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# Notchers' News

ISSUE 27

SEPTEMBER 2014

## The network for cricket scorers

This newsletter is *your* forum for sharing news and experiences, discussing scoring issues and networking.

### Tea is not the only movable object

On a sunny day in June I thought I was going to spend the entire day scoring a high profile game of cricket on computer for the benefit of a capacity crowd, i.e. a hi-tech scoreboard operator. The thing about technology is that it's great when it works but you must have a Plan B for when the inevitable happens, as on my sunny day in June.

I returned from a delightful lunch to a major power failure, rendering the technology somewhat unusable. Thankfully there was a Plan B, which involved the use of a manual score box and I was duly despatched with a colleague to go and "pull the strings".

A simple job you might think and one that many of you will partake in, week after week at your home grounds.

To cut a long story short – the siting of the score box proved to be a lengthy and arduous task and involved many people debating how to manoeuvre such a large object through an inadequate gap and where to place the score box to avoid obscuring the view of fee paying spectators. By the time our goal had been achieved, my colleague was elsewhere and I was left alone to make the scoreboard reflect the match that had been continuing without us all this time.

As I concentrated on getting everything up to date, word reached the ground staff that our manual solution contravened certain match regulations and must be removed immediately, to which they complied; swiftly; with little thought for the now low-tech scoreboard operator housed within!

As the scorebox started moving, I leapt out and a roar went round the ground. I naively assumed a boundary had been struck or wicket had been taken, but no, at this self-same moment, power was restored, cameras were focussed on us and my athletic antics were briefly portrayed on the now functional scoreboards.

Be very wary of what might happen next time you set foot in a mobile score box!

Signed *The humble scoreboard operator*

#### AN APOLOGY FROM THE EDITOR

The front page of Notchers' News Issue 26 did not include the usual updated index  
An updated copy has been placed on the website  
Remember that the website hosts a content index of all issues of Notchers' News .  
All previous issues of Notchers' News are available on the Notchers website

The newsletter can only be successful if copy is received for publication. Please submit articles, letters and questions to  
[notchers@btopenworld.com](mailto:notchers@btopenworld.com)  
<http://www.notchers.co.uk>

## Brentham Cricket Club's legendary scorer

Submitted by Brian Mulholland and reproduced by kind permission of the Club Cricket Conference

Ivor Chaplin, Brentham's legendary scorer, broke yet more new ground on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June when he scored his 700<sup>th</sup> consecutive Middlesex County Cricket League match at Meadvale Road where the visitors were Harrow St Mary's CC. What makes Ivor's record so phenomenal is that he has scored every single league match Brentham have ever played – going all the way back to 1972!

It doesn't end there: his 1<sup>st</sup> XI consecutive scoring record stretches back to 1968 and embraces no fewer than 1880 games, including the 1972 National Club Final at Lord's.

When not scoring, Ivor is the Club's statistician and is currently researching the stories behind 19 club members killed in World War 1. Because of his dedication and longevity, the club has been able to award numbered caps to every player who has represented the 1<sup>st</sup> XI in the league – numbered in the order in which they appeared! In his honour, he has cap number '0'.

Saturday's tea interval was extended to allow for a special presentation ceremony when the scoreboard was rededicated in his name following a renovation.

It is extremely unlikely this record (and whatever it ultimately becomes) will ever be broken – and certainly not in the lifetimes of most current members of the Middlesex County Cricket League (MCCL).

As well as being a Life member of Brentham CC, Ivor is also a Vice President of the MCCL – given in recognition of his unique position in the League's history.

Taken from the Club Cricket Conference newsletter 'The Update!'. 23rd June 2014



Angus Fraser found time to thank Ivor on the occasion of his 700th MCCL match

## Graeme William Lowrie

22 February 1938 – 19 May 2014

Graeme joined the then Canterbury Cricket Umpires Association (New Zealand, now the Canterbury Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association) in 1983. He arrived with little, if any recent playing experience, but from the very start, he showed a passion for cricket that can only come from within.

He successfully completed the introductory umpiring course and took to the field. In one of his first games (and it might indeed have been the very first) he faced a scenario that would make the most experienced of umpires wince. Imagine the challenges faced by umpires when both batsmen at the wicket need a runner, meaning four members of the batting side out there wearing pads and helmets. It is in Canterbury umpiring folklore that while Graeme stood manfully at the striker's end in correct position, after a hit to the long off fielder, all four batsman ended up standing at the bowler's end. Somehow Graeme and his colleague managed to sort things out though.

In the early 1990s Graeme and his wife Madeline moved south to the city of Timaru where he joined the South Canterbury Umpires and Scorers Association. SCCUSA had been for some time in a somewhat state of doldrums, but Graeme soon changed that. In his time he served as Chairman, Training Officer, Appointments Officer and eventually Patron. The strong body in South Canterbury to this day is very much that way because of Graeme's efforts.

At about this time a system of Regional Training Officers (RTOs) was implemented in New Zealand. I was the inaugural Canterbury appointment and Graeme was a great source of information that was always useful to my role.

In the later 1990s the RTOs wanted to establish some electronic resources that could be standard use throughout the country. Finding time and a common style proved a challenge but Graeme, recently retired from his day job, had discovered the world of computing and took on the job on our behalf. The many world class resources that we enjoy today are a testament to Graeme's considerable efforts over many years now, and his efforts are his legacy to New Zealand umpiring and scoring.

Graeme never reached great heights on the field but his knowledge of cricket law and its application was his great strength. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century there were trips to UK to assist with law review and rewrites. His reputation had spread far and wide.

Graeme is sadly missed by all those involved in umpire and scorer training. Never afraid to air his views and a staunch supporter of the traditional values of cricket, his passion for the great game of cricket has been an inspiration to many umpires and scorers and, through his written work, will continue to do so.

Jeremy Busby August 2014

## Being Entirely Muted

Sue Drinkwater BEM

Early in May a letter dropped through my door out of the blue; an average looking white envelope, except for the stamping “On Her Majesty’s Service – Cabinet Office”. It was a Saturday and I had already left for cricket by the time the post was delivered and arriving home late, the letter was scooped up with other unimportant mail and almost overlooked.

When I eventually opened it, I was stunned by the contents and went through several thoughts such as “who’s pulling my leg?” and “it can’t be for me”, but no – the letter clearly said I had been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list as a volunteer for Services to Cricket and asked me if I would accept the award.

Once the reality had sunk in, I was desperate to share the wonderful news with family and friends but the letter also stated that the news was in strict confidence and I was not allowed to breathe a word of it until late evening on the day before the Honours list was published on the 14<sup>th</sup> June.

A whole 6 weeks of keeping quiet!

Any of you who know me, will know how difficult I found this, especially in the final week of the embargo when the news was released to the press under wraps, so that they could prepare interviews ready for the 14<sup>th</sup>. It was very bizarre being secretly interviewed by BBC Radio, TV News and the local paper and yet still not being able to tell my closest family.

I was not quite sure how I was going to tell anyone on the big day, but I needn’t have worried. The news broke while I was working in a busy score box surrounded by fellow scorers who found the news equally as exciting and quickly spread the word, making the news even more special being received in this way.

The actual award will be done locally by the Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, either at an event of my choosing or at Gloucester Cathedral on St. George’s day in April 2015 with other award winners and I look forward to the promised garden party at the Palace next year.

I still have no idea why I have been honoured in this way but am thrilled and privileged to receive the award on behalf of all scorers and other cricket volunteers. Someone out there somewhere must have nominated me and to them I am extremely grateful. Thank you, wherever you are!



## Sue Drinkwater BEM

Cathy Rawson

I was absolutely delighted to learn that Sue Drinkwater had been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to cricket. I followed up the congratulations with ‘can you write an article for Notchers’ News’ and ‘include a scoring CV’.

Sue learned to score as a young girl while her father was playing. Her mum taught her the basics of scoring and she sat for hours with her own little scorebook and a very patient elderly club scorer called Mrs. Borrows. When Mrs Borrows retired Sue, then in her mid-teens, took over

In 1979, aged 17, Sue started scoring for Chedworth, her current club, as this was where her boy-friend (now husband) played (and still does).

In March 1983 she passed ACU Scorer’s Exam (there was no ‘and Scorers’ then!) and later that year she became a full member. This was the equivalent of the ECBACO level 1 and the only scoring exam that existed at that time. In April 1990 she went on to pass ACU&S Scorer’s Advanced Exam with such good marks that she was approached to become a Scorer Marker and was soon marking ACU&S scorer exam papers. By 1994, the number of scorers taking exams had increased markedly and more Scorer Markers were recruited; during that summer Sue helped to devise a marking scheme designed to ensure that all papers were marked to the same standard, no matter who was marking them

ACU&S was invited to appoint scorers to a number of matches during 2004 & 2005; In 2004 Sue was appointed to the England U19 Test Match at Taunton (captained by Alistair Cook v Bangladesh). This was her first scoring appointment for a team other than Chedworth! Invitations to score at Lord’s followed, the first in July 2006 scoring in the MCC book for Eton v Harrow then, in July 2007, her first full international England v West Indies ODI

Her cricket scoring pathway has taken her to the ICC tournament WCL Division 5 in Jersey (a role she enjoyed thoroughly), County 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and 1<sup>st</sup> XI matches, and more recently to the Lord’s scoreboards - now a regular scoring job using TCS

Since 2009 Sue has become increasingly involved in scorer training in Gloucestershire and has delivered an ECBACO certified TCS course and helped tutor Duckworth/Lewis training for the first time. In 2013 she won the Nat West OSCA in the Officials category for scorer training, having been nominated by Gloucestershire ACO

Sue’s CV included thanks (by name) to those who have appointed her to matches and helped her along the way.

The last paragraph of her article above says it all for me

## LEARNING ZONE: MCC Laws of Cricket v Special Regulations

The June issue of Notchers' News (Issue 27) identified occasions when ICC regulations governing international cricket (and ECB regulations governing First Class and Minor County cricket in England and Wales) vary from the MCC Laws of Cricket and put the question 'do playing regulations confuse?'

Players, officials and spectators enjoy TV coverage of Test, ODI, IPL and other matches but do they know the difference between Special regulations and the Laws of Cricket?

What are their expectations when they play, officiate or watch cricket in local leagues?

Competent umpires who are knowledgeable in the Laws of Cricket, know the Special Regulations relevant to the match being played, give clear signals and wait for acknowledgement and are a scorer's delight

Those scorers who regularly suffer the delights of the 10 over *player* umpire (if he can be persuaded to stay there that long!!) might want to remind their players that what they see on TV may well not apply to the match being played.

### The 'Jos Buttler; Run out' controversy

The Jos Buttler run out incident in the England v Sri Lanka ODI at Edgbaston was subject to ICC playing regulations for international cricket which varied the MCC Laws of Cricket for this competition.

Bowler Sachithra Senanayake twice warned Buttler for straying out of his crease at the non-striker's end before removing the bails to dismiss him. Buttler was walking down the pitch in readiness to run as off-spinner Senanayake ran in to bowl.

The incident caused a media frenzy with commentators and cricket captains expressing differing views.

Sri Lankan captain Mathews commented that "What we did was completely within the rules" while England skipper Alastair Cook said: "I thought it was a pretty poor act"

To read more visit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/0/cricket/27689164>

Readers should compare the relevant MCC Laws and the ICC playing regulations:

#### **MCC Laws of Cricket. Law 42.15. Bowler attempting to run out non-striker before delivery**

The bowler is permitted, before entering his delivery stride, to attempt to run out the non-striker. Whether the attempt is successful or not, the ball shall not count as one of the over.

If the bowler fails in an attempt to run out the non-striker, the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball as soon as possible.

#### **International Cricket Council's (ICC) playing regulations for international cricket**

##### **42.11: Law 42.15 – Bowler attempting to run out non-striker before delivery**

##### **Law 42.15 shall be replaced by the following:**

The bowler is permitted, before releasing the ball and provided he has not completed his usual delivery swing, to attempt to run out the non-striker. Whether the attempt is successful or not, the ball shall not count as one of the over. If the bowler fails in an attempt to run out the non-striker, the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball as soon as possible.

*The ICC and ECB regulations have varied Law 42.15 by replacing the words 'before entering his delivery stride' with the words 'before releasing the ball and provided he has not completed his usual delivery swing'. This allowed for Jos Buttler to be given out.*

Not everyone agrees it is a fair way to dismiss a batsman but, while there may be a stigma attached to such an act, the dismissal was fair under the Special Regulations applicable to this match.

### Law 24.6 Bowler breaking wicket in delivering ball

During the UK 2013 season Steven Finn received much media attention by breaking the wicket while delivering the ball. A Special Regulation was promptly introduced to address what subsequently became known as the 'Steven Finn No ball'. Subsequently the following change, effective from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2013, was made to the MCC Laws of Cricket:

#### **"24.6. Bowler breaking wicket in delivering ball**

*Either umpire shall call and signal No ball if, other than in an attempt to run out the non-striker under Law 42.15, the bowler breaks the wicket at any time after the ball comes into play and before he completes the stride after the delivery stride. See Appendix D. Laws 23.4(b)(viii), 23.4(b)(ix) and 10 below will apply."*

Expect the call and signal of No ball followed by the signal of No ball to the scorers when the ball is dead and score the incident as you would usually score a No ball delivery; acknowledge and accept all signals given by the umpire.

## CALL FOR LEAGUE TO GO TO ALL-ELECTRONIC SCORING

PLAYING THE GAME [Issue 1388-6713; 8th July 2014]

Attempts by Devon Cricket League (DCL) management officials to have all of its thirty clubs score games electronically has not been a success, according to an article in the 'Plymouth Herald' last week. As a result run rates, not the Duckworth-Lewis system, are used to set target scores in DCL matches where rain intervenes, something that led Plymstock skipper James Nichols to complain to the 'Herald' that the regulation needs changing after his side lost a rain-affected game against Axminster on run-rate.

Nichols is quoted as saying his side "outplayed [Axminster] in every department and had we played a full 45-over game they would not have got anywhere near our total". "They were six wickets down when they won, and on a difficult deck to bat on they were struggling against our spinners". "When it rains, run-rate massively favours the side batting second and it means our best bowlers can't bowl as many overs". In his view: "The league really has to look at adopting the Duckworth-Lewis method as a fairer way of deciding rain-affected games".

The 'Herald' says that Plymstock aren't the first side to complain this season about wet weather rules, but until now "costs have prevented the use of the Duckworth-Lewis system". The newspaper's report says that when it was last investigated a couple of years ago by a league administrator the licence would have cost the DCL £2,500 (\$A4,600) a season. Nichols says a cheaper option would be to get all DCL scorers to use laptops fitted with 'Total Cricket Scorer' (TCS) software as it has built-in Duckworth-Lewis calculations.

However, of the DCL's thirty clubs, only seventeen use 'TCS' for scoring, eight of the ten at Premier level, seven of the ten in the A Division, and two of ten in B Division. Until every club has the software the DCL has indicated that the D/L option isn't possible.

### ADVERTISING SCORER TRAINING COURSES

Notchers' News (<http://www.notchers.co.uk>) hosts a list of known courses which will be updated as details are received.

England and Wales Cricket Board Association of Cricket Officials (ECB ACO)

<http://www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/ecb-association-of-cricket-officials/>

<http://www.notchers.co.uk> hosts links to other websites offering information for scorers



**For books, scoring equipment and coloured pens or to access the Bulletin Board;**

**Visit the Acumen Books website at:**

**[www.acumenbooks.co.uk](http://www.acumenbooks.co.uk)**



### MILLENNIUM SCORING RECORD

The A3 scoring record originally designed by members of the ACU&S Scorers' Board.

Binder and 50 sheets (= 100 innings) £20 + P&P

Refill pack of 50 sheets £10 + P&P

Contact [milsteadmsr@btinternet.com](mailto:milsteadmsr@btinternet.com) for more information

### Scorer Correspondence courses

ECB ACO offer an Introductory level course - For more information visit the ECB ACO web site.

A 'scoring cricket limited by overs' course is independently run to the high standards previously set by The Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers. It is open to anyone wishing to learn more about cricket scoring.

For more information contact [cathy.rawson@btopenworld.com](mailto:cathy.rawson@btopenworld.com)

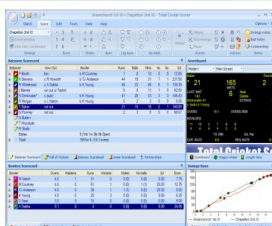
Share your cricket scoring experiences and scoring questions with readers.

Photos are welcomed and add interest to the newsletter.

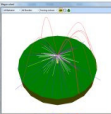
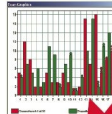
Send your contributions to: [notchers@btopenworld.com](mailto:notchers@btopenworld.com)

**December newsletter copy date: 23rd November 2014**

## Total Cricket Scorer



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**TCS 27**

As used at Lord's

*Your questions, news and views are welcomed for use in future issues*