



# Mike Atherton OBE

Mike Atherton graduated from Cambridge University to England Captain via Lancashire County Cricket Club, accumulating 155 Test caps & 7728 runs in the process.

A stubborn right-handed opening batsman, he captained England on 54 occasions, being voted the Cricket Writers' *Cricketer of the Year* in 1990 & named one of Wisden's *Cricketers of the Year* in 1991.

Due to a degenerative back condition, Mike was forced into retirement in 2001. His career highlight was batting 643 minutes (the fourth longest in Test history) for 185 to deny South Africa a seemingly nailed on victory at Johannesburg in 1995-96.

Since his retirement from the game, Mike has built a successful career in the media including journalist for The Sunday Telegraph & also succeeded Christopher Martin-Jenkins as The Times cricket correspondent from May 2008.

Between 2002 & 2005, Mike was a member of the Channel 4 commentary team for the coverage of Test cricket in England. During this period he also worked as a commentator for BBC Radio & Talksport on Test matches outside England.

In 2005 Sky Sports won the rights to broadcast live Test cricket in England & invited Mike to join their commentary team. He commentates on all forms of the game, home & abroad, as well as covering some domestic matches. He often performs as the post-match master of ceremonies for Internationals in England, presenting awards & interviewing players.

In 2002, Mike released his autobiography, **Opening Up** & has also written **Gambling: A Story of Triumph & Disaster** which was released in 2006.

March 2010 saw Mike win *Sports Journalist of the Year* at the British Press Awards. The judges said this was a '*unanimous choice*' & praised the former England cricket Captain for '*tackling subjects way beyond cricket*' & said '*the brilliance of his writing shines*'.

Without doubt one of Britain's most successful sportsmen, Mike is an ideal guest speaker relating the importance of team work, motivation & success.

**For more information on Mike Atherton,  
Contact: 0113-239-2222**