

# DREAM TEAM

## JAMES HARRIS

The Middlesex bowler picks the best XI he has played with and against



### 1. MATTHEW ELLIOTT - Retired

He used to do a thing where you could tell what he thought about the bowler by how high up his arm his sweat band was. If the sweat band was near the bottom, towards his gloves, he meant that he rated the bowler highly. Whereas if it was high, around his elbows, it meant that he didn't think the bowler was any good and would start whacking him out the ground.

### 2. CHRIS ROGERS - Australia

He looks at things slightly differently to some people and he's been great for me. He's obviously scored a huge number of runs and he's rightly nailing down that spot in the Australian team. It was sometimes hard to have him as captain because he set such high standards and he expected so much, but a great guy to have in and around the team.

### 3. MARK COSGROVE - South Australia

He just decided to wallop people everywhere. As a bowler he would just scare the life out of you. He would just hit the bowlers all over the park and on his day you pretty much couldn't bowl at him. He could just take the game away from opposition in a session and a half. He's also an underrated seamer – he can't bowl many but he's not bad.

### 4. JAMES TAYLOR - Nottinghamshire

We more or less grew up with each other. Every time we've come up against each other it's been a great contest and it has gone both ways. He's got some runs against me but I've definitely got him out a few times. So it's pretty even at the moment.

### 5. EGIN MORGAN - Middlesex

He's brilliant to work with. He brings a calming influence into times where it's unbelievable for someone to be calm. His skill level as a batsman is immense and he's probably got too many shots to play rather than not enough.

### 6. MARK WALLACE - Glamorgan

The amount of games he's played consecutively for the club is amazing – a man who is really talented, a very good keeper and a very good person. He's someone who has

had one of the bigger impacts on my career. He welcomed me into the team when I first arrived at Glamorgan. It was tough for me because I was in that team just before my 17th birthday and I was particularly nervous. He was just great behind the stumps and we remained very close friends.

### 7. RAVI BOPARA - Essex

He's just a serious cricketer. He does well with the bat and the ball and he's a really good builder of an innings. He's also a brilliant guy. He's really funny, a great guy to be around in the dressing room and a fine player to go along with it.

### 8. ROBERT CROFT - Retired

I have to pick him, or he won't talk to me otherwise. He was my hero growing up. I started at Glamorgan when I was 16 or 17, so I couldn't drive. Thankfully he lived two miles away from my house in Swansea, so in the first year I was very gratefully ferried around the country to all our games by him. I've paid him back because I think I've done most of the driving since.

### 9. STEVEN FINN - Middlesex

There aren't many bowlers worse to face than Finny on song. When he can bowl 90mph and bowl it down from 6ft 7 and a bit, bowling back of a length, trying to combat him is particularly tricky and I've been on the end of it.

### 10. SIMON JONES - Retired

He had a great impact on me in my early career when I was starting out. It was so helpful to be able to call on the knowledge and that wealth of experience and he played in just about any situation you could think about playing in. He was obviously a lot faster than me in terms of pace, but talking about reverse swing he was particularly great.

### 11. JASON GILLESPIE - Retired

Although he's gone to Yorkshire I still talk to him quite a bit and when I see him we always have a chat. He's given me some great advice over the years. As a young buck, coming through the ranks at 16 or 17, to have someone like him around at Glamorgan was so valuable.



## WATCH OUT IN THE SLIPS, LADS!

**FIELDERS** will definitely want to keep hold of their catches and not *Let It Go* this weekend with cricket being played in frozen conditions!

While the World Cup takes place in summer heat, the Cricket on Ice tournament started yesterday at St Moritz, Switzerland.

The matches are played on Lake St Moritz, which freezes solid in the winter and also hosts horse racing in the shadow of the famous Cresta Run.

There are differences in the cricket equipment, of course.

The ball is made of hard rubber as leather balls

become soaked and unplayable on the ice.

You get more for your strokes, too, with higher altitude meaning the ball travels further in the air. The pitch is artificial matting.

The four teams involved in the tournament are Lyceum Alpinum, Old

Cholmeleians, St Moritz, and Winterthur, with each team facing each other once in a round robin format.

Old Cholmeleians beat St Moritz in the first t20 game on Thursday morning after the hosts could not chase down the 121 run target, falling short by nine runs.

# third MAN

A weekly look at the other side of cricket and cricketers

## NOTHING BARMY ABOUT HARMY JOB

By Joshua Peck

**IT MAY have come as a surprise to most but for Steve Harmison, his transfer from cricket to football was no more head scratching than switching between Tests and t20s.**

Harmison, 36, recently took over as manager at Northern League side Ashington in the ninth tier of English football and has impressed so far, winning his first two games 1-0.

And the former England bowler, who won the Ashes twice in 2005 and 2009, is now looking at making a name for himself in the dug outs.

He said: "I've been around Non-League football, and Northern League football especially, since I was able to walk. My dad, Jimmy, used to play and I played when I was 16. My brother James is part of the team now.

"The people who know me know I love football. There will be people who will mock the decision and make fun of it, but I've spent 20 years in professional cricket

having every Tom, Dick and Harry have a go at me so that won't bother me.

"The one thing to say in every walk of life is 'never say never'. I only applied for the Ashington job because I have had past cases where I look back and think I should have done something.

"I'm good pals with Lee Anderson, who's the club captain and my assistant now, and he thought it was the right time for me. I applied and thankfully I've been successful."

Ashington are 16th in the table after

their latest win over struggling Sunderland RCA, having won ten of their 31 games this season.

But for Harmison, the location of his team – 15 miles north of Newcastle – means it will be difficult to rope any of his cricket pals in to help although he won't say no to any who come knocking.

Harmison, *left*, added: "We are miles away up here. It's a great part of the world just so far away, but we play a lot of teams where I know people. We have Durham City away on the last game of the season so there will be time to see people then, especially as the cricket season will have started.

"I used to train with various Non-League clubs when I was trying to keep fit so I'll be the same and make sure the door is always open for players to pop along. The cricket boys are always welcome. It can be useful during the winter!

"I try and join in when I can but it hurts the next day! I don't mind the soreness because it's something I enjoy but I couldn't do an Andrew Flintoff and return to professional cricket. My body is in bits."

