
A GRAVE-NEY injury.

Some MONKS and, once, the POPE had  
been  
To preach a SURMAN there.  
He said PEPALL much show DEARLOVE  
With GRACE and HEALING prayer.

The ROMANS had been at the place -  
The RHODES gave that away,  
And I went homeward down the LANE.  
I'd had TOOGOOD a day!

And as I'm walking, on the HEATH  
The SHEPHERD BOWLES a BALL.  
He YORKS the BAKER – a NEWBY.  
A LUCE shot was my call!

But he will cut the MUSTARD and,  
Once he has reached his PEAKE,  
Will know just how a GOODWIN feels,  
At cricket, week by week.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Gloucestershire\\_County\\_Cricket\\_Club\\_players](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Gloucestershire_County_Cricket_Club_players) (plus Liddle from 2017)

### *Roger Gibbons's Brain Teaser*

Mention is made of T.G. Matthews (29 games between 1870 and 1878) in the article about the Museum and Learning Centre. Along with Dennis Moore (31 games between 1930 and 1936) and current overseas player Cameron Bancroft they share a record unique amongst all Gloucestershire cricketers. What is it?  
Answer at the bottom of the page

### **Cheltenham Scene painting**



Exiles who attended our day at Cheltenham may recall a local artist producing a painting of the ground. If anyone would like a print, these are available to order from [trudi@trudihayden.co.uk](mailto:trudi@trudihayden.co.uk).

#### ***Player of the Year 2017***

Please could all members complete the enclosed slip when voting for their 2017 Player of the Year.

If you prefer you could email me your choice and reason why that player gets your vote.

My email address is [jon.paine@barclays.com](mailto:jon.paine@barclays.com)

***Answer to Roger Gibbons's Brain Teaser:*** Their only century for Gloucestershire is a double century. Matthews (as stated in the article), Moore 206 on debut against Oxford University and Bancroft 206 not out against Kent in his final game last season against Kent.

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*Tony's famous Cheltenham fans are Duckworth and Lewis (top) and Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards.*

**Guess who Tony Hickey has snapped at Cheltenham?**



*Answers are at the bottom of the previous page.*