

## Grey Ashes 2024 – Australia Over 60s v England Over 60s

### **History**

England retained the urn in July 2023 after prevailing 3-2 in a hotly contested series. Nick Gaywood, still part of the current squad, became only the second Englishman to score three figures in the third One Day International – Bob Eames (109 in 2011) was the first.

It was also the first Grey Ashes series conducted since the COVID-19 pandemic. On their last trip to Australia, England won 2-1 in late 2019 where Jim Phillips is the sole survivor from that series five years ago.

Outside of the Ashes, England finished second in the 2024 Over 60s World Cup in February before defeating Pakistan 3-1 in the recent English summer. Whilst in 2023 the team won the Caribbean Cup and were joint Canada Cup winners alongside the Grey Ashes success.

Australia defeated England in the World Cup final and shared the Canada Cup with the Three Lions a few months prior.

The two old foes have met 35 times in Over 60s cricket with England winning 23 times, Australia 10, one draw and one tie. The first official meeting between the teams took place on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at Sheffield United's Bawtry Road ground – England won by nine wickets.

Alongside centuries for Eames and Gaywood, Gloucestershire's Keith Daniels holds the best bowling figures for England with 5/11 at Kapadia Park, Geelong in November 2011.

### **England Squad**

There has been a change in captain since the Pakistan series with vice-captain Edward Gordon Lennox stepping up to replace long-term skipper Richard Merriman, who has decided to take a break from international cricket.

In Gordon Lennox's first series as captain, he has been joined by three new faces to the international scene. Razi Ahmed, Mark Eames and Melvyn Holmes all made their England debuts in the recently completed Tri Nations series against Scotland and Wales.

Razi Ahmed (Gloucestershire), Steve Aston (Staffordshire), Jason Caunt (**Vice-captain**, Derbyshire), Phil Deakin (Lancashire), Montie Douglas (Lincolnshire), Mark Eames (Warwickshire), Nick Gargaro (Hampshire), Nick Gaywood (Yorkshire), Edward Gordon Lennox (**Captain**, Gloucestershire), Melvyn Holmes (Leicestershire), Mel Hussain (Essex), Nigel Moore (Warwickshire), Mike Palmer (Warwickshire), Jim Phillips (Kent), Paul Radage (Cheshire), Simon Routh (Kent), Lee Selfe (Bedfordshire), Kevin Watson (Yorkshire).

Paul Bradley (Team Manager), Tony Fitzgerald (Scorer), Chris Johnson (Umpire), Mel Mahood (Umpire), Rash Mahmood (Commentator), Paolo Iorio (Osteopath).

### **Schedule**

17<sup>th</sup> November – New Zealand @ Wynnum Manly CC, Brisbane

18<sup>th</sup> November – Queensland City @ Caboolture CC, Sunshine Coast

20<sup>th</sup> November – Queensland Country @ Limestone Park, Ipswich, Brisbane

22<sup>nd</sup> November – VCA President's XI @ Chisholm Oval, Canberra

**24<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> Grey Ashes ODI @ Bradman Oval, Bowral**

26<sup>th</sup> November – Victoria A @ Schramms Oval, Doncaster, Melbourne

**28<sup>th</sup> November – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grey Ashes ODI @ Caulfield Park, Caulfield, Melbourne**

1<sup>st</sup> December – Victoria Country @ Benalla

4<sup>th</sup> December – Invitational XI @ Chateau Tanunda, Adelaide

**6<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grey Ashes ODI @ Tanunda Oval, Adelaide**

10<sup>th</sup> December – WAVCA President's Invitational @ Forrest Park, Bunbury

11<sup>th</sup> December – WA Southwest Country @ Kalkallo Reserve, Donnybrook

**13<sup>th</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> Grey Ashes ODI @ College Park, Nedlands, Perth**

**15<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> Grey Ashes ODI @ Fletcher Park, Carlisle, Perth**

**Extra Information**

We are very thankful to all our sponsors for their continued support. This includes our main sponsor Stonehill, who provide all the players and staff with the kit and equipment they require, travel partner Sporta for all their help planning tours and technology partner NVPlay for our scoring and streaming licenses.

Seniors cricket is one of the fastest growing areas in the sport and subsequently the team have received extensive media coverage from national and regional outlets on the back of the on-field success. Appearances include Sky Sports, talkSPORT, The Times, The Guardian, Channel 5, regional ITV news and regional newspapers.

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