



Worcestershire spotted Richardson playing for the England Amateur XI and success in trials in 1998 led to him being offered a second chance in county cricket.

"I'm enjoying my cricket as much as ever," Richardson said. "It's more like a fourth or fifth career than a second but I'm loving it."

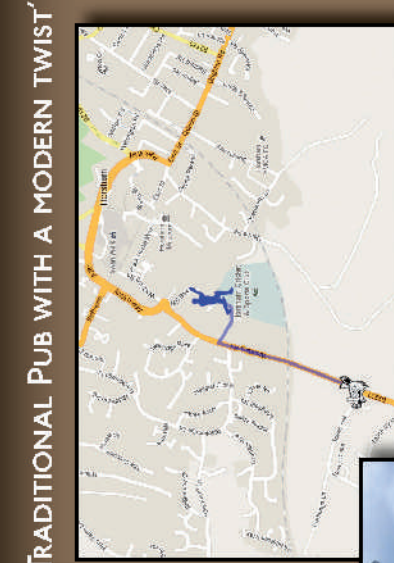
"I'm probably going to end up finishing my career with Worcestershire but it's a good place to be at the moment," Richardson was interviewed for the job as cricket professional at Bromsgrove School after the left Middlesex, who years ago but is pleased that he accepted Worcestershire's offer to extend his county career.

"I've been in the club for a long time and I've enjoyed playing the time that I have spent with the club. I've been in the club for a long time and I've enjoyed playing the time that I have spent with the club. I've been in the club for a long time and I've enjoyed playing the time that I have spent with the club."

"If I am seen as a senior player, it's only because of my age," Richardson said modestly. "I don't get much respect in the dressing room. The youngsters keep reminding me that I am the oldest player in the squad."

"I think that second April is going to be a key figure in the final weeks of the season if the pitches turn and he is going to be our figurehead."

Since Damien Wright returned to Australia and Matt Mason retired bowlers like Gareth Andrew and Jack Staniry have taken on more responsibility and they have responded well. "I am glad they had to bow more overs but we have worked well as a unit and it can seem as the senior figure in the team attack. It's just something that has happened in my career with Derbyshire in 1995 but I've been in the club for a long time and I've enjoyed playing the time that I have spent with the club."



TRADITIONAL PUB WITH A MODERN TWIST

The Boars

We'll be making Breakfast, Lunches as well as Dinner during the festival.



Head

01403 266554

Worthing Road,
Horsham, West Sussex RH13 0AD

**Swimming Pool Construction,
Maintenance, Chemicals
and Equipment**

HYDROCARE
Home Leisure Ltd.

Everything for every type of pool

Call **01444 236578** or visit
www.hydrocare.co.uk
to see our full range of services
email: **enquiries@hydrocare.co.uk**



"Cricket was my early passion though quite late for going overseas to England for the first time in 1984 to play league cricket in Oldham and that's when I first played golf properly."

"I returned to Barbados after that summer with two sets of golf clubs, a practice net and with the intention to work hard at it but back then golf was a very expensive game here on the island on certain courses it still is, so I decided to stick with cricket for a while and then, once cricket was done, get so good at golf that the game actually paid for me."

"I was already playing off scratch by then and represented Barbados at golf in 1986 and 1987 Caribbean Championships. My performances were good enough to attract a sponsor which unbeknown to me, contravened the rules. It was an honest mistake, but they took my pro status away for six months because of it."

Ruled by the decision, Stephenson contacted the European branch of the Professional Golfers Association, flew to their headquarters at the Belfry near Birmingham, formulated a

constitution and returned home to found the PGA of Barbados. He added: "From 1988 I had my PGA playing card and travelled around the world playing cricket and golf. Then, when cricket was over for me, I returned home and took up a job as resident professional at Sandy Lane."

"I don't earn a fortune, but I love my golf and it is a very relaxing way of life."

Banned from the cricket after taking part in rebel tours to South Africa in the early 1980s, Stephenson renewed his lust for the county arena and for Nottinghamshire in particular - he achieved the double for the east Midlands side in 1988.

However, he also looks back fondly on his three seasons at Here, and playing through the pain barrier for Sussex.

"As a fast bowler you're always going to be hampered by injury but thinking about it now I think I did fantastically well to stay on the park as long as I did," said Stephenson, the undisputed king of the slower ball.

"I think only Courtney Walsh could match me in that regard, we both found a way of bowling through it and staying on that through thick and thin."

"I remember a game against Leicestershire when I had to strap up my right shoulder to bowl. David Gower and Peter Willey were

batting and as I ran in Willey backed away, all of a sudden the strapping had come loose and was flapping around under my shirt and I just pulled it all off, gave it to the umpire, carried on bowling and took five wickets."

"The game was never ideal for me. There was always something to get out of a match, which was the beauty of being an all-rounder I guess."

As for his three summers in Here, where he was twice named cricketer of the year by the Sussex branch of the Cricket Society, Stephenson added: "It was always so dry down on the south coast that it seemed like the fittest pitch in England as a consequence. We had a problem getting positive results here."

"I could never get between Norman Griffith and Alan Wells and get them to try and open up the home games. We beat Surrey at The Oval inside two days when they had seven batsmen in the top 20 of the averages. The pitch there had some life and a little movement."

"Then we went to Nottingham and beat them in two days when Alan Lamb told his team-mates that he reckoned I was trying to kill him. Later on, we beat Leicestershire in two days at Grace Road as well."

"I turned to the management at Sussex and said this is what happens if we play on wickets with a bit of life and bounce, but Alan Wells didn't want that. He wanted that pitch as at Here and I felt that held us back from winning things."

"The highlight was beating the West Indies inside two days and half a session, but we didn't realise all that we should as a team. I still enjoyed my time there though, we brought youngsters through like James Kirley and Danny Law and I got on really well with Peter Moores."

"I can't say I was big mates with David Smith though, there was a clash of two strong minds if ever there was one, and there were times when people had to get between us but when I reflected on it, I played some of my best cricket there."

In his era of covered pitches, and Twenty20 overkill it seems unlikely that any cricketer will ever emulate Stephenson's achievement of completing the first-class double. Maybe that's why his smile remains as broad as ever.

"As a fast bowler you're always going to be hampered by injury but thinking about it now I think I did fantastically well to stay on the park as long as I did."

HORSHAM FESTIVAL 2011 | 35

Stoner
Cottingham

Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Pick up the phone and ring either
David Stoner or Stephen Cottingham
01403 263904

Supporting Sussex C.C.C
Is your tax too taxing?
Have you paid the wrong amount of tax?

If so you need professional help now.
No. PRIOR Notice required

Over 40 years in Horsham dedicated to personal professional services for individuals & businesses.



Address: 42 London Road, Horsham,
West Sussex RH12 1AY
Website: www.stonercottingham.co.uk
Email: admin@stonercottingham.co.uk
Fax: 01403 211844

MEET THE PEARS

Bruce Talbot with the low-down on the Worcestershire squad



DARYL MITCHELL
Worcestershire-born opening batsman who established himself in the side when the Bears were promoted to Division One in 2006. Three years into his debut, aged 27, he has scored nine first-class hundreds and averages just under 40. Appointed captain this season.

MATT PARDOE
20-year-old left-hander establishing himself at New Road this season. Has only played in nine first-class games but is already gaining a reputation as a hard-working batsman difficult to get out.

VIKRAM SOLANKI
Still a class act at 35, the former county captain has been one of the mainstays of Worcestershire's batting for the last 15 years. Has scored more than 15,000 first-class runs and played 54 times for England. 51 ODIs and three T20 internationals. The prized scab in the Worcestershire line-up.

MOEN ALI
The 188 he made at New Road against Somerset, a fortnight ago, was his first for ten months, a surprising statistic given his

BEN SCOTT

Former Middlesex wicket-keeper who had a lean spell at New Road in 2010 before returning again this season. Aged 29, he is a stylish glove-man and capable batsman who narrowly missed out on a hundred in the corresponding fixture at Here last season. The Bears hope to make his move permanent.

L. Andrew
M. Solanki
R. Mitchell

SAEED AIMAL
Pakistan off-spinner, 33, who has played 85 Tests for the country including 11 Test games for Worcestershire this season as overseas player although he is a sure county cricket soldier. Has been fairly modest.

JACK SHANTRY
Shropshire-born seamer, aged 23, whose brother Adam has played for Glamorgan and Warwickshire. Has broken into the Championship side this season as Alan Richardson's regular new-ball partner.

ALAN RICHARDSON
Veteran seamer finding a new lease of life at New Road after spells with Warwickshire and Middlesex. Has taken more than 40 Championship wickets this season and in the right conditions he will be a handful with his ability to move the ball through the air and off the seam.

JAMES CAMERON
Zimbabwe-born left-hander who has played in eight Championship games this season but struggled for consistency and was left out of the team for Worcestershire's last two home four-day games against Hampshire and Somerset.

A life-changing educational opportunity... for over 450 years

Christ's Hospital provides an outstanding education with excellent facilities for sport.

OPEN DAY
Saturday 1st October
for entry into Years 7, 9 and Sixth Form

Christ's Hospital
An 11-18 Independent Boarding & Day School for children from all backgrounds

Places correct. Admissions on 01403 211293 for more information
www.christs-hospital.org.uk

DAVID MYERS KITCHEN & BATHROOMS
LONDON'S LEADING KITCHEN & BATHROOM SPECIALISTS

Do you need an expert team to install fitted kitchens in Redhill? Are you considering new bathrooms in Hayward Heath, and would like a dedicated team of professionals to handle the design? For all these services and much more, make the friendly team at David Myers your first call.

FEATURED SERVICES

- Kitchen Design
- Kitchen Installation
- Bathroom Design
- Bathroom Installation
- & More

If you would like to find out more about any of the services we offer, or if you have any questions to put to our team, contact us today!

Tel: 01403 240861 www.kitchensredhill.com
Mobile: 07774 842347

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation makes the difference