

= Edward Sainsbury =

Edward Sainsbury (5 July 1851 ? 28 October 1930) was an English cricketer who represented , and captained , Somerset County Cricket Club in the late 19th century . During a 10 @-@ year first @-@ class cricket career , he also represented Gloucestershire and the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) .

Most commonly employed as a right @-@ handed opening batsman , Sainsbury was one of Somerset 's most talented batsman during their formative years . His slow underarm bowling was effective in second @-@ class cricket , but in an era when overarm bowling was becoming the standard , he was used sparingly in the first @-@ class game . During his time at Somerset , the county gained first @-@ class status . After being led for three seasons by Sainsbury 's Lansdown team @-@ mate Stephen Newton , Sainsbury was given the Somerset captaincy for the 1885 season . A combination of poor results and not being able to raise a full eleven during that season led to the county 's removal from the first @-@ class game , although Sainsbury remained as captain until 1888 . By the time Somerset had improved sufficiently to return to first @-@ class cricket in 1891 , Sainsbury had moved to neighbouring county Gloucestershire , where he saw out his county cricket career .

= = Early life = =

Edward Sainsbury was born on 5 July 1851 in Bath , Somerset , the youngest son of John Popham Sainsbury . He attended Sherborne School , an independent school in north @-@ west Dorset . Playing for the school 's cricket eleven he acquired a reputation for his slow underarm bowling , which could deceive even the most wary opponent into conceding his wicket . He was considered an even better batsman , and often opened the innings for the school .

= = Club and second @-@ class county cricket = =

Sainsbury played alongside his older brother , Francis , for Lansdown Cricket Club from at least 1865 . His first recorded appearance for a representative county side was in August 1877 , when he played for Somerset , against their Dorset neighbours . He opened the batting for the Somerset team alongside Hamilton Ross . Both had been scoring plenty of runs for Lansdown in club cricket , and Sainsbury made 32 , a respectable score in the match , which Somerset won by an innings . Only Edward Lloyd scored more , posting an unbeaten 110 , one of the earliest centuries scored for a Somerset county side . Sainsbury also opened the bowling during the match , but he claimed only one wicket over the two innings and bowled just 13 of the 104 overs . A few days later he appeared again for the county side , against Clifton , who had the Australian Test cricketer , Billy Midwinter , in their team . Sainsbury scored 96 not out , including a " resolute " partnership with Stephen Newton , before rain forced the game to be drawn . Subsequently , he scored 7 and 81 against the Wiltshire Wanderers , and took ten wickets in the match , including six in the first innings . In two further appearances for Somerset in 1877 , Sainsbury did not surpass the score he reached against Dorset but claimed two further wickets , both against the Gentlemen of Wiltshire . Sainsbury finished the season top of Somerset 's batting averages , having scored 230 runs at an average of 46 @.@ 00 .

Sainsbury added himself to the list of early Somerset centurions during 1878 , hitting 105 while batting at number 6 against Hertfordshire . In doing so , he batted for over four hours , and shared an eighth wicket partnership of 114 with Francis Reed , out of a Somerset total of 249 . His bowling was also on form during the match , and after collecting two wickets in the first innings , he claimed five in the second . The Somerset side during the late 1870s reflected the strength of the Lansdown club : of the eleven players that represented Somerset in their match against the Marylebone Cricket Club in early August 1878 , five of them also represented Lansdown when the London club travelled down to Bath . In between these two matches against the MCC , Sainsbury scored a half @-@ century for Somerset during their match against Devon . Toward the end of August , Sainsbury 's bowling once again came to the fore , as he claimed five wickets in the first innings against

Worcestershire to help defend Somerset 's lead and propel them to an innings victory . He once again led the Somerset batting averages , scoring 211 runs at an average of 35 @.@ 16 , while his 13 wickets were the second most in the team , at an average of 9 @.@ 69 .

Sainsbury batting scores dipped in county cricket during 1879 ; in nine appearances for Somerset during the year , his highest score was 39 . He performed better with the ball , twice taking four wickets during an innings , against both Bedfordshire and the MCC . The following county season began more positively for Sainsbury , as he collected nine wickets in the match against Sussex at Lansdown 's ground in Bath , claiming six wickets for 54 runs in the second innings of the game . He claimed another eight wickets when Somerset travelled to Leicestershire , during which Sainsbury and Arnold Fothergill took five wickets each in Leicestershire 's first innings , restricting the home side to 51 runs . Somerset won the low @-@ scoring contest by 85 runs , Sainsbury having scored a valuable 28 during his side 's first innings . Somerset 's visit to Sussex saw Sainsbury continue his success against the county , this time with the bat rather than the ball . Sussex built on their 63 run first innings lead with a second innings total of 183 , leaving Somerset the task of scoring 247 runs to win the match . Sainsbury scored his second century for Somerset , remaining 101 not out when Somerset reached the winning total . He was assisted by a half @-@ century from Stephen Newton , and scores in the twenties by Bill Fowler and Frederick Smith . Later that month , his batting was once again instrumental in setting up a Somerset victory , when he top @-@ scored with 87 as Somerset beat the MCC by an innings .

During the 1881 season , Sainsbury was joined at Somerset by his older brother Francis , who appeared four times for the county . Sainsbury performed consistently with the bat during the season , regularly scoring between 20 and 40 runs in an innings . His highest score was made against Gloucestershire , when he reached his only half @-@ century of the season , scoring 56 while batting at number seven . Sainsbury bowled less frequently during 1881 , and rarely opened the bowling for Somerset . His best bowling performance of the season for his county came against Hampshire , when ? having not bowled in the first innings ? he claimed four wickets as Hampshire followed on . On this occasion he was the fifth bowler used by Somerset , but he bowled the highest number of overs .

= = First @-@ class cricket = =

= = = Somerset 's leading batsman = = =

Towards the end of the 1870s , journalists had suggested that Somerset chose their players " upon breeding rather than skill " . The best players in the county , many of whom were not wealthy men , were unable to afford to play for Somerset . In turn , the cricket club could not afford to pay professionals to play for them , and were regarded as an occasional amateur outfit by many , rather than a side that could truly represent the strength of cricket within the county . The arrival of two professional players , and the acquisition of a permanent home ground in Taunton helped strengthen the club so that in 1882 they were admitted as a first @-@ class county . Bill Roe , at the time a schoolboy , rated Sainsbury as " by far the best batsman in the side " during their pre @-@ first @-@ class years . On 8 June 1882 , Somerset played their first match to be universally considered first @-@ class , against Lancashire . After losing the toss and fielding for over 150 overs as Lancashire scored 237 , Somerset responded with a first innings total of 29 ? their second lowest total ever in first @-@ class cricket . Sainsbury and his fellow opening batsman , Fowler , top @-@ scored for Somerset with 9 runs each , and both were once again the highest scorers in the second innings , when Fowler scored 18 and Sainsbury 17 runs out of a total of 51 . Somerset were beaten by an innings and 157 runs , and batted for less than 70 overs . The county suffered further heavy defeats in their next two matches , losing to Gloucestershire and Hampshire , with no Somerset batsman reaching a half @-@ century in either match . Sainsbury reached his first half @-@ century in first @-@ class cricket when Somerset hosted Hampshire at the County Ground ? team mates Robert Ramsay and Stephen Newton also passed 50 for the county in this match ,

which helped Somerset to their maiden first @-@ class victory . Sainsbury claimed a wicket in each innings of the match , during which he bowled just eight overs : in the first innings he bowled one over , conceding one run and claiming one wicket . In first @-@ class matches in 1882 , Sainsbury scored 255 runs at an average of 17 @.@ 00 , exceeding 50 on only one occasion . He bowled infrequently , claiming four wickets at an average in excess of 40 .

Sainsbury reached a half @-@ century on his first appearance for Somerset in first @-@ class cricket in 1883 , scoring 51 runs against the MCC . He did not reach 50 in his next three appearances for the county , but against Gloucestershire he top @-@ scored for his side in their first innings with 59 , and then when Somerset were forced to follow on , he scored his only century in first @-@ class cricket , amassing 116 runs before he became one of W. G. Grace 's eleven victims in the match . Sainsbury played in seven matches during 1883 , and achieved his highest batting average in a season , his century and two fifties boosting him to 27 @.@ 92 . Although he played another 31 first @-@ class matches during his career , he did not score more than 40 runs in an innings after 1883 . He also recorded his best bowling average in 1883 , claiming his nine first @-@ class wickets at 18 @.@ 55 . In early June 1884 , Sainsbury played for a side representing the South of England , scoring 3 and 29 during a 66 @-@ run victory for the South . Playing for Lansdown against the touring Gentlemen of Philadelphia the following month , he scored the only century of the match , reaching 108 , and sharing a first wicket partnership of 149 with E. M. Grace . He batted poorly for Somerset during 1884 , failing to reach double figures in most of his innings , and hitting a top score of 30 for the county . His season average was dramatically lower than the previous season , dropping below 10 .

= = = Troubled captaincy = = =

Following the departure of Somerset captain Stephen Newton , who played all his first @-@ class cricket in London from the 1885 season onwards , Sainsbury was given the club captaincy . Somerset 's first county match of the season took place in mid @-@ July , almost two months after four of the counties had contested matches . The match , played against Hampshire , showed little sign of the troubles that were to come . Sainsbury scored 0 and 13 opening the batting for his side , but the bowling of Edward Bastard , who claimed eight wickets in the first innings and three in the second , helped Somerset to a five @-@ wicket victory . The county 's next match , played two weeks later against Gloucestershire , was their heaviest defeat when losing by an innings to that point . Gloucestershire won the toss and elected to bat , totalling 448 in 190 overs ; Somerset bowlers James Parfitt and Charles Winter both conceding over 100 runs . In reply , five of the Somerset batsman were out for ducks ; Sainsbury , Parfitt and Albert Clapp were the only ones to reach double figures . Sainsbury top @-@ scored with 40 runs , but a team total of 100 meant that Gloucestershire forced his side to follow @-@ on . The second innings progressed even more poorly for Somerset . Sainsbury was one of eight batsmen who failed to reach double figures , and the team was dismissed for 80 runs , resulting in an innings and 268 run loss .

Matches were played more frequently in August , and Sainsbury and his Somerset team had just four days to recover from their defeat before travelling to The Oval to face Surrey . Sainsbury once again lost the toss and was forced to field . Surrey batted for 222 @.@ 1 overs as they accumulated 635 runs . Opening bowlers Parfitt and Winter once again conceded a century of runs apiece , and four of Somerset 's other bowlers conceded over 50 runs each . In total , Sainsbury tried seven different bowlers during the innings to try to get wickets , including Herbie Hewett , who completed his career of 106 matches with just two first @-@ class wickets . Sainsbury himself was the most successful of the bowlers , taking four wickets for 74 runs , his best first @-@ class bowling performance . In reply , Somerset were bowled out for 83 runs , with Clapp recorded as " absent hurt " . Following on , Somerset mustered a more respectable total of 251 , aided primarily by a century from Octavius Radcliffe and 85 from Hewett . Sainsbury himself added 21 to the score in the second innings after being dismissed for one in the first . The defeat was heavier still than the one suffered a week earlier ; Surrey won by an innings and 301 runs .

Morale was low at Somerset , and the county could not raise a full team to face Hampshire at

Southampton a week later . They travelled with nine players , among their number Farrant Reed , who played eight first @-@ class matches in his life , Ernest Murdock , who played five , Egerton Hall , three , and Edward Spurway , two . Somerset scored 117 runs in their first innings , of which Sainsbury contributed nine . The bowling of Bastard , who took eight for 59 , helped to restrict Hampshire to 162 . Despite their low numbers , Somerset reached 166 in their second innings , Sainsbury scoring ten from number five in the batting order . With Bastard unable to replicate his first innings performance , Hampshire reached the winning total of 123 from 60 @.@ 3 overs . Somerset played Surrey and Gloucestershire in their final two matches of the season and lost both heavily , although they did succeed in avoiding any further record defeats ; Surrey won by an innings and five runs , and Gloucestershire by nine wickets . Sainsbury 's highest score in his four innings was 14 . In the six matches that he played that season , all for Somerset , Sainsbury scored 119 runs at an average of 9 @.@ 91 , a marginal improvement on his previous season .

= = Return to second @-@ class cricket = =

Somerset were stripped of their first @-@ class status for three reasons : they had not organised and played enough first @-@ class fixtures during the season , their performances were not what was expected from a first @-@ class county , and they had not succeeded in fielding a full side of eleven players in all their matches . An emergency meeting was held in Taunton , during which a new club secretary was appointed , rules were altered , and wealthy benefactors were sought . Despite these widespread changes , Sainsbury retained the club captaincy . In Somerset 's first match of 1886 , Sainsbury hit his highest score for the county in almost three years , scoring 90 out of a Somerset total of 241 . The bowling of Arnold Fothergill helped to restrict their opponents , Warwickshire , in the second innings ; but faced with requiring 150 in their second innings for victory , Somerset were bowled out for 58 . Throughout 1886 , Sainsbury 's batting continued to be more fruitful than his efforts in the previous two years of first @-@ class cricket , and he regularly made scores in the twenties and thirties . He hit 94 from the middle order against the MCC in mid @-@ August , his highest score of the season . Toward the end of the 1886 season the arrival of Sammy Woods and George Nichols vastly improved the quality of the bowling for the county , but 1887 was nevertheless marked by a slow start . A victory over Essex , in which Sainsbury scored 71 , was bracketed by heavy losses to Warwickshire and Gloucestershire . Against Hampshire , Sainsbury reached his highest total for Somerset , scoring 164 out of a total of 315 , to help his side on their way to a six @-@ wicket victory . A big win over Warwickshire followed , and the county was said to be " a ship heading out for an ocean of prosperity " .

Sainsbury 's scores dipped again for Somerset in 1888 ; his highest total for the county was an unbeaten 42 against the MCC . In contrast , in a match played for the MCC , Sainsbury struck his highest total for the side , scoring 180 runs against Wiltshire at Lord 's . Somerset were rated as the best of the second @-@ class counties in both 1887 and 1888 , but at the club 's annual general meeting , a long discussion took place regarding the captaincy of the club . Sainsbury was unable to be present for the meeting , but had sent a letter advising that if he was removed as captain , he did not feel he could play for the county any more . His letter was not well received at the meeting , and it was decided to replace him as captain with another player who lived closer to Taunton , and was able to play more of the county matches , as Sainsbury had missed a number during 1888 . Roe was selected as his replacement , with Hewett as vice @-@ captain . A vote of thanks was given to Sainsbury for his service to the county club .

= = Move to Gloucestershire = =

Over the following two seasons , 1889 and 1890 , Sainsbury played club cricket for Lansdown , but no county cricket , as he served his residential qualification for Gloucestershire . At Gloucestershire 's annual meeting in April 1891 , W. G. Grace welcomed Sainsbury to the club , and there was some mirth at the expense of Somerset regarding his move . His first appearance for his new county was in match in early May between " Club and Ground " sides from Gloucestershire and Glamorgan ; his

first @-@ class debut for the county was against Kent later that month , when he scored 12 runs during a rain @-@ affected match . He was not the only former Somerset player to appear for Gloucestershire in the match ? his fellow opening partner at Somerset , Octavius Radcliffe , had moved across the county border in 1886 . Sainsbury played 13 times for Gloucestershire that season , with his highest score being 36 , made against Yorkshire at Bramall Lane , Sheffield . He scored 259 runs at an average of 13 @.@ 63 , and did not bowl . An appearance for Lansdown that summer , against the Royal Agricultural College , Cirencester , saw him score 228 runs in a drawn match . The following year was his last in first @-@ class cricket , during which he made five appearances , all for Gloucestershire , scoring 100 runs , at an average of 10 @.@ 00 . He continued to play for Lansdown , who he captained in 1893 , scoring over 1 @,@ 000 runs that season , Clifton , and the MCC for a number of years .

= = Captaincy = =

During Sainsbury 's first year as Somerset captain , the county suffered two of its heaviest defeats in first @-@ class cricket at the hands of Gloucestershire and Surrey , and was stripped of its first @-@ class status . But it was the club secretary who was replaced at the end of that season , and Sainsbury remained in position as club captain , perhaps indicating that the club felt it was a lack of resources , rather than Sainsbury 's captaincy , that was to blame for the poor performances . In *From Sammy to Jimmy : An Official History of Somerset County Cricket Club* , Peter Roebuck suggests that Sainsbury was key in the improvements made by the county in 1888 , but fellow cricket historian David Foot appears to portray a more negative image in his book *Sunshine , Sixes and Cider* , suggesting that during Sainsbury 's time as captain he may have included players in the team " on the strength of [their] social charm and ability to drink into the early hours " .

= = Later life and death = =

Sainsbury married Mary Stevens Chamen on 28 August 1883 at Christ Church , Wanstead , Essex . He established an eponymous oil cake company in Bristol . He died on 28 October 1930 , aged 79 in Weston @-@ super @-@ Mare , Somerset , and his funeral was held at St Paul 's Church in Weston @-@ super @-@ Mare . He was survived by at least two sons and two daughters . One of those sons , E. A. Sainsbury , played cricket for Weston @-@ super @-@ Mare and the Gloucestershire Colts . At the time of his death , he had a gross estate worth just over £ 9 @,@ 234 . His grandson , John Sainsbury , played two first @-@ class matches for Somerset in 1951 .