



## Whites On Green:

### *A history of cricket at St. Helen's, Swansea*

So much has happened at St Helen's over the years. The old ground is steeped in cricketing history, filled with nostalgia for the summer game. In short, it is unique. As the introduction to **'Whites on Green'**, the new book on St Helen's, reminds us:

*It's the only first-class ground in the United Kingdom where you can see the sea – the St Helen's ground in Swansea where some of the most memorable days in Glamorgan's history have thrilled the crowds shoe-horned into the tiered enclosures that lined the boundaries at one of county cricket's most idiosyncratic venues.*

This historical pedigree underpins the Balconier's continued and passionate aim of keeping first-class cricket at St Helen's. Over the years, much hard work has already gone

into ensuring the continuing success of the annual Swansea and West Wales Cricket Festival, and it is clear that Balconiers everywhere – and many other cricket lovers, too – share in this intention to preserve its future.

*It was at the Swansea ground where Glamorgan secured a dramatic two-day victory over the 1951 South Africans; where the guile and spin of Johnnie Clay confounded and becalmed Australian batting legend Don Bradman; where during the late 1940s, John Arlott sat in the BBC radio commentary box alongside Swansea's favourite son, the famed poet Dylan Thomas; where in 1976 West Indian legend Clive Lloyd struck the world's fastest double-hundred; where Matthew Maynard struck an astonishing hundred on first-class debut in 1985; where Glamorgan defeated the Australians on successive tours in 1964 and 1968, and where, during the latter season, Garry Sobers became the first man in cricket history to hit six sixes in an over.*

And so much more, too!

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**'Whites On Green'** by Bob Harragan and Andrew Hignell

ORDER FORM

Please send me \_\_\_\_ copy/copies of **'Whites On Green'** @ £18 a copy, post-free.

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*Please return this form with a cheque (payable to St Helen's Balconiers) to John Williams,  
41 Sketty Park Road, Sketty, SWANSEA, SA2 9AS. In the enclosed envelope*

If anyone still has any lingering doubts about the genuine importance and enduring cricketing legacy of 'Blue-Plaques' St Helen's, the new book by the late Bob Harrigan (a local journalist and life-long watcher of cricket in Swansea) and Andrew Hignell (Glamorgan CCC's scorer and archivist) will quickly dispel them! The very readable and lavishly illustrated ***'Whites On Green: A history of cricket at St Helen's, Swansea'*** has been published by ACS Publications as part of their excellent 'Cricket Witness' series. Seventeen chapters explore different cricketing eras, events and exponents, records and reminiscences – all supported by a wealth of photographs, many of them previously unpublished.

This book will be of great interest to Balconiers and other lovers of the game. And it is a powerful reminder of the continuing – indeed, increasing – popularity of out-grounds and festivals in the county cricket calendar, and it highlights the special significance of St Helen's in this regard.

The Balconiers are pleased to offer copies of ***'Whites On Green'*** post-free at the cover price of £18. We thoroughly recommend it, and urge you to buy and enjoy a copy. We are confident that you will learn some new facts and details as well as enjoying reliving some of the stories and events you are already familiar with. If you enjoyed *'St Helen's – An Atmosphere of its Own'* a few years ago, you'll definitely enjoy this book too.

It's a 'must' for every Balconier – indeed, for everyone sharing the passion for cricket festivals and out-grounds, and the great summer game!

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