

Famous Wanstead Veterans

No. 21 Mel Gooch

Or - Cricket's loss is golf's gain.....

Wanstead's very own Ticketmaster has drawn many of us into his own version of the MCC (Mel's Cricket Club) over the years. Singlehandedly changed the meaning of the words 'a bit of lunch in the nursery' and hold the English record for the longest cricketing lunch which spanned 3 tests in 1982. When asked how he had never dropped a catch in all his playing days Mel

said that he just imagined that the ball was a glass of Rioja.

Consequently became a doyen of the WGC wine appreciation society alongside Messrs. Rouse, Goodman and Kirkwood. Thankfully his hobby has stayed separate from his career as a reputable architect or there may have been many more examples of the leaning tower of Pisa scattered around the south of England.

Not been seen quite as regularly on the greens and fairways of Wanstead recently but is happily on the road back to full fitness which will sound a warning to anyone unfortunate to get on the wrong side of his 20(!) handicap. Recently partnered Little Bob as part of the A-team to a couple of handsome victories in matches, most notably at home to Romford. Their opponents still don't quite know what hit them.

Wonderful company either on the course, in the bar or in his natural habitat at Lords wearing his egg and bacon tie and a large gin....er sorry grin.