"Bugger Bradman," His Majesty grunted, and beneath the clipped grey beard his lips parted ever so slightly. Chapman relaxed. "I'll do my best, sir," he said and giving a short bow, returned to his team.

The crowd settled back into their seats and waited for the umpires to reappear. A euphoria bathed the ground as warm and comforting as the blazing sun that had shone uninterruptedly since dawn. Now, as the shadows of the western stands began to move slowly across the outfield, a faint wind brought the afternoon to perfection. Give an Englishman a hot summer's day tempered by a mild breeze; give him a Test series with the old enemy, a respectable score to defend, and a glimpse of royalty. Give him all this and nothing short of an earthquake could jolt him from a mood of peace and complacency. Even if Australia were starting well and had not lost a wicket. All they were doing was adding to the pleasure; they were making a game of it. No one wanted to watch a walkover. The Aussies were fighting back and all credit to them. After all, they were one Test down, beaten at Trent Bridge, and had lost the last two series in '26 and '28. The press had written them off as a side with one or two players of promise but with no coherence as a team. Well, on this grand day, at Lord's, the Mecca of the cricketing world, they were putting on a decent show. As the umpires walked to the middle and the King watched from high in that glorious pavilion, as the breeze dried the perspiration on the forehead and the clock showed at least another two hours' play, few people present were thinking of the Depression and the dole queues. The nation was well poised and having itself a bit of a fling.

Shortly after play resumed, Jack "Farmer" White, recalled to the England side to replace an out-of-form Larwood, had Ponsford caught at slip. 162 for 1.

"A handshake from old King George and look what happens!" someone yelled and everyone laughed. Ponsford acknowledged the applause with a modest wave of the bat and clattered up the steps of the pavilion. A quieter descended. The next man in was the reason why a great number of the crowd had come, and their anticipation hung in the air like a heavy mist. They were theatre-goers waiting for the entrance of the star—
THE BEAUTY AND THE PAST

Chapter One

Play was suspended briefly at 3.30 on the second day and both teams were presented to King George in front of the pavilion. They put on blazers and stood in two lines facing each other while the old man, stooping now and showing his age, shuffled past, shaking each by the hand. He seemed to be in a hurry; a fleeting smile, a muttered welcome and on to the next player, accompanied first by Woodfull, the Australian captain, then, along the other line, by the towering figure of Percy Chapman. The royal briskness might have been interpreted as boredom; as if the men were minor civil servants at a Buckingham Palace garden party. However, everyone present, including the large crowd who stood silently watching the presentation, knew of the King's passion for the game. One of the few monarchs to love cricket, he regarded it as much a part of the Empire as Pax Britannica. The haste he encouraged was prompted by a desire to return to his seat and let them get on with it.

As Chapman escorted him to the clutch of waiting equerries, the King murmured: "Are we in trouble, Mr Chapman?"

The scoreboard showed England had made 425 in the first innings and so far Australia had replied with 150 without loss.

"I'll be happy to get Bradman out cheaply, sir," Chapman replied.

The old King stopped and glanced back at the Australian line. His rheumatic eyes rested a second on the short, grinning young man at one end. When they swung back to Chapman, the England captain detected a gleam of irritation. What had he said? For a moment he felt himself whisked back to a headmaster's study, a frightened boy about to be scolded for insolence—
VACANCIES

to improve CCC's 1993 season performance

CCC is urgently looking for:

floating match-managers

In close collaboration with the (vice-)Captain, discharging him of tasks such as: getting the team together; answering phone-calls of players in cases of doubtful weather conditions; keeping in touch with the visiting team in case of home matches; for 'away-matches' arranging a meeting point and transport for players without cars; etc.

experienced masseuses (2 X)
(special request of Mr. M. Sale and Mr. J. Evans.)

For non-league matches only; to optimize the relaxing atmosphere for the players. (Standard request of Mr. J. Trinkler: send pass-photo plus sizes -hips-waist-breast)

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Painters and Carpenters

To spend their free hours on improving the state of the clubhouse e.g. painting everything; repairing the terrace; etc.

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Club-Logo-designers

One has been thinking about a Logo made of three C-shape-bent stumps (CCC !) with baits. A C-shaped wicket, seems to be simple but...

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

If you have comments, requests, remarks, complaints, tips, suggestions, new and old ideas, grief and anger, announcements or any other bussiness, related to the Internal, External or Social Affairs of the CCC, it is expected that the readers don't hesitate to send a letter to the one of the CCC secretaries.

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Message from the President

The 1993 season will soon be upon us, but let me first wish all CCC members and their families a Happy New Year.

Thanks are due to Nick Chohan who has been Club Secretary for more years than he cares to remember, and to Chris Bee our retiring Treasurer, (at least we hope he has not retired with the Club funds!), and wish their successors James Barker and Chris Dean luck in their difficult tasks of arranging fixtures and collecting subscriptions and match fees. Many thanks too to our ladies led by Joan Bell who provide our teas at home matches. Colin Carter who grooms the wicket is ever willing to have volunteer grass cutters manifest themselves.

The draw for the Swiss League took place at the SCA meeting in January. We face the same clubs in our group as last year except for the Geneva Sri Lankans who together with several Zurich Clubs have opted out for reasons best known to themselves. We are constantly on the lookout for new blood, so if you come across anybody remotely interested in cricket, let Chris or James or me know so that we can twist their arms if necessary!

I need hardly remind you that net practice takes place on Thursday evenings when the season starts, and that we should keep to the announced starting times for matches. This is particularly important when visiting teams have travelled a considerable distance to CERN. So please turn up 20 to 30 minutes before a match is due to begin. We shouldn't leave pitch preparation to the same early birds each week. So it only remains for me to wish you all a good season, hopefully better than it seems that England are currently managing.

Bryan Pattison
CCC's TRIVIAL TWENTY

1. Colin Carter is in fact Percy Thrower.
2. CCC has seven cricket bats.
3. CCC has twelve pairs of gloves.
4. CCC has twenty eight cricket balls.
5. CCC has eleven pairs of pads.
6. CCC has the highest proportion in the world of qualified doctors in a cricket team (about 85% of the team are qualified doctors).
8. CCC won more than two matches in 1992.
9. CCC plays Milan CC every year in Italy.
10. David Allen (CCC Vice Skip) has twenty eight girlfriends.
11. Emile Schyns (CCC Social Secretary) thinks he has twenty eight girlfriends.
12. Mike Sale (CCC Magister Bibendi) can drink twenty eight bottles of wine in less than two minutes.
13. Is a lucky number for a CCC player (if he manages to score that many).
14. CCC Members consist of twenty seven different nationalities.
15. CCC has the best cricket teas on the continent.
16. CCC practices every Thursday evening in the summer.
17. CCC has a purpose built clubhouse with changing rooms, kit room and a bar together with the very latest scoring and massage facilities.
18. Richard Onions is CCCs youngest and most talented player.
19. John Evans is Welsh.
20. Ian Botham is not a member of CCC.

ORDER!!!

Showed up too late?
Didn't pay your match fee?
Missed an easy catch?
Offended the Umpire?
Not helping in pitch preparation?
 Didn't show up for net practice?
Not being enthusiastic after a team-member did catch a ball?
Not helping out the ladies?
P.D.A. to cheergirls?
Hit your bat against anything after being given out?
Not helping cleaning up after the match?
Showing no or too little team-spirit?
Anti-social behaviour?
A.O.R. etc., etc., etc...

You will be fined for minimum two CHF depending on the case, by the Guinea-Pig Committee. The GPC will be formed by the treasurer and another neutral player.

James Trinkler buggering off the photographer while having a 'petit tête à tête' with Mrs 'Mom' Barker; confirming smiles by coach Adam Cash (in front) and CCC's new secretary - young master Barker (drinking, like always).

J.T.: 'Mom ... got a minute?'
Mom: 'Oooh Yea! For yue always, me lof!'
J.T.: 'Could you - as CCC's number one supporter - get me in touch with one of the CCC's cheergirls? You know ..... I'm free ..... eh ... already for quite a while, you know .... , but .... eh ... I haven't got the nerves to approach them, see? Last season there were quite a few nice ones ... really good looking ... and everybody knows that you know them all ... see what I mean, Mom?'
Mom: 'Oooh Yea! For yue always, me lof! ... but ... in that case ... couldn't you drag along those two ladies in front of us? You no, I'm getting a bit worried about them ... they are always together, you know, ... it's not natural ... get my drift?'
J.T.: 'Well .... yes .... but then we need two girls!' One for me and one for them!
The festivities carried on into the early hours of the morning with many CCC members finishing off the night with a bit of gambling at their local casino. The usual millions of CCC Francs exchanged hands at the casino, living up to the high flying international image of CCC.

It has been suggested that next year will be Black Tie Dress, members are invited to view their ideas on this subject.

Finally it would be rude not to thank everyone who was involved in the organization of such a splendid evening: Thank You.

Could this be the 29th?

Notes taken during the Annual General Meeting held in the CERN Coop Restaurant on 5th December 1991
President: J Evans, M Sale (early), D Allen, M Davenport, H Rizvi, C Orions, N Chohan, B Patterson, C Bee, C Catterell, H Pots (absent)
Apologies: H Williams, I Brec, C Dean

The meeting was opened at 8:15 and the agenda was adopted as proposed. The minutes of the AGM of November 1990 were accepted with remarks from M Sale to be noted for his early presence for this meeting. In matters arising from the Minutes, the usual comments were made by the President about the tardiness of the AGM Minutes and C Orions mentioned the aspects related to the kit but said that it would be more appropriate to cover it under the kit report. The Secretary mentioned his usual new year photos of writing Annual Report chapters for CERN, with CCC AGM Minutes being relegated to lower priorities. As for the kit, the Secretary mentioned that a short committee meeting was held prior to the AGM where the kit requirements were finalised from his list agreed at the previous AGM. The Capt. mentioned that the E-Jones Single wicket competition was attempted twice at the end of season but inclement weather put the way on both occasions. In any case, D Eardley was thanked for organizing the event.

Captain's Report: Only 13 games were played through the season, an all-time low! Another notable aspect was the large number of players who played once during the whole season, probably highest ever. The season saw many players (Mr. Thanet, Catter, Syed, Chohan back problems), Nadeem Yusuf (foot injury), Evans, Orions (broken or dislocated fingers), Sale, Pome (ankle injury) and V Singh. It was also the first time that we could not get a team to go to Portobello to play the MCC, and had to resort to seeking players (J and C) from Bore. It was also the first time in many years that MCC could not come here on their annual return fixture in September. The top performers were Singh and Dean in batting and Rizvi for bowling, the overall batting performance was not very brilliant through the season with only the mentioned two making over 50. Rizvi took the highest number of catches. The lowest point for team raising in the season was the inability to field a regular player in a six-a-side game i.e. had to recruit two outsiders! The Thursday net was called off early in the season, mainly due to lack of interest, too low a turnout and the Club having been knocked out in the early rounds of the league. The final tally was 8 Games lost and 5 wins, rather worse than usual, however CCC did win the John Harvey Trophy against the GEC. It was also a morale booster to play Conosay for semi-guaranteed wins. As a final remark, the Capt. mentioned that he was 'handcapped' to threaten anyone to be dropped from the team for poor performance since he did not have enough players for replacement!

Treasurer's Report: The financial situation was similar to the previous year with no additional profits or unforeseen losses. The Staff Association was paid back 1000 fr. of its loan to CCC. J Evans questioned the cost of balls while the subject of kit storage in the Hut and insurance was also raised. The in-stock 12 wine bottles of white (chez Capt.) and 12 of red (chez Davenport) were discussed and it was proposed that rather than storing them in the hut through the winter till the next season or next party, members buy them off B. Patterson offered to take a cartoon while the other one was stepped up by M Davenport, yielding 200 Fr. total for the Treasurer! The inevitable question of fund-raising parties came up with exchange of personal views and opinions based on winter sporting activities and weekends etc. Finally, it was decided to leave this subject for the next committee to be elected immediately.

Kit Report from the V Capt.: 10 new balls were reported to be in stock. As for gloves, 5 LH pairs in reasonable condition was reported with the right-handers rather poorly supported or conversely, heavily used 1 with only 2 good pairs and 5 unusable pairs. The pads situation was somewhat better (LH 3 pairs, RH 4 pairs with 1 needing replacement).
ANNUAL CCC DINNER (Christmas 1992)

The annual CCC Dinner was held in its usual grand surroundings on the border of Switzerland and France. The usual jesting of CCC members was very evident, helped along by the abundance of food and not enough alcohol.

Bryan Pattison, as President of the Club gave a very inspiring speech for a man of 108 years of age. He was given the annual standing ovation. Most members were present at the meeting, those present accounting for about two thousand people plus the sheep and dog.

Under SCA affairs, the President announced the application of new League rules for the next season as well as problems in the northern league, particularly the Zurich Nomads XI. For the 1992 fixtures, the Cricket Festival in Durham in July and a possible fixture against Grenoble were cited. Under AOB, the cost of acquiring a new mat (~3000 pounds) etc was raised and how / when to acquire it. There being no other items, the meeting ended at 20:15 hrs.
RECOLLECTIONS ... (cont.)

Some extracts taken from CERN bulletin cricket reports, written by Dave "Cobra" Norman in the 1987 season.

Past characters of the game:

VC's XI were heading for a CCC-like 30 all out until Rich the Oz & J the unpronounceable demonstrated to the rest of us that you are allowed to move your feet while batting.

Saturday's game was a high-scoring affair with CCC making an impressive 77 all out. Luckily, CCC's array of fast bowling talent, spearheaded by "Aga" Khan, managed to skittle out Ispra for only 66.

Present "established" members:

Other highlights were 'Gut' Sale's whirlwind 22 (off 5 balls), and the forlorn sight of the once great Evans being dismissed for a solitary run.

as so many times in the past, "Bradders" Hancock strode imperiously to the wicket and smote us to victory with his flashing blade and text-book forward defensive.

The home ground:

A perfect Oval pitch, prepared painstakingly by Old Bill Hancock and his troika, almost saw some perfect batting, as CCC reached a season's high of 168 all out, Onions being the main contributor with a chance-ridden 52.

Put in to bat on a slowish wicket (for outfield look in dictionary under 'L' for long), MCC got off to a sluggish start against the pace (?) of the 'Aga' & the guile of Grunt.

D.A.

Cern Cricket Club plays the M.C.C.

The week-end of the 20/21 June last year saw the annual CERN cricket club tour to Porlezza, near Lake Lugano on the Swiss/Italian border, a beautiful ground where Milan Cricket Club (M.C.C.) play their fixtures. This was the week-end's cricket that nearly never was! The number of people committed to going to Porlezza fluctuated like the weather. The forecast south of the Alps was no better than that for Geneva. The Civil Defence in Milan had been placed on maximum alert, not because of CERN's cricketing prowess, but because of expected floods (not of runs), etc.

Finally, however, a party of 13 set off for Italy. 9 would-be cricketers plus a fan club of 4. The first hazard of the journey was encountering a minor blizzard on the Nufenen Pass (above 6000 ft). It was so bad even one of the locals had to be transported in one of our cars to his required destination. The fastest car in the convoy took two and a half hours to negotiate the Pass. (maybe this was because he had bald tyres and virtually slid all the way down).

Torrential rain greeted us on the motorway down from Airola to Lugano, where the President's car (3 passengers, team-kit and all) decided to give up the ghost. Like a true ship's captain, he refused to leave his post until all his passengers and team-kit had safely arrived in Porlezza. The rest of the worried team had an extraordinary general meeting to decide what to do- send out a search party or eat the dinner. They chose the latter, of course. When the President did arrive (midnight), however, the rest of the team had dutifully eaten everything on the hotel's menu.

Saturday morning dawned, overcast after a downpour during the night. Would the pitch be dry enough to allow us to play, would the rain hold off, would the captain find anyone to open the batting? A start was made at 1 o'clock, but despite the murky conditions the Milan opening batsmen were able to see the ball (a feat virtually unheard of at CERN) and scored 88 runs before the fall of the first wicket. Six runs later, their other opener, who had scored 68, returned to the pavilion. There then followed a steady procession of M.C.C. batsmen to and from the crease, until they finally succumbed at 142 all out, Bryan, Dave and myself taking a couple of wickets apiece. Of note was Emile's first ever wicket, which he duly celebrated that evening. The CERN batsmen (being thoughtful for the scorers) didn't seem to get their eye in and were all out for 61. The first
match was thus lost by 81 runs. Later on that evening, some of the team’s younger members hit the town of Lugano. After paying astronomical amounts for the beer in the local disco, they decided that a skinny dip in the pool of a hotel would be a good idea. However, upon inspecting the temperature of the water, discretion prevailed over valour.

Sunday’s weather was much kinder to us (but the opposition weren’t). The M.C.C. again batted first and were put under a lot of pressure by the CERN opening bowlers (Bryan and de Lignéris), who were swinging the ball with great ease, and certainly no effort! Their star opener was soon out for a duck and only 5 scoring shots were made in the first 8 overs. The only resistance to CERN’s bowlers came from their two middle-order batsmen who made 22 and 27. M.C.C.’s final total being 100 for 9. Bryan and de Lignéris picking up two wickets apiece, and myself three. CERN faced with this relatively modest score to beat however, batted even worse than on the previous day being all out for a paltry 45 runs, and thus losing the match by 55 runs. Of note was Dave Allen’s 15 not and 12 - the only person in either innings to score above 10, and Emile’s pair (of ducks, that is), which he duly forgot rather quickly.

A week-end of good company and sportsmanship (especially on the part of the CERN batsmen) was greatly enjoyed with this popular fixture and we look forward to travelling there this year, with hopefully a stronger team.

Starting with the back row; the young lad on the left! Bryan ‘Quicksilver’ Pattison, Vince Hatton (then Captain), Steve ‘Bradders’ Hancock, Paul Shotton, Mike ‘Beergut’ Sale, Dave ‘Cobra’ Norman, ‘Stonewall’ Steve Wilkinson. Front row; John (Pod) ‘Grunt Gaunt, Alan Price, Nick Chohan.

(Some evidently escaped the nick-name era.)