

= Bernard Bosanquet (cricketer) =

Bernard James Tindal Bosanquet (13 October 1877 ? 12 October 1936) was an English cricketer best known for inventing the googly , a delivery designed to deceive the batsman . When bowled , it appears to be a leg break , but after pitching the ball turns in the opposite direction to that which is expected , behaving as an off break instead . Bosanquet , who played first @-@ class cricket for Middlesex between 1898 and 1919 , appeared in seven Test matches for England as an all @-@ rounder . He was chosen as a Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1905 .

Bosanquet played cricket for Eton College from 1891 to 1896 , before gaining his Blue at Oriel College , Oxford . He was a moderately successful batsman who bowled at fast @-@ medium pace for Oxford University between 1898 and 1900 . As a student , he made several appearances for Middlesex and achieved a regular place in the county side as an amateur . While playing a tabletop game , Bosanquet devised a new technique for delivering a ball , later named the " googly " , which he practised during his time at Oxford . He first used it in cricket matches around 1900 , abandoning his faster style of bowling , but it was not until 1903 , when he had a successful season with the ball , that his new delivery began to attract attention . Having gone on several minor overseas tours , Bosanquet was selected in 1903 ? 04 for the fully representative Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) tour of Australia . During that tour , he made his Test debut for England and although he largely failed as a batsman , he performed well as a bowler and troubled all the opposing batsmen with his googly .

More success followed ; in the 1904 season , he took more than 100 wickets and his bowling career peaked when took eight wickets for 107 runs in the first Test against Australia in 1905 to bowl England to victory . However , he never mastered control of good length bowling and remained an erratic performer . After 1905 , Bosanquet 's bowling went into decline ; he practically gave it up and made fewer first @-@ class appearances owing to his business interests . After taking part in the First World War in the Royal Flying Corps , he married and had a son , Reginald Bosanquet , who later became a television newsreader . He died in 1936 , aged 58 .

= = Early life = =

Bosanquet was born in Bulls Cross , Enfield , Middlesex , on 13 October 1877 . He was one of five children of Bernard Tindal Bosanquet and his wife Eva Maude Cotton ; Bosanquet had a younger brother and three sisters . Many of his relations were well known in their fields , including his uncle and namesake Bernard Bosanquet the philosopher . His grandfather , James Whatman Bosanquet , was a banker and achieved distinction as a biblical historian . His father worked for the banking firm Bosanquet & Co . , and became a partner in a firm of hide , leather , and fur brokers in London ; he was also High Sheriff of Middlesex from 1897 to 1898 and captained Enfield cricket club .

After going to Sunnyside School in Slough , Bosanquet attended Eton College between 1891 and 1896 . While at Eton , he received cricket coaching from the Surrey professionals Maurice Read and Bill Brockwell . They improved his play to the point where he played for the cricket first eleven in 1896 . Against Winchester College , he took three wickets and scored 29 not out in the second innings , while at Lord 's Cricket Ground against Harrow School , Bosanquet scored 120 runs in 140 minutes . At this time , he bowled fast @-@ medium pace , while as a batsman he had developed , in the words of his obituary in The Times , " a rather curious , wristless style ; stiff and yet powerful " .

= = Oxford University = =

In 1897 , Bosanquet went to Oriel College , Oxford , and although he left in 1900 without completing a degree , he recorded many sporting accomplishments . Making his first @-@ class debut in 1898 for Oxford University against a team selected by Middlesex captain A. J. Webbe , he had little batting success during the season , having a top score of 17 runs . He was more productive with the ball , twice taking five wickets in an innings for Oxford , and was awarded his cricket Blue . Selected

for the University Match , he made 54 not out , his highest score of the season . He later made two appearances for Middlesex , but did not distinguish himself , scoring 17 runs and taking no wickets . In all first @-@ class matches in 1898 , Bosanquet scored 168 runs at a batting average of 14 @.@ 00 and took 30 wickets at a bowling average of 18 @.@ 70 . At the end of the season , he joined a team led by Plum Warner which toured America , where he had further success as a bowler .

Bosanquet improved his record for Oxford in 1899 , scoring two fifties and taking five wickets on three occasions before the University match . Against Cambridge , he failed with the bat but took seven wickets for 89 runs in the first innings . Bosanquet 's record earned him selection for the Gentlemen against the Players ; in this prestigious match he took only one wicket but scored 61 runs . He played another two matches for Middlesex and ended the season with a batting record of 419 runs in all matches , at an average of 27 @.@ 93 , and 55 wickets at 22 @.@ 72 . He played some end of season non @-@ first @-@ class matches for I Zingari , taking 16 wickets in a game against Ireland , and went on another tour of America , led by K. S. Ranjitsinhji .

Bosanquet 's final season for Oxford was his best statistically . He scored his maiden first @-@ class century against London County and , against Sussex , he recorded what were to be the best bowling figures of his career , taking nine for 31 in the second innings and a total of 15 wickets in the game for 65 runs . His final match for Oxford was the 1900 University match , in which he scored 42 and 23 . For the remainder of the season , Bosanquet re @-@ joined Middlesex , and in his second match , against Leicestershire , achieved the rare distinction of a century in each innings : 136 in 110 minutes in the first innings , followed by 139 in 170 minutes in the second . He scored three further fifties for Middlesex and once took five wickets in an innings , but bowled comparatively rarely , only once bowling more than 13 overs in an innings . In all first @-@ class matches in the season , Bosanquet scored 1 @,@ 026 runs at 34 @.@ 20 and took 50 wickets at 23 @.@ 20 .

In all his matches for Oxford , Bosanquet scored 801 runs at an average of 25 @.@ 03 and took 112 wickets at an average of 19 @.@ 49 . In other sports , he received half @-@ Blues for hammer @-@ throwing and billiards , and also played ice hockey .

= = Developing the googly = =

= = = Genesis = = =

Bosanquet is remembered as the inventor of the googly , a delivery designed to deceive the batsman . When bowled , it appears to be a leg break , but after pitching the ball turns in the opposite direction to that expected , behaving as an off break instead . However , Bosanquet was a pace bowler in his university days . Wisden Cricketers ' Almanack described his bowling from this period as " very useful ... but that was all , and had he kept to his original style real distinction at cricket would only have come to him through his batting " . Furthermore , he disliked bowling quickly , believing he was destined only to be used as a last resort and that he would have little success as a fast bowler . Consequently , Bosanquet decided to change his style . According to his own account , his inspiration came in the mid @-@ 1890s , from a table @-@ top game he often played called Twisti @-@ Twosti ; the object was to bounce a tennis ball on a table so that it could not be caught by an opposing player . Bosanquet began to experiment with ways of throwing the ball so that , after pitching , it turned and spun in an unexpected direction , without his opponent detecting any difference in the delivery . Finding he could do this successfully , he began to practise using the same method to bowl in a form of soft @-@ ball cricket and then in the cricket nets with a hard ball , but did not at the time take his discovery seriously . It was not until 1899 or 1900 that Bosanquet began to practise in earnest , and developed an orthodox leg break in the nets to complement his new style of delivery , which spun in the same direction as an off break . During the lunch breaks in Oxford matches , he would often bowl to the best opposing batsmen in the nets , delivering several leg breaks , followed by an off break , without changing his bowling action ; the ball would sometimes hit the bemused batsman on the knee , to the amusement of spectators . A slightly different version of events was provided by the son of Louise Bosanquet , Bernard 's cousin , who

claimed in 1965 that Bosanquet conceived the idea in 1890 and practised bowling to Louise with a tennis ball from 1893 onwards .

Practising throughout 1899 and 1900 , Bosanquet began to use the googly in minor matches before using it in important cricket . His first use of the new delivery in first @-@ class cricket came in the match against Leicestershire in 1900 in which he scored two centuries . In the second innings , Samuel Coe had scored 98 when Bosanquet , still known as a fast @-@ bowler , bowled his off break ; the ball bounced four times and the batsman was stumped (although , writing in 1925 , Bosanquet recalled Coe had been bowled) . Bosanquet later wrote that the wicket " was rightly treated as a joke , and was the subject of ribald comment " . Middlesex captains permitted him to try googlies if there was little pressure on , but he later wrote : " Though I could claim some five or six wickets before the close of the season , my efforts produced far more laughter than dismay in the hearts of opposing batsmen " . But Bosanquet persisted with the delivery and soon began to be noticed by influential cricketers who recognised the potential of the googly . Previously , some bowlers occasionally bowled unintended googlies , but were unable to control them . Although batsmen were accustomed to off break or leg break bowlers , it was an unprecedented problem to face a bowler who could bowl both types of delivery at will , disguising which one he bowled . Bosanquet persuaded team @-@ mates to remain silent as he wished to maintain the impression that his off break was an accident so that batsmen were not expecting it . He further tried to play down his successes : he feigned surprise , acting as if they were similarly accidental .

It was around 1903 that Bosanquet 's delivery first became known as a " googly " . Pelham Warner claimed that the first use of the word was in the Lyttelton Times , a newspaper based in Canterbury , New Zealand , during a 1902 ? 03 tour , but subsequent research has failed to find it . There were later suggestions that other cricketers invented the googly before Bosanquet . In 1935 , Jack Hobbs wrote that Kingsmill Key , a former captain of Surrey , told him that the googly was invented by an Oxford student , Herbert Page , in the 1880s . Key claimed that Page bowled the delivery regularly , but never used it in a first @-@ class match .

= = = Regular use in County Cricket = = =

Apart from some early season games for MCC and A. J. Webbe 's XI , all of Bosanquet 's cricket in 1901 was for Middlesex . He maintained his faster style of bowling but also began to bowl slow leg breaks , with the as @-@ yet unrecognised googly mixed in as variation . Later , he found he could not effectively maintain both styles and decided to concentrate on spin , gradually dropping his quick bowling . His bowling brought him 36 wickets at an average of 37 @.@ 52 in 1901 but did not take more than three wickets in a single innings . With the bat , it took until July for him to pass fifty runs in an innings but his form improved in August with four fifties . He ended the season with consecutive centuries against Surrey and Essex . In total , Bosanquet scored 1 @,@ 240 runs at an average of 32 @.@ 63 , and Warner regarded him as one of the three most reliable batsmen in the Middlesex side . After the season , Bosanquet went on his third tour of America , captaining a team himself . From January to April 1902 , he toured the West Indies with Richard Bennett 's team . He scored 623 runs at an average of 34 @.@ 61 with five fifties and 55 wickets at an average of 15 @.@ 47 , including figures of eight for 30 in one innings . Bosanquet 's cricket followed a similar pattern in 1902 . He scored 749 runs at an average of 24 @.@ 96 , with a century against Cambridge . However , he did not pass fifty after the end of May until his last game of the season . With the ball , he took 40 wickets at an average of 21 @.@ 17 . These included 10 wickets against Oxford and 10 against Nottinghamshire ; the latter performance , when he took seven for 57 in the second innings was described as remarkable by Wisden . It was the first time that his new bowling style attracted attention , although Bosanquet himself tried to play down the success for fear of alerting batsmen to his googly .

= = = Controversy in New Zealand = = =

In the winter of 1902 ? 03 , Bosanquet took part in another tour , this time with Lord Hawke 's team

which played matches in New Zealand and Australia and was captained by Warner . In New Zealand , he played two matches against a New Zealand representative side , and in all matches scored 148 runs at an average of 18 @. @ 50 with one fifty , an innings of 82 against South Island . He also took 18 wickets at an average of 22 @. @ 61 ; his style of bowling attracted a great deal of attention . However , the tour was more notable for an incident in the match against Canterbury . Bosanquet had taken an early wicket in the first innings , but bowled poorly afterwards . He was the fourth bowler used in the second innings and with his third ball , it looked as if he had bowled Walter Pearce behind his legs as he attempted a big hit . However , both umpires were unsighted and the non @-@ striker Arthur Sims , who also had his view obscured , urged Pearce not to leave the middle . The tourists ' wicket @-@ keeper , Arthur Whatman , Bosanquet and other English players surrounded the umpire , who decided Pearce was not out . Bosanquet then turned to Sims and said : " You 're a nice cheat . I bowled him round his legs . Anybody could see that . " Sims responded that there was reasonable doubt , but Whatman began to swear and call him a cheat . Bosanquet later bowled Sims and Canterbury were easily defeated . However , the incident continued to attract attention . The English team were severely criticised in the press and Sims ' employers refused to release him for any further matches unless Bosanquet apologised . Bosanquet wrote letters of apology to Sims and to the Canterbury Cricket Association , and Sims later told him to forget about it , but Sims ' employers would not let him take part in the remaining games .

The tour moved to Australia and Bosanquet scored fifties against the three states which Hawke 's team played , accumulating 168 runs at an average of 33 @. @ 60 . As a bowler , he took eight wickets at 42 @. @ 75 . His best bowling performance was to take six for 153 out of a New South Wales total of 463 . This included the wicket of Victor Trumper , the leading Australian batsman and one of the best in the world at the time . Bosanquet delivered two conventional leg breaks followed by a googly , later described by Bosanquet as the first bowled in Australia , which bowled Trumper . Many critics were impressed by the wicket @-@ taking potential of googly bowling on hard pitches , and Warner later described Bosanquet 's bowling as causing a sensation .

= = Test match bowler = =

= = = Recognition of the googly = = =

In the English 1903 season , Bosanquet 's batting record improved . He scored a century against Oxford in the second match of the season , followed by six for 31 in Oxford 's second innings . He went on to score nine fifties , including three in successive innings , in an aggregate of 1 @, @ 082 runs at an average of 34 @. @ 90 . With the ball , he recorded his best wicket haul in a season , taking 63 wickets at an average of 21 @. @ 00 . While this was not seen as a particularly impressive record , Wisden noted that " the batsmen who played against him came to the conclusion that he had immense possibilities . " Critics recognised that Bosanquet had developed a new style of bowling . While he could not always control the place the ball would land , making him erratic , several cricketers including Warner believed if he could gain more control , he would become one of the best bowlers in the world . Although his bowling was still developing , he took six wickets in consecutive innings against Surrey and Kent , going on to take 10 wickets in the latter match . He also took 12 wickets in a match for Warner 's team against a touring side , the Gentlemen of Philadelphia . Bosanquet 's contributions helped Middlesex to win the County Championship for the first time . Although no Test matches were played that season , Warner believed that Bosanquet 's form would have gained him a place in a representative side . For the first time since 1899 , he was selected for the Gentlemen against the Players , although he was unsuccessful .

Bosanquet 's performances during the season earned him a place on Warner 's team for the first tour of Australia by the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) , which was to include Test matches . Warner later wrote that he was accused of selecting Bosanquet out of favouritism as they played on the same county team , and received " a hail of criticism and disapprobation " as a result . Before the tour began , Sussex and England batsman C. B. Fry wrote an open letter to Warner in the Daily

Express , stating Warner " must persuade that Bosanquet of yours to practise , practise , practise those funny ' googlies ' of his till he is automatically certain of his length . That leg @-@ break of his which breaks from the off might win a test match ! "

= = = MCC tour of Australia = = =

Bosanquet was one of the few bowlers in the MCC team not to have some success in the opening two matches of the tour , although he impressed Warner . In addition , he scored 79 runs with the bat in the second game . The third match of the tour was against New South Wales ; Bosanquet took four for 60 , and his googly caused many problems , particularly for Australia 's opening batsman Reggie Duff . He continuously defeated the batsmen , maintaining his length effectively through the innings . By this stage of the tour , Warner believed that Bosanquet was potentially the best bowler in a strong attack if he could bowl a good length , particularly on hard , fast pitches which normally would favour the batsmen . However , Bosnaquet 's bowling form remained erratic ; in a minor match against a weak side , the opposing captain made a joke about his team 's bowling being no worse than Bosanquet 's .

Bosanquet played in the first Test against Australia , making his Test debut for England . Australia batted first and recovered from a poor start to score 285 runs ; Bosanquet took the wickets of Warwick Armstrong and Syd Gregory with googlies to finish with two for 52 in 13 overs . He scored a single run when he batted , out of an English total of 577 . In the second innings he bowled 23 overs and took one for 100 . The English bowlers came under heavy punishment from the Australian batsmen ; Victor Trumper scored an unbeaten 185 and the team reached 485 . Bosanquet had Monty Noble stumped , and Warner later wrote that he was in good form with the ball , beating Trumper with a googly and troubling others . England needed to score 194 to win and Bosanquet came to the wicket with 13 needed to win ; he scored one run before the winning hit was made . A hand injury forced Bosanquet to miss the second Test . However , with England 2 ? 0 up in the series , he returned for the third Test . On a very good pitch for batting , Bosanquet took three for 95 in an Australian innings of 388 , and none of the batsmen were comfortable batting against his googly . When England replied , Bosanquet was out for 10 runs , hitting a poor shot as his team were bowled out for 245 . In Australia 's second innings , Bosanquet bowled badly at first , delivering full tosses and long hops at the end of the third day 's play . Next morning , his bowling improved as he established a good length , delivering a spell of seven overs in which he took four wickets for 23 runs , again causing confusion with his googly . He finished the innings with figures of four for 73 . However , he failed again with the bat , scoring 10 runs in his second innings as England fell to a heavy defeat .

There followed a break in the series of almost a month as the MCC team played more state teams . In the match against Tasmania , Bosanquet scored 35 and an unbeaten 124 which included eighteen fours and five hits over the boundary . However , his bowling was poor ; Warner wrote that Bosanquet " bowled abominably " . Against New South Wales , a team the tourists regarded as the biggest challenge outside of the Test matches , Bosnanquet was very successful . In the first innings , he scored 54 runs in 65 minutes , then took two for 51 with the ball . When the MCC batted again , he played an innings which Warner called the best of his career . Unbeaten on 17 at the start of the third day , Bosanquet scored 97 runs in 65 minutes before being dismissed for 114 . Bosanquet followed this with figures of six for 45 , including two wickets bowled by the googly .

The fourth Test proved to be the crucial game of the series . England scored 249 , of which Bosanquet made 12 before falling to the final ball of the first day , and Australia replied with 131 . Bosanquet was required to bowl only two overs . He failed again in the second innings , scoring seven but England reached 210 . Australia required 329 to win , which was considered possible on a good pitch ; Warner recorded that Australia 's batsmen believed their team to be favourites . Bosanquet came on to bowl shortly before the tea interval and immediately took the wickets of Clem Hill and Syd Gregory . He went on to take another four wickets , at one point having taken five wickets for 12 runs , to complete figures of six for 51 . England won by 157 runs to ensure they could not lose the series , being 3 ? 1 up with one game remaining . Australia recorded a

consolation victory in favourable conditions for the bowlers in the final Test , and Bosanquet scored 20 runs in the match and bowled four overs without taking a wicket . In the final match of the tour , Bosanquet scored 22 and took three for 70 in the first innings , one wicket coming when the batsman gave a catch to the wicketkeeper from a wide ball which bounced three times .

In all first @-@ class matches on the tour , Bosanquet scored 587 runs at an average of 36 @.@ 68 and took 37 wickets at an average of 27 @.@ 27 . In Test matches , he took 16 wickets at an average of 25 @.@ 18 and scored 62 runs at an average of 8 @.@ 85 with a top @-@ score of 16 . Following the team 's return home , Bosanquet wrote an article giving his impressions of the tour for Wisden . The main Wisden report stated : " Bosanquet 's value with the ball cannot be judged from the averages , as on his bad days he is , as everyone knows , one of the most expensive of living bowlers . When he was in form the Australians thought him far more difficult on hard wickets than any of the other bowlers , Clement Hill saying , without any qualification , that his presence in the eleven won the rubber . "

= = = 1904 season = = =

The 1904 season was Bosanquet 's best with bat and ball . Although he made a slow start batting , failing to reach double figures in six of his first nine innings , he was immediately successful with the ball . He took nine for 107 for MCC against the touring South African team and seven for 83 for I Zingari against Gentlemen of England , going on to take 11 wickets in the latter match . Then for Middlesex , he scored 110 in 85 minutes with 16 fours , in a tied match against the South Africans , and 126 in two hours against Surrey including a five and 16 fours . In the latter match he also took five for 139 . This preceded his selection for two Gentlemen v Players matches in six days . In the first at Lord 's , he scored nine and 22 and took four wickets in the match . At the Oval , he hit 145 in 210 minutes with two fives and 15 fours . After taking two for 97 in the Players ' first innings , he took six for 60 in the second to give the Gentlemen their second victory in a week . In a loss to Lancashire , the eventual 1904 County Championship winners , Bosanquet took six for 99 for Middlesex and in a drawn game against Yorkshire , who finished second in the table , he scored 141 and took 10 for 248 . Immediately following the Yorkshire game , Bosanquet took 12 for 240 in a defeat of Nottinghamshire . After a quiet time in the return game against Lancashire , Bosanquet had a run of three consecutive successful matches . In the first , he took six for 75 against Surrey . In a close victory over Kent , he took five for 23 and eight wickets in the match after scoring 80 runs , and he achieved figures of 14 for 190 in a win against Sussex . In an end of season festival game , Bosanquet took five for 89 for the South against the North . In all first @-@ class matches , Bosanquet achieved the double of 1 @,@ 000 runs and 100 wickets : he scored 1 @,@ 405 runs at an average of 36 @.@ 02 and took 132 wickets at an average of 21 @.@ 62 , the only time in his career he passed 100 wickets in a season . He accumulated five fifties and four centuries ; with the ball he took 10 or more wickets in four matches and had 14 five wicket hauls .

His performance in 1904 earned him selection as one of Wisden 's Cricketers of the Year ; the citation noted he was more likely than any other bowler to dismiss a strong side on a good batting wicket , and no batsmen had deciphered how he bowled the googly . However , it also remarked that " he sends down more bad balls than any other front rank bowler . "

= = = 1905 season = = =

The Australians toured England in 1905 , but Bosanquet played only three games before the first Test . He scored 93 against Nottinghamshire , while against Sussex , he scored centuries in each innings for the second time in his career . His first innings century took 105 minutes and his second took 75 minutes . He also took eight for 53 in the second innings to bowl Middlesex to victory and give him 11 wickets in the game . He became the first player in first @-@ class cricket to score two centuries and take 10 wickets in the same match ; only two further players have since achieved the feat , as of 2015 . Bosanquet was selected for the opening Test match , his first such appearance in England . In England 's first innings , he assisted in a recovery , making his highest Test score of 27

. Australia took a first innings lead , but despite a failure by Bosanquet , England scored 426 for five declared in their second innings . Australia were set 402 to win , which was considered unlikely in the time available so the tourists had to bat until the end of the game to achieve a draw . The pitch remained good for batting and Australia reached 62 without losing a wicket . Subsequently , Bosanquet took five quick wickets , including a good catch from his own bowling to dismiss Hill , to reduce Australia to 100 for five . Although the tourists managed a partial recovery , Bosanquet continued to take wickets . With very little time remaining owing to poor light ? if play had stopped , Australia would have achieved a draw ? he took the last wicket to fall , giving England a 213 @-@ run victory . Bosanquet had taken his best Test figures of eight for 107 . Wisden reported : " The Englishmen owed everything to Bosanquet ... He gained nothing from the condition of the ground , the pitch remaining firm and true to the end . "

After two county matches in which he did little with bat or ball , Bosanquet played in the second Test . However , in his two innings , he scored only six and four not out , and did not bowl in the only innings . After taking 11 wickets for Middlesex against Kent in the only match he played between the Tests , in the third match of the series , Bosanquet scored 20 and 22 not out and took one wicket in the match . This was his final appearance of the series as he was dropped for the final two Tests . Wisden reported that " Bosanquet was a complete disappointment " . The almanack also commented in the report on the first Test : " In the first flush of his triumph his place in the England team seemed secure for the whole season , but he never reproduced his form , and dropped out of the eleven after the match at Leeds . " This was his final Test . In seven matches for England he scored 147 runs at an average of 13 @.@ 36 and took 25 wickets at 24 @.@ 16 .

In the remainder of the season , Bosanquet never took more than three wickets in an innings , although he scored a century against Essex and three other fifties . He played for the Gentlemen against the Players scoring 38 and 19 but did not take a wicket in the 17 overs he bowled . In 20 first @-@ class matches , Bosanquet scored 1 @,@ 198 runs (average 37 @.@ 43) and took 63 wickets (average 27 @.@ 77) . After this season , he rarely bowled and later stated that he did not bowl the googly after 1905 , particularly after one embarrassing attempt to do so in a match at Harrow . In another eight seasons of first @-@ class cricket , he took only 22 wickets . However , his batting seemed to improve in this time .

= = Later career = =

After 1905 , Bosanquet played fewer first @-@ class matches owing to his business career , and appeared as a batsman rather than an all @-@ rounder . He played rarely for Middlesex , but usually seemed to make runs despite his lack of practice . He played four matches in 1906 . He scored 87 and 101 for Middlesex against Somerset in his first game and took five for 51 against Yorkshire in his second . His good form continued in his third match for Middlesex as he scored two fifties against Essex and he was chosen for the Gentlemen against the Players . Although he did not bowl in that match , he scored 56 in the first innings . In total , he scored 415 runs at 51 @.@ 87 and took eight wickets at 46 @.@ 00 . The following season , he played six matches for Middlesex , took two wickets and scored 358 runs at 35 @.@ 00 with three fifties . Bosanquet played more often in 1908 . He made 1 @,@ 081 runs at an average of 54 @.@ 05 , topping the first @-@ class batting averages . He scored centuries for Middlesex against Somerset and Lancashire in addition to five fifties . He represented the Gentlemen v Players twice ? at Lord 's and in an end of season festival game ? without reaching fifty . However , in two other festival games in September , Bosanquet scored a fifty for the South against the North and scored 214 , the highest score of his career , for the Rest of England against Yorkshire , the County Champions . In the season , he also took 12 wickets at an average of 29 @.@ 00 , although only bowling more than 10 overs in an innings three times , the final wickets of his career .

Bosanquet did not appear in first @-@ class cricket again until 1911 when he played two matches in the Scarborough Festival at the end of the season . During the first game , he scored a century in 75 minutes for the Gentlemen against the Players , who had an attack including Sydney Barnes . In 1912 , he played for Middlesex against the Australians but did not bat or bowl , before appearing in

three festival games in August and September . He played twice in 1913 , hitting two fifties for L. Robinson 's XI against Cambridge University and scoring a third fifty in a match at the end of the season , while in 1914 he appeared for Middlesex against Hampshire in Frank Tarrant 's benefit match and for L. Robinson 's XI against Oxford University . After the First World War , Bosanquet made seven appearances in the 1919 season , six of them for Middlesex , scoring three fifties in an aggregate of 335 runs (average 27 @. @ 91) . He did not appear again in first @-@ class cricket . He ended his career with 11 @, @ 696 runs at an average of 33 @. @ 41 with 21 centuries . With the ball , he took 629 wickets at an average of 23 @. @ 80 . He continued to be successful in a good class of club cricket and in matches at country houses . His son later recalled how he " drifted from one country @-@ house party to the next , tipping the butler on Monday morning , before travelling to his next social @-@ cum @-@ sporting invitation . "

= = Style and technique = =

After he became a leg break bowler , Bosanquet bowled the ball very slowly and did not look dangerous . However , while still appearing to bowl a leg break , he could deliver an off break which confused the best batsmen in the world and this googly was recognised as a completely new style of delivery . He achieved this through dropping his wrist before releasing the ball . The unfamiliarity of this type of bowling increased his effectiveness on the occasions when he could bowl a good length . But he was never a reliable bowler ; on other occasions , he bowled long hops and full tosses giving away easy runs . Warner noted that Bosanquet had been " described as the ' worst best bowler ' in the world " .

Bosanquet did not bat in a style typical of a cricketer from Eton , where batsmen were taught to play with style and grace . Warner described him as " decidedly stiff and awkward looking ... He does not seem to play the ball in a free , unconstrained way , but rather stabs at it and gives one the impression of making his stroke at the very last moment . " In Australia , Bosanquet was troubled by fast pitches and struggled against bowlers such as Monty Noble and Bert Hopkins who could make the ball move towards him through the air . Nevertheless , he displayed great confidence in his ability and on a pitch which assisted spinners , he could flick the ball onto the leg side very effectively . He could hit the ball hard , particularly when driving . The Times said : " He had a wonderful eye and great strength of fore @-@ arm and anything short he could hit very hard . "

= = Personal life and legacy = =

In the First World War , Bosanquet was a lieutenant in the Royal Flying Corps . On 5 April 1924 , he married Mary Janet Kennedy @-@ Jones , the daughter of a Member of Parliament . They had one child , Reginald , who later achieved fame as a television newsreader . When his father died , Bosanquet sold the family home in Middlesex and moved to Wykehurst Farm , Surrey , where he died on 12 October 1936 . He left an estate valued at £ 2 @, @ 276 0s . 4d .

As the googly caused a sensation following its invention , many other cricketers tried to emulate Bosanquet . Reggie Schwarz , the South African cricketer who played for Middlesex , learned how to bowl the googly through observation of Bosanquet ; Schwarz in turn passed it on to the South African bowlers Aubrey Faulkner , Bert Vogler and Gordon White . These four raised the bowling of the googly to a high standard and raised fears of the detrimental effect it would have on batting . Following the development of googly bowling by South Africans , it was further refined by English and Australian cricketers until it became firmly established . In later years , the googly was blamed for a deterioration in the quality and attractiveness of batting . Bosanquet refused to accept any blame and published a defence in The Morning Post during 1924 , later reprinted in Wisden , which humorously downplayed the impact of the googly . He wrote : " It is not for me to defend it . Other and more capable hands have taken it up and exploited it , and , if blame is to be allotted , let it be on their shoulders . For me is the task of the historian , and if I appear too much in the role of the proud parent , I ask forgiveness . "

Until the invention of the googly , bowling was expected to be predictable , and the googly may

initially have been considered an underhand tactic . On one occasion , Nottinghamshire batsman William Gunn was stumped after running down the pitch in an attempt to stop a ball bowled by Bosanquet . Gunn 's team @-@ mate Arthur Shrewsbury then protested that Bosanquet 's bowling was unfair . On another occasion , when asked if the googly was illegal , Bosanquet is said to have replied , " Oh no , only immoral . " For many years , the googly was known in Australia as a " Bosie " . His Times obituary stated , " No man probably has in his time had so important and lasting an influence on the game of cricket " .