

## **Alan Cutts - a Tribute**

The Club is sad to notify Members of the passing of Alan Cutts, father of Richard, a Vice President of TWCC and a very significant member for close to 30 years.

Alan's playing days were spent with Kemsing Cricket Club for whom he played no fewer than 315 matches between 1970 and 1983. He accumulated 4249 runs at a respectable average of just over 20. He made ten half centuries for Kemsing and, of equal significance, took 173 catches. This constitutes an extremely impressive ratio for a non wicket keeper.

As Richard settled into life at Skinners' School, Alan transferred his attention to following and supporting his son's sporting development with unquenchable enthusiasm. Richard played rugby for the School in addition to cricket where he scored consistent runs through his teenage years. By the age of 15 Richard had embarked on his own career at TW making his first century in Adult cricket with an unbeaten 117 against Lloyd's Bank.

It was Richard's achievements which led to Alan embarking on what became a huge project over many years for TWCC. The Play Cricket database was utilized by Alan to enter thousands of matches from scorebooks which had been gathering dust and absorbing damp. He took possession of these treasured tomes and steadily and relentlessly transferred the full data of matches onto Play Cricket. Although this labour of love started with matches from Richard's playing days, Alan worked backwards and entered matches back to 1945 and then even some matches before the Second World War.

Matches in recent years have been "scored" electronically and are instantly available on Play Cricket. Allowing for these it is estimated that Alan has still entered scorecard details of over 4500 TWCC matches himself. He has been sufficiently dedicated to accuracy to research local phone directories and other documents to check first names of opposition players and TW players at times. It was a massive and time consuming project but it has left the Club with a far more accurate and detailed statistical history than most other Clubs have achieved. Probably no accident that Kemsing Cricket Club has similar full records for the years of 1970 to 1983!

Alan has also written hundreds of match reports on games played during the current century. These are available on Play Cricket against the details of each match. Part of Alan's archivist role has been to take on the task of registering players for the various Leagues – an important task to ensure that the Club does not breach League regulations. It is greatly to his credit that the Club has had no problems in this important, if dull, area.

Until Alan's health and mobility declined, he was an enthusiastic presence at TWCC matches and took on the task of "sweeping and remarking creases" at the interval between innings at the Nevill. With no groundsman present at such times, Alan's work helped the Club players to avoid taking on this task themselves and enabling them to focus on their efforts on the field. On occasions he took responsibility for scoring matches himself as just another important task!

The Club recognized Alan's dedication and achievements a few years ago and elected him as a Life Vice President of TWCC.

Many players and officials have given much to the Club over the decades. Not many have spent so many hours as Alan in the cause!