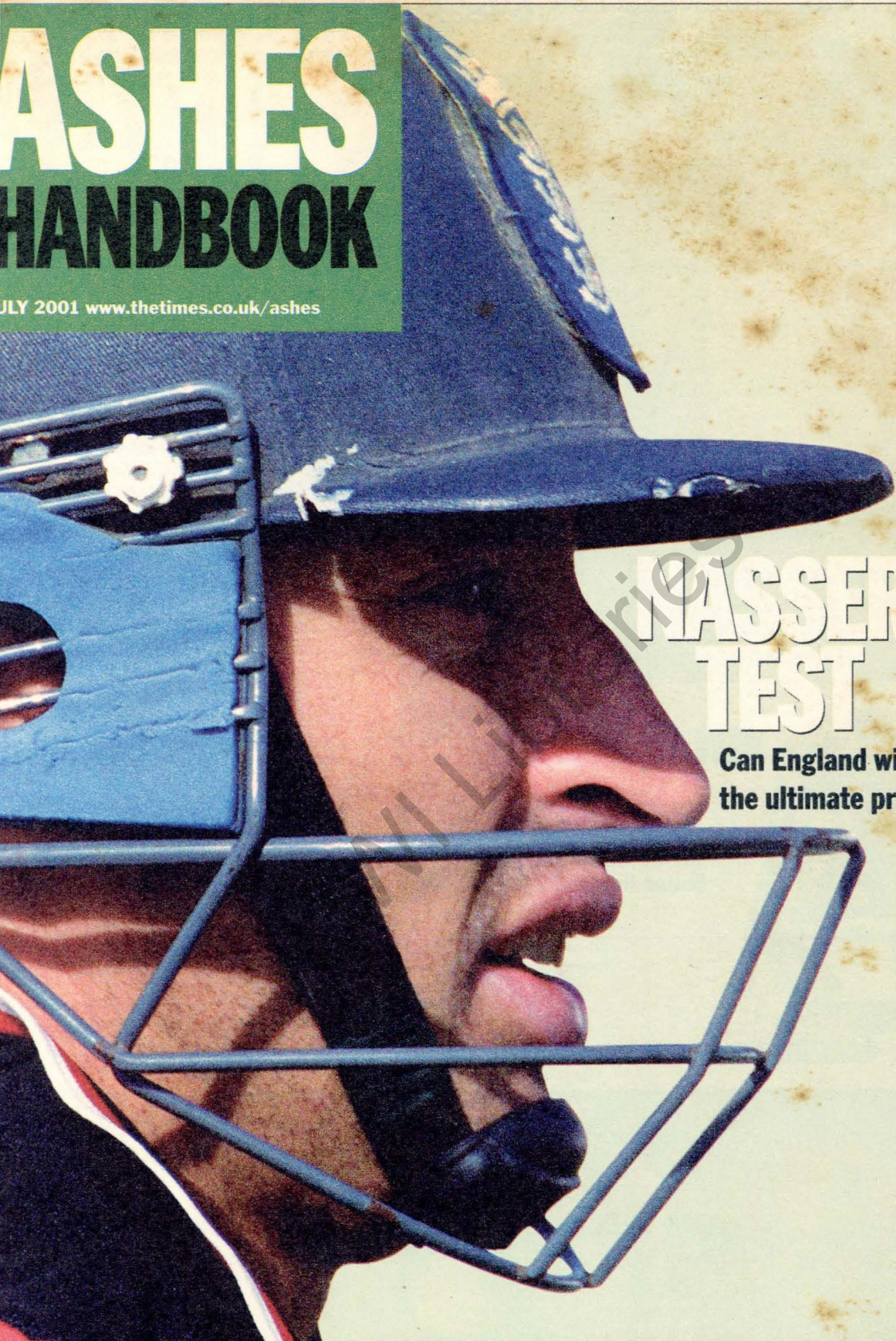


THE  TIMES

ASHES HANDBOOK

JULY 2001 www.thetimes.co.uk/ashes



NASSER'S TEST

Can England win back
the ultimate prize?

ALSO INSIDE: SHANE WARNE • MIKE GATTING • CHRISTOPHER MARTIN-JENKINS • SIMON BARNES

VITAL STATISTICS

BILL FRINDALL'S GUIDE TO THE
ASHES GROUND BY GROUND

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**John Woodcock
and Simon Barnes
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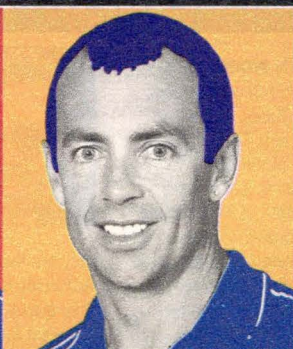
**Mike Gatting
focuses on the
England squad**
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COLIN MILLER AND THE AUSTRALIA SQUAD Pages 34-37



November 1998



January 2001



July 2001?



August 2001?

SPIRIT WILL SET ASHES ALIGHT

CHRISTOPHER MARTIN-JENKINS calculates that England could be celebrating in August — if luck goes their way

I expect Australia to win the Ashes; I think England might.

For it to happen everyone who has taken part in the past five series, four of them won, the most recent drawn, will have to be fully fit and in good form. Nasser Hussain will need to be back on song after breaking his thumb; slip catches will have to be held in shoals; Atherton, Trescothick, Gough and Caddick will have to perform consistently well; Graham Thorpe will have to maintain his outstanding form of the past eight months; and the tail will have to wag against bullying fast bowling of high quality. Above all, the team will have to recapture that spirit of the winter through which they found a man to come good in almost every awkward situation.

It did not happen in Galle nor a few weeks ago at Old Trafford. There will be one of the five Ashes Tests, no doubt, in which England will be outplayed again, but, provided they are all fit, they have a good enough attack, with Gough, Caddick and White augmented by one of Hoggard, Giles or Cork, to repeat their 1997 win at Edgbaston and then to follow up their recent vastly improved performances at

Lord's. England have won only five of their 31 Tests against Australia at Lord's, so the second Test may well hold the key to the series.

Australia remain favourites, naturally. Despite their narrow defeat in the epic series in India in February and March, they are still, by common consent and the calculations of every computer, the best side in the world. As if their confidence or resolve needed any boosting, they will be presented with the ICC's new World Championship trophy, £30,000 worth of precious metal in the shape of a mace, before the start of the first Test at Edgbaston. England's job, like Michael Heseltine brandishing the symbol of official dignity in the Commons some years ago, is to seize it for a season.

It will be years yet before they can lay official claim to it, if only because the system chosen for determining the best team in the world requires consistent success over five years; but winning the Ashes against the odds would be the best possible start. Without question the gap has closed since the last meetings in five-day games in 1998-99 but Australia now look stronger than ever with Ricky



Ponting ready to take over from the dogged Justin Langer as a dominating first wicket down batsman. That would enable them to strengthen the batting still further by giving Damien Martyn the regular place he deserves.

Six Ashes wins in succession was a remarkable achievement, but winning 16 successive Tests against six different opponents between October 1999 and March 2001 was astonishing. Twelve wins in a row by West Indies in the 1980s had been unprecedented and, it seemed, unlikely to be repeated by anyone.

During their record sequence, Steve Waugh's side, adaptable but based on the same set of players,

Double success: England players celebrate beating Sri Lanka, their second series victory of the winter under the leadership of Hussain, above right, who returns next week after injury

won four matches by an innings, two by ten wickets and two more by margins of 180 and 285 runs. Only at Hobart, when they beat Pakistan by four wickets from an apparently hopeless position at the start of the last day, had they been seriously threatened by defeat until February 27, 2001, two days after the death of their greatest sporting icon, Sir Donald Bradman. Then, at Bombay, they collapsed to 99 for five in the first innings of the first Test against India. They were rescued by Adam Gilchrist and Matthew Hayden and went on to win with deceptive comfort.

In the following epic match at Calcutta in the middle of March they lost to India, revealing the first crack in the carapace. India's second innings of 657 for seven declared led to only the third instance of a side winning a Test after following-on. With perfect timing, the deciding Tests of simultaneous Test series in India and Sri Lanka came to the boil. On March 17 England beat Sri Lanka at Colombo to win their fourth successive Test series. On March 22 India beat Australia in Madras



to record their third successive home series win against Australia.

They managed it by a mere two wickets but it was only Australia's second defeat in any series since Mark Taylor's side also lost on the subcontinent four years previously. Intriguingly, the other one was suffered in Sri Lanka, partly, perhaps, because of the bizarre collision between Steve Waugh and Jason Gillespie in the first Test.

England's comeback from losing the first Test of a three-match series in Sri Lanka was therefore doubly significant. They repeated old failings against Pakistan at Old Trafford — dropped catches and batting collapses after decent starts to both innings — but four wins in their four previous series against Zimbabwe, West Indies, Pakistan and Sri Lanka proved that they have become very hard to beat. Since 1999 they have acquired a determined and methodical coach, Duncan Fletcher; a successful captain, Hussain; an authentic all-rounder, White; an effective pair of opening batsmen; a consistent pair of opening bowlers; a settled team; and a belief in themselves.

Already sold out on most days of the five Tests, this is the most eagerly anticipated Ashes series since 1953. That summer of Coronation year was one of three occasions when England won back the urn after Australia had held it for six successive series. If they are to repeat the feat in the coming weeks, not only must everything go right for them but at least one of Australia's formidable front line of fast bowlers — McGrath, Gillespie, Lee and Fleming — will probably have to break down, putting too great a strain on the others. There are too many ifs to bet upon; but the feeling keeps bobbing like a cork to the surface: the time may have come at last.

THE SERIES AHEAD

FIRST TEST
Edgbaston
JULY 5-9

SECOND TEST
Lord's
JULY 19-23

THIRD TEST
Trent Bridge
AUGUST 2-6

FOURTH TEST
Headingley
AUGUST 16-20

FIFTH TEST
The Oval
AUGUST 23-27

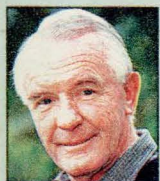
Scheduled hours of play: 11am to 6pm

Lunch interval: 1pm to 1.40pm

Tea interval: 3.40pm to 4pm

- On the first four days a minimum of 90 overs must be completed
- On the final day a minimum of 75 overs must be completed, plus 15 in the last hour
- Two overs are docked from the day's allocation for a change of innings
- Except in the last hour of a match, any time (up to one hour) lost to the weather can be made up at the end of the day. If more than an hour is exceeded, the minimum overs to be completed are reduced by one for every four minutes lost
- Teams can be fined for slow over-rates. Allowances will be made for time lost at the fall of wickets, for drinks breaks and for injuries

EDITORIAL PANEL Are the 2001 Australians the best Test team ever?



MIKE DENNESS
Former England captain and ICC match referee

It is difficult to say that they are. One has to balance their fantastic run of wins against the

quality of opposition that previous Australia sides faced. The 1948 Australians and the side I faced in 1974-75 were great teams. Remember, too, that West Indies dominated cricket for 15 years. As well as their bowlers, their batting was superb



JOHN WOODCOCK
Cricket Correspondent, The Times, 1954-1987
The best Test side ever?

One of the best, certainly, such is the strength of their batting, the quality of their

fielding and their accumulated experience. They are better balanced than the West Indies team of the 1980s, but there have been others that included as many truly outstanding cricketers, not least Don Bradman's side in England in 1948

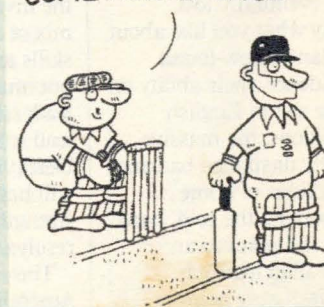


CLIVE LLOYD
Former West Indies captain and tour manager

They are a great, professional and well-liked side, but I don't think you can say

they are the greatest yet. There are too many factors to consider, such as the opposition they are up against. Comparing them with the West Indies side that I captained, I think it would be a very good contest, but I would say that our bowling was better than theirs

TYPICAL! YOU WAIT 2 HOURS FOR A NEW BATSMAN, THEN SIX COME ALL AT ONCE



CAN ENGLAND ACTUALLY DO IT?

YES

says **JOHN BARCLAY**, former England tour manager

When I made this assertion to friends recently, it was greeted, almost unanimously, with laughter.

"But why not?" I persisted. "After all, it's still a two-horse race. The Australians are only human and, at the very least, England must have some sort of chance — by no means a 500-1 shot this time."

All I got for my pains were sad looks, but my theory is this: England have one huge advantage: they are the underdogs. Nobody gives them a chance. After their recent spectacularly bad one-day

performances they have nothing to lose and are perceived as no-hopers.

For me this is all good news and a great place from which to start a campaign: after all, one-day form has never been much of a guide when it comes to Test-match cricket. And all the while, beneath the surface, the England engine-room is throbbing with increased confidence.

Consecutive series wins against Zimbabwe, West Indies, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have done much to lift morale. Indeed, the recently drawn mini-series against Pakistan has enhanced rather than detracted from England's position. Fletcher and Hussain have

made a formidable partnership, as have Atherton and Trescothick as openers.

Thorpe, too, is producing the best cricket of his life, while Vaughan's class and temperament are just waiting to flourish. Gough, Caddick, Cork and White are coming on in leaps and

bounds and, who knows, perhaps even Tufnell will be back to add sparkle and character to this improving band: England will need a spinner.

Self-belief. That's the key. That's what might crack the Australian spirit and get under their skin. They're not invincible; they showed that in India, and even they have bad days.

Over-confidence can be a raging beast. Most great teams tend to underestimate the potential of lesser mortals, and this could be England's trump card.

One thing's for sure, we're in for a wonderful series. For England it's all a matter of faith and faith, we are told, can move mountains. Let's hope so.



NO

says **JACK BAILEY**, former secretary of MCC

Of course they can't — the record speaks for itself. Before they went down against India last winter, the Australians had won 16 Test matches in a row. Even on the subcontinent they were within one wicket of winning a series they eventually lost.

Say what you like about England's new-found confidence, their ability on home soil in English conditions, the massive, largely unspoken backing of millions of home supporters; the cold, hard facts still point to an Australian triumph.

Critics may point to flaws. Unusually for

Australian cricketers the average age of the party is above 30. Even ten years ago this could have been a drawback. Now, with modern diets and fitness regimes, this simply adds the advantage of experience. At 35 Steve Waugh (after Colin Miller, the off spinner, the oldest member of the party) is a prime example of the invaluable mix of cricket skills and tough but imaginative leadership that lead to success. Defeat in India will have strengthened his resolve.

The Australians are a tight unit in the

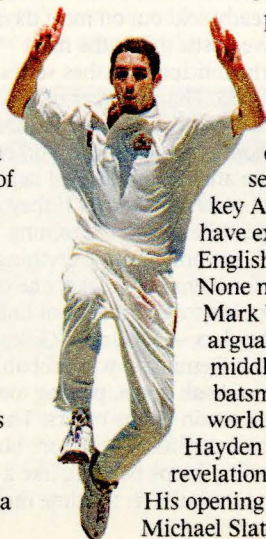
field and there is unquestioning loyalty to the cause. Like it or not, they are also world leaders in the unedifying art of "sledging".

And, thanks partly to the system of overseas players performing here during the English county season, some key Australians have experience of English conditions. None more so than Mark Waugh, arguably the best middle-order batsmen in the world. Matthew Hayden was a revelation in India. His opening partner, Michael Slater, may not

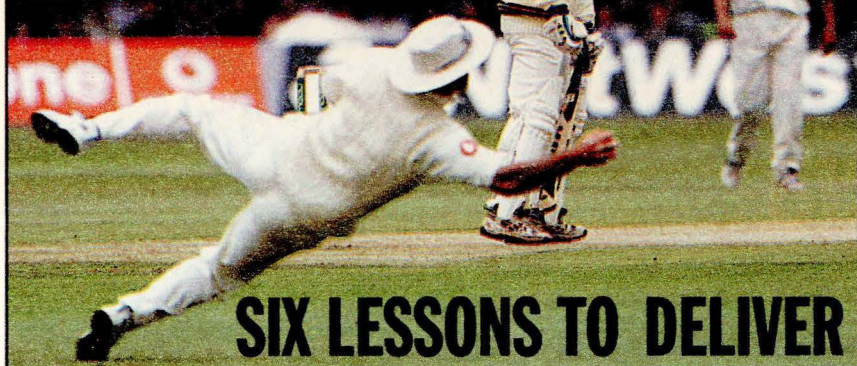
have mastered the art of running between wickets, but a batting line-up that has Adam Gilchrist, a No 4 batsman and wicketkeeper, coming in at No 7 should be able to weather the odd run out.

There are few weaknesses in an attack that contains Glenn McGrath, the world's best fast bowler and snarler, a choice of two or three men of real speed in Jason Gillespie, Brett Lee and the left-arm Nathan Bracken. Damien Fleming completes a formidable array of seam-up bowling. Then there is Miller for high-class off spin.

Finally there is Shane Warne. He is not as fresh as he was, but beware the genius with the touch of the larrikin. He still has it in him to be a vital force in Australia's victory.



RICHARD HOBSON offers hints to the home team



SIX LESSONS TO DELIVER

PROTECT THE CAPTAIN'S HANDS

Nasser Hussain is known as Poppadom Fingers at Essex, so fragile are they. England's problems began this season when Hussain had his thumb smashed during the first Test at Lord's. Defeat followed in the next game at Old Trafford, and the situation moved from bad to worse in the subsequent NatWest Series with Alec Stewart at the helm. Hussain has almost become a talismanic figure, despite a modest batting record. The players know where they stand and the team rarely drifts in the field. Unfortunately, the captain will be targeted by Australia — and it is plain where he is weakest.

USE A COIN WITH TWO HEADS

Going back to the first Test against South Africa in Johannesburg two winters ago, England captains have called incorrectly when it matters most. On that occasion the top order collapsed to two for four inside the first 15 minutes and England never looked like recovering. Most recently, in the last one-day game against Pakistan, when conditions were again at their most favourable for seam, Alec Stewart guessed wrongly and Waqar Younis

proceeded to return the best figures by a pace bowler in the history of the limited-overs game. In between England twice suffered the disadvantage of having to bat second in floodlit matches.

ATTACK IS THE BEST FORM OF DEFENCE

England began to struggle after lunch on the final day against Pakistan at Old Trafford when they seemed to give up pursuit of an admittedly improbable victory, even though they had eight wickets in hand. The field tightened and defeat, eventually, ensued. Then there was the one-day game between Australia and England under floodlights at Old Trafford when Steve Waugh set fields more appropriate to the longer form once he sniffed success.

DON'T BOTHER DOCTORING THE PITCHES

Remember the furore at Headingley in 1997, when England ordered a pitch with shaved ends ideal for Shane Warne to be changed forthwith? Remember, too, the way Glenn McGrath and Jason Gillespie helped to skittle out England for 86 in the one-day game at Old Trafford recently when the surface had been freshened by drizzle?

Green pitches might help England, but not as much as they will assist the enemy.

HOLD THE CATCHES

Obvious, but more pertinent than ever. England might not have lost to Pakistan in the second Test at Old Trafford if Nick Knight had maintained his usual high standard in the slips. Graham Thorpe, on the other hand, held some blinders in the previous game at Lord's (pictured above), which England won convincingly. "Mark Waugh has been taking those for years," Hussain said. England will be all too aware that he still is.

BE BRAVE, BUT PATIENT

England's two best selections of the Hussain/Fletcher regime have been Marcus Trescothick and Michael Vaughan. Both have scored Test hundreds this summer, but both came in to the international fold with moderate records at county level. Moral: selectors must back the evidence of their eyes ahead of plain statistics. The decision to recall Nick Knight for Old Trafford backfired, but Ian Ward began encouragingly at Lord's. There is an enormous gulf between county and Test level. Newcomers such as Ward need a fair crack.

NASS SPINS THE BLUES

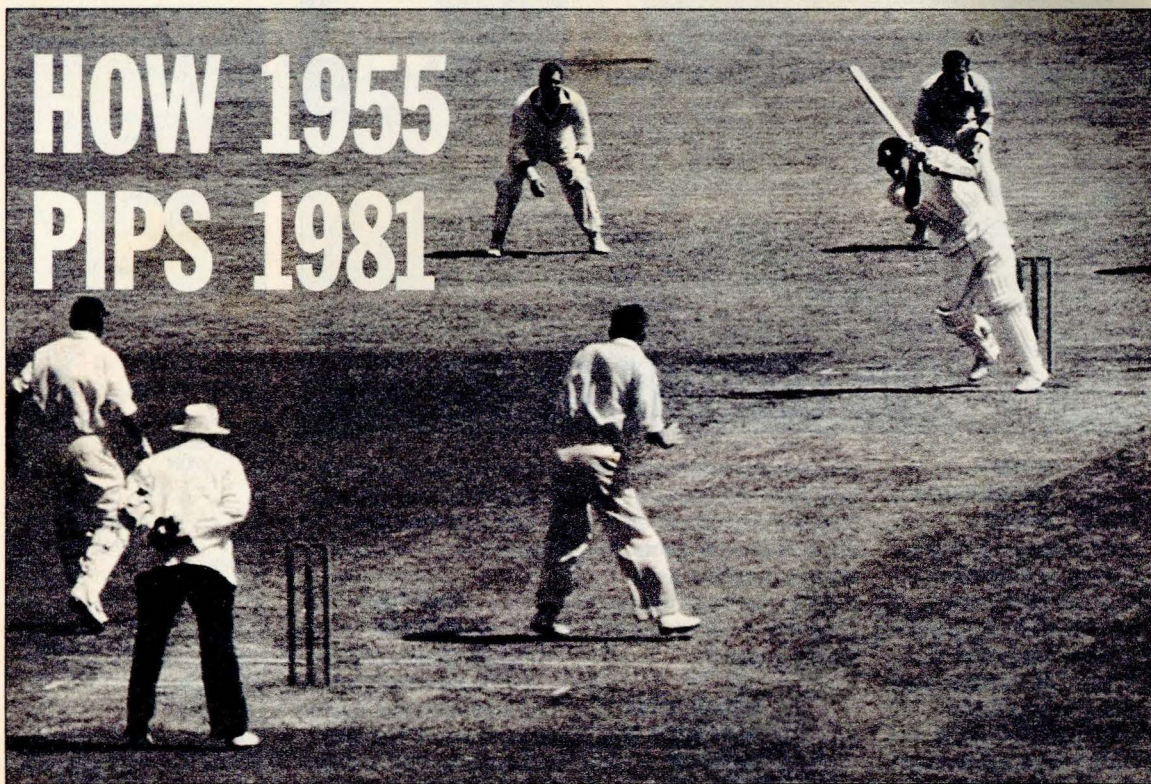
That tossing record in full since June 2000

Zimbabwe (H)	LOST
West Indies (H)	LOST
West Indies (H)	LOST
West Indies (H)	LOST
West Indies (H)	LOST
Pakistan (A)	WON
Pakistan (A)	LOST
Pakistan (A)	LOST
Sri Lanka (A)	LOST
Sri Lanka (A)	LOST
Sri Lanka (A)	LOST
Pakistan (H)	LOST



In the second Test against West Indies last summer, England won the toss. But the hand that spun the coin was Alec Stewart's, of course, as Hussain had broken a finger

HOW 1955 PIPS 1981



Given a run of three successive Test matches to watch and write about again, I would be hard put to it to choose between those at Melbourne, Adelaide and Sydney in 1954-55 and at Headingley, Edgbaston and Old Trafford in 1981.

They were all against Australia, for the Ashes, and England won the lot. That in each series they had lost the first Test match, and were therefore coming from behind, made what followed all the more enthralling.

To the Englishman who loves his sport, the perfect summer might comprise victory in the football World Cup in July, in the Ashes in August and in the Ryder Cup in

JOHN WOODCOCK recalls how England came back from the dead twice and won three Tests in a row

September, and, of these, the fight for the Ashes is hallowed by time. To every English batsman, scoring a hundred in a Test match is the stuff of dreams; to score one against Australia at such a young age and with such style as May and Cowdrey did on the MCC tour of Australia, or with the mighty power with which Botham put Kim Hughes's team to flight a quarter of a century later, is the stuff of history.

The enormity of England's defeat in the first Test at Brisbane in 1954-55 (by an innings and 154 runs) and the strength of Australia's side (Miller, Lindwall, Morris, Johnston, Harvey, Benaud, Davidson et al) meant that England's chances were being written off with a full three months of the tour to go. Although England held the Ashes at the time, I think that within ourselves we all feared the worst — all, that is, except Evans, who had not played at Brisbane because of illness and was the eternal optimist.

Had England gone two down in the next Test, that would have been it, and they faced defeat in Sydney scarcely less starkly than they were to do at Headingley in 1981. Being of

an age with Hutton's side, and knowing them all so well, I suppose I suffered more torment at Sydney than I did at Headingley. When England were 88 for eight on the first day in December 1954, despair was never deeper; but Tyson's pulverising pace, Statham's unflagging support, the wiles of Bailey, Appleyard and Wardle, and the first partnership of any note between May, aged 24, and Cowdrey, aged 21, brought us back from the dead.

After that, with the next Test match not starting until New Year's Eve, Christmas in Sydney was as carefree as it was cloudless. Australia wilted again before Tyson's pace, and on a crumbling pitch, at Melbourne. By Adelaide the force was with England. There was an uneasy moment when England, needing only 94 to win the Ashes, were 18 for three, but the harvest was brought safely in. Within three months the captain had retired, his knighthood in the Downing Street pipeline.

Hutton's style of captaincy was not, in fact, dissimilar from Brearley's in 1981. Although Hutton's master's degree was in cricket and Brearley's in philosophy and people, on the field they were equally canny, especially when it came to reading the Australian psyche. Both, too, had the bowlers without whom a captain cannot succeed. Hutton's attack was beautifully balanced, spearheaded by as fast a bowler as the game has

ARE YOU RELATED TO EVELYN, BY ANY CHANCE?





The colossal performance by Botham, above, in 1981 was a greater individual *tour de force* than anyone from the 1955 team, which included Cowdrey and May (above left, batting together at Sydney)

seen. Brearley, for his part, had Ian Botham, and, just as importantly, he knew how to humour him.

Such was England's plight in the third Test at Headingley that at tea on the fourth day, when they had only three second-innings wickets left and still needed 92 to save an innings defeat, Ladbroke's laid 500-1 against an England victory. Infamously the odds were taken up by two of Australia's senior players, Marsh and Lillee, something which, in the climate of today and in view of the result, would have had them banned for life. It was not, in all honesty, one of Australia's stronger sides, but in Lillee and Alderman they had a formidable pair of opening bowlers and England had won none of their previous 12 Test matches.

Saying to Dilley when he joined him at 135 for seven: "We might as well have a bit of fun", Botham launched a counter-attack that was breathtaking as much for its temerity as for its power. With Old as well as Dilley raising his game, Botham reached his hundred in 87 balls and was undefeated on 149 when he ran out of partners. England's last three wickets having added 221 runs. Needing 130 to win,

Australia were bowled out for 111, Willis's eight for 43 being every bit as memorable as Tyson's seven for 27 in Australia's second innings at Melbourne 26 years earlier. Next morning the country went to work with a spring in its step. It was only the second time any side had won a Test match after following on.

The next Test, at Edgbaston, was a low-scoring match, no one on either side reaching 50. This time it was with the ball that Botham won it, again against all the odds. At 105 for four in their second innings, with only 149 needed to win, Australia were getting horribly close. And what we didn't know as we sweated it out was that Botham was reluctant to bowl. With the ball turning, sometimes unpredictably, he told Brearley that he'd do better to bring on Willey with his run-of-the-mill off breaks, and Willey was preparing himself accordingly when Emburey accounted for the dangerous Border. Botham assented then and in 28 balls took Australia's last five wickets for one run, leaving England the winners by 29 runs.

Victory at Old Trafford a fortnight later would secure England the Ashes, and this was another fluctuating, palpitating match, in which the pitch, damp to start with, got better and better. After taking a first-innings lead of 101 (England 231, Australia 130) England were 104 for five in their second innings and tying themselves into all kinds of knots when Botham strode in.

Tavaré, making his first appearance of the series, had scored nine tortuous runs in two hours that morning, though in the context of the match his 69 in England's first innings and 78 in the second must never be overlooked.

If Botham's hundred at Headingley had started as "a bit of fun", and was to some extent an exhibition of bravado, his 118 at Old Trafford was altogether more calculating. He even deigned to play himself in, the first 30 balls he received bringing him only three singles. From three to 100 it took him another 56 balls. With so much at stake it was arguably the greatest innings of its kind ever played in Test cricket. The new ball, taken when he was 28, was dispatched with a terrible fury, Lillee being hit for three sixes in his first two overs with it, two of them hooks taken off Botham's eyebrows.

That same summer Botham drove the Island green at the 10th at The Belfry, something few will risk at the Ryder Cup this year. And when Australia, left a massive 506 to win, were getting tiresomely, if not yet threateningly, close to making them, he held an astonishing slip catch to put a stop to the nonsense. England won in the end by 103 runs.

For those few weeks in 1981 Botham bestrode the cricket world, batting like a rampaging Keith Miller, bowling like an explosive Alec Bedser and catching like an acrobatic Percy Chapman. Not even Garfield Sobers came near to monopolising three Test matches in a row to the same extent. We shall see another Hutton and another May and another Tyson and another Cowdrey — but Botham's, surely, was the ultimate *tour de force*.

He's a very good fisherman, too, and has even come to talk a lot of sense in the commentary box!

NICKNAMES

Which nickname applies to which member of the Australia touring team?

- a) Pigeon
- b) Dos
- c) Punter
- d) Chuck
- e) Binger
- f) Tugga
- g) Funky
- h) Junior
- i) Hollywood



Answers: Glenn McGrath, Matthew Hayden, Ricky Ponting, Wade Secombe, Brett Lee, Stephen Waugh, Colin Miller, Mark Waugh, Shane Warne

Years ago, a cricket writer recalled Headingley 1981 in conversation. "Then Botham went berserk," he said, dismissively. I was completely wrong-footed by this, as if someone had summed up the Mass as a chap lifting up a biscuit and a cup.

Perhaps I felt that Botham's deeds of that summer should be spoken of in hushed, reverential tones. Oh, that day when Botham assumed the mantle of greatness, when he transcended humanity, when he took on an aspect of divinity. The going-berserk line was disrespectful. There really was something a little blasphemous about it.

But the absurdity of my reaction has always slightly concerned me.

And now, asked to recall 1981 for these pages, perhaps I should get it in perspective. So I have thought about it and come to this conclusion: *Botham was my last hero.*

Oh, I have revelled in thousands of great athletes in all disciplines since 1981: Redgrave, Senna, Navratilova, Todd, Witt, Hoddle, Marshall, Hanley, to name a few at random. But a hero is something different.

A hero is someone you are incapable of judging, someone you have no wish to judge. You will have no truck with objectivity. Your imagination has been fired: to meet the person in the flesh would leave you dumbfounded, tongue-tied, shuffle-footed, unable to function as a grown-up.

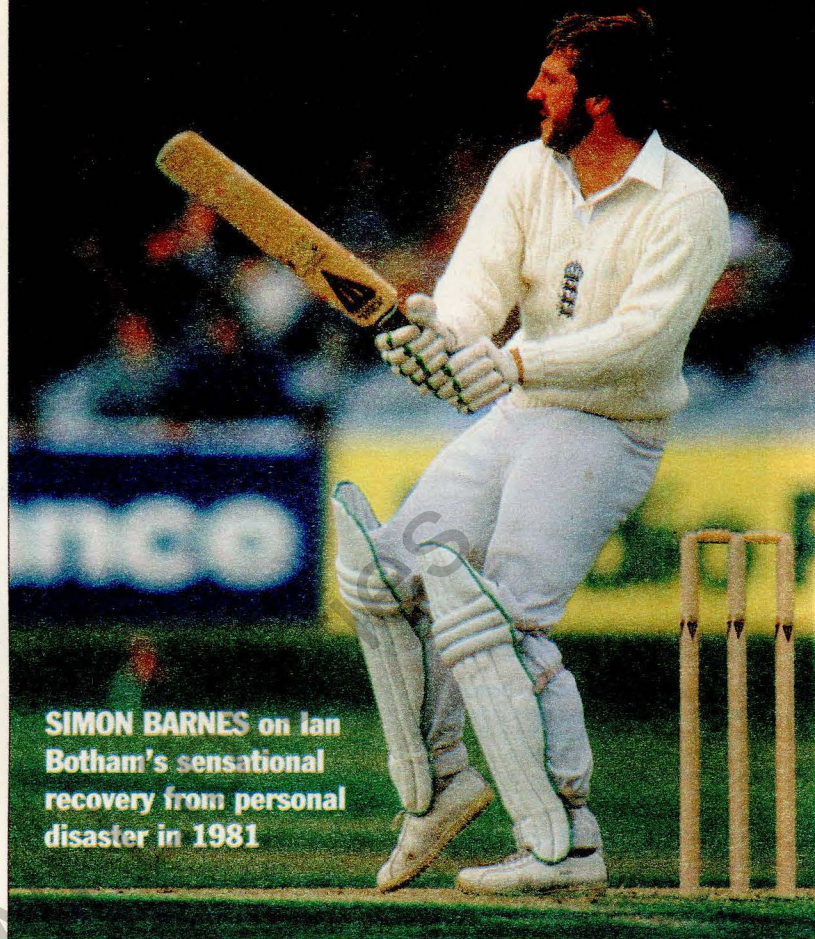
In 1981 I reached the age of 30. No doubt this is significant, for heroes are the stuff of boyhood; pondering the complexities of outstanding people is an aspect of maturity. At 29 you are almost past the point of making heroes, but Botham gave me one last throw: he was the final unambiguous hero of my life.

Which is not to say that he remained beyond criticism, for nothing in life is constant, and that rule counts double in sport. Botham's subsequent life has revealed flaws, complexities, feuds, inanities, vanities and acres of tedium.

But in 1981 he was flawless. Or at least his story was. I followed it at long range, for I was living in Asia at the time. I read about the extraordinary deeds in newspapers in Hong Kong and Sri Lanka.

But I saw it all when I returned to England for a couple of weeks that Christmas. My father had taped *Botham's Ashes*, a programme of

MY LAST HERO



SIMON BARNES on Ian Botham's sensational recovery from personal disaster in 1981

Botham in conversation with Richie Benaud that included extended highlights of those three quite improbable Test matches. Much of my recollection is connected with the commentary.

"That ball's gone into the confectionery stand and out of it" ... "What a marvellous way to go to a century" ... "He plays that shot very well" ... "Doesn't bother looking at it" ... Then the best line of all: "Spare a thought for Lillee and Marsh." I spared several thoughts, and it was a pleasure to think them.

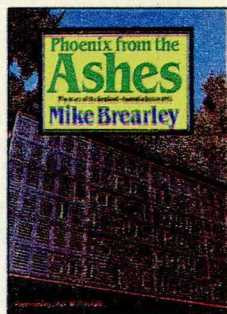
Then there's the shape of the story: Botham walking off after a pair to the folded-arms silence of the Lord's pavilion, his red-eyed admission of failure as captain, his resignation, the admission of Alec Bedser, chairman of selectors, that he would have got the sack anyway, and the reappointment of Mike Brearley as captain; Brearley, whose own legend was also established in those few turbulent weeks.

Brearley wrote a book about that summer, *Phoenix from the Ashes*. What other title would do? The year 1981 gave us Botham unvarnished, without the personal superstructure he built on to himself after that year — the blonded mudflap haircut, the horrid little moustache, the knowledge that he would never have it quite so good again.

This was the year of Botham undyed, pard-bearded, revelling in the refining of his strength. I remember the images of that video (I must have run it until it was transparent): Brearley celebrating Botham's century by pointing at the middle — Stay out there! Keep batting! The hooked sixes off Lillee at Old Trafford, eyes closed, ball slogged off his eyebrows. Slogged? Apologies. This was scientific, murderous, joyful, malevolent hitting.

When Botham was finally out, Rodney Marsh, the Australia

THROUGH THE COVERS: Walter Gammie chooses ten books to whet the appetite for the Ashes



Phoenix from the Ashes — Mike Brearley (Hodder and Stoughton, 1982)
Headingley 1981 and all that. The story that can lighten the gloomiest hours.

Brearley's return brought a revival of the insightful, well-illustrated books that the England captain had pioneered with Dudley Doust.

Cricket Crisis — Jack Fingleton (first published, 1946, reprinted, Pavilion Books, 1985)

As an active participant and a man of trenchant opinions, not least on Donald Bradman, Fingleton's account of the Bodyline series has all the merits of not being a rush release. Mature, considered reflections in which many myths were broken.

Jackson's Year — Alan Gibson (Cassell, 1965)

This is the concisely and sweetly told tale of the supreme all-round performances of an England captain, F. S. Jackson, who shepherded his country to a 2-0 victory in the 1905 Ashes series in England as Victor Trumper, Australia's champion, faltered.



Ashes Summer — Nasser Hussain and Steve Waugh (Collins Willow, 1997)
Remember last time? Interlinking thoughts from the

captains-in-waiting detail how English euphoria at Edgbaston turned into a familiar fanfare for Australian supremacy.

Test Cricket: England v Australia — Ralph Barker and Irving Rosenwater (B. T. Batsford Ltd, 1969)

Published to mark the 200th Test in 1968. Remains the best way to flick through the scorecards of the early years that shaped Ashes contests as we have come to know and love them.

England v Australia: A Pictorial History — David Frith (Lutterworth Press, 1977)

An enduring publication that first appeared for the Ashes centenary in 1977. Marvellous, evocative illustrations fill the mind with images of the men and the contests that, over the years, have stirred the blood.



The Ashes Crown the Year — Jack Fingleton (Collins, 1954)
The Ashes return under Len Hutton. Nothing new about pitch invasions as Compton and Edrich see

England home at the Oval. "It seems to me that Australia is being far outstripped at cricket."

Ashes to Ashes — Peter Roebuck (The Kingswood Press, 1987)

Garling's victorious Ashes tour was, Roebuck suggests, akin to scaling the north face of a sandcastle. Full of similar asides in a less mannered vein than the former Somerset captain subsequently developed.

The Australians in England 1964 — John Clarke (Stanley Paul, 1964)

Modest account, typical of its day, covering a tour that saw England lose the series to Peter Burge's tour de force at Headingley.

The Century-Makers: The Men Behind the Ashes 1877-1977 — Frank Tyson (Sidgwick and Jackson, 1980)

Centenary publication from an Englishman who for many years pitched his tent in the Australian camp. No mystery about his triumphant 1954-55 Ashes tour. "Pure speed".

wicketkeeper, juggled the ball in pure embarrassment.

And, of course, that bowling spell in the middle of the three great Tests in which the match finished with Botham's spell of 28 balls, one run and five wickets. Brearley's instructions before the spell were to "keep it tight for Embers".

This was a period of quite extraordinary sport. Botham's dominance of those three matches was unprecedented: his ability to seize a situation, a match, a series and make it his own was unique.

Perhaps you define sporting heroes in the most basic boyish terms. You don't want to be like him. You want to be him. At 30 you don't let that thought fully express itself, even with your last hero.

But there was something about Botham's manner that was quite irresistible: his sheer untrammelled delight in bestriding the crease and the world. He was briefly omnipotent.



Vic Marks, then his colleague at Somerset, said: "Ian Botham achieved so much because he is courageous enough to risk looking like an idiot. He allows himself to explore the extreme limits of his talents rather than settling for safe mediocrity."

Heroes are for outgrowing, but

heroes are also for recalling. After all, they help to shape your life. Botham has often been criticised as "a bad example to the young". This is tosh. Botham met personal disaster, and used it as a springboard to reach quite dizzying heights of achievement. I call that an example worth following myself.

WHY THE SUN IS SETTING ON THE UMPIRE

ALAN LEE foresees a time when the men in white coats might be taken away

There is a whole new vocabulary for the umpire, these days. The buzz words are Hawk-Eye, snickometer and Cyclops; the collective noun is technology; the inevitable effect is stress. One wonders why anyone would wish to subject himself to such merciless scrutiny.

A game of cricket is only as good as its officials, so the apparently endless quest to prove them fallible, if not incompetent, is perverse. What drives it is television,

where the motivation of the broadcasters is to score points off each other in bringing the virtual reality of the cricket pitch into the living rooms of viewers.

Television does it graphically and dramatically, of that there can be no doubt. The scope and skill of televised

cricket is incomparably better than it was five or even ten years ago, let

alone back in the late 1970s when Kerry Packer — yes, it all dates back to him — was the pioneer of

innovations. For the couch potato, life has never been so good. For the umpire, it has never been so tough.

We are told that each new advance, each new gimmick, is for the benefit of the players, but that is nonsense. It will be to the advantage of players only if the technology is simultaneously — if not previously — available to the men whose job it is to make the decisions.

Technology, or at least the Hawk-Eye and snickometer type, has the primary effect of highlighting mistakes and prejudicing viewers against umpires. You do not have to take my word for this. Listen to Peter Willey, who has already stood in more than 20 Tests in this expanding techno-age and will umpire the final Ashes Test of the summer at the Oval in August.

"Playing in a Test match is a hell of a lot easier than umpiring one," Willey says with feeling. "One mistake and confidence can be affected — not only your own but that of the players. We all do it, once in a while, but nowadays you know it is being replayed and studied time after time and it can be hard to start afresh with a clear mind."

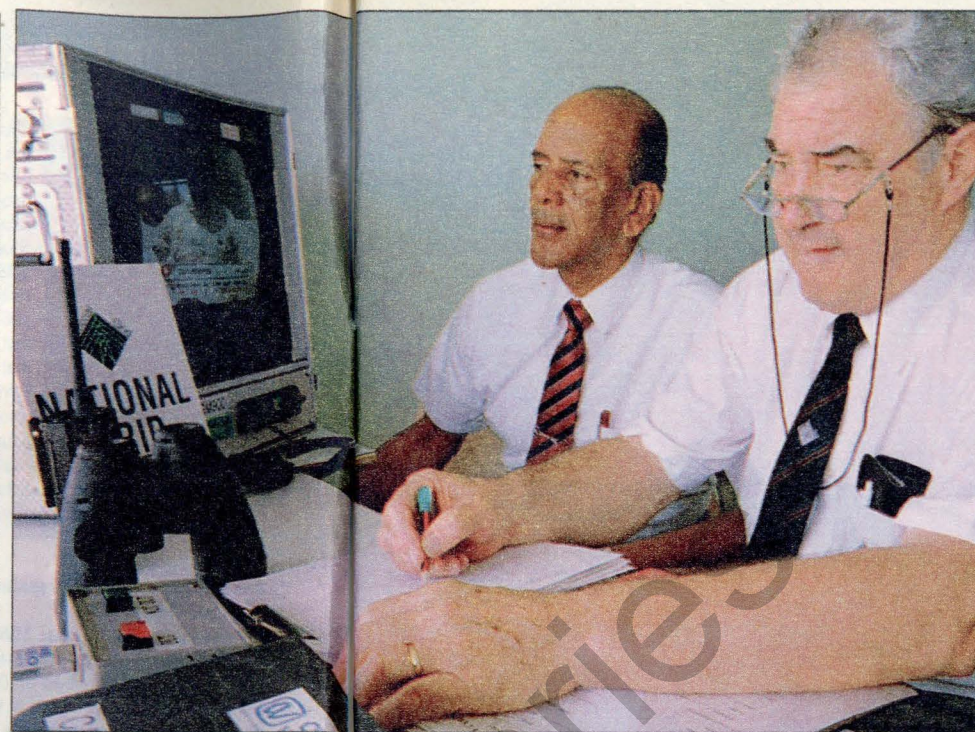
As things stand,

the umpires are fall guys. Television gadgetry can prove them correct, in which case there is a general murmur of appreciation for their expertise and nothing more is said. When it proves them wrong, however, the hue and cry begins in earnest.

A classic example of this occurred after the second Test between England and Pakistan this summer, decided in a frenetic hour of English batting collapse. Nothing unusual there, it might be thought, but television replays showed that a number of the wickets — four, at least — were taken by no-balls.

Further examination revealed that there had been other overstepping transgressions that went unpunished earlier in the game.

The umpires, especially the respected David Shepherd, were widely condemned. And what happened? We had the suggestion of further technology, a Cyclops machine that will beep in an umpire's ear — or not, if fallibility at the



Wimbledon Championships is anything to go by — when a bowler's foot lands over the line.

This loading of ever more gadgetry into the game may, eventually, bring a situation in which every decision is given correctly. But it has to be understood that the way of achieving that is demeaning umpires and the eventual solution will put them virtually out of a job. Furthermore, the decision-taking will not be quick and, in all probability, will not rest with the men in white coats at all.

Willey, again, with a stark prediction of the future: "I'm pretty convinced that, eventually, games will be umpired from the stand. There will be two umpires in the middle counting to six and the crowds will get cheesed off because so many decisions will be referred, and it could be a long day without much action."

At present there is confusion in the public appreciation of what an international umpire can

and cannot do. Yes, he can refer certain decisions to his colleague, the third umpire, sitting out of sight with a TV monitor to hand. And, yes, this has brought great benefits to the adjudication of stumpings and run outs, in particular. But there is a tight restriction on the use of this facility.

If, for instance, a batsman squeezes the ball low to first slip, the umpire in the middle can ask his colleague in the stand to adjudicate on whether the catch was taken cleanly, but not on whether it was a "bump ball", hit first into the ground. Most umpires find this distinction absurd but, for the moment, they are stuck with it.

Certainly, the hapless officials have no recourse to the gizmos with which television entertains its viewers. Until they do have, and until and unless such technology is clearly shown to be acceptably foolproof, we are advancing down a treacherous path of undermining authority in pursuit of cheap kicks.

WILLEY'S DOUBLE WHAMMY

ONLY three Tests have been won by a side following on, and only one man has featured in two of them, SARAH POTTER writes. Peter Willey played at Headingley in 1981, when England found a real-life phoenix in the Ashes, and umpired in Calcutta last March, when India staged one of the most remarkable transformations imaginable.

The most partisan India supporter would not have believed it possible, but Willey had seen it all before. "On the fourth morning the new ball was due and Australia only needed a couple of wickets to finish the game," he says. "But then things started to happen."

A little *déjà vu* for the man who played in 26 Tests for England. "I walked out on to the field at Headingley with goose pimples on my arm," he says. "I'd yet to be involved in a winning Test side and, following-on, nobody thought we had a chance. We'd even checked out of the hotel and packed all our bags. It's Boy's Own stuff, it just isn't supposed to happen."

"I remember driving home down the motorway in my sponsored car," Willey says. "It had my name printed on the side and people were tooting and waving as they went past. It was the win that lifted the whole country."

Largely forgotten in the drama, Willey took one of his seven

Test wickets in the match and scored 33 in the second innings. But it is not the highlight of his career. "That's because I scored two centuries against the great West Indies side of the 1980s," he says. "But, to be honest, to play for England in any game was an honour."

If the current crop can conjure similar heroics this summer, Willey has his own ideas about the timing. "It's my fifth

year as a Test umpire and I'm standing in the final match of the series at the Oval, but I hope it's all done and dusted by then."

Those three matches:

December 1894, Sydney: Australia 586 (S E Gregory 201, G Giffen 161, F A Iredale 81, J M Blackham 74; T Richardson 5-81) and 166 (J Darling 53; R Peel 6-67); England 325 (A Ward 75, J Briggs 57; Giffen 4-75) and 437 (W Ward 117, J T Brown 53; Giffen 4-164). **England won by ten runs.**
July 1981, Headingley: Australia 401-9d (J Dyson 102; I T Botham 6-95) and 111 (R G D Willis 8-43); England 174 (Botham 50; D K Lillee 4-49) and 356 (Botham 149, G R Dille 56; T M Alderman 6-135). **England won by 18 runs.**
March 2001, Calcutta: Australia 445 (S R Waugh 110; H Singh 7-123) and 212 (Singh 6-73); India 171 and 657-7d (V S Laxman 281, R Dravid 180). **India won by 171 runs**

MCC UMPIRING SIGNALS



No.31 If you think you can do any better, get on with it.

Get the picture: Darrell Hair, left, calls for assistance from the third umpire. Top: Clyde Cumberbatch, the third umpire, left, and Barry Jarman, the international referee, in the monitor room

I WAS THERE WHEN WE WON

Only three times since the war have England regained the Ashes on home soil. Three witnesses recall those unforgettable moments



DAVID NOBBS
Screen writer and creator of Reginald Perrin

FOURTEEN MINUTES. That's all it took to win the Oval Test of 1953 and to avenge the humiliations of three postwar series. I was 18 and alone in that great crowd, and ecstatic.

The first four Tests had been drawn and England were defending a first innings lead of 31. Arthur Morris set off like an express train against Fred Trueman and Alec Bedser. Within five overs Len Hutton, my hero, had turned to an all-spin attack. What courage! What a reward!

Lindsay Hassett soon went, but Morris and Graeme Hole took the score to 59. Then the game went mad. Every ball was a hand grenade, the bats of the once mighty Australians were as narrow as walking sticks. Great players were swept aside — Keith Miller for nought, Neil Harvey for one. Fourteen minutes, two runs, four wickets. Stiff upper lips and rationing were forgotten. We were delirious.

I'm glad I was alone. I didn't have to talk. I could cheer and clap and cry. I became part of 25,000 people, and 25,000 people became part of me.

From 61 for five the

Australians recovered to 162 all out, but Jim Laker and Tony Lock never lost control. Laker, not as accurate as he was to become, was canny and took four for 75. Lock, not yet trying that bit too hard, was fearsome and took five for 45. This was his finest hour.

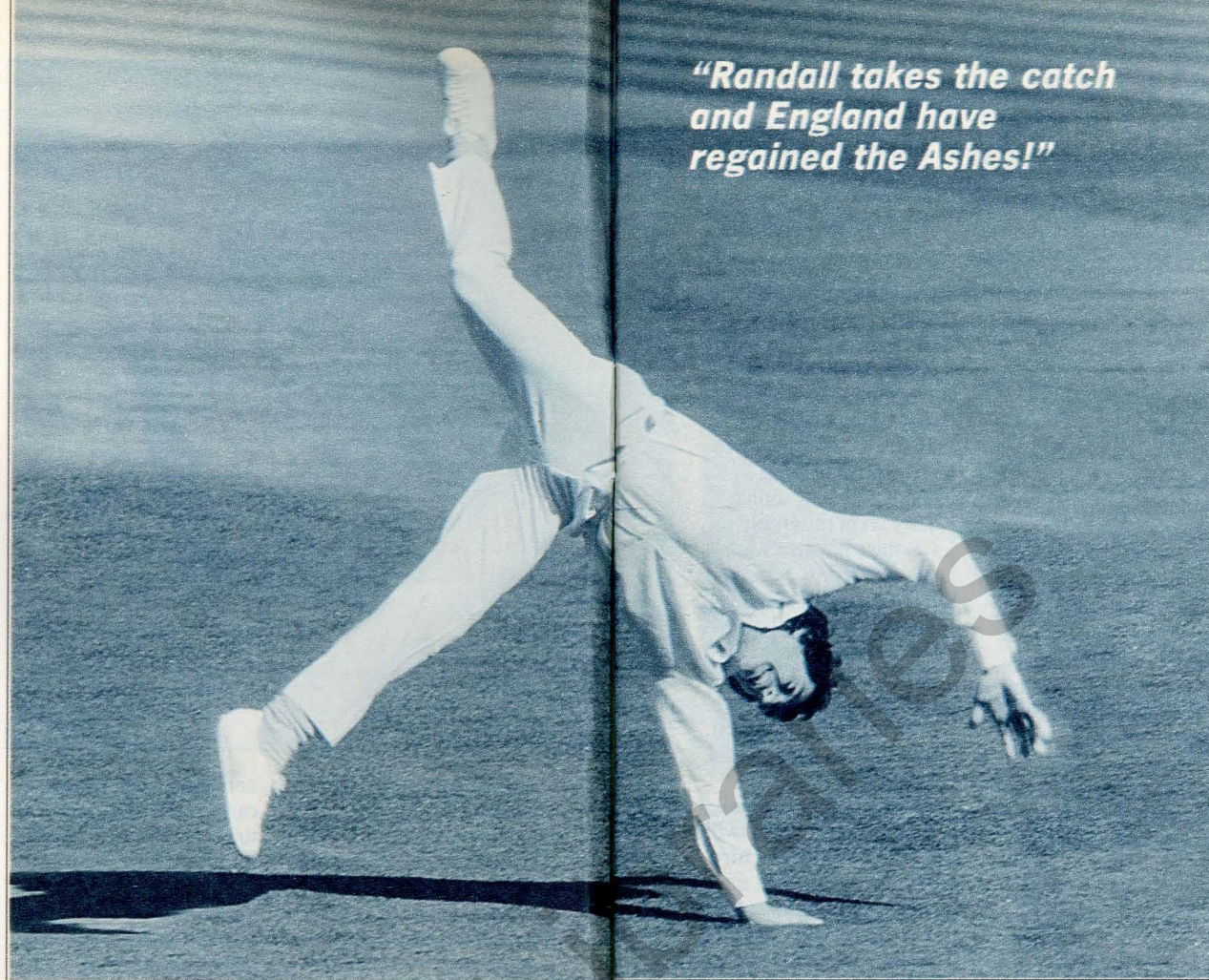
The 132 England needed seemed a huge total. My hero, adrenalin flowing, forgot one of cricket's cardinal rules, took a second run for a misfield and ran himself out — 94 still required at stumps.

What agony that final day was. Ray Lindwall and Bill Johnston were superb. Bill Edrich, the cavalier, and Peter May, the debonair, became grinders. Would the runs ever come?

May went with 44 needed and we still didn't feel confident. But slowly Edrich and Denis Compton scored those runs and just before three o'clock fate allowed Compton the glory of sweeping the winning runs.

We surged across the ground, engulfing the players. We listened to the speeches of Hassett and Hutton with respect, but beneath our good manners and our sober jackets and ties, we were as wildly partisan as any Barmy Army.

The memory of that day has faded a bit, but I recall those 14 minutes as clearly as if they had happened yesterday. It doesn't say "Calais" on my chest, it says "59 for one, 61 for five".



"Randall takes the catch and England have regained the Ashes!"



CHRISTOPHER MARTIN-JENKINS
BBC Cricket Correspondent 1973-80 and 1984-91, *Times* Chief Cricket Correspondent

ONE OF the great perks of being the BBC's Cricket Correspondent was (and I hope still is) that just occasionally you had the extraordinary privilege of being on air when England won the Ashes.

Having watched the devastating demolition of a decent England side in Australia in 1974-75, it was truly an exciting moment at Headingley when Rodney Marsh skied a ball from Mike Hendrick to Derek Randall at extra

cover and the Ashes urn was reclaimed by the old country. Randall threw the ball in the air, celebrated by turning a cartwheel — and still got to the pavilion before the onrushing crowd from the Western Terrace.

Four years later this was to be the scene of the match that all Englishmen of the right age will remember all their lives, and all Australians will want to forget. But the young Ian Botham had already made his indelible mark on Ashes history in this fourth match of the 1977 series, enjoying some of the outrageous luck, and displaying much of the bravado and raw talent for which he became immortal, by taking five for 21 in his second England match.

Recent events have wiped from most memories the quality of

England sides in the second half of the 1970s and in particular of the side that Mike Brearley led in that hot summer. England had been beaten out of sight by West Indies the year before, but the tour to India under Tony Greig had restored the team's confidence, with unexpected success for swing bowlers such as John Lever and Chris Old and memorable victories in Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. Even the defeat in the Centenary Test match at Melbourne at the end of a long tour had a large silver lining in the performance of Randall, who charmed everyone in the innings of his life.

The seeds of Australia's decline were being sown even as that game came to an end. Greig was summoned to meet Kerry Packer for the first time on the rest day and was

soon signing on players for what was originally known as the Circus but eventually became dignified by a term borrowed from baseball — World Series Cricket.

The news that many of the best players in the world had been signed to play in matches organised and televised by Packer's Channel 9, in competition with established Test cricket, was probably the biggest cricket story of the past 100 years; because it came so much as a bolt from the blue it was more sensational even than the Bodyline drama of 1932-33 and the match-fixing scandal last year.

The story broke in May 1977, while the Australians were playing Sussex at Hove and, because it involved almost the entire Australia team, rather than just a few of the England players, it

undermined their team cohesion fatally. A few of the Australians had resisted what by all previous standards were huge sums of money, feeling a loyalty to the game, but most of them succumbed. In the middle of the tour Jeff Thomson found himself the subject of a legal battle between Packer and David Lord, his agent, who persuaded him to withdraw and was sued for inducement to break a contract.

Was it surprising that Thommo took a relatively modest 23 wickets in the series? Looking back, there was something a little hollow about England's victory that summer; but it certainly did not seem so when I yelled: "Randall takes the catch and England have regained the Ashes!"



BARRY NORMAN
Film critic

I CELEBRATED, oh yes, I certainly celebrated, but not, I realise now, enough. I should have worn a Union Jack and daubed my face red, white and blue. But at the Oval on September 2, 1985, with Australia thrashed by an innings and the Ashes regained, it hardly seemed possible that 16 years would pass before England had even a sniff of a chance of again winning them at home.

We were 2-1 up going into the final Test, and a partnership of 351 between Graham Gooch and David Gower, the captain, clinched the series. Gooch made 196, showing as ever all the *joie de vivre* of Eeyore, but it was Gower who caught the eye with

his languid elegance, his blue eyes and curly blond hair — a Shirley Temple among cricketers, except that Temple would surely have moved her feet more to the ball outside the off stump.

On the Friday I was working at the Oval, preparing to present radio's *Sport on 4*, so I roamed freely around the pavilion, revelling in Allan Border's despondent scowl as Australia wickets fell and the follow-on became a near certainty.

At tea I was interviewed live by Peter West on BBC1. "Isn't it wonderful," I said, "to hear the Aussies moaning?" West, always the gentleman, said gravely: "We must not gloat."

But I gloated anyway. When the teatime chat was repeated later, my gloat had been taken out, but what did I care? It was a glorious day, a day for waving rather than wearing shirts, and already the game was as good as won.

On the Saturday the weather broke, though not for long enough to save Australia, and they were all out for the second time early on Monday afternoon. Richard Ellison, of Kent, completing a five-fer (or a Michelle, as it's now known to the cinema-literate cricketer).

A cherishable victory, though how cherishable we did not appreciate. This was the fourth time in six series that England had won, a ratio that seemed reasonable and one we would be happy to accept into eternity. But in the euphoria a significant fact had escaped our attention: after the Gooch-Gower stand. England's innings collapsed, nine wickets falling for 93 runs. It seemed no more than a blip. How were we to know that it was to become a habit?

WHEN BAGGY GREEN TURNED PALE

CHRIS CAMPLING,
a South African, on
some wins to savour

CRICKET followers are not like football fans. They will applaud both sides equally, and reserve only a little extra adulation, within reason, for their own team. Until you get to the Australians. Since March 1877, no greater pleasure can have been derived by any cricketing nation than putting one over them. Aussie humiliation doesn't happen very often, of course, which is all the more reason to savour it.

SOUTH AFRICA v AUSTRALIA 1969-70

Bill Lawry's side arrived in Johannesburg having achieved the improbable —

Test once Chappell was made captain.

NEW ZEALAND v AUSTRALIA 1973-74

In 1946 Australia went to Wellington to play New Zealand for the first time in an official Test. They bowled the locals out for 42 and 54, won by an innings and apparently decided that if New Zealand were that easy to beat, they wouldn't bother in future.

So it was not until 1973-74 that the two met again, in a series of three Tests in each country. In Australia,

toss and put Australia in to bat — and bowled them out for 223. New Zealand, with Glenn Turner making a century, replied with 255. Australia came back with 259. New Zealand needed 228 to win and the world held its breath. When the home side were 62 for three, the world exhaled and went down the pub, gloomily confident that normal service had been resumed.

But no. Turner scored another hundred, and New Zealand came home by five wickets. The world stayed in the pub, but ordered champagne.

AUSTRALIA v ZIMBABWE 1983

The third World Cup was Zimbabwe's first. They were amateurs against a side that had won back the Ashes the previous winter. So when they played their first match, at Trent Bridge, there could be only one result.

Zimbabwe lost the toss and batted first. They were 94 for five when Kevin Curran joined his captain in a stand of 70.

Then Ian Butchart helped the captain to put on 75, which took Zimbabwe to 239. Despite half-centuries from

Kepler Wessels and

Rodney Marsh, Australia finished 14 runs short, largely because the Zimbabwe captain took four for 42 to follow up his 69 not out. You may have heard of him — Duncan Fletcher.

ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA 1997

At lunch on the first day of the first Test, people everywhere were saying they didn't believe it: Australia were trying to recover from being 54 for eight. And they didn't. They crept miserably to 118, their bowlers were slaughtered by Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe in a stand of 288 and England went into the second Test one-up for the first time in ages.

Then, in the final Test, Australia, so often found out when chasing a winning target so small it hardly seemed worthwhile for the other side to turn out, discovered that the jig was up. Britannia ruled once more. Pity about the three Tests that England lost in between.

INDIA v AUSTRALIA 2001

Adam Gilchrist had never known anything but success as Australia's wicketkeeper and there was nothing to say he wouldn't shortly enjoy the winners' champagne for the seventeenth consecutive time. India were following-on, 274 behind, with almost three days to go.

Then V. V. S. Laxman and Rahul Dravid put on 376 for the fifth wicket. India declared at 657 for seven and still had time to bowl Australia out to win.

And we have still not forgotten . . .

ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA 1981

. . . . Headingley, Edgbaston, Old Trafford. Still doesn't quite seem real, does it?

Harbhajan Singh rejoices as India win the recent series against Australia

a 3-1 defeat of India, in India. They had already walloped West Indies in Australia and were looking forward to retaining the Ashes against Ray Illingworth's England in 1970-71.

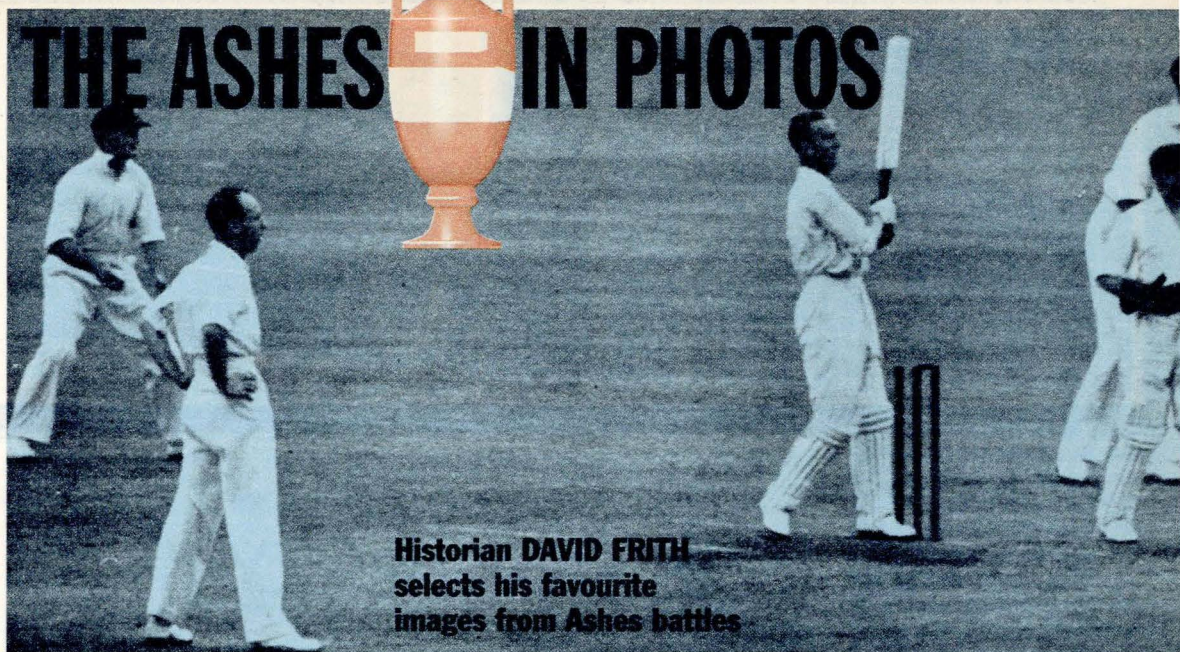
So when Lawry told a news conference that Ian Chappell was "the best batsman on all wickets in the world" he was asking for trouble. And he got it. South Africa won the four-Test series 4-0 and Chappell's scores were 0, 13, 0, 14, 34, 0, 17, 14 — 92 runs, or, to put it another way (and why not?), two runs fewer in an entire series than Barry Richards scored before lunch on the first day of the Durban Test. And people wonder why Ian Chappell invented sledging. And why Bill Lawry didn't play another

the home side won the first and last Tests by an innings.

Then they went to New Zealand and the first Test was drawn, mainly because Ian and Greg Chappell scored two hundreds, leaving not much time for anything else. Two days later they began the second Test, in Christchurch. Bevan Congdon, the New Zealand captain, won the



THE ASHES IN PHOTOS



Historian **DAVID FRITH** selects his favourite images from Ashes battles



Charlie Bannerman, who 52 years earlier scored the first Test century, congratulates Archie Jackson after the 19-year-old had scored 164 on his Test debut for Australia in the fourth Test at Adelaide on the 1928-29 tour. The image symbolises the sense of continuity that contributes to Test cricket's appeal. Jackson's life was cut short by tuberculosis just four years later

I cherish this picture from the second Test of the 1936-37 tour at Sydney because it shows one of cricket's mischievous recurring little blips. Joe Hardstaff has hooked Bill O'Reilly, and the Australians watch anxiously as the ball descends. But the fielder dropped the catch. Now look: a bail has fallen. Hardstaff should have been out "hit wicket". He wasn't. But he would have been if today's remorseless television scrutiny had been in place

A boy's first day at a Test remains forever a special memory. On mine, during the third Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground 50 years ago, England's injury-hit attack toiled all day and the glamorous Keith Miller advanced to the brink of a century. Next morning the Errol Flynn/Gary Cooper of Australian cricket (below) back-cut to reach three figures





THE ASHES IN PHOTOS

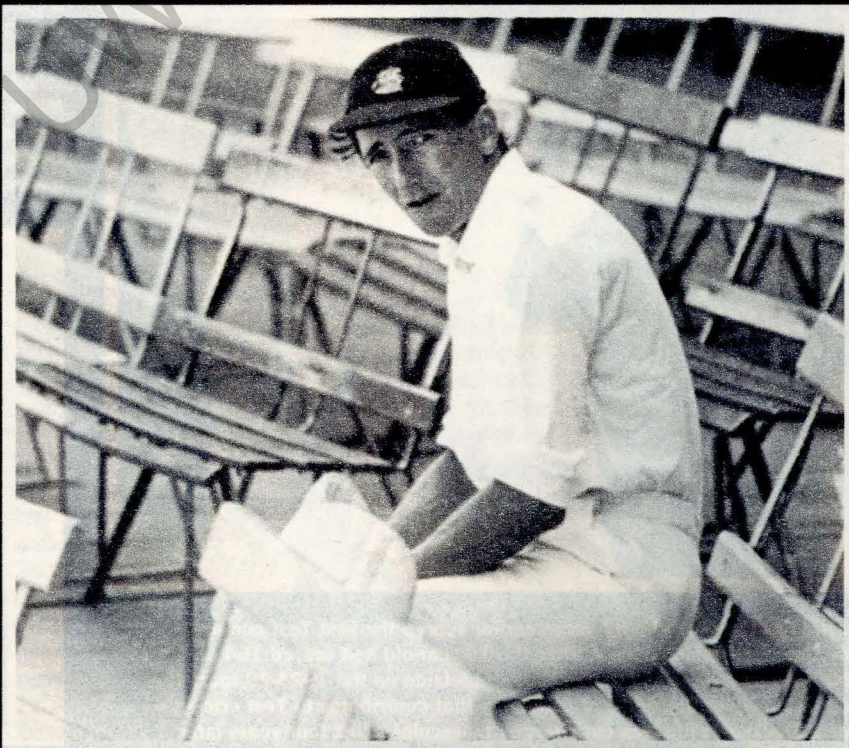


A vision of the leisurely pace of yesteryear — but with an undercurrent of excitement and expectation — beams from this rare picture (above) of the straw-boated England cricketers as they prepare to sail to Australia in the autumn of 1894. The leader, A. E. Stoddart (standing above the lifebuoy), returned as a hero seven and a half months later, having won a thrilling series 3-2

Colin Milburn, the fat man everyone loved (right), smacks a bouncer from Graham McKenzie to the boundary in the second Test at Lord's in 1968. A hailstorm had made the pitch treacherous, and batsmen on both sides were hurt. Jolly Milburn's stirring 83 was punctuated by big hits to his body as well as from his bat. His career was ended a year later when a car crash cost him an eye



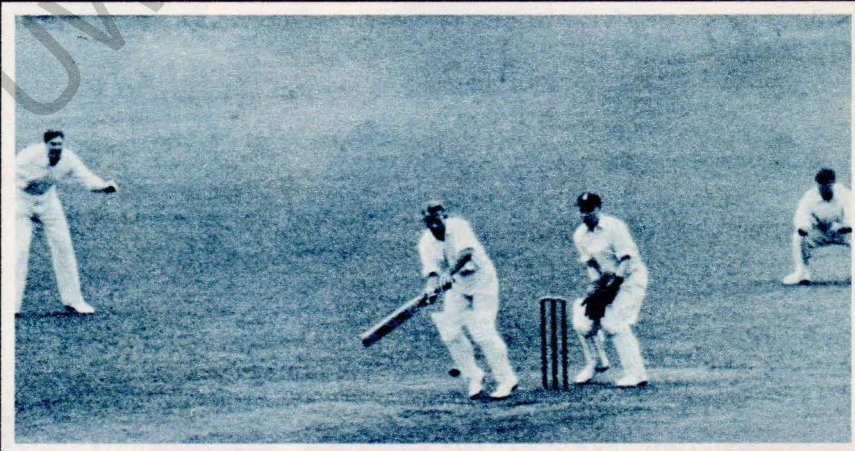
With victory in the fourth Test in Sydney in 1978, England retained the Ashes against an Australia side weakened by defections to the Packer circus. But it came less easily than popular memory might suggest, for England trailed by 142 after an innings apiece and then lost Boycott first ball. Derek Randall (right) then put his clown image to one side and amazed everyone with his fierce concentration and self-denial during an innings of 150 that lasted almost ten hours. Here the exhaustion starts to show





Tears of joy really did flow when England recaptured the Ashes after 19 years in 1953. Here (top) in the decisive fifth Test at the Oval, Ray Lindwall has dug one in and Len Hutton loses his cap (the one he had worn during his record innings of 364 in 1938). I may have been the only youngster in the world at the time who was trying to bat like the artistic Hutton and bowl like the kindly Lindwall

Besotted by leg-spin as I am, this (second from top) is a favourite frozen particle of time because it shows a perfect legger's triumph. Herbert Sutcliffe has edged a well-pitched ball from Arthur Mailey to Jack Gregory at slip after notching up his second century of the high-scoring second Test at Melbourne in 1924 that Australia soon went on to win by 81 runs. I got to know all these players, and wicketkeeper Bert Oldfield too, they were wonderful fellows all



Here (above) is the fair-haired Don Bradman, 21, in his first Test match on English soil, at Trent Bridge in 1930. He made 131 here, followed by 254 at Lord's, 334 at Headingley, 232 at the Oval and 974 runs in all in the series, still a record. After this English cricket-lovers were left in no reasonable doubt that he was the best — as he has remained so ever since

W Wisden 20:20

Wisden 20:20, a new service from Wisden Online, is a vision for the future — and from the past. The statistics use the unparalleled Wisden database of details of past matches, allied to a unique approach to current games, to produce a striking new collection of statistics.

Head-to-head encounters — Mike Atherton's struggles against Glenn McGrath, or how Michael Slater deals with

Darren Gough — will be displayed in detail for the first time.

Wisden 20:20 will also examine the key aspects of each day's play — looking at the crucial duels or the latest England collapse in detail, with analysis from Wisden's own writers.

The Wisden 20:20 statistics, some examples of which are shown here, will be featured during the Ashes series in *The Times* this summer.

Atherton's struggle against McGrath

Average	12.46
DISMISSALS	
Bowled	0
LBW	0
Caught	
Caught by wk	8
Caught slips/gully	3
Caught elsewhere	2
Others	0
BALL ANALYSIS	
Total balls	420
Dot balls	353
1	27
2	10
3	5
4	25
5	0
6	0
RUN DISTRIBUTION	
Total runs	162
Third man	17
Point	21
Cover	26
Off side V	7
On side V	10
Mid-wicket	14
Square leg	57
Fine leg	10



Stewart's toil against Warne

Average	23.00
DISMISSALS	
Bowled	2
LBW	1
Caught	
Caught by wk	2
Caught slips/gully	1
Caught elsewhere	3
Others	0
BALL ANALYSIS	
Total balls	430
Dot balls	350
1	27
2	16
3	4
4	31
5	0
6	2
RUN DISTRIBUTION	
Total runs	207
Third man	4
Point	29
Cover	17
Off side V	21
On side V	25
Mid-wicket	55
Square leg	41
Fine leg	15



HOW THORPE DOES BETTER

	THORPE	ATHERTON
Average	57.5	12.46
Total Innings	14	24
Runs	231	162
Balls	378	420
Dismissals	4	13
Strike rate (runs per 100 balls)	61.11	38.57

HOW THORPE DOES BETTER

	THORPE	STEWART
Average	34.22	23.00
Total Innings	21	20
Runs	308	207
Balls	726	430
Dismissals	9	9
Strike rate (runs per 100 balls)	42.42	48.14

Gough's record v Mark Waugh

Average		48.75	
DISMISSALS		BALL ANALYSIS	
Bowled	1	Total balls	412
LBW	0	Dot balls	321
Caught		1	40
Caught by wk	1	2	18
Caught slips/gully	0	3	13
Caught elsewhere	2	4	20
Others	0	5	0
		6	0
RUN DISTRIBUTION			
Total runs	195	Third man	20
Point	55	Cover	23
Off side V	5	On side V	15
Mid-wicket	32	Square leg	25
Fine leg	19		

Caddick's record v Steve Waugh

Average		36.20	
DISMISSALS		BALL ANALYSIS	
Bowled	0	Total balls	370
LBW	2	Dot balls	281
Caught		1	46
Caught by wk	1	2	15
Caught slips/gully	2	3	7
Caught elsewhere	0	4	21
Others	0	5	0
		6	0
RUN DISTRIBUTION			
Total runs	181	Third man	23
Point	22	Cover	38
Off side V	5	On side V	23
Mid-wicket	25	Square leg	41
Fine leg	4		

TEN THINGS YOU WON'T HEAR GLENN McGRATH SAY THIS SUMMER

1

Missing leg, Shep?
Fair enough.
Good decision

2

You still on for *Les Mis*
tonight, Warney?

3

(In response to a question
about which England
batsman he will target
during the series):

I'll just be trying to
uphold the great
traditions of the game. If
I get a couple of wickets
along the way, that will
be a bonus

4

Don't worry about a
short leg, Tugga. I won't
be dropping
anything short

5

Nice shot, Nasser

6

Come up to
the stumps, Gilly.
I think I'll bowl offies

7

For me it's the
friendships you form
with the opposition lads
over a shandy after play
that make it all
worthwhile

8

The next one's coming
straight at your head.
Athers. Only fair to
warn you

9

Here, have a few long
hops and half-volleys
It's about time you
lot won something

10

Another interview?
No problem, anything I
can do to help

HOW SLATER AND THE WAUGH BROTHERS COMPARE

	SLATER	S WAUGH	M WAUGH
Average	42.60	51.75	48.75
Total innings	15	13	21
Runs	213	207	195
Balls	333	360	412
Dismissals	5	4	4
Strike rate (rp 100b)	63.96	57.50	47.33

HOW SLATER AND THE WAUGH BROTHERS COMPARE

	SLATER	M WAUGH	S WAUGH
Average	61.00	40.00	36.20
Total innings	5	12	14
Runs	61	120	181
Balls	118	172	370
Dismissals	1	3	5
Strike rate (rp 100b)	51.69	69.77	48.92

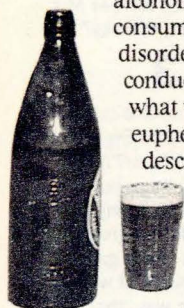
FOLLOW THE **W** Wisden 20:20 ANALYSIS
IN THE TIMES DURING EVERY ASHES TEST THIS SUMMER

AYATOLLAHS AND WEIGHTLIFTERS

IVO TENNANT recalls peculiar tales from the England v Australia archives

1912

THE Australia team that came to England in 1912 was one of the weakest and worst behaved ever assembled. Captained by the 42-year-old Syd Gregory, the players indulged in serious alcoholic consumption, disorderly conduct and what was euphemistically described as "fraternising with the locals".



Gregory would not discipline the players, and George Crouch, the manager, was out of his depth in his handling of the side's affairs. The team had no idea about social graces, and long before the end of the tour had been socially ostracised by their hosts. It hurt Victor Trumper, who was in England as a journalist, to witness what was happening, and he declined various offers to appear in the Tests. England won the three-match series.

1921

Warwick Armstrong, the great Australia captain, was given a prolonged standing ovation by the large Melbourne crowd as he led his team on to the field for the fourth Test. He was coming towards the end of his highly successful career and yet, even at that stage, he still had his enemies. On the second day he had a recurrence of malaria and decided not to bat



unless it was absolutely necessary. He drank a few glasses of whisky, thinking he would not be needed until after the rest day. Alas, a slump

occurred and he was forced to bat.

"As he walked to the crease," wrote Ray Robinson, a journalist, "he saw among the sea of faces the countenance of Bernie Bean, a selector, wearing, besides his waxed-end moustache, an expression that seemed to say, 'I've got him now!'" The sight of the teetotal Bean, gloating, sobered the captain to such effect that he made an unbeaten 123.

When Armstrong came off the field, with Australia leading England by 105 runs, Bean himself was reported to be drunk.

1932

Douglas Jardine, arriving in Australia for what turned out to be the most notorious tour of all, made his intentions quite clear from the outset. "I do not talk to the press," he said, "and I never talk to Australians."

1931

The possibility of Don Bradman, right, inset on note, playing league cricket in England had been rumoured for a while. Before this season, his name had been linked with a number of Lancashire League clubs.

Astonishingly enough, there were moral splutterings about this from many different places, not least in England. *The Observer* of September 6 said: "No sporting interest would be served by bringing Bradman to Lancashire. He is an



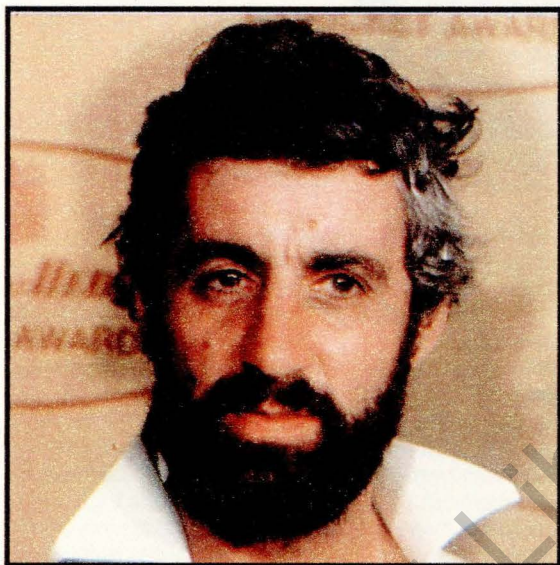
ornament to his own country and in that capacity will always be welcome here, but as a salaried run-getter for an English club he would be only a reminder of how money deranged the order of things."

1934

Bill Woodfull, another great Australian, had announced his retirement from first-class cricket. In his last match, in November 1934, he scored a century, having just been informed that the King had conferred "the honour of a knighthood on William Maldon Woodfull for services to the game of cricket". The citation recorded his 35

Tests, 25 as captain, and hinted at his superb handling of matters during the Bodyline tour.

His immediate reaction was to decline the honour. In later years he said: "Had I been awarded it for being an educationalist, then I would have accepted it. But under no circumstances would I accept it for playing cricket."



1978-79

Mike Brearley, the England captain, above, thought that he was seen by the man in the Sydney street as embodying all that was bad about the British. "I wore my sweater over my bottom for a start, and that proved I was a poofter: you don't see Lillie or Thomson hiding the male hammer, do you? I talked too much, too glibly, and with the wrong accent. And when they had a go at me on the field, I ignored them like the stuffy stuck-up Pom that I no doubt was," he wrote.

"Peter McFarlane, in the Melbourne Age, informed his readers that Geoff Boycott and I were the dullest members of the touring team, the least fun of an evening. Well, you would know that without being told, wouldn't you?

That beard, too, with the ridiculous little MCC cap stuck on the top. 'Ayatollah' — foreign, archaic, puzzling — summed it up," he said. England won the series 5-1, their biggest win.

1981

Happier days for Brearley. When he returned to London after the astonishing events of the Headingley Test, he found a cable awaiting him from Spike Milligan, the comedian. It read: MARVELOUS HAVE MY TICKET FOR THE WEDDING.

Alas for the England captain, he knew that on the day in question, when the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer were to be married, he would be travelling to Edgbaston for England's next encounter with Australia.



1957

Australia's Board of Control decided to issue an edict to their leading players. This was to do with fitness and suggested that they should "keep away from wrestlers, weightlifters and violent exercise fanatics".

1998

Bobby Simpson, the former Australia coach, expressed his disappointment about the lack of progress in broadening the base of the game Down Under. "For 30 years I have had a great dream — that our national team be made up of mainly unpronounceable names.

"It is a great shame that all this talent is not being utilised in cricket. We are not getting the Asians yet, but we will. But if you look at the top 15 to

20-year-olds, we are getting Greeks, Yugoslavs, Italians," he said.

Simpson, himself a second generation Australian, said he was upset that Lennie Pascoe (below), born to Yugoslav parents, changed his name.

"It would have been a huge breakthrough 20 years ago to have had an international called Durtanovich. As a young man in grade cricket he had to endure being called a wog and things like that, but that is part of our culture. And if Shane Warne had been Italian, that would have been fantastic."





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RATINGS WAR

JOHN STERN discovers that the gap between the Ashes teams is closing fast

AUSTRALIA are a better side than England — but not by a huge amount. That is the verdict of the PricewaterhouseCoopers ratings, the system designed to assess the worth of players more accurately than traditional averages.

The ratings formula produces a "weighted average" for each player, putting more emphasis on recent performances and taking into account factors such as the strength of the opposition. The average is then converted into a points total between nought and 1,000.

Test matches from the past have also been evaluated to produce historical ratings. The highest batting rating is 959 for Don Bradman, while the best by a bowler is 929 for S. F. Barnes, who took 189 wickets in 27 Tests for England early in the last century.

The average ratings of the England and Australia sides shown above, right are based on the batting ratings of each player and the bowling ratings of the four main



ENGLAND

	Rank	Rating
Michael Atherton	12	688
Marcus Trescothick	34	579
Michael Vaughan	39	560
Nasser Hussain	32	592
Graham Thorpe	9	738
Alec Stewart	24	637
Ian Ward	132	151
Craig White (bowling)	80	334
	41	375
Dominic Cork (bowling)	97	252
	23	556
Andrew Caddick (bowling)	127	170
	9	702
Darren Gough (bowling)	106	217
	4	783
Batsmen's average		450.8
Bowlers' average		604.0
Overall average		488.9



AUSTRALIA

	Rank	Rating
Matthew Hayden	31	593
Michael Slater	14	675
Justin Langer	21	654
Mark Waugh	23	647
Steve Waugh	3	830
Ricky Ponting	15	666
Adam Gilchrist	18	660
Shane Warne (bowling)	96	254
	22	566
Brett Lee (bowling)	93	276
	7	710
Jason Gillespie (bowling)	124	179
	7	710
Glenn McGrath (bowling)	144	120
	1	910
Batsmen's average		504.9
Bowlers' average		724.0
Overall average		563.3

bowlers on each side. A comparison with the England players' ratings on October 1 last year, before the series victories in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, reveals an improvement in the batting by almost 30 points per man. Graham Thorpe has shot back up the rankings with a 172-point rise since October and Marcus Trescothick has added 127 points.

Although each of Australia's top seven batsmen are rated on average 111 points better than England's,

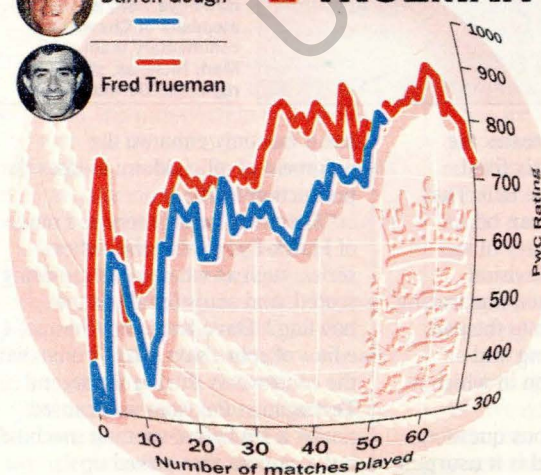
Dominic Cork and Craig White are rated better batsmen than any of the likely Australia last four. The ratings suggest that the main strength of both sides is their attack, with five of the eight main bowlers in the top ten. Brett Lee and Jason Gillespie are ranked No 7 while Glenn McGrath has been at, or close to, No 1 for almost four years. Darren Gough, ranked No 4, is the bowler in form, adding 77 points to his rating since last October.

GOUGH V TRUEMAN



Darren Gough

Fred Trueman



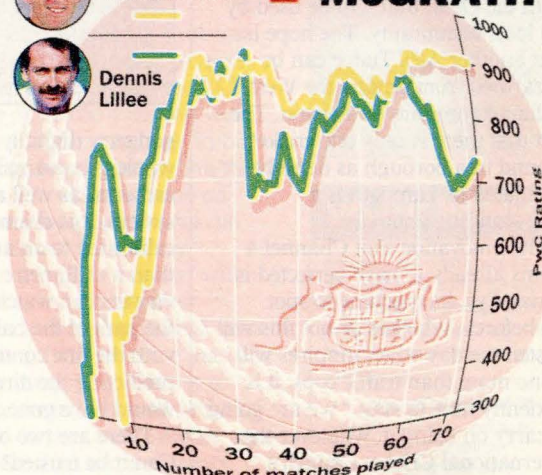
FRED TRUEMAN would probably splutter into his pint at the notion that Darren Gough is his equal as a bowler. In fairness, Gough still has some way to go to emulate Trueman at his best but, in terms of ratings points and measured at the same stage of their respective careers, the two are on an equal footing.

LILLEE V McGRATH



Glenn McGrath

Dennis Lillee



EVEN though Glenn McGrath is only 30 wickets from overhauling Dennis Lillee's total of 355, he believes that Lillee is still way out in front because of his wickets in Kerry Packer's World Series Cricket. The PwC ratings say differently. While Lillee exploded on the scene, like Brett Lee, McGrath is the more consistent bowler.

THE ASHES BALL BY BALL

Your armchair guide to television, radio, SMS and websites

CHANNEL 4

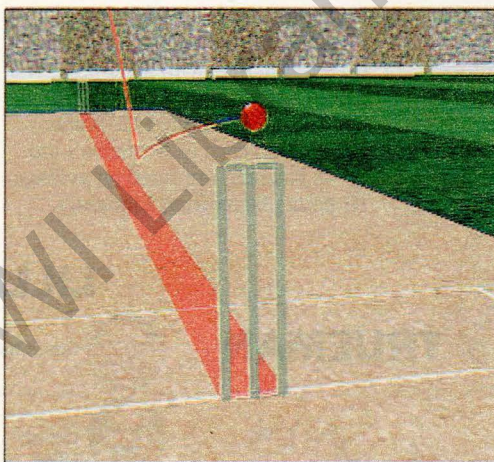
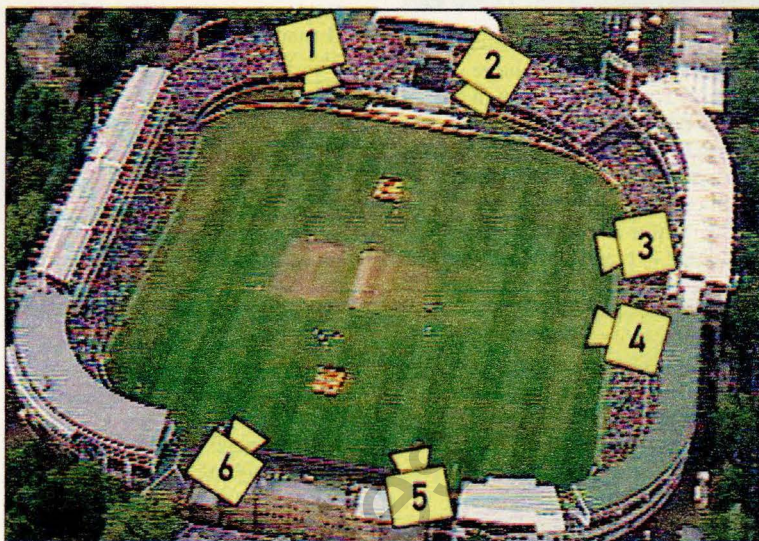
A gadget that spots leg-befores, giant screens on the beach and on London's Clapham Common, specialist inner-city coaching: such will be Channel 4's innovations this summer. Now, when it has the rights to show all five Tests in an Ashes series live, is seen as the right time to develop and expand its coverage.

In terms of experience on the field, the commentary team will be a strong one. Mark Taylor, the former Australia captain, and Ian Healy, whose wicketkeeping was a significant factor in Shane Warne's success, will be joining Richie Benaud, Ian Bishop, Simon Hughes, Mark Nicholas and Dermot Reeve. They will be seen and heard on the beach at Brighton where a virtual-reality helmet will allow children to imagine what it is like to face Glenn McGrath.

Channel 4 is also providing professional coaching courses for children of all abilities in nine cities. In conjunction with Surrey and Lambeth Borough Council, it is developing a new ground at Kennington Park, about 200 yards from the Oval, that will be used by the local community. The hope is that another Alex Tudor can be unearthed from among the West Indian community in Brixton. The fact that there is only one cricket ground in a borough as densely populated as Lambeth is a long-standing anomaly.

The innovation that Channel 4 seems already to have perfected is Hawk-Eye, its machine to spot leg-befores. Whether or not this will hasten the day when umpires will be no more than traffic cops, it is evidently here to stay. "We are going to carry on using it, whatever the International Cricket Council's view," Gary Franes, the producer, says. "We are not looking to damn the official in the middle."

Paul Hawkins, the device's inventor, claims Hawk-Eye can tell scientifically whether or not a ball would have hit the stumps when a batsman is struck on the pads. The



Lord's, top, showing fixed camera positions; the Hawk-Eye view, left; and members of Channel 4's commentary team, with Mark Nicholas, standing right, and Dermot Reeve

gadgetry digitally recreates the whole ground, using six fixed cameras, as well as the ball. The system, it is claimed, can be calibrated to an accuracy of less than a millimetre. Television viewers can watch a red line tracing the path of the ball on to the pad, with the line continuing and predicting the direction in which it would have gone.

There are two obvious questions. Can it be trusted? And is it usurping the umpire's authority to the extent that he — and the viewers — will lose confidence in his decisions? In the first Test against Pakistan at Lord's this summer, the all-seeing eye concluded that several umpiring verdicts were wrong. The commentators, all former cricketers,

feel it can only enhance the judgment of officialdom, as does the production team.

"There will be far more use made of Hawk-Eye during the Ashes series, such as where runs are being scored, and statistics about the bowling," Dave Kerr, the Channel 4 editor of sport, says. "It is ironic that the controversy during the second Test against Pakistan was caused not by a leg-before-spotting machine but a camera that picked up no-balls. The basic illustration of what leg-before is has never been made clearer than by Hawk-Eye, and umpires can learn from it — Darrell Hair was more sympathetic towards it after standing in the first Test."

IVO TENNANT



TEST MATCH SPECIAL

Forty years ago this summer, *Test Match Special* was on the air for a series between England and Australia for the first time (Ivo Tennant writes). Indeed, in contrast to the fledgling Channel 4, it is celebrating all manner of anniversaries: producer Peter Baxter and scorer Bill Frindall, the "Bearded Wonder", are celebrating 35 years with the programme, and Jonathan Agnew, the BBC's Cricket Correspondent, has now notched up his first decade.

Yet Baxter emphasises that *TMS* is evolving. His introduction of a roving reporter has been of particular benefit when there has been an incident such as occurred during the NatWest Series match between England and Pakistan at Edgbaston. When Waqar Younis appealed for calm, a microphone instantly appeared by his side. "In the past, when there was trouble on the Western Terrace at Headingley, we were in an ivory tower," Baxter says.

The upshot of technological advances has been that the programme now has its own telephone lines for its call-the-commentator sessions. "In the past we had to book a studio, which was a cumbersome business," Baxter says. "I counted 3½ seconds from when we opened the lines during a rain stoppage in the second Test at Old Trafford to receiving our first call. And I could employ someone just to read the e-mails

35 years on: Frindall, the "Bearded Wonder", left, with Peter Baxter, *TMS*'s producer

we receive. We are sent more than 500 a day, including a huge number from A-level students who say they are listening to us while revising. A few people ask why a particular commentator is not working, but it does no one any harm to have a break. Everyone has their favourites and pet hates, so I cannot win. One thing I have discovered is that it is not possible to please everyone.

"Having a large number of students listening is especially pleasing because there was a perception within the ECB when we were on Radio 4 that we were only reaching an older audience. In fact our listening figures are better than they were ten years ago when we were on Radio 3 medium wave because we did not then cover the whole country."

The familiar team this summer will comprise Agnew and Christopher Martin-Jenkins and Henry Blofeld, who have both served *TMS* for more than a quarter of a century. Then there is a relative newcomer in Simon Mann — "who has fitted in very well," Baxter says — and two Australian commentators, Tim Lane and Jim Maxwell. Jeff Thomson, who, it is hoped, will not talk as fast as he once bowled, will be the guest overseas summariser.

Never mind that the programme's audience is already bigger than it was ten years ago: it could reach its highest levels since the heady days of 1981.

BRUSH UP ON THE ASHES

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 4

Botham's Ashes:

July 1, 6.30pm. Traces Botham's fightback in the 1981 series

Shane Warne's English Summer:

July 4, 11.35pm: Follows Warne through his season with Hampshire last year

The Ashes

Live daily from 10.30am to 1pm and 1.35pm to 7pm.

From 1pm to 1.30 Mark Nicholas will analyse the morning's play and in *Today at the Test* from 7.30pm to 8pm he will reflect on the day's events

SKY SPORTS

The coverage will be primarily highlights on Sky Sports 3 and Sky Sports 1, with the main coverage from 8.30pm on most days. In addition there will be a phone-in programme, *The Ashes — Your Call 2001*, presented by Charles Colville with a different guest daily

RADIO

Radio 4 LW: Reports from 10.45am to close of play weekdays and Sundays, and from 10.59am on Saturdays

Radio 5 Live: Updates during the day. Jonathan Agnew hosts the *Close of Play* round-up daily from 7.35-8pm

WEBSITES

www.334notout.com

History of the Ashes

www.cricket.org

Official site of the ECB

www.cricinfo.org

Best site for details

www.cricket365.com

General cricket resource

www.rickyponting.com.au

Official site

www.darrough.com

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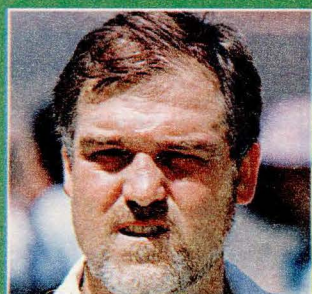
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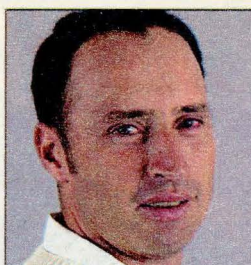
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MIKE GATTING ON THE ENGLAND SQUAD



NASSER HUSSAIN, captain

Right-hand bat. The England captain (also pictured below) has worked really well with Duncan Fletcher, the coach, and they have been the driving force behind England's recent revival. He could do his side a favour by agreeing to go in at No 5, behind Thorpe, to

allow our best batsman more time at the crease.

Strengths: Tenacity and huge concentration. Becoming a father is unlikely to affect his fierce competitive edge, and the baby is certain to walk before he does.

Weaknesses: Still tends to open the face of the bat too much outside off stump. Unlucky with injuries — seems to have poppadom fingers.

Born: Madras, India **Age:** 33 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
60	107	11	207	3358	34.97	9	15	42
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	5	1	15	—	—	—	—	—





MICHAEL ATHERTON

Right-hand bat. Will be desperate to win an Ashes series at his sixth attempt and may already have decided to walk away from Test cricket if he does. His battle with Aussie paceman Glenn McGrath will be one of the features of the summer. It's important to England

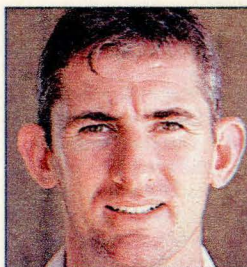
that he bat for long periods and give an example to the less experienced.

Strengths: Stubbornness. Loves a challenge and is at his best in tense situations.

Weaknesses: Shuffles across his stumps early on. Attempting a third run to bring up his century against Australia at Lord's in 1993 with a tubby, bearded bloke at the other end.

Born: Manchester **Age:** 33 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
110	202	7	185*	7507	38.49	16	44	76
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	68	12	302	2	151.00	1-20	-	-



ANDREW CADDICK

Fast bowler. In English conditions, at present, he is the more dangerous of the opening pair. Uses his height well, getting life even on flat pitches. Has improved fitness and performance, and while he is far less sensitive about those prominent ears these days, he still

won't be keen to bowl into the wind.

Strengths: Movement away from the bat, and his bounce offers something different from the other seamers, who are more skiddy. Our McGrath.

Weaknesses: Aussies believe his threat will evaporate if they can dominate him early in the series. Under-achiever with the bat.

Born: Christchurch, New Zealand **Age:** 32 **Height:** 6ft 5in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
45	68	7	48	638	10.45	-	-	16
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	1610.2	377	4644	166	27.97	7-46	9	-



DOMINIC CORK

Fast-medium bowler. A great showman who winds up the opposition and is infuriating to play against. Outspoken, sometimes controversial, and one of those characters you either love or hate. Still hasn't hit his straps after recovering from a stress fracture of

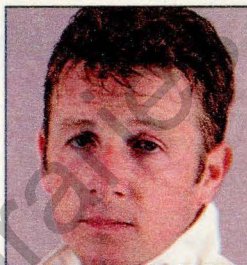
the back and will probably be the one to make way for White. If he does get a start, Corkie will be keen to prove that he isn't past his best.

Strengths: Self-belief and, like his hero Ian Botham, not afraid to experiment.

Weaknesses: Seems to have lost his away-swing and won't take too many Aussie wickets without it.

Born: Newcastle-under-Lyme **Age:** 29 **Height:** 6ft 2in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
33	51	8	59	755	17.55	-	2	17
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	1176.1	241	3563	123	28.96	7-43	5	-



ROBERT CROFT

Off-spinner. Proud bilingual Welshman. Loves the Test atmosphere. Would be an asset at his best but has proved inconsistent over the years. Australia were undone by off-spin in India, but he is still unlikely to play if Giles is fit. Might get a game if

we play two front-line spinners at the Oval.

Strengths: Can be handy with the bat. Bubbly character in the dressing-room and a man who clearly enjoys his food.

Weaknesses: Must stop giving interviews in Welsh – a poor translation last year seemed to have him criticising the national selectors after he was dropped.

Born: Morriston **Age:** 31 **Height:** 5ft 10in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
20	32	8	37*	418	17.41	-	-	-
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	766.5	195	1815	48	37.81	5-95	1	-



ASHLEY GILES

Left-arm slow bowler. The big fella had a superb tour of Pakistan before Christmas but was clearly hampered by an Achilles injury in Sri Lanka and hasn't played since. Started out as a seamer and has only recently learned the subtleties of spin – flight and guile. Good

competitor, offers a lot to the dressing-room and probably hasn't reached his peak.

Strengths: Bowls well to left and right-handers. Good pair of hands in the gully and has scored first-class centuries.

Weaknesses: Line can vary. Fancies himself as a football striker but is far too large a presence to be the ghost he thinks he is in the penalty area.

Born: Chertsey **Age:** 28 **Height:** 6ft 3in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
7	11	4	37*	88	12.57	-	-	5
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	339.1	92	825	25	33.00	5-75	1	-



DARREN GOUGH

Fast bowler. Dazzler's partnership with Caddick is probably the best new-ball attack in the world. Genuinely quick and a great trier – yet always realistic. Won't get carried away trying to bowl faster than Brett Lee. Good attitude when things are going badly but, judging

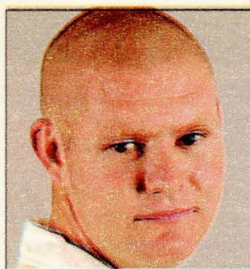
by his recent very frank autobiography, probably not destined for the diplomatic service later in life.

Strengths: Reverse swing. Habit of taking wickets at crucial times, as he did in Sri Lanka.

Weaknesses: Not living up to his potential with the bat after scoring a wonderful 51 in the Sydney Test six years ago.

Born: Barnsley **Age:** 30 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
51	74	15	65	724	12.27	-	2	12
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	1762	337	5631	211	26.68	6-42	8	-



MATTHEW HOGGARD

Medium-fast bowler. Big-hearted Yorkshire lad who bowls at good pace and has improved measurably since his debut against the West Indies last year. Put in a lot of effort during the winter without getting the reward of an overseas Test cap. Enjoys a glare. Injured at

the start of the season but still managed to take Pakistan wickets when not on top form – a good sign.

Strengths: Aggression. Trueman-like hustle and the ability to move the ball away from the bat.

Weaknesses: Needs a lot of bowling and can look ordinary when his rhythm's not right. Can't bat.

Born: Leeds **Age:** 24 **Height:** 6ft 2in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
2	3	2	12*	12	12.00	—	—	1
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	61	11	221	6	36.83	3-79	—	—



ALEC STEWART

Right-hand bat. Wicketkeeper. The Gaffer gives England class in the middle order and is the sort of model professional every captain wants in his side. Like Atherton, he will be desperate finally to get one over on the Aussies. He is a good team man and has sacrificed a

higher batting position to keep wicket. Always immaculately turned out, he can be guaranteed to be wearing the shiniest shoes on either side.

Strengths: Genuine all-rounder with experience to steady the ship. Good against pace.

Weaknesses: Shane Warne will want to get at him early in his innings. Supporting Chelsea.

Born: Merton **Age:** 38 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
110	198	16	190	7186	39.48	14	36	207/11
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	3.2	—	13	—	—	—	—	—



MARCUS TRECOTHICK

Left-hand bat. Medium-pace bowler. Perfect foil to Atherton. Lingering doubts that he might have had about his abilities would have been ended by that second Test century at Old Trafford against Pakistan, although England have lost on both occasions that he has reached

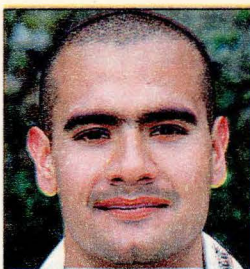
three figures. Nicknamed Banger but performing like a Mercedes at the moment. Reminds me of Chris Broad, another left-handed England opener, in the way he bats – but thankfully not in the way he fields.

Strengths: Stands up tall and hits it hard. Good all around the wicket. Scores quickly. Useful change bowler.

Weaknesses: Losing concentration when looking solid. Sausages.

Born: Keynsham **Age:** 25 **Height:** 6ft 2in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
11	20	1	122	750	39.47	2	4	9
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	20	2	52	1-	34	—	—	—



OWAIS SHAH

Right-hand bat. The form horse of the early summer after finally discovering how to turn his undoubted ability into piles of runs. Could be one of the few people who has been held back by college. Spent last winter in Perth instead of studying, and the results

of that schooling have taken him into the one-day side and to the brink of the Test team.

Strengths: Technically correct and plays all around the wicket.

Weaknesses: Poor shot selection has dogged him in the past; inexperienced, although it didn't show on his one-day debut at Bristol.

Born: Karachi, Pakistan **Age:** 22 **Height:** 6ft

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



GRAHAM THORPE

Left-hand bat. The Surrey player is England's best batsman in both Test and one-day cricket and needs to be coming in at No 4, but it won't bother him if he doesn't. Taking the winter off a couple of years ago gave him a new lease of life – and more

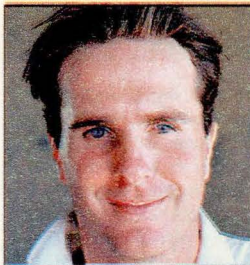
time to watch Chelsea in action at Stamford Bridge.

Strengths: Equally good against pace or spin, and both sides of the wicket. Particularly brutal square of the wicket off the back foot. Superb catcher.

Weaknesses: None in the middle but he is forever fiddling with his bats in the dressing-room, stripping the rubber off the handles and rebinding them. Supporting Chelsea.

Born: Farnham **Age:** 31 **Height:** 5ft 11in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
68	124	16	138	4476	41.44	9	28	72
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	23	7	37	—	—	—	—	—



MICHAEL VAUGHAN

Right-hand bat. Off-spinner. Technically the best of all the young England batsmen and the natural successor to Atherton at the top of the order. Played superbly for his first Test century at his "home ground" of Old Trafford. Yorkshire supporters hate

to be reminded that he was born in Manchester. He enjoys a dance and moves well at the crease, too. His nickname is Virgil and like the pilot of Thunderbird 2 he seems to have an answer for every situation.

Strengths: Good defence, much-improved strokeplay and will in time be a more than useful spinner.

Weaknesses: Injuries have held him back.

Born: Manchester **Age:** 26 **Height:** 6ft 2in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
11	18	—	120	573	31.83	1	2	10
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	29	4	131	—	—	—	—	—



IAN WARD

Left-hand bat. A late developer who was sacked by Surrey as a 19-year-old but applied himself and worked hard in club cricket to earn a second chance. He looked immediately at home on his Test debut at Lord's earlier this year after earning his call-up with a

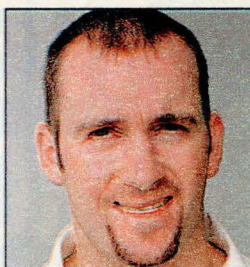
series of big scores for England A on their tour of the West Indies. A livewire on the field, he is much quieter off it. Quite sporty when it comes to a spicy curry, though.

Strengths: Good temperament and plays within his limitations. A superb fielder in any position.

Weaknesses: Like many left-handers he can be suspect early in his innings to the ball that comes back in.

Born: Plymouth **Age:** 28 **Height:** 5ft 8in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
2	3	—	39	61	20.33	—	—	1
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wI	10wM
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



CRAIG WHITE

Right-hand bat. Medium-fast bowler. Genuine Test-class all-rounder and one of the key figures in England's revival. Capable of scoring centuries, he has already proved his ability to take vital wickets. At No 7 he is a comforting presence to those

higher up the batting order.

Strengths: Fine exponent of reverse swing and much quicker than he looks off an ambling approach. Quicker still on his Ducati.

Weaknesses: Because he generates a lot of pace with his body action, he is liable to sustain injuries, and the hot spots in his back earlier this summer must still be worrying the England management. Prefers rugby to football.

Born: Morley **Age:** 31 **Height:** 6ft

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
18	28	3	93	502	20.08	—	2	12
	O	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wI	10wM
	388.2	74	1199	37	32.40	5-32	2	—

THAT'S A-S-H-E-S, MINISTER



From:
Director of Strategy and
Communications,
Department for Culture, Media and Sport

To:
Richard Caborn, Minister of Sport

Cc:
Tessa Jowell, Secretary of State

Re: The Ashes

Further to your well-publicised interview on Radio 5 Live, please find below some thoughts on the Ashes (cricket) series, being held this summer, in the event of your being invited to comment to the media.

● Duncan Fletcher, the England coach, is not an Aussie. He is, in fact, from Harare and captained Zimbabwe in the 1983 World Cup. He has been coach of Glamorgan and Western Province in Cape Town, South Africa.

● Given that Nasser Hussain, the England captain, was born in India, Andrew Caddick was born in New Zealand and Craig White raised in Australia, it is advisable to leave nationalistic comment to others. Do say: "The England team reflects the multicultural nature of modern Britain." Do not say: "I wonder how many of them know the national anthem."

Other suggestions:

- Do say: "I think this Australian side is far better balanced than the West Indies side of the '80s."
- Don't say: "Is the only reason Mark Waugh gets in the team because his brother is the captain?"
- Do say: "In England we're tough on sledging and tough on the causes of sledging."
- Don't mention: chinamen, googlies, short legs or silly mid-offs under any circumstances.
- Avoid talking to Australians. They know a lot about sport and couldn't give a XXXX about an inclusive society.
- Spin is an underrated art in England and should be encouraged.

Finally, back to basics. The origins of cricket.

As a last resort you can counter any question by repeating any part or all of the paragraph below.

● After Australia's first victory on English soil in August 1882, a mock obituary appeared in the *Sporting Times*, mourning English cricket "which died at The Oval . . . N.B. The body will be cremated and the Ashes taken to Australia." When England beat Australia in Sydney in the following January, an urn, said to contain the ashes of a bail, was presented by a group of Melbourne ladies to the Honourable Ivo Bligh, the England captain.

● The urn is kept in the Lord's museum and, even when Australia "hold" the Ashes, it never leaves. Australia have won the past five Ashes series. The last England series victory was in Australia in 1986-87. That should shut them up.



FERRAN PAREDES

THE BALL FROM HELL

Only once in England v Australia Tests has a bowler's first Ashes ball hit the stumps

MIKE GATTING

"I hadn't seen Warne bowl before. The ball drifted in quite a long way, which usually means there's a lot of spin on it. There'd been quite a bit of rain and the bowlers' footmarks had been cut up by the spikes and the ball landed in the footmarks and just fizzed. I thought it had gone right across everything and perhaps Heals [Ian Healy] had touched the balls himself. But he hadn't. Back in the dressing-room everyone was too stunned to say anything. It was one of those things. But it wasn't a fluke. You have to say, the guy can bowl."

IAN HEALY

"That ball changed Warnie's life for ever. His first ball in Test cricket in England. Unsure of what to bowl because Merv Hughes was pestering him from mid-off, Warnie went with a leggie. A good choice — but what execution. Perfect speed to keep Gattling in his crease, the ball drifted quickly into leg stump on the perfect length to get the batsman reaching for it. Then it spun and bounced perfectly to beat the bat but not the stumps. Don't let Warnie tell you he had it all under control."

DICKIE BIRD

"It was a truly remarkable delivery and I don't think I've seen a ball turn so much. The ball pitched a yard outside leg stump. Gattling played at it, but it turned almost square, beat him all ends up and clean bowled him middle and off. Gattling could not believe it. He just stared down the pitch, then back at his stumps in amazement."

GRAHAM GOOCH

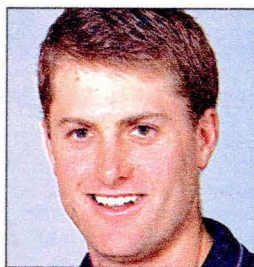
"Gatt did everything right and he's a good player of spin. It was just the perfect ball. At Test level you can't afford to bowl a 'four-ball' an over. For a bloke who gets good pace off a short run and spins it as much as he does, Warnie's control is excellent."

MARK TAYLOR

"From slip, I had a front stall view. Mike Gattling was regarded as one of the better players of spin in the England team. But he just copped a wicked, utterly unplayable ball that day. It was an unbelievable delivery, drifting way across him to leg. The ball's flight squared Gattling up and he tried to play it with a straight bat. His mistake was that he didn't get far enough forward and the ball's drift carried it outside his bat. The leg-break pitched eight or ten centimetres outside leg-stump, then hit and fizzed, taking the off bail. An amazing ball."

SHANE WARNE

"Coming on to bowl for the first time in an Ashes match was a huge moment for me. I just decided there was nothing to lose by giving it the biggest rip I could. I knew from the moment it came out of my hand it was a pretty good ball, but even then I never expected it to break that much. I'll never forget the expression on Gatt's face — he just stared at the pitch in disbelief."



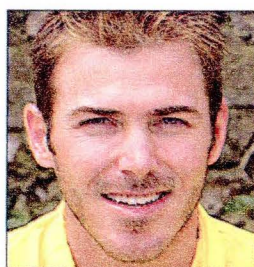
SIMON KATICH

Earmarked by the selectors as a future Test batsman, but to my mind he could make the step up at any time on the tour. He has scored prolifically in our domestic game and was unlucky not to make his debut in Sri Lanka in 1999, when he was taken ill as a debut

beckoned. At the end of that tour he gave back his baggy green cap, saying that he would have it when he eventually played for his country. Not many people would have done that. He has a great work ethic, a fine temperament and could well captain our country one day. Also a useful left-arm leg-break bowler.

Born: Middle Swan, Western Australia **Age:** 25

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM



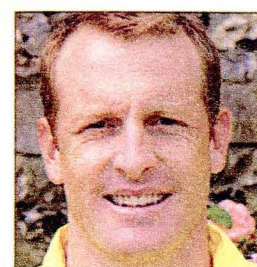
DAMIEN MARTYN

Like Mark Waugh, an extremely stylish batsman, and I'm sure that after a couple of years on the fringes he will keep the rest of the batsmen honest by mounting a serious challenge for a regular place this summer. He has already established himself in the one-day

team as a valuable figure in the middle order who can also bowl handy medium pace. A great mate of mine for many years — we were at the Academy together back in 1990. In his spare time he likes shopping for clothes and gadgets.

Born: Mount Lawley, Western Australia **Age:** 29 **Height:** 5ft 10in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
11	20	5	89*	638	42.53	—	5	5
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	8	4	12	—	—	—	—	—



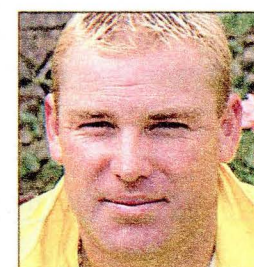
WADE SECCOMBE

Tours are great for team bonding, and Wade is a guy I'm really hoping to get to know on this trip. He's got an excellent pair of hands and has done fantastically well back home to make the trip ahead of some good competition. Being the

reserve wicketkeeper is a test of character as much as of cricket ability. If he gets a chance because of injury to Gilly, I've no doubt he'll do an excellent job.

Born: Murgon, Queensland **Age:** 29

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM



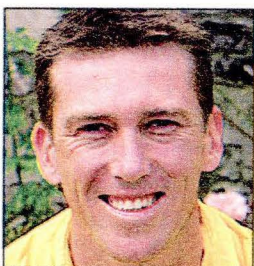
SHANE WARNE

After an unsuccessful time in India recently he is determined to build on the success of 1993 and 1997 on what is probably his last Ashes tour, *Richard Hobson writes*. His role these days is to support the likes of Lee, Gillespie and McGrath rather than to attack all the time,

so he is likely to chip in with wickets instead of running through the England top order, making the odd barbed comment to batsmen along the way. Enjoys the social side of touring here and will get in more than the occasional game of golf — fuelled, as always, by a diet of pizzas and toasted cheese sandwiches.

Born: Upper Ferntree Gully, Victoria **Age:** 31 **Height:** 6ft

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
87	122	12	86	1663	15.11	—	4	66
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	4069	1225	10010	376	26.62	8-71	16	4



GLENN McGRATH

A real Jekyll-and-Hyde character. On the field he's all aggression, snarling in the face of any batsmen who dare to play and miss or edge one through the slips. Away from the game, though, he's one of the nicest blokes you could meet and wouldn't say boo to a goose. A big

family man who likes nothing better than going back to his farm, which is about the size of Wales. As a bowler his big strength is his ability to bowl line and length consistently. He gives nothing away and is as competitive and ruthless as any fast bowler I've come across.

Born: Dubbo, New South Wales **Age:** 31 **Height:** 6ft 6in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
70	85	27	39	388	6.68	—	—	21
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	2797.2	821	7078	326	21.71	8-38	18	3



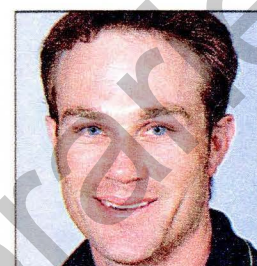
COLIN MILLER

Having joined the side at an age when most players are coming to the end of their career, he has set an example to everybody not to give up the dream. Last season he won the Allan Border medal as player of the year for Test matches. I think as a pair we bowl well in

tandem. He's a real character — at some stage on the trip he is bound to dye his hair, but none of us knows what colour. Loves seeing the sights and watching how people live in different countries. Otherwise you might find him next to a poker machine sipping a glass or two of Scotch and Coke.

Born: Footscray, Victoria **Age:** 37 **Height:** 5ft 10in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
18	24	3	43	174	8.28	—	—	6
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	681.5	163	1805	69	26.16	5-32	3	1



MICHAEL SLATER

A dashing opening batsman and a real bundle of energy who can set up a game in the first session of the first day — so make sure you arrive on time if we are at the crease. Now a very experienced Test player who enjoyed much success on the 1993 Ashes tour,

he plays spin and pace bowling equally well, which is not always the case with openers. He has become a good mate of mine and has a great passion for Bon Jovi. No doubt he'll try to get to a few concerts during the summer.

Born: Wagga Wagga, New South Wales **Age:** 31 **Height:** 5ft 9in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
70	124	7	219	5142	43.94	14	20	32
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	4.1	1	10	1	10.00	1-4	—	—



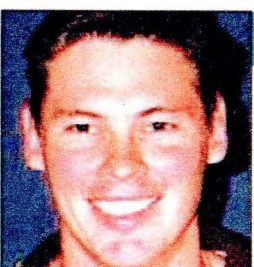
MARK WAUGH

A lot has been said of Mark being a laid-back character, and he is. But he is also fiercely determined. I think he will be our most successful batsman in this series. He just has so much class, and although some people in Australia try to write him off from time to

time, he always comes back as strong as before. With his grace and elegance he is one player worth paying to see. In fact, on his day, I'd say he is the most attractive batsman in the world. When he's not on the field he follows horse racing avidly.

Born: Canterbury, New South Wales **Age:** 36 **Height:** 6ft 1in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
111	184	14	153*	7081	41.65	18	42	152
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	724	158	2105	54	38.98	5-40	1	—



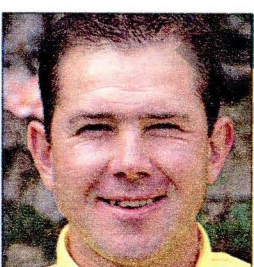
ASHLEY NOFFKE

Called in to replace the injured Nathan Bracken after the NatWest Series, thus depriving Australia of the left-arm seam option, *Richard Hobson writes*. He is a tall right-arm pace bowler, useful lower order batsman and ground fielder who gained his first central ACB

contract on his 24th birthday this year. An outstanding performer in Grade cricket in Brisbane, he found opportunities limited at State level until the past winter, but still has only six first-class appearances to his credit. Seen as being one for the future, which explains his selection ahead of Andy Bichel and Mike Kasprovicz.

Born: Nambour, Queensland **Age:** 24

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM



RICKY PONTING

A brilliant young player who has grown into a great batsman. He struggled a little in India recently, but anybody who plays for a long period is entitled to have the benefit after a difficult tour and so far in England his form has returned with a vengeance. His

strength is his ability to counter-attack. He's the sort of bloke who can get us out of a potential hole in few overs. Probably the best ground fielder in the world, he is also seen as a future captain. His passion is for greyhounds — he'll even get friends and family to record commentaries on his mobile phone so that he can listen to them at the end of the day's play.

Born: Launceston, Tasmania **Age:** 26 **Height:** 5ft 10in

Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avg	100	50	Ct/St
42	66	8	197	2492	42.96	7	12	47
	0	M	R	W	Avg	Best	5wl	10wM
	51.5	14	132	4	33.00	1-0	—	—

AUSSIE SPORTSMEN ON ASHES MEMORIES AND THE TOURING TEAM'S CHANCES

JOHN EALES

Australia rugby union captain

"The 1989 Ashes series sticks out in my memory. That Allan Border-led team put Australian cricket back on track. Steve Waugh's deeds were a stand-out, but I think the openers, Taylor and Marsh, were the basis for our success on that tour. I liken the openers to the forwards in rugby: without the forwards laying the platform the team can't win the game.

"Australia will win because they are a team that is extremely well managed. The Aussies will be far too strong and I expect that Matthew Hayden will excel in English conditions just as the openers of 1989 did."

GEORGE GREGAN

Australia rugby union scrum half

"As far as Ashes memories go, Steve Waugh's first century in the 1989 series was a great moment for me. It was a great series for Australia and it just goes to show how good a player Steve is, because he's still there and still getting better.

"Australia should win because they're a great attacking side with a host of great players. Look out for Brett Lee, I reckon he's ready to tear the English bats apart."

□ The three were talking to Mark Gardy

PAT CASH

1987 Wimbledon tennis champion

"My favourite Ashes memory is Merv Hughes's lion-hearted effort in the 1993 series, where he carried the Australian attack after injury to Craig McDermott, his new-ball partner. There was a session when Merv Hughes bounced the s*** out of them. It was one of the fiercest spells of fast bowling I've ever seen. It was great.

"When Australia lost the first Test of the last series I copped so much flak. People were calling out to me on the street. I almost felt like leaving town.

"We'll win 3-1. We'll get the first couple under our belt and cruise for the rest."



BILL FRINDALL'S ASHES RECORD

HIGHEST INNINGS TOTAL				
ENGLAND	in England	903-7d	The Oval	1938
	in Australia	636	Sydney	1928-29
AUSTRALIA	in England	729-6d	Lord's	1930
	in Australia	659-8d	Sydney	1946-47

LOWEST INNINGS TOTAL				
ENGLAND	in England	52	The Oval	1948
	in Australia	45	Sydney	1886-87
AUSTRALIA	in England	36	Birmingham	1902
	in Australia	42	Sydney	1887-88

HIGHEST MATCH AGGREGATE	1,753 for 40 wickets
LOWEST MATCH AGGREGATE	291 for 40 wickets

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL INNINGS

ENGLAND	in England	364	L. Hutton	The Oval	1938
	in Australia	287	R. E. Foster	Sydney	1903-04
AUSTRALIA	in England	334	D. G. Bradman	Leeds	1930
	in Australia	307	R. M. Cowper	Melbourne	1965-66

HIGHEST AGGREGATE OF RUNS IN A SERIES

ENGLAND	in England	732	(av 81.33)	D. I. Gower (6 Tests)	1985
	in Australia	905	(av 113.12)	W. R. Hammond	1928-29
AUSTRALIA	in England	974	(av 139.14)	D. G. Bradman	1930
	in Australia	810	(av 90.00)	D. G. Bradman	1936-37



Len Hutton

RECORD WICKET PARTNERSHIPS - ENGLAND

1st	323	J. B. Hobbs (178)/W. Rhodes (179)	Melbourne	1911-12
2nd	382	L. Hutton (364)/M. Leyland (187)	The Oval	1938
3rd	262	W. R. Hammond (177)/D. R. Jardine (98)	Adelaide	1928-29
4th	288	N. Hussain (207)/G. P. Thorpe (138)	Birmingham	1997
5th	206	E. Paynter (216*)/D. C. S. Compton (102)	Nottingham	1938
6th	215	L. Hutton (364)/J. Hardstaff Jr (169*)	The Oval	1938
	215	G. Boycott (107)/A. P. E. Knott (135)	Nottingham	1977
7th	143	F. E. Woolley (133*)/J. Vine (36)	Sydney	1911-12
8th	124	E. H. Hendren (169)/H. Larwood (70)	Brisbane	1928-29
9th	151	W. H. Scotton (90)/W. W. Read (117)	The Oval	1884
10th	130	R. E. Foster (287)/W. Rhodes (40*)	Sydney	1903-04

RECORD WICKET PARTNERSHIPS - AUSTRALIA

1st	329	G. R. Marsh (138)/M. A. Taylor (219)	Nottingham	1989
2nd	451	W. H. Ponsford (266)/D. G. Bradman (244)	The Oval	1934
3rd	276	D. G. Bradman (187)/A. L. Hassett (128)	Brisbane	1946-47
4th	388	W. H. Ponsford (181)/D. G. Bradman (304)	Leeds	1934
5th	405	S. G. Barnes (234)/D. G. Bradman (234)	Sydney	1946-47
6th	346	J. H. W. Fingleton (136)/D. G. Bradman (270)	Melbourne	1936-37
7th	165	C. Hill (188)/H. Trumble (46)	Melbourne	1897-98
8th	243	R. J. Hartigan (116)/C. Hill (160)	Adelaide	1907-08
9th	154	S. E. Gregory (201)/J. M. Blackham (74)	Sydney	1894-95
10th	127	J. M. Taylor (108)/A. A. Mailey (46*)	Sydney	1924-25

Denis Compton

BEST INNINGS BOWLING ANALYSIS

ENGLAND	in England	10-53	J. C. Laker	Manchester	1956
	in Australia	8-35	G. A. Lohmann	Sydney	1886-87
AUSTRALIA	in England	8-31	F. Laver	Manchester	1909
	in Australia	9-121	A. A. Mailey	Melbourne	1920-21

BEST MATCH BOWLING ANALYSIS

ENGLAND	in England	19-90	J. C. Laker	Manchester	1956
	in Australia	15-124	W. Rhodes	Melbourne	1903-04
AUSTRALIA	in England	16-137	R. A. L. Massie	Lord's	1972
	in Australia	13-77	M. A. Noble	Melbourne	1901-02

HIGHEST AGGREGATE OF WICKETS IN A SERIES

ENGLAND	in England	46 (av 9.60)	J. C. Laker	1956
	in Australia	38 (av 23.18)	M. W. Tate	1924-25
AUSTRALIA	in England	42 (av 21.26)	T. M. Alderman (6 Tests)	1981
	in Australia	41 (av 12.85)	R. M. Hogg (6 Tests)	1978-79

ASHES HAT-TRICKS

F. R. Spofforth (Australia)	Melbourne	1878-79
W. Bates (England)	Melbourne	1882-83
J. Briggs (England)	Sydney	1891-92
J. T. Hearne (England)	Headingley	1899
H. Trumble (Australia)	Melbourne	1901-02
H. Trumble (Australia)	Melbourne	1903-04
S. K. Warne (Australia)	Melbourne	1994-95
D. Gough (England)	Sydney	1998-99

2,000 RUNS

	Tests	I	NO	HS	Runs	Avge	100	50
D. G. Bradman (A)	37	63	7	334	5,028	89.78	19	12
J. B. Hobbs (E)	41	71	4	187	3,636	54.26	12	15
A. R. Border (A)	47	82	19	200*	3,548	56.31	8	21
D. I. Gower (E)	42	77	4	215	3,269	44.78	9	12
G. Boycott (E)	38	71	9	191	2,945	47.50	7	14
W. R. Hammond (E)	33	58	3	251	2,852	51.85	9	7
H. Sutcliffe (E)	27	46	5	194	2,741	66.85	8	16
C. Hill (A)	41	76	1	188	2,660	35.46	4	16
J. H. Edrich (E)	32	57	3	175	2,644	48.96	7	13
G. A. Gooch (E)	42	79	0	196	2,632	33.31	4	16
G. S. Chappell (A)	35	65	8	144	2,619	45.94	9	12
S. R. Waugh (A)	37	60	16	177*	2,574	58.50	7	12
M. A. Taylor (A)	33	61	2	219	2,496	42.30	6	15
M. C. Cowdrey (E)	43	75	4	113	2,433	34.26	5	11
L. Hutton (E)	27	49	6	364	2,428	56.46	5	14
R. N. Harvey (A)	37	68	5	167	2,416	38.34	6	12
V. T. Trumper (A)	40	74	5	185*	2,263	32.79	6	9
D. C. Boon (A)	31	57	8	184	2,237	45.65	7	8
W. M. Lawry (A)	29	51	5	166	2,233	48.54	7	13
S. E. Gregory (A)	52	92	7	201	2,193	25.80	4	8
W. W. Armstrong (A)	42	71	9	158	2,172	35.03	4	6
I. M. Chappell (A)	30	56	4	192	2,138	41.11	4	16
K. F. Barrington (E)	23	39	6	256	2,111	63.96	5	13
A. R. Morris (A)	24	43	2	206	2,080	50.73	8	8

D. G. Bradman holds the unique record of scoring 2,000 runs in both countries in this series (2,674 runs in England and 2,354 in Australia); J. B. Hobbs is the only other batsman to score 2,000 runs in either country (2,493 runs in Australia).

Jack Hobbs



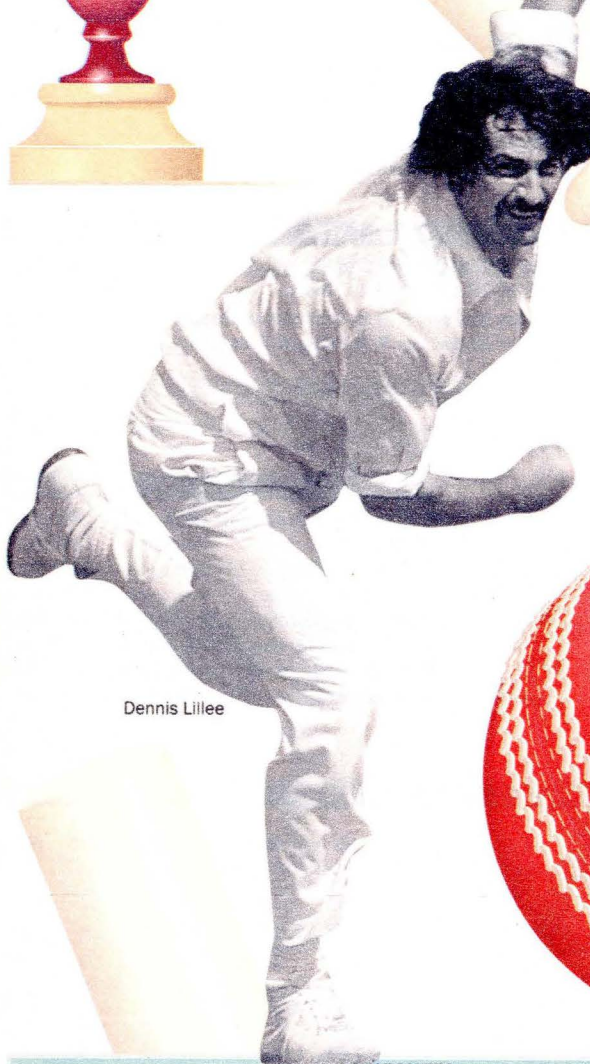


BILL FRINDALL'S ASHES RECORD

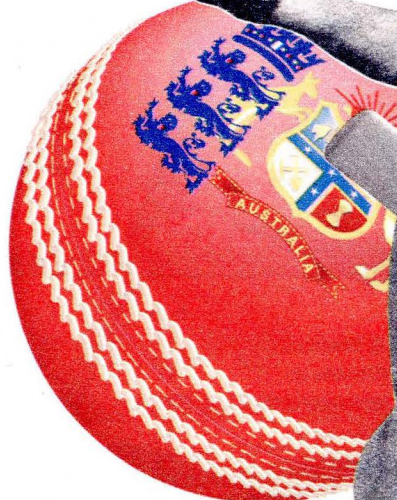
100 WICKETKEEPING DISMISSALS

	Tests	Ct	St	Total
R. W. Marsh (A)	42	141	7	148
I. A. Healy (A)	33	123	12	135
A. P. E. Knott (E)	34	97	8	105

R. W. Marsh (141 catches) and W. A. S. Oldfield (31 stumpings) hold the respective individual records in Anglo-Australian Tests



Dennis Lillee



Ray Lindwall

100 WICKETS

	Tests	Balls	Runs	Wkts	Avg	Best	5wI	10wM
D. K. Lillee (A)	29	8,516	3,507	167	21.00	7-89	11	4
I. T. Botham (E)	36	8,479	4,093	148	27.65	6-78	9	2
H. Trumble (A)	31	7,895	2,945	141	20.88	8-65	9	3
R. G. D. Willis (E)	35	7,294	3,346	128	26.14	8-43	7	-
M. A. Noble (A)	39	6,845	2,860	115	24.86	7-17	9	2
R. R. Lindwall (A)	29	6,728	2,559	114	22.44	7-63	6	-
W. Rhodes (E)	41	5,791	2,616	109	24.00	8-68	6	1
S. F. Barnes (E)	20	5,749	2,288	106	21.58	7-60	12	1
C. V. Grimmett (A)	22	9,224	3,439	106	32.44	6-37	11	2
D. L. Underwood (E)	29	8,000	2,770	105	26.38	7-50	4	2
A. V. Bedser (E)	21	7,065	2,859	104	27.49	7-44	7	2
G. Giffen (A)	31	6,457	2,791	103	27.09	7-117	7	1
W. J. O'Reilly (A)	19	7,864	2,587	102	25.36	7-54	8	3
R. Peel (E)	20	5,216	1,715	101	16.98	7-31	5	1
C. T. B. Turner (A)	17	5,195	1,670	101	16.53	7-43	11	2
T. M. Alderman (A)	17	4,717	2,117	100	21.17	6-47	11	1
J. R. Thomson (A)	21	4,951	2,418	100	24.18	6-46	5	-

TEST MATCH RECORD

Season	Captains		Test Match Record				Held By
	ENGLAND	AUSTRALIA	T	E	A	D	
1882-83	Hon. Ivo Bligh	W. L. Murdoch	4*	2	2	0	E
1884	Lord Harris ¹	W. L. Murdoch	3	1	0	2	E
1884-85	A. Shrewsbury	T. P. Horan ²	5	3	2	0	E
1886	A. G. Steel	H. J. H. Scott	3	3	0	0	E
1886-87	A. Shrewsbury	P. S. McDonnell	2	2	0	0	E
1887-88	W. W. Read	P. S. McDonnell	1	1	0	0	E
1888	W. G. Grace ³	P. S. McDonnell	3	2	1	0	E
1890+	W. G. Grace	W. L. Murdoch	2	2	0	0	E
1891-92	W. G. Grace	J. M. Blackham	3	1	2	0	A
1893	W. G. Grace ⁴	J. M. Blackham	3	1	0	2	E
1894-95	A. E. Stoddart	G. Giffen ⁵	5	3	2	0	E
1896	W. G. Grace	G. H. S. Trott	3	2	1	0	E
1897-98	A. E. Stoddart ⁶	G. H. S. Trott	5	1	4	0	A
1899	A. C. MacLaren ⁷	J. Darling	5	0	1	4	A
1901-02	A. C. MacLaren	J. Darling ⁸	5	1	4	0	A
1902	A. C. MacLaren	J. Darling	5	1	2	2	A
1903-04	P. F. Warner	M. A. Noble	5	3	2	0	E
1905	Hon. F. S. Jackson	J. Darling	5	2	0	3	A
1907-08	A. O. Jones ⁹	M. A. Noble	5	1	4	0	A
1909	A. C. MacLaren	M. A. Noble	5	1	2	2	A
1911-12	J. W. H. T. Douglas	C. Hill	5	4	1	0	E
1912	C. B. Fry	S. E. Gregory	3	1	0	2	E
1920-21	J. W. H. T. Douglas	W. W. Armstrong	5	0	5	0	A
1921	Hon. L. H. Tennyson ¹⁰	W. W. Armstrong	5	0	3	2	A
1924-25	A. E. R. Gilligan	H. L. Collins	5	1	4	0	A
1926	A. W. Carr ¹¹	H. L. Collins ¹²	5	1	0	4	A
1928-29	A. P. F. Chapman ¹³	J. Ryder	5	4	1	0	E
1930	A. P. F. Chapman ¹⁴	W. M. Woodfull	5	1	2	2	A
1932-33	D. R. Jardine	W. M. Woodfull	5	4	1	0	E
1934	R. E. S. Wyatt ¹⁵	W. M. Woodfull	5	1	2	2	A
1936-37	G. O. B. Allen	D. G. Bradman	5	2	3	0	A
1938+	W. R. Hammond	D. G. Bradman	4	1	1	2	A
1946-47	W. R. Hammond ¹⁶	D. G. Bradman	5	0	3	2	A
1948	N. W. D. Yardley	D. G. Bradman	5	0	4	1	A
1950-51	F. R. Brown	A. L. Hassett	5	1	4	0	A
1953	L. Hutton	A. L. Hassett	5	1	0	4	E
1954-55	L. Hutton	I. W. Johnson ¹⁷	5	3	1	1	E
1956	P. B. H. May	I. W. Johnson	5	2	1	2	E
1958-59	P. B. H. May	R. Benaud	5	0	4	1	A
1961	P. B. H. May ¹⁸	R. Benaud ¹⁹	5	1	2	2	A
1962-63	E. R. Dexter	R. Benaud	5	1	1	3	A
1964	E. R. Dexter	R. B. Simpson	5	0	1	4	A
1965-66	M. J. K. Smith	R. B. Simpson ²⁰	5	1	1	3	A
1968	M. C. Cowdrey ²¹	W. M. Lawry ²²	5	1	1	3	A
1970-71+	R. Illingworth	W. M. Lawry ²³	6	2	0	4	E
1972	R. Illingworth	I. M. Chappell	5	2	2	1	E
1974-75	M. H. Denness ²⁴	I. M. Chappell	6	1	4	1	A
1975	A. W. Greig ²⁵	I. M. Chappell	4	0	1	3	A
1976-77++	A. W. Greig	G. S. Chappell	1	0	1	0	-
1977	J. M. Brearley	G. S. Chappell	5	3	0	2	E
1978-79	J. M. Brearley	G. N. Yallop	6	5	1	0	E
1979-80++	J. M. Brearley	G. S. Chappell	3	0	3	0	-
1980++	I. T. Botham	G. S. Chappell	1	0	0	1	-
1981	J. M. Brearley ²⁶	K. J. Hughes	6	3	1	2	E
1982-83	R. G. D. Willis	G. S. Chappell	5	1	2	2	A
1985	D. I. Gower	A. R. Border	6	3	1	2	E
1986-87	M. W. Gatting	A. R. Border	5	2	1	2	-
1987-88++	M. W. Gatting	A. R. Border	1	0	0	1	-
1989	D. I. Gower	A. R. Border	6	0	4	2	A
1990-91	G. A. Gooch ²⁷	A. R. Border	5	0	3	2	A
1993	G. A. Gooch ²⁸	A. R. Border	6	1	4	1	A
1994-95	M. A. Atherton	M. A. Taylor	5	1	3	1	A
1997	M. A. Atherton	M. A. Taylor	6	2	3	1	A
1998-99	A. J. Stewart	M. A. Taylor	5	1	3	1	A

In Australia	148	52	72	24
In England	139	39	40	60
Totals	287	91	112	84

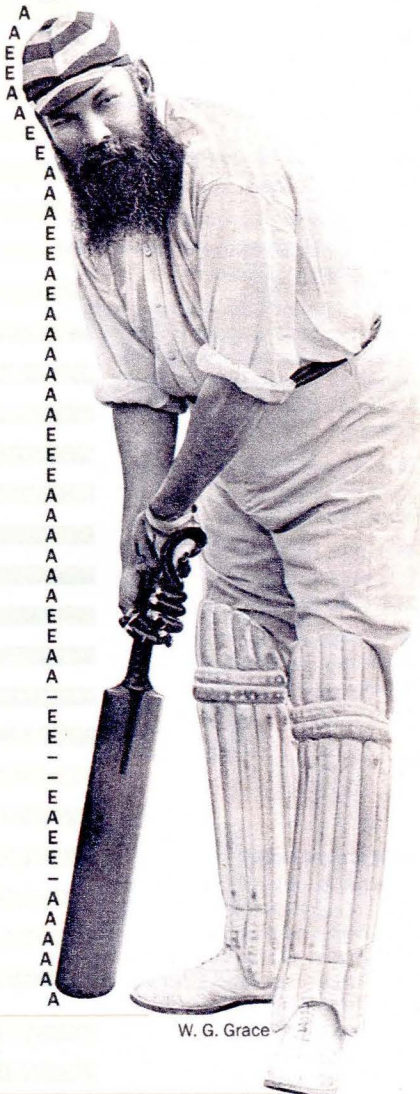
*The Ashes were awarded in 1882-83 after a series of three matches which England won 2-1. A fourth match was played and this was won by Australia.
+The matches at Manchester in 1890 and 1938 and at Melbourne (third Test) in 1970-71 were abandoned without a ball being bowled and are excluded.
++The Ashes were not at stake in these series.

Notes: the following deputised for the official touring captain or were appointed by the home authority for only a minor proportion of the series: ¹A. N. Hornby (first), ²W. L. Murdoch (first), H. H. Massie (third), J. M. Blackham (fourth), ³A. G. Steel (first), ⁴A. E. Stoddart (first), ⁵J. M. Blackham (first), ⁶A. C. MacLaren (first, second and fifth), ⁷W. G. Grace (first), ⁸H. Trumble (fourth and fifth), ⁹F. L. Fane (first, second and third), ¹⁰J. W. H. T. Douglas (first and second), ¹¹A. P. F. Chapman (fifth), ¹²W. Bardsley (third and fourth), ¹³J. C. White (fifth), ¹⁴R. E. S. Wyatt (fifth), ¹⁵C. F. Walters (first), ¹⁶N. W. D. Yardley (fifth), ¹⁷A. R. Morris (second), ¹⁸M. C. Cowdrey (first and second), ¹⁹R. N. Harvey (second), ²⁰B. C. Booth (first and third), ²¹T. W. Graveney (fourth), ²²B. N. Jarman (fourth), ²³M. Chappell (seventh), ²⁴J. H. Edrich (fourth), ²⁵M. H. Denness (first), ²⁶I. T. Botham (first and second), ²⁷A. J. Lamb (first), ²⁸M. A. Atherton (fifth and sixth).



DATES WHEN ASHES REGAINED

- Australia
- England



W. G. Grace

Mark Taylor

EDGBASTON

FIRST TEST

JULY 5-9

FOR THE RECORD

Capacity 19,500

Ticket availability (days 1 to 4) Limited number for Sunday only

- Warwickshire County Cricket Club was founded in 1882
- The first match at Edgbaston was in June 1886, between Warwickshire and MCC
- In 1895, the club joined the County Championship
- The first Test followed in 1902, in which Australia were bowled out for 36
- Between 1902 and 1974 England were unbeaten at Edgbaston, with nine wins and seven draws in 16 Tests
- Peter May and Colin Cowdrey's partnership of 411 against West Indies in 1957 is the highest fourth-innings stand in Tests, and the highest for any wicket by an England pair. May's 285 is the highest Test score at Edgbaston
- Brian Lara made the highest individual score in first-class cricket at the ground, 501 not out against Durham
- In 1997 Edgbaston became the first ground in England to stage an official floodlit match, against Somerset
- An extensive covering system, the Brumbrella, was introduced 20 years ago, the first of its kind in England

ASHES HIGH POINT

It seemed too good to be true at the time and, of course, by the end of the summer it was. But, for a few delirious days at Edgbaston in 1997 England had the measure of the Aussies. Before the first day was out, Australia had been dismissed for 118 and England had a first-innings lead of 82, extended to 360 through a partnership of 288 between Hussain (207) and Thorpe (138). England went on to win by nine wickets.

ASHES LOW POINTS

Edgbaston, 1975 saw the Test debut of the player who would go on to become England's leading run-scorer, with 8,900 runs. Famously, however, Graham Gooch's career began with a "pair", caught-behind in both innings. In the first Test match at the ground, in 1902, Australia, replying to England's 376 for nine dec, were bundled out for 36, still their lowest Test score. Unsurprisingly, rain saved them.

THRASY PETROPOULOS



BILL FRINDALL'S EDGBASTON FACTFILE

RESULTS

Played 10

England 4

Australia 2

Drawn 4

*Batted first

Date and Result

1902 — Drawn
1909 — England 10 wkts
1961 — Drawn
1968 — Drawn
1975 — Australia inns & 85 runs
1981 — England 29 runs
1985 — England inns & 118 runs
1989 — Drawn
1993 — Australia 8 wkts
1997 — England 9 wkts

England

1st	2nd
376-9d*	—
121	105-0
195*	401-4
409*	142-3d
101	173
189*	219
595-5d	—
242	—
276*	251
478-9d	119-1

Australia

1st	2nd
36	46-2
74*	151
516-9d	—
222	68-1
359*	—
258	121
335*	142
424*	158-2
408	120-2
118*	477

Captains

England	Australia
A.C.MacLaren	J.Darling
A.C.MacLaren	M.A.Noble
M.C.Cowdrey	R.Benaud
M.C.Cowdrey	W.M.Lawry
M.H.Denness	I.M.Chappell
J.M.Breareley	K.J.Hughes
D.I.Gower	A.R.Border
D.I.Gower	A.R.Border
M.A.Atherton	A.R.Border
M.A.Atherton	M.A.Taylor

HUNDREDS

England (9)

138 J.T. Tyldesley 1902
112 R. Subba Row 1961
180 E.R. Dexter 1961
104 M.C. Cowdrey 1968
148 R.T. Robinson 1985
215 D.I. Gower 1985
100* M.W. Gatting 1985
207 N. Hussain 1997
138 G.P. Thorpe 1997

Australia (5)

114 R.N. Harvey 1961
157 D.M. Jones 1989
137 M.E. Waugh 1993
129 M.A. Taylor 1997
125 G.S. Blewett 1997

BEST BOWLING ANALYSES

— INNINGS

England

7-17 W.Rhodes 1902

Australia

6-71 P.R.Reiffel 1993

Five wickets in an innings

England (7)

7-17 W.Rhodes 1902

6-44 C.Blythe 1909

5-58)

5-58 G.H.Hirst 1909

5-11 I.T.Botham 1981

6-77 R.M.Ellison 1985

5-50 A.R.Caddick 1997

Australia (9)

5-27 W.W.Armstrong 1909

5-15 D.K.Lillie 1975

5-48 M.H.N.Walker 1975

5-38 J.R.Thomson 1975

5-42 T.M.Alderman 1981

5-68 R.J.Bright 1981

6-71 P.R.Reiffel 1993

5-89 T.B.A.May 1993

5-82 S.K.Warne 1993

Ten wickets in a match

England

11-102 C.Blythe 1909

10-104 R.M.Ellison 1985

Australia none

(best match analysis:

8-107 T.M.Alderman 1981)

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET — England

1st	105*	J.B.Hobbs (62*)/C.B.Fry (35*)	1909
2nd	331	R.T.Robinson (148)/D.I.Gower (215)	1985
3rd	94	D.I.Gower (215)/M.W.Gatting (100*)	1985
4th	288	N.Hussain (207)/G.P.Thorpe (138)	1997
5th	38	K.W.R.Fletcher (51)/A.P.E.Knott (38)	1975
6th	96	I.T.Botham (46)/R.C.Russell (42)	1989
7th	104	G.P.Thorpe (60)/J.E.Emburey (37)	1993
8th	47	J.E.Emburey (55*)/M.P.Bicknell (14)	1993
9th	50	J.E.Emburey (37*)/R.W.Taylor (8)	1981
10th	81*	W.H.Lockwood (52*)/W.Rhodes (38*)	1902

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET — Australia

1st	133	M.T.G.Elliott (66)/M.A.Taylor (129)	1997
2nd	194	M.A.Taylor (129)/G.S.Blewett (125)	1997
3rd	146	R.N.Harvey (114)/N.C.O'Neill (82)	1961
4th	96	D.C.Boon (38)/D.M.Jones (157)	1989
5th	153	M.E.Waugh (137)/S.R.Waugh (59)	1993
6th	79	R.Edwards (56)/R.W.Marsh (61)	1975
7th	107	I.A.Healy (80)/M.G.Hughes (38)	1993
8th	92	D.M.Jones (157)/T.V.Hohns (40)	1989
9th	59	G.F.Lawson (53)/J.R.Thomson (28*)	1985
10th	26	J.D.A.O'Connor (13)/W.J.Whitty (9*)	1909

HIGHEST TOTALS

England

595-5 dec 1985

Australia

516-9 dec 1961

LOWEST TOTALS

England

101 1975

Australia

36 1902

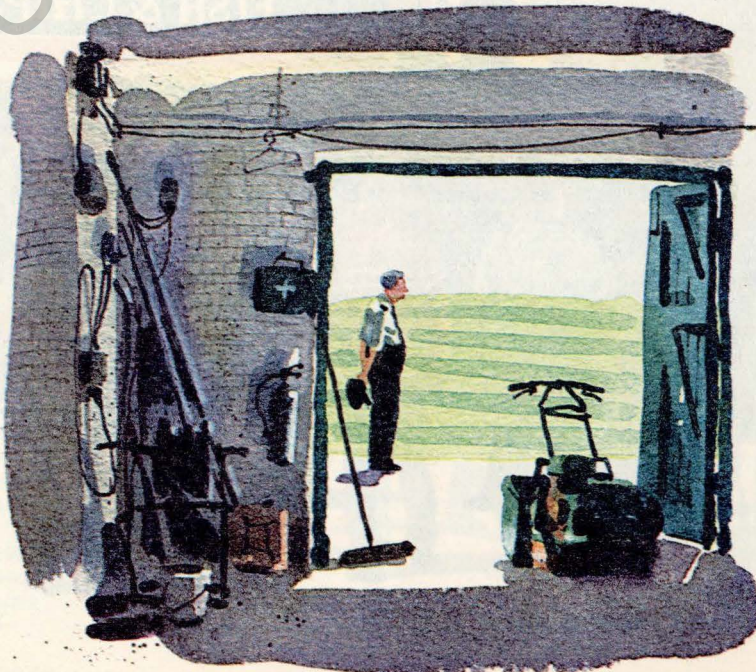
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

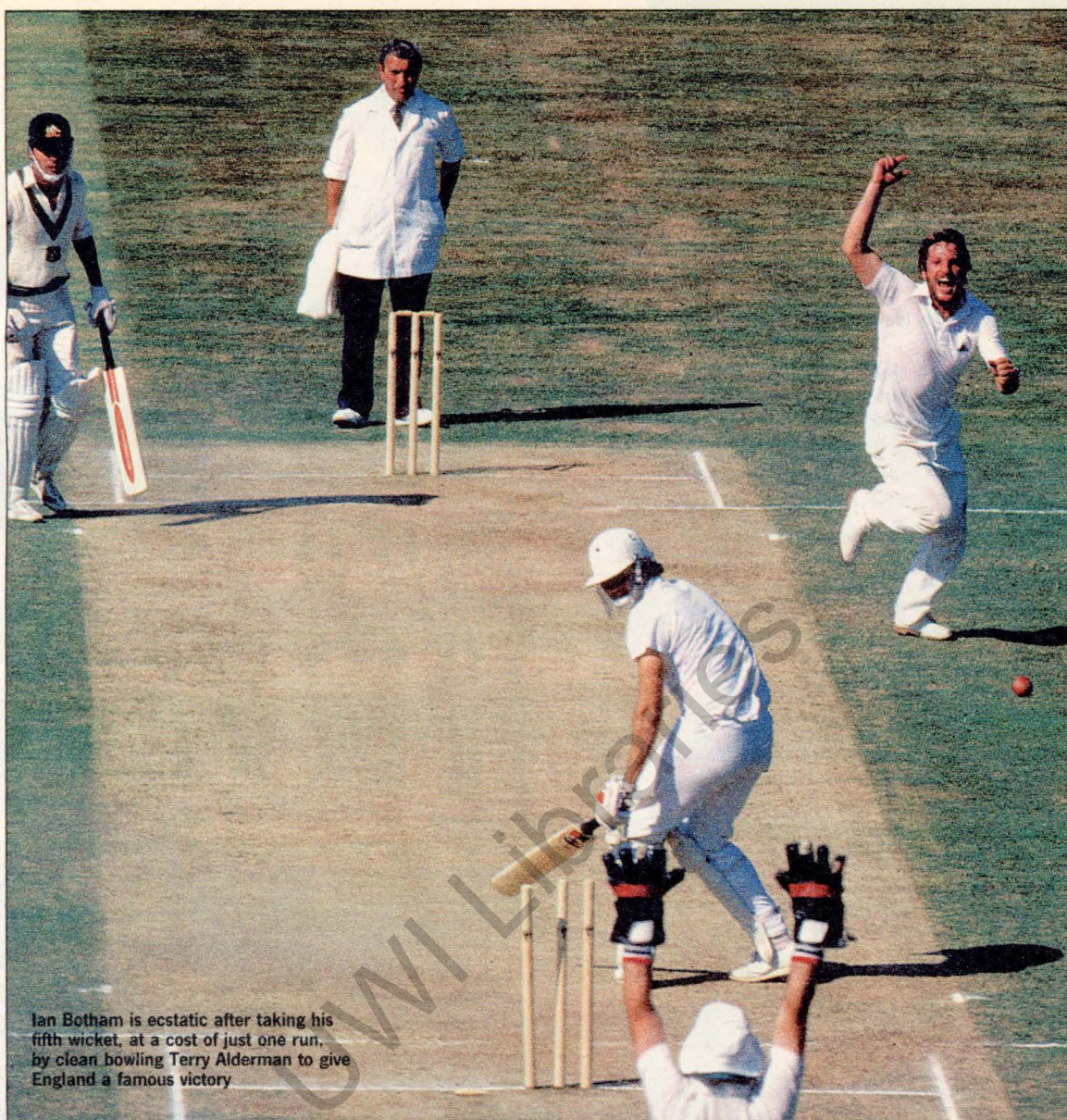
England

215 D.I. Gower 1985

Australia

157 D.M. Jones 1989





Ian Botham is ecstatic after taking his fifth wicket, at a cost of just one run, by clean bowling Terry Alderman to give England a famous victory

EDGBASTON: THE GREAT MATCH

Fourth Test, 1981

After the drama of Headingley, the fourth Test had an impossible act to follow. Then again, nothing in that glorious summer was impossible for Ian Botham.

This would be the first time in 668 Tests and 46 years that no batsman would record a half-century in a match but, on an essentially sound pitch, Australia's task on the fourth day of scoring 142 runs with nine wickets in hand — 151 runs in total — to take a 2-1 lead in the series appeared straightforward.

Chris Old had given England a good start the previous evening, trapping Graeme Wood leg-before for two, and John Dyson and Kim Hughes had not lasted long against Bob Willis next day. But, with Allan Border and Graham Yallop putting on 58 — the match's biggest stand — Australia seemed to be cruising.

Botham had originally declined Mike Brearley's offer to bowl, arguing that the pitch was taking spin. Ray Bright's left-arm spin had taken five for 68 in

England's second-innings and, sure enough, John Emburey prised out Border, caught at silly point, and Yallop, undone by turn and bounce. Still, with Australia at 114 for five, few gave England a chance.

At this point Botham accepted the ball from his captain. A large and vocal crowd, still intoxicated by the events of Headingley, urged him on. Even after the storyline of that earlier Test, however, the next few overs defied belief.

By the time Botham had bowled his 28th ball he had taken the last five Aussie wickets at a cost of just a single, and England had won the Test by 29 runs.

Rodney Marsh was first to go, his middle stump sent cartwheeling. Then Bright was leg-before first ball, followed by Dennis Lillee, caught behind, Martin Kent, bowled, and Terry Alderman, bowled by one that swung in late. Botham grabbed a trophy stump; he would have quite a collection by series end.

THRASY PETROPOULOS

LORD'S SECOND TEST JULY 19-23

FOR THE RECORD

Capacity 29,000

Ticket availability (days 1 to 4) Sold out

- The ground in St John's Wood is actually Lord's Mk III — the original was a private club established by Thomas Lord in present-day Dorset Square, London, in 1787
- The first match at the present site was MCC v Hertfordshire on June 22, 1814
- A fire destroyed the pavilion and all the MCC records in 1825
- That same year, Lord, a Yorkshire businessman, was on the point of selling the ground to developers when William Ward stumped up the asking price of £5,000
- MCC became owners of the ground in 1866
- Middlesex have played here since 1877
- The first Test was in June 1884, when England beat Australia by an innings and five runs
- The ground has been used variously for pigeon flying, hopping races and an exhibition of archery by a tribe of Native American Indians
- Opposite the Victorian pavilion stands a state-of-the-art £5 million media centre, designed by a Scandinavian architect and built in a shipyard

ASHES HIGH POINT

Only once last century did England beat Australia at Lord's — and that was in 1934. That the win was achieved in some style, however, cannot be in doubt. Hedley Verity, bowling left-arm spin, took 14 wickets for 80 runs on the third day (15 for 104 in total) which, after England had reached 440 in their only innings, gave them a series-levelling victory by an innings and 38 runs.

ASHES LOW POINT

You could hear the gate squeak as Ian Botham made his way back past the silent members sitting in front of the Lord's pavilion in 1981. The England captain — for the next few hours at least — had been bowled by Ray Bright for a second nought in the match. "It was like taking one step forward and one step back," Botham said later. England lost the first Test by four wickets. The rest is history.

THRASY PETROPOULOS



BILL FRINDALL'S LORD'S FACTFILE

RESULTS

Played 31

England 5

Australia 12

Drawn 14

*Batted first

Date and Result

	England		Australia		Captains	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	England	Australia
1884 — England inns & 5 runs	379	—	229*	145	Lord Harris	W.L.Murdoch
1886 — England inns & 106 runs	353*	—	121	126	A.G.Steel	H.J.H.Scott
1888 — Australia 61 runs	53	62	116*	60	A.G.Steel	P.S.McDonnell
1890 — England 7 wks	173	137-3	132*	176	W.G.Grace	W.L.Murdoch
1893 — Drawn	334*	234-8d	269	—	A.E.Stoddart	J.M.Blackham
1896 — England 6 wks	292	111-4	53*	347	W.G.Grace	G.H.S.Trott
1899 — Australia 10 wks	206*	240	421	28-0	A.C.MacLaren	J.Darling
1902 — Drawn	102-2*	—	—	—	A.C.MacLaren	J.Darling
1905 — Drawn	282*	151-5	181	—	F.S.Jackson	J.Darling
1909 — Australia 9 wks	269*	121	350	41-1	A.C.MacLaren	M.A.Noble
1912 — Drawn	310-7d	—	282-7	—	C.B.Fry	S.E.Gregory
1921 — Australia 8 wks	187*	283	342	131-2	J.W.H.T.Douglas	W.W.Armstrong
1926 — Drawn	475-3d	—	383*	194-5	A.W.Carr	H.L.Collins
1930 — Australia 7 wks	425*	375	729-6d	72-3	A.P.F.Chapman	W.M.Woodfull
1934 — England inns & 38 runs	440*	—	284	118	R.E.S.Wyatt	W.M.Woodfull
1938 — Drawn	494*	242-8d	422	204-6	W.R.Hammond	D.G.Bradman
1948 — Australia 409 runs	215	186	350*	460-7d	N.W.D.Yardley	D.G.Bradman
1953 — Drawn	372	282-7	346*	368	L.Hutton	A.L.Hassett
1956 — Australia 185 runs	171	186	285*	257	P.B.H.May	I.W.Johnson
1961 — Australia 5 wks	206*	202	340	71-5	M.C.Cowdrey	R.N.Harvey
1964 — Drawn	246	—	176*	168-4	E.R.Dexter	R.B.Simpson
1968 — Drawn	351-7d	—	78	127-4	M.C.Cowdrey	W.M.Lawry
1972 — Australia 8 wks	272*	116	308	81-2	R.Illingworth	I.M.Chappell
1975 — Drawn	315*	436-7d	268	329-3	A.W.Greig	I.M.Chappell
1977 — Drawn	216*	305	296	114-6	J.M.Breareley	G.S.Chappell
1980 — Drawn	205	244-3	385-5d	189-4d	I.T.Botham	G.S.Chappell
1981 — Drawn	311	265-8d	345	90-4	I.T.Botham	K.J.Hughes
1985 — Australia 4 wks	290*	261	425	127-6	D.I.Gower	A.R.Border
1989 — Australia 6 wks	286*	359	528	119-4	D.I.Gower	A.R.Border
1993 — Australia inns & 62 runs	205	365*	632-4d	—	G.A.Gooch	A.R.Border
1997 — Drawn	77*	266-4d	213-7d	—	M.A.Atherton	M.A.Taylor

BEST BOWLING ANALYSES

— INNINGS

England

8-43 H.Verity 1934

Australia

8-38 G.D.McGrath 1997

Five wickets in an innings

England (18)

6-85 E.Peate 1884

7-36 G.Ulyett 1884

5-29 J.Briggs 1886

6-45 J.Briggs 1886

6-101 W.H.Lockwood 1893

6-39 T.Richardson 1896

5-134 T.Richardson 1896

5-76 J.T.Hearne 1896

5-85 A.E.Relf 1909

7-61 H.Verity 1934

8-43 H.Verity 1934

5-105 A.V.Bedser 1953

5-90 F.S.Trueaman 1956

5-48 F.S.Trueaman 1964

5-42 D.J.Brown 1968

5-57 J.A.Snow 1972

7-78 R.G.D.Willis 1977

5-109 I.T.Botham 1985

Australia (25)

6-111 G.E.Palmer 1884

5-27 C.T.B.Turner 1888

5-36 C.T.B.Turner 1888

5-26 J.J.Ferris 1888

5-30 J.J.Lyons 1890

6-67 C.T.B.Turner 1893

5-43 G.Giffen 1893

7-88 E.Jones 1899

6-35 W.W.Armstrong 1909

6-167 C.V.Grimmett 1930

5-70 R.R.Lindwall 1948

5-40 E.R.H.Toshack 1948

5-66 R.R.Lindwall 1953

5-72 K.R.Miller 1956

5-80 K.R.Miller 1956

5-42 A.K.Davidson 1961

5-37 G.D.McKenzie 1961

8-84 R.A.L.Massie 1972

8-53 R.A.L.Massie 1972

5-59 L.S.Pascoe 1980

7-81 G.F.Lawson 1981

6-70 C.J.McDermott 1985

5-68 R.G.Holland 1985

6-128 T.M.Alderman 1989

8-38 G.D.McGrath 1997

England (3)

11-74 J.Briggs 1886

11-173 T.Richardson 1896

15-104 H.Verity 1934

Australia (4)

10-63 C.T.B.Turner 1888

10-164 E.Jones 1899

10-152 K.R.Miller 1956

16-137 R.A.L.Massie 1972

HIGHEST TOTALS

England 494 1938

Australia 729-6 dec 1930

LOWEST TOTALS

England 53 1888

Australia 53 1896

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

England

240 W.R.Hammond 1938

Australia

254 D.G.Bradman 1930

HUNDREDS

Australia (27)

107 H.Graham 1893

143 G.H.S.Trott 1896

103 S.E.Gregory 1896

135 C.Hill 1899

135* V.T.Trumper 1899

143* V.S.Ransford 1909

193* W.Bardsley 1926

133* C.G.Macartney 1926

155 W.M.Woodfull 1930

254 D.G.Bradman 1930

105 W.A.Brown 1934

206* W.A.Brown 1938

102* D.G.Bradman 1938

105 A.R.Morris 1948

141 S.G.Barnes 1948

104 A.L.Hassett 1953

109 K.R.Miller 1953

130 W.M.Lawry 1961

131 G.S.Chappell 1972

112 G.M.Wood 1980

117 K.J.Hughes 1980

196 A.R.Border 1985

152* S.R.Waugh 1989

111 M.A.Taylor 1993

152 M.J.Slater 1993

164* D.C.Boon 1993

112 M.T.G.Elliott 1997

HUNDREDS

England (18)

148 A.G.Steel 1884

164 A.Shrewsbury 1886

106 A.Shrewsbury 1893

107 J.B.Hobbs 1912

119 J.B.Hobbs 1926

127* E.H.Hendren 1926

173 K.S.Duleepsinhji 1930

121 A.P.F.Chapman 1930

109 M.Leyland 1934

120 L.E.G.Ames 1934

240 W.R.Hammond 1938

145 L.Hutton 1953

109 W.Watson 1953

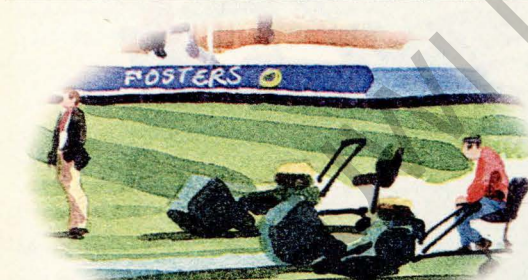
120 J.H.Edrich 1964

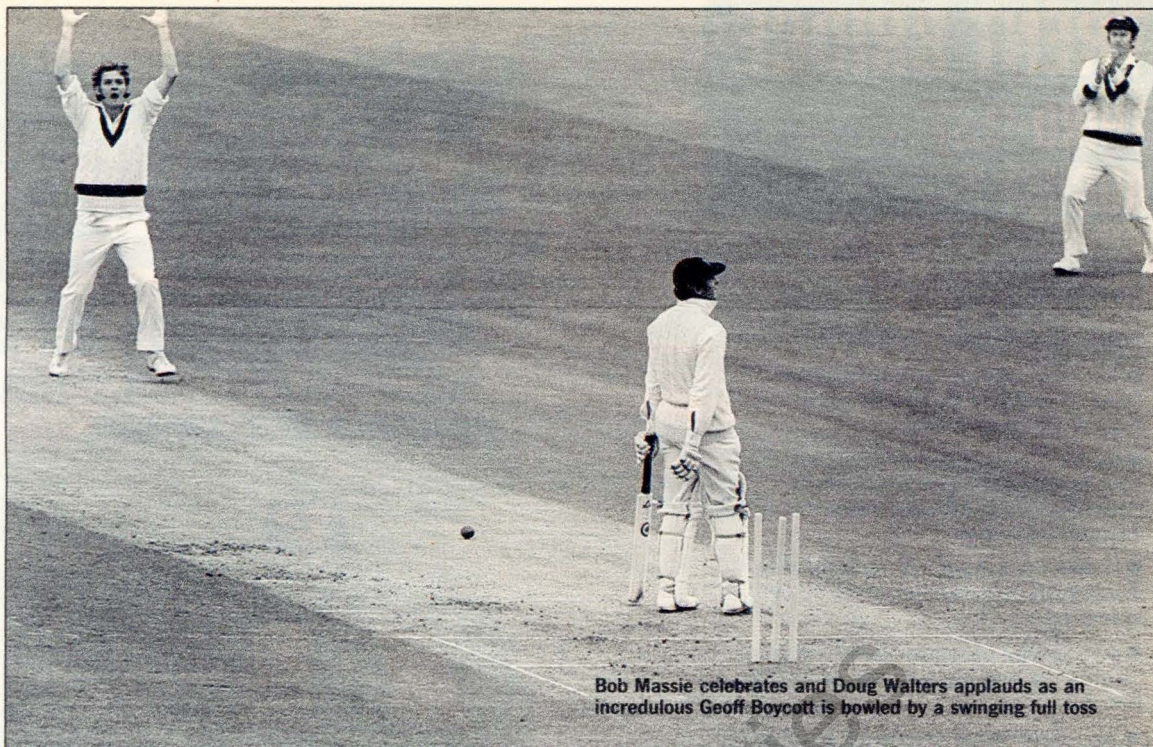
175 J.H.Edrich 1975

120 R.A.Woolmer 1977

128* G.Boyco 1980

106 D.I.Gower 1989





Bob Massie celebrates and Doug Walters applauds as an incredulous Geoff Boycott is bowled by a swinging full toss

LORD'S: THE GREAT MATCH

Second Test, 1972

Bob Massie, sideburns down to his chin and bowling boomerangs from around the wicket, turned England over with a devastating display of swing bowling. "Bob who?" most people asked at the time. But a few at Northamptonshire might have kept quiet, having turned Massie down after a three-match trial for the county's second XI when he was a club cricketer for Kilmarnock in the Scottish Western Union League.

Massie had been overlooked for the first Test, at Old Trafford, which Australia lost by 89 runs, and, next to Dennis Lillee, little was expected of the 25-year-old Western Australian playing in his maiden Test. By the fourth morning, however, Massie had bowled himself to cricketing immortality, with match figures of 16 for 137, and Australia had squared the series.

All but one of Massie's eight victims in the first innings came from bowling over the wicket, with Geoff Boycott looking incredulous as he was bowled by a swinging full toss. Equally nonplussed was Basil D'Oliveira who, after negotiating four successive away-swingers, was trapped leg-before by an inswinger. If anything, though, Massie swung the ball

too much. He had done so throughout the tour, but on the advice of Neil Clarke, the former Australia bowler, he bowled for much of the time from around the wicket to control the movement.

He switched his line of attack in England's second innings and, after Dennis Lillee had taken two cheap wickets, ran through the card — 27.2-9-53-8. John Edrich was caught behind off a beauty that swung late, and D'Oliveira, Tony Greig (who had taken a middle-and-off guard to counter the swing), Alan Knott and Ray Illingworth all fell to slip catches. John Snow walked across his stumps, and the dismissal of Mike Smith and John Price concluded the innings.

With Australia going on to win by eight wickets, it was as well that Massie celebrated when he did. By the end of the series his performances had tailed off alarmingly — five wickets at Trent Bridge, none at Headingley, two at the Oval. After just two more Tests, against India, he was out of international cricket for good.

THRASY PETROPOULOS

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET — England

1st	182	J.B.Hobbs (119)/H.Sutcliffe (82)	1926
2nd	168	L.Hutton (145)/T.W.Graveney (78)	1953
3rd	140	F.E.Woolley (87)/E.H.Hendren (127*)	1926
4th	222	W.R.Hammond (240)/E.Paynter (99)	1938
5th	163	W.Watson (109)/T.E.Bailey (71)	1953
6th	186	W.R.Hammond (240)/L.E.G.Ames (83)	1938
7th	131	M.W.Gatting (75*)/I.T.Botham (85)	1985
8th	76	A.G.Steel (148)/A.Lyttelton (31)	1884
9th	53	A.E.Relf (17)/A.F.A.Lilley (47)	1909
10th	45	J.E.Emburey (36*)/G.R.Dilley (24)	1989

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET — Australia

1st	260	M.A.Taylor (111)/M.J.Slater (152)	1993
2nd	231	W.M.Woodfull (155)/D.G.Bradman (254)	1930
3rd	192	D.G.Bradman (254)/A.F.Kippax (83)	1930
4th	221	G.H.S.Trott (143)/S.E.Gregory (103)	1896
5th	216	A.R.Border (196)/G.M.Ritchie (94)	1985
6th	142	S.E.Gregory (57)/H.Graham (107)	1893
7th	117	K.D.Mackay (31)/R.Benaud (97)	1956
8th	85	W.A.Brown (206*)/W.J.O'Reilly (42)	1938
9th	130	S.R.Waugh (152*)/G.F.Lawson (74)	1989
10th	69	H.J.H.Scott (75)/H.F.Boyle (26*)	1884
	69	D.K.Lillee (73*)/A.A.Mallett (14)	1975

TRENT BRIDGE

THIRD TEST

AUGUST 2-6

FOR THE RECORD
Capacity 14,500

Ticket availability (days 1 to 4) Sold out

- The ground was laid out in 1838 by William Clarke, the landlord of the Trent Bridge Inn in West Bridgford, just outside Nottingham
- The first first-class match was played there in 1840, between Nottinghamshire and Sussex. Previously the county had played their games at the Nottingham racecourse
- In 1886 a pavilion was built, the largest in the country before Lord's. Old Trafford and The Oval followed suit
- At the time the ground was used by Nottingham Forest FC and Notts County FC, who did not leave until 1910
- Two England football internationals were staged at Trent Bridge in the 1890s
- The first Test was in June 1899, when England drew with Australia
- During the First World War the pavilion was used as a military hospital. In the Second World War the Army occupied the pavilion, using it as the central mail-sorting office
- In the 1980s two new stands were built — the William Clarke stand and the Larwood and Voce stand — but the most impressive redevelopment has been of the Radcliffe Road stand, increasing seating capacity by 2,000

HIGH POINT

England's seven-wicket win in 1977 was their first against Australia at Trent Bridge for 47 years, and their second in the series. Geoff Boycott returned from exile with 107 and 80 not out and batted on all five days of the Test; Alan Knott, with 135, became the first wicketkeeper to pass 4,000 Test runs.

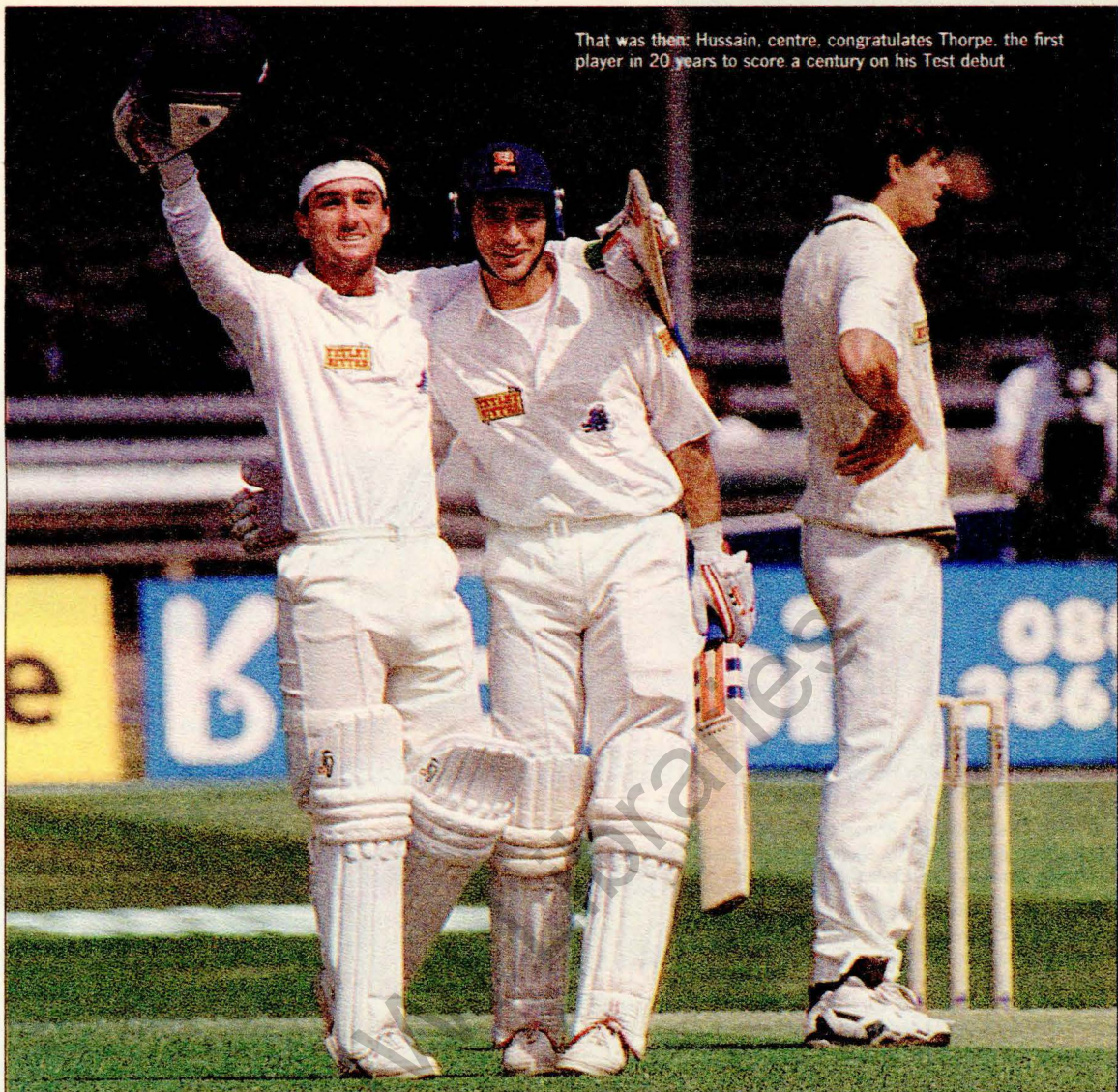
LOW POINT

If England thought that the Aussies, 3-0 up after three Tests, would ease up in 1989, they could think again. Geoff Marsh and Mark Taylor went out to bat on the first morning, and back they came at the close of play, 125 and 141 respectively to their names and 301 for no wicket on the board. They are the only pair to have batted through an uninterrupted day's Test cricket in England. They went on to reach 329 before Marsh was out. Taylor eventually scored 219 and Australia completed another victory, by an innings and 180 runs.

THRASY PETROPOULOS



That was then: Hussain, centre, congratulates Thorpe, the first player in 20 years to score a century on his Test debut



TRENT BRIDGE: THE GREAT MATCH

Third Test, 1993

Shortly after tea on the first day, a dapper left-hander made his way to the crease to join another young batsman, Nasser Hussain, who was playing in his first Test for three years. The public had pleaded for David Gower's return but were given Graham Thorpe and Hussain instead. For both batsmen it was to be a memorable match and a crucial one, too, for England, in terms of their immediate and long-term fortunes.

After seven successive defeats, including the first two Tests of the series, England were desperate. They had made five changes after the defeat at Lord's, throwing out Gattling, Hick, Foster, Lewis and Tufnell, and they had gambled on a four-man bowling attack with a combined experience of just four Test matches.

Their new-ball bowlers, McCague and Illott, had not bowled a ball between them in Test cricket, and Caddick and Such had each played in the first two Tests of the series. "A rat joining a sinking ship," *The Sydney Morning Herald* had called McCague, Ulster-born but Australian-bred.

Surprise, surprise: after three days, England had reached 122 for four in their second innings, a lead of

70, and Australia were only a few one-sided sessions away from regaining the Ashes. Thorpe failed in the first innings, but Hussain, in his first Test since the Caribbean tour of 1989-90, had batted elegantly for 71.

Then, in England's second innings, a new star was born. Thorpe, compact and determined, became the first player for 20 years to score a century on his Test debut. He reached it with a characteristic swivel-pull for four, much as Gower might have played the stroke.

There was also a century from Graham Gooch, the captain, who had dropped down the order to make way for Mark Lathwell, the fourth England debutant in the match. Hussain again batted positively for 47 not out and Gooch had the luxury of declaring.

All was not rosy in the Australia camp. They had been censured for their deportment on the field, and before long they had stumbled to 115 for six.

Could England really finish the job? Sadly not. Brendon Julian (56 not out) and Steve Waugh (47 not out) ensured the draw. But, in Thorpe and Hussain, England's future middle-order looked rosy.

THRASY PETROPOULOS

HEADINGLEY

FOURTH TEST

AUGUST 16-20

FOR THE RECORD

Capacity 14,000

Ticket availability (days 1 to 4) Sold out (free admission on Monday for Sunday ticket holders)

- In 1887 a group of sports enthusiasts set up Leeds Cricket, Football and Athletics Company Limited to buy land for use as a sports field. Headingley, a western suburb of Leeds, was chosen for the site
- The ground was established in 1888, with the cricket area being officially opened in May 1890 for Leeds Cricket Club
- In 1891 Yorkshire CCC, whose headquarters were in Sheffield, played their first first-class game here
- Headingley is the only ground on which three Test triple centuries have been scored: two by Bradman, in 1930 and 1934, and one by John Edrich, in 1965
- The best bowling figures in first-class cricket were recorded at the ground by Hedley Verity, against Nottinghamshire, in 1932 — 19.4-16-10-10
- Leeds Tykes and Leeds Rhinos, the two codes of rugby represented in the city, share the Headingley complex, including the cricketers' changing-rooms
- The Western Terrace, run down and renowned for attracting rowdy spectators, was torn down last winter and replaced by the West Stand with 8,500 seats. Immediately after this summer's Ashes Test, work will begin on the East and North stands, both to be flattened and rebuilt next winter as part of a £5 million redevelopment scheme

ASHES HIGH POINT

Bradman's 309 not out in one day in 1930 comes close but, as always, Geoff Boycott gets his way. After his exile from Test cricket for three years, Boycott set up the events of Headingley 1977 with perfection — a century in the Test at Trent Bridge, followed by another, his 99th, the following week for Yorkshire. In front of his home crowd, in the fourth Test, no one — certainly not Thomson, Walker, Pascoe and Walters — could come between him and his hundredth first-class hundred.

ASHES LOW POINTS

Where do we start? The "George Davis is Innocent" episode in 1975 ranks top. A group of misguided supporters of a mini-cab driver who had been jailed for 20 years for his part in an armed robbery, sabotaged the pitch with oil and knives, ruining a match that England were winning.

David Gower won the toss in 1989 and confidently asked the Aussies to bat first. When the visitors declared at 601 for seven, England were on their way to defeat.

In 1972 freak weather conditions caused the pitch to become infected with a fungus, *Fusarium oxysporum*. But it wasn't all bad: Derek Underwood exploited the conditions, taking 10 for 82.

THRASY PETROPOULOS



BILL FRINDALL'S HEADINGLEY FACTFILE

RESULTS

Played 22 England 6 Australia 8 Drawn 8

*Batted first

Date and Result

	England		Australia		Captains	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	England	Australia
1899 - Drawn	220	19-0	172*	224	A.C. MacLaren	J. Darling
1905 - Drawn	301*	295-5d	195	224-7	F.S. Jackson	J. Darling
1909 - Australia 126 runs	182	87	188*	207	A.C. MacLaren	M.A. Noble
1921 - Australia 219 runs	259	202	407*	273-7d	L.H. Tennyson	W.W. Armstrong
1926 - Drawn	294	254-3	494*	-	A.W. Carr	W. Bardsley
1930 - Drawn	391	95-3	566*	-	A.P.F. Chapman	W.M. Woodfull
1934 - Drawn	200*	229-6	584	-	R.E.S. Wyatt	W.M. Woodfull
1938 - Australia 5 wks	223*	123	242	107-5	W.R. Hammond	D.G. Bradman
1948 - Australia 7 wks	496*	365-8d	458	404-3	N.W.D. Yardley	D.G. Bradman
1953 - Drawn	167*	275	266	147-4	L. Hutton	A.L. Hassett
1956 - England inns & 42 runs	325*	-	143	140	P.B.H. May	I.W. Johnson
1961 - England 8 wks	299	62-2	237*	120	P.B.H. May	R. Benaud
1964 - Australia 7 wks	268*	229	389	111-3	E.R. Dexter	R.B. Simpson
1968 - Drawn	302	230-4	315*	312	T.W. Graveney	B.N. Jarman
1972 - England 9 wks	263	21-1	146*	136	R. Illingworth	I.M. Chappell
1975 - Drawn	288*	291	135	220-3	A.W. Greig	I.M. Chappell
1977 - England inns & 85 runs	436*	-	103	248	J.M. Brearley	G.S. Chappell
1981 - England 18 runs	174	356	401-9d*	111	J.M. Brearley	K.J. Hughes
1985 - England 5 wks	533	123-5	331*	324	D.I. Gower	A.R. Border
1989 - Australia 210 runs	430	191	601-7d*	230-3d	D.I. Gower	A.R. Border
1993 - Australia inns & 148 runs	200	305	653-4d*	-	G.A. Gooch	A.R. Border
1997 - Australia inns & 61 runs	172*	268	501-9d	-	M.A. Atherton	M.A. Taylor

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET - England

1st	168	L. Hutton (81)/C. Washbrook (143)	1948
2nd	112	J.H. Edrich (62)/D.S. Steele (73)	1975
3rd	153	W.J. Edrich (111)/A.V. Bedser (79)	1948
4th	187	P.B.H. May (101)/C. Washbrook (98)	1956
5th	133	N. Hussain (105)/J.P. Crawley (72)	1997
6th	123	G. Boycott (191)/A.P.E. Knott (57)	1977
7th	93	T.W. Hayward (40*)/A.F.A. Lilley (55)	1899
8th	117	I.T. Botham (149*)/G.R. Dillley (56)	1981
9th	108	G. Geary (35*)/G.G. Macaulay (76)	1926
10th	61	D.J. Brown (14)/D.L. Underwood (45*)	1968

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET - Australia

1st	86	M.J. Slater (67)/M.A. Taylor (27)	1993
2nd	301	A.R. Morris (182)/D.G. Bradman (173*)	1948
3rd	229	D.G. Bradman (334)/A.F. Kippax (77)	1930
4th	388	W.H. Ponsford (181)/D.G. Bradman (304)	1934
5th	268	M.T.G. Elliott (199)/R.T. Ponting (127)	1997
6th	64	M.T.G. Elliott (199)/I.A. Healy (31)	1997
7th	147	S.R. Waugh (177*)/M.G. Hughes (71)	1989
8th	105	P.J.P. Burge (160)/N.J.N. Hawke (37)	1964
9th	89	P.J.P. Burge (160)/A.T.W. Grout (37)	1964
10th	55	R.R. Lindwall (77)/E.R.H. Toshack (12*)	1948

HUNDREDS

England (13)

144*	F.S. Jackson	1905
100	J.T. Tyldesley	1905
119	J.B. Hobbs	1926
127*	E.H. Hendren	1926
113	W.R. Hammond	1930
143	C. Washbrook	1948
111	W.J. Edrich	1948
101	P.B.H. May	1956
191	G. Boycott	1977
149*	I.T. Botham	1981
175	R.T. Robinson	1985
125	A.J. Lamb	1989
105	N. Hussain	1997

Australia (22)

115	C.G. Macartney	1921
193*	W. Bardsley	1926
133*	C.G. Macartney	1926
334	D.G. Bradman	1930
181	W.H. Ponsford	1934
304	D.G. Bradman	1934
103	D.G. Bradman	1938
112	R.N. Harvey	1948
182	A.R. Morris	1948
173*	D.G. Bradman	1948
122	R.N. Harvey	1953
130	W.M. Lawry	1961
160	P.J.P. Burge	1964
102	J. Dyson	1981
119	A.M.J. Hilditch	1985
136	M.A. Taylor	1989
177*	S.R. Waugh	1989
107	D.C. Boon	1993
200*	A.R. Border	1993
157*	S.R. Waugh	1993
199	M.T.G. Elliott	1997
127	R.T. Ponting	1997

BEST BOWLING ANALYSES

- INNINGS

England

8-43 R.G.D. Willis 1981

Australia

7-37 J.N. Gillespie 1997

Five wickets in an innings

England (17)

5-57	A. Warren	1905
6-63	S.F. Barnes	1909
5-124	M.W. Tate	1930
6-142	W.E. Bowes	1934
6-95	A.V. Bedser	1953
5-58	J.C. Laker	1956
6-55	J.C. Laker	1956
5-58	F.S. Trueman	1961
6-30	F.S. Trueman	1961
6-87	R. Illingworth	1968
6-45	D.L. Underwood	1972
5-28	P.H. Edmunds	1975
5-21	I.T. Botham	1977
6-95	I.T. Botham	1981
8-43	R.G.D. Willis	1981
5-82	J.E. Emburey	1985
5-149	D. Gough	1997

Australia (20)

5-60	H. Trumble	1899
5-122	W.W. Armstrong	1905
7-58	C.G. Macartney	1909
5-38	A. Catter	1909
5-88	C.V. Grimmett	1926
5-135	C.V. Grimmett	1930
5-66	W.J.O. Reilly	1938
5-56	W.J.O. Reilly	1938
5-54	R.R. Lindwall	1953
5-63	A.K. Davidson	1961
5-75	N.J.N. Hawke	1964
5-72	A.N. Connolly	1968
5-114	A.A. Mallett	1972
6-85	G.J. Gilmour	1975
6-135	T.M. Alderman	1981
5-107	T.M. Alderman	1989
5-44	T.M. Alderman	1989
5-65	P.R. Reiffel	1993
7-37	J.N. Gillespie	1997
5-49	P.R. Reiffel	1997

Ten wickets in a match

England

11-113	J.C. Laker	1956
11-88	F.S. Trueman	1961
10-82	D.L. Underwood	1972

Australia

11-85	C.G. Macartney	1909
10-122	W.J.O. Reilly	1938
10-151	T.M. Alderman	1989

Hat-tricks

England

J.T. Hearne 1899

HIGHEST TOTALS

England	533	1985
Australia	653-4 dec	1993

LOWEST TOTALS

England	87	1909
Australia	103	1977

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

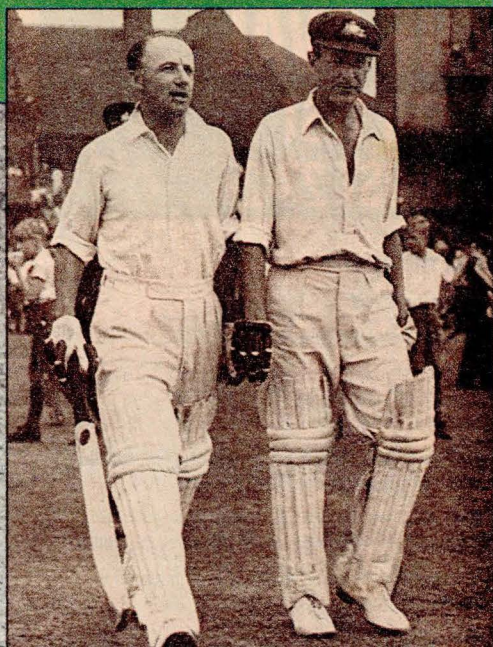
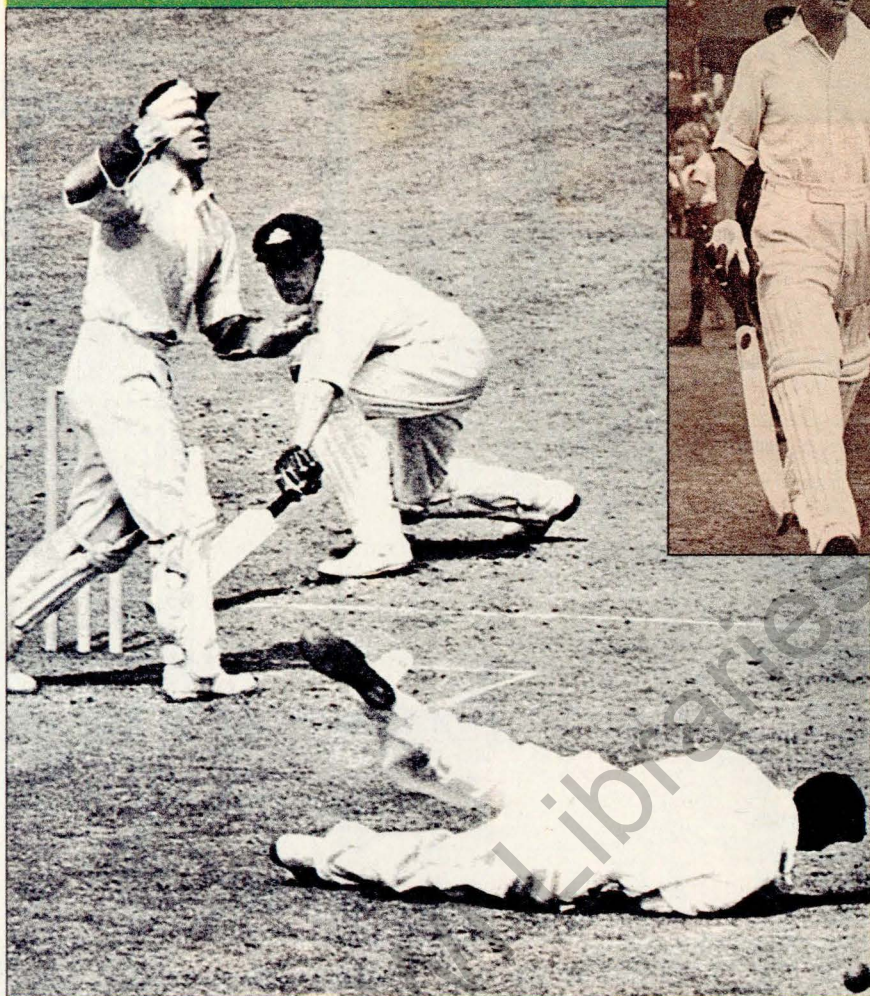
England

191 G. Boycott 1977

Australia

334 D.G. Bradman 1930





Left: Don Bradman is dropped by Jack Crapp at slip, one of several fielding lapses that opened the way for Australia's win. Above: Bradman and Arthur Morris resume their match-winning partnership of 301. The Don was 173 not out at the end

HEADINGLEY: THE GREAT MATCH

Fourth Test, 1948

This was a match notable for the calculated brilliance of the Australians. Where Botham and Willis's performance here in 1981 was explosive but unrepeatable, that of Don Bradman and Arthur Morris in the first postwar Ashes series was ground-breaking. In a match Bradman had expected to lose, Australia chased more than 400 to win.

They had dominated the series, with victories in the first two Tests and a draw in the third, and they arrived here with all eyes on The Don. This was to be his last appearance at the ground where, in 1930 and 1934, he had scored triple centuries.

But it was England who took the early honours. Len Hutton, recalled after being controversially omitted from the previous Test for a perceived weakness against Australia's fast bowlers, scored 81, and centuries from Cyril Washbrook and Bill Edrich took the home side to 496.

In reply Australia were in trouble, with Bradman out for 33. But they fought back to 458, largely through Neil Harvey, aged 19, scoring a century on his Ashes debut.

In their second innings, England pressed home their advantage, declaring on 365 for eight to leave Australia needing 404 for victory in 344 minutes, a feat never previously accomplished.

With attacking fields, time would not be a factor. Survival against Jim Laker's off-spin and Denis Compton's left-arm wrist-spin would, however, be less straightforward.

Three times Bradman offered chances that were missed; Godfrey Evans made error upon error behind the stumps, and, with Laker unable to make the most of a wearing pitch, Australia made healthy progress.

Assuming spin to be the likeliest path to victory, Norman Yardley, the England captain, turned to Hutton's occasional leg-breaks, but he was immediately thumped for three fours by Morris.

Morris was eventually dismissed, ending a partnership of 301 with Bradman. It was to Harvey that the honour fell to hit the winning run with 15 minutes remaining. Bradman took leave of Headingley with 173 not out, bringing his aggregate at the ground to 963 at 192.6.

THRASY PETROPOULOS

THE OVAL FIFTH TEST AUGUST 23-27

FOR THE RECORD

Capacity 18,500

Ticket availability (days 1 to 4) Sold out

- The first match was played on May 13, 1845. Surrey CCC was formed the same year, after Gentlemen of Surrey had taken on Players of Surrey
- England and Scotland contested the first football match at the ground on November 19, 1870
- In 1872 the first FA Cup Final, between Royal Engineers and Wanderers, was played at the ground
- Regular rugby union matches were added from 1875, including England v Ireland in 1875
- In 1891 it was decided that too much damage was being done to the playing surface and football ceased to be staged regularly after 1895
- The first Test match was played from September 6 to 8, 1880, when England beat Australia by five wickets, with W.G. Grace hitting a century on his debut
- The Test that spawned the Ashes came two years later. England were beaten by Australia by seven runs and the *Sporting Life* carried a mock obituary
- The Oval is the only cricket ground in Lambeth
- Planning permission has been requested from Lambeth Borough Council for a £20 million redevelopment

ASHES HIGH POINT

Can there have been a more one-sided Test than the 1938 Ashes contest at The Oval? Three records fell England's way, two of which still stand — Len Hutton's 364 passed the previous highest individual score in Tests (Don Bradman's 334), England declared on 903 for seven, the highest team score, and England won by an innings and 579, still a record margin in all Tests.

ASHES LOW POINT

In the space of a few minutes, Don Bradman was given two standing ovations from the Oval crowd in 1948 — the first on his way to the wicket and the second on his way back, having been bowled second ball for a duck by Eric Hollies, the spinner. The ball that ended the Don's last Test innings, in which he needed a mere four runs to end with an average of 100, was a googly. The crowd cheered, the England players doffed their caps and Bradman, legend has it, wiped a tear or two from his eye.

THRASY PETROPOULOS



BILL FRINDALL'S OVAL FACTFILE

RESULTS

Played 32

England 15

Australia 5

Drawn 12

* Batted first

Date and Result

	England		Australia	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
1880 — England 5 wks	420*	57-5	149	327
1882 — Australia 7 runs	101	77	63*	122
1884 — Drawn	346	85-2	551*	—
1886 — England inns & 217 runs	434*	—	68	149
1888 — England inns & 137 runs	317	—	80*	100
1890 — England 2 wks	100	95-8	92*	102
1893 — England inns & 43 runs	483*	—	91	349
1896 — England 66 runs	145*	84	119	44
1899 — Drawn	576*	—	352	254-5
1902 — England 1 wkt	183	263-9	324*	121
1905 — Drawn	430*	261-6d	363	124-4
1909 — Drawn	352	104-3	325*	339-5d
1912 — England 244 runs	245*	175	111	65
1921 — Drawn	403-8d*	244-2	389	—
1926 — England 289 runs	280*	436	302	125
1930 — Australia inns & 39 runs	405*	251	695	—
1934 — Australia 562 runs	321	145	701*	327
1938 — England inns & 579 runs	903-7d*	—	201	123
1948 — Australia inns & 149 runs	52*	188	389	—
1953 — England 8 wks	306	132-2	275*	162
1956 — Drawn	247*	182-3d	202	27-5
1961 — Drawn	256*	370-8	494	—
1964 — Drawn	182*	381-4	379	—
1968 — England 226 runs	494*	181	324	125
1972 — Australia 5 wks	284*	356	399	242-5
1975 — Drawn	191	538	532-9d*	40-2
1977 — Drawn	214*	57-2	385	—
1981 — Drawn	314	261-7	352*	344-9d
1985 — England inns & 94 runs	464*	—	241	129
1989 — Drawn	285	143-5	468*	219-4d
1993 — England 161 runs	380*	313	303	229
1997 — England 19 runs	180*	163	220	104

Captains

England	Australia
Lord Harris	W.L.Murdoch
A.N.Hornby	W.L.Murdoch
Lord Harris	W.L.Murdoch
A.G.Steel	H.J.H.Scott
W.G.Grace	P.S.McDonnell
W.G.Grace	W.L.Murdoch
W.G.Grace	J.M.Blackham
W.G.Grace	G.H.S.Trott
A.C.MacLaren	J.Darling
A.C.MacLaren	J.Darling
F.S.Jackson	J.Darling
A.C.MacLaren	M.A.Noble
C.B.Fry	S.E.Gregory
L.H.Tennyson	W.W.Armstrong
A.P.F.Chapman	H.L.Collins
R.E.S.Wyatt	W.M.Woodfull
R.E.S.Wyatt	W.M.Woodfull
W.R.Hammond	D.G.Bradman
N.W.D.Yardley	D.G.Bradman
L.Hutton	A.L.Hassett
P.B.H.May	I.W.Johnson
P.B.H.May	R.Benaud
E.R.Dexter	R.B.Simpson
M.C.Cowdrey	W.M.Lawry
R.Illingworth	I.M.Chappell
A.W.Greig	I.M.Chappell
J.M.Breareley	G.S.Chappell
J.M.Breareley	K.J.Hughes
D.I.Gower	A.R.Border
D.I.Gower	A.R.Border
M.A.Atherton	A.R.Border
M.A.Atherton	M.A.Taylor

BEST BOWLING ANALYSES — INNINGS

England

7-36 G.A.Lohmann 1886

Australia

8-65 H.Trumble 1902

Five wickets in an innings

England (33)

5-56 F.Morley 1880

5-19 R.G.Barlow 1882

7-36 G.A.Lohmann 1886

5-68 G.A.Lohmann 1886

5-25 J.Briggs 1888

5-32 W.Barnes 1888

6-50 F.Martin 1890

6-52 F.Martin 1890

5-34 J.Briggs 1893

5-114 J.Briggs 1893

6-41 J.T.Hearne 1896

6-23 R.Peel 1896

7-71 W.H.Lockwood 1899

5-77 G.H.Hirst 1902

5-45 W.H.Lockwood 1902

5-110 W.Breareley 1905

5-146 D.W.Carr 1909

5-30 S.F.Barnes 1912

5-29 F.E.Woolley 1912

5-20 F.E.Woolley 1912

6-204 I.A.R.Peebles 1930

5-55 W.E.Bowes 1934

5-98 E.W.Clark 1934

5-49 W.E.Bowes 1938

5-131 W.E.Hollies 1948

5-45 G.A.R.Lock 1953

7-50 D.L.Underwood 1968

5-102 R.G.D.Willis 1977

6-125 I.T.Botham 1981

5-46 R.M.Ellison 1985

5-87 A.R.C.Fraser 1993

7-66 P.C.R.Tufnell 1997

5-42 A.R.Caddick 1997

Australia (26)

7-46 F.R.Spofforth 1882

7-44 F.R.Spofforth 1882

6-112 C.T.B.Turner 1888

5-49 J.J.Ferris 1890

7-128 G.Giffen 1893

6-59 H.Trumble 1896

6-30 H.Trumble 1896

8-65 H.Trumble 1902

7-148 A.Cotter 1905

6-95 A.Cotter 1909

7-25 G.R.Hazlitt 1912

5-143 E.A.McDonald 1921

6-138 A.A.Mailey 1926

7-92 P.M.Hornbrook 1930

5-64 C.V.Grimmett 1934

6-20 R.R.Lindwall 1948

5-53 R.G.Archer 1956

5-121 K.D.Mackay 1961

6-47 N.J.N.Hawke 1964

5-58 D.K.Lillee 1972

5-123 D.K.Lillee 1972

5-63 M.F.Malone 1977

7-89 D.K.Lillee 1981

5-66 T.M.Alderman 1989

7-76 G.D.McGrath 1997

7-36 M.S.Kasprowicz 1997

HUNDREDS

England (27)

152	W.G.Grace	1880
117	W.W.Read	1884
170	W.G.Grace	1886
103	F.S.Jackson	1893
118	F.S.Jackson	1899
137	T.W.Hayward	1899
104	G.L.Jessop	1902
144	C.B.Fry	1905
112*	J.T.Tyldesley	1905
105	J.Sharp	1909
182*	C.P.Mead	1921
102*	C.A.G.Russell	1921
100	J.B.Hobbs	1926
161	H.Sutcliffe	1926
161	H.Sutcliffe	1930
110	M.Leyland	1934
364	L.Hutton	1938
187	M.Leyland	1938
169*	J.Hardstaff, jr	1938
137	R.Subba Row	1961
113	G.Boycott	1964
164	J.H.Edrich	1968
158	B.L.D'Oliveira	1968
149	R.A.Woolmer	1975
137	G.Boycott	1981
196	G.A.Gooch	1985
157	D.I.Gower	1985

HUNDREDS

Australia (23)

153*	W.L.Murdoch	1880
103	P.S.McDonnell	1884
211	W.L.Murdoch	1884
102	H.J.H.Scott	1884
117	S.E.Gregory	1899
146	R.A.Duff	1905
136	W.Bardsley	1909
130	W.Bardsley	1909
110	W.H.Ponsford	1930
232	D.G.Bradman	1930
266	W.H.Ponsford	1934
244	D.G.Bradman	1934
196	A.R.Morris	1948
117	N.C.O'Neill	1961
181	P.J.P.Burge	1961
135	W.M.Lawry	1968
118	I.M.Chappell	1972
113	G.S.Chappell	1972
127	R.B.McCusker	1975
192	I.M.Chappell	1975
106*	A.R.Border	1981
103	D.M.Wellham	1981
122	D.M.Jones	1989

HIGHEST TOTALS

England 903-7 dec 1938

Australia 701 1934

LOWEST TOTALS

England 52 1948

Australia 44 1896

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES

England

364 L.Hutton 1938

Australia

266 W.H.Ponsford 1934

TEN WICKETS IN A MATCH

England (7)

12-104 G.A.Lohmann 1886

12-102 F.Martin 1890

10-148 J.Briggs 1893

10-60 J.T.Hearne 1896

10-49 F.E.Woolley 1912

10-253 I.T.Botham 1981

11-93 P.C.R.Tufnell 1997

Australia (5)

14-90 F.R.Spofforth 1882

12-89 H.Trumble 1896

12-173 H.Trumble 1902

10-181 D.K.Lillee 1972

11-159 D.K.Lillee 1981



England's Bill Lockwood
bowling to Victor Trumper

THE OVAL: THE GREAT MATCH

Fifth Test, 1902

George Hirst and Wilfred Rhodes are supposed to have agreed to "get them in singles" in this famous victory when, as England's last pair, they came together with 15 runs still needed. Unlikely story.

"Ones" they would have called them, not singles and, in any case, Rhodes's first scoring stroke was a four through the slips. But the unlikeliest story is that England should have been in a position to win at all.

Throughout a long, wet summer, fortune smiled on Australia. Bowled out for 36, they were saved by rain in the first match at Edgbaston and, by the fifth and final Test, they were 2-0 up, having won the fourth, at Old Trafford, by three runs.

The pattern continued at the Oval, where England were undone by Hugh Trumble's medium-pace off-cutters (eight for 65). By lunch on the second day Australia were batting again, with a first-innings lead of 141. Although they struggled to 114 for eight by the close, overnight rain freshened the uncovered pitch and they added only seven runs the next day.

Few gave England a chance of reaching the 263 they needed, particularly when they collapsed to 48 for five.

Enter Gilbert "The Croucher" Jessop, so called because of his distinctive batting stance. Seventy-five minutes later he was celebrating his century, a "restrained" innings, as he later described what is still the fastest century in Ashes contests. By then Australia's bowlers had wilted.

Renowned as one of the fiercest hitters of the ball, Jessop scored 15 of his 53 first-class hundreds inside an hour at a time when sixes were recorded only when the ball was hit out of the ground. By the time he was out, caught at square leg, 76 runs were needed with three wickets in hand.

Bill Lockwood and Dick Lilley came and went (Lockwood scoring an invaluable 16) before Rhodes joined Hirst. Hirst ended with 58 not out, though it was to Rhodes that the honour fell of scoring the winning "one" — "whereat", *Sporting Life* reported next day, "the crowd yelled with delight — and cheered until they were hoarse".

A pitch invasion ensued and, amid the airborne hats, scarves and umbrellas, Hirst was chaired off the field by the excited crowd.

THRASY PETROPOULOS

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET — England

1st	185	F.S.Jackson (118)/T.W.Hayward (137)	1899
2nd	382	L.Hutton (364)/M.Leyland (187)	1938
3rd	135	L.Hutton (364)/W.R.Hammond (59)	1938
4th	156	P.B.H.May (83*)/D.C.S.Compton (94)	1956
5th	172	R.Subba Row (137)/K.F.Barrington (83)	1961
6th	215	L.Hutton (364)/J.Hardstaff, jr (169*)	1938
7th	142	J.Sharp (105)/K.L.Hutchings (59)	1909
8th	90	W.W.Read (94)/J.Briggs (53)	1886
9th	151	W.H.Scotton (90)/W.W.Read (117)	1884
10th	58	G.A.Lohmann (62*)/H.Wood (8)	1888

HIGHEST PARTNERSHIPS FOR EACH WICKET — Australia

1st	180	S.E.Gregory (74)/W.Bardsley (130)	1909
2nd	451	W.H.Ponsford (266)/D.G.Bradman (244)	1934
3rd	207	W.L.Murdoch (211)/H.J.H.Scott (102)	1884
4th	243	D.G.Bradman (232)/A.A.Jackson (73)	1930
5th	185	P.J.P.Burge (181)/B.C.Booth (71)	1961
6th	86	D.M.Wellham (103)/R.W.Marsh (52)	1981
7th	107	H.L.Collins (61)/J.M.Gregory (73)	1926
8th	83	S.E.Gregory (117)/C.E.McLeod (31*)	1899
9th	100	M.H.N.Walker (78*)/M.F.Malone (46)	1977
10th	88	W.L.Murdoch (153*)/W.H.Moule (34)	1880



KEITH HAYHURST (above), chairman of the Cricket Memorabilia Society, has been curator of the Old Trafford museum since its creation, in 1983. He spoke to Paul Fitzpatrick about his broad collection of Ashes memorabilia

1 THORNE'S SUPER CREAM TOFFEE TIN

This is a souvenir of Australia's visit in 1926 and includes photographs of the



tourists. On the lid is a scene from a Melbourne Test. Valuation: £300.

2 BAGGY GREEN CAP

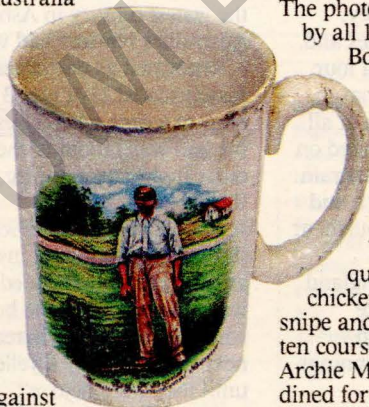
A cap belonging to Victor Trumper sold for £15,000. What price Bradman's? This one was worn by Allan Border, the Australia captain, when they secured the 1989 Ashes series with a nine-wicket win at Old Trafford. Border was the first Australia captain



since Woodfull in 1934 to regain the Ashes in England. Valuation: £1,500.

3 CERAMIC STAFFORDSHIRE MUG

Depicts the incomparable S.F. Barnes, who spent most of his career playing league cricket but lays claim to being the best bowler ever. The "brilliant bowling by Barnes" on this occasion came during the 1908-09 tour to Australia



against a New South Wales side that included Trumper, Noble and McCartney. Barnes took six for 24. Valuation: £400.

4 SILVER ASHTRAY

Douglas Jardine, captain of England on the Bodyline tour of Australia in 1932-33, gave away 16 such ashtrays to the men who helped him to win the most acrimonious series yet between the two countries. This one is

CALL COLLECT: KEITH HAYHURST GLOWING SOUVENIRS FROM THE ASHES

inscribed "To Herb for the Ashes 1932-33 from a grateful Skipper". "Herb" was Herbert Sutcliffe. Valuation: £2,000.

5 SILVER TRAVELLING WATCH

Another memento from the Bodyline tour. This watch, depicting St George on one side and a kangaroo on the other, was given to Wally Hammond by "Fergy", a wealthy Scottish businessman who had travelled around Australia with England. Valuation: £2,000.

6 FRAMED PHOTO OF SS ORONTES

When the ship left England for Australia in 1932 carrying the MCC team, no one could have foreseen that a few months later diplomatic relations between the two countries would come close to being broken off. The photograph is signed by all 17 members of the Bodyline squad. Valuation: £1,000.

7 FAREWELL DINNER MENUS AND FIXTURE CARDS

Whiting, quenelles of chicken, turtle soup, snipe and quail were on a ten course menu when Archie MacLaren's men dined for the final time at the Melbourne Cricket Club on March 6, 1902. Plum Warner's side ate no less well at a farewell dinner at Melbourne's Grand Hotel two years later. Valuation (all items): £400.

8 SILVER AND BAKELITE CIGARETTE LIGHTER

Roy Tattersall, Lancashire's outstanding off-spinner, had the misfortune to be playing at the same time as Jim

Laker, but he contributed to England's recapture of the Ashes in 1953, taking three for 22 in the first Test, including the wicket of Arthur Morris, and received this lighter by way of recognition. Valuation: £400.

9 SONG OF THE ASHES (1926)

Such song sheets were at one time popular but were doomed once television arrived. The scarcely memorable words were written by F.C. Wrightson to music composed by Alfred J. Hodges. They chose the right man for the picture on the front, though. He is Jack Hobbs, who had an outstanding series, scoring 486 runs for an average of 81.00. Valuation: £200.

10 CRICKET STUMP

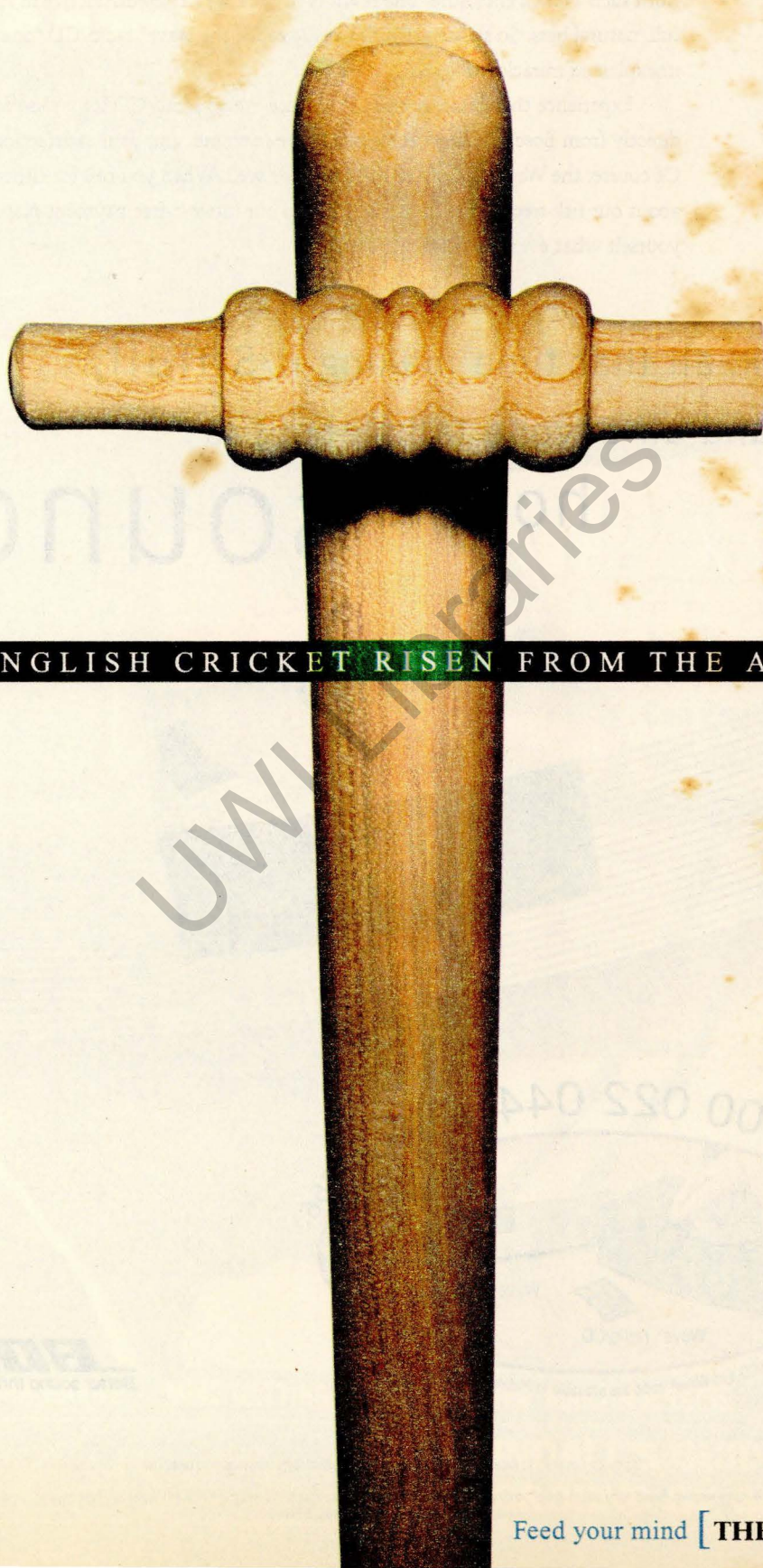
The 1956 Test at Old Trafford will be for ever remembered for Jim Laker's 19 wickets. But Laker was not the only start of the match. David Sheppard, who afterwards became Bishop of Liverpool, made 113 in the first innings for England. One of the stumps from that game, held by Keith Hayhurst (main picture),



was presented to Sheppard. Valuation: £2,000.

11 TEAM SHEET

This signed team sheet of one of the most powerful sides to play in England, Don Bradman's all-conquering 1948 Australians. Valuation: £1,000.



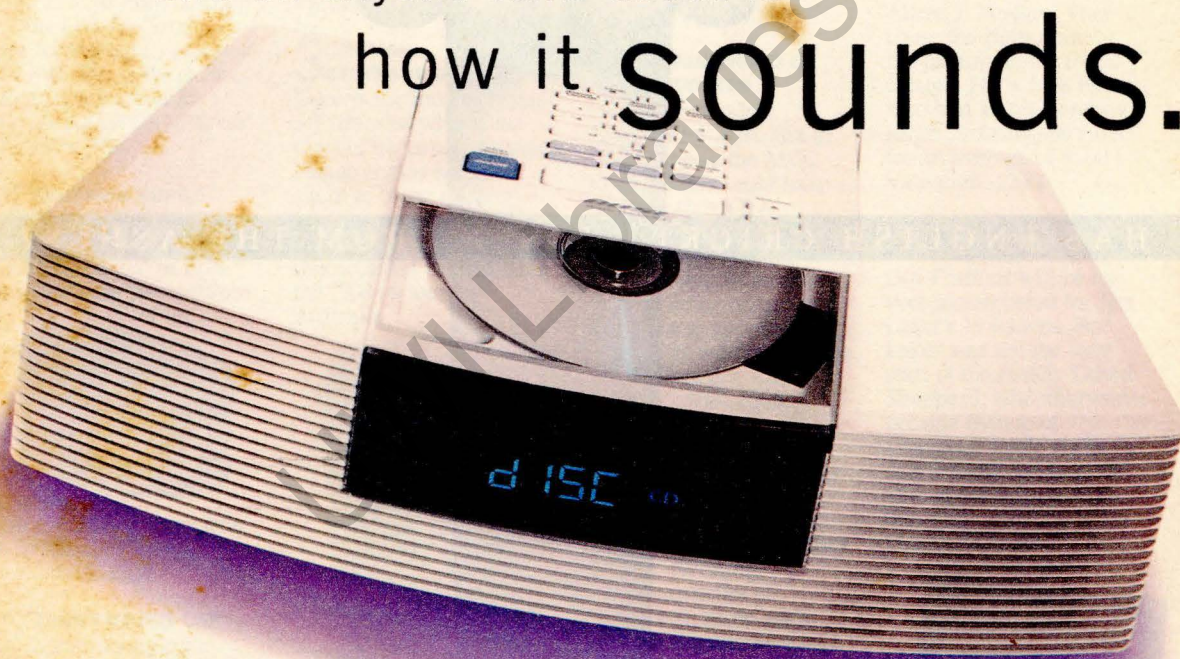
HAS ENGLISH CRICKET RISEN FROM THE ASHES?

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