

## Title information



# The Stories of Cricket's Finest Painting

Kent v Lancashire 1906

By Jonathan Rice

#### **Key features**

- Comprehensive, newly researched history of one of cricket's best known and most iconic images
- Details the way cricket was administered before the Great War, in comparison to the powers that control the game today
- Stories of all of the players involved, again using original sources where possible
- Written by Jonathan Rice, who has written and compiled a dozen books on cricket, and is a past president of Kent County Cricket Club
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites and magazines

### **Description**

The Stories of Cricket's Finest Painting is the history behind a remarkable painting, commissioned at the height of cricket's golden age and at the apogee of Britain's colonial power. The man whose idea it was, the fourth Lord Harris, chairman of Kent County Cricket Club, was no aesthete; but in asking Albert Chevallier Tayler, a cricket-loving painter, to paint a scene from Kent's triumphant season, showing Colin Blythe bowling to Johnny Tyldesley, he helped create a masterpiece that changed the way we look at cricket. The painting now hangs at Lord's, having been sold by Kent in 2006 for £600,000, then a record amount for a cricket painting. A full-size copy still hangs at Canterbury. The book also follows the lives of the players and umpires portrayed in the painting, two of whom did not survive the Great War. The painting may be timeless, but changes in the way cricket is played, administered and financed in Britain mean that many aspects of the game today would be unrecognisable to those sun-blessed men on the Canterbury turf over a century ago.

#### **Details**

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