



St Helen's Balconiers 50th Anniversary

**Celebrated on November 4th 2022
At Michael Hogan's Testimonial
Lunch at The Towers, Jersey Marine**

**SHB
50
YEARS**

Orielwyr San Helen

OSH



Sefydlwyd 1972

St Helen's Balconiers

SHB

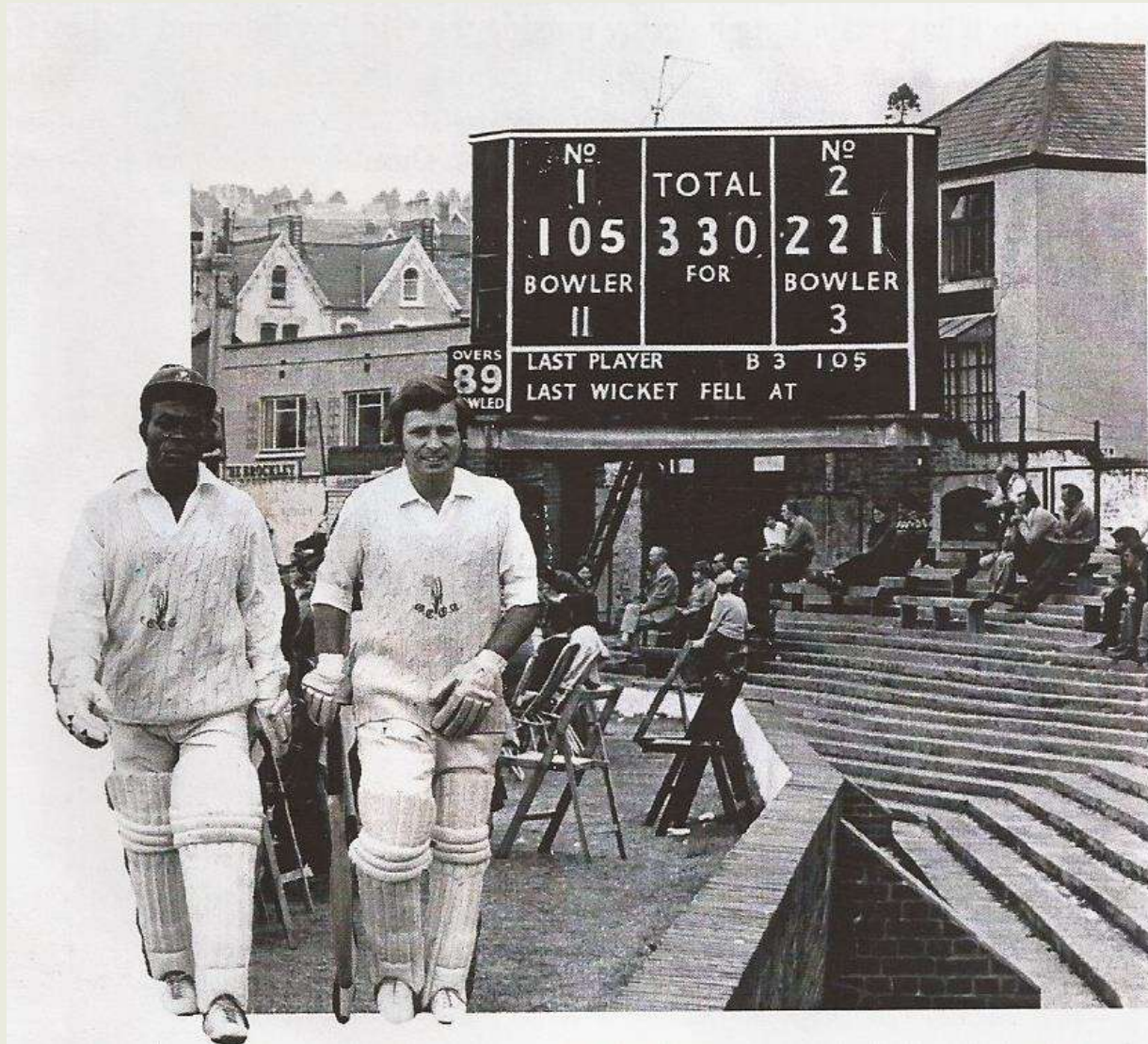


Founded 1972



The Balconiers were formed during the second day's play of the County Championship match between Glamorgan and Northamptonshire at the St. Helen's ground, Swansea, in August 1972. Roy Fredericks, Glamorgan's West Indian batsman, and local hero Alan Jones (whose Benefit season this was) shared a record-breaking opening partnership of 330 with what was described as 'a delightful display of controlled batting'.

Alan Jones & Roy Fredericks





The raison d'être of the Balconiers was and still is to promote First Class cricket in West Wales by way of the Cricket Festival at St Helen's and coupled with its initial aim the intention is to celebrate the individual and collective achievements of Glamorgan players.



1972-1983 No
Committee Society run
by 'The Elders'

The Elders



The original 'Elders' from left to right: Gwynne Rees, Danny Lewis, Margaret Pughe, Gerald Munday and Dafydd Evans



The friends who became the ‘elders’
originally sat
On what was a long balcony outside the old
pavilion room, removed later during the
renovations and improvements to the present
pavilion. The group then moved to a small
corner of the present pavilion, overlooking the
old balcony and the search for a name was
resolved- **BALCONIERS**



The Balconiers
have
had 4 Presidents in
the 50 years of
existence

Danny Lewis 1973-1978



Roscoe Howells 1979-1996



Don Shepherd 1997-2017



Alan Jones MBE-2018-





From 1984 a
democratically
elected Committee
took over from the
'Elders'



Since 1984 there have been numerous changes to the make up of the committee, however from that date to the present day there has only been 2 Chairmen

Gordon Lewis



John Williams





1973 saw the First
major award
presented to the
outstanding player

1973

Arthur Francis
the
first recipient of
what became
Player of the
Year,
Seen here with
Majid and Ann
Voisy



First Balconiers' Award made to Arthur Francis by Majid Khan. Ann Voisy holds the champagne bucket. August 1973



1970's

Player of the Year

1973 & 1976-Arthur Francis

1974 & 1975-Malcolm Nash

1977 & 1978-Alan Jones

1979-Eifion Jones

1980's

Player of the Year

1980 & 1984-Javed

1982-Winston

Davis 1983-Alan

Lewis Jones

1985-Matthew

Maynard 1986 John

Hopkins 1987 Hugh

Morris 1988 Geoff

Holmes 1989-Steve

Watkin



In the early years 1973 to 1983 prizes were awarded specifically for man of the match performances at St Helen's. Examples- Alan Jones scoring a century in both innings 147 and 100 against Hampshire at St Helen's in May 1978, the first time the feat was achieved at this venue



Since those early days

Three of our Test players, namely Matthew Maynard and Robert Croft were awarded Player of Year on four occasions with Hugh Morris awarded the honour three times. Many players have received this accolade twice during their cricket career with Glamorgan, they included in date order: Arthur Francis, Malcolm Nash, Alan Jones, Javed Miandad, Steve Watkin, Michael Powell, Adrian Dale, Michael Hogan, and Timm van de Gugten

1974

Commencement
of away

Tours-

Organised by
John Williams

Pictured in

1976





By the time Arthur Francis won the Balconiers Award for the 2nd time in 1976 - the prize consisted of: a Cheque for £75, 2 weeks Holiday for four presented by Roscoe Howells, an engraved Silver plated tankard presented by Reg Jones and A selected buffet with wines presented by Margaret Pughe



Arthur Francis, Balconiers' Player of the Year 1976, being presented with a cheque and silver tankard by Welsh Rugby International Phil Bennett during the Glamorgan v Middlesex match at St Helens.



Balconiers group outside Kent supporters marquee at the Canterbury Cricket Festival in the early 80's



An early sign of the
possible
longevity of the Balconiers
saw
them celebrate 10 years of
existence in 1982



In that 10 years- the Balconiers had run away trips to practically every 1st Class County, Sponsored players to play overseas, awarded prizes to Players totalling £2.25k, supported 4 Benefits & Testimonials, presented tankards to Alan Jones MBE and David Evans-Test Umpire

1983

As well as lots of
joy there was
also times of
sadness and in
1983

the Balconiers
lost its Treasurer
Gerald 'Gerry'
Munday who
passed away





1984- a new era and
an elected committee
takes over from the
Elders- The summer was
very warm & we said
goodbye to ***George
Clement*** the retiring
groundsman



1985

As well as the normal activities the Balconiers took over the running of the bar at the far end of the ground.(Fred's Shed)

Manned by volunteers with the profits paying for the Awards made each season currently standing at 37 years



It was run by Fred Jenkins from the mid 1970s until the early 1980s when the baton was handed over to the St Helen's Balconiers, who plough all money raised from it back into Glamorgan cricket. It is one of the best-known and loved bars on the county circuit.

Fred's (Shed) Bar- the public bar where Fred was once the licensee



Fred's (Shed) Bar-Volunteers



Fred's Bar always open for business serving cold beer , refreshments and the warmest of Welsh welcomes, staffed by volunteers from the legendary Balconiers.

1987



Chairman-Gordon Lewis,
Treasurer- Neville Francis,
Secretary- Alun Harries

1988

President –Roscoe Howells, Chairman –
Gordon Lewis, Secretary-John Williams. Hon
Auditor-Clive Hemp. Committee Members-
Alun Harries, Philip James, David Waldron,
Haydn Thomas

1988-Player of the Year



Geoff Holmes receives the Balconiers Player of the Year award from President Roscoe Howells

Pho

1989-Player of the Year



*Steve Watkin receiving the Balconiers' Perpetual Cup for being the Balconiers **Glamorgan Player of the Year 1989***



Steven Watkin receives the Balconiers Player of the Year award for 1989 from the previous year's winner Geoff Holme.

Steve Watkin

1990-Pavilion Development

The Balconiers were delighted with the Pavilion development that took place and reported that the hospitality boxes and the entire pavilion at St Helen's, apart from those at Test Match arenas are now better than most seen in the eleven other County grounds



Alan Butcher and Hugh Morris (joint receivers of the Balconiers Glamorgan Player of the Year) receiving the Perpetual Cup from Steve Watkin in 1990



1991 Trips

The outline programme for Balconiers trips during 1991 is as follows, and includes probable hotels:

2nd May	— 1 day trip to Benson & Hedges game v Hampshire at Southampton
10–13th May	— 4 day trip Glamorgan v Somerset at Taunton
7/8/10th June	— 3 day game v Derby at Chesterfield
9th June	— Sunday Refuge Assurance League at Old Trafford
28/29th June and 1st July	— 3 day game v Lancashire at Liverpool
30th June	— Sunday Refuge Assurance League at Headingley – staying at the Lymm Hotel
5–8th July	— 3 day game plus Refuge Assurance League v Kent at Maidstone
19/20/22nd July	— 3 day game v Gloucestershire at Cheltenham
21st July	— Sunday Refuge Assurance League game at Worcester
26–29th July	— 3 day game plus Refuge Assurance League v Surrey at the Oval
16/17/19th August	— 3 day game v Yorkshire at Headingley
18th August	— Sunday Refuge Assurance League game v Derby staying at the Victoria Hotel, Bradford
17–20th September	— (Subject to demand) 4 day game v Hampshire at Southampton

There will be a coach service from the West to all one day games at Cardiff, Pontypridd, Ebbw Vale and possibly to the four day game at Abergavenny.

For further information please contact John Williams at 41 Sketty Park Road, Sketty, Swansea SA2 9AS.
Telephone (0792) 203936.

1992 -20th Anniversary-Player of the Year-Hugh Morris



Hugh Morris being presented by Balconiers' President, Roscoe Howells, with the Balconiers' Glamorgan Player of the Year Award 1992

1993- setting off for the Nat West semi-final at Hove



*HOWZAT for a good send off!
Balconiers' members leaving Swansea for the Natwest Trophy semi-final at Hove in
August 1993*

1994 & 1995 Players of the Year- Tony Cottey & Robert Croft



1995-Festival at St Helen's



1996- Chester-le Street, here we come



Balconiers' members having a break on their way to Chester-le-Street in August 1996 where they saw a game in which Glamorgan defeated Durham by 141 runs!

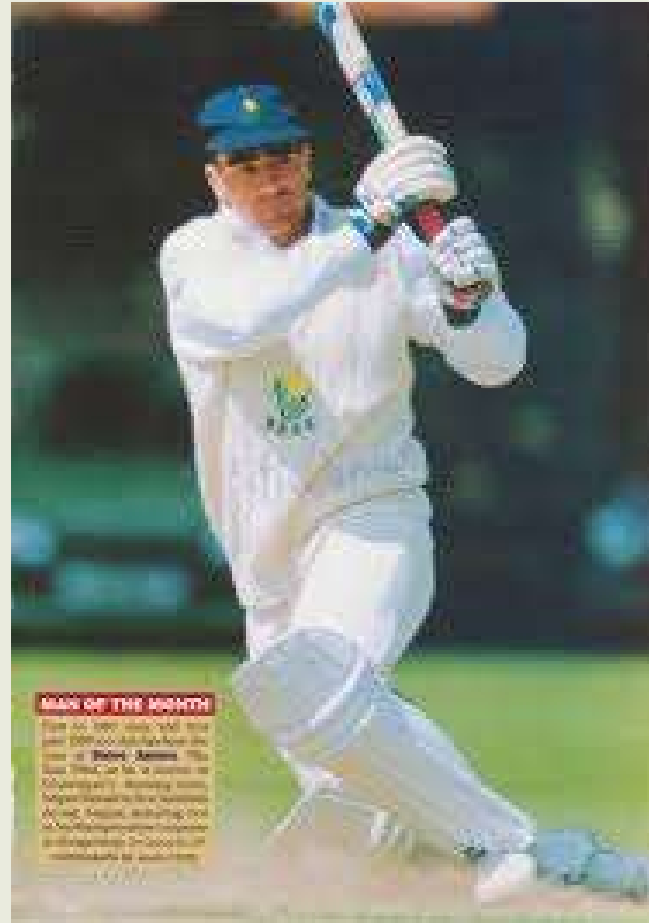
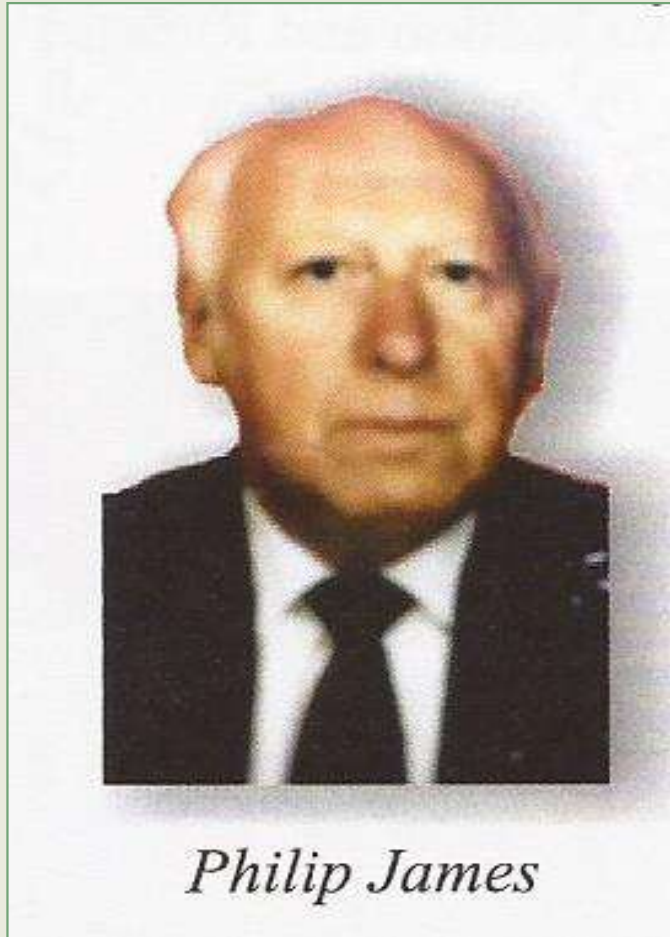


1997

Sophia Gardens established as
the County 'seat'

The importance of the Balconiers
continuing to develop as a solid
and progressive society to ensure
St Helen's retains its festival is
paramount

1997-Balconiers Secretary & Player of the Year



Steve
James

County Champions

1998- £5k presented to Glamorgan CCC



Gordon Lewis, John Williams, Clive Hemp and Neville Francis present a cheque to Glamorgan's Director of Marketing, Tony Dilloway, during the AXA League match against Surrey. The Balconiers' fundraising efforts ensured county cricket went ahead at Swansea in 1998.

Photo: Huw John

1999-Awards Night



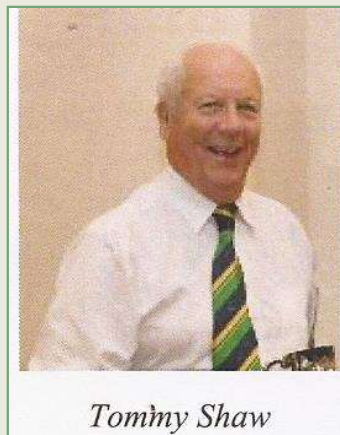
1999- On Tour in Yorkshire



Millennium-2000



President Don Shepherd, Chairman –Gordon Lewis, Vice Chairman-John Williams, Secretary-Philip James Treasurer-David Williams, Membership Secretary-Ann Voisey (Pictured below), Committee-Owen Walters & Tommy Shaw (Pictured Below), Hon Auditor-Clive Hemp



Tommy Shaw



Millennium-2000



John Williams, Gordon Lewis, and Clive Hemp present a cheque for £10,000 to County Chairman Gerard Elias Q.C.

2000-Player of the Year & special Award



Balconier's Player of the Year Adrian Dale receives his award, from Balconier's President Don Shepherd, at the Players award dinner at the Dolphin Hotel Swansea



Steve James and Matthew Elliott proudly stand in front of the Colwyn Bay scoreboard after their record opening stand.

2001-Adrian Dale was again Player of the Year & £15k presented to Glamorgan




St. Helen's Balconiers Chairman Gordon Lewis, watched by other members of the Balconiers' Committee, presents Glamorgan Chairman Gerard Elias with a cheque for £15,000, the result of the Balconiers' fundraising efforts over nine days' cricket in Swansea in 2001.

2002

BALCONIERS' Player of the Year Award 2002



Michael Kasprowicz, Balconiers' Glamorgan Player of the Year 2002 with John Williams Balconiers' Chairman and Harry Lazarus, former Glamorgan Committee Member

the GuideDogs 
for the Blind Association


Tel: 01446 501100 Fax: 01446 501101 Email: cardiff@guide-dogs.org.uk
41, CAULODD SQUARE, Cardiff, CF3 9LL

St. Helen's Balconiers
In Support of Guide Dogs

Proudly presents
Their First Annual Gala Concert
At the Brangwyn Hall Swansea
On Friday 28th June 2002 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Featuring
The World Famous - Morriston Orpheus Choir
Tenor Soloist - Timothy Evans
Waunarwydd Youth Choir
Gŵyr Children's Choir

£1 of every ticket purchased will be donated to the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, plus every purchaser will receive a Complimentary ticket for any one day of the Glamorgan v. Essex Championship game at St. Helen's



2003

Daffodil Cricket Tours 2003

Tour 1 Yorkshire at Headingley

Tour 2 Warwickshire at Edgbaston

Tour 3 Hampshire at West End

Tour 4 Worcester at New Road

Tour 5 Yorkshire at Colwyn Bay

2004



Gordon Lewis- Passed away
2004 aged 73 years

Presented a
Cheque for
£15k to Paul
Russell



Robert Croft- PotY

2005



David Williams Retired as Treasurer- Clive Hemp Elected Treasurer -2005



Captain Robert Croft presents the Glamorgan 'Player of the Year' Trophy to David Hemp

The same year his son won PotY

2005



Clive Hemp, the Balconiers Treasurer, presents a cheque for £18,000 to Glamorgan Chairman Mr. Paul Russell at the St. Helen's Balconiers Annual Player's presentation evening at the Dolphin Hotel in Swansea

2006



President Don Shepherd, Chairman –John Williams, Vice Chairman-Ann Voisey, Secretary-Tommy Shaw, Treasurer-Clive Hemp, Membership Secretary-Ann Voisey, Committee-Owen Walters Brian Landon & Laurie Jones. Hon Auditor- Allan Meredith

Cheque for £28k presented to Glamorgan CCC

Cheque for £1k presented to Darren Thomas (Benefit Year)

Richard Stevens Retires as St Helen's Groundsman a post he held from 1982



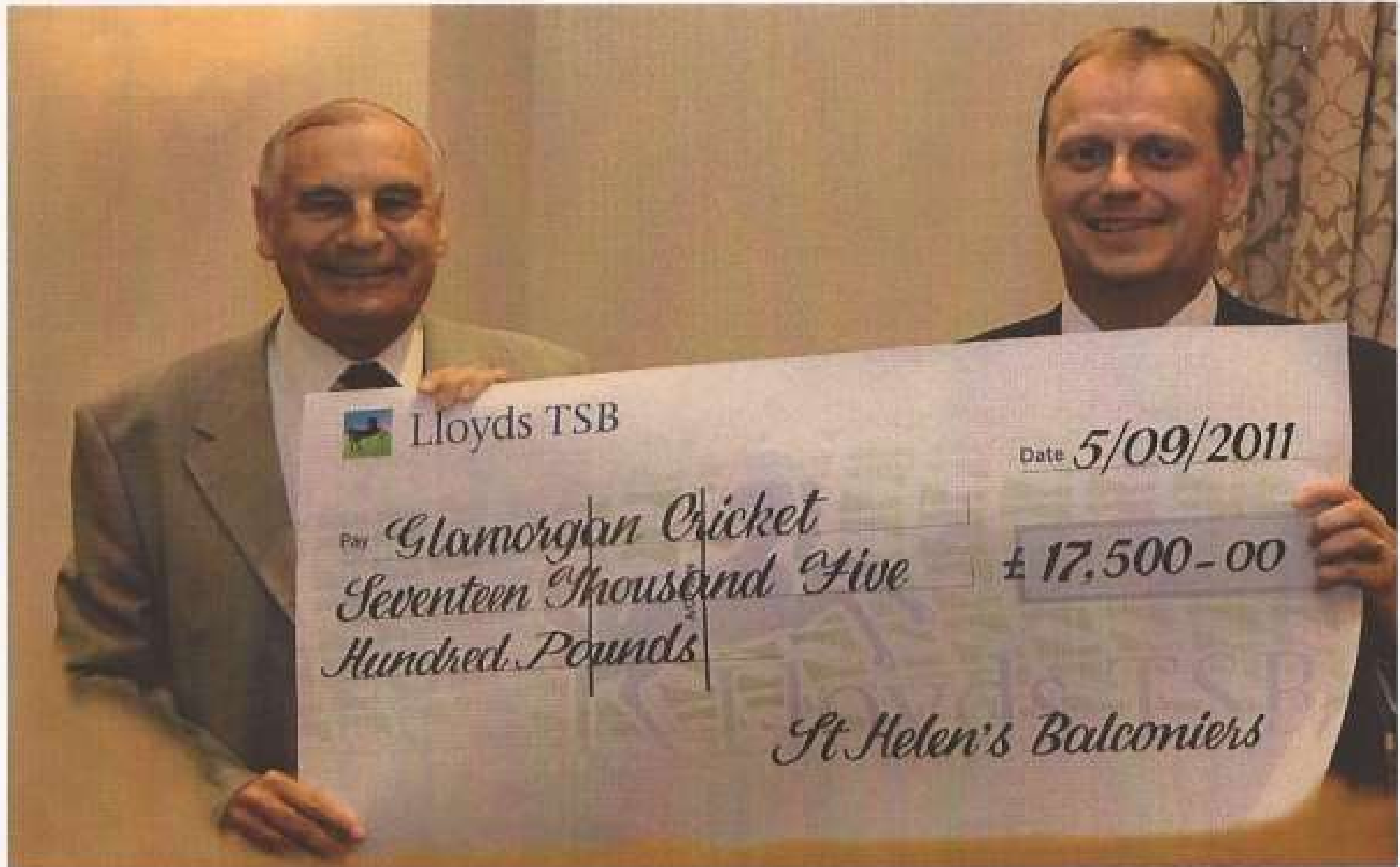
Richard Stevens

2007



Clive Hemp presented Paul Russell with a cheque for £25k

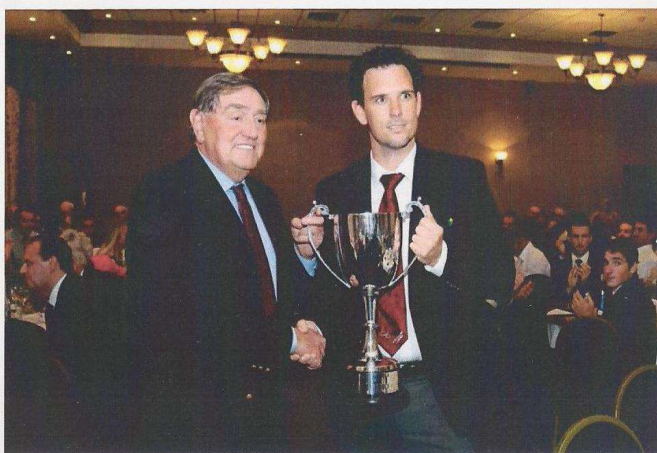
By 2011-Total donated to Glamorgan CCC since 1997-
£234,000



Clive Hemp presenting Glamorgan's CEO, Alan Hamer, with the Balconiers' cheque

40th Anniversary of St Helen's Balconiers-2012

President Don Shepherd, Chairman –John Williams, Secretary-Allan Gray, Treasurer-Clive Hemp, Committee- Keith Davies, Ian James, Richard Stevens , Graham Avington, Jim Tonner, Hon Auditor- David Rowe
40th Anniversary Dinner /Awards night- A Film was presented by Andrew Hignell with highlights of the 40 years.



Jim Allenby, Balconiers' Glamorgan Player of the Year 2012 being presented with the Perpetual Cup by former Glamorgan and England Captain, Tony Lewis CBE



Members of the Balconiers Committee at the 2012 Anniversary Dinner and Players Presentation Evening

Richard Bentley presents John Williams with a memento of 40 years



2013-2022 Players of the year



Glamorgan legend and Balconiers' President, Don Shepherd, presenting Michael Hogan with the 2013 Player of the Year Award on behalf of the Club/Balconiers



Michael Hogan receiving Balconiers' Player of the Year 2014 trophies from Glamorgan legend and Balconiers' President, David Shepherd



Graham Wagg being presented with the Glamorgan and Balconiers Player of the Year Award by Glamorgan legend and Balconiers' President, Don Shepherd



2013-2022 Players of the year- Michael Hogan



Glamorgan legend and Balconiers' President, Don Shepherd, presenting Michael Hogan with the 2013 Player of the Year Award on behalf of the Club/Balconiers

2013-2022 Players of the year- Michael Hogan



*Michael Hogan receiving Balconiers' **Player of the Year 2014** trophies from Glamorgan legend and Balconiers' President, David Shepherd*

2013-2022 Players of the year- Graham Wagg



*Graham Wagg being presented with the **Glamorgan and Balconiers Player of the Year Award** by Glamorgan legend and Balconiers' President, Don Shepherd*

2013-2022 Players of the year- Timm van de Gugten



2013-2022 Players of the year- Colin Ingram



2013-2022 Players of the year



2013-2022 Players of the year- Marnus Labuschagne



2013-2022 Players of the year- Kiran Carlson



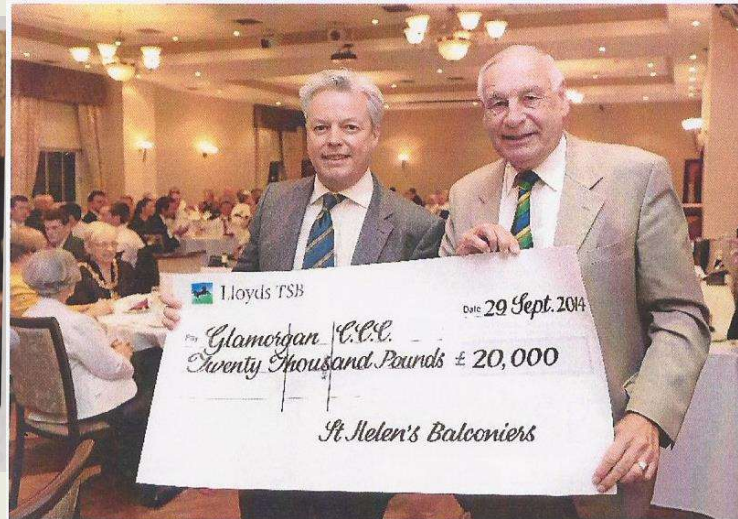
2013-2022 Players of the year- Sam Northeast



2013-2022 Donations to Glamorgan CCC



Balconiers' Treasurer Clive Hemp presenting Glamorgan Chairman, Barry O'Brien with a donation as a financial incentive to allocate Festival cricket to St Helen's



Balconiers' Treasurer Clive Hemp presenting Glamorgan Deputy Chairman David Herbert with a handsome £20k donation cheque from the Balconiers



Hugh Morris receiving a Cheque for £17,500, the result of fund-raising efforts during the 2019 Swansea & West Wales Cricket Festival, presented by Balconiers' Committee



David Herbert Jnr receiving a cheque for £20k on behalf of Glamorgan from Clive Hemp, making the total received over 18 years to be in excess of £320k

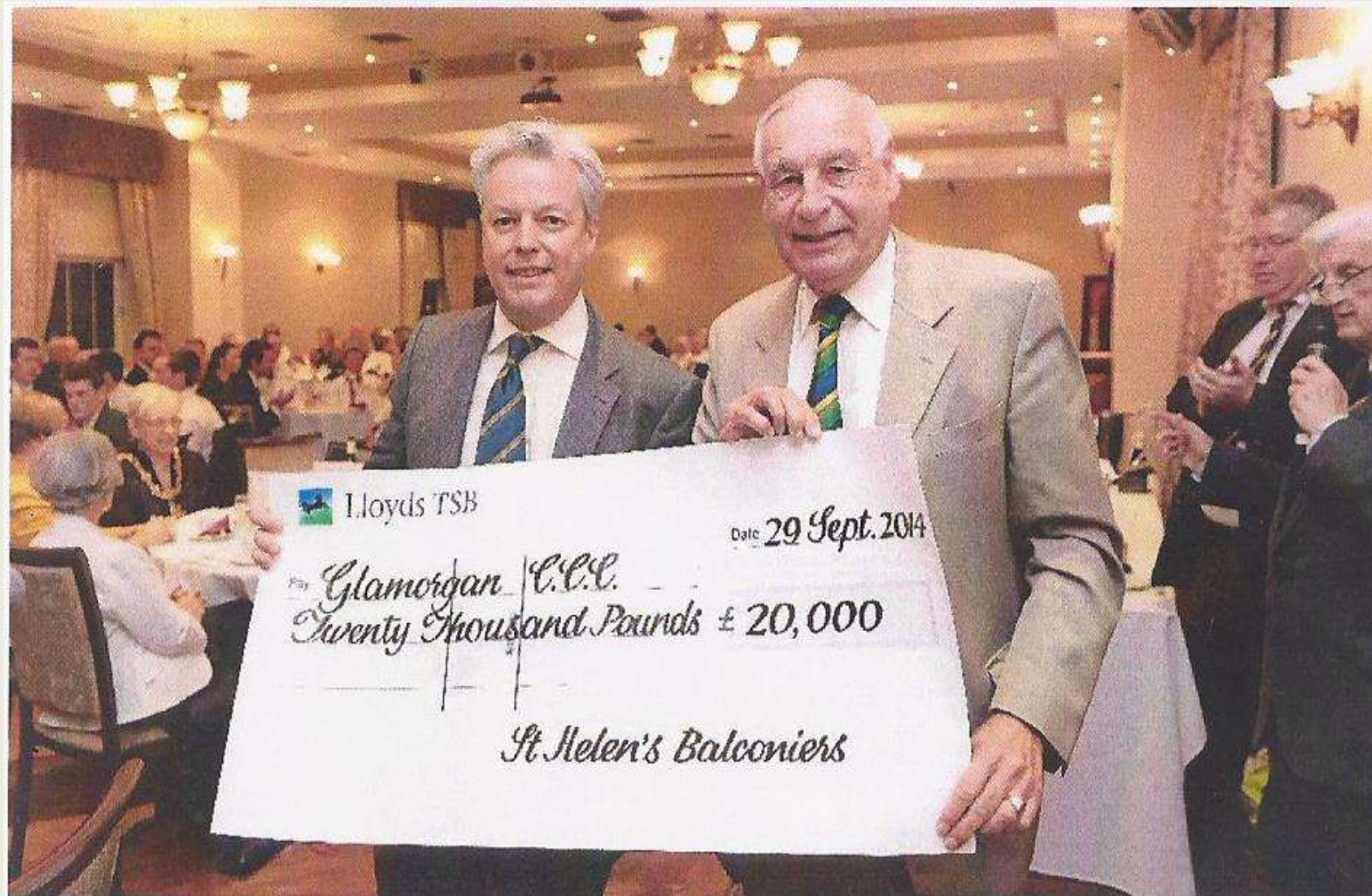


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Balconiers' Treasurer Clive Hemp presenting Glamorgan Chairman, Barry O'Brien with a donation as a financial incentive to allocate Festival cricket to St Helen's

2013-2022 Donations to Glamorgan CCC



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2013-2022 Donations to Glamorgan CCC



Hugh Morris receiving a Cheque for £17,500, the result of fund-raising efforts during the 2019 Swansea & West Wales Cricket Festival, presented by Balconiers' Committee

Lest we forget

28

a, to
0

WESTERN MAIL, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1964

Glamorgan's finest hour

St. Helen's, Swansea

Aug. 4, 1964

the sanctity of the pitch to cheer the victorious Glamorgan side, who proved the South Africans were not invincible after all.

As well as organising the west Wales festivals and all that entails, the Balconiers have hosted 48 end of season Glamorgan players Awards dinners some of which have been shared with The Glamorgan Awards. They have also celebrated milestones of the team and players eg 25th anniversary of the 1997 County Championship, the 40th & 50th anniversary of the 1969 undefeated County championship, the Balconiers Silver Jubilee, Don Shepherd 80 not out birthday, the Centenary year of 1st class cricket, as well Jeff Jones, Alan Jones MBE and Eifion Jones 80th birthdays. They also host events for players benefit and testimonial years

One such occasion the presentation of a Blue Badge



Another special occasion 1980- Frank Culverwell Retires



The Glamorgan Players at a Balconiers' Presentation Evening presenting the scorer, Frank Culverwell, with a silver tray to mark his retirement in August 1980



From l to r: Peter Lynn, John Williams Clive Hemp, Allan Gray, Jamie Rewbridge Dan Cherry and Mike Hayden mark the arrival of new covers at St Helen's 2015

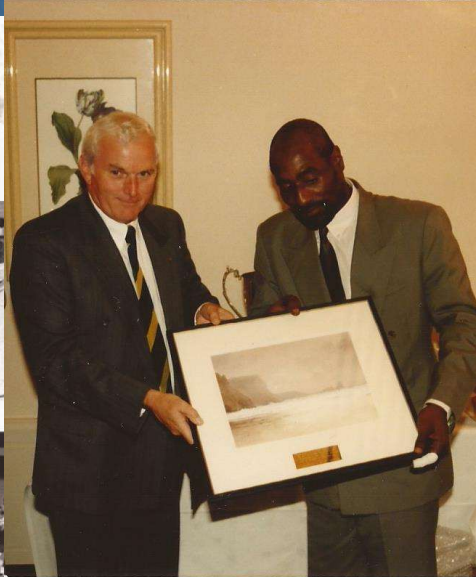


Alan Jones MBE 80th , Jeff
Jones -80th and just last
month Eifion Jones- 80th

Some memories



Mary O'Brien and Mary Gower presenting Ann Voisey with a Retirement Award in recognition of her long service



Members relaxing in the sunshine outside's Fred's Bar during lunch break

We are indebted to the many and varied companies for their support through sponsorship and in particular our principal sponsor for the last decade plus Peter Lynn & Partners. We have also had support from Swansea University and Swansea City Council

Peter Lynn & PARTNERS

Solicitors



A sample of the number of people who have given unconditional support over the years



Members of the Balconiers Committee at the 2012 Anniversary Dinner and Players Presentation Evening

A 'Golden' Anniversary

It 's not possible to cover the 50 years and do them justice but this presentation has tried to capture the essence of the Balconiers and the dedication of men and women who have shared stewardship over the years. There will be some people who have not featured in the presentation but they are just as important to the success of the 50 year old society. The Balconiers have proved to be a 'hardy' bunch who despite the ups and downs encountered will continue to strive to live up to the original mantra- promotion of first class cricket in the west and supporting Glamorgan CCC and its players



On a light note
to conclude-
Swansea's very
own Benjamin
Button in
reverse

This is how fighting for West Wales Cricket for over 50 years ages you



As we close-Looking back





Max Boyce presenting Malcolm Nash with the Balconiers' Player of the Year Award 1974 as well as his album 'Live at Trawsey'

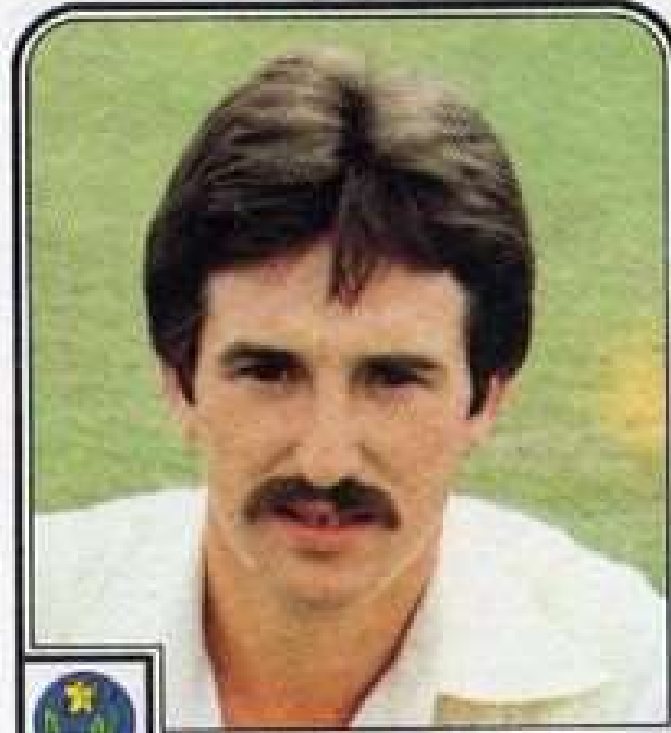
CHICKETS. THEY COULD HAVE NO OTHER ROLE MODEL —



Alan Jones being presented with the Balconiers' Player of the Year Award by the Lancashire captain David Lloyd in August 1977



Malcolm Nash looks on as Javed Miandad receives £500 cheque as "Player of the Month" May 1980



GLAMORGAN

ALAN LEWIS JONES











The End

