

"Funny, infectious and richly enjoyable."
Rob Smyth, The Guardian

"Great fun and full of passion.
And I thought I was a cricket nut!"
Lawrence Booth, Editor, Wisden

"A lot of fun! For cricket nuts!"
David 'Bumble' Lloyd, Sky Sports

The Spin

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The Spin's book of the year award 2012

Andy Bull
guardian.co.uk, Tuesday 11 December 2012 07.48 EST

Another man with a mixture of four-and-seven letter words on his mind is Simon White, who has written an entertaining little book called *The effing c-word* (The White Words £7.99 paperback), a guide to the game he loves so much. Even by the standard of the company the Spin keeps, the likes of Smyth, a man who invented the word "statgasm", White is a cricket-tragic. The man once filleted the toe-caps from a pair of suede shoes he bought on eBay just so he could make himself a pair of metal-tipped batting boots to wear while he was facing in-swinging yorkers in the nets. Not many have gone to such lengths, but few people have tried to write similar books, which compress all the richness of the game into one witty little book you can keep on your toilet shelf. None have done it better. It is a very funny read, and the perfect size and shape to fit snugly inside a stocking. It is a Tardis-like tome, in that it fits an awful lot into a small-seeming space. He covers just about every aspect of cricket, from an analysis of the lbw law, through to the beauty of new bats, to the science of batting reaction times and the idiocy of Citizen watches using Kevin Pietersen to front their advertising campaign. It comes highly recommended, by myself and Mike Selvey, who picked it out as one of his favourites of the last year.

I did not actually get my copy of *The effing c-word* in the post, but stole Barney Ronay's instead (sorry, Barney). I figured this was fair as I also wanted to review *cricinfo*

ESPN cricinfo

The Effing C-Word

Some might consider that the last thing the world needs is another book about village cricket, but Simon White has gained permission from his wife and nothing else can stop him. A paean to the game, from sticky provincial wickets to the bouncy greenswards of the international arena, White shows impressive zeal in covering his subject, including discussion of the laws and umpiring, use of technology, cricket's inviolate spirit and the wonder of kit.

The title of the book refers to the descriptive epithet applied to cricket by White's long-suffering wife, Sophie, who has to put up with the game dominating family activities from April through to September. "Was there ever more cause for marital disharmony than seven games in nine days?" wonders White. "Was there keen to hear again about the time Dave and Iain ran six byes, or the quest to beat The Legend during winter nets - but there are plenty of fellow tragics who will." **Alan Gardner**

The Effing C-Word - Cricket: A User's Guide

by Simon White
The White Words

Brave the C-word – and you

DAMERHAM author Simon White has written a highly-praised book about cricket, focusing on his own experiences playing in the Hampshire League and the relationship between village cricket and the professional game. It's called *The Effing C-word*.

He has gained admirers such as Lawrence Booth, the editor of the *Wisden Cricketers' Almanack* ("Great fun and full of passion. And I thought I was a cricket nut!") and Andrew Miller, the editor of *The Cricketer* ("A very funny take on our exhaustingly wonderful sport.")

The book is available from

Fordingbridge Bookshop, Sarum Books in Salisbury, cricket-hockey.com in Downton, as well as Amazon priced £7.99.

But you can win a copy simply by answering this question: Which two England batsmen scored centuries in England's incredible ten-wicket win against India in Mumbai last

WISDOM, WIT AND GLOSSARY FROM 'A' TO 'ZZZ'!

SIMON WHITE'S pocket-size tour-de-force *The effing c-word** is a virtual must for any cricket lover's Christmas stocking.

White is a freelance advertising writer living in the New Forest and if his day-work is anything like his book then he must be a very busy man.

The effing c-word crackles with wit and wisdom, often in the same sentence which makes it both highly intelligent and utterly readable.

Complex subjects such as the cricket media and the money the game generates are explained in expert fashion by a man who has an inside track.

Equally, the thrill of the game and the heartbreak of a close defeat are captured through a player's eye.

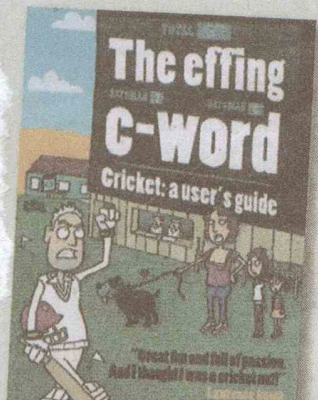
The glossary at the back explaining cricket terminology – or jargon buster – is comprehensive, from: 'agricultural' (functional, inelegant heave. A full-blooded wallop usually to cow corner. In village cricket often performed by farmers without a hint of irony, see also 'slog' and 'yahoo'.)

Through to:

'Zzzz' (favourite crowd activity at mid-table, mid-summer, mid-week County draws) is a masterpiece of witty information.

To try a sample chapter go to: www.thewhitewords.com

*to buy go to amazon.co.uk and search for *The effing c-word* (£7.99 UK).



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