

Around the Boundary

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NEW COACH APPOINTED



FORMER Australia under-19 captain Craig Hogan is to coach Jersey's cricketers for the next two summers.

The Jersey Cricket Board named their new man last month ending the search for a replacement following the resignation in Tanzania last year of former South African Test player Peter Kirsten. Hogan's arrival comes at a busy time, with three youth tournaments this summer and the possibility of three senior and three youth tournaments in 2010.

Hogan is a qualified teacher and played for Australia and New South Wales at youth level together with representing NSW's 2nd XI and NSW Country and he played first grade cricket in Sydney. He is a Level 2 coach with more than 25 years coaching experience and beat 27 other applicants to the post.

More recently the 48-year-old has been head coach at East Albury Cricket Club, since 2002, a club Jersey cricketer and coach Peter Gough played for last winter. Hogan said: 'It's fantastic; I'm very excited about the position and I can't wait to start working with the players. I know about your Island because former Jersey captain Matt Hague and I played in the same team in Australia and last winter Peter Gough was here at East Albury where I coach.'

Jersey's Director of Cricket, Chris Minty, said 'We're delighted that he has accepted the post and look forward to him playing a major role in Jersey's development as a cricket nation

Hogan will get the chance to see the Island squad players in action for the first time against Hertfordshire on Thursday 16th April. Hertfordshire will play a second game the following day while on Sunday 19th April a JCB XI will take on Cornwall's Minor Counties side.

All matches are at Grainville.



Jersey squad in World Cricket League Division 5

TEAM OF THE YEAR

For the second year running Jersey's Senior Cricket Team were successful at the Channel Islands Sports Awards, winning the Kleinwort Benson Team of the Year trophy and a cheque for £1000 – edging out Jersey Rugby Club, who had a superb 12 months, but who lost the Siam Cup to Guernsey Rugby Club, and Jersey Men's Bowls Triples.

The team had a successful 2008, coming second to Afghanistan in World Cricket League Division 5 and gaining brief promotion to World Cricket League Division 4.



Former and Current Jersey Captains, Mathew Hague and Ryan Driver

RYAN DRIVER APPOINTED CAPTAIN

The Jersey Cricket Board is delighted to announce the appointment of Ryan Driver as Captain of the National Team to replace Mathew Hague who retired in October 2008. Driver played first class cricket with Worcestershire and Lancashire and has also played Minor Counties cricket with Cornwall. He is a PE teacher at le Rocquier School and played a major role with bat and ball in Jersey's successful campaigns in 2008. He takes over as the Jersey Cricket Board seeks to consolidate following a very busy year in 2008 and looks forward to 2010 when the National Team will be involved in at least 2 major tournaments.

Ward Jenner, Vice Chairman of the JCB and Chairman of the Representative Committee said 'We are delighted to be able to announce the appointment of Ryan. He has consistently been our best player and has already made a huge contribution to the island team since becoming ICC qualified in 2008. As the island team re-builds following the retirement of a number of senior players, we feel that there are huge opportunities for a number of younger promising players to grasp, but, as we proceed onto the World Stage, it is essential that we have someone of Ryan's standing to guide these players and to get the very best performances from them. The Board recognise that a lot of hard work will be needed from our senior team in both 2009 and 2010, but we are absolutely confident that Ryan is the right man to lead us.'

NEW OFFICE FOR JERSEY CRICKET

The Jersey Cricket office has moved! We're still located at Fort Regent but we now have our own office with additional workstations for the growing number of personnel required to run cricket in the Island.

You will see us as you make your way to the gym at the Fort - look out for all the trophies in the window!



GOUGH ATTENDS ICC EUROPE CONFERENCE

Jersey cricketer and coach, Peter Gough, recently attended the annual ICC Europe Development and Performance Conference at the MCC Indoor School at Lord's Cricket Ground. The opening session was led by Peter Moores, former Head Coach of England and Sussex CCC (and newly announced Head Coach for Lancashire CCC), who delivered a thought-provoking presentation on Elite Player Development.

Twenty-eight coaches from 19 Associate and Affiliate Member countries met over the two days for an excellent programme featuring a number of highly experienced coaches and cricketing experts. Richard Holdsworth, ICC Regional Development Manager - Europe, commented: 'This year's programme brought together some of Europe's best and we feel extremely privileged that they gave up their valuable time to support the event. The depth and diversity of the sessions was exceptional and I am delighted that we were able to put together such a strong programme. In order to give every talented European player the best chance of success, we need to ensure they have the best possible coaches working along side them: I am confident that those who attended really benefitted from the presentations.'

The conference was delivered in a workshop format comprising of 16 theoretical and practical seminars covering different areas of the game. Sessions on bowling and batting were led by Mark Davis (Sussex CCC Club Coach), Stuart Barnes (Gloucestershire CCC Assistant Coach), and Adrian Birrell (Former Ireland Coach and current Scotland Consultant Coach). Adrian also lead a session on mental preparation for national teams. Paul Shaw (ECB Regional Coach Education manager and ECB Women's Academy Head Coach) and Cookie Patel (ECB Regional Coach Education Manager and Fielding Analyst for Northants CCC for Limited Overs Cricket) lead sessions on wicket keeping and fielding. Other sessions focusing on development of the game were led by David Young (ECB Regional Performance Manager) and Toby Radford (Middlesex CCC First Team Coach) who talked about Talent Identification and the Emerging Player's Programme, and Academy Structures respectively.

PORRIDGE WITH YOUR CRICKET?

Having secured the European nomination for the Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative in Partnership with UNAIDS and UNICEF, the Jersey Cricket Board in conjunction with HMP La Moye has now won the ICC Global Award.

The prison cricket scheme provided eight cricket coaching clinics to young offenders aged between 16 and 20 years old. The sessions were delivered within the prison walls by Peter Gough whose infectious enthusiasm resulted in prisoners re-arranging other courses and gym sessions in order to attend. Peter at all times promoted the Spirit of Cricket, encouraging respect for opponents, team-mates, officials and the game itself. The Prison's Deputy Governor, Charlie Bertram, said 'The scheme has been extremely successful in delivering cricket to those who might otherwise not have the opportunity to play.'

The scheme will be repeated this Summer.



Inside Edge by Mark Saralis

JERSEY CRICKET

Around the
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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.jersey.cricketeurope.net

Or via the ECC website:

www.ecc-cricket.com

If you would like to receive
copies of this newsletter,
send us your email address
and we will forward it
directly to your Inbox every
month!

2009 AGM

The 2009 AGM will
take place on
Wednesday 20th
May at 6.00pm at
Grainville.

All Clubs are
required to have at
least one
representative
attend the meeting.

Motivation is a funny thing and there are many theories as to why some people prefer to climb mountains than collect stamps, skydive instead of play tennis or prefer to play the guitar than cricket.

Millions of pounds are spent every year on advertising that aims to motivate people to buy certain products or services, and from their tack it would appear that people are motivated to do or buy things in the belief that their lives will be enhanced in some way. Many products promise to enable you to lose weight, build muscle, make money or stop smoking and the quicker and easier to come by the results, the more attractive the product is. It seems people are no longer prepared to put in time and effort to achieve results, after all why should they when they can simply buy them?

On the other hand we are now being told by scientists that most physical, personal and now behavioural traits are inherited through our genes so no matter what we do we cannot override their influence, making such products useless. If this is right it follows that people who are slim, not addicted to various substances, good at sport, high achievers or good musicians etc are so, not through hard graft, practice and perseverance, but because they have been fortunate and do not possess rogue genes.

Anyway what is the point of all this? Well I thought it would be interesting to see if there was a cricket gene, which made the possessor unnaturally good at cricket. It could be quite handy if it was discovered to exist as it gives a valid excuse for not going to pre-season training: "No point in coming I'm genetically gifted/or not (as the case may be), or getting out first ball: "Sorry but I'm genetically predisposed to try and whack the first ball straight back over the bowlers head."

Below are three case studies that that may help shed some light on whether such a gene exists or not. They are purely fictional, and any similarities that they share with current players it totally coincidental.

Case Study 1

Bryan was the son of a local cricketer and a bat and ball was thrust in his hands from a young age. Due to his head start he was much better than the other kids when he started school and got much admiration because of it. This made him determined to get better, so he practiced and practiced and got better and better. He soon outgrew the kids in the playground and was put up against the best kids around. With practice he rose to the top of each group he was up against

and eventually made it to the professional stage. Despite several promising performances however he never quite made it and was forced to lower his sights and eventually settled for playing in a local side and has helped them to win consecutive league titles. After a particularly bad season however, in which he beat the record for the number of consecutive ducks, previously held by Richard Gomersall, and was hit for 36 off one over by Andy Brown, he became disillusioned with the sport and burnt the clubhouse down and was banished from the game for ever.

Case Study 2

Fred didn't receive any coaching as a youngster but being a sports fanatic played cricket and learned by watching the TV and those around him. He was often described as a natural as was his older brother, Barney, who Fred looked up to. Fiercely competitive by nature, he and his older brother spent countless hours in the nets and by his late teens he was playing for the Island. Whilst others his age were up to more unsavoury activities, Fred's time was spent perfecting bowling inswingers or the perfect Yorker, and bleaching his hair. He probably wasn't the best cricketer technically in the Island, but was the most effective due to his competitive nature, which had developed through years of being in his eldest brother's shadow, and went on to play for many years for the Island. His recent retirement will have come as welcome news to Guernsey, against whom he had many great battles, not quite as welcome as that of his brother's, but welcome all the same.

Case Study 3

Dave never played cricket until he was asked to play for a work team. Boy was he crap.

Questions

1. Did Bryan achieve his level of success because of exposure to cricket at an early age and hours of practicing? Did he not make it at the top level because he lacked the right gene?
2. Was Fred a natural, ie possessed the gene, or did he succeed because of the competitive nature of his relationship with his brother and hours of practice? If he had possessed the gene, would he have been as good as he reckoned he was?
3. Was Dave rubbish because he never played or practiced the sport or because he lacked the gene?