

# 'Ex England Cricketer - TV Personality'

## Phil Tuffnel

The Bad Boy of English cricket in the 1990s, but the best spinner – left-arm or otherwise – as well. With a kick of the back leg, a skip and a jump, he had an approach to the wicket that is all his own, but Tufnell had great control of flight – he talked of his “ball on a string” – and tended to beat batsmen in the air rather than off the pitch. And the arm ball was hard to spot. His batting was more straightforward, and consisted of the shuffle to square leg when facing the fast bowlers or the optimistic waft outside off stump.

Charismatic and controversial, Phil Tufnell is the former England cricket bowler with a talent for spinning the ball on the field and getting in trouble off it. Nicknamed The Cat for his ability to sleep any time, any where, Tufnell made his debut for Middlesex in 1986. It was here that he developed a reputation for being a cricketer with big talent but little dedication for the discipline of the game. He was occasionally in trouble for missing practice or minor matches and once missed a game when shopping for a fridge instead!

Phil retired from Cricket in 2003 in order to participate in the reality television show 'I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here!' from which he emerged as King of the Jungle. He was a team captain on the sports quiz show 'They Think It's All Over', did analytical punditry on Sky Sports and Channel 4, and has made appearances on current affairs programmes including BBC's One Show, chat shows and quiz shows. Phil is also currently a captain on BBC's A Question of Sport, adding his own unique brand of humor and sometimes sharing his sporting knowledge!

He has co-authored a humorous book called 'Phil Tufnell's' A To Z of Cricket' and wrote his autobiography, 'What Now?'

