

## **DAVID WOODHOUSE**

David Woodhouse is a Worcestershire C.C.C. supporter who has written, with John Leigh, 3 sports lexicons including one on cricket – “Cricket Lexicon” – published by Faber and Faber in 2006. All 3 sports lexicons were favourably received. I note that in the acknowledgements for “Cricket Lexicon”, “Jean Price and the team of tea-making volunteers in the New Road Ladies Pavilion” were mentioned. I’m sure that many of us can relate to that. If you want to know, for example, what a mullygrubber is then this book can help you!

However, it is David’s latest book which he will expound on at our cricket society. “Who Only Cricket Know: Hutton’s Men in the West Indies 1953/54”, was published by Fairfield Books, formerly run by Stephen Chalke, in 2021. The title, of course, gives a nod to CLR James’ famous book. Tom Graveney, our late and much-loved former President, used to often talk to your committee about this controversial tour and all the problems which surfaced. There were incidents both on and off the pitch and the tour may be regarded as the most notorious one since the Bodyline series of 1932/33. I watched David talk most eloquently about this book on Zoom (remember that?!) in 2021 and immediately determined that I should acquire it.

Your Chairman, Chris Coleman, and I went, as usual, to the MCC/Cricket Society Book of the Year event in the Long Room at Lord’s in April 2022. David’s book was the winner. I met him on the night and he told me that he loves Cheltenham because of both the cricket and racing festivals. Subsequently, in spring 2022, his book also won the Wisden Book of the Year.

I can heartily recommend this book. It is scholarly yet a very good read. Wisden Cricket Monthly described it as “immaculate” and Stephen Chalke “a masterpiece”.

***Ken Burney***