

JOHN DAVID LARTER (R51-57)

Born in 1940 in Inverness, Scotland.

He played county cricket for Northamptonshire between 1960 and 1969, as a Right-arm fast-medium bowler. Over his county career he took 666 wickets for 13,013 runs at an excellent average of 19.53 runs per wicket. According to Wisden, his best bowling return was 8-28 against Somerset. His best batting was 51 not out against Notts.



He toured new Zealand twice, Central Africa twice, Australia twice and India and Pakistan.

He also played 10 cricket matches for England between 1962 and 1965, taking 37 wickets for 941 runs at an average of 25.43 runs per wicket. He would have played more, but for niggling injuries. The least said about his England batting the better!

When being called back into the England side in July 1965 he famously replaced a retiring Fred Trueman – what amazing shoes to fill. Here is a newspaper article at the time.



SPORTING NEWS

**LARTER REPLACES TRUEMAN
IN TEST TEAM**

**PARFITT GAINS FROM BOYCOTT'S
MISFORTUNE**

From Our Cricket Correspondent

Between the 12 England players who signed in at Lord's for the second Test match against New Zealand and the 12 who will go to Headingley this week for the third, there are four changes, two of them enforced by injury. Barrington, Edrich, Illingworth and Larter replace Dexter, Boycott, Allen and Trueman. The 12 are:—

M. J. K. Smith (Warwickshire) (Captain).
R. W. Barber (Warwickshire).
K. F. Barrington (Surrey).
M. C. Cowdrey (Kent).
J. H. Edrich (Surrey).
R. Illingworth (Yorkshire).
J. D. F. Larter (Northamptonshire).
P. H. Parfitt (Middlesex).
J. M. Parks (Sussex).
F. E. Rumsey (Somerset).
J. A. Snow (Sussex).
F. J. Titmus (Middlesex).

Dexter, and Boycott, who clinched the second Test match with their admirable partnership on the last dank afternoon, are out of action. In trying to save himself from being run out at Sheffield on Friday, with a full length dive, Boycott strained his shoulder. Whether he had done so or not, Edrich, who is in such fine form, must surely have been recalled.

Since the Test matches at Edgbaston and Lord's, where his fire seemed to have diminished, he has taken almost as many wickets as anyone, though fewer than Statham who, like Dexter, the selectors would dearly like to persuade to go to Australia.

Trueman's place is filled by Larter, who has several times been given up as a Test match prospect. He went to Australia on the last tour, when he was 22, and seemed to lack the stamina and instinct for the part. A year later his five wickets in three Test matches in India cost him 46 runs apiece. He is now stronger than he was, and he is having a fine season.

The fast bowlers for Australia, of whom there will presumably be four, are all off much the same mark. Rumsey and Snow are to be given another chance at Headingley, although Rumsey, if he goes to Australia, will not find anything out there to resemble the pitches at Bath where he has taken 24 wickets in the past eight days.

WONDERFUL RECORD

This, of course, is not the first time that Trueman has been left out of the England side. If it turns out to be the last his wonderful record of 307 Test match wickets is assured of a permanent place in cricket history. The selectors would be glad to

It is Parfitt who benefits from Boycott's misfortune. No one is prepared to speak out and to say that Parfitt is inherently a Test match cricketer; and yet at the bits and pieces and as a member of a side he has much in his favour. No one is keener to go to Australia, and no one would try harder when he was there. The most compelling cricketer in England today, when he is fit, is undoubtedly Dexter. To have lost him for most of the season is like losing Maria Callas from Covent Garden. Edrich has forced his way back by sheer weight of figures. So far this summer he has scored 1,536 runs, which is 511 more than the next man. That is an enormous gap between first and second, at the beginning of July.



J. D. F. Larter.

CONSISTENT BATSMAN

Edrich has an ungainly stance and a functional method; he is nonetheless a most consistent batsman. A year ago he scored a century against Australia at Lord's, since when he has had to give way to others less successful and less qualified. His next Christmas dinner will surely be in Adelaide with M.C.C.

There is nothing much to say about Barrington's reappearance. He will return after his chastening experience more aware of his responsibilities to cricket. Of a large number of readers who wrote letters on the subject, most, unlike your Correspondent, considered that Barrington had been unreasonably treated.

I think, too, that a lot of people will continue to champion Trueman's cause.

find someone who might collect even one-third of Trueman's bag. In their search, there is still plenty of time this season for them to have a first look at Cottam, of Hampshire, Brown of Kent, and Nicholson, of Yorkshire, or to take another look at Glamorgan's I. J. Jones. The position is wide open.

Only the introduction of Illingworth is anything of a surprise in this latest England side. And those who play with him day in and day out think that it is long overdue. It is bad luck on Allen to have been called up for two Test matches without being needed, and now to have been left out. He is too imperturbable a character to let it upset him, and there is, I suppose, as good a chance as not, that Illingworth will be omitted from the 12 at Leeds.

At the age of 33 Illingworth is one of the best and most experienced of our all-round cricketers, and he is in his prime. Twice this year I have heard sides say that he is far and away the best off spinner they have played against; and that is saying a good deal with this as the one bowling department, apart from that type of medium pace which thrives in English conditions, in which we are well supplied. If the fast bowlers were half as good, the selectors would have less to worry about.

SHARP DEPUTIZES FOR INJURED COPSON

W. H. Copson, the former Derbyshire fast bowler, who should have umpired in the Middlesex v. Hampshire match at Lord's on Saturday, had to stand down because of a strained leg. His place was taken by H. P. Sharp, the former Middlesex batsman, who is now one of the chief coaches for M.C.C.

Sharp stood at the consent of both captains. Copson is expected to take over today.

His last tour of Australia in 1965-6 effectively and sadly finished his bowling career. His ankle was given a fearful thump in Sydney and although he stayed with Northants for 1966, the ankle never fully recovered and he retired at the end of the season.

David's name appeared in an article by Christopher Martin-Jenkins in the Times on 27th April 2005. Featuring the Hampshire bowler Chris Tremlett who is 6ft 7in tall the article emphasizes how prone very tall bowlers are to injury and continues. "David Larter, half an inch taller than Tremlett, took 121 wickets at 16 in 1961 and nine wickets in his first Test for England a year later. Injuries made his subsequent career an anti climax."

After his cricket career he took over his father's small transport business in Framlingham, before selling it and moving back to the Midlands. Since then he has been involved with training in various companies as well as the Youth Training Scheme. He was Guest of Honour at a special lunch-time gathering at the College on Monday

March 23rd. He had very generously offered to donate various items of memorabilia to the College for display and safe-keeping. Those present were Paul Taylor, Headmaster, Mark Robinson, Deputy Head Co-curriculum, Marcus Marvel, Master i/c Cricket, Richard Sayer, President SOF and Norman Porter, Hon Sec SOF. After a preliminary chat in the Headmaster's study, and the unpacking of a fine assortment of ties, caps, sweaters, photos, and blazer, the party proceeded to lunch in the Dining Hall. The sight of 6ft 7in David certainly turned a few heads. A photo-shoot followed on the back, with the various members of the party holding up the different items. The party then proceeded to the Boardroom where two special mannequins had been installed, ready to be draped with these wonderful cricketing souvenirs.

In the course of the 3 hour visit David revealed much about his cricketing career, and had a wealth of anecdotes about the people he had met and played against in the course of it, before it was cruelly curtailed by an ankle injury.

Richard Sayer plans to write a short biography of Fram's only test cricketer.

See on the next page a photo taken on the back, with left to right Richard Sayer, President SOF , Marcus Marvel, Master i/c Cricket, Paul Taylor, Headmaster, and Norman Porter, Hon Sec SOF.



See http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/gallery/view_photo.php?set_albumName=album19&id=1stCricket1957 for a photo of the College Cricket 1st XI in 1957 which features three students who went on to play at international level:

- Norman Porter (K50-57) - played hockey for Scotland
- Andy Hancock (S52-57) - played rugby for England
- David Larter (R51-57) - played cricket for England