

THE CRICKETERS OF HAMPSTEAD HOCKEY CLUB

The Men of the Eyre Arms and the first 20 years
1894 to 1914

*Hampstead and
Westminster
Hockey Club*

The Cricketers of Hampstead Hockey Club
The first 20 years; 1894 to 1914

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Note

This account is an attempt to throw light, predominantly from a cricketing perspective, on the circumstances in which Hampstead Hockey Club evolved and the key individuals who oversaw its transformation from a hockey-playing section of Hampstead Cricket Club into a leading hockey club in England within a little more than a decade. It is certainly not intended as a record of the first twenty years of the club, as that has been covered more skilfully by club historian, Colin Greenhalgh.

More is known of some of these individuals than others. The contents may therefore appear out of balance. Much is taken up with the exploits of Andrew Stoddart but without apology, as his was a remarkable sporting record that has remained virtually unparalleled and was a life that, like several of his sporting contemporaries, ended in tragic circumstances.

His story was itself recorded in part in his own albums of cuttings that were thought to be preparatory to a memoir. That never materialised but the contents were taken up by his biographer, David Frith, who felt compelled to write because "here was a wonderful cricketer who has been piteously neglected by historians".

In some cases short records of the lives or contributions of others not directly related to Hampstead Cricket Club or Hampstead Hockey Club had been added where it is hoped they may be of interest.

Further to put matters into context some aspects of the development of rugby, cricket and hockey have been incorporated too, as the period covered by this account was one of significant change that in many ways led to the ways in which rugby and cricket are played today. By contrast, hockey has perhaps proved more radical and latterly rugby has taken confidence from that to introduce change itself.

Owing to the superior way in which cricket has maintained its historical records, much of this account has been based upon cricketing data. Access to the minute books of Hampstead Hockey Club from inception to the outbreak of World War One has also proved invaluable.

Preface

The inspiration for this account is an after-dinner speech to the Vice Presidents and Friends of Hampstead and Westminster Hockey Club by Colin Greenhalgh, the former Secretary of Hampstead Hockey Club, revealing the background to the innings of Andrew Stoddart of Hampstead Cricket Club, in which he scored a record 485 in a one day club match.

A number of chapters cover elements of the sporting life of *Stodd* or *Drewy* (whichever was your particular game) covered in far greater detail in his biography, *My Dear Victorious Stod*, written by David Frith, which he has subsequently augmented in *Stoddy: England's Finest Sportsman*, published in 2015.

It coincides with the celebration by Hampstead Cricket Club of its 150th anniversary. It was also a little more than 120 years ago when Hampstead Hockey Club was formed. It also reflects upon the outbreak of World War One that led to an abandonment of club hockey, at least in the London area, until resumption in 1919 and in which six club members sadly lost their lives:

G Bagnall
P Collins
H P Davis
C H Eiloart
G F Farmiloe
R A Hill

The aim is to add some detail to the lives of those who established Hampstead Hockey Club or who were more prominent members up to 1914. In its early years Hampstead Hockey Club quickly gained a reputation as a leading club in the land. This was assisted by its successful Olympians in the 1908 games and the four club members who were to win gold medals at the slightly more taxing Olympic Games of 1920 in Antwerp.

There then came the appreciation that many of the leading hockey players were cricketers and that several played first class cricket (in addition to representing Hampstead Cricket Club at a time when it was equally strong in reputation).

This review was also prompted by the scorecard for the game at Lord's on 18 and 19 June 1900 against MCC. The batting line up for Hampstead comprised at least eight members of the Hockey Club. And in 1901, all the players in the usual line up of the Hampstead Hockey Club's 1st XI were also members of Hampstead Cricket Club. Only three did not play regularly for the Cricket Club.

Much of this account relies heavily on the *History of Hampstead Cricket Club* written by F R D'O Monro, another who played for both teams. Detailed information has also been discovered by access to statistical websites that do the world of cricket proud.

Introduction

It is beyond argument that Hampstead Hockey Club owes its origins to Hampstead Cricket Club.

The Cricket Club is reported to have formed a section for hockey players in 1890 and to have established a sub-Committee to run hockey affairs. Some reports suggest that there may have been a hockey section even earlier.

The *Richmond and Twickenham Times* contains a report in its edition of 29 December 1874 (made available by research for Teddington Hockey Club) of a return match between Richmond and Hampstead that resulted in a “decided victory for Hampstead, as they obtained four goals... to nothing.” The newspaper added that whilst the Hampstead team was a strong one, Richmond “suffered from three good players not turning up”.

Richmond had played what was thought to be the first competitive hockey match on 7 November 1874 against Teddington that ended in a 1-1 draw. Later in 1875 at Richmond HC’s prompting, seven clubs joined to form the first Hockey Association.

The hockey playing section of Hampstead seceded from the Cricket Club in 1894 owing to waterlogged pitches in the winter but perhaps in part also prompted by friction in the preceding year. Some non-members had represented the hockey section when there were insufficient cricketers to fulfil a fixture list containing two matches each week that the Cricket Club had previously agreed to.

But not all cricketers who played for Hampstead Hockey Club emanated from Hampstead Cricket Club. There are at least two others who played until the outbreak of war in 1914 and represented England and Great Britain. They played for other cricket clubs and deserve inclusion in this brief review.

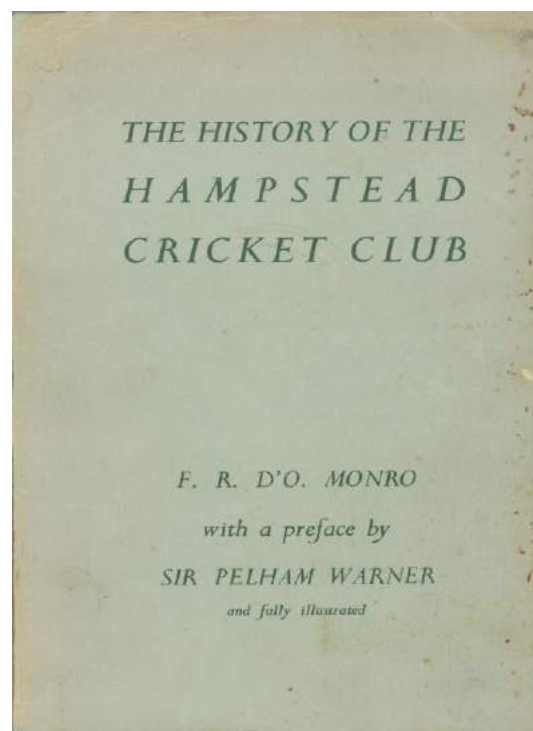
However, as Colin Greenhalgh mentions in his *Short History of Hampstead Hockey Club* from 1894 to 1969, much of the credit for the great playing days of the Hockey Club in the early 1900’s “must go to the very fine cricketers who continued to join from Hampstead Cricket Club.” Several represented Middlesex when such representation, in hockey terms at least, was more significant than perhaps it is today.

Cricket has a significant advantage when it comes to record keeping and statistics, given its longer recorded history and playing analyses that concentrate on individual performance far more than in hockey. Cricket has been more widely researched and, for example, can lay claim to websites that specialise in arcane detail of matches long ago that hockey cannot match. This makes more easy access to information about individual players and their clubs.

The Cricketers of Hampstead Hockey Club
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As stated earlier, this review draws in large measure upon F R D'O Monro's book first published in 1949.



Not all this was of course available to Freddie Monro, who, as mentioned, was another cricketer who also joined Hampstead Hockey Club. He relied upon the library at Lord's and publications such as Lillywhites, *The Guide to Cricketers*, MCC Scores and Biographies and *Wisden's Almanac*, as well as the files of the *Hampstead and Highgate Express*, without access to which, he states, "it would be difficult to write any book dealing with Hampstead affairs".

The Cricket Club also produced a *Hampstead Year Book* in the latter part of the 1800's. In 1894, it mentioned that the issue of such an annual record "may possibly seem to some an expense unessential to the need of a cricket club." But it added that on reflection, members would appreciate that they were privileged "in sharing a period certainly unique in our own history, probably without parallel in the record of any other cricket club." Results then showed, for the past three years, 107 matches won against 28 losses. Sadly despite expressed sentiments of possessing "a tangible reminiscence which our children and our grandchildren may dwell upon with pride" prophetically this appears to have been the last such publication.

However, there is much detail left to allow a study into the players and their records to sit alongside the exploits of Hampstead Hockey Club, whose values and traditions remained much the same in those early years.

When in a preface to his History, Freddie Monro mentions that cricket may well be "a game that attracts good fellows or it may be that the playing of this game makes men into good fellows, however that may be, I have never met better fellows than the members of Hampstead Cricket Club." He was glad to say that this was as true then as ever it was throughout his many years as a member. There are many in Hampstead and Westminster Hockey Club who would loudly echo those sentiments today for their own club.

The Men of the Eyre Arms

A little more than 120 years ago, 17 gentlemen met to form Hampstead Hockey Club. We have initials for a few but in some cases only a surname, displaying some of the difficulties frequently encountered by takers of minutes of meetings.

This meeting was convened at the Eyre Arms and Assembly Rooms, now sadly demolished. The site of the hotel is on the opposite side of the Finchley Road from the entrance to St John's Wood underground station. It was also known as a tavern and described in 1894 as being in Hampstead but, it has to be said, is at its southernmost extreme.

This was a grand building, capable of accommodating 1,500. It included a concert room and was in extensive grounds. It was named after the Eyre family, whose substantial landed estate bordered those of Lord Portman and the Duke of Portland. Colonel Eyre was influential in the development of Hampstead by first building a turnpike that connected St John's Wood to Finchley in 1827.

We know that following that meeting the hockey section of the Cricket Club was declared no longer to exist and the Hockey Club was formed.

The pioneers who attended that important meeting, may properly be hailed as the founders of Hampstead Hockey Club:

John Besch, C D D McMillin, J N Brown, G W Ravenor, Giles, Cyril Toller, Rutland, B Brown, Warren Hale, Lawrence, Mergerstein, Petty, Bishop, Danver, S Brown, H R Lipscombe and William Danby.

J G Q Besch

The first person to be prominent in the affairs of Hampstead Hockey Club when nascent as the hockey section of the Cricket Club was J G Q Besch or to give his full names, John George Quiddington Besch, who was born in June 1861 and died on 24 March 1940 in Brondesbury.

He is recorded as playing for Oakham School when aged 17 and a player for Hampstead Cricket Club from 1886 until 1894.

John Besch was the spokesman for the hockey section when the question of non-members playing hockey first raised its head at a general meeting of the Hampstead Cricket Club in 1893. His was the *apologia*, as described by Freddie Monro that explained the inability of the hockey section to fulfil its allocated fixtures referred to previously.

At that meeting the Cricket Club resolved that the hockey sub-committee had exceeded its powers in admitting non-members of the Cricket Club to play hockey but that the arrangements for the present season were "to be carried out".

At a later meeting, another hockey section representative, H R Lipscombe, who later became the Honorary Secretary of Hampstead Hockey Club and was appointed captain of the 1st XI, had told the Cricket Club of the “very successful results” of the matches played. However, he had to add that a number of matches had to be scratched “owing to the wet state of the ground”. He said that it was useless to arrange fixtures in the winter and proposed that a new ground be found and that “the hockey section be allowed to manage its own affairs”.

This may have led to or equally may have preceded the general meeting of the hockey section at the Eyre Arms that agreed to propose to the Cricket Club that “the permission of the Cricket Club be asked for the Hockey Section to control its own affairs”.

The Committee of the Cricket Club then resolved, as Freddie Monro describes, that in view of the wet state of the ground no more hockey was to be played there without the sanction of the Committee. Further, that the hockey section should cease to exist and that Hampstead Hockey Club “(late hockey section of the Cricket Club)” be allowed to wear the Cricket Club’s present colours.

There followed the first general meeting of Hampstead Hockey Club on 12 April 1894 at the Eyre Arms. As Colin Greenhalgh commented, it would seem the Hockey Club was never formally constituted at that meeting, although it was hoped to play games at Elms Farm near Garden Lane in Acton.

Along with H R Lipscombe’s appointment mentioned earlier, John Besch was appointed Honorary Treasurer and captain of the 2nd XI. He later chaired virtually all meetings of the Hockey Club until at least 1908, along with the Treasurer’s responsibilities.

He had first appeared in the averages of Hampstead Cricket Club in 1885 and is mentioned by Freddie Monro for many years making “a great many runs and [being] an immense help to the Club as an official”. This was the year in which the renowned Andrew Stoddart joined the Cricket Club and was to be recalled in club playing terms particularly for his immense innings in 1886 against the Stoics, reported more fully below.

In the Stoics match that was played on 4 August 1885, John Besch, apparently nicknamed “Daddy”, came in at number three and scored 98, having taken the score from 28-1 to 242-2. He is also mentioned as an opener with Andrew Stoddart in the game against Surbiton on 25 July 1891. This is noted particularly by Freddie Monro as an example of days on which Hampstead Cricket Club occasionally went down “even when their stars were playing for them”.

The Hampstead team included Stoddart, Hale, Thornton and Pawling, as well as the renowned Australian test bowler, Fred Spofforth (who had emigrated to England).

Of the others, he mentions that “Besch, Robertson, Danby and Russell Parker (mentioned below) were amongst the best cricketers in the Club”. Surbiton reportedly also had a strong side at that time. Surbiton scored 159, with

Spofforth taking eight of the wickets but in reply Hampstead could only muster 71, with Stoddart scoring 15 and Besch 13, all ten wickets being shared by A R Holdship and Surbiton's opening batsman, E C Mordaunt.

SURBITON	
E C Mordaunt b Spofforth	36
E B Windeker b Spofforth	0
C A Trouncer b Spofforth	1
A R Holdship c Robertson b Spofforth	56
P Castle b Spofforth	34
A J Hill c & b Parker	0
R W Pochin b Thornton	5
E Castle b Spofforth	0
C H Windeler c Hale b Spofforth	8
H M Trouncer not out	3
R A E Beavan b Spofforth	3
Extras	8
TOTAL	159

HAMPSTEAD	
A E Stoddart c Hill b Holdship	15
J G Q Besch c H Trouncer b Mordaunt	13
A C Robertson c Holdship b Mordaunt	0
W T C H Danby c Mordaunt b Holdship	8
F R Spofforth c Hill b Mordaunt	6
W S Hale c Holdship b Mordaunt	4
G Thornton b Mordaunt	0
A Russell Parker c Castle b Mordaunt	1
G L Jeffery c Mordaunt b Holdship	14
W A Pethick c Beavan b Holdship	4
S S Pawling not out	0
Extras	6
TOTAL	71

A Russell Parker

Mention of A Russell Parker's participation the Surbiton game of 1885 leads to a recollection of his role in the early days of the Hockey Club. He is remembered as the scorer of one of Hampstead Cricket Club's four goals in the Richmond match of 1874, referred to previously.

He was also a pioneer of Hampstead Cricket Club. There is a record of him playing for St John's Wood (Hampstead) Cricket Club in a match on 16 July 1875 against MCC over two innings a side, won by MCC by seven wickets.

He opened the batting for St John's Wood without much distinction but took five MCC wickets in their first innings when they were dismissed for 58, although admittedly some nine runs' improvement on the home score. In the second innings, St John's Wood scored but 47, leaving MCC to score the 39 needed for the win. This they achieved with three wickets down, one falling to Russell Parker. Details of the bowling analyses "could not be secured".

Two years later, on 14 June 1876 there was another meeting of the teams at St John's Wood. The home team scored 63 and in reply MCC managed a lead to reach 163. Russell Parker took eight MCC wickets. In their second innings, St John's Wood had scored 31-5 at the close.

The return match that season involved 12 players per side. It was played at Lord's on 14 and 15 August. St John's Wood won by 10 wickets. On one of the hottest days of a hot summer, MCC managed 86 and 108, with St John's Wood scoring 192 and 3-1.

Later that season, A Russell Parker represented the rather word-ridden Fifteen of the Metropolitan Clubs (North of The Thames) against the MCC on 15 and 16 May, won by the Metropolitan Club by 10 wickets. In the second innings, Russell Parker took three MCC wickets.

It appears that the change of name to The Hampstead Cricket Club took place in 1877, probably after the end of the season

Russell Parker made enquiries on behalf of the Cricket Club about establishing a women's Lawn Tennis club. In April 1878 the Minutes of the Cricket Club mention "consideration of the question of the advisability of recommending to the General Meeting the admission of ladies as Lawn Tennis members". This was only rejected as a proposal by the casting vote of the chairman at the time. It took another 45 years before such a resolution was passed successfully.

Freddie Monro was of the opinion that this must have been a radical proposal at the time and felt it curious that there was so much relative support for it. He suggests holding up a long flowing skirt with one hand would restrict the player's movement with the racket in the other hand! And reportedly, men tended "to serve anything but slowly when serving to a lady".

In any case a resolution was carried "shortly afterwards" that a Ladies Lawn Tennis Club be formed but there is no record that this was actually achieved. The Minutes state that Mr Russell Parker's enquiries had not been successful: he was "unable to obtain any information respecting Lawn Tennis Clubs for ladies."

Yet by 1879 a lawn tennis tournament was arranged and a sub-Committee formed for that purpose. Another attempt was made in 1880 to allow women tennis players to be admitted as members but that was once again narrowly lost, by ten votes to nine.

On 9 July 1878, Hampstead once again took on MCC on their ground at Finchley Road. A Russell Parker batted at number six for Hampstead scoring 8 and 4 respectively in totals of 68 and 65 for the home side. MCC managed 89 in their first innings and, in the fourth, crept to 46-3, to win by seven wickets.

In that year, no results of cricket matches were recorded, making it difficult to assess the strength of the club. Batting averages were low. However, Russell

Parker is recorded to have been “one of the mainstays” of the club both on and off the field, making runs and as a fast bowler, taking more wickets than any other member. He is noted as the leading wicket taker in 1882, with a season’s analysis of 307-101-586-75, at an average of 7.81.

In 1883, results of matches were once again recorded. Russell Parker took 108 wickets in the season, the next best being 40. In 1884, he again outperformed other bowlers and hauled in 76 wickets. In 1885, he took 90 wickets and was again leading wicket taker, second in the season to debutant Andrew Stoddart (who took 51).

Russell Parker was another to feature in the Stoics match of August 1886 but had no opportunity to bowl. He scored 4 coming into bat at number 6 when the score moved on from 652-4 to 659-5. David Frith was of the opinion that he may not have been concentrating fully that day, as he had earlier been presented with a gold medal by his peers in recognition of his enormous contribution to the Cricket Club.

Once again in 1887, Russell Parker led the Hampstead bowling, with 58 wickets. There is then little mention of his achievements with the ball but in 1891 he was in the Hampstead XI that took on Surbiton, mentioned previously in the case of John Besch. Russell Parker took one of the two Surbiton wickets not to fall to Spofforth and scored a single run, falling to a catch off Mordaunt’s bowling in the Hampstead innings.

He was nicknamed “Wiggy”, not unexpectedly because he wore a wig. According to Freddie Monro, he was immensely popular. He lived in Weatherall Gardens London NW3.

In relation to Hampstead Hockey Club, he was appointed a Vice President at the initial meetings of the hockey section and then Hockey Club in 1894, though no one else was appointed or requested to take on the role of President. Probably for this reason he is regarded as first President of the club, succeeded in the following year by E Brodie Hoare MP.

C D D McMillin

Mr McMillin will probably be best remembered by contemporary members of the Hockey Club at least, for his arguments “at considerable length upon the advisability of substituting alcoholic liquors for tea for visiting teams, putting his views before the meeting in the form of a proposition”. W G Ravenor supported the proposition but no others added their support. At this point, R A Hill then offered to guarantee to find a tea room between the ground and the railway station at no greater cost to the Club than 6d per head (which offer was accepted).

This debate had arisen because the tea rooms at Mrs Woods’ shop, “opposite the golf club entrance” that had earlier been identified and secured by Robert Leigh Ibbs (and reported to the Committee Meeting of 7 October 1899), were found no longer to be available, as they had been re-let to Ealing Hockey Club.

C D D McMillin was another of the original band of players that met at the Eyre Arms on 10 April 1894. He was appointed to the Club's first Committee. He captained the Hockey Club 1st XI for the 1896 season and is thought to have done so in the preceding season, too. He was appointed Honorary Secretary at the AGM on 20 September 1895.

He relinquished the captaincy at the AGM held on 2 June 1897 on the basis "that it is always well for a club to have a change now and again". He was succeeded by H B Hayman.

Not much is recorded of Mr McMillin's days with Hampstead Cricket Club. He participated as a member of the Committee to the Sports Day held on 21 September 1901 and involved in the handicapping assessments.

J C Toller

Cyril Toller was another who attended the meeting at the Eyre Arms on 13 April 1894. He was also appointed to the first Committee at that meeting that, amongst other things, adopted a set of Rules for the new club. His appointment for the next season was confirmed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 20 September 1895.

He took the chair at the next Committee meeting at the Richmond Athletic Ground on 5 October 1895. This meeting had to consider an approach for permission to allow a ladies team to play on the ground on Saturday mornings. After discussion, this was agreed, with the use of goal posts and flags, but on condition that the pitch was rolled before the Club's fixture later in the day – and permission would be withdrawn "if it was found that our ground was being cut up or spoiled by the play on Saturday mornings".

There followed a lull in his officialdom until the AGM held on 6 July 1899 when he was appointed an auditor for the 1899-1900 accounts and was once again elected to the Committee. This was extended for the next season at the AGM at the Constitutional Club in Hampstead (that he had been asked to organise, along with Frank Wheeler as Secretary). However given the number of nominations there was a vote. Cyril Toller topped the poll with 11 votes (it being noteworthy that Stanley Shoveller received only three votes and was not elected).

At that meeting, Cyril Toller proposed that as a result of the "vital alterations" to the rules of the Hockey Association, a copy of the new Rules should be sent to every playing member, at the Club's expense. An amendment was put to this proposal by Richard (R A) Hill and seconded by Stanley Shoveller that members should each be responsible for obtaining the new rules at their own expense was not carried, so Mr Toller's motion was successful.

In 1903, Toller was appointed captain of the 2nd XI.

J C Toller, also known as "Crackles", was well known in Hampstead Cricket Club legend for two things. In 1897 in a game between Hampstead Cricket Club and Hampstead Hockey Club (the latter said to have been represented "almost entirely by Hampstead cricketers") he went into bat at number 8. He scored 206,

the next highest score being 46. His runs came at great pace, with 32 from his first two overs faced. The score was withheld from publication in *Cricket* for a week, whilst verification was sought. It was assumed there must have been a mistake, for no number 8 batsman was considered likely to make such an innings in club cricket.

Secondly, at one Annual Dinner, the style and content of which appear as a mirror image of those convened by Hampstead Hockey Club in its early years, someone failed to turn up to perform at the last moment. Crackles Toller, accompanied by "Tonkie" Hill are reported to have gone, there and then, to the London Pavilion. There they found an unknown but talented young man, who was persuaded, for a small fee, to drop everything and attend to entertain, which he did. That was Harry Lauder.

W S Hale

Warren Stormes Hale (known as "Halo") was born in Bures in Suffolk on 22 July 1862. He first represented Middlesex in 1893 and the MCC in 1897, those being the years of his participation in first class cricket.

He was another who attended the meeting of the hockey section of the Cricket Club in 1894 that led to the formation of Hampstead Hockey Club. He was elected to the first Committee of the club at the Eyre Arms meeting and for a second year at the AGM on 20 September 1895.

His first class cricketing career consisted of five innings at an average of 10.75, with a highest score of 36.

His name first appears in the Hampstead Cricket Club averages in 1888. For that season he averaged 26.30 for six completed innings. His highest score was 175. Freddie Monro describes him as "one of the most consistent getter of runs" in the ensuing 15 years. He was said to have won his selection by Middlesex owing to his success with Hampstead Cricket Club.

He combined "a solid defence with good hitting powers, particularly to leg". His bowling was said always to be accurate. He died in Highgate on 5 February 1934.

H R Lipscombe

He became the first Honorary Secretary of Hampstead Hockey Club and was appointed captain of the 1st XI. As mentioned earlier, it was his message to Hampstead Cricket Club in 1893 that the wet state of the ground necessitated the finding of a new ground for the hockey section and that it would be better for the hockey section to manage its own affairs.

As a cricketer, he was selected for the Hampstead XI that met the touring Gentlemen of Holland at Lymington Road on 13 August 1894, mentioned later. The visitors were under pressure throughout against the opening bowling of Spofforth (4-4) and Thornton (6-15) and scraped their way to 28 all out. H R Lipscombe was wicket keeper and in the second innings on the tourists' follow-on, claimed three victims. Reversing the batting order, Lipscombe came in at

number 4 for Hampstead in their second innings that day to knock off the runs required with T M Farmiloe.

W T C H Danby

William Thomas Charles Hall Danby joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1888. Between 1883 and 1884, he had played in the Tonbridge School 1st XI and then for the well-known Lindum club in Lincoln. He was born in Somerby, on the outskirts of Grantham, in 1866 and he died in Brondesbury in 1940.

The first record of his school team inclusion is the game at Tonbridge against Dulwich College on 28 June 1884. Dulwich College scored 100 and in reply Tonbridge reached 331 (largely as a result of 203 scored by Rashleigh) and won the game "on first innings".

In 1886, he played at Lord's for Lindum in a two day game on 2 and 3 August. MCC scored 115 in their first innings, with Lindum falling short by 25. MCC then managed 92 in their second innings but the visitors struggled to 41 all out, to lose by 76 runs. In that second innings, Danby, batting at number six, was 6 not out at the end.

In his first year with Hampstead, he was second in the batting averages and scored 612 runs, with an average of 29.30 and highest score of 102. He also topped the bowling averages, with 7 wickets from 160 overs, at 9.40 per wicket

Over the next 20 years he was regarded as one of the best batsmen in the club, aggressive and best against first-class bowling. He was again second in the club averages in 1890, scoring 369 runs at an average of 41, with a highest score of 113.

In 1892, he was second in the batting averages, scoring 430 at 28.66 and first in the next year, with 439 at 48.77. In that year he played Minor Counties cricket for Lincolnshire. Three matches are recorded. On 23 and 24 June 1892, Lincolnshire met Norfolk at the Lindum Sports Club and won by an innings and 16 runs. Lincolnshire batted first and scored 175, of which W T Danby contributed 15. Norfolk were dismissed for 71 and, following on, were all out for 86 in their second innings, in which the two opening bowlers were unchanged throughout.

On 22 and 23 August, Lincolnshire met Hertfordshire at Lucas Lane in Hitchin. Lincolnshire won by 100 runs. They managed 170 in their first innings. Hertfordshire were out for 96, to which Lincolnshire replied with 140. Hertfordshire fell short in their second innings, dismissed for 112.

The next day, at Bedford School, Lincolnshire made 177, with William Danby adding 34. Bedfordshire exceeded that by 20 in their first innings. Lincolnshire's reply was 199 (Danby 7) and Bedfordshire scored the required 93 to win, with five wickets down.

In 1897, Danby was second to H B Hayman in the Hampstead averages; having scored 275, at an average of 39.28 and a highest score of 101 not out.

He is also recorded as an opener for Hampstead in their game in 1884 against the Gentlemen of the Netherlands at Lymington Road, Hampstead. This game is reported more fully below in covering, in particular, the bowling of A B Osmond.

An early impression of the Eyre Arms



In a Sporting Context

Introduction

Reviewing cricketing statistics from the latter part of the 19th century can be misleading if a comparison is drawn with the current day. The simplest example is in relation to bowling analyses. Four ball overs were the norm until 1889. Declarations were not permitted, nor could a team enforce a follow on until 1884. It was virtually unheard of to invite the opposition to bat on winning the toss. Touring teams to play international matches were privately organised and, on some occasions, in competition with one another. Selection for England sometimes was overlooked in preference for playing for your county instead.

In rugby, scoring values were being constantly adjusted in the 1880's. The try was discounted: the kick was more significant. Refereeing was not as it is today. Differing local rules led to the formation of associations. The international game was in its infancy. Disputes led some home countries to withdraw from matches against the other home unions. There were struggles for power or influence.

Hockey clubs only came into being in the 1870's, as the game developed from its public school roots in England. It also moved on from being a game played by those cricketers in the winter who, generally speaking, preferred it to playing football in order to maintain hand to eye co-ordination. Again, competing rules led to some uniformity and the eventual formation of the Hockey Association.

As this account covers these three sports, some explanation of the development of each of them might help put the recorded exploits (as well as the statistics) into their context.

Cricket

With regard to cricket, the Marylebone Cricket Club was formed on 30 May 1788 and produced its first set of laws of the game. These laws were not accepted in full immediately or applied with any consistency but formed the basis of the laws that govern the game today.

The next significant change was in 1809 when the weight of the ball was standardised between 5½ and 5¾ ounces. A standard width to the cricket bat was introduced for the first time. The length of the stumps was increased from 22 to 24 inches and bails from six to seven inches (to give assistance to bowlers).

In 1829, the length of the stump was increased by a further three inches and the bails by a further inch. For the first time there was provision for the thickness of the stump. The MCC Committee approved a new set of laws in May 1835 and again in April 1884. The latter made formal the need for 11 players a side.

The *follow on* rule was introduced in response to the problem that in order to win a game a side needed to dismiss their opponents twice. A side that batted first scored a lot of runs would have to wait until it had been dismissed a second time before it could attempt to dismiss the opposition a second time. As games

were time-limited, the side that dominated the opposition could be forced to draw rather than win. In 1835, it became compulsory where there was a deficit of 100 runs. This was reduced to a deficit of 80 runs in 1854 but increased to a deficit of 120 runs in 1894. Later on, the *follow on* rule was changed so that a team sufficiently ahead of the opposition had an option whether or not to enforce the follow on.

Declarations were first permitted in 1889 but then only after the third day of a match or in a one-day game. Before declarations were made legal, batsmen would deliberately get themselves out, leading to some farcical situations, where the fielding side would make no attempt to dismiss a batsman who was trying to be dismissed.

The official County Championship was only constituted at a meeting at Lord's on 10 December 1889. The representatives of the eight leading counties discussed in private the method by which the County Championship should be decided. A majority were in favour of ignoring drawn games altogether and settling the Championship by wins and losses. Under this system, defeats were subtracted from victories. The team with the highest total were champions. The new competition began in 1890 and featured Gloucestershire, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Sussex and Yorkshire.

Also in 1889, the 4 ball over was replaced by a 5 ball over. This was changed to a 6 ball over in 1900. Some countries experimented with an 8 ball over, which was adopted in England for the 1939 season. The experiment was suspended for World War 2 and when cricket resumed, the 6 ball over was reinstated.

In 1891, Somerset joined the County Championship. Derbyshire, Essex, Hampshire, Leicestershire and Warwickshire added their names in 1895. The rules were changed so that each side had to play at least 16 matches per season. Worcestershire then joined the Championship in 1899 and Northamptonshire in 1905.

In 1910 the system was modified again so that the order in the Championship was based on the ratio of matches won to matches played. From 1911 onwards, a variety of systems were used that generally relied on points for wins and for a first innings lead in games that were left unfinished.

Surrey won the inaugural County Championship in 1890 and won consecutively until Yorkshire's win in 1893. Surrey regained the Championship in 1894 and in 1895. In 1896 Yorkshire won 16 of their 26 matches and lost only three, which was rewarded with the Championship. In 1897 Lancashire won for the first time and narrowly beat Surrey (68.42% to 61.90%). In 1898, Yorkshire won their third Championship title and Middlesex were runners up for the first time. They were also runners up in 1899, when Surrey won their sixth title. Yorkshire won their fourth in 1900 and won again in 1901 and 1902. Middlesex's first Championship title was won in 1903 when Sussex were runners up for the second consecutive season.

Lancashire won their second Championship in 1904 but Yorkshire won their seventh title a year later. Kent were the winners for the first time in 1906. Nottinghamshire won their first title in 1907 but finished eighth in 1908, when Yorkshire won their eighth.

The twenty fifth County Championship was won by Surrey, when the last two matches of the season were cancelled with the outbreak of war.

Rugby

The game of rugby is derived from the name of the town and its school in many aspects. The early rules of “football” were determined by pupils at Rugby School before each game, with the legality of carrying or running with the ball often agreed before the start.

The first set of written rules (or laws) were published by those school pupils in 1845. Other clubs played to rules that were based on these laws but many variations were played. The Football Association intended to produce a universal code in 1863 but several newspapers published the 1848 *Cambridge Rules* before this could be completed.

The Cambridge Rules included running with the ball and “hacking”, that is, kicking an opponent in the shins, which was not part of the Football Association draft. They decided not to include those rules in their release, which caused a number of rugby clubs to break away from the Football Association. The rules for playing rugby still differed between clubs.

The ball used in the 1860’s was made of leather around a pig’s bladder and was almost spherical. These were manufactured by Gilberts, a local boot maker, who turned to making balls to supply Rugby School. William Gilbert operated from a small shop in the town at 19 High Street which was later acquired by Grays as a sports shop.

The inflatable inner was invented by Lindon. In 1862 bladders made of rubber were introduced. Balls were then manufactured with a more pronounced oval shape. It took until 1892 for the RFU to introduce compulsory dimensions for the ball that became part of the laws for the first time.



Rugby School played in white. The RFU Committee in 1871 was composed largely of former pupils from Rugby School. This is said to be why England's rugby team play in white (or at least in the modern era, predominantly in that colour). Contrary to some beliefs, the white is not taken from the St. George's Cross. Other schools around the country also played all their sports in a white kit, which could be boil-washed and so was used for all their sporting activities.

On the formation of the RFU in 1871 and the introduction of the first national code of rules, Rugby School kept its own rules of the game and even modified them until the late 1880's. There were no referees in the early days and boys would wear boots with sharpened nails in them for extra hacking. Boys considered good enough to play for the main teams were given "following up" caps. This later developed into international caps awarded to the country's top players.

The origin of "half time" also originated at Rugby School. After 40 minutes of one game, the School captain stopped play. He announced it was unfair that his team was playing with a strong following wind and he offered the opposition the chance to play the rest of the match with the benefit of the wind. They changed ends and half time was born.

The concept of the conversion is also said to have arisen from Rugby School. It became almost impossible to kick the ball between the posts following a try as young players packed the goalmouth. This led to kickers beginning to place their kicks over the crossbar.

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) was formed on 26 January 1871 at the Pall Mall Restaurant on Regent Street when the representatives of 21 clubs met to standardise the rules of the game (and remove some of the more violent aspects of the game that originated from Rugby School).

A Committee was formed of three former pupils of Rugby School to formulate these rules and, as they were lawyers, the rules were called Laws. These Laws were accepted by the full Committee of the Union on 22 June 1871 and brought into effect by a Special General Meeting held on 24 June 1871. In particular, hacking and tripping were outlawed.

Six Scottish clubs saw that this code of rules was very comprehensive and accepted it in place of their Green Book. The Laws of the RFU were adopted and they joined the Union.

It is believed that Yorkshire inaugurated rules governing amateurism in rugby in 1879. Their representatives and those of Lancashire are credited with making formal the RFU's first amateur rules in 1886. Conflicts arose over so called *broken time*, the issue of whether players should be compensated for taking time off work to play. Players for the Northern clubs were predominantly working class and many had to forego playing because of working commitments. In 1892, rugby clubs in Bradford and Leeds were accused of professionalism when they compensated players for missing work. Some Southern clubs were also said to be facing similar circumstances.

In 1893, Yorkshire clubs complained that the Southern clubs were over represented on the RFU Committee. They were unhappy that Committee Meetings were held in London at times that made their attendance difficult. They felt this was affecting decisions on the question of *broken time* payments to the detriment of the Northern clubs, who at the time made up the majority of English rugby clubs.

In 1888, the Professional Football League was formed. This comprised 12 association football clubs from Northern England. This is widely believed to have given impetus to Northern rugby officials to form their own league. Attendances were growing and income was being generated in football as well as cricket. Entrepreneurs were taking the initiative (as mentioned in greater detail later, in relation to cricket).

On 29 August 1895, a meeting was convened at The George Hotel in Huddersfield when 20 clubs from Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire decided to resign from the RFU and to form the Northern Rugby Football Union that came to be known as the Rugby Football League from 1922. There were similar developments in Australia. Eight clubs in Sydney broke away in similar fashion in 1908 and formed the New South Wales Rugby League.

The first international in 1871 between Scotland and England used the Rugby School rules but with two variations commonly adopted in the London area at the time. First, a line out would take place where the ball crossed the line and not where it first pitched into touch. Secondly, after a try, the attempt at kicking a goal would be taken from a line straight from where the ball was touched down. It was also agreed that a player could gather up a rolling or bounding ball (the Scots having only permitted the latter).

The first international altercation over the Laws arose in 1884 is discussed later in relation to Andrew Stoddart's exploits. The dispute led to at least two years during which England played no games in the home international championship and is said to have curtailed Stoddart's appearances for England.

In 1885, an AGM of the Irish Union recommended that the four home international unions should discuss the formation of a body to settle such disputes. A meeting was held in Dublin in 1886. The Scottish Union were prepared to drop the dispute with England if England joined the newly constituted Board, with equal representation. This was anathema to England, who had a greater number of clubs playing the game and were not prepared to accept the constitution on this basis.

When the RFU changed their Laws the other unions were not prepared to accept the changes. They wanted this referred to the International Board, which decided in December 1887 that its rules had to apply to all international games. No games were to be played with England until they joined the IRB. There was an impasse for two years and therefore no English participation in 1888 and 1889.

Eventually this dispute was resolved by arbitration in 1890 that recognised the claims of the Scottish, Welsh and Irish Unions to participate in the making of the rules of the game under the new IRB. It determined that all future matches would be played under the IRB Rules. England joined the IRB and were given six votes: the other unions were awarded two votes each. A simple majority would suffice to settle disputes, other than any vote to change the rules that required a 75% majority. (In 1910, the RFU voluntarily relinquished two of its six votes).

Scoring values during these times changed relatively frequently. Historically no points were awarded for a try. In 1845, a try had to be scored only between the two posts. The reward for a try was an attempt (hence “try”) to score a goal, by kicking the ball over the crossbar.

Matches were initially decided on goals scored. A goal was scored after a try had been converted by a kick. A drop goal and a goal after a mark could also be scored. If the goals scored were equal, unconverted tries were tallied to determine the winner. If following that there was no clear winner, the game was held to be a draw.

In 1875, a proposal for deciding results by the scoring of points, as opposed to goals, was rejected. But later in November of that year, it was agreed that tries scored would be brought into account if the goals scored were equal. In 1886, the scoring pattern used by Cheltenham College was adopted by the RFU, namely a point for a try, a conversion and a dropped goal, with a goal (a converted try) scoring three points.

The more modern scoring system was introduced in the 1880’s and finally adopted, as indicated above, by full participation in the IRB in 1890. The penalty goal was introduced in 1891. Penalty kicks had been added in 1882 but until 1891 no attempt could be made to score a goal from such a kick.

The two umpires were renamed Touch Judges and their powers were reduced to marking the spot where the ball left play. Players were permitted to pick up a dead ball. The dead ball line was set at a maximum depth of 25 yards. A try counted as one point, a conversion added two. A drop goal counted for three points, as did a penalty goal.

In 1892, the try was upgraded to two points and successful conversion added three, instead of two, points. A drop goal counted four points, as did a goal from a mark. A penalty goal remained valued at three points. This was to continue in 1893. Also in 1892, the permitted dimensions of the ball were set down for the first time.

In 1894, the points for a try were increased to three and a conversion reduced to two. The points for a drop goal, penalty goal and goal from a mark remained unchanged.

From 1891 until 1948, a drop goal scored for points and was reduced to three in that year. The goal from a mark was invalidated as late as 1977 (until when it had counted three points but between 1891 and 1905 it counted four).

The rules on the charging down of a conversion changed at this time too. Initially the defending players were permitted to charge the kicker at the moment the ball was placed on the ground. Evidently, this gave the kicker little opportunity to take a proper kick and to add the conversion. This led to the practice of nominating a designated placer (usually the scrum half) who held the ball and placed it at the last moment, to coincide with the kick (much as seen in modern American Football). For the record, this was changed to the current practice as late as 1958.

Hockey

Hockey effectively began in England in its public schools. There are records of it being played at Eton College in 1751, Mill Hill School in 1807, Tonbridge School in 1835, amongst others and several other schools, including Magdalen College School, between 1850 and 1853.

Blackheath Hockey Club was established in 1861 and introduced its own rules. Teddington Hockey Club was formed a decade later and drew up its own rules. It rejected the version of the game played by a Blackheath that involved a 7oz rubber cube, with catching, marking and scrimmaging generally based on rugby

Teddington chose to limit each side to eleven players and preferred to play with old cricket balls. Its players lay claim to the introduction of the idea of the striking circle. The club played several games in Bushy Park in the winter of 1871. It became officially recognised by the Hockey Association as the oldest club with a continuous history.

Clubs were later set up in Richmond and Surbiton and inter-club matches were played between them and Teddington. The game grew sporadically. The question of an established set of rules led in January 1886 to a dinner at the Holborn Restaurant in London, when the Hockey Association that survives today was formed. Attending the dinner were representatives from Teddington, Surbiton, Wimbledon, Trinity College Cambridge, Molesey and Ealing.

Surbiton Hockey Club was founded in 1874 and a body of rules are recorded in its minute book for 1876. These state that the pitch was between 100 and 150 yards in length and between 50 and 80 yards in width. Goal posts were seven feet tall and placed six yards apart. Sticks were wooden and curved "to accord with the requirements of Committee of the Association". The ball was an ordinary sized cricket ball. There was an off side rule requiring three players to be nearest their own goal line. If the ball went off the side of the pitch it was to be rolled back on at a right angle, by hand and not stick. No stick could be raised above the height of the shoulder.

There was no semi-circle for scoring but no goal was allowed if hit more than 15 yards from the nearest goal post. The ball was required to be played from right to left without, it would appear, any definition of what constituted the playing side of the stick.

In 1886, the Hockey Association of England drew up a code of rules based upon those used by a number of London clubs. The pitch length was now 100 yards and 60 yards in width. The width of the goal was reduced to four yards and now armed with a cross bar seven feet above ground level. A striking semi-circle was now marked, at a radius of 15 yards from the goal posts.

A bully started and re-started the game. This required three consecutive taps of opposing sticks. After the ball has crossed the goal line a bully was taken on the 25 yard line. Other players needed to be five yards distant from the hitter at free hits: a similar distance was applied to roll ins and bullies.

The teams comprised 11 players. No substitutes were allowed. Balls were now white painted cricket balls. There was no mention whether goalkeepers were allowed or required to wear protective equipment.

Kicking, tripping, shoving or obstructing an opponent were each proscribed but hands and feet could be used to stop the ball but not in a manner than would obstruct and opponent. A goalkeeper was permitted to kick the ball but only in the circle. It was still lawful to hook an opponent's stick but only within a striking distance of the ball. Off side was limited to the attacking half of the pitch only. Instead of a penalty corner, a bully was taken in the circle at the point of the offence – all other offences were awarded a free hit.

In 1900, an International Rules Board was formed in London by the Hockey Associations of England, Wales and Ireland. Another change was that advantage was now recognised and not every offence was penalised immediately.

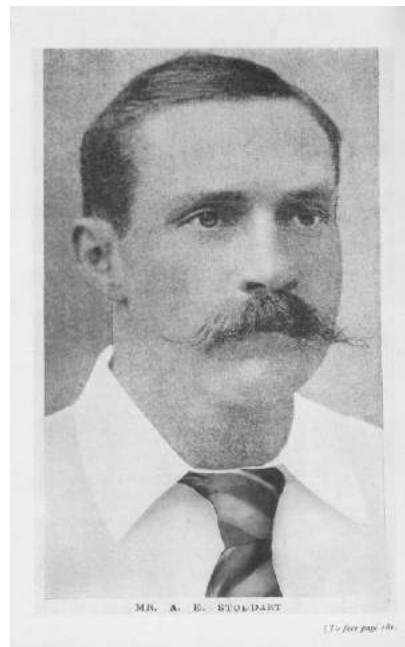
In 1904, any intentional undercutting and raising the ball from a hit was penalised. The scoop stroke was permitted. In 1905, each umpire took responsibility for one half of the pitch (but not for adjudging corners). An umpire was now allowed to warn and suspend players. The width of the pitch could now be extended to 68 yards. A maximum weight of 28 ounces was imposed for a hockey stick.

Only two years later were umpires given the initiative and no longer had to await a player's appeal before making a decision. The penalty corner was introduced in 1908. The rules required the ball to be stopped before a strike on goal but it appears that this was not uniformly applied. All ten outfield players had then to remain behind the back line when the corner was taken. A penalty bully was awarded for a foul that prevented the scoring of a certain goal (in other words, the penalty stroke was yet to feature).

Andrew Stoddart Early days as a cricketer

Andrew Ernest Stoddart joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1885, when aged 21 and ten years later joined Hampstead Hockey Club. He had by then given up rugby and may have wanted a replacement winter sport, following the frequently mentioned adage that cricketers needed to play hockey to “keep their eye in” over the winter months.

Andrew Stoddart was a winger with Hampstead Hockey Club and known for his speed and agility, which is unsurprising in light of his earlier rugby career. There is no record so far as to which team Stoddart played for at Hampstead Hockey Club but he joined as the club was finding its feet and at the dawn of the *golden days* of success in that first decade.



He was born in Westoe, South Shields, County Durham on 11 March 1863, the youngest son of a wine merchant. When aged 14, the family moved to Marylebone. He earned his living as a stockbroker but made his early reputation as a cricketer for Hampstead. He was a true all-rounder in every sense, as a cricketer and rugby player in particular. He was one of only two to captain England at cricket and rugby. He was also known to be a good tennis player and after cricket, took up golf that he soon played to scratch.

He was thought to be a relatively late starter to cricket, according to *Wisden*. He is widely reported not to have taken much interest in cricket until 1885, having concentrated on rugby for at least three years earlier (as reported in greater detail, below). However, Freddie Monro was told that when Heath Mount School in Hampstead played Oliver's School, Acacia Road on the old Eton and Middlesex

ground, Stoddart had captained Oliver's, who had a reputation for nurturing good cricketers.

His first season for Hampstead was remarkable, as *Cricket* reported on 13 August 1885:

Some weeks ago mention was made of a very fine innings of 185 not out by Mr A E Stoddart, for Hampstead against the Granville Club of Lee. I notice that during the five weeks which have passed since that match (played on 4 July) Mr Stoddart, whom I take to be the well-known rugby international footballer, has completed as many as four centuries for the Hampstead club

July 18 v Hendon 113

July 21 v MCC & Ground 108

Aug 4 v Blackheath 108

Aug 8 v Old Carthusians 120

As, in addition, Mr Stoddart is a particularly good bowler as well as a brilliant field, I should fancy the executive of the Middlesex County Cricket Club, for which I believe he is qualified, would do well to seriously entertain the advisability of giving him a good trial.

This advice must have been heeded. Andrew Stoddart made his debut for Middlesex at Bramall Lane, Sheffield on 17 August 1885. This was a three-day match against Yorkshire that Middlesex won by 49 runs. Stoddart opened the batting and scored 3 in a first innings of 169, to which Yorkshire replied with 201. Middlesex ended their second innings on 201 (with Stoddart scoring 21) and were able to dismiss Yorkshire for 145.

He played three further games for Middlesex that season, at Trent Bridge, Clifton College and Mote Park, Maidstone.

1886

From May until June 1886, Stoddart was fully employed by Middlesex, without conspicuous success, including a game at Lord's against an Australian XI on 24 June 1886 that the touring team won by one wicket. Middlesex scored 259 and 217, to which the Australians replied with 354 and 123-9, for the narrow win. This was followed on 2 July 1886, by another game against the tourists, for C I Thornton's XI at Chiswick Park.

On the Tuesday night preceding the club game against Stoics on 4 July 1886, he and friends had gone dancing and at midnight, began playing poker. Stoddart was not reckoned to be fond of cards but he started winning and, according to his biographer, David Frith, it was an appreciable amount too. He was said to be reluctant to leave the table with his friends' losses, so gave them ample opportunity to recover their cash. Rounds of jackpots were played but as he grew wilder, his winnings increased! It was said that because of his relative youth, he did not have the courage to say that he would not continue to play after a certain hour. But at dawn at 5.00am, they, too, called it a day. The participants set off for a warm bath and then later took a cab for a swim at a local pool. After substantial breakfast, it was on to the Hampstead ground.

The Stoics were one of the earliest travelling cricketing sides. They were said to be in part a continuation of the Revellers Club, for which the common factor was O R Borradaile, well known in Essex County Cricket Club circles and the Secretary of the County for many years after 1891. It is widely denied that the change in name to Stoics followed their treatment in the face of Stoddart's bat.

Stoddart opened the batting with Billy Marshall at 11.30am. Marshall was bowled for 6 and John Besch came to the wicket. They set about the bowling. After an hour the score was 150-1. Besch was then out for 98 and it was 242-2. After a relatively cheap wicket, Swift took over the supporting role but scored quickly too. By lunch, after two and a half hours, Hampstead had reached 370-3 (Stoddart was 230 not out).

Declarations were not then permitted, so the Hampstead innings continued at 3.00pm. Stoddart and Swift carried on from where they had left things and took the score beyond 600. It became 652-4 when Swift was caught for 92.

Stoddart then surpassed the record individual score of 419 not out, achieved in the previous year by J S Carrick (ironically another well-recognised rugby player) playing for West of Scotland. Stoddart was dropped when on 421, when a hard drive to mid-on could not be held. But with the score on 811-7, Stoddart miscued a big hit to leg and Kelly clung on to a steeper at point, the batsman having reached 485. It is said that his dismissal came shortly after the umpire had said, "Go for the 500, Mr Stoddart".

The miscued shot that led to his dismissal is mentioned to have gone so high that the batsmen ran three and that the fielders had rushed in to decide whose catch it was to be. The ball then spiralled in descent and Stoddart is reported to have put the chances of an actual catch at 100-1. Allegedly, at the last moment, Kelly (reportedly "a lanky man") put up his right hand and trapped the ball between his three middle fingers. This latter report has no reliable provenance, however.

The Hampstead innings closed, ten down, five minutes later at 6.45pm, with only two further runs added. There was no time for the opposition to bat. Hampstead's 813 may not have surpassed Orleans Club's innings of 920 in their game against Rickling Green in 1882 but that was over two days. 813 stands as the highest innings score for a day's match.

Stoddart's innings had taken six hours and ten minutes. He scored at 78 runs per hour with an 8 (four from overthrows) three fives, 63 fours, 20 three's, 36 two's and 78 singles. The bowling had been good, with only one wide and without a no-ball. By comparison, the fastest quadruple century in first class cricket was that of Donald Bradman, whose 452 was achieved at 65 runs per hour. The wicket at Hampstead was on the day in the middle of the square so, there were no short boundaries.

Not quite satisfied with that effort and whilst he might have wanted some sleep, a tennis four had been organised for that evening, so had to be fulfilled. After tennis, he had another hot bath. Then it was off to a box at the theatre and supper afterwards, such that he did not get to bed until 3.00am the next morning.

On this basis he was without doubt accurately described by a contemporary as one of the most tireless men who ever lived.

HAMPSTEAD	
A E Stoddart c Kelly b Renny	485
W R M Marshall b Oscar	6
J G Q Besche c Lavender b Fleming	98
H Smith-Turberville b Kelly	5
E Swift c Kelly b Carter	92
F A K Doyle c & b Carter	27
P Dollar c Lavender b Renny	38
H G Rooth c Carter b Kelly	1
T Stewart not out	0
E A Dwyer absent	0
Extras (b50 lb 6 w 1)	57
TOTAL	813

Three days later and again at home, Hampstead's form continued when they scored 459-4 against Blackheath in under four hours. Stoddart contributed 207, which, when added to his 98 for Middlesex against Gloucestershire on the following Monday, saw his aggregate runs for the week climb to 790. On this basis, noted an article in *Cricketer*, "I have it, in fact, on the best authority that he has decided after all to remain in England." This refers to his apparent indecision whether to emigrate and join his brother in the United States.

His first century in first class cricket followed in August in the game with Kent at the Bat & Ball Ground in Gravesend. Kent scored 196 and Middlesex replied with 457, A J Webbe scoring 103 and Stoddart 116 in an opening stand of 205. Kent responded to the second innings' challenge and were 374-5 at the close. Three more County games then brought that season to an end.

1887

From a club cricket perspective, 1887 was an even better year for Andrew Stoddart. He only played 17 innings and a modest (by his standards) 275 as his highest score. But his batting average was a staggering 155.20.

He played in an unusual game between Hampstead and Uxbridge, where four innings were completed in the single day. Hampstead scored 45 and 141 (of which A S Johnson hit 98) and Uxbridge managed 56 and 51.

The end of May and beginning of June 1887 were taken up with three County games at Lord's. On 13 June 1887, he was selected for his England debut against MCC, also at Lord's. He opened the batting for England with Arthur Shrewsbury, who was regarded as one of the best professional batsmen in the land. They put on 266 for the first wicket: Shrewsbury scored 152 and Stoddart 151. England won by an innings and 117 runs.

On 23 June 1887 there followed an unusual result in the match against Oxford University at Chiswick Park. The University scored 555, K J Key scoring 281 and

wicketkeeper Philipson, coming in at number 8, hitting 150. Middlesex could only manage 119 and 207, so lost by an innings and 209.

Back at Hampstead on 15 July 1887, Stoddart made 115 out of Hampstead's 253. Crystal Palace were dismissed for just 23, in which Stoddart took seven wickets and a catch. Later that month, he played in two matches for the Gentlemen against the Players, one at Lord's and the other at the Oval, both won by the Gentlemen and by an innings. Stoddart opened the batting with W G Grace.

This paved the way for the Hampstead Cricket Week, from 25 to 30 July 1887, when *Cricket* reported that he "had a busy time". He captained the side that week and scored 900 runs at an average of 300, twice carrying his bat.

<i>July 25 v MCC</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>July 26 v Ne're-do-Wells</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>July 27 v London Scottish</i>	<i>275*</i>
<i>July 28 v Clapham Wanderers</i>	<i>55</i>
<i>July 29 v Mr Slade's XI</i>	<i>114*</i>
<i>July 30 v Old Finchleians</i>	<i>230*</i>

At the start of August he was selected for the MCC against the Gentlemen of Canada that was drawn. The season ended in Scarborough, first in a drawn game for the Gentlemen of England against an I Zingari XI, in which Stoddart scored 116, in a total of 381. That was followed by a county game against Yorkshire, notable for Stoddart's second innings bowling, in which he took 6-36, then his best in first class cricket.

Andrew Stoddart **Touring cricketer**

On 28 October 1887, Stoddart was in Australia, with G F Vernon's XI.

George Vernon was in some ways similar to Andrew Stoddart but not as successful in sporting terms. He played on 103 occasions for Middlesex and represented England once, in the first Test at Melbourne in 1882 in the first Ashes tour conducted under the auspices of I F W Bligh. Vernon batted at number 11 in a game that Australia won by nine wickets.

His tour in 1887-8 was his second and he would later take a team to Ceylon (Sri Lanka) in the first such venture of its kind on that continent, though the cricketers who accompanied him were not considered first-class.

Like Stoddart, he played rugby for Blackheath and won five caps for England, the first in 1878 against Scotland at the Oval and the fifth at Manchester on 5 February 1881, when England beat Ireland by two goals (no points) to none (no points).

He was a barrister by profession, called to the Middle Temple. He died aged 46 of malaria contracted in Elmina in Gold Coast (now Ghana).

The tour began in November 1887 and ended on 14 March 1888. There were first-class games against some of the state sides but others had different combinations of players and playing conditions, with the tourists frequently outnumbered by design. In several matches, for example, the home team comprised 22 players against the eleven tourists, leading to peculiar looking bowling analyses. There was a single test match.

In the opening game against South Australia at the Adelaide Oval, the tourists won by 71 runs. In the first innings, Stoddart made 25 in a total of 104, to which South Australia replied with 116. In the second innings, he managed 64 (putting on 105 for the first wicket) in a total of 291. South Australia were then dismissed for 206.

Against Victoria at Melbourne Cricket Club, Stoddart scored 94 in a win by an innings and 18 runs. The game against Castlemaine on 14 and 15 November saw 22 players for the home team and there were 18 in the succeeding game at Bendigo against Sandhurst. Against Ballarat at the Eastern Oval, Stoddart scored 95 against 18 opponents in a drawn game.

New South Wales beat the touring team by nine wickets at the game at Sydney between 25 and 30 November 1887. Stoddart scored 55 in a first innings of 340 but NSW replied with 408. In their second innings the tourists could only scrape together 106, leaving the home side to score the 40 to win, with one wicket down.

At Richmond against Hawkesbury the scorecard recorded the home side's 52 all out and then 49 for 15, as they were 22 against the tourists' 11. At the Manly Oval on 7 December 1887 against Manly, the home team bowled five ball overs and the tourist six ball overs. In the next game Stoddart scored 285 in a draw against Melbourne Juniors at Melbourne Cricket Club, taking on 14 different bowlers. He then scored 81 in the next game against Maryborough at Princes Park, the hosts following on with 55 for 14 from 41 overs.

A second match against South Australia took place over Christmas at the Adelaide Oval. Stoddart scored 38 in a first innings of 382. Although South Australia had to follow on after a first innings of 143, they were all out for 493 in their second innings and the tourists ended at 59-0. The game was watched by a total of 4,903 spectators.

On a start on New Year's Eve, the XI beat an Australian XI by an innings and 78 runs at Melbourne Cricket Club, watched by 12,000. This was after a first innings escape from 51-6 to 292 all out (Stoddart's contribution being 10). The home side were all out for 136 and then 78.

On 5 January 1888, Stoddart turned bowler in the game against Yarra Bend at Emerald Hill, Melbourne that the tourists won by 129 runs. In a game of 15 against 11, Stoddart and his colleagues were defending 186 all out but dismissed the home team for 57, with Stoddart taking 8-36. When batting, he had come in at number 9, as if to emphasise his role in the game, perhaps?

Against North Tasmania Cricket Association on 13 and 14 January 1888, Stoddart returned to batting and scored 91 in a total of 195. The home side replied with 162 all out and in their second innings, the tourists reached 27-3.

There was another unusual player combination in the match against Tasmania that started on 26 January 1888. For the home side, 18 played 11, with 15 to bat and field at any one time. The tourists scored 297 and the reply reached 405 for 13. Stoddart is recorded as indisposed: a Yorkshire amateur deputised for him in the field.

Australia v England 1888

On 10 February 1888, Stoddart made his international debut for England at Sydney Cricket Ground. The two touring teams, the other led by Arthur Shrewsbury combined to form an England team in the only one official test match.

England won by 126 runs, in a rain affected match. There was no play owing to rain on the second and third days. England scored 113 in their first innings in which Stoddart opened and made 16. Australia could only manage 42 in their first innings, their lowest in any test match in Australia but it was on a rain-affected pitch. In their second innings, England scored 137, of which Stoddart contributed 17 and Australia answered with 82 in the fourth innings.

The test generated an attendance of 2,000 – the lowest recorded for a test match in Australia. It would be four years until Stoddart played cricket for England again.

Having beaten New South Wales by eight wickets after the test match, the tourists beat Victoria in a timeless match that began on 9 March 1888, this time by 262 runs. In reply to a first innings of just 130, Victoria managed only 81. Matters improved in the second innings, with 368 runs, Stoddart scoring 75 and passing 2,000 runs in first class cricket in doing so. They then bowled out the home side for 135.

The tour ended with a one-day game against Melbourne Cricket Club on 14 March 1888, for the benefit of one of the tourists, Bates, who sadly had lost his sight in one eye, as a result of a cricketing accident. Melbourne reached 203 after Stoddart had opened the bowling, returning 1-37. These runs were knocked off for the loss of five wickets, without Stoddart coming to the wicket. The huge regret was that no more than 100 spectators were present at any one time at the match.

Andrew Stoddart

Rugby player

Andrew Stoddart was an equally renowned rugby player. Between 1886 and 1893 he won ten caps for England as a three quarter, captaining the side four times and scoring two tries, five penalty goals, one conversion and one goal from a mark. His record was to have won six, drawn one and lost three

He might have won more than ten caps, given that in two seasons a dispute between the rugby unions of the home countries led to matches being scratched. He played Scotland twice, against Ireland on three occasions and four times against Wales. In 1889, he played against the Maoris.

In 1882 (three years before he joined Hampstead Cricket Club) he left the Harlequins club (much to their distress). He joined Blackheath and remained a member throughout his top-flight rugby career. Blackheath was formed in 1858 and is the oldest open rugby club: in other words, not one derived from or related to a school or university. Its ground at Rectory Road has remained the same to today. It organised the first international match between England and Scotland on 23 March 1881, followed by a game between England and Wales. Not unlike Hampstead Hockey Club in its early days, the club's changing rooms were located in a pub, in this case, the Prince of Wales near the ground.

Stoddart scored three tries in his first match with Blackheath and a total of nine tries in that first season. He was a three quarter back, demonstrating speed and agility. He was renowned for an ability to jump over opponents as a means of avoiding them that appears to have proved very effective.

He was not a great believer in coaching players, arguing that talent and fitness would always prevail instead.

In 1884-85 he was the leading try scorer for the club with 16 and represented the South against the North, along with five others from Blackheath RFC. On 3 January 1885 he was awarded his first England cap against Wales at Swansea, before 5,000 spectators. England won by five tries to two. On 7 February 1895 he played against Ireland at Whalley Range, Manchester alongside club mates, Bolton and Hawcridge in the backs and Alan Rotherham at half back, in front of 7,000 spectators. England won the match by two tries to one.

He was soon regarded by many as the finest wing three-quarter the game had seen. He tended to sweep past opponents through sheer pace and when faced with the full back, he frequently waited until the last second and would leap over him as he lunged for the tackle. He was known to come off worse with this manoeuvre on several occasions and suffered concussion at least twice.

His kicking was a feature of his all round game. He could drop kick with either foot. This was especially useful with four points then awarded for such a kick, compared with one point for a try at that time. The points scoring system was reportedly reviewed following his drop kick in a gale in the Middlesex v

Yorkshire game that season when the value of Yorkshire's four tries was all but eradicated by Stoddart's kicking.

He played with imagination. In one game he caught the ball only two yards from an opponent. Instead of running on, as was expected, he took a few steps backwards that completely confused the opponents and then calmly dropped goal, to much surprise.

Again in 1885-86 he was Blackheath's leading try-scorer with 11. He played in all three international matches that season.

Against Wales at St Helen's, Swansea, Wales narrowly lost by two tries and a goal to a try, though their scrummaging and tackling were thought to be better. In that game, the English forward Elliott called for a mark, having caught a Welsh mis-kick. Despite the call, he ran on. He had a relatively clear run in for a try. This was not well received. There were reports of "emphatic and forcible expressions of disapproval" from his captain and other well-known players in the team. But the ball was handed to Stoddart, who landed the place kick.

At Lansdowne Road, Dublin, Stoddart featured with several darting runs, assisted by Rotherham. Stoddart missed with his penalty kicks and an attempted conversion of a try by Wilkinson but England managed to hold on for the win.

The game against Scotland at Raeburn Place, Edinburgh that year had to be postponed by a week until 13 March 1886 because of poor weather. Stoddart was said to be "indisposed" for reasons not made clear but the game was scoreless. It was Stoddart's last home international for four years.

In the 1886-87 season, Stoddart's repeat of 11 tries placed him top of the Blackheath club's scoring records again. He suffered a sprained ankle in the North v South match and that put paid to games for England that season.

Stoddart was either not available or not selected for the 1887 season, when England played in the fifth home international championship. He is recorded as having played for Middlesex in that year against Lancashire, the champions of the north. Middlesex were regarded as the strongest team in the south of England at the time. This was part of a charity festival in London organised jointly by the RFU and the Football Association. It was a royal occasion and some of the players in each team were presented to the King.

Middlesex are said to have had the better of the game but were defeated by one try to none. Middlesex reportedly did score a try "but the short space between the goal line and the dead ball line lost them the point". Presumably they succeeded in crossing the line but not grounding the ball sufficiently quickly?

Shrewsbury and Shaw

At the end of his cricket tour in Australia in 1888, Stoddart stayed in Australia to play rugby in a tour organised by cricketers Alfred Shaw and Arthur Shrewsbury allegedly "looking to make a few bob". A third organiser was James Lillywhite, whose role was frequently underestimated.

One catalyst for the rugby tour was the ban on England's participation in the home nations' rugby championship, owing to the RFU's refusal to join the newly constituted International Rules Board, about which more is covered, below.

The 1888 rugby tour cost Shrewsbury and Shaw £6,000 at the outset (at today's values that would be approximately £435,000). They had no support, financial or otherwise from the rather suspicious RFU. A few players took note and declined to join the tour.

The Amateur Ideal

It is generally accepted that Shaw and Shrewsbury as cricketers had only a loose understanding of the politics of rugby. They failed to grasp the seriousness with which the RFU embraced amateurism in its purest sense. As much was evident from the initial letter circulated to a handful of carefully selected players by Harry Turner, on behalf of the three promoters, in which he wrote that he "would be happy to communicate terms" which he was certain would prove satisfactory. His task was to convince top players to give up 33 working weeks of their year.

From the promoters' perspective, W G Grace had made a healthy living as an amateur, being paid tenfold the rate of professionals playing on the 1873-74 tour and is estimated to have made £120,000 from cricket. But there had been witch hunts in the RFU, sensitive to payments for broken time and the offers of employment at inflated rates of pay in order to secure the transfer of a player.

Turner sought backing from the RFU in England but it flatly refused. The RFU secretary Rowland Hill wrote on 18 January 1888 that it was not within the province of the RFU to forbid players to join the enterprise but that the RFU Committee felt it their duty to let those who might be thinking of going that they must be careful in their arrangements so as "not to transgress the laws for the prevention of professionalism".

Hill regarded himself as a foremost guardian of the laws of the game (as will be evident, below) and when the touring team was announced, he sent a telegram to Australia to underline the absence of any official backing and even went so far as to send a copy of the *Rules of Professionalism*.

The promoters are reported to have lost considerable sums of money with the preceding cricket tour and may have been eager to recoup losses with rugby. Correspondence between Shrewsbury and Shaw, disclosed by Peter Wynne Thomas in *Give me Arthur – a Biography of Arthur Shrewsbury* reveals their thinking.

Writing to Shaw from Australia the end of 1877, Shrewsbury advised that they would need to provide "a nice outfit" of good material, with "a monogram worked on the front." It was vital to "take them by storm out here". He advised the need for exercise whilst the players were on board ship, or "they will be too stout to play for some time when they arrive". He suggested a football to practice "the little kicks from one another, which is practiced to a great extent in the

Victoria game as the players are not allowed to use their hands to throw it to another player.” (The *Victoria Game* being Aussie Rules as understood today.)

In February 1888, in three letters to Shaw he confirmed that he had obtained “first class terms” for the use of grounds but that he faced difficulty if any player were to demand a larger share of the takings. Hard pressed, he had to pay £800-£1,000 to the New Zealand Shipping Company to take the players there and back. He was confident that they would see a return and that the team would be a great success “but, of course, all depends on whether you have sent out first class players. We are sure to lose a lot of money by the cricket venture but hope to get it back at Football.”

Harry Turner was sent to scour Lancashire and Yorkshire for the players they needed. Shrewsbury was also active in Australia and is reported to have offered Stoddart £50 as a cash advance. He also invited cricketers Audrey Smith, George Brann and Billy Newham to join. But they were essentially association football players and had no experience of rugby. In the end, the three did not join, which was double-edged for Shrewsbury. Whilst he was not be required to pay Stoddart-sized wages for players who may have struggled to make a success of it, he had to cover their travelling expenses of 80 guineas.

On 26 June 1888, Shrewsbury wrote to Shaw about further negotiations to extend the tour for a further six weeks to take in Queensland. Shaw was requested to send Jack Anderton’s pay to his mother and to add a month’s extra on account of him staying longer (and to likewise with Nolan but all would depend on how he reacted). The student Willie Thomas was to be provided a further £3 per week, making it an additional £18 for the six weeks. He believed the other tour members would agree to extend the trip without further payment.

Prior to departure and consistent with the earlier proposals discussed between Shrewsbury and Shaw, each player was given a cap and £15 to purchase clothing and kit. The RFU objected to this on the basis that it was verging on professionalism.

It was whispered that in addition the promoters had promised payments of between £90 and £200 (in the case of Stoddart) as compensation. This appears to have swung the decisions made in favour of joining the tour. In Stoddart’s case such a payment has been estimated to be worth today in the region of £84,300.

Jack Clowes

Forward Jack P Clowes, a factory worker, who played for Halifax Free Wanderers had accepted the £15 payment. This was reported to the RFU by the chairman of Dewsbury, following their loss to Halifax in the final of the Yorkshire Cup, in front of 12,000 spectators, in which Clowes had scored for Halifax. Dewsbury had not selected Angus Stuart, who had also agreed to tour. Once the game was lost, Dewsbury appealed to the RFU and claimed that Halifax should be ordered to forfeit the game, as they had fielded a professional.

Clowes admitted the payment and even offered to pay it back but the RFU would have none of it and the ban was imposed. He learned of this decision as the ship

left port for Australia and did not play a single game on tour. This was said to have left the clear impression of different rules for gentlemen amateurs and another for players from the working class. It may have added momentum to the eventual split in the RFU that led to the northern clubs' breakaway.

As for Dewsbury, the RFU ordered the game to be replayed but Halifax won again. At the AGM of the RFU on 13 April 1888, the Halifax representative moved that Clowes should be reinstated but that was declared to be out of order by the Chairman of the meeting.

Andrew Stoddart First Lions' Tour

Nineteen of the 21 rugby playing tourists were taken by special train to Tilbury, where they boarded the *SS Kaikoura* on 8 March 1888. Robert Seddon joined the ship at Portsmouth.

The touring party set off for Tenerife and then Cape Town before embarkation in Tasmania. Perhaps more sensitive to the contemporary politics of rugby than the promoters, the caption of a photograph of the touring team on board ship that appeared in the March 1888 edition of the *Illustrated London News* stated that in publishing it, "we desire to express no opinion one way or the other on the question of the amateur status of the team, which will doubtless be further considered by the Union at the proper time."

The party on board comprised predominantly northern-based players from England and the Scottish borders, one from the Isle of Man, with a single Welshman (who was at Cambridge University). There was no Irish representation. The party was known as the *English Footballers* but has since been regarded as the first Lions' Tour, as it represented the British Isles abroad and paved the way for future tours under the Lions' banner. Only four players had been capped (or were to be) for their countries, Seddon, Stoddart and Tom Kent for England and Willie Thomas for Wales.

On board ship, Robert "Bob" Seddon was appointed captain of the team. He was born in Salford in 1860. He began playing his rugby for the Ascension Club in Broughton but moved to Broughton Rangers, as a founder member in 1877. He left them in October 1887 and joined Swinton.

He came to recognition when selected as a forward for England as one of five new caps for the match against Wales that was drawn 0-0. He went on to play two more internationals before the ban on England's participation in home nations matches took effect.

On board too, were 300 stoats and weasels sent to combat the rabbit problem in New Zealand. The tour programme included games to be played to Victoria (or Aussie) Rules. Copies of the rules were distributed to the players after a week into the voyage. There were new techniques to learn but the supply of practice balls was lost overboard. Sea conditions throughout were stormy and strong winds slowed progress and curtailed any legitimate practice.

On arrival in Tasmania on 18 April 1888 and after a reception at Hobart Town Hall that featured champagne and cigars, the tourists went to practice. They had all been made honorary members the South Tasmania Football Club. None of the party had played to Victoria Rules before.

Prior to their later arrival in Dunedin, the *Otago Witness* had published profiles of the players. That for Stoddart read:

Middlesex, Blackheath and Harlequins; Three Quarter, aged 34, 5' 11" over 12st. Durham man by birth, though a South of England player – the only one in the team. After a fine club career, made his debut in a first class match in the season 1883-84 playing for London against Oxford and Cambridge. The form then shown has been sustained. He was chosen for the South against the North in 1884-85 and represented England in her two internationals contests in that season. In 1885-86 played in all the big matches for his county, the South and England. In 1886-87 an accident in the first spell of the North v South match stopped his career for some time. During the season just closed, has been in Australia with Vernon's cricket team. He is a good runner and dodger – "like a bloomin' dancin'-master" the cockneys describe him – a fine drop kick and is only found fault for his high tackling. Despite this, he seldom misses his man, knows the game thoroughly and is a keen enthusiast. His cricketing abilities are well-known.

The newspaper's general impression was that although it was below representative strength, the team was a good one and probably equal to a strong English county side. "It was a matter of regret however that Stoddart is the only representative of the South of England". It noted that the South had been unbeaten since 1881 and was generally acknowledged to play the most scientific game.

In New Zealand

Stoddart was selected for the first match against Otago on 28 April 1888. Seddon was appointed captain. It was played in front of 8,000 people and generated £350 in receipts. This was a relatively minor contribution, at last, to the £6,000 to £9,000 initial outlay by the promoters. Otago led by a drop goal but Tom Kent then scored a try to bring the scores level. In the second half, Anderton scored a try that was converted and the final score was 8-3 to the visitors.

The touring team played throughout May 1888 in Christchurch, Wellington, New Plymouth and Auckland, playing nine games in all, in front of 51,500 spectators. They won five, drew one game and lost two. The first loss was to the Taranaki clubs on 16 May 1888 and the second was the final game, by a score of 4-0 against Auckland on 24 May 1888. The latter prompted Shrewsbury to report to Shaw that, "we simply lost the match through our players not taking care of themselves, too much whisky and women".

In Australia

On 26 May 1888, the team embarked for Australia on board *Zealandia* with the prospect of 15 rugby and 19 Aussie Rules matches to come. When in Christchurch, Shrewsbury had organised a practice match to Aussie Rules against 17 locals and employed two coaches, Jack London and Fred McShane, a former player with the renowned Essendon club. This was followed by two more practice games in Auckland. That was it before the tourists were to face possibly the strongest team in Australia under these rules.

In Australia, success on the field continued for the tourists. Two early games against The Kings School, Parramatta and Sydney Grammar School were drawn. However appearances can be deceptive: each opponent fielded a majority of former pupils. Seddon explained that the players were stiff and sore against Parramatta, who scored ten points (by two goals) in the first half. His team

pulled together in the second half and scored five tries to draw. Against Sydney Grammar School, the tourists were playing 15 against their opponents 16.

All the other games of rugby union were won. When they played to Aussie Rules, they managed to win six of their 19 fixtures.

Seddon was a valuable correspondent on tour. He reported that after the team's arrival in Sydney on 3 August 1888, they had played New South Wales to Aussie Rules on the next day, which they won 16-21. (Given the record that they also played New South Wales on that day (to Union Rules) and won 16-2 suggests that one game immediately followed the other). Seddon wrote "Stoddart and [Walter] Bumby were far and away ahead of any others on our side".

The party arrived in Bathurst on 7 August 1888 and played the next day, the nineteenth game of the tour. Early on, the side was down to a try and a goal but then Williams scored a try. From a difficult angle, Stoddart failed to convert. Kent then scored a second try. Stoddart was successful with the conversion "despite the ball being close to touch". At half time the score was 5-7.

Early in the second half, Bathurst scored a converted try to lead 10-7. Jack Anderton (a three quarter, who played for Salford) was bundled into touch after a strong run but good passing led to a try scored by Kent that Stoddart converted. The home side's defence then rather crumbled and tries were scored by Herbert Brooks, Stoddart, Harry Eagles and Anderton for a 20-10 win. Seddon praised Stoddart and Brooks as the best three quarters on display.

He mentioned that the grounds were very dry and "it was like playing on roads". An injury crisis seemed to him to be inevitable. In Maitland, where they were soon to play under Aussie Rules, it had rained twice in six months.

After the Bathurst match (and a two hour drive) the players were entertained to some kangaroo hunting, assisted by 20 beaters and some hares. This went down well with the players. Whilst admiring the scenery, it seems Seddon was hit in the back by some stray pellets. However, this did not prevent him playing against the University of Sydney on 11 August 1888. The team returned to Bathurst and started out for Sydney at 10.30am next day, due to arrive at 5.30pm.

Seddon wrote that on the Saturday of the match it was extremely hot. The University were undefeated for two years. The tourists were short of five players and the locals were excited by the prospect of an upset. However, the tourists won 8-4, a result that locally went down badly. Sunday was allocated as a rest day.

Maitland

On Monday the team left at 5.00pm for Maitland, partly by train and partly by steamer. Seddon mentioned the beautiful sights from the river as the ship approached. They reached the Royal Hotel in Maitland half an hour after midnight. On the following day, the team met Maitland in a game to Aussie Rules against Victoria that was played at 78°F, despite this being winter. This game

was lost 8-4, though, as Seddon commented, "Stoddart missed three or four very easy kicks at goal (an unusual occurrence)".

That evening, the local skating rink was the venue for a special night in celebration of the tourists' visit that Seddon mentioned, was "beautifully decorated in red, white and blue". He said that the next day was to be spent recuperating, driving and boating, some taking to the river.

Seddon wrote that in the evening the team would be heading to Newcastle to play Newcastle and Northern Districts, to be followed by two days and nights travel to Brisbane, where they would play three or four matches.

He decided not to take the train to Newcastle with the rest of the team. Stoddart and Anderton decided likewise, intending to take the later evening train instead. Seddon wanted to catch up on correspondence for collection by the mail ship and go for a swim and to row on the Hunter River. Stoddart and Anderton hired a punt and "were lying around, smoking and taking it easy",

Meanwhile Seddon had rented a "racing outrigger" at the Floating Baths. Dressed in his red, white and blue rugby shirt and in flannels, he rowed upstream at some pace, passing them, with an exchange of banter. He rounded Horseshoe Bend and was out of sight, perhaps a half a mile distant from Stoddart and Anderton.

Next they knew there was a shout from the riverbank. Seddon's boat had capsized and he was seen by a bystander trying to swim on his back and reach the bank. He is said to have sunk twice, "the last time being for good," according to a report in the *Newcastle Morning Herald*. He had drowned.

Stoddart and Anderton responded to the commotion by moving as fast as they could, heading back around the bend in the river. Two men on the riverbank were shouting their encouragement but there was no spare boat immediately available to which they could resort in order to help.

Seddon's body was recovered from the water by his teammates and attempts made to resuscitate him. The town doctor spent an hour trying to revive him but it was to no avail. As Anderton stated later, it appeared that Seddon was within two yards of the bank and had sunk in a depth of 12 feet.

Harry Eagles, who had enjoyed 20 years' friendship with Seddon was interviewed by the *Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser* on 15 November 1888 after the team's return to England.

He commented that no adequate explanation could be given for the accident. Several theories had been put forward. The latest was that he has been provided two left handed sculls with his skiff that he felt had to be immediately discounted. Seddon was an experienced oarsman and was hardly likely to accept that arrangement.

It seems more likely that when his boat took on water, he was unable to release his feet from the restraints quickly enough and had therefore been dragging the

boat by his feet in his attempt to reach land. Another opinion was that he was not accustomed to his skiff and appeared to be struggling with it when he was thrown overboard, following which the vessel capsized. He has swum on his back for 15 yards when he went under.

Eagles was clearly close to Seddon. He had saved lives himself and sounded a little sceptical of the circumstances of the tragedy. He said unfortunately "as he had done all tour, Stoddart remained aloof from the press and despite the gravity of events, never spoke about what happened that day".

The accident has occurred 50 minutes after the main party had departed for Newcastle. The news was very badly received on their arrival. Some players broke down in tears, which was regarded as extremely rare in the age of the proverbial stiff upper lip (but testament to Seddon's popularity). The reaction in Maitland was not dissimilar. Seddon had become extremely popular and the news came as a considerable shock.

The funeral was solemn and affected the whole town. Businesses closed in the High Street. Flags were flown at half-mast. St Mary's Church bell was tolled. The Adelphi Skating Rink closed. Seddon's coffin was borne from the Royal Hotel by eight teammates and accompanied by 160 rugby players. His body was buried, in his tour rugby shirt, in the local churchyard. That evening a Committee was formed to collect subscriptions for a memorial stone. More than £30 was collected during the evening. The takings from the Skating Rink that stayed open until 10.30pm, amounting to £31, were added later.

That memorial stone has been visited on the last two tours of the Lions to Australia and wreaths laid. The 1888 team and its captain were inducted into the IRB Hall of Fame in 2013.

The Tour continues

The players met and cancelled the game against Newcastle. There must have been some concerns on the part of the promoters that this might mark the end of the tour but Shaw stepped in and appointed Stoddart in succession as captain. However, Seddon was still the leader and in all future photographs of the team the centre seat was left deliberately empty and a ball placed at the foot in his memory. Furthermore the team took to the field on 18 August 1888 and defeated the Queensland Reds 13-6 as a fitting tribute to their lost skipper.

Return to New Zealand

In September 1888 the team returned to New Zealand for ten fixtures that were all won, save for two draws. This included a win against Auckland to avenge the loss at the end of the first leg of the tour. The Wellington game in the first leg had prompted Seddon to respond to allegations of rough play by the tourists. In an interview with the *Otago Witness*, he praised the New Zealanders' technique in scrummaging but said that the tourists preferred to screw the scrum, as he put it, in order to release the ball quicker and open up the play that he felt led to "much prettier play to watch". He felt that the opponents appeared more intent on running to score, as opposed to using the pass.

In the Wellington game, four or five tourists had to be carried off and Seddon felt he had to protect his side against further injury. The Wellington skipper, King, suggested that there should be “give and take” but Seddon believed that Wellington could far more easily find replacement players and that he “only had a certain number of men to fall back on”. He found them the roughest of their opponents.

He added that games in New Zealand were the more pleasant, as they were played on cricket fields with a higher quality of grass than that encountered in England, where the pitches were generally wet, with inferior surfaces.

The Stoddart Effect

The long tour ended with 27 wins, six draws and two losses. Three of the party stayed put: Robbie Burnet later moved to Australia. Shrewsbury had been away for 15 months and Stoddart for 14. The consensus was that Stoddart had proved to be the *box office draw* for the promoters, partially fuelled by his cricketing renown.

He had found the transition to Aussie Rules less difficult than some of his contemporaries. He cut a dashing figure with his waxed moustache, top hat and cane. Sean Fagan, the author of *The First Lions of Rugby* felt that Stoddart basked “in the sunshine of feminine adoration”. At one point towards the end of the tour, the team’s hotel was reported to have been surrounded by a hysterical mob, determined to see Stoddart and to offer a round of applause.

What of the RFU? To the surprise of many, it asked the players simply to sign a Declaration that they had not been paid to play that each did. Clowes was reinstated (having spent most of the tour visiting his brother in Sydney). Writing in the *Guardian*, Alex McLintock recounting *The forgotten story of...the 1888 Lions Tour* suggested that “essentially, the RFU did not want to move against a huge star like Stoddart but had to reinstate Clowes in order to avoid the impression that there was one set of rules for the gentlemen and another for coalminers”.

He concluded that two thirds of the Lions had come from clubs that rebelled in 1895 to form the Rugby League. Shrewsbury and Shaw’s “harebrained moneymaking scheme changed rugby forever but probably not in the way they intended”.

Andrew Stoddart New Zealand Maoris Incident

The 1888-89 rugby season saw the visit of the New Zealand Maoris, who went on to play 107 games in an elongated tour of New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain. This was the first overseas visiting team to play rugby in England

It was the longest tour of any rugby team. In all codes of the game they won 81, drew 7 and lost 30. In Great Britain, they played 74, won 49 drew 5 and lost 20. Sometimes they played three times in a week. Once they played on four consecutive days. At one point they only had 11 fit players. Their rate of success was therefore remarkable.

Their tour had started in Australia on 23 June 1888. The team played their first game in England on 3 October 1888 against Surrey at Richmond and their last against Southern Counties at Leyton on 27 March 1889. They then set sail for Australia. Their first game of that leg was on 15 May 1889 against Maryborough (under Australian Rules) and the last at Toowoomba on 24 July 1889 against a Toowoomba XVII (*sic*). The final stage of the tour started at home with a game against Southland at Invercargill on 7 August 1889 and the final game was against Auckland on 24 August 1889.

In 1888, the power base of English rugby was southern England. But the playing strength was in the north. Two thirds of the Maoris games were against northern teams. They played only five games in Wales, three in Ireland and one in Scotland. The reaction to the visitors in the south tended to be critical. The New Zealanders were regarded as playing the game excessively vigorously but they were praised in the north for their fairness.

It was felt that northerners wanted to play hard and win, whereas in the south the concentration was on the qualities of team sport and the character building elements that the game brought. The northern teams may have been empathetic to the tourists' opportunity to compete against the English elite, who may have looked down on them, too? The split in the RFU over compensation to players for time taken off work to play that led to the formation of the Rugby League was to occur in 1895.

The game against England on 16 February 1889 was the most important on this tour. The Maoris were expected to compete strongly, on the back of a seven-game winning streak and a defeat of Ireland and narrow loss to Wales. England were eager to play too, as it offered international rugby at a time they were excluded from the home championship in 1888 and 1889, for the reasons set out in this account. The Maoris' rigour on the pitch had caused some resentment on the touchlines and in the stands of Great Britain. This all came to a head in this game.

Late in the first half, after an even contest, England were awarded two tries scored by Harry Bedford, when the Maoris were adamant that they had grounded the ball in-goal first. The referee was Rowland Hill, the Secretary of

the RFU (who, it will be seen later, intervened with his Book of Laws in the hiatus at the England v Scotland game in 1884).

He caused more consternation early in the second half when Stoddart had his shorts torn apart in an attempted tackle by Ellison. It was claimed that he called "dead ball" as this happened. The Maoris encircled him to preserve his modesty, as he walked off the pitch. But as this was happening, England's wing forward Frank Evershed (in his first international) stole the ball and crossed the line to score the third try between the posts.

David Frith records the recollections of T R Ellison, one of the touring party, over the incident that ruptured the touring team's patience. "Mr Stoddart made a fine, dodgy run and, after beating several of our men, I lured him into my arms by applying the feign dodge. By a quick wriggle, however, he escaped but left a portion of his shorts in my possession. He dashed along and the crowd roared; then, suddenly, discovering what was the matter, he stopped, threw down the ball and, in an instant, we had the vulgar gaze shut off by forming the usual ring around him."

The New Zealanders were outraged by Evershed's picking up the ball and his run for the line to score when they had all stopped playing. Nonetheless, Mr Hill awarded the try. Three Maoris were so incensed that they walked off the pitch. Mr Hill restarted the game regardless. The three were eventually persuaded to return to the pitch but after several minutes. England won the game 7-0, with one goal and four tries (ie 7 points in more modern parlance (3+ 1x4). The final try was scored by Stoddart and converted by him.

The try incident incensed the visitors and they made no attempt to disguise it. It was enough to persuade Mr Hill that the Maoris should formally apologise "for their outrageous behaviour". He claimed that the Maoris had to accept that the referee's decision was "above question". To protest a decision was unsportsmanlike in his eyes. He went on to threaten to ban any RFU affiliated player who played against the Maoris until there was an apology. Skipper Edward McCausland sent a telegram with that apology but this was deemed inadequate by the RFU, who demanded a letter. This was sent four days later.

This allowed the tour to continue but there was to be no official farewell at the end, which was considered an affront by the press outside London, as well as by the visitors, as they had already apologised.

The tour was significant for several reasons. It confirmed that New Zealanders could compete with the teams then at the centre of rugby (that in cricket they simply could not do). It led to the formation of the New Zealand Rugby Football Union in 1892. The New Zealanders had witnessed the benefits that a passing game brought and they embraced it, as they did playing with eight forwards as opposed to the usual nine in those days. It had introduced them to the concept of a wing forward, a second half-back to disrupt opponents' moves around the scrum. In addition, the Maoris were the first team to perform a *haka* and to wear all black clothing.

Andrew Stoddart Rugby from 1890 onwards

On 15 February 1890, Stoddart captained England at Dewsbury against Wales, who achieved their first win against England. The bad weather conspired to thwart the heavy English forwards. The match was played in sleet and snow, with heavy winds. Stoddart attempted to gain field advantage with his kicking but the ball was being returned by the nimble Welsh three quarters and particularly the full back, Billy Bancroft. Wales scored a second half try through Stadden, their half back and despite constant England forward pressure in the later stages, Wales held on for the win.

Injury prevented Stoddart's appearance against Scotland but he returned for the Ireland game at the Rectory Field before 12,000 spectators. Stoddart lost the toss (as tended to be the case, whether in cricket or rugby) and the Irish took the advantage of the wind. England were nonetheless largely on top in the first half. Stoddart made a short run and swung the ball across to Morrison, who took the ball into the 25, when Evershed took over and crossed the line but, in doing so, dropped the ball. Rogers managed to lunge on to it, however and the try was scored. Jowett failed with the conversion.

Stoddart scored the second try after a run and pass from Aston. Jowett again missed the conversion. Morrison scored England's third try, down the right touchline evading several tackles but once again there was no conversion. Ireland pressed and a score was prevented by a tackle from Stoddart on Johnstone that kept the clean sheet. This meant that the home international championship was shared between England and Scotland.

For Blackheath, and as skipper, Stoddart scored seven tries that season, the second best record in the club that year. A contemporary pen-picture, discovered by David Frith, summed up his approach:

"Very active and strong, he can well hold his own with heavier and more powerful men and this he has frequently demonstrated. As for the speed with which he runs with the ball and the quickness with which he can swerve and dodge, without losing way when avoiding an opponent, his extraordinary starts and jumps, the certainly of his fielding and his mastery of all the tactics of attack, are not these things matters of public notoriety?"

He was also known in games to have beaten most defenders with a run, take on the full back and swerve past him, only to pass to a team-mate for the try. He was also renowned as fearless and willing to take what in modern parlance is the "crash ball". He was reported not seemingly to know the meaning of the word *fear*.

But even in 1890 he was mentioning a possible retirement from rugby. However, he again appeared for Blackheath for the 1890-91 season. He was their leading try scorer. He captained the first Barbarians team in their match against Hartlepool Rovers. On that tour, the Barbarians also played Bradford. Stoddart

was about to cross the line for a try when the whistle blew, so he stopped dead in his tracks. It was then discovered to be a whistle from the crowd. Nonetheless, Stoddart did score a valid try and the game ended in a 6-6 draw.

Stoddart also captained the Barbarians on 1 April 1891 at Exeter, when the tourists took on Devon. Stoddart scored a try and managed to convert three in a win by 11-0. It was then off to another cricket season.

He was also oddly awarded an England cap that rugby season, despite not playing for the country. The *Pall Mall Gazette* reported that the team that played Wales was that originally selected but *The Times* listed the team without Stoddart's inclusion. He was therefore not mentioned in the match report as such. However the RFU credited him and 15 others with a cap.

In 1892, the captaincy of Blackheath passed to W P "Tottie" Carpmael. This was to be Stoddart's last season of rugby. In a game at Cambridge University he was reported to have protected his knees with elastic knee caps and wore anklets on both ankles and a rubber bandage on an elbow. Nonetheless, he "showed us a perfect performance by a wing-threequarter – how and when to part with the ball and what to do when he kept it." He scored a try in that game that was cheered long and loudly but was seen to be limping after the effort.

On Boxing Day, Stoddart played for the Barbarians against Cardiff but after that the country was hit by blizzards. It was as late as the day before the Wales v England fixture on 7 January 1893 that the English team decided to leave for Cardiff, arriving in a snowstorm and immediately heading for their hotel. Later they walked to the ground to see it covered with braziers in an attempt to fend off the ice. There was little hope for a playable surface given the cold but in the morning the heat of the braziers had thawed the pitch sufficiently to allow for play.

England fielded three three-quarters and nine forwards whereas Wales opted for eight forwards and the additional back. Their success with this new system soon became apparent to the rest of the rugby playing world and was promptly adopted by all clubs.

Stoddart won this toss and took the advantage of the wind. The English backs were soon in action and Lohden (of Blackheath) scored an early try in his first international. Woods missed the conversion. Stoddart then missed a penalty goal that seemed unimportant at the time, as the England pack drove for a second try, which was converted.

With the wind in the second half, the Welsh backs came into their own, having been starved of ball in the first half. Their forwards began to press too but with a classic counterattack. After a high kick was fielded, Field ran through the Welsh defence and though tackled just before the line, the ball was picked up by Marshall, who scored a third, but unconverted, try.

Wales then came back into the game as the 17,000 crowd added their voice.

Gould scored for Wales and Bancroft skilfully converted. Phillips and Biggs set up Gould for his second try but the conversion was narrowly missed. At the other end after forward pressure the ball was shipped to Stoddart, who made room and Marshall scored his third try that Wood was unable to convert. As England may then have felt the game was theirs, the Welsh attacked again and Biggs scored a try. However, Bancroft was unable to convert from the touchline.

In the closing minutes, England conceded a penalty. Bancroft was apparently unaware of the actual score and kicked what happened to be the winning goal. There was still confusion in the ground. Two days prior to the match, the International Board has altered the point scoring system. A try has been devalued to two points (from three) and a conversion was upgraded from two points to three. A penalty goal was still worth three points. As a result, Wales won 12-11 (despite England's greater number of tries) and went on to win the triple crown. Had the scoring system not been changed it would have been a draw.

Stoddart missed the next game against Ireland but was appointed to the captaincy for the game against Scotland at Headingley, Leeds on 4 March 1893. Facing him was his close friend and fellow cricketer, Gregor MacGregor. Scotland won the toss and played with the wind. England pressed the Scots but the Scottish scrummage held firm. England had their half-backs Duckett and C M Wells to thank for their tackling in defence and breaks with the ball.

When England did break, Wells was running hard for the line but passed the ball out to Stoddart, who dropped it. Scotland immediately countered and England had to throw everything into defence. Towards the end of the first half Stoddart again failed when he was attacking and Boswell took full advantage for Scotland just within kicking range. His drop goal bounced on the cross bar and over for the four points.

In the second half the pattern was much the same, with the Scottish forwards marauding and harassing the home side, whose forwards were being outgunned and their backs ground down. Campbell collected a loose ball and kicked a second Scottish drop goal.

Towards the end, Stoddart reverted to drop goals in an attempt to rescue the scoreline but it was to no avail: Scotland won 8-0. The English forwards had been dominated and the general consensus was that the English backs had been weak. Later, England colleague Sammy Woods commented that Stoddart was "alas, a little too gentle when playing against Scotland" attributed, perhaps, to his deep friendship with MacGregor .

It was the last time that Stoddart was to play international rugby, one week prior to his 30th birthday and regarded as "one of the greatest international backs and the most agile and finished rugby footballer of his generation."

His international playing record is set out, below.

The Cricketers of Hampstead Hockey Club
 The first 20 years; 1894 to 1914

Date	Fixture	Result	Venue	
3.1.1885	Wales v England	1G 1T - 1G 4T	St Helens Swansea	England win on tries scored
7.2.1885	England v Ireland	2T - 1T	Whalley Range Manchester	6,000 in attendance
2.1.1886	England v Wales	1G, 1GM 1T - 1G	Rectory Field Blackheath	Stoddart scored a Goal from a Mark - 4 points
6.2.1886	Ireland v England	1T - 0	Lansdowne Road Dublin	Ireland win by a try
13.3.1886	Scotland v England	0-0	Raeburn Place Edinburgh	No tries scored
16.2.1889	England v NZ Maori	7-0	Rectory Field Blackheath	12,000 in attendance; 12 new England caps
15.2.1890	England* v Wales	0-1	Crown Flatt Dewsbury	5,000 in attendance; Wales win by one try
15.3.1890	England* v Ireland	9-0	Rectory Field Blackheath	England win by three tries to nil
7.1.1893	Wales v England*	12-11	Cardiff Arms Park	New points scoring system in operation
4.3.1893	England* v Scotland	0-8	Headingley Leeds	Scotland win by two drop goals to nil
	<i>*Stoddart captaincy</i>			

Andrew Stoddart Rugby's International Disputes

It is widely thought that had there not been substantial disputes between the four home unions that led to games not taking place, Stoddart would have gained a greater number of caps for England. What, therefore, were those disputes?

The formulation of an accepted version of the rules or laws of rugby union (touched upon earlier) was central to the arguments.

One arose in 1884 when a try scored by England was disputed by the Scots. It came from what modern players would recognise as a line out, when Scotland were leading by a try to none. When the ball was "thrown out from touch", C W Berry for Scotland knocked the ball back towards his own line. The ball was picked up by Richard Kindersely for England who promptly ran in for a try, in circumstances where it seems the majority of the Scots stopped playing. (Another contemporary report mentioned that all, except four English and two Scots, had actually stopped playing).

There was a dispute on the pitch for ten minutes (some say 30 minutes, as the Secretary of the RFU, Mr Rowland Hill, had reportedly come on to the pitch, armed with a copy of the Laws). The game eventually resumed, without a final decision and still under protest. W N Bolton converted for England and this was the winning goal.

Perhaps surprisingly, it took until 1969 to abandon the rule that a result or incident on the pitch could be overruled by a subsequent appeal to the RFU. However this game was played in England and the RFU was not willing to determine any appeal, possibly taking the view that only the RFU should rule on the laws of the game that they had made and under which the game had been played for many years.

It led to some rather curt correspondence between the two unions. The Scottish "case" was that any knock or "fisting" of the ball in **any** direction was a knock "on" under Law 26 and therefore illegal. Under Scottish practice, whenever there was a knock on or back, there would be a call of "Fist!" and play would stop. It was unclear whether a knock-back was permitted in England at the time.

In those days there were two umpires and a referee. The umpires held sticks, as opposed to flags and would raise them if a player made an appeal on the pitch. That would stop play.

The RFU's case was that when the incident occurred, there had been no appeal by England, so no stick had been raised, so the game continued and the English try stood. It was in their view lawful to knock the ball backwards as much as a throw back and therefore there had been no breach. "The Scotchman [*sic*] was to suffer his mistake".

The Scottish Union responded that the origins of the appeal system were unclear but it has been evidently acquiesced by both sides and, as was evident, the majority stopped playing as soon as the incident the subject of the dispute had occurred.

The referee from Ireland also wrote a letter. He said that the ball had been knocked back by the Scots and that he had not heard any appeal by England, nor had any been heard by the two umpires. If a knock-back were lawful, there was no ground for an appeal: if unlawful, England had the right to take advantage of the situation. He added that "he was sorry to decide for England, as the Scots has had the best of the match but he was confident that his decision had been correct".

At that time the referee only interfered with play if there were an appeal to one of the umpires. The referee's function was simply to adjudicate if there were a disagreement. The advantage rule, incidentally, was not formally introduced until 1896.

On 12 February 1885, the RFU wrote to the Scottish Union and said that they would be happy to play another fixture if the referee's decision were accepted by the Scots. The Scots refused and the game was cancelled. Only four matches were therefore played that year in the home international championship. Wales had not played against Ireland because of a dispute between their unions. A meeting of the representatives of all four unions was held on 6 February 1886 in an attempt to resolve this dispute. The Scots eventually accepted the defeat "but only in the interests of rugby football".

Following this unsatisfactory state of affairs, an International Rugby Board (IRB) was formed in 1886 by Scotland, Wales and Ireland. The RFU refused to join. It wanted greater representation because of the greater number of clubs involved in the game in England. It also refused to accept the new IRB as the recognised maker of the laws of the game.

The IRB therefore agreed to bar games with England until the RFU accepted the IRB as the overseer of home international matches. England only agreed to join in 1890. It took until 1930 for the IRFB rules (as they were then known) to become universally accepted.

Andrew Stoddart

Cricket once more

Stoddart did not play for Hampstead in the 1888 season, as he had stayed in Australia for rugby.

He was back for the 1889 season but the Club's results were mediocre. He still headed the batting averages, scoring 874 runs from 16 innings for 62.60 and he took 66 wickets, more than any other, at 8.59.

Hampstead Cricket Club's fortunes improved in 1890, when the Australian pace bowler Spofforth joined for his Saturday cricket. With the recruitment of G Thornton, as well, Hampstead Cricket Club had a formidable bowling line-up.

Stoddart again topped the averages, holding off another Hampstead Hockey Club member, W T Danby to first in the rankings. Stoddart scored 418 runs at 41.80 and Danby 369 at 41.00. Stoddart also led the bowling averages that year, with 44 wickets at 8.31.

1891 was the year when H B Hayman joined Hampstead Cricket Club. He later became captain of Hampstead Hockey Club's 1st XI from 1897 until 1904. Freddie Monro regarded him as a born athlete. As well as hockey, he was known as a scratch golfer and very good quality squash player. His cricketing career is covered in greater detail below and, in particular, the six years during which he represented Middlesex.

The quality of players available to the Cricket Club that season improved steadily. Stoddart was still second in the bowling averages, with 105 wickets at an average of 8.76. He headed the batting averages too, with 979 runs, averaging 42.56, with a highest score of 153 not out.

First Test 1892

The first test between England and Australia took place at Melbourne between 1-6 January 1892. Led by W G Grace, England fell to Australia by 54 runs. Australia's first innings total was 240 and England exceeded that by 24 (though Stoddart was out for nought). In their second innings, Australia reached 236 but England could only manage 158, in reply, of which Stoddart contributed 35.

Second Test 1892

The second test at Sydney was also won by Australia by 172 runs, in spite of a first innings deficit of 163. England scored 307 after Australia's 144, Stoddart scoring 27. R Abel, who opened for England reached 132 and became the first Englishman to carry his bat through a completed test innings.

In the second innings, however, Australia managed 391, after 143 from J J Lyons. England's reply was 156 all out. Australia therefore won the Ashes for the first time.

Third Test 1892

In the third and last game of the series, England recovered to win by an innings and 230 runs. This test was held at the Adelaide Oval on 24 to 28 March 1892. Batting conditions were said to be perfect. Stoddart took full advantage, with 134 out of an England total of 499. It then rained torrentially and turned the pitch to favour the bowlers. Australia managed 100, with Briggs taking 6-49 and in their second innings, 169, Briggs taking 6-87. After one hour of the fourth morning, England had secured their largest margin of victory in any test match to date.

1893

In the 1893 edition of *Wisden*, Stoddart was included as one of the *Five Batsmen of the Year*, adding that “he continually gets runs under conditions that find most batsmen at fault, his play both on slow and fiery pitches being quite exceptional” It added that his rugby was now “rather past its best”, something the player himself had already come to accept.

In his first club game, Stoddart scored 75 at Lymington Road and in his seven matches for Hampstead averaged 111, with a century and double century. For MCC, he scored 62 in under an hour against Sussex and then opened with W G Grace against the touring Australians, Grace scoring 41 and Stoddart 58 on an initially tricky wicket that eased, allowing MCC to reach 424.

After forcing a follow on, MCC needed 167 to win. There were hopes that Stoddart might try to emulate Lyons, whose second innings for Australia had been meteoric in reaching 149, dispatching the ball to all parts of the ground. Stoddart did hit one ball out of the ground and reached 72 when rain interrupted play. On resumption, both Stoddart and Grace were soon out and a batting collapse had to be averted, so the match was drawn.

Against Nottinghamshire for Middlesex, Stoddart scored a century in both innings, only the second time this had occurred at Lord’s since 1817. In the first innings he was undefeated on 195 when the last man in, Jack Hearne, was bowled.

Billy Gunn

Nottinghamshire fought back, with Billy Gunn making 120. Gunn was later to found the Gunn & Moore equipment manufacturer in 1885, having served an apprenticeship as a bat maker. He had toured with Shrewsbury and Shaw to Australia in 1886-87 as a batsman and was regarded as the strongest thrower of a ball in the game. He also played international football for England. Being six feet two inches tall, his throw-ins were so immense that they led to the change of rules that required instead an overhead, two handed throw-in, seen in the modern game.

Middlesex required another big score to avoid a defeat. At the end of the second day they were 184-2, with Stoddart on 94, said to have been put together carefully and without a ball being wasted. It rained overnight but there was a large crowd to see Stoddart reach 124 before being caught off Anewall. The Nottinghamshire second innings faltered and Middlesex ran out winners by 57 runs only ten minutes from the close of play. Stoddart’s two innings were a

talking point: *The Cricket Field* reported, "Verily, we are lucky who are living to see such things."

Having helped MCC beat the Australian touring team by seven wickets with a partnership of 120 with W G Grace in pursuit of 175 to win, in which Stoddart scored 74, he was next in good form at Lord's for Middlesex against Surrey.

In the second innings Middlesex were trailing by 179 when Stoddart and O'Brien opened. They scored 228 for the first wicket, Stoddart making 125 in 140 minutes and O'Brien 113, curiously able to drive the ball to leg past the wicketkeeper, no less, when facing what were described as leg-side lobs from Surrey's Walter Read. Surrey were left to chase 199 and fell short. At the end a large number congregated in front of the pavilion and shouted for five minutes for Stoddart to appear, which he was later persuaded to do and "acknowledged them with a profound bow".

Bill Scotton

In the week before the Test at Lord's on 7 July 1893, the news was taken up by the suicide of former England opener, Bill Scotton, who had played in 15 tests. At his death, aged 37, he was a member of the Lord's groundstaff and lived in lodgings in St John's Wood Terrace. He had suffered a depression brought upon, it was reported, by the loss of his first team place for Nottinghamshire.

He made his international debut in the first Test in Melbourne in 1881 and later toured again with Shrewsbury and Shaw in 1884 and 1886. His best innings came at the Oval in the third test, also against Australia in August 1884. Australia had made 551 in their innings (in days when a declaration was not permitted) in which all eleven bowled for England.

W G Grace had opened with Scotton and was soon out for 19. Scotton, a left hander, was renowned for his sound defence and obduracy. Facing hostile bowling, he batted for 5¾ hours and enjoyed little support until Walter Read joined him at number 10 and they put on 151 for the ninth wicket. Scotton was eventually out for 90 but Read went on to make 117 in an England total of 346. It was generally acknowledged that this total owed much to Scotton. However his caution developed to the extreme, to the extent that in its obituary, *Wisden* declared that it was "often impossible to take pleasure from seeing him play."

First Test 1893

At Lord's W G Grace had broken a finger and the captaincy passed to Stoddart, who became only the second man to captain England at rugby and cricket. The first to do so had been A N "Monkey" Hornby, who had the misfortune to be the skipper of the cricket team in the one off test at the Oval in 1882 that led to the obituary of English cricket (and the creation of the Ashes) and who had captained England from full back in the match against Scotland on 4 March 1882 that Scotland won by two tries to none. (Before that he had played association football for Blackburn Rovers, from 1878).

Stoddart won the toss. He decided to bat though the wicket was wet and there was little sun. The situation called for resolute early batting to fend off the

bowling and then develop a score. There were 15,000 spectators in the ground. Turner opened for Australia and presented a considerable challenge (ending with 6-67 from 36 overs). Stoddart went on the attack and in 12 minutes had scored 20 of the 21-0. But then he was struck a heavy blow on the elbow and could hardly hold his bat. He parried one that was almost caught at point and then missed an off cutter and was bowled for 24.

Gunn came to the wicket and only scored two. F S Jackson took over at number four and began shots to leg and drives. It was tense play but they took the score to 168 before Jackson was out for 91. Shrewsbury went on to make 106 and became the first English batsman to score three centuries in test cricket. England had scored 334 and by the end of play on the first day had Australia at 33-2.

The pitch appeared to have eased on the second day but the English bowlers maintained their attack and soon had five wickets down for 75, all down to Lockwood. It was a critical juncture but Lockwood had bowled for almost two hours and was in need of a rest. In his first test for Australia, Graham grew in confidence and, with Syd Gregory, began to exert some control. Stoddart's captaincy was criticised for mismanagement of his bowlers but when Gregory was out for 57 the Australian score had reached 217-6. At 98 Graham popped a chance to Shrewsbury at point but he dropped it and the debutant went on to a century, scoring 107 in only 140 minutes. Australia were finally all out for 269.

In their second innings, Stoddart was bowled by Turner for 13. Gunn then scored well and play ended at 113-1. On the third day, cloud set in as England accelerated the scoring but lost wickets. Gunn was out for 77 and Shrewsbury bowled by Giffen for 81. At 198-6 things were looking gloomy for Stoddart. He did have his eye on the clock (as well as the weather). A Yorkshireman, Wainwright, struck a few blows to reach 26 before being bowled by Giffen but by then England had reached 234-8 at lunch.

Play was held up but at 3.15pm the drizzle stopped and Stoddart then declared the England innings closed – the first England captain to do so, setting Australia 300 to win. However, no further play was possible and the match was drawn.

For Stoddart it was then back to Hampstead, where he found the batting a little easier and scored 129 against the Nondescripts and 210 (with 40 boundaries) helping the team to a lead of 400 against Willesden.

Second Test 1893

The second test at The Oval began on 14 August 1893. W G Grace had recovered in the month and resumed the captaincy. England won the toss and batted. Stoddart appeared apprehensive by all accounts. It was a slow start with a defensive field. Stoddart was dropped on one and was later missed by Trott. His timing was awry (embarrassingly so, to some commentators). He then edged through the slips. However he was then released with a short ball that he swept to the boundary and the England score went on to 40 in a short time. The sun was up and the temperature rose considerably.

Stoddart was then dropped again and Grace nicked one over slip for four, as the batsmen accelerated. Stoddart went on to his fifty in 70 minutes playing rather fatalistically. The century stand came up in 90 minutes and it was 134-0 at lunch much to the Australians' chagrin. After lunch the good fortune continued for Stoddart, who was put down twice more but on the second occasion was bowled by the next ball for 83. 151-1 became 152-2 when Grace was then out immediately.

Shrewsbury and Gunn took over but the latter was bowled for 16. Shrewsbury went on to 50, scoring 12 from one over of Trott's leg spin, before being dismissed for 66. Jackson came into bat at number seven in his first test match. He and Read made a stand of 131 when Read was bowled for 52. The next man in was distracted by movement behind the bowlers arm and was bowled first ball, leaving Lockwood to fend off the hat-trick. He went for 10 whilst Jackson scored whatever he could. He reached 98 when A W Mold came out to bat the last man. Some described Mold, no doubt unjustly, as the world's worst batsman but he managed to hold his end and enabled Jackson to reach 103, on which he promptly ran his young partner out, leaving England all out for 483.

Australia started reasonably well, at 30-0 but were soon 40-5. There followed a brief stand that threatened more and it was left to the final pair to collect 22 for the tenth wicket, leaving Australia 91 all out.

At 4.30pm Australia batted again. A different tack was taken and opener Bruce, who batted seventh in the first innings, helped race the score to 50-0 in half an hour. The heat then began to take its toll in the fielding side and the pitch became placid. Bannerman was then caught by Read, running back at mid-on and Australia were 126-2. When play ended for the day, Australian were 234 behind, with eight wickets left.

Only 2,000 were in attendance on the third day. Australia eased to 200-4. Grace was urged to try something different to break up the batting as Trott and Graham put on 106 in an hour, following which 300-5 was reached. After Trott was out for 92, Lyons scored five 4's (that is, a six as recognised today). The very next ball was sent toward Grace, who pulled off a good catch that almost felled him and that was the end of Lyons for a rapid 22. Australia were finally all out for 349 and England had won by an innings and 43 runs.

Third Test 1893

The third test at Old Trafford, Manchester began on 24 August 1893. There had been rain but the ground was dried by a strong wind. Admission prices had been doubled for the match, so the gate suffered accordingly, with only 8,000 present when Australia, who won the toss, decided to bat. A boundary from the first ball set the tone, as Bannerman and Lyons thrashed the early bowling. England recovered and gained three wickets to leave Australia at 69-3. At lunch the score was 100-4.

At 129-5, Bruce and Trumble took the fight to England. Bruce scored 14 from a Briggs over and the score moved swiftly on to 150. Brice was then out caught for 68 and the tail offered no real resistance, to leave the innings completed at 204.

Grace and Stoddart opened the England innings. Giffen opened the bowling and was without a slip, along with Turner, who did. Grace drove a ball from Turner to mid-on and called for a run. Stoddart was ill prepared, possibly not wanting to face Turner and was thrown out by Gregory without scoring.

This seems to have affected Grace, who then scratched his way to 30 and Shrewsbury was very circumspect, departing for just 12. Grace then fell lbw to Bruce from a ball that kept low and England were 73-3.

Billy Gunn then played extremely conservatively for 14 in his first hour. He had several partners but gradually accumulated some runs, scoring many with bowler Briggs, who was content to hang on but eventually tried to take on Giffen and was bowled for 2. England passed the Australian total with eight wickets down. It was left to the allegedly hopeless Mold to see another batsman to a century, as Gunn went to 102 not out in a total of 243.

The deficit was quickly made good at the start of the Australian second innings but by the close they had reached 93-3, a lead of 54 with seven wickets in hand. The third day's play was a Saturday (the first of the series) but the crowd was small owing to the weather. There were two breaks for rain but neither side were on top. Bruce scored four 4's and a 2 from a Briggs' over as the score moved on to 173-7. Opener Bannerman was still there, although his refusal of a run led to his partner slipping in the wet and being run out.

After lunch, Richardson smashed a ball into Turner's hand. The batsman's finger was dislocated and he ran over to Dr Grace, who pulled the joint back into place and Turner continued with his batting. Bannerman's patient innings was then ended for 60 scored in 205 minutes. The final pair scored a rapid 36 leaving Australia on 236 all out. England then needed 198 to win in 130 minutes.

Grace and Stoddart attempted a run chase. In 70 minutes the pair had made 78. Stoddart hit out once again in an attempt to raise the tempo but was held for 42. Shrewsbury laid into Trumble's bowling but suddenly realised that there was little chance of reaching the target and promptly went into his shell. Grace had managed 45 in two hours at 5.30pm and the game petered out, leaving England on 118-4 at the close of play. England had won their fifth rubber at home.

The remainder of the season saw Stoddart stutter to 2,000 runs for the season, first playing for C I Thornton's XI against the Australians in which he scored 127 and then for the South against the same opponents when he was dismissed by Turner once again for 4 in the first innings. After a follow-on, the South needed 111 to win but Turner bowled Stoddart for 27, leaving him four short of 2,000.

The final match of the first class season was the North v South fixture. Stoddart was opening for the South with W G Grace again and hit the first ball for three that might have been a run four with a batsman more fleet of foot. The tension increased but a leg side half volley from Briggs enabled Stoddart to score the run he required and to join Grace and Gunn as achievers of 2,000 runs for a season.

He ended the season with 2,072 runs at 42.29, just behind Gunn's average of 42.85.

1894

Newly appointed as a Vice President of Hampstead Cricket Club that season, Andrew Stoddart started with a remarkable performance against Beckenham, who were considered a strong side. Hampstead made 269, of which Stoddart contributed 148 and then he and Spofforth dismissed them for 13 and 21, with Stoddart taking 2 for 5 and 6 for 7 (and Spofforth 8 for 7 and 4 for 4).

He later added a century against Emeriti CC and carved up Willesden with 226 not out. Yet his club average that year was, for him, a modest 64.00. He fared less well in matches for Middlesex. There was a suggestion that he was distracted by the request of the Melbourne and Sydney cricketing authorities to raise a side to visit Australia at the end of the season. Things were not helped by the wet weather.

The opening MCC fixture was against Sussex at Lord's on 2 May 1894 and took just 5 hours and 20 minutes for three innings. Sussex were all out for 42 in the early afternoon and MCC replied with 103 (Stoddart scoring 44). In their second innings, Sussex could only make 59 and the match was over at 5.25pm. In later matches the bowling was generally on top. The only century for Middlesex that season was scored by O'Brien against Somerset.

In August, Stoddart faced quality bowling from fellow test players, Briggs and Mold of Lancashire. He dominated both Middlesex innings with 68 and 84, taking him to more than 1,000 runs for the season. In September it was Stoddart's bowling that raised eyebrows. In the rain-affected Gentlemen v Players match at Hastings, he was persuaded by W G Grace to open the bowling and in 25 overs, he took five quality wickets as the Players were dismissed for 85.

Andrew Stoddart Out to Australia, again

On 18 September 1894, the thirteenth English side to travel to Australia convened at Fenchurch Street Station, consisting of 13 players. The tour generated considerable interest and probably marked the start of the comparative frenzy produced by an Ashes series. This series was to have far more detailed press coverage in England than before and the *Pall Mall Gazette* even elevated the “test” matches to “Test” matches.

Some commentators claimed that the English players were of insufficient quality to justify an Australia v England billing. Major Ben Wardill, the respected Secretary of the Melbourne Cricket Club (who had managed Australia’s tours to England) admired the technique of Francis Ford in the England party but of Jack Brown, he commented, “He won’t get ten runs in five months, and had better go home.”

The batting was to depend on Stoddart, Archie MacLaren, Albert Ward, Ford and Brown. Billy Brockwell was an all-rounder and the fast bowlers were Lockwood and Richardson, along with Peel and left armer Johnny Briggs. Humphreys was the other bowler, apparently requested by MCC and said to be a fairly fit aged 45 “because he rode a tricycle”. Leslie Gay, the England footballing goalkeeper, was engaged as one wicketkeeper, though Stoddart was reported not to have watched him keep wicket before. Hylton Philipson was the other.

Stoddart was well received in Australia, in some part in contrast to W G Grace, who was considered to have swaggered about on the last tour in a rather bombastic manner, whereas Stoddart was seen as unpretentious. The team was a mix of eager youth and mature experience. On landing at Adelaide, Stoddart explained that he had brought more professionals with him than planned, as there were, in his opinion, insufficient amateurs at the required level.

The first game was against South Australia at Adelaide. George Giffen had trained all winter and eager to confront the tourists. He took 5-175 as England scored 477, with Stoddart adding 66 and Jack Brown, confounding Major Ben’s forecast, managing a century. South Australia replied with 383 (Joe Darling 117) and then dismissed England cheaply, leaving themselves to score 225 to win that they did for 4 wickets down, Giffen scoring 58 not out.

This was followed by wins against Victoria (MacLaren scored 228) and New South Wales (Brown scoring a second century) when the temperature reached 97°F on the final day. They also beat Queensland in Brisbane when Stoddart made 149 and Ward 107 (and enjoyed a partnership of 225 in 167 minutes) that led to Richardson’s 8-52 in the home side’s 121. They followed on with 99 in their second innings. The stage was now set for the first Test in Sydney on 14 December 1893

First Test 1893-84

Australia, who had been practicing for the previous four days won the toss and batted. Richardson's bowling was fierce and soon Australia were 21-3. Goalie Gay then fumbled with both batsmen at the same end and a run out was missed. He then missed a clear chance when the score was 75-3. This was followed by another miss a few minutes later and another at pace that was far more difficult. Stoddart used seven bowlers in an attempt to break through but the score mounted to 192-4, when Stoddart caught Iredale for 81.

Giffen and Gregory cut loose and it was only in the final ten minutes that the fifth wicket was taken, when Giffen was held at slip for 161. At the close, Australia were 346-5. England's Lockwood had ricked his shoulder and Richardson was unable to obtain the bounce he had at the start of the innings. Peel and Briggs had both been very expensive and Gay's confidence was shredded (described as if he had let in six goals against Scotland).

On the second morning, Richardson charged in again but Brockwell was dropped off his bowling. Reedman was hit on the head. The batsmen countered and soon England's fielding deteriorated. Australia went on to 409-8 when Richardson bowled McLeod. Opening bowlers Richardson and Peel were shattered after one of the longest spells in cricket history and the ninth wicket ran up two runs a minute until 563, when Gregory was held by Peel for 201, the first double century in a Test in Australia. It had taken only 243 minutes, the ninth wicket having added 154 in 73 minutes. It was left for Jones, the new fast bowler to take 11 off a Stoddart over before skipper Blackham (in what was to be his final Test) was bowled by Richardson for 74, leaving Australia on 586.

MacLaren played a poor shot early in the England reply and was caught for 4. Stoddart fared little better and was taken at slip for 12 with the score at 43-2. England were then 78-3 after a run out from a misfield. However Ward battled on and at the close England had reached 130-3.

Play was delayed to Monday after heavy rain. Wickets fell regularly and a follow on seemed probable but England attempted a recovery from 211-7 to 252-8 and 325-9 after 57 from Briggs and 33 from wicketkeeper Gay. But the tenth wicket fell at 325 and England were left to bat again.

England started well but circumspectly. A slow ball from Giffen deceived MacLaren and he was bowled for 20, with the score on 44. Stoddart came to the wicket and made 10 before lunch. After the break, runs came more easily but after three easy singles and when on 36, Stoddart drove to cover where he was snaffled by Giffen, low down, and it was 115-2.

Ward and Brown then decided to take charge and their bombardment took England beyond the Australian score. Ward was then out, bowled by Giffen for 117 at 217-3. Brown went on to 53 when he was spectacularly caught in the deep by Jones and England had reached 245-4. This was advanced to 268-4 at the close, each a most valuable run.

In grey skies on Wednesday, Brockwell was out for 37 and Peel was bowled off his feet by Giffen for 17. England had reached 296-6. Briggs began carefully but later hit out and at lunch he and Ford had moved to score on to 344-6. Ford then hit the ball to all parts for his 48. Briggs played on for 42 but the total was now 398-8. Gay raised the score over 400 but was bowled for 4, the only England batsman not to reach double figures. Richardson was laid low with what appeared to be symptoms of influenza but managed to score 12 and the final wicket fell at 437. This left Australia to score 177 to win.

Play went into a sixth day and the sun was shining. However it had rained heavily during the night and the wicket was saturated. The England team had thought the match was in probability lost but the players were enthused by the morning's weather: there was a chance. Peel and Lockwood had overslept and the game started late (thanks to the generosity of the Australian captain) but by then, the pitch had further deteriorated. Within 20 minutes it had cut up badly.

Australia progressed to 45-2 and 130-3 after Darling's courageous innings of 53 was ended by Brockwell's unlikely catch in the deep. Giffen was badly missed by Brown but Briggs took over and Giffen was leg before wicket for 41 with the score at 135-4. Gregory took on the bowling given the small target but his partner Iredale mis-hit Briggs and was caught and bowled for 5.

The score moved on to 158-5 and the responsibility was with Gregory, with 19 needed. However he nicked one and Gay held on to the catch behind the stumps. Reedmand was then dropped as the tension rose. He charged Peel, missed and was stumped for 4. That left 18 to win with three wickets in hand. Two significant catches were held in the outfield by Briggs and MacLaren: it was then 162-9.

The English bowlers were aiming for anything but the stumps fearing a big hit. But skipper Blackham's hand injury meant that he could not effectively wield the bat and he prodded the ball back to Peel for a caught and bowled. England had won by 10 runs, having faced a first innings score of 586 and having followed on.

Afterwards, Stoddart acknowledged the Australians' ill-luck with the weather but paid tribute to his "team of triers". After the Christmas celebrations the teams assembled for the second Test at Melbourne.

Second Test 1894

Giffen has been appointed Australia's captain and there was much deliberation after he had won the toss. Stoddart saw that the pitch was oozing moisture when the surface was pressed and, without surprise, England were invited to bat.

Newly capped Coningham opened the bowling and from a steeply rising ball MacLaren popped it to point and was caught off what was the very first ball. Stoddart came to the wicket and was extremely cautious. He then tried to release the stranglehold of the bowlers and lofted the ball over the infield until he reached 10 when the ball kept low as he prepared to pull and he was bowled. Brown and Brockwell were then both out without scoring and England were 44-5. Opener Ward was playing judiciously but having scored 30, he cut at a ball

from Trumble and was caught by Darling at short third man. England were soon all out for 75.

Richardson was eager to take the benefit of the conditions and it was not long before Australia were 15-3. Darling then showed his skill with two cover drives of quality but as a partnership developed, he was bowled by a shooter and Australia were 53-4. They passed England's meagre total without losing another wicket but ended with 123, Richardson taking 5-57, when play ended for the day.

New Year's Eve saw improved weather with sunny conditions and a drying breeze. England took advantage. MacLaren fended off a "pair" and both openers scored freely off Coningham. MacLaren's off stump was then sent flying by Turner and it was 24-1. Stoddart started with a three and a four but was measured as he and Ward tried to build the innings. The score moved on to 78-1 at lunch.

With the score on 101, Ward was bowled off his pads for 41. Stoddart then took over and for half an hour was dominant against the best that the Australians were able to offer. He went quickly to a century that he later said was "*the century of my career....Nothing I have ever done in cricket gives me the same lasting pleasure to look back on that innings.*" At the close of play England were handily placed at 287-4 with Stoddart on 151 and Peel on 18.

The third day began with Stoddart carefully adding only 13 in the first 45 minutes. Peel was equally restrained. Then Stoddart hit two boundaries but on 173, he played on to a faster delivery from Giffen. This was the highest score by an England captain in Australia until Mike Denness's 188 in 1975. At 320-5, free-hitting Ford came to the wicket and scored a quick 24. Peel added a patient 53. The fielders were struggling and catches were going down. England were 402-8 but then 455-9 and eventually all out for 475. All 11 batsmen had scored in double figures, the first time this had occurred in a Test match.

Australia did not tarry and reached 86-0 at the close of play. The policy next day seemed to be all out attack. The batting order was changed. Opener Bruce was caught at mid-off by Stoddart for 54 and it was 191-2, with Trott on top of the bowling with Giffen. It seemed that Australia would accomplish the run chase with some ease.

Stoddart called upon his frequently erratic change bowler, Billy Brockwell and he took three wickets for eight runs and England were in the ascendancy again. The eighth and ninth wickets fell and 268 runs had been scored. Turner was all but bowled with his first ball but clung on and fended off the bowling.

Stoddart rang the bowling changes but to little effect. Frustration grew. At one point Lockwood threw the ball in an attempt to run out Turner but the ball hit his bat. Lockwood appealed for obstruction but the umpire had called "over" and the appeal was not accepted. Turner was indignant. Play closed with Australia on 328-9 (Iredale on 63 and Turner on 26).

Next day, following encouragement from Stoddart, Peel bowled Iredale with a straight one for 68 and England had won by 94 runs, the tenth wicket having added 65.

Third Test 1894

The third Test was played at the Adelaide Oval. Albert Trott made his debut for Australia and remarkable it was. Temperatures reached 155°F (and 100°F in the shade). Australia won the toss and were soon scoring freely. Richardson toiled away in the sun and Australia were reduced at one stage to 124-6. This became 157-9 and the fielders were undeniably eager to reach the shade of the pavilion, the bowlers almost dehydrated by then.

However debutant Trott had other ideas and with number 11, Callaway put on 81 for the tenth wicket, enabling Australia to reach a once improbable 238. England were 5-0 at the close.

That night sleep was virtually impossible. Stoddart was rumoured to have taken four cold baths. When England went out to bat the next day they encountered Giffen and Trott, who each took five wickets. Stoddart dropped himself to number 5 but was out for 1. England were dismissed for 124. The notion that they might concede a follow on in order to bat again had been rejected by Stoddart: every run was to be scored. The follow on was averted but only by six runs.

Australia reached 145-4 at the close of play. On the Monday, Australia were soon to 197-5, a lead of 311. Iredale moved on to 140, assisted by Albert Trott. 347-9 saw no respite, as Trott hammered his way to 72, putting on 64 for the last wicket with Callaway, who made 11. England required 526 to win.

MacLaren and Ward's aim was to keep Australia in the field for as long as possible. The former scored what was described as a majestic 35 from 52 before being bowled by Trott. Ward was then comprehensively bowled by Trott, the stump being split from top to tail. The nightwatchman, Philipson was also bowled, by Griffen and England finished the day at 56-3.

On the final day the English batsmen tried to see off the bowling attack but were not at ease. Wickets fell regularly and Stoddart was the only batsman who dealt with the bowling adequately, ending with 34 not out, scored in 100 minutes and using every ounce of technique available to him. Australia won by 382 runs, with Trott taking 8-43.

With praise lavished on Albert Trott, it seemed that a place in the next Australian team to tour England was assured. However this never came about. He was persuaded to travel to England and (probably through encouragement from Stoddart) to play for Hampstead and eventually Middlesex. In 1914, a week before the outbreak of the War as reported later, he took his own life.

Fourth Test 1894

The fourth Test was played at Sydney in February. Stoddart won the toss and was undecided. He called on Peel and Biggs to inspect the wicket with him and

the delay caused some annoyance. He asked Australia to bat, the first English captain to do so.

Stoddart's decision to field appeared sound with Australia soon 26-4, with Richardson obtaining considerable movement off the pitch. The sun then dried the wicket and it became a good batting track. But Briggs secured a stumping and dismissed Iredale first ball, to 51-6, so things were looking good for England. Joe Darling came to the crease and began to hit out, giving confidence to his partner Graham. Brockwell dropped a relatively simple chance off Graham and two further chances of catches were spurned.

Darling survived yet another chance when MacLaren dropped him but in fending off the next loose delivery from Richardso, diverted the ball on to the stumps and was bowled for 31. This brought current hero Albert Trott to the wicket. He was felled straightaway by a vicious ball from Richardson. It took assistance from several fielders to bring him around. He and Graham then batted well and at tea, Australia has scored 200, Graham on 87 and Trott on 40.

In this, his first innings in Australia, Graham went on to his century after the resumption and was stumped for 105. He was the first batsman to have made a century in his first innings in both England and Australia. With the score at 231-8, Australia had turned the match around. What was now becoming the inevitable large tenth wicket stand recurred: 45 runs were added and Trott finished on 85 not out, batting ninth. Australia were all out for 284.

England faced a tense ten minutes batting at the close and lost MacLaren for 1 from a stumping. Briggs came out as nightwatchman and play ended with England at 11-1. Saturday's play was abandoned to heavy rain. Rain fell again on Sunday evening but as Australian luck would have it, the sun broke through on Monday morning, to leave England facing a truly sticky wicket.

Wickets fell quickly and regularly. Stoddart was stumped when a ball from the other Trott spun enormously from leg. At lunch England were 59-7. Stoddart told his men that this was the worst wicket he had seen, "absolutely the worst. And not only is it the worst I've seen, it's miles the worst!" To add to their problems, Lockwood was unable to bat as his hand had been gashed by an exploding soda water bottle.

The second innings saw much of the same. England were soon 5-3, with Stoddart caught in the deep for a duck. Peel was stumped for his second consecutive "pair". Turner grabbed his 100th Test wicket in only 17 matches and England were 29-6. Philipson and Richardson put on 20 for the ninth (and final) wicket and England were all out for 72, losing by 147 runs and in two days. The opening Australian bowlers ran through the innings unchanged, with Turner 4-33 and Giffen 5-26. Albert Trott was not even called for.

Arthur Coningham

England escaped to Armidale to rebuild, Stoddart scoring what was described as sedate 88 and then played a representative side from New South Wales and Queensland. Once again, they faced Arthur Coningham, the Australian opening

bowler from the second Test, with his first ball wicket. He was no-balled by umpire Bannerman and did not take the decision well, as had been the case in the Test.

In that case, he responded to a similar call with a next ball beamer to MacLaren. Here he was equally incensed and deliberately threw the next ball at Stoddart, who avoided it and demanded an apology from the bowler, to both himself and the umpire. It took some time to extract that apology but it affected Stoddart the more it seems, as he was bowled off his pads with the very next ball.

Coningham may have been a troubled soul. He has been described as colourful character. The Australian Dictionary of Biography records him as a “cricketer and notoriety”. He was a lively left-handed batsman but the consensus was that as a bowler, he was rather unpalatable. He excelled at billiards, was an oarsman of repute, a good shot and a rugby player of sheer pace.

He played for Melbourne Cricket Club and represented both New South Wales and Queensland and was selected for the Australian 2nd XI. He toured England in 1893 but was not picked for the Test side. He scored 260 runs on tour for an average of 12.8 and took 38 wickets at 25.60. In London, he rescued a young boy from the River Thames for which he was awarded a medal. He did not take to the cold when playing Blackpool and collected some straw and twigs to light a fire in the outfield for warmth.

He claimed to be a chemist by profession. In 1896 he was declared bankrupt, when running a tobacconists in Waverley but was released from bankruptcy in July 1899, when he became a bookmaker.

Later in 1899, he caused a sensation when he confronted Denis Francis O’Hara, the Secretary to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Sydney with an allegation of adultery with his wife and sued for divorce, claiming £5,000 in damages. His wife admitted adultery but the priest denied it vehemently. Coningham conducted his own case but the jury could not reach a decision and re-trial was ordered, which started in March 1901.

In the meantime, both sides were working in the background. Coningham was supplied a pistol. An undercover operation, conducted by Dan Green, a supporter of O’Hagan (impersonating a secret informer he called “Zero”) supplied Coningham with false information about the priest’s movements and with the help of a postmaster general, exposed collusion between Coningham and his wife. This was denied and added to the confusion to the extent that the jury eventually found against Coningham. He then moved his family to New Zealand.

In 1903 he was convicted of fraudulent conversion of £6-3-0 and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment. His wife divorced him in January 1912 on the grounds of his own adultery (allegedly in a garden shed!) and he returned to Australia. He was admitted to Gladesville Mental Hospital in Sydney in November 1937 and died there on 13 June 1939.

(His son disowned him. He travelled to England and became a World War 1 fighter pilot ace (176 patrols in 11 months) and in World War 2, became Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham, the commander of tactical air forces in the Normandy campaign of 1944 – and who later disappeared, without trace, flying over the Bermuda Triangle on 30 January 1948).

The England team travelled to Melbourne for the deciding Test, being called the Match of the Century.

Fifth Test Match 1894

The game started on 1 March 1895 and attracted vast crowds. Rather sensationally, Australia dropped their bowler, Turner, whose unbroken spell with Giffen (and seven wickets in the match) had sealed victory in the preceding Test. He is reported to have said that he would never play cricket again.

The tension was palpable. The Australian skipper Giffen recollected later that “when Stoddart and I went in the ring to toss and arrange preliminaries, he was as white as a sheet, and I have been told that the pallor of my own countenance matched his.” Major Wardill (whose cricketing assessments of players had been seen to be less successful than his administrative skills) accompanied both captains to the wicket. Giffen waited a while with the coin, clearly conscious of the repercussions. The Major grew impatient and demanded that he should “for heaven’s sake, toss and get it over with!” Stoddart suggested that the Major should keep his cool. Giffen’s hand shook as Stoddart called heads but tails it was and Giffen gave a delighted little skip. Stoddart appeared to be in despair.

Harry Trott and Bruce opened the innings, the latter having just arrived at the ground from his duties as a solicitor at the North Melbourne Police Court. 40 quick runs were made before Bruce was caught for 22 off Peel’s bowling. Giffen and Trott took the attack to the bowlers and at lunch, Australia were 76-1. Briggs bowled Trott for 42 and it was 101-2. Iredale was unwell and managed eight slow runs before he was bowled by Richardson at 126-3. Giffen then got his bat to a Peel yorker but played on for 57 and the prospects for both teams looked fairly even at 142-4.

The diminutive Darling played well and the score moved along to over 250 and the odds began to favour the home team. The first day closed with Australia on 282-4, with Gregory on 70 and Darling 72.

Next day, Peel snared Darling early on, caught by Ford for 74, when it became 284-5. This became 286-6 and when Richardson bowled Graham with a wonderful ball, it was 304-7. Albert Trott came to the wicket and was caught at cover for 10 that finally provided him a Test batting average – of 206. For the fifth consecutive time, the last wicket produced runs for Australia. In his first Test, McKibbin scored freely with Jarvis and they added 47, to close the innings on 414.

England started their innings at 3.10pm. Brockwell opened with Ward and had scored 5 when he fell, trying to clip Trott and was stumped. This brought Stoddart to the wicket before 26,000 noisy spectators. Stoddart started

confidently and gradually took charge when facing his opposite number Giffen, whose length began to suffer. McKibbin's pace and movement set the batsmen some problems but Stoddart remained resolute and England moved towards 100. Giffen turned to Harry Trott's looping slow bowling for a different tack and it worked when an advancing Stoddart missed the ball and was stumped for 68, at 101-2.

MacLaren came in at number five on this occasion and saw off Harry Trott. His brother then increased his own reputation by bowling Brown for 30. The second day ended with England on 200-4. By lunch on the next day England had moved on to 295-4. When it was 322, MacLaren hit his century and was then missed on 104. Peel was eventually caught for 73 and England had progressed to 328-5. The partnership with MacLaren had added 162 and virtually doubled the score.

England fell short of the Australian total once MacLaren trod on his wicket for 120. Harry Trott took a blinding catch to dismiss Briggs for the first duck of the match and England were 29 adrift.

Australia started their second innings slowly, determined to set a good foundation. After Bruce was out for 11, Giffen scored one run in half an hour. Lockwood had bowled eight overs, seven of which were maidens and had conceded two runs. Play ended with Australia well-placed on 69-1.

The start of the fourth day witnessed a massive dust-storm that affected players and spectators alike. Trott missed a straight ball from Peel that in other circumstances he might have coped with and Australia were 75-2. Iredale and Giffen put on 50. Iredale then played on and Giffen played over a yorker for 51 to leave Australia still well ahead on 148-4. Runs were being gradually accumulated and extending the target for England.

Stoddart encouraged a tiring Richardson to throw all he had at the bowling but it was Briggs who secured the significant breakthrough, bowling Lyons for 15. 219-7 became 219-8 when Albert Trott was dismissed for a duck (reducing his Test average to 103). Darling eked out more runs but took a heave at Peel and was bowled for 50. The tenth wicket produced a comparatively meagre 29 and Australia were all out for 267, leaving England to score 297 to win.

England's opener Brockwell was out in the second over for 5. Stoddart joined Ward and they saw the score to 28-1 at the close of the fourth day. Drizzle greeted the players on the fifth morning. Stoddart was lbw to Harry Trott without adding to his overnight score of 11 and England were 28-2.

Jack Brown appeared nonchalant as he came to the wicket but hit his first two deliveries for four, with a square drive over cover and a full-bloodied hook. In half an hour he had made 50, whilst Ward, at the other end, had managed only five. The score began to climb and it reached 145-2 at lunch. Brown then continued where he left off and reached his century in even time. Ward began to score freely and drove Giffen over the fence. Brown was missed on 125. The partnership reached 210 in 145 minutes when Brown was caught by Giffen. This

was a monumental innings in the circumstances. The bowling had been collared exceptionally.

MacLaren came to the wicket with 59 runs wanted. Ward was still batting carefully and edging towards his own hundred when he was yorked by Harry Trott for 93. Peel saw England home, scoring the winning run off a full toss from Harry Trott and England had won by six wickets. It had taken 215 minutes and 88 six ball overs.

In *Cricket*, the Rev R S Holmes wrote, "*Well, England won the rubber. Yet it may be open to question whether on the whole our men did as well as the Australians in the test matches. True, the luck was against us in the choice of innings; Stoddart only won the toss once, and the he was foolish enough to put his opponents in, with the result that England lost that match by an innings and 147 runs. I wonder if it ever pays to do this?*"

"Let me offer my sincerest congratulations to A. E. Stoddart and his gallant band, he concluded. In a letter to me before leaving he spoke in the highest terms of the fibre of his men; they have deserved all that was said. The captain has never played better, perhaps never so well when we take into account the burden of responsibility he has borne throughout in an office to which he was almost a stranger."

The expected level of celebration followed. The Australian captain Giffen admitted that he had prepared a victory speech and apologised for the hesitancy in his speech. There was a brief stop to play in Tasmania and a final match against South Australia that Stoddart sat out, recovering from a chill after sitting in the rain in Hobart. South Australia may have thought their first innings score of 397 was sufficient but England amassed 609. They had to score 44 for victory in 20 minutes in their second innings and managed that with three minutes to spare.

On the return, Stoddart was presented with a silver tobacco jar by the professional players as a parting gift that moved him so much that he was hardly able to utter his thanks. Hampstead Cricket Club convened a dinner at the Café Monico in Piccadilly. W G Grace was in attendance and the pair were the focus for the considerable celebration.

Andrew Stoddart 1895 and beyond

It took a long time for most of the touring team to find their feet in the new season in 1895. This was W G Grace's season. Aged 47, he scored 1,000 runs by 30 May. Stoddart found things frustrating and was unable to build the large scores he was accustomed to. He bowled a lot but not as effectively as before.

Middlesex chased Surrey for the county championship. The two teams met for the second time of the season at the Oval. The crowd was 25,000 on each of the three days. In the first innings, Stoddart was stumped when on 25 and the umpire raised his finger. However it was discovered that the bails has not been dislodged. The decision had to be reversed and Stoddart went on to make 75. Something similar then occurred in the second innings. Stoddart and Herbert Hayman (by then a founder member of Hampstead Hockey Club) had put on 67. Stoddart diverted a ball hard into the stumps but the bails once again held firm against all the odds. In the second innings Surrey were left to score 386 in 270 minutes and managed to reach 404 with only four wickets down.

The best cricketers in the county faced each other in the Gentlemen v Players' match at Lord's on a very fast pitch after drought. The Players made 231 and England bowlers Mold and Richardson were eager to set about the incoming batsmen, none other than W G Grace and Stoddart, who came in to bat at 5.30pm.

The ball was flying but even at his advanced age, W G was soon ducking and swaying out of the way of the fast attack. The experienced pair gradually started scoring and with increasing confidence reached 50 in as many minutes. At the close of play they had reached 137-0, Grace on 64 and Stoddart 61.

Stoddart was out next morning for 71 but it was considered his best innings in a long while, given the quality of the bowling unlikely to be matched at that time. W G Grace made 118 and the only other notable score (apart from 22 byes) was 31 from O'Brien. In their second innings the Players recovered from 31-5 to set the Gentlemen to score 336 to win. There was to be no repeat of the first innings as the first wicket only made 34. At 231-9, the position appeared dire for the Gentlemen but then at 5.30pm Ernest Smith and newcomer C B Fry ran amok and scored 72 in 35 minutes. However Fry was stumped for 60 and the Players achieved their win. Many said that the match was a special one for the memory.

Later that month Archie MacLaren came into rich form and amassed 424 against Somerset at Taunton. At least two telegrams were sent to him, one from W G Grace urging him to exceed his highest score of 344 and another from Stoddart challenging him to exceed his 485.

Towards the end of a relatively poor season, the last county match at Lord's was against Kent, who made 208. Flatmates Stoddart and MacGregor opened for Middlesex and put on 138. Stoddart was back to his best with what was described as breathtaking power. He repeatedly took on good length balls and

dispatched them to the ropes. He was finally out for 131 in what had been a chanceless innings. Middlesex managed 412 and then dismissed Kent for 190.

There was still time (though many thought it too late in the day) for England's victorious Australian XI to take on the Rest of England. Stoddart made 55 as Mold and Woods took the England XI otherwise apart in reaching 217. However Richardson removed W G Grace without scoring and the Rest's innings was only saved by tremendous hitting from Walter Read and Woods, ending on 214. Matters hardly improved in the second innings. Initially Stoddart again steadied the proverbial ship with 59 and was bowled in poor light. On the final day, Ford and Lockwood put on 169 and Stoddart declared, leaving the Rest to get 287.

The game was being treated seriously by all concerned, rather than an end of season "bash" and Richardson and Peel sent the batsmen packing, all out for 68. The team spirit held fast, despite being in trouble early on and demonstrated to observers perhaps why the team had accomplished so much in the winter and spring of that year. For Stoddart it was a good end to the year after all, with 1,622 first class runs, at an average of 37.30. He never regarded himself as an all-rounder in first class cricket, so his bowling achievements hardly bothered him. He no longer roamed the outfield either and now took up almost permanent residence in the slips.

1896

This season saw the much-anticipated arrival of Harry Trott's Australian touring team in April, who set themselves up in Mitcham and erected practice nets on the Green.

Stoddart only played twice for Hampstead, scoring 122 against Teddington and only 4 against Stoics (and therefore made no appearance in the Club's records that season).

He appeared in good form. He scored 51 against an Oxford University side that included three future England captains and followed that with 5-38 with the ball. Against Yorkshire at Lord's he and Herbert Hayman put on 218 for the first wicket, each scoring a century. It was sadly to no avail, as Brown hammered a double century and, after rain, Peel ran through the home side's batting. Yorkshire reached the target of 146 in 80 minutes.

Stoddart's rich form continued with 121 against Somerset at Lord's on Whit Monday. A shooter from Attewell accounted for him however for 16 against Nottinghamshire but Middlesex won the match, with Hearne and Rawlin taking 19 wickets. Then it was MCC v the Australians at Lord's on 11 June 1896.

The wicket was difficult and W G Grace and rising star Ranjitsinhji (or H.H. Jam Saheb Shri Sir Ranjitsinhji Vibhaji of Nawanager, to give his full name) were soon out, leaving Stoddart and F S Jackson to demonstrate how to combat the pitch with the quality of bowling they faced. Having hit one into the Tavern, Stoddart advanced down the wicket but missed and was stumped. However the umpire may have wanted to see more and mysteriously declared, "not out", much to

everyone's astonishment. Stoddart then stepped out to the next ball, deliberately missed it and walked on past the umpire and into the pavilion.

MCC's total was 219. Australia were soon 14-3 in reply. Attewell was then hit for a straight batted four and was immediately replaced by Dick "Puffer" Pougher who had a caught and bowled with his first ball and bowled Hill with this second. His next over was a maiden. Trumble then played on to him, Eady was skittled and McKibbin was caught at mid-on for the hat trick. Giffen was allegedly absent ill, so Australia were all out for 18, having lost their last six wickets for no runs.

The visitors fared almost as disastrously with their follow-on. It was 33-6 when Gregory was missed at slip and, as the wicket improved the score rose. Gregory was out on 62. Joe Darling was caught by Stoddart, from a skier at third man, for 76. Australia's total was 183. Hearne, who they would oppose in the forthcoming Test match, had figures of 9-73 from 50 overs.

First Test 1896

The Test match started at Lord's on 22 June 1896. There were three new faces for Australia. Wicketkeeper Lilley made his debut for England, Only WG Grace and Giffen had appeared in the 1882 match. Ranjitsinhji was not selected and was conspicuous by his absence. There were some doubts about his qualification (evidently dispelled by the second Test three weeks later, when he was selected).

There was a very large (and rather rowdy) crowd of 30,000 that encroached on the playing area. Australia won the toss and batted. Donnan was run out with 3 on the board and Giffen was caught first ball by the debutant 'keeper off Lohman. It was then 4-3 when Trott lost sight of the ball, later bemoaning the absence of a sight screen, and was bowled. This became 25-6 when Graham went first ball, too. There were five ducks in the innings, Opener Joe Darling was eventually out for 22 and the total was 53 all out. Richardson had taken 6-39 from 11.3 overs.

W G Grace and Stoddart opened. The ball was still flying around but the pair reached lunch undefeated. Stoddart then fell to a shooter from Eady and was bowled for 17 (38-1). Grace carried on for three hours and completed 1,000 runs in Test cricket. He skied a Giffen delivery to Trumble and was out for 66 (143-2). Brown was out nine runs later but Abel went on to 94 when he was bowled by Eady. England ended the day on 286-8.

The crowd had thinned to 15,000 on the second day. England were soon all out for 292. Richardson clattered Darling's wicket without a run having been scored. It was soon 3-2 again. The batting started to predominate with Giffen but he was bowled by Richardson for 32, his 51st victim in just seven Tests.

Skipper Harry Trott and Gregory then took total control and put on 221 for the fourth wicket. Australia suddenly had a chance in the match. However wickets fell with some regularity and Australia slipped from 283-4 to 308-8. The last wicket put on a very handy 29 and Australia were finally all out for 347, leaving England to score 109 to win. At the close on the second day, England had reached 16-1 in poor light, Hayward having come in at number three.

Rain fell overnight and play re-started at noon after Grace had requested the use of the heavy roller. The ball frequently flew over the heads of the batsmen and England only managed four runs in seven overs. With Grace back in the pavilion, apparently unhappy at being called out, England found themselves at 42-3. Stoddart came to the wicket. Rain threatened again and the run rate declined to a crawl. Brown took over the responsibility, avoiding the short stuff but driving anything pitched up to him. Stoddart was dropped twice and responded with two impressive hooks for boundaries.

At 82-4 when Brown was caught for 36 (that he regarded as a better innings than his in Melbourne the year before) the tall figure of Billy Gunn came to the wicket. This altered things completely and the two collected the necessary runs with little apparent difficulty. England reached 111 without further loss, Stoddart on 30 not out and Gunn 13 not out. Soon after the square had been cleared the heavens opened. England's next win at Lord's was to be in 38 years.

Second Test 1896

The second Test was at Old Trafford on 16 July 1896. Australia won the toss again and batted. Eleven runs were scored from the first over. This set the tone and at lunch it was 130-1. Iredale and Giffen continued to accumulate until Giffen was caught and bowled by Richardson for 80. Stoddart was asked to bowl and completed his first Test spell in England, nine runs conceded from six overs. Ireadale went on to a century but was bowled by Briggs soon after, for 106.

Lilley was then taken off wicket keeping duties and was replaced by Brown to allow Lilley to bowl some leg spin. The stratagem worked. Trott edged a wide delivery to Brown and Lilley had his one and only wicket in Test cricket. W G Grace then demanded that he revert to duties behind the stumps. Three other quick wickets were taken but the last three added 87 and the Australian score reached 366-8 at the close. The score had reached 412 on the second day when Jones was bowled for 4, closing the first innings.

Trott had, unusually, rested his opening bowler after one over and put himself on, tossing up inviting leg-breaks. It worked well. W G Grace missed one, as did Stoddart a few overs later. Remarkably both English openers had been stumped, Grace for 2 and Stoddart for 15.

Ranji scored a delightful 62 in his first Test innings and Lilley made 65 not out but England fell short of the Australian total and were asked to follow on, having scored 231.

In that second innings, W G Grace was out soon for 11. Ranji then scored a memorable century, described as "one of the greatest innings imaginable". With Stoddart the runs began to come but Stoddart was bowled by McKibbin for 41 when the score became 76-2. It was to be the last time Stoddart would carry his bat in England in a Test match but there was no inkling at the time. The score fell to 109-4 when play ended for the day.

Thick grey skies met the players on the third day. Ranji then gave a master class as wickets fell about him. He was 154 not out when the tenth wicket fell, with the

score on 305. He had added 113 runs in 130 minutes and set a record for runs scored before lunch in England v Australia matches.

Australia required 125 to win. Richardson was not deterred and, in a demonstration of fast bowling that was reckoned to have matched the heroism of Ranji's innings, he kept the score to 4-45. Australia crawled to 100-7. Nerves were beginning to shred. However, in an hour Trumble and Kelly had eked out the 25 runs needed and Australia had won their first Test in England for eight years. Richardson was shattered: he had bowled 42.3 overs and taken 6-76. Several said that he was never quite the same bowler after this match.

Stoddart's next encounter with the tourists was for MCC, whom he captained. He top-scored with 61 and enjoyed an opening stand of 96 with MacLaren. In their second innings, the tourists' rearguard action saved the game that petered out to a draw. *The Times* noted that in his 33rd year, Stoddart "*had now developed even more strokes and was no longer predominantly a driver*".

Stoddart sat out the third Test at The Oval that began on 11 August 1896. This was a sudden decision, or so it seemed and it gave rise to considerable comment. He may have felt too much out of form (as later occurred with him in Australia) or was unwell (that remained for the week of the match).

Shamateurism

Or, which appears to be the real reason, he was being vilified by the popular press, with allegations of receiving "back handers". This was at a time when the professional cricketers in the England team were threatening strike action over match fees, something for which Stoddart had little sympathy. *The Morning Leader's* chief correspondent, Alfred Gibson, known as "Rover", featured a facetious sketch of him and later referred to him as "Andy", after Stoddart's 127 against Kent.

Shamateurism was an increasing topic of conversation at the time and one that Stoddart appeared sensitive to. It may have coincided with W G Grace's remarkable return to form in 1895, when aged 47. He is widely thought to have earned more from cricket than any professional. He managed to accumulate a testimonial fund of £9,703 that compared with the largest fund raised by a professional until then of only £2,000. Even this grated on some of Grace's admirers and supporters. However, in his case it was recognised that in his absences he had to employ or retain locum staff for his medical practice and was known not to charge his more impoverished patients.

League cricket had now begun in earnest in the Midlands and the North, following the success of the Football League formed in 1888. Professionals were being employed by the clubs eager to attract crowds. This was in marked contrast to the way in which cricket was played in the south, where leagues were widely considered to be vulgar and competitive. But they were a phenomenon of the new industrial Britain. Professional players' agitation was growing that some so-called amateurs were considered superior and enjoyed better travelling arrangements and accommodation, whilst being paid more than the

professionals' salaries (and largely by way of sinecures) and recovering greater expenses.

Even the "high toned" *Badminton Magazine* commented at the time that, "*for frank and open professionalism there may be a good deal to be said, but nothing can be made the amateur attractive.*"

Things were such that at the Oval amidst a storm of correspondence, W G Grace persuaded the authorities to issue a statement on his own expenses and agreed to play, but not so Andrew Stoddart.

Abel, Hayward and Richardson eventually agreed to play for the original match fee of £10 but Gunn and Lohmann refused. It was wet. Play only started at 4.45pm on the first day and led to the fall of 24 wickets on the second day. England led by 26 on first innings and were then dismissed for 84, the last wicket putting on 16. However, Australia were all out for 44, Peel taking 6-23 in his final test match. Hampstead's Fred Spofforth cut a frustrated fellow, having begged to play, even at almost 43 years of age, having looked at the pitch and guaranteeing to get England out for 50. England had won the Ashes once again.

Stoddart's form for the remainder of the season rather faltered. He did make his fourth century of the summer against Kent that was well received by the press, reminiscent of his peerless successes of the past. However, he was reportedly discontent that in representative matches that were the games that really counted, he had not fulfilled his ambitions. With that he prepared for a winter trip to the Caribbean.

Tour to the Caribbean

There were two separate tours by English teams. The slightly later was under Lord Hawke, whose telegram accepting the invitation to tour was never received. This led to a second invitation to A A Priestley, who set out with his team of amateur players on 30 December 1896, which included Stoddart. An attempt was made to reach a compromise over the touring party but it failed, it being said that Lord Hawke treated Mr Priestley rather high-handedly.

Stoddart played in all 16 games on tour and scored 1,079 runs, with six centuries and took 104 wickets. There was one representative fixture at Port of Spain, Trinidad, against a strong Combined West Indian XI. In their second innings, requiring 141 for victory, Stoddart's bowling reduced the home side to 41-6 but the seventh wicket put on 75 and, following a fielding let-off, a narrow win was secured, much to the delight of the locals.

The tour was considered disappointing, save for Stoddart's exploits. 10 games were won, five lost and there was one draw. Of the first class matches, four were won but five lost.

1897

With the prospect of another tour of Australia at the end of the season and taking into account the relentless cricket of recent years, Stoddart declined to play

much until May. He began with another assault on Stoics with a century for Hampstead on 19 May 1897.

Middlesex had a poor season and only secured their first win in mid-August, by which time Stoddart has sustained a knee injury. He left the opening of the batting to Pelham Warner and Herbert Hayman. There was only moderate success with the bat, save for a century for Hampstead against London & Westminster Bank after a duck in the game at Lord's against the touring Gentlemen of Philadelphia.

He faced England opening bowler Richardson against Surrey and made 91, keeping at the bay the bowler who had already snared 13 batsmen. This was a popular innings by all accounts but, on reflection, caused concern, for it did not demonstrate his dash of former years; "youth had evidently flown and responsibility had tightened him up".

Back and unleashed for the Hampstead Cricket Week, he scored 127 against Richmond and 113 against West Herts C&G. Following that he scored 109 at Taunton (hitting one over the cottages at square leg) but in fielding stained his knee and sat out the rest of the game. At the end of the season he travelled to Sussex for a golfing holiday (his new sport) but was still with a limp when boarding the ship for Australia.

Andrew Stoddart Another tour to Australia

Stoddart had assembled the touring team. It was not thought to be good enough. He invited Attewell, aged 36, and to the relief of many, he declined. E H Wynyard too, had to withdraw on the demand of the War Office. Peel, Jackson and Abel were all unavailable. Only four had been to Australia before. The magnetic personality who would attract the most interest was the “mystical colourful figure” of Ranjitsinhji, who was to join the tour at Napoli.

Teddy Wynyard

Teddy Wynyard’s enforced withdrawal removed one significant problem. When Hampshire had played Sussex, Ranji had helped himself to a supply of grapes that, unbeknown to him, had been left under the pavilion table for Wynyard. He was furious and could not be calmed. So much so that fixtures between the two counties were cancelled for the 1898 season. Stoddart had to intervene, as the two were to be teammates. He said that he would have to withdraw his invitation to Wynyard unless he apologised. Wynyard’s friends concocted a letter for his signature that somehow they persuaded him to sign but it was rendered redundant.

Wynyard had played his first Test against Australia in the third Test at the Oval, affected by the players’ strike. He was another successful player of many sports. He was no mean batsman, having scored 268 for Hampshire against Yorkshire in 1896. He played football for Carthusians when they won the FA Cup in 1881 against Old Etonians, scoring the first goal at centre forward. He played hockey for Hampshire. He won the European toboggan championship at Davos in 1894, when he also rescued a local from an icy lake, for which he was rewarded with a medal by the Royal Humane Society. He was also a renowned ice skater.

Ranjitsinhji’s participation was also in some doubt, given the imposition of a tax of £100 on any black person entering New South Wales. This was eventually waived, given the clamour to see the “commonly designated world’s finest batsman”.

The preparation for the tour once again brought the suggestion of *shamateurism* to the fore, with allegations that Stoddart was to earn £1,000 from the tour. On the contrary, he believed that no amateur ended up less than £100 out of pocket.

Much later he sought to explain the financial structure of the tours. The authorities paid all travelling expenses and hotel accommodation and he was left with a discretion over the purchase of champagne. He said that, “with the weather experienced there, this was almost a necessity and the discretion was exercised by me freely, but wisely, in the best interests of our health and cricket.”

Soon after arrival, Stoddart was laid low with influenza that had been prevalent on board ship. MacLaren made two centuries at Sydney and Ranji had by then also scored two. Stoddart gained some much wanted momentum with a century at Newcastle (having lost a fourth consecutive toss). However the fates were still

against him. He was covered in insect bites after finding an uncured bird skin under his bed and the train in which they were travelling to Glen Innes hit a horse near Werris Creek, jolting all the party from their bunks. Here they took on a local 22 on a matting wicket. Stoddart employed slow bowling and took 5-10 and 10-39, giving rise to the "Glen Innes pusher", his clever slower ball.

A huge crowd greeted the team in Brisbane late at night and the police could not contain it. In the hubbub, Stoddart lost his highly prized watch and chain (of great sentimental value to him) to a pickpocket. It was not recovered. On the next day he lost his keys and offered a reward for their return.

The next match was at the new Woolloongabba ground. Facing a combined New South Wales and Queensland XI, he dropped himself down the batting order to give others a chance to acclimatise that they did, to the tune of 636! However in a continuation of the recurring misfortune of the tour, Ranji developed a chill that took a long time to shake off. Then on 8 December 1896 as they reached Sydney, Stoddart received a cable with the news that his mother had died. He was badly shaken and on the point of collapse and withdrew in desolation to his room.

First Test 1896-97

Heavy rain fell in Sydney before the first Test. The umpires declared the pitch fit but the trustees called off the start without consulting the captains. They explained that they wanted a pitch that was fair to both teams and that the delay might help in Ranji's recovery and that Stoddart might also be able to play. The team learned of this by a newspaper billboard and, in no fit state, Stoddart consulted and sent a letter of protest to the trustees, who ignored it, save to express their condolences to the captain.

Ranji made a sudden recovery and was declared fit. Not so Stoddart, to whom cricket now meant little. MacLaren took over as captain. He won the toss and then scored 109. Ranji was held back to bat at number 7 and scored his first century in his first Test in Australia, with 175, close to exhaustion, as the score mounted to 477-9. Richardson then added 24 as the last wicket put on 74 and England were all out for 551 (without any byes being conceded by wicketkeeper Kelly).

Hearne and Richardson dismissed Australia for 237, though at one stage they were 138-7. Following on, they fought back. Darling scored 101, the first left hander to score a century in a Test match. Another left hander, Hill scored 96. Australia were all out for 408 but not before an incident that left some with a sour taste.

Australian batsman Charlie McLeod was bowled by a no ball from Richardson and being partially deaf, left his crease. A stump was taken out with the ball in hand and an appeal made, so that the unfortunate batsman had to be called run out. MacLaren continued his fine form and scored an undefeated 50, as England polished off a win by nine wickets, at 96-1 on the fifth day.

Over Christmas the temperature reached record levels. 35 died in two days in the extreme heat. The touring team were badly affected, even its members who had travelled before. Ranji was still suffering from acute tonsillitis and Stoddart was still ill-prepared for Test cricket. He had his name down to play for fear that Ranji would not and when the latter made another recovery, after some rather primitive medical treatment, Stoddart withdrew for a second time.

Second Test 1896-97

Australia won a very important toss. McLeod was surprisingly promoted up the batting order to opener and made the best of his unfortunate dismissal in Sydney by making 112. In the excessive heat they accumulated runs and were all out for 520. Ranji then had an abscess removed from his throat and took to the field. He managed 71 and it took a resolute partnership with wicketkeeper Storer to push England over 300, finally being all out for 315.

The pitch deteriorated on the fourth day and England were skittled out for 150, giving Australia a win by an innings and 55 runs. At the conclusion, MacLaren said that he hoped future pitches might last longer and was immediately denounced as "inexperienced" by *Mid-On*, the pseudonym of locally based commentator, H W Hedley.

Third Test 1896-97

Stoddart returned to cricket after a month and played in the Third Test at the Adelaide Oval. There was no break in the weather. Stoddart lost another toss and Australia batted. Richardson, on whom England had for so long depended, was struggling with rheumatism and an inability to adjust his line for the left hander. Darling took advantage and scored 178 that included hitting Briggs clean out of the ground, the first occasion this had happened.

Richardson then had to leave the field (but later returned to bowl off-breaks) and Hirst had to retire with strained stomach muscles. Stoddart dropped Gregory at mid-off when he was 32. Ranji dislocated a finger (that W G Grace had to put right in the pavilion). Australia made 572, having batted into the third day.

England were soon in trouble but at 42-4, Stoddart asked Hirst to see off the few remaining balls to lunch. Hayward was then dismissed for 70 and Stoddart came to the wicket at 172-6 and, at the close, was undefeated on 11, the score having moved to 197-6.

The next morning witnessed a dust storm that affected visibility. Stoddart attacked but was brilliantly caught for 15. Once again, the final wicket added more than expected, given that Hirst had damaged his side and yet he and Richardson managed to add 54. England were all out for 278 and were following on once more.

England's second innings began with a duck for opener Mason. Ranji joined MacLaren and they rose the challenge. It was going well at 150-1 but then Ranji was taken at slip and three further wickets fell cheaply, such that England were 161-4 at the close.

On the final day, MacLaren reached his third century in Australia but he was running out of partners. Stoddart came in at number 8 and began to impose himself but MacLaren was dismissed for 124 after 5¼ hours. Although Stoddart hit out, he was again taken at mid-off by Jones for 24, throwing his wicket away, according to some observers. England were soon all out for 282 and had lost by an innings and 13, to fall 2-1 down in the series.

The English team was given an apology for the way in which the crowd had behaved, particularly towards Ranji, who declared that he no longer wished to play in Adelaide again.

Fourth Test 1897

The fourth Test began on 29 January 1897 in Melbourne, the 50th between the two countries. It happened to be Andrew Stoddart's last international match. He lost the toss for the sixth time in eight but it soon appeared not to matter.

Australia struggled to 58-6. Sadly for England, Trumble and Hill then added 165 runs for the seventh wicket, a record that stood for 76 years until overtaken by Rodney Marsh and Kerry O'Keefe's 173 at Adelaide against New Zealand. This altered the complexion of the match. Stoddart tried almost everything possible to break the stand, including asking the wicketkeeper to bowl, which was ultimately successful when Trumble was caught for 46 by Mason. Australia ended the first day on 275-7.

Hill was soon out on the second day, having scored 188 and at the age of 20. Runs were added by the lower order batsmen to increase the score to 323 all out. English hopes were for a repetition of the final match in the 1894-95 series but it was not to be. Ranjitsinhji was out for 24 and the score deteriorated from 60-2 to 67-5. At 121-7, Stoddart came out to bat but was caught at short third man, driving, for 17. England managed 174 that was commonly regarded as their most feeble of innings on a good track. England were following on for the third consecutive time.

The light was appalling by then. Smoke from bushfires swirled around the ground that some likened to a London fog. Stoddart's appeal to the umpires for bad light was rejected, it being suggested to stop in such conditions would see no play at all in cities such as Sheffield and Bradford.

On the third day, the intense heat continued. MacLaren was distracted by a fly in his eye and Ranji played on. Two runs were needed to avoid an innings defeat when Stoddart arrived at the wicket. Stoddart decided to go for his shots but pulled a loose ball from Jones on to his stumps from wide out to off and was bowled for 25. England then recovered to a degree and by the close were 254-7, a lead of 105, with three wickets in hand.

However they only added nine more and Australia romped to 115-2, to win by eight wickets. This was a long awaited triumph for Australian who had totally out thought and out played the visitors. Iredale of Australia suggested that Stoddart, whom they admired "as a fine a sportsman as ever went into the field

had got it into his head that a hitting game did not pay in this country, so he pocketed his genius and gave us scientific cricket instead”.

He also thought that Stoddart took too much notice of the crowd. The general impression was that his increasing sensitivity did not suit captaincy and that in succession, the belligerence of MacLaren, who drove his players, was in marked contrast and proved more effective. MacLaren was quick tempered and easily angered, which Stoddart was not.

Although England had experienced ill-luck on the tour, the team’s failure to adjust to the bowling and the vagaries of the pitch was seen as their downfall, coupled with weak bowling. The *Daily Telegraph* went so far as to describe them as *the team of all the failures*.

Fifth Test 1897

Stoddart dropped himself for the final Test at Sydney and may have started the proposition that the best team had to be selected at all times that had not always been the case before.

Under MacLaren, England won the toss and made 335, after an opening stand of 111. They dismissed Australia for 239. In his last Test, Richardson claimed 8-94, bowling at a rare pace and producing his best analysis in a Test match. In the second innings MacLaren was out to the fourth ball, taken at slip and the rest of the batting hardly made a fist of it either, being all out for 178. Although Darling was hitting the ball to all corners (and eventually made 160) Australia were at one stage 40-2. However Jack Worrall sorted matters out and put on 193 for the third wicket that saw Australia home by six wickets.

Following the match, Stoddart was interviewed by the *Sydney Referee*. He complained about the barracking from the crowd and in spite of advice to ignore it, the players found it increasingly difficult to do so. He was evidently affected by the inconsistency in the jeering over contentious decisions. The concentration on certain players was having a marked effect, even on the likes of fast bowler Richardson. There was an implication of racial overtones in the invective addressed to Ranji when he was fielding in the deep. Stoddart was eager to reiterate, nonetheless, that the team members were not dissatisfied with the tour.

This was not well received. Commentator *Mid-On*, mentioned previously, sent a stinging letter to the *Melbourne Age*, rejecting this criticism and suggested that Stoddart was a better winner than loser. Things were not helped by an allegation of cheating addressed by Bill Storer of England to umpire Bannerman that remained unresolved until after the tour, when the MCC later censured the player.

Stoddart went on to repeat his concerns over barracking in a speech at the end of the tour, after the final game against South Australia. He had support from Giffen, the former captain of Australia, but others deplored his speech, taking it to be an attempt at diversion from the lack of success on the field.

There was a degree of success elsewhere. Stoddart shared with his team mates prize winnings of £1,350 on second-place horse in the *Newmarket Handicap* during the final Test, offering a diamond scarf-pin to the amateurs and £25 to each professional player.

Andrew Stoddart Latter Day Cricket

1898

The 1898 season was to be Stoddart's last with Middlesex but proved statistically to be his best. For Hampstead, he fared less well in the few appearances for them and was beaten to the top rankings in the batting averages by Preston and Hayman. He did not score a century for the club that season.

He declined the captaincy of Middlesex for the 1899 season and suggested that it was time to make way for the exciting new batsmen and the already formidable bowling attack. *Cricket* commented that first class cricket could ill-afford to lose a player "of such infinite variety" and one who had so much by personal influence and example to maintain the character of the game. Always known to have a proverbial ear close to the ground, this assessment proved to be accurate. Two days later Stoddart confirmed his intention to play second class cricket and golf.

1899

In a season curtailed by illness and an accident, Stoddart still managed seven centuries for Hampstead (and a 97 against Kensington Park). He also took 60 wickets.

Late in the season, he was persuaded to play at the Hastings Festival possibly as he needed some practice, having accepted an invitation to tour the United States at the end of the season. He played for the South of England along with W G Grace against the visiting Australians, who were dismissed for 148. Stoddart went in to bat at number six and only made 13 but the South gained a narrow lead of 35. Joe Darling's team improved with their second innings and left the South to score 318 to win. Jones of Australia swept through the batting, with figures of 7-101 and the South were all out for 207. In his last innings against Australia, Stoddart had managed eight runs.

The touring party to the United States included Ranji, MacLaren, Stoddart, Jessop and Bosanquet, so was not short of talent and experience. Stoddart played in all five games, averaging 58 with the bat and taking 22 cheap wickets.

The tour had what was described as a formidable round of social functions starting in New York harbour. There were two games against the Gentlemen of Philadelphia, a rather pointless exhibition game and a match against the Fourteen of New York, on Staten Island. The final game was in Toronto where the tourists easily beat Canada in two days.

When in Philadelphia the touring team were taken to a game of American Football at the Penn Stadium. At one point in the game, Stoddart whispered that if only he were on the field he would run proverbial rings around the players, as they were so slow. A host overheard the remark and tapped Stoddart on the shoulder and said, "no doubt, Mr Stoddart, you would - but once they caught you, you would never run again!"

1900

This year saw the introduction of the six ball over and optional follow-on. Stoddart was called up at the last minute for Middlesex against Sussex when a selected player fell ill just before the start. He batted at number four and made only one in what was his penultimate appearance for the county. He was bowled by Cyril Bland.

Cyril Bland

Cyril Bland had been a sensation in 1897 when he took 129 wickets in his first season and over the next three seasons, he took 302 further wickets. He went all out for pace at a time when the expansion of the county programme was persuading many fast bowlers that reduced physical effort and a greater concentration on accuracy would prevent breakdown and lengthen their careers. Bland, on the contrary, continued being explosive, at least for a few seasons.

In June 1899, in Kent's second innings at Tonbridge, he blasted out all ten wickets for 48 off 25.2 overs after Sussex had followed on. Kent needed 227 to win but Bland got rid of them for 114 with one of the most remarkable bowling performances in county cricket history.

By the age of 30, Bland began to lose pace and consistency. His successes began to be overshadowed by whispered claims that he threw.

He served in the Army Veterinary Corps in the World War One and was wounded. At one stage he was cricket coach at RAF Cranwell. He lived on the flatlands of Lincolnshire for many more years until 1 July 1950 when his body was recovered from the Greenlands Drain in the Maud Foster Canal.

He had gone to a great deal of trouble to end his life. His ankles were tied together, knotted at the front up to the knees that were also tied at the front. His hands were tied together at his waist. He was fully clothed with his cap was tucked neatly into his pocket. Outside involvement was ruled out. He was by now aged 78 and, according to a relative, for some time had been a heavy drinker and regarded as an embarrassment to family and friends. This was yet again a sad end to a cricketing career.

Stoddart's bowling was the more prominent in the early stages of the season. But he still made five centuries. He also agreed to play for Middlesex at Lord's against Somerset in J T Hearne's benefit match. He scored 12 in the first innings out to the ball before lunch, playing an attacking shot.

Somerset had a first innings lead of 69 when Stoddart opened with Hayman. The pitch was firm and fast and the pair set about a response. They put on 151. A further 152 were added with Beldam. Stoddart passed 200, hitting the ball to all parts, with cuts as well as pulls off some short bowling. He was in complete command, save for fatigue, now aged 37. At 221, he "ran out of steam" and left himself stranded, to be run out – an innings he wanted as "a consolation to old age".

His final century at Lord's came in the second innings of the MCC v Minor Counties match when he scored 136 (of which 109 was made in boundaries). His final first class match followed, also at Lord's when the South met the North.

Stoddart opened with W G Grace and made 51. In the second innings he managed 11 (but having taken four catches in the field before it).

Stoddart was to encounter WG once again that season, in a game between Hampstead and London County. 547 runs were scored in the day and the result was a draw. W S Hale (also of Hampstead Hockey Club) made 101, as Hampstead declared on 332-6. Grace hit the roof of the pavilion in making 65.

Andrew Stoddart Later Years

In 1901, Stoddart made twelve appearances for Hampstead and averaged 50. He scored 109 against Surbiton. He was found once again involved in the press defending his amateur status at the end of last Australian tour. In 1902, he made a century at Richmond but then consecutive ducks in the Cricket Week but bounced back with 92 and 80 not out in August. He played his last but one innings for Hampstead in 1903, now beset by old injuries - and his now increasing weight.

But in 1907 he had a final fling with the bat in that season's Cricket Week. Freddie Monro recalls a game against The Old Westminster, when he was captaining the side. The visitors were all out by lunch. There seems to have been considerable banter during the interval, as to when it was too old to play cricket. Stoddart was being teased in particular but Hillyard Swinstead as well. Both were about 43 years of age at the time.

After more leg-pulling, Monro decided to put the theory to the test. He altered the batting line up and put both seniors in to open. Each made a century and let the younger elements spend the rest of the day watching!

Away from cricket, Stoddart was appointed secretary at Neasden Golf Club and within a year was playing to scratch. He was married in 1906 to Ethel Luckham, an Australian, several years younger than him. He became the Secretary at Queen's Club at an annual salary of £300. He spent evenings at the club in discussions with members but rarely reminiscing. He was key to the adoption by the club of the red, white and pale blue on dark blue colours worn by his sides in Australia.

By now tennis elbow had forced him to give up golf. In addition, holding a bat to a cricket ball had become almost unbearable. He spent some of his time playing bowls but there was still an opportunity for one final game of cricket.

In 1908, he led Queen's Club to a narrow victory over Uxbridge in a low scoring game. The Queen's Club team included A E Relf, who had played in 13 Tests. He played for Sussex as an all-rounder, scoring over 18,000 runs. Relf shot himself on 26 March 1937, aged 62, that was attributed to his own poor health and his wife's serious illness.

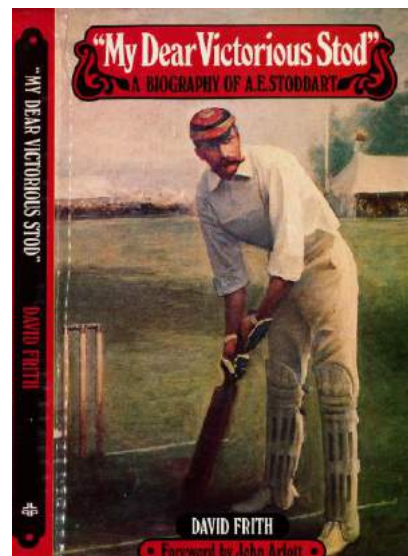
The Stoddarts moved house to 20 St John's Wood Road, close the ground but in 1911 moved again to 115 Clifton Hill, still a close walk to Lord's (and a closer walk to Paddington Recreation Ground). Andrew Stoddart's finances began to appear insecure and his marriage was reputed to have lost its spark. His weight was increasing. His health was suffering and by April 1915 it was extremely poor. He was suffering a depression.

On Easter Saturday, after a day out, he took out a long pistol and placed it on a table and told his wife that he was going to end it all. She pleaded with him and

assured him all could and would be sorted out. She held on to the box of cartridges, as she knew that the gun was empty. Stoddart went upstairs, having wished a good night to his wife and her companion. Later Mrs Stoddart went upstairs and found him in bed. He had shot himself dead, using a cartridge from a spare box.

The inquest jury determined that he has committed suicide whilst of unsound mind. The inquest heard how moody, forgetful and restless he had become and the extent to which money problems had preyed on his mind. He had changed from a very calm person to one rendered totally irritable by the merest incident. He was also found to have been suffering impending pneumonia and he had an enlarged heart (not uncommon in athletes, it has to be said).

He was cremated at short notice on 7 April in Golders Green. By this time many sportsmen had enlisted and were away at war. His ashes were later interred in his mother's grave at St Nicholas Church, Radford in Coventry.



David Frith commented that he was a sportsman of eminent style on cricket and rugby fields and his fame ought to have been assured for perpetuity. He was held in rare esteem in Australia after one rugby and four cricket tours.

However, only five of his 16 cricketing Test matches were in England. Irrationally, centuries made abroad tend to receive less acclaim. Stoddart also played under the shadow of W G Grace. He may not have accumulated as many runs as contemporaries but he tended more to take bowling by the scruff of the neck and as will be remembered as a winner of matches.

His cricket also coincided with the advent of the so called Golden Age, involving players of the renown of Jessop, Foster, MacLaren, Jackson, Fry, Ranjitsinhji, Hirst and Rhodes. His fame therefore evaporated relatively swiftly once had decided to give up first class cricket.

Later members

F C Wheeler

Frank Wheeler was elected to membership of Hampstead Hockey Club on 17 September 1897. He acted as its Honorary Secretary for four seasons from 1899 to 1903. He later acted as vice-captain of the 2nd XI for the 1908 season.

At the AGM on 6 July 1899 he proposed that those under aged 19 should pay an annual subscription of 10/6, until they reached that age. But this motion was defeated by eight votes to five.

His appointment as Secretary of the Hockey Club was only on the basis that the incumbent, H H Evans, "did not offer himself for re-election" (that then came about). Having been in the post for four seasons, J T Ash succeeded him for the 1903-04 season.

He evidently enjoyed club administration, for he was mentioned as the Honorary Secretary of Hampstead Cricket Club at their AGM on 21 November 1901, under the presidency of S S Pawling. At that meeting, he was offered a "hearty vote of thanks" for his "great services to the Club". He was instructed by that meeting to arrange another tour for the 1902 season "the last having proved so popular". He was then elected as secretary for at least the 1902 season.

He had also participated, along with Robert Leigh-Ibbs, Stanley Pawling and Richard Hill, in the Dinner Committee for the Annual Dinner of the Cricket Club on 7 March 1901 at the Empire Hall of the Trocadero. Attended by 160 members and guests, it was, according to Freddie Monro, was "one of the most successful functions ever held under the auspices of the Club".

After the loyal toast, the Club Chairman proposed the health of the Cricket Club and this was responded to by Mr Wheeler, described by Monro as "one of the most perfect after dinner speaker I have ever heard".

Frank Wheeler was also prominent in the Hampstead Cricket Club Annual Sports convened on Saturday 21 September 1898, where "only" 900 attended, owing to bad weather. Torrential rain affected the results and caused at least an hour's delay to the programme. Again he and Robert Leigh Ibbs were on the organising committee and acted as handicappers, alongside H Greig, R A Hill, C D D McMillin and C Nicholas (three of whom were also members at the time of Hampstead Hockey Club).

In addition (and, it would appear, despite being a handicapper) Frank Wheeler participated to good effect. In the 200 yards handicap, he was third (given 10 yards) to winner R Matthews (given 20 yards) in 24.2 seconds, with Freddie Monro (scratch) in second place, by six inches.

In the 100 yards handicap, he was second (given four yards) to Monro (again scratch) by one yard in 10.8 seconds, with fast bowler Spofforth in third (given as much as ten yards).

In the 400 yards handicap, Wheeler was again second (given 20 yards) to winner H R Hebert (another Hampstead Hockey Club member) who was given 35 yards start and with R Matthews in third (given 30 yards), the winning margin being four yards in 55.4 seconds. It must be remembered that these times were achieved on grass and in wet conditions. At least Frank Wheeler later won the Egg & Spoon race, with Robert Leigh-Ibbs in second place.

Wheeler was nonetheless a cricketer able to hold a 1st XI place. He played in the match at Lymington Road in 1908 against Eltham. The visitors scored 169 all out. Hampstead replied with 315-2. Amongst those who did not bat for Hampstead were "with the exception of Wheeler (at number 11) capable of making a hundred and often did so" according to Freddie Monro. Evidently Mr Wheeler's talents lay other than in batting.

H Greig

Mention of the Annual Sports event includes a reference to H Greig. He had been elected a member of the Hockey Club on 12 October 1894.

He was the Honorary Secretary of Hockey Club for the 1897-8 season, having been appointed at the AGM on 2 June 1897. This followed C W Arnett's resignation "on the ground that pressure of work prevented him giving that time and attention to the business of Secretary which the best interests of the Club demanded". However this did not prevent Mr Arnett standing on the Committee for that season. H Gerbig was later succeeded by H H Evans, mentioned previously (who also held the post for one season).

As mentioned earlier, H Greig was a member of the Cricket Club's organising Committee of the 1898 Sports and a handicapper.

Other Hockey playing success at the Sports included J C Toller and H R Hebert's second place in the Three-legged Race and E L Marsden's victory in the Sack Tournament, in which competitors, placed in a ring, were tied in sacks. On the sound of a bugle, they had to try to push others out, the last left in being the winner. H B Hayman was second in the *Throwing the Cricket Ball*, with 85 yards (but into a strong wind). Freddie Monro also won the Half Mile Walking Handicap by eight yards, to R Matthews, who was given 25 yards, in 4 minutes and 15 seconds.

R Leigh Ibbs

Robert Leigh Ibbs (or *Slibbs*, as he was known) was elected as a member of Hampstead Hockey Club on 23 November 1895 (at the same time as Andrew Stoddart and A R Hill).

He played first team cricket for Hampstead Cricket Club and was well known as a chronicler of the times for the club. He was described as a most vigorous and red-faced of men. He was equally busy at the Hockey Club, taking over as Secretary in the 1905-06 season and fulfilling that role for two years.

His election to the Hockey Club was not without issue. The Minutes state that he was only elected with effect from 23 December 1895 at his request, such that his

subscription would be 10/6. However, Mr A Dunn moved that the half-subscription afforded "to Mr L Ibbs" should not become a precedent and this was carried.

He first appeared as hockey player for the 3rd XI. He was appointed to the Hampstead Hockey Club Committee at the AGM in June 1896. The third XI was in its infancy then. The Committee meeting held on 19 September 1896 had concluded that although a desirable objective, the number of members of the Hockey Club could not warrant the obtaining of fixtures for a third team. However on 14 June 1898 the secretary was requested to arrange 3rd XI fixtures. And by 5 November 1901 this had extended to as many fixtures as possible for a 4th XI.

Leigh Ibbs was appointed captain of the 3rd XI at the AGM of 6 July 1899. On 5 November 1901 he agreed to take over as captain of the 4th XI in order to assist with coaching. This was on the basis that there would be a deputy skipper for the 3rd XI, when both teams had a game. He eventually stood down as the captain of the 3rd XI at the AGM on 13 September 1902, when he was heartily thanked for his invaluable services as captain since the inception of that XI. He was succeeded by James Greig.

In 1899, he had agreed to assist John Besch in seeking a second ground for the Club in the Richmond area. At a Committee meeting on 18 April 1901 he had agreed to act as an auditor along with W G Ravenor.

He was also active in organising Hockey Club Annual Dinners, as mentioned further below. At a Hockey Club Committee meeting on 14 September 1901, he was appointed to the Dinner Sub-Committee, along with R A Hill and E L Marsden.

He remained on the Hockey Club Committee until 1907, when he resigned as Secretary "as he was leaving England". E L Marsden agreed to take over "but only until Robert Leigh Ibbs returned" from abroad.

He joined the cricket club in 1896. He left books of cuttings over several years that demonstrated the enthusiasm of the members in addition to playing cricket. For example, Sports were played on a September Saturday in which, as mentioned earlier, women and children participated as well. Athletic events were taken seriously, the 100 yard dash on grass being timed at under 11 seconds. The 120 yards' hurdles and throwing the cricket ball attracted much attention.

In the winter there were entertainments convened by the members at the Hampstead Conservatoire. The mainspring for this was Slibbs. Other events were convened at the Hampstead Constitutional Club but its members tended already to be members of the Cricket Club.

Annual Dinners featured significantly in the calendar, much as they did with Hampstead Hockey Club. They seemed to be organised on the same lines, with a Chairman and Dinner Committee. There would be a good number of

distinguished guests, many amusing after dinner speeches, raconteurs and singers, frequently members of the club. Dinner invitation cards, menus and toasts appeared to be in common, as were the number of food courses.

Slibbs was relied upon to ensure the quality of the entertainers and according to Freddie Monro, he always persuaded Kennerly Rumford and Squire to attend the Cricket Club Annual Dinners.

Freddie Monro mentions in particular the 1901 Annual Dinner. Kennerly Rumford “most generously” gave his services and was “warmly received for his splendid rendition of *When the Swallows Homewards Fly* and *The Old Grey Fox*.” This was also the Dinner at which Harry Lauder appeared and “evoked roars of laughter with his three humorous songs”.

Robert Kennerly Rumford was a baritone, well known for his performance of the Oratorio. Following his marriage to the well-known contralto, Clara Bell, he toured with her all over the English-speaking world, with a repertoire of more popular songs.

He was born in Hampstead in 1870 and educated in London, Frankfurt and Paris. He married Clara when aged 22. She died in 1936 and he remarried five years later. His reputation was made with more serious works such as Bach’s *St Matthews’ Passion* and Brahms’ *Ernesto Gesange*.

However with Clara he performed Grand Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall and toured the world. He also served in World War One between 1914 and 1917 and later with the Special Intelligence Department of the War Office. Between 1909 and 1920, he made a number of recordings for HMV and from 1915 for Columbia Records. He died aged 86 in March 1957.

William Henry Squire was born in 1871 and was a cellist, composer and music professor. He studied the cello at the Royal College and Guildhall Schools of Music. He was principal cellist in several major London orchestras and helped make the cello popular as a solo instrument.

He was especially well known for his performances of Elgar’s and Saint Saens’ cello concertos. His legacy may well be his collection of student-level works for the cello and piano that are included in string teaching syllabuses, including those of the Associated Board of the Royal School of Church Music.

His first public appearance was when aged 6. When 12 years of age he won a cello scholarship at the Royal College of Music. He was later associated with the concerts of the British Chamber Music at Queen’s Hall in London in 1894. He was appointed principal cellist at the Royal Italian Opera (now the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden). In 1894 and 1895 he played at the early Henry Wood Promenade Concerts.

At the turn the century, he made frequent concert tours of the provinces of England as a soloist with Clara Butt and Robert Kennerly Rumford – hence his appearances at the Hampstead Cricket Club Annual Dinners.

He kept busy until the 1920's, when a limited number of prestigious concert dates were shared with a growing number of leading cellists. His last appearance was in October 1941 at a Festival of Arts in Exeter Cathedral. He died in March 1963, aged 91.

What was Robert Leigh-Ibbs' influence? In 1906 he formed a concert agency with John Tillet. The agency became for the greater part of the twentieth century as well known and regarded as the equal of Marks & Spencer's influence on the High Street.

It represented an unmatched number of international stars, such as Clara Butt, Fritz Kriesler, Pablo Casals, Sergei Rachmaninov, Andreas Segovia, Kathleen Ferrier, Myra Hess, Jacqueline du Pre, Julian Lloyd Webber, Clifford Curzon and Vladimir Ashkenazy.

The legacy of Ibbs & Tillet is said to have remained a benchmark for the current competitive world of artist management and concert promotion, many of whose principal operators began their working lives as *Ibblets*.

After their deaths, the agency was run by John Tillet's wife, Emmie, who was dubbed the *Duchess of Wigmore Street* and became one of the most formidable and yet respected women in British music.

Leigh Ibbs was selected for Hampstead Cricket first team in a remarkable game against Birchington House on 7 and 8 August 1903. Hampstead's first innings reached 324 all out, Leigh Ibbs coming in at number eight and scoring 17. Birchington House replied with 570-6 declared, A E Clark scoring 239 not out. In their second innings, Hampstead were all out for 79, Leigh Ibbs being one of only three that made double figures.

It was seen as an extraordinary match as it was possibly the first time that F R Spofforth was collared as a bowler for Hampstead. It was a hot day and not conducive to bowling long spells. The stand that turned the game was said to be that for the fourth wicket, between Parris, who was a professional for Sussex and A F Bryan, then a headmaster of Holmwood Preparatory School. He rode his luck with Spofforth with many edges, back and shoulder nicks of the bat, much to Spofforth's indignation. But he scored 137.

Robert Leigh Ibbs is recorded as playing in the Cricket Week of 1909. He was one of three Hampstead players to score 50 or more (that no opponent managed). That week Hampstead beat MCC by 99 runs, scoring 225. In that match Stanley Pawling took 5-7.

S S Pawling

He first appeared for Hampstead Cricket Club in 1887 and, according to Freddie Monro, was a great figure in the club for the next 20 years. And during this period would have been equally at work for Hampstead Hockey Club.

Stanley Southgate Pawling was born in Wallingford, then in Berkshire, on 6 February 1862. He was a large man, with what was described as a terrifying run and action "looking as if at the moment of delivery he was going to hurl his not inconsiderable bulk as well as the ball at the batsman".

On the field he was known as "the Skipper" and frequently captained the side owing to sheer personality and a driven ability to get the best out of his players.

He was on the board of the publisher Heinemann from 1893 until his death on 23 December 1922 in Eastbourne. He played for Hampstead Cricket Club from 1894 until 1910 and in games at Lord's between Actors and Authors between 1906 and 1909 and later between Authors and Publishers, also played at Lord's, between 1910 and 1912.

His first class appearances were in three matches for Middlesex in 1894, first at Hove on 14 June, then at Lord's against Surrey on 21 June and on 25 June at the Angel Ground Tonbridge against Kent. These appearance were preceded by a Middlesex 2nd XI fixture against Lancashire 2nd XI at Lord's on 8 June 1894.

In that 2nd XI match, Middlesex were all out for 92 in their first innings and, in reply, Lancashire scored 134. S S Pawling took 7-58 from 20 overs, with six maidens. Middlesex could only muster 61 in their second innings and Lancashire won by eight wickets, when they reached 20-2. The first innings performance may have clinched his place in the 1st XI in the following week.

In the first of his games for Middlesex, won by six wickets, Stanley Pawling took 5-60 in the Sussex first innings, from 21.3 overs, of which eight were maidens. Sussex were dismissed for 181. Middlesex then scored 314, with Stoddart, who opened the batting, scoring 70. In the Sussex second innings, in which they scored a further 225, Pawling took 3-60 from 20 overs, with two maidens. Middlesex then knocked off the required 96 runs to win, losing the four wickets in doing so.

In his second game, on 21 and 22 June 1894, Middlesex again won by six wickets. Surrey scored 131 in their first innings and Middlesex replied with 185. Stoddart scored 38 and W B Hayman 23. In their second innings, Surrey could only manage 126 all out and Middlesex reached the required runs to win at 74-4.

Pawling bowled four overs in each innings without taking a wicket. The leading wicket taker in the match was James Phillips, born in Australia, but who had earlier played for an England XI in 1888. He represented the county between 1890 and 1898. In the first innings he took 5-32 and in the second, 6-43 with right arm medium pace, passing 100 wickets in the season (in mid-June, it should be remembered).

In his third match for Middlesex at the Angel Ground in Tonbridge (since 1942 the site of the Angel Shopping Centre) Kent beat Middlesex by 191 runs. Kent scored 250 all out. S S Pawling bowled five overs for 26, without a wicket and Middlesex replied with 212 (notably, with another duck for Stoddart). In their second innings, Kent were 327 all out. Pawling took one wicket, ending with 1-

48 from 19 overs and five maidens. Middlesex could only manage 174 in their second innings, of which Stoddart scored 32.

In a match against Tonbridge School on 4 June 1904, S S Pawling took ten wickets where both teams fielded 12 batsmen. This was a remarkable game for the other reason that the schoolboys successfully defied the considerable pace of Spofforth for 16 overs (but frankly may have found little slowing in Pawling's bowling at the other end).

TONBRIDGE SCHOOL	
C F Sadley b Pawling	13
C S Bryan Brown b Pawling	18
G McD Bottome c Crosdale b Pawling	0
A E H Killick b Pawling	0
I R A Shuter b Pawling	0
C C G Wright c Crosdale b Pawling	31
N L Calley c Crosdale b Cosser	2
J W Dew lbw b Pawling	0
R H L Clock b Pawling	3
A C Houlder c Ferguson b Pawling	4
B W Pigg c Ferguson b Pawling	5
E R C Stileman not out	0
Extras	8
TOTAL	90

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Spofforth	16	7	21	0
Pawling	17	1	47	10
Cosser	8	4	14	1

HAMPSTEAD	
E E Barnett c & b Wright	71
G Crosdale c Stileman b Pigg	5
W R Moon c Killick b Cock	41
S C A Cosser c Houlder c Stileman	7
L A Pavitt b Wright	8
T M Farmiloe c Calley b Cook	39
Capt Ferguson lbw b Wright	0
F W Orr not out	19
Extras	7
TOTAL (8 wickets)	198

Did not bat R A Hill H W Pavitt S S Pawling F R Spofforth

He once opened the batting for Hampstead in a game against the Gentlemen of Holland, who toured England in 1894. On 13 August, in a one-day game, Hampstead scored 138. W S Hale topped the scoring with 30 and John Besch added 29. It will be recalled that the Dutchmen were all out for 28 and, following on, were dismissed for 128, mainly through 45 scored by their number eleven

batsman, J H Hisgen, supported by the number ten, W Coops, who contributed 10.

Requiring only 18 to win, Hampstead reversed their batting order. E Reid was out for 6 and Pawling for 5, both being bowled by C J Posthuma, leaving the remaining runs to wicketkeeper H R Lipscombe and T M Farmiloe, both connected to Hampstead Hockey Club. At 19-2, Hampstead won by eight wickets.

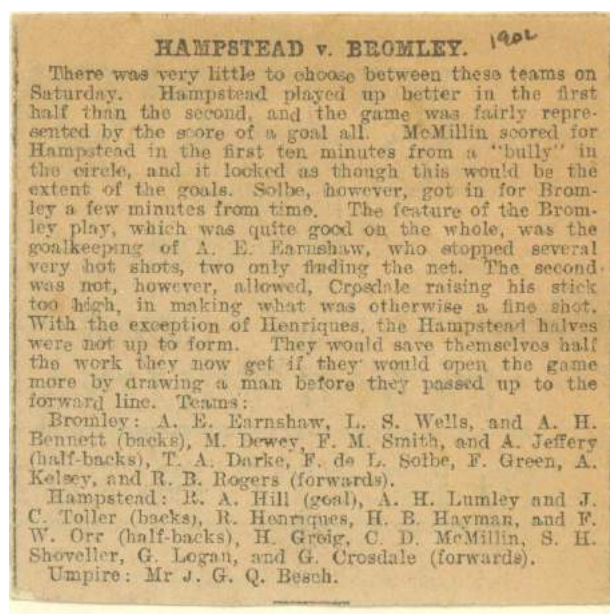
The other Hampstead Hockey Club representative for the Cricket Club in the match that day was opener, W T Danby (*see, above*), one of the founder members of the Hockey Club earlier in the year.

In 1909 *Cricket* contained a report of the Hampstead Week, in which six matches were arranged, four of which were won, one lost and one abandoned to poor weather. On the last day, Hampstead beat the MCC by 99 runs, scoring 255 and dismissing the opposition for 126. In this match, Pawling took five wickets for seven runs.

H B Hayman

Herbert Bailey Hayman was born in Willesden on 5 October 1873 and died aged only just short of 57 years of age in 1930, at Winslow in Buckinghamshire. He played first class cricket from 1893 until 1901.

He played for Hampstead Hockey Club in the 1902 game against Bromley. He was a full back of considerable quality and, as mentioned previously, captained Hampstead Hockey Club for seven seasons from 1897.



Freddie Monro played cricket alongside Herbert Hayman in later years and describes him as a very fast scorer, frequently lofting ball to the outfield and scoring many sixes. He hit the ball with tremendous power, assisted by a full follow through that made stopping the ball a significant task for the fielder. He also bowled leg spinners and was a good fielder himself. He was known for this

considerable energy, spending hours at the nets in summer evenings at the ground, batting and bowling and participating in fielding practice, where his rare skill was as a “hitter up” to provide testing catches for fielders. Freddie Monro said that there was none better at this than Herbert Hayman.

At this time there were three nets at Lymington Road. Two could be booked, at which a member of the ground staff and members were on hand to bowl. No member of the club could book more than one net in advance, such was the demand. The third net was left open, so that early arrivals could put their names down but only after 4.00pm. This led to a rush from work in the late afternoons to get to the ground, according to Freddie Monro. Those seen as regular and committed attendees were Andrew Stoddart and Herbert Hayman.

Hayman joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1891, in the same season as the redoubtable F R Spofforth, the fast bowler who had represented Australia in the 1880's and was regarded as the spearhead of their attack, This brought substantial success to Hampstead Cricket Club, given those who also joined at the same time. In 1891 described by Freddie Monro as a “big year in the history of the club”, there were 26 wins against 12 losses.

He played 105 first class cricket matches, predominantly for Middlesex, between 1893 and 1901. He had 191 innings. He scored a total of 4,663 runs, at an average of 26.49. His highest first class score was 165. He bowled very occasionally, taking four wickets in all, at an average of 34.50. His best performance was 2-9.

His first class debut was at Trent Bridge on 17 August 1893 against Nottinghamshire that Middlesex won by 160 runs. Herbert Hayman batted then at number 9 and scored 9 not out and 27.

His second game for the County was at Lord's in August 1893, against Lancashire that Middlesex also won by seven wickets. Middlesex scored 304 in their first innings (Hayman reaching 26 not out, batting ninth).

In 1894 Middlesex started with a win at Lord's against Somerset in May, scoring 142 in their first innings (Hayman 9 not out). Somerset reached just 58 and following on, managed 113, leaving Middlesex to score 32 to win, without losing a wicket. In that second innings Hayman opened the batting with the number 10 bowler, R S Lucas and they scored 13 not out and 14 not out respectively.

The match against Sussex marked the first class debut of Stanley Pawling, mentioned earlier. Middlesex won by six wickets. Pawling took five wickets in the Sussex first innings, ending with analyses of 21-3-60-5 and in the second innings 20-2-60-3.

A further win followed in the next game against Surrey at Lord's. It was another relatively low scoring affair. Surrey scored 131 and 126 in their second innings. Middlesex, with Hayman scoring 23 at second wicket down, ran to 185 and 74-4 in their second innings, with Pawling wicketless.

In 1895 he was batting at number three, along with G F Vernon in the game against Essex at Leyton won by five wickets but then was at number nine at Lord's against Yorkshire scoring 56 when Yorkshire won by 298 runs. A week later he was back opening with Andrew Stoddart against Kent at Tonbridge, putting on 53 for the first wicket. Middlesex won that game by an innings and 43 runs.

Against Surrey at the Oval on 1 July 1895 he passed 500 runs in first class cricket. He continued to open the innings later in the month against Nottinghamshire in a win by an innings and 94 runs, even though Middlesex only scored 243 in their first innings. Perversely this was immediately followed by an innings and 100 loss to Leicestershire, where the first innings score was 260 all out.

In early May 1896, his first three games were representative, first for MCC against Sussex at Lord's that MCC won by 9 wickets in which he opened with Stoddart. The very next game for MCC was against Lancashire. Hayman came in sixth and scored 70. This was followed by games for A J Webbe's XI against Cambridge University at Fenner's and against Oxford University, both as an opener with Stoddart.

On 21 May 1896, Hayman scored his first century for Middlesex against Yorkshire at Lord's, in which Stoddart made 100 and Hayman 152, putting on 218 for the first wicket. However, he was out for a duck in the second innings and Yorkshire won by 10 wickets.

By now he had virtually sealed his place as opener with Stoddart, on whom, it was said, he had modelled his own batting style. In the match against Nottinghamshire on 4 June 1896, he passed 1,000 runs in first class cricket. Later that month at Lord's he was bowled by W G Grace for 80 but then caught him out for 56 when Gloucestershire batted. Middlesex won that game by an innings and 77 runs. At the end of the same month, he put on 134 for the first wicket, scoring 63 against Lancashire at Old Trafford.

At the start of the 1897 season Hayman was selected to the Executive Committee of Middlesex. His opening batting partner was Pelham Warner. He began the season by playing for MCC against Kent and then passed 1,000 runs in county cricket against Lancashire at Old Trafford.

His scores that season were generally promising, 62 at Lord's against Gloucestershire, 54 against Somerset and 56 against Yorkshire at Lord's that saw him to 1,500 first class runs. He managed 84 in each of his innings against Gloucestershire at Ashley Down, Bristol in a drawn game. In mid-August he scored 56 at Bramall Lane, Sheffield against Yorkshire that propelled him past 2,000 runs in first class matches.

In the opening game of the 1898 season, he opened with Pelham Warner once again, against Cambridge University at Fenner's. For Middlesex, both he and Stoddart were dismissed against Gloucestershire without scoring. Gloucestershire won by eight wickets. This was another of the low scoring

games that were a feature of the start this season. Middlesex were all out for 75 in their first innings.

He scored 66 against Sussex at Hove at the end of July and in doing so passed 2,500 runs in first class cricket. His second century followed, with 104 not out (from a total of 213) against Kent at Catford that Middlesex won by 83 runs.

In 1899 his first two representative games were for MCC, first against Leicestershire and then Derbyshire, both at Lord's, in which the scoring was undistinguished.

The match at Lord's on 22 May 1899 was for the benefit of N Flowers but proved a fiscal disaster. Somerset were all out for 35 and Middlesex could only make 86 in reply. Somerset only achieved 44 in their second innings and the match was completed in 185 minutes. Whit Monday was a wash-out.

There was more low scoring in the next game against Gloucestershire that was completed in two days. Gloucestershire scored 52 in their first innings and Middlesex only 96 in their innings. Gloucestershire then made 113 that Middlesex surpassed with three wickets down, Hayman scoring 33 not out. The next game against Leicestershire was almost identical.

In the following year, one highlight was Hayman's 87 out of 202 in the loss to Yorkshire by six wickets. Another was on 4 June 1900, when he shared a stand of 151 for the first wicket with Stoddart against Somerset at Lord's. Stoddart scored 221 to enable Middlesex to declare on 495-6. That led to a win by 209 runs. There was a crowd of 16,000 on Whit Monday to see Stoddart achieve 16,500 runs in first class matches.

He passed 4,000 first class runs in 1901 usually opening the batting with Warner. Representing A J Webbe's XI against Oxford University, he scored 165 in as many minutes, with six 6's and twenty two 4's. A week later for Middlesex he scored another century, this time 110 in 90 minutes at Lord's to enable Middlesex to declare on 266-2.

After 1901 he no longer played for Middlesex and on far fewer occasions for Hampstead. His earlier years in club cricket had marked him out as a hard hitting, no nonsense sort of batsman and demonstrated why the county selectors had soon taken him on.

Freddie Monro recounted his innings with Herbert Hayman in the Uxbridge v Hampstead match in 1905. Uxbridge had recruited Bernard Bosanquet to play for them, having taken 8-107 in the first Test against Australia at Trent Bridge.

Bernard Bosanquet

Bosanquet is famed for the invention of the googly. He began as a medium fast bowler but later changed to slow leg breaks with which he occasionally added a googly. The ball was developed from a table top game called *Twisti-Tosti* in which a tennis ball is bounced on a table to be avoided being caught by an opposing player.

He devised a means of making the tennis ball break at a different angle to that expected by the opponent. He developed it further with soft-ball cricket and later in the nets at Oxford University during breaks in play, where he would confront the top line batsmen of the day.

He was a cricketer of probably better quality than many thought. He played for Oxford University (where he also represented them as a hammer thrower and in billiards) and went on to represent Middlesex for eight seasons, where Pelham Warner encouraged him to continue the googly experiment.

In all, he scored 21 centuries in first class cricket, with a highest score of 214. Twice he scored separate hundreds in each innings (and in the match against Sussex in 1905, also took 11 wickets). He took 629 first class wickets (with a best bowling analysis of 9-31). He won his first cap against Australia in Sydney in 1903. On that tour he first unleashed the googly to the famous dashing batsman of the day, Victor Trumper, and bowled him with the delivery after two leg breaks had been serenely hit to cover. For some years in Australia the delivery was known as a *Bosie*.

His Test career was, however, short lived and he was dropped only two matches after his 8-107 at Trent Bridge. He had difficulty maintaining a line and length and proved expensive. He was unable to tie a batsman down, although evidently able to surprise them from time to time. He was frequently ridiculed in the early days of the development of the googly. Some called it unfair and complained that it was restraining the full expression of batting.

In the Uxbridge game, Monro regarded it a privilege to watch Hayman confront Bosanquet at the other end of the wicket. Hayman took him on and hit it to all parts. Monro recollected going down the wicket to tell Hayman that he was playing the bowling completely wrong and that he needed to be more circumspect, either going forward to defend it on the full or to go back and play according to the break. Instead Hayman turned everything into a half volley, either for a four or a six.

This made Monro think that Hayman's strategy was probably the best (but he was of the opinion that few would have adopted it as well as Hayman on that day).

Bosanquet then began to lose his control (as seems to have been customary) and that only served to encourage Hayman, who scored 134 in 1¾ hours, the last 34 coming in under two overs.

T S Wheeler

Research has failed to reveal Mr Wheeler's given names but he was another given the nickname "Daddy". He was elected to membership of the Hockey Club at the Committee meeting held on 6 October 1900.

He was a Hampstead Cricket Club committee member for the 1902 season having been elected at the AGM held on 21 November 1901. He played first team

cricket in the noteworthy game against Nondescripts in 1905 – when J Armitage demonstrated what Freddie Monro described as “the finest batting seen against Spofforth” in his Hampstead playing days. Wheeler batted at number 3 when Hampstead reached 228. In reply, Nondescripts scored 240 (Armitage’s contribution being 117).

It was said that Hampstead had a very strong side out that day, other than a regular wicket-keeper, as mentioned. With the exception of Pawling, there was thought to be no man who was not capable of scoring a century. That day Hampstead’s number 11 was usually an opener, so perhaps it was little surprise that the last wicket allegedly put on 125 for the tenth wicket, as reported elsewhere.

Later that season, Wheeler was “relegated” to number 10 in the game against Oxford University Authentics that Hampstead narrowly won against strong opposition – the game in which Spofforth notoriously persuaded the Hampstead skipper to let the Authentics bat first and then had to bowl as best he could as if to justify his advice.

In 1907, Wheeler played in the match against MCC, being one of the club’s outstanding achievements that season. In their first innings, on a drying wicket after heavy rain and with uneven bounce, Hampstead could only muster 84 (Wheeler batting tenth, once again). MCC fell short by 24 in their reply. In their second innings, Hampstead achieved 155, Wheeler being run out for 4. In their second innings, MCC could only manage 149-6 (some 30 runs short) and being a one day game only, this resulted in a win for Hampstead.

The quality of the MCC team put this achievement in the open. It included an England bowler, J T Hearne, and an Australian, Albert Trott, as well as batsmen who were in good form (in one case recently having scored more than 200 in a county game). Wheeler’s catch of Page, who had scored 80 in the second innings, from a very hard hit was widely regarded as a turning point.

F W Orr

F W Orr, known as Toby, was a newcomer to Hampstead Cricket Club in 1901. In his first season he was fourth in the bowling averages with 27 in 17 innings. He was not tall, as the photographs of Hampstead Hockey Club confirm. His scoring strokes were a late cut and short-armed hits to the leg side.

He had joined Hampstead Hockey Club in October 1900 at the same time as Freddie Monro. After W B Hayman retired, Orr captained Hampstead Hockey Club from centre half, having been elected to that position at the AGM on 12 September 1906.

He subsequently played twice in an England XI touring side in Germany in 1910, alongside Jack Bennett, for which there is a contemporary news report. But, it would appear, he was never selected for the full England team.



He was a member of the Hockey Club Dinner Committee in 1907. He resigned as captain of the 1st XI at the 1909 AGM and was succeeded by Stanley Shoveller.



Toby Orr (right) captaining London v Combined Counties in 1909

Freddie Monro describes Orr as the maker of many runs for the Cricket Club and who improved year after year and a consistent scorer for the side until he moved clubs to Northwood.

In 1902, Hampstead Cricket Club had what was regarded as a very fine win over Hornsey, with the latter making up, as usual, a very strong side. Hornsey scored 275 and Hampstead replied with 309-4, in which Orr scored 132 not out. The quality of this win was the more as the Hornsey line up included Bacmeister, a bowler who also played for Middlesex.

Orr also played in the match against Tonbridge School on 4 June 1904 in which Stanley Pawling took all ten wickets. He scored 19 not out in response to the school's 90 all out, reported previously.

In 1905 there is a record of Orr playing in the game against Oxford University Authentics, one that, according to Freddie Monro, was talked about for some time afterwards, given the quality of the opposition, led by A J Webbe and the narrow win for Hampstead.

On 1906 Orr was unable to play for Hampstead and neither could Hayman and Danby. This, when added to Spofforth's retirement that year, led to a decline in results.

Freddie Monro recounted a game against Eastbourne when Stanley Pawling was captaining Hampstead. When Eastbourne went into bat, he asked Toby Orr to open the bowling and "pretend that you are bowler".

The well-known Eastbourne opening batsman evidently thought that the first over delivered by a member of the strong Hampstead side would be "something pretty good". He was reckoned to be looking for hidden guile, rather than the comparative donkey drops (as Freddie Monro described them) that came his way. He missed a straight one, so much was the distraction and was lbw for 0. Pawling then took Orr out of the attack after the one over, "the job having been done."

There was more to follow in that match. Pawling had an lbw appeal turned down by the famous Hampstead groundsman and umpire, Tom Gregory. Another reportedly well-known Kent batsman at the other end remarked that it was "a disgraceful appeal". With the next ball, Pawling sent the middle stump flying and could not resist turning to the batsman at the other end and saying "How's that?" This was apparently not well received by the batsman, who was a rather irascible gentleman.

And then in the next over, this same batsman played the ball to mid-wicket and called for a run. The closest Hampstead fielder happened to be W R Moon, an international footballing goalkeeper, who ran level with the batsman and kicked the ball to his end, where the ball beat the bat by five yards. There was then a tremendous appeal, by all accounts, of "How's that?" and the rest, as Freddie Monro says, can best be left to the imagination.

W R Moon, a barrister, was a footballer who played for the amateur side Corinthians (made up of graduates only) and represented England in the 1890s. He started out as a full back but first played in goal in the late 1880s when his team was one short against Cambridge. He was regarded as so much more

reliable than his contemporaries, who frequently dropped the ball in the wet conditions that his place in the England side was assured.

He became a leading exponent of running off his line to intercept the ball, which appears at the time to have been as equally revolutionary in the goalkeeping fraternity as diving for the ball. This was heralded by Jack Robinson of Southampton, so much so that the manoeuvre came to be known as a *Robinsonade* and later attracted much attention from European sides.

Perhaps the same applied as well to hockey goalkeeping at the time. Photographs of Hampstead Hockey Club's goalkeeper R A "Tonkie" Hill in the first decade of 1900's suggest a rather leisurely spectating aspect to defending the circle, compared with the more imposing aspects of goalkeeping seen today.

G Crosdale

Gordon Crosdale was a wicketkeeper and right-handed batsman, educated at Charterhouse, who represented Middlesex in three matches, but as a batsman (as the captain was the wicketkeeper at the time). He joined Hampstead Hockey Club on 17 September 1897, somewhat unusually, at the time, before joining the Cricket Club.

He was born in Islington on 14 July 1880. When he was only three years old, his surname of Fatt was, perhaps understandably, changed to Crosdale. Freddie Monro describes him as a first class wicketkeeper who joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1899. He kept wicket "without fuss" and as a batsman "improved enormously".

In his first eight innings for Hampstead he only scored 45 and yet by 1904 he had made four centuries in the season. According to Freddie Monro, his was a classic example of the time taken for a school leaver to adapt to club cricket and the success that encouragement from the club can bring.

That may be borne out by his two seasons at Charterhouse in 1897 and 1898 when he averaged 11.55 and 11.44 with the bat. Yet in 1905 he was selected for Middlesex.

His first of the three matches (in which he played as an amateur) was on 1-3 June 1905 at Lord's that was won by Yorkshire by seven wickets. Middlesex were dismissed for 145, in which Gordon Crosdale scored 1. Yorkshire replied with 275 all out. In their second innings, Middlesex improved to 232, of which Crosdale was not out, with 17. Yorkshire scored the required 102 with the loss of three wickets.

On 19-21 June 1905 at Lord's against Surrey, Middlesex won by eight wickets. Surrey scored 143 and 195. In reply, Middlesex scored 109 in their first innings but ran away with 230-2 in their second to win.

His last match for the county immediately followed, at the Angel ground against Kent. Kent made 130, which Middlesex exceeded in their first innings, all out for

195. Gordon Crosdale batted at number 10 and scored 11 not out. Kent's second innings led to them being all out for 184 and Middlesex won with 123-6.

In the 1905 club game against Oxford University Authentics, mentioned earlier, Crosdale top scored with 40 in the Hampstead winning innings of 181. He also featured in the 1907 one day (but four innings) game against MCC.

He was also playing in the Hampstead Home Week in 1911, from 22 to 27 July, covered by the 3 August edition of *Cricket*. The fifth game of the week was regarded as the best, against Uppingham Rovers. The Rovers scored 319 (C H Eiloart, playing *against* Hampstead, scored a fifty). But Hampstead replied with 328-7, thanks to Crosdale and an undefeated century by A R Tanner.

Gordon Crosdale died aged 74 on 12 September 1954. In his three first class matches he had averaged 15.00, assisted by his two not out scores.

E L Marsden

Edward Levenson Marsden was born in Belsize Park in July 1870. He was another who represented Middlesex in 1897 as a left-handed batsman and left arm fast bowler.

He joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1893 and played until after World War 1. He was a fast or fast medium, left handed bowler, with an inswinger that he swapped occasionally for an outswinger. He maintained a good length and it was pace off the pitch that made for his success. His was a short run from directly behind the umpire and led to the mischievous suggestion that he bowled before the batsman was truly ready.

He was not thought good enough for the abilities of batsmen in the first-class game but is reported to have terrorised tail enders in club cricket. He was a big hitter, despite being somewhat uncertain and made more than one century. His batting style was certainly idiosyncratic. He would turn his back to a rising ball and many runs, deemed leg byes, were scored that way to long leg.

He was stocky and known as "Pluggy". He must have been an especially strong man. Freddie Monro recounts that in 1897 G S Hickson joined the Cricket Club. He was clearly equally eccentric in his batting. Apparently, as best as Monro could make it out, his strategy was to hit every second or third ball, whatever its merits and usually for a four or a six. If the next ball were a half volley, he would simply block it, on principle. This may have disconcerted the bowlers but led to his success with the bat.

When Hickson played for another club, he was shown a 100lb weight that few of that club could lift. "He was chaffingly told that he could have it if he would be able to take it away, which promptly he did." The weight remained in the Hampstead pavilion for many years. One Hampstead member who could lift it was Edward Marsden.

He was a defender for Hampstead Hockey Club and is listed in the 1st XI in 1904 against Oxford University and later in 1908 against Blackheath and Surbiton. He

is photographed with the team for the 1907-08 season, a further example of someone playing at the top level in the mid-30s.



He played cricket for a Middlesex Colts side that included Freddie Monro, in a two day game at Lord's on 27 and 28 May 1897 against MCC. This featured 18 batting for the Colts against the 11 of MCC. Yet MCC scored 290 in their first innings and the augmented Colts could only manage 218. MCC went on to 191 at the end of the second allocated day's play.

Later and at Lord's again, he played for Middlesex, in his one representative match, against the Gentlemen of Philadelphia on 21-23 June 1897, batting at number 10 when he scored 3 not out in a total of 234. He then opened the bowling and in dismissing the visiting team for 117, his analysis was 16-3-46-1. In their second innings, following on, the Gentleman were all out for 117. Marsden bowled five wicketless overs for 23 runs, with one maiden.

In club cricket, "Pluggy" Marsden had greater success as a batsman, being second in the averages (for at least ten innings) in 1903, scoring 736 runs at an average of 26.33, his highest scored being 102. In 1904 he was second in the bowling averages, with 120 wickets at 13.48

In the notable 1905 game against the very strong Oxford University Authentics' side mentioned previously, Hampstead had put the opposition in to bat. Marsden and skipper Spofforth were irresistible, in the words of Freddie Monro, limiting the Authentics to 169, all wickets being shared by the two fast bowlers. This was reckoned to be Spofforth's best bowling for Hampstead, possibly following his decision to put the visitors in to bat. Hampstead replied with 181, in which Gordon Crosdale scored 40, Tonkie Hill 26 and Marsden 36, batting at number 7.

In 1909 Hampstead accumulated 382-4 declared against Finchley, with Marsden reaching 100 not out. Finchley replied with 250-9. As the final pair could not be separated the game was a draw.

Later that season against University College School, the school made 152. Hampstead were well behind at nine wickets down and, for some unexplained reason, Marsden came to the crease. The final pair took the Hampstead score to 209, Marsden making 65 and L J Marcus 56 not out.

A B Osmond

Alfred Bartrum Osmond first played for Hampstead Cricket Club in 1892 and was top of the bowling averages that season, beating stalwart Spofforth, although taking fewer wickets. He generated considerable pace off the pitch, which he was able to sustain for long periods. Freddie Monro regarded him as a “really good club fast bowler”.

He was born in 1866 in South Stoneham, Hampshire. There is one recorded match in which he played for Hampstead on 11 May 1892. The opponents were Kensington Park and the one-day game, with five ball overs, was played on Wormwood Scrubs. It was recorded as a draw, although Hampstead were clearly in the lead after first innings.

Hampstead scored 284, of which Stoddart contributed 132. Kensington Park were all out for 86, with Osmond taking three wickets. Stoddart took three. In their second innings (perhaps following on) they were 34-5 when play ended. Osmond this time opened the bowling and again took three wickets. Detailed bowling analyses are not available.

A rugby injury led Osmond five years later to playing hockey with Hampstead Hockey Club. He was introduced by his Hampstead cricketing friends, who, he said, used to practice on the cricket ground in late August and early September. He was elected as a member of the Hockey Club on 8 December 1896. He became a Committee member on 2 June 1897 that he continued until the 1902 season.

He regarded Hampstead Hockey Club in 1896 as a “somewhat poor side” (only two years since formation, it ought to be said) and “had to crawl on their knees to obtain fixtures with clubs such as Wimbledon, Surbiton, Bromley etc”. He was known for his somewhat florid language in his later days as a contributor to periodicals such as *Hockey World*.

He thought that a considerable degree of taking and appealing took place during games of hockey. When he was promoted to the 1st XI after a few games with the 2nd XI, he was reprimanded by the captain for talking too much. He offered his opinion that a “well-oiled jaw” was the qualification for a first team player. He was then pushed back down to the 2nd XI but “after a fortnight, was once more pushed *up* and then played for the first team for some two to three seasons”.

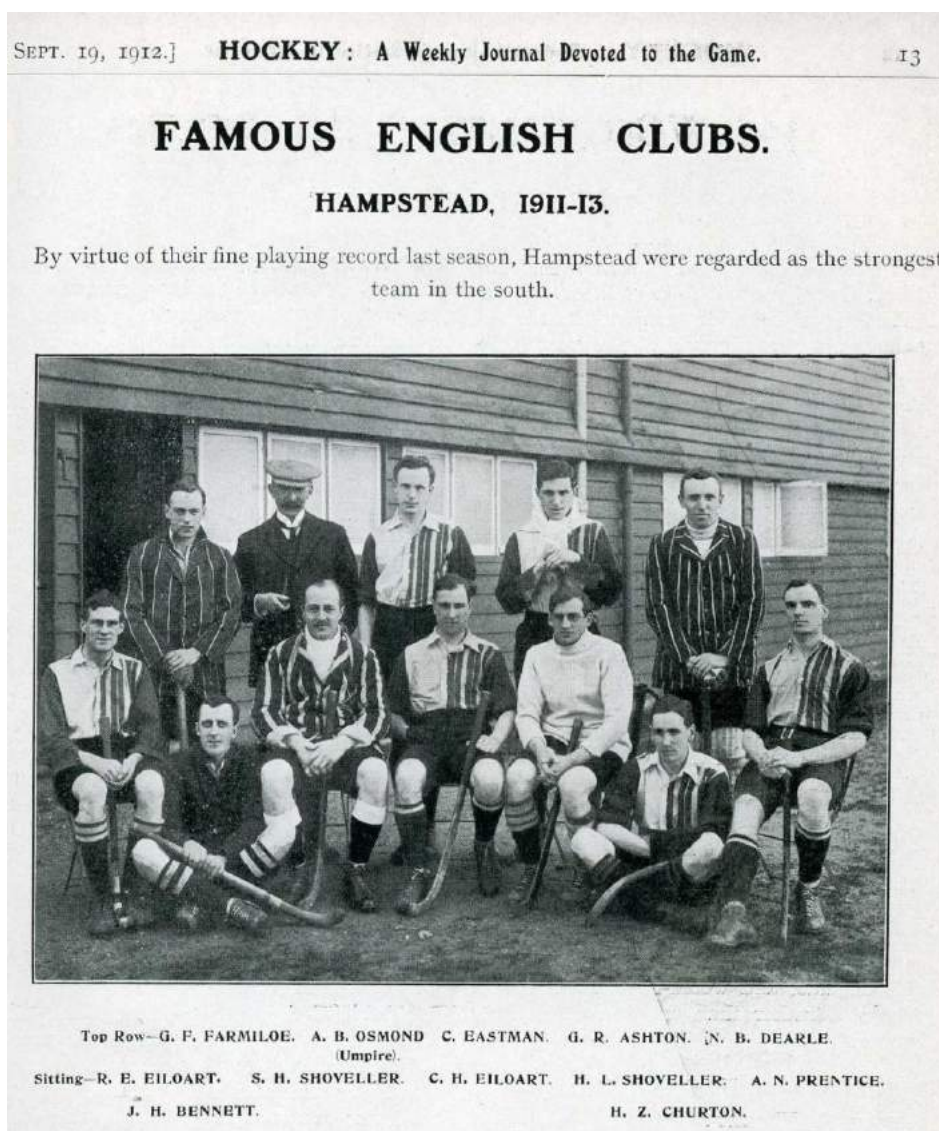
He is thought to have played in every position on the pitch other than as goalkeeper, which, he was convinced, called for a different temperament.

At the end of his playing career, he turned to hockey umpiring and officiated in internationals in Germany, France and Belgium as well as divisional games in England and the Oxford University v Cambridge University and Army v Navy fixtures.

He also contributed to the literary side of hockey, including *Hockey for Men & Women* and books written by S H Shoveller and H E Haslam, as well as contributions to *Hockey World*, predominantly on umpiring matters.

He also became a member of the Southern Counties' Umpires' Hockey Association (*sic*), the Southern Counties Hockey Association and the Hockey Association Council.

In this photograph of the 1st XI from 1912, he stands out on the back row in his cap.



He was well-regarded in both clubs on the entertainment side. In 1901 a musical evening was convened by the Cricket Club at the Conservatoire in Eton Avenue as fund raising event. Albert Osmond's "spirited rendition" of *Faugh-a-Ballagh* was particularly well-received.

For Hampstead Cricket Club in 1902, there was what Freddie Monro describes as "a somewhat curious match". The opposition was old rival, South Hampstead, who always selected a strong side. Hampstead scored 170-6 declared. The local newspaper reported that the start of the South Hampstead innings was "sensational". Osmond and Monro had opened the bowling and were said to be unplayable. The innings ended in 30 minutes, during which seven wickets had fallen for 19 runs.

Numbers 8 to 11 of the batting line-up could not be found when their turn to bat arrived. They had apparently left the ground and were unaware of the rapid fall of wickets.

Osmond's bowling analysis was 8.3-2-16-6. Freddie Monro only conceded one run, with 8-7-1-1. He attributed his concession of only one run to a wish on the part of the batsmen to avoid facing Osmond (so hostile was his bowling), so not risking a single to take the strike at the end of the over.

Ahsan-ul-Haq

Ahsan-ul-Haq was elected as a member of Hampstead Hockey Club on 14 September 1902.

He had joined the Cricket Club in 1900 and was a very loyal club member, according to Freddie Monro. He played for three seasons whilst a law student in London. He was a hard-hitting right-handed batsman and right-arm medium fast bowler.

He was born in Jullunder in the Punjab in 1878 and learned his cricket at Mohammedan College in Aligaph. *Cricketer* noted in 1902 when commenting on his first appearance for Middlesex that his father has enlisted for the British in the Indian Rebellion of 1857 (that had begun as a mutiny of *sepoys* from the East India Company's army in May of that year) and "was with Lord Roberts' Forces in the famous march to Kandahar". The Rebellion led to the dissolution of the East India Company in 1858.

The periodical added that his selection for the County will not have surprised those who knew the value that his all-round cricket had been for Hampstead Cricket Club since joining two years earlier.

However his office work restricted his appearances and in 1903 he returned to India.

In his three seasons with Hampstead, he played 83 innings and was consistent with his batting and bowling. He scored two centuries in that opening season (in a year when 20 were scored throughout the Club, Stoddart with five, Herbert

Hayman, W S Hale and W T Danby with three each, E E Barnett also scoring two and one each for Freddie Monro and T M Farmiloe).

In 1901, Ahsan-ul-Haq has what was described as a very good year, being second to Stoddart in the club averages and scoring four centuries. This was a successful year for the Cricket Club overall: it won 75% of its 40 matches and had 12 good quality bowlers at its disposal, of which eight (plus the indefatigable Spofforth) represented Middlesex that season. In a game for Hampstead against St Bartholomew's Hospital Ahsan-ul-Haq scored 180 out of a total of 328, with one six and 24 fours.

Later that August, Hampstead met Charlton Park at Charlton, for whom S Castle scored a fourth consecutive century. Charlton Park scored 256 and Hampstead replied with 248-5. The Hampstead innings was opened by Hayman and Ahsan-ul-Haq and at one time, it was thought that they would secure the win on their own. But Hayman was dismissed for 63. And the close Ahsan-ul-Haq was 133 not out, only nine runs short of a win. In this season, he played 31 innings, for 1,349 runs at an average of 46.52, with a highest score of 180.

His first class debut was at Crystal Palace in August 1901 when he represented MCC against London County (for whom the WG Graces, senior and junior, played). He opened the batting for MCC and scored 10 in a total of 501 (G G Hearne scoring 115 and C C T Doll 224). This was in reply to 633 all out, in which W G Grace senior scored 132 in 230 minutes and L Walker's 222 in 260 minutes, with 31 fours. Not surprisingly, the three-day game ended in a draw.

He made his debut for Middlesex at Lord's against Surrey in July 1902. Surrey won by 10 wickets. Ahsan-ul-Haq opened the batting with Pelham Warner but only made 17 out of 345. Surrey scored 357 and then dismissed Middlesex for just 68, Lockwood taking 8-25 from 12.4 overs.

In the next game against Lancashire at Aigburth, Lancashire opened with 262. Middlesex made 195, with Ahsan-ul-Haq scoring 25. Rain delayed the start of the second day until 4.55pm and the third day's play only started at 2.30pm, the match ending a draw. At least Ahsan-ul-Haq was given some bowling in the second innings but may want history to forget his two overs that conceded 19 runs!

The next succeeding game was at The Saffrons, Eastbourne against Sussex, which was also drawn. Middlesex scored 207 in their first innings and Sussex were 175 all out in reply. Middlesex fared better in their second innings, with 401 all out. Ahsan-ul-Haq came into bat at number 4 and added 11, Pelham Warner having opened with 139. Sussex reached 261-4 at the close of play on the third day, thanks to C B Fry's 159 not out.

In India, he continued to play but it took until aged 45 for him to play first class cricket again, when he captained the Muslims against the Sikhs in Lahore in March 1924.

He came in to bat at number 11 and in 40 minutes reached 100 not out in a tenth wicket stand of 150, then the second quickest century ever scored. This took the total to 559 all out. Despite this, the game was a draw, the Sikhs, following on from 206 all out, reached 228-6 in their second innings.

The final of the Lahore Tournament, in a four-day game that started on 21 March 1924, was between the Hindus and the Muslims. Ahsan-ul-Haq was once again skipper and promoted himself to bat at number 10. The Muslims won by four wickets, scoring 159-6 in their second innings. No such batting pyrotechnics on this occasion: Ahsan-ul-Haq scored 8, though the final wicket in that first innings reportedly added 71. (However, from the statistics it is difficult to see how this was achieved).

His final first-class game came a year later at the Lawrence Garden in Lahore in the final, once again, of the Lahore Tournament between the Muslims and the Sikhs that the Muslims won by 6 wickets., his batting career ending, sadly, with a duck.

Ahsan-ul-Haq later became involved in the creation of the Indian Cricket Board and died in Karachi on 29 December 1957.

F R D'O Monro

Freddie Monro joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1896 when he left Oxford University, having learned his cricket at Repton School in Derbyshire. He did not play straightaway. He first went to the ground a year later and looked up to the score board that showed 300-0 in a game against Uxbridge, made by Hayman and Thornton.

In 1900 he was selected for Hampstead in the game against MCC at Lord's that in his opinion was virtually a first class match, such was the quality on show. The Australian former Test cricketer, Albert Trott played for MCC and did virtually all the batting and bowling for them.

In their first innings, MCC were 272 all out, with Trott opening and scoring 57. Monro opened for Hampstead with Hayman and they put on 52 for the first wicket, though it was his partner who scored the more freely against Trott's fast bowling. He recollected having to concentrate like never before to keep Trott out and when he was eventually replaced, Monro lost his wicket to de Little almost immediately by being bowled for 11. This was the only wicket that Trott failed to take, ending with 9-77. Stoddart came in at number three and held his bat for 68 in a reply of 207. This was the Hampstead team of which seven were players for Hampstead Hockey Club.

In the second innings, after MCC made 299, of which Trott scored 171, Monro was bowled by such a rapid delivery from Trott that he did not see it. Passing him down the pavilion steps, the incoming Stoddart chuckled, "You got the old man's fast one all right!" Hayman made 47 and Stoddart 33 in a fourth innings total of 206. Trott took 7-96.

The Cricketers of Hampstead Hockey Club
The first 20 years; 1894 to 1914

MCC and GROUND			
A E Trott b Hale	57	b Pawling	171
Carlin b Stoddart	25	c Danby c Spofforth	7
Carpenter c Moon b Stoddart	50	b Spofforth	21
J Leigh c Spofforth	57	c & b Hale	29
E R de Little not out	41	b Spofforth	7
H D Littlewood-Clarke c Pawling b Stoddart	7	c Ahsan-ul-Hak b Spofforth	11
G Howard Smith c Stoddart	10	b Spofforth	6
C C T Doll c Danby b Stoddart	0	c & b Stoddart	9
W Williams c Pawling b Stoddart	0	b Marsden	0
Capn R H Fowler b Stoddart	0	b Hale	0
A Priestley c Stoddart	1	not out	16
Extras (b 17. Lb 4 w 1 nb 2)	24	(b 12 lb 5 w2 nb 3)	22
TOTAL	272		299

HAMPSTEAD			
H B Hayman c Fowler b Trott	60	b Williams	47
F R D'O Monro b de Little	11	b Trott	8
A E Stoddart not out	68	lbw b Williams	33
W T Danby b Trott	0	b Trott	3
W S Hale st Carlin b Trott	12	lbw b Trott	4
Ahsan-ul-Hak b Trott	8	b Trott	18
E E Barnett b Trott	0	b Trott	21
W R Moon c Williams b Trott	17	b Trott	29
E L Marsden b Trott	0	<i>absent</i>	0
F R Spofforth c & b Trott	0	not out	16
S S Pawling b Trott	0	b Trott	14
Extras (b16 lb6)	31	(b 10 lb 3)	13
TOTAL	207		206

HAMPSTEAD	O	M	R	W	O	M	R	W
	First Innings				Second Innings			
Spofforth	22	7	84	1	22	4	118	5
Marsden	12	1	40	0	14	1	67	1
Stoddart	16.3	3	50	8	11	0	19	1
Pawling	8	0	48	0	11	2	57	1
Hale	7	0	26	1	8.3	4	16	2
MCC and GROUND								
Trott	23	4	77	9	17.3	2	96	7
H Smith	4	1	9	0	2	0	25	0
de Little	7	1	42	1	4	0	15	0
Carpenter	4	0	23	0				
Williams	7	2	25	0	11	0	57	2

Albert Trott also had a part to play in a hit for 11 runs made by Spofforth in the Hampstead second innings. This was in the days of the experiment of installing a net around the boundary in all non-first class matches. Everything that hit the net gained an extra two runs automatically to what was run (except for a hit that went over the top of the net).

Spofforth hit the ball to the boundary and it ran into the net whilst the batsmen tried to run three. Trott got the ball and Spofforth dared him to throw the wicket down from the deep, as Spofforth was only part way back for the third run. "Have a shot, Albert!" he shouted. Trott shied at the stumps with considerable

velocity but missed and the ball ran off to the other boundary, where it again hit the net (adding two) and with the four overthrows, 11 runs had been scored.

Albert Trott

Albert Trott is regarded as one of the great enigmas of the game. He made a dramatic start to international cricket taking 8-43 in the 1894-95 Test for Australia. He scored 38 and 72 (both not out) and then 85 (also not out) in Sydney in the next match. His Test average, mentioned earlier, was 102.00 but was insufficient to merit selection on tour to England in 1896.

He sailed to England nonetheless and played for Middlesex. He was known for the spectacular, including the hitting of a six that cleared the current Lord's pavilion, landing in the garden of Lord's dressing room attendant.

His decline was sadly rapid, as his bowling became less effective and economical. His batting form did recover in the extremely hot summer of 1906. He was known to enjoy a beer with spectators on the boundary. In 1907 he took four wickets in four balls and later in the innings took a further three wickets in three balls.

In 1914, he wrote his informal will on the back of a laundry ticket. He bequeathed £4 and his wardrobe to his landlady and then shot himself in Willesden Green on 30 July 1914, aged 41.

Monro scored a century for Hampstead later in the 1900 season, one of the 20 that were made in the year, which was a club record.

The record of the cricket club's Sports Day in 1901 indicates that Monro was a fast runner, coming first in the 100 yards handicap (running at scratch) and coming second in the 220 yards, to R Matthews who had 20 yards' start. He also won the half mile walking handicap (again at scratch) by a distance of eight yards. Mr Matthews featured in all three events fighting out the finish. In his *History of the Hampstead Cricket Club*, Freddie Monro challenged him (if he ever were to read the book) to a summer weekend challenge over the same three distances (and with the same handicapping applied) to give their grandchildren some amusement!

In 1902 Monro featured as a bowler in the game against South Hampstead reported upon earlier, in relation to A B Osmond, where their bowling was described by the local newspaper as unplayable.

In 1903, Hampstead played The Old Reptonians, no doubt through Monro's connections. He captained the visitors. Their team was full of batsmen and without bowlers. Their best bowler turned out to be the wicketkeeper, a last minute recruit and when he wanted to bowl, Freddie Monro had to take on the wicket keeping duties (though he described it instead as donning the gloves only). The Old Reptonians declared at 286-5 and left Hampstead 130 minutes to chase the runs. This they did to excess, managing 299-5 in the time that remained and left Monro to rue what looked like a generous declaration when reflecting later on the quality of the Hampstead line up.

Monro also featured in the 1907 match against MCC that he regarded as the strongest team MCC had assembled against a club side that admittedly had in its ranks six who had played County cricket, albeit occasionally – other than Hayman.

HAMPSTEAD			
H B Hayman c Oates c Hearne	21	lbw b Trott	29
B S Foster c Trott b Hearne	0	c Payne b Napier	26
G A S Hickson b Trott	2	c Page b Napier	8
F R D'O Monro not out	25	b May	11
G Crosdale b Hearne	0	b Napier	1
W R Moon c Trott b Hearne	2	c Trott b Napier	15
R E Eiloart c Trott b May	14	b Napier	0
R D Robertson b May	0	c Page b Napier	12
E L Marsden c Oates b May	2	lbw b Hearne	18
T S Wheater b Heane	0	run out	4
S S Pawling* c Trott b May	2	not out	7
Extras	16		24
TOTAL	84		155

MCC			
M W Payne b Marsden	19	b Marsden	4
A Butcher c Eiloart b Foster	0	c Pawling b Marsden	0
E S Littlejohn run out	21		
C C Page b Marsden	0	c Wheater b Marsden	80
C Palmer b Marsden	2	bot out	10
Trott c Marsden b Pawling	1	b Hayman b Marsden	31
P R May b Marsden	4	b Eiloart b Hickson	6
G G Napier c Hickson b Marsden	0	b Marsden	0
Oates b Pawling	6		
J T Hearne lbw b Pawling	0	not out	7
W P Harrison* not out	1		
Extras	6		11
TOTAL	60	(6 wickets)	149

Photographs of the two teams appear on page 109.

(Being a one-day match, with MCC requiring 30 to win with 4 wickets standing at the close, this is recorded as a Hampstead win)

Monro scored two centuries in the 1908 season, amongst 15 made for the Club, when the batting was particularly strong. One was scored in the game against Eltham at Lymington Road, when the visitors made 169. In reply, Hampstead posted 315-2, without the assistance of the seven batsmen who were capable of scoring centuries and, according to Monro, frequently did.

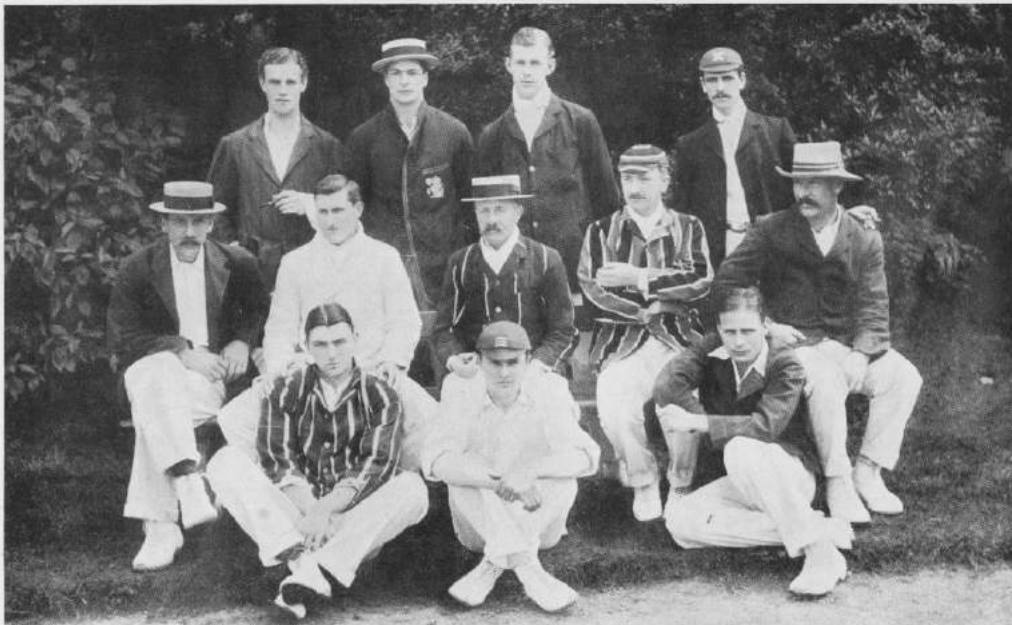
The Cricketers of Hampstead Hockey Club
 The first 20 years; 1894 to 1914



HAMPSTEAD SIDE

Back Row: R. D. Robertson, G. S. Hickson, F. R. D'O. Monro.
Middle Row: T. S. Wheeler, S. S. Pawling, W. R. Moon, H. B. Hayman, E. L. Marsden.
Front Row: R. E. Eiloart, G. Crosdale, B. S. Foster.

[To face page 164.]



M.C.C. SIDE

Back Row: C. Palmer, C. C. Page, G. G. Napier, Oates.
Middle Row: J. T. Hearne, E. S. Littlejohn, W. P. Harrison (Senr.), A. Butcher, Trott.
Front Row: M. W. Payne, W. P. Harrison (Jnr.), P. R. May.

[To face page 117.]

1909 was also a good year for Hampstead Cricket Club, in which 25 matches were won and 12 lost. There were close finishes by two, three or four runs only. On 31 July Hampstead were able to field two sides to play Woodford Wells, who were defeated (Hampstead scoring 208 and dismissing their opponents for 73) and to play Uxbridge, where Hampstead reached 201 thanks to Moon's 103 and Monro's 56 not out and then limited Uxbridge to 82 for the win.

Three days later, on Bank Holiday Monday, Monro scored 145 in Hampstead's 277-5, beating Pinner (58 and 83) by an innings and 136, in the one day.

Freddie Monro had now accepted a post as the Honorary Treasurer of the Club. Presumably modesty prevented much mention of his playing record over the next few years but in 1913 he played against Beckenham and captained the side. This was another day on which Hampstead put out two sides against good opposition.

Monro won the toss and put Beckenham in, which was relatively rare in those days, even in one-day games. The decision looked sound at lunch as Beckenham were in the order of 100-9, with a miss at slip against the number 11. However the Beckenham opener and skipper, McClaughlin, was still in. Over lunch the wicket improved and the last pair added over 100, to leave Beckenham on 205, of which McClaughlin had scored 135 and was not out. Hampstead were in trouble at 98-6 in reply. Monro had slightly dislocated his thumb whilst fielding and had hoped not to have to bat but clearly that was now required.

Initially, he did no more than defend, leaving the hitting and runs to his partner E W H Beaton, who had joined him at the fall of the sixth wicket. Monro felt his hand warm up as he batted and it alleviated the discomfort to the extent that he began to bat properly. Beaton hit predominantly to square leg in his innings, taking the ball from middle and leg stump. They reached the target without further loss of wicket, with Beaton ending on 102 and Monro with 68. McClaughlin was so pleased with his scoring that he invited the equally delighted victorious Hampstead team to buy him dinner that evening at the Troc, to which they happily agreed.

R E Eiloart

He joined Hampstead Cricket Club in 1907. He was taught (and, no doubt, was coached) at Harrow, having been in their first XI for three years. He was regarded as an exceptional all round games' player but as a cricketer, in particular, for his fast scoring rate and useful bowler. He took the eye as a fielder in the covers, as fine as any seen by Freddie Monro.

He played in the Hampstead v MCC match reported immediately above. Whilst six of the Hampstead team had played first class cricket, only Hayman had done so regularly. Their opponents selected two international bowlers, Englishman J T Hearne, and Australian Albert Trott. E S Littlejohn and A Butcher had recently scored many runs, the latter over 200 in a County game.

The Hampstead line-up included hockey players Hayman, Monro, Crosdale Eiloart, Marsden and Pawling. As shown by the scorebook, above, Hampstead were all out for 84. This was by lunch on a drying wicket, with inconsistent bounce.

When MCC went out to bat, Marsden was in great form, according to Freddie Monro and Pawling, with his "hostile and intimidating run and action" accounted for the three MCC professional cricketers. Hampstead's Basil Foster bowled a swinging ball to Butcher, who hit a steeper to leg that swirled in the wind. Somehow, R E Eiloart, at deep fine leg, got to the ball after making a lot of ground and clung on, possibly in the crook of his arm. That was Butcher out for 0. Marsden with a shooter accounted for the diligent M W Payne for 19, then Page for 0 and Palmer for 2. With four wickets down, the game came alive.

Trott came in to bat and Pawling put himself on to bowl. According to Freddie Monro, Pawling then "bowled like a tiger" and with such hostility that Trott and subsequent batsmen Hearne and Oates showed rather evidently their distaste for the attack. Trott was caught in the slips and the other two clean bowled.

Marsden then accounted for May and Napier and MCC were 60-9. The last wicket pair were reckoned to be the men for such a crisis. Littlejohn, their number three was still at the crease and W P Harrison was regarded as quite able to hold up an end and keep the score ticking over. On Napier's dismissal, Littlejohn played the ball wide of cover and called for a run on the last ball of the over. Eiloart, patrolling the covers, ran to the ball and underarm threw the wicket down, side on, facing only the one stump width. The batsman was run out for 21.

In the second innings, Hampstead reached 155, leaving MCC at 5.50pm to score 180, with play ending at 7.00pm. The visitors went for the runs. Marsden took five wickets but it is felt that had Wheater not caught Page on 80 as recounted previously, the result may have been otherwise.

F R Eiloart

Colin Greenhalgh has likened the Elioart brethren's achievements in hockey to those of the Edrich family in cricket. Several Eiloarts were good cricketers, too. Whilst F R Eiloart had joined Hampstead Cricket Club earlier, his first appearance in the club averages was in 1909.

He was regarded as a useful batsman and good bowler. He was a surveyor by profession and acted as the honorary Secretary to the Cricket Club for many years, though not, it seems, without the application of some autocracy at certain times. Once, he told Freddie Monro (then the club's treasurer) after a committee meeting that there was no real need for a committee: the pair of them "could do this job on our heads".

C H Eiloart

Another brother, C H Eiloart was a regular in the Hampstead Hockey Club 1st XI between 1907-11 as a right half and played for England, too.

In 1912, he featured in the edition of *Cricket* for 3 August that reported on the Hampstead Cricket week from 22 July to 27 July. The best game of the week was assessed to be that against Uppingham Rovers, who scored a “biggish” (so described) 319. C H Eiloart, mentioned as “Hampstead v Hampstead, again” was one of three who scored 50 or more. However, thanks to A R Tanner, who made an undefeated century, hockey club member G Crosdale and G A S Hickson, Hampstead replied with 328-7.

Cricketers from other Clubs

J H Bennett

John (Jack) Hadfield Bennett was a barrister, called to Inner Temple in 1913. When aged 34, he won a gold medal in the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp. He played Minor Counties cricket for Berkshire between 1906 and 1908.

He made his cricketing debut for Berkshire against Oxfordshire, when he scored 63 in a revival from 102-7 to 240 all out. He played alongside his brother, G G M Bennett, who opened the batting.

In August 1906 at Kennington Oval against Surrey 2nd XI, his brother scored 154, with Jack's 30 seeing Berkshire to 359-5 in the second innings to win by five wickets on the last day, with 25 minutes to spare. This was then a record fourth innings score in Minor Counties' cricket.

His bowling was perhaps not as impressive, with a cumulative County analysis of 2-0-17-0. Jack also played golf with a handicap of 5. He was wounded in World War One.

Jack Bennett was universally admired as a hockey player. He played hockey at Harrow School and won two blues at Oxford University in 1907 and 1908, although he was quick to point out that they were then designated half-blues. He played club hockey initially for Berkshire Gentlemen but then applied to a leading London club (his tact kept their name secret, though he regarded himself as a self-conceited youngster for having applied as he did). He was rather abruptly told that they already had two full backs that they were nor proposing to change. He was advised to try Hampstead and so the long association started.

He was soon regarded as one of the greatest players in defence that the game has known. In days of far fewer international matches, he gained 31 caps for England, regarded then as a record that few would attain, let alone exceed.

In the photograph, below, of an England representative XI prior to the game against a German XI on 21 May 1910 in Frankfurt, Jack is the fourth from the right. Hampstead's Toby Orr also played in that game, the second from the left.

Not unusually a contemporary report said that "for the visitors, Bennett at full back played a wonderful game". On the next day, under the touring captain, R G Prideaux, virtually the same team took on Frankfurt and won 8-1. The report mentioned that "the Germans stuck to their guns well but only once were able to penetrate the excellent defence of Goodman and Bennett."

That game of hockey was immediately followed by a game of football in which Blackburn Rovers beat Chelsea 5-3.



Jack's priceless gift was anticipation. By instinct or knowledge he appeared to divine in which direction a forward would move or pass the ball. He timed his tackles to perfection and he never appeared to hit the ball hard. He tapped it here or there with unerring accuracy to a half-back or forward in a position to receive it. He rarely wasted a pass. He displayed rare precision and judgment. It was frequently said that Jack Bennett would come off the field after a hard game and had "never turned a hair".

His rapport with Cyril Wilkinson, mentioned below, was to mutual advantage. They worked together seamlessly. Both were members of the gold medal winning team at the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp.

Jack Bennett was to take on the post of Secretary to the hockey club in 1919. His own Minutes once recorded admonishment of the Secretary for his failure to bring the Minute Book to the meeting and demanded that he be reprimanded.

He was also a member of the Sticks Club, a remarkably closed group of hockey players, who were each sworn to absolute secrecy on joining. The membership was restricted to 25. The qualifications for membership were to have played an international and to be a good diner. Their motto was *aut ludo aut vino invicti* (undefeated either in play or alcohol). One game was played each year at Folkestone and Jack Bennett reckoned that they lived up to their motto on every occasion.

Jack is sitting second from the left on the front row of this team photograph taken at the Folkestone festival in 1911 (and immediately to his left is the remarkable Stanley Shoveller).



Jack was instrumental in persuading Sholto Marcon, another future gold medal winning Olympian to join Hampstead Hockey Club, as well as John Masterman and Benjamin Lampard-Vachell, soon to be his *pince-nez* adorned fellow full back. Sir John Masterman played international hockey (four caps for England as an inside-forward) and tennis, as well as four first class cricket matches and was to become the Vice Chancellor of Oxford University between 1957 and 1958 (all following internment during World War 1 when, at the outbreak of hostilities, he was an exchange lecturer at the University of Freiburg).

Benjamin Lampard-Vachell represented Wales at hockey on 24 occasions (later to oppose Jack Bennett, both as captains) and was to stand for Parliament on several occasions including at the 1924 General Election for the Wednesbury constituency, when he narrowly lost by a majority of 338 to the Labour Party candidate. He, too, was to become a University Vice Chancellor, in his case at the University of Exeter.

C T A Wilkinson

Cyril Wilkinson's life was one of considerable achievement. The extent of his contribution as a Hampstead Hockey Club member to the world of hockey is unlikely to be surpassed. It culminated in the award of a CBE for services to hockey in 1954.

Frequently referred to as CTA, he joined the Club in 1911. He was one of three Hampstead players (later augmented to four after C S W Marcon joined after the Games) to win an Olympic gold medal for hockey at the 1920 games, in his case at the age of 35. He was a county cricketer and then an international hockey umpire and member of the International Hockey Rules Board from 1938-1955. He also held a high ranking post in the High Court from 1936 until 1959.

Cyril Theodore Anstruther Wilkinson was born at Elvet Hill, Durham on 4 October 1884.

His father, Anthony John Anstruther Wilkinson had also been born in Durham in 1835 and he, too, was a cricketer. He played for Middlesex for a decade from 1854 and then for Yorkshire from 1865 until 1868. He scored 1,351 runs in total, over 103 innings and his best first class bowling performance was 6-52, with a bowling average of 22.62.

Cyril was educated at Blundell's School at Tiverton in Devon and represented the school certainly at cricket in the 1st XI in 1902 and 1903. No records are readily available concerning his hockey prowess at that school. His first class cricketing debut was when he represented Gentlemen of England in 1908, opposing Surrey, whom he later joined as a player in 1909.

His captain in that game was W G Grace, with whom he must have batted, especially in the second innings, when they followed on. Wilkinson, coming in at number 4, when Grace opened the innings, scored 39 in a total of 130, handing a win to Surrey by an innings and 41 runs. He once opened the batting with W G Grace.

His first game for Surrey was in the 2nd XI against Wiltshire at the Oval in June that year. He went on to play for the second team between 1910 and 1913.

His hockey playing at club level started with Norwood. When they disbanded, he joined Hampstead in 1911. He represented the South and Surrey. He won four caps for England and went on to represent Great Britain in the Antwerp Olympics, along with Stanley Shoveller, Jack Bennett and Sholto Marcon (all Hampstead Hockey Club members, eventually in the case of the latter).

This is what *Hockey World* had to say in its *Mainly Personal* column in the edition of 26 November 1926

C. T. A. Wilkinson, the captain of the Hampstead H.C., and who has played for England against Wales, has been a well-known figure in both hockey and cricket for many years.

At one time he captained Surrey and is a member of Beckenham Cricket Club for which club he has registered some high innings in his time. His earlier hockey days were spent with the old Norwood HC, and when that club became defunct, he joined the Hampstead HC and always plays at left half.

He has been one of the masters of stickwork, "scooping", and rolling in, etc., and the latter is a real object lesson to youthful players.

As a cricketer, Cyril Wilkinson captained Surrey when they won the County Championship in 1914 and again in the first two seasons after the First World War, in which he signed up for military service, on being called up on 11 December 1914. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant and then on 29 March 1917

to Captain in the London Regiment. He also had to miss a number of games of cricket owing to business commitments.

In 1914, in which he was awarded his county cap, *Wisden* said of him that “he proved himself a real leader, keeping the side under firm control and managing the bowling with sound judgement”. It has to be remembered that Surrey’s team included Jack Hobbs as well as Andy Sandham and Percy Fender, both soon to be capped by England against Australia, and must have required some skill and fortitude.

Andy Sandham once held the world Test record, making the first Test triple-century in his 40th year, a 10-hour innings of 325 at Kingston, Jamaica, when England piled on 849. He had to borrow his captain's long-handled bat and Hendren's shoes (which occasionally slipped off as he scuttled for a single). When England batted again, he went in at No. 7 and made 50. According to *Wisden*, his match aggregate of 375 was a Test record until Greg Chappell beat it at Wellington 44 years and 543 Tests later.

Percy Fender was the last survivor of those who had played county cricket regularly before the Great War. More important, he was one of the most colourful figures in the cricket world for many years after it. He was widely regarded as the shrewdest county captain of his generation.

In a career of 26 years Fender scored 19,034 runs with an average of 26.66, took 1,894 wickets at 25.05, made 21 hundreds and took 599 catches. He did the double six times. Throughout his career Fender's policy was to hit fiercely, regardless of the state of the pitch or the quality of the bowling. He was a tremendous driver and also delighted in the pull. He cut or slashed ferociously outside the off stump and once crashed the ball over cover and out of the Oval. Again, according to *Wisden*, his non-contrived century in 35 minutes against Northamptonshire in 1920 remains a record.

Cyril Wilkinson’s highest first class score was 135, scored in two hours only, with 19 fours and a six against Middlesex in 1914 at the Oval. Surrey scored 544 in the first innings. Middlesex replied with 267 and followed on, with J W Hearne hitting 191 not out in a total of 393-5, to avoid defeat.

In 1920, he passed 1,500 runs in first class cricket, when he scored 106, coming in at number 8, against Hampshire, also at the Oval. He followed this up with 56 not out in the second innings, to securing a win for Surrey by two wickets.

Overall, his first class record was 1,773 runs scored in 78 innings at an average of 25.32. He took 23 wickets with slow left-arm orthodox bowling at an average of 31.47.

He represented MCC at Lord’s in 1921 against Buckinghamshire. Having dismissed the visitors for 66, CTA opened the batting with 127 in a total of 403. He then took 5-126 in the County’s second innings of 434. He went on to open the Club’s second innings with an undefeated 59 out of 100-1 in 17 overs, to win by 9 wickets.

His final (recorded) game (not ranked as first class) was against the touring West Indians in 1928, when he represented the Civil Service in a two day game, which was drawn, CTA scored 42 out of 197, to which the tourists replied with 330.

Cyril did not stop there. He retired to Devon and was known as an enthusiastic club cricketer. Every August turned out for Sidmouth Cricket Club. In 1953, at the age of 69, he scored 50 and took all ten wickets in a match against The Nondescripts. He also played for Refreshers CC, a club formed in 1935 that became the pre-eminent cricket club for the Bar of England and Wales.

In his professional life he was a Registrar of the Probate Divorce and Admiralty Division (as it then was) of the High Court from 1936 until 1959. For many years was a joint editor and later consulting editor of the standard texts (of more than 1,300 pages) on the procedural workings of divorce and probate that were later absorbed into the Family Division of the High Court.

As well as sitting on the International Hockey Rules Board for 27 years, he was a Vice President of the Hockey Association. Between 1952 and 1960 he was President of the Southern Counties Hockey Umpires Association. This all led to his award of a CBE in 1954. He died in Honiton, aged 86.