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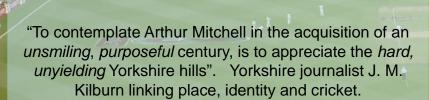
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Regional Cricket Identities: The development of cricket and identity in Yorkshire and Surrey



Richard Holt in his book *Sport and the British* describes Herbert Sutcliffe of Yorkshire and Jack Hobbs of Surrey opening the batting for England thus: "They were a pair whose virtues of northern *grit* and southern *grace* seemed to combine the perceived characteristic regional virtues of the English perfectly". What were the factors that combined to form these regionalised cricket 'virtues', and how did they persist in the regional, national, and indeed international consciousness?



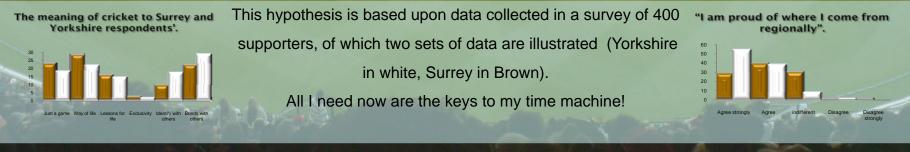
The North

"In the man himself there lies the *casual* air of a southerner; no visible hatred of a batsman as bred... in a Trueman". *Wisden* contributor Alan Ross on the Yorkshire

The South

born Surrey player Jim Laker.

The above, although just one aspect of my thesis, are examples that demonstrate the distinctive character of the narratives associated with cricket, and how they present region, identity and class. The thesis will use an analysis of these narratives and their sources (class groups) to discover how they have affected regional cricket supporters and influenced the values and meanings that they attribute to the game. It is hypothesised, in light of the data below, that regional meanings of cricket are hegemonically produced via these narratives, and the social groups who had influence over cricket provision.



Duncan Stone, School of Music, Humanities and media.

Not a village green. First ball of the Boxing Day Test at the 'G', Melbourne.