

JTCC v. The Victory

Match Report

And so we come to what will probably be our last competitive game of the season, as ever it was full of characters, cameos, accidents, incidents and a smidgen of lust.

The game itself was noteworthy as we had previously thrashed this opposition twice this year. So it says much for their intestinal fortitude, courage, esprit de guere and humiliation levels that they should come back for more. Perhaps their motivation was knowing everybody else had beaten which prompted **Grant** to pick up the glove and arrange his 'Invitation 11'. Unfortunately the invitations were not RSVP'd resulting in too few players arriving too late to do any good. Although it should not go un-noted that Mr R. Inger did eventually arrive only to follow some awe inspiring practice bowling by donning the gloves and spending most of the game behind their stumps. When Grant finally remembered his stumpy could bowl it was interesting to watch our courageous batsmen ensure that 'they faced him from the other end'.

As most of Grant's 11 turned out to be his bar staff (were they still being paid during the game?) play could not commence until their chores had been completed. In order to give them a break we fielded and the first recorded case of soliciting on the common took place when the home captain was asked which side of his game ball he would like shined.

Their batting opened with Grant and **Kevin**, who having seen off our openers continued to bat as though this was a 5 day game and they were playing for the draw with 2 days to go. Even our lesser bowlers were treated with far too much respect but with the extras piling up perhaps they thought running was superfluous.

Like granite eroding wickets eventually fell but their final score of 97 was never going to be enough.

At the change of innings another gargantuan cricket feast was served up and consumed with gusto. The home team deserve special mention as it was they who did most of the eating as the Victory's players repaired to their bar.

Our innings presented the captain with a pleasing dilemma. In common with all good cricketers everybody wanted a bat to improve their averages but with so few runs to play with and a one pronged attack (from the Victory) all were going to be disappointed unless the rules were changed. So one was, the retirement score was lowered to just 25 which resulted in all but 2 players getting to the crease. **Mark** scored 23 and **Ian** 29n.o. (you retire at the end of the over) and looked like he could have scored an awful lot more.

As ever there was still a batting collapse and as ever **Ron** was on hand to continue his 'Carry on Cricketing' performance. As our victory approached, nerves set in and wickets fell, reducing the required run rate to 1 per over. A rate which Ron struggled to maintain against Mr Inger (understandable) and the other bowlers (typical) for several overs. With Ron dismissed **Dave** strode up to the wicket and promptly smashed his first ball to the boundary so scoring the winning runs. At which point Ian, who had retired ages ago, decided to get changed.

Probably the most entertaining and distracting incident of the fixture was off the pitch. And I do not mean the Mercedes SLR McLaren. For a passing olive skinned, azure eyed, goddess, with an Amazonian intellect (2:1, Oxford) and a career with a fashion house in London, turned into a star struck smitten kitten at the sight of one of our ex colts. His response to this avalanche of lust? 'I'm with the Woolwich'. Cupid cried.

She met Jasper Conran the following Wednesday and was less impressed.

Gene Pool
Cricket Correspondent to the Jolly Tanners

Statistics

JTCC beat The Victory.....handsomely. Again.

Champagne Moments

Kevin carrying his bat and taking a catch.....for the opposition.

Beer Moments

Those who derided Kevin (A fine example of afflicting the mocked if ever there was one) only to score less runs & drop catches.

The JTCC has a stalker. She has compiled her own averages & is impressed by some of the performances. Her name? Ms Ixa Matossis

AN UMPIRE OF THE VANITIES PRODUCTION.

A VERSION OF THIS MAY APPEAR IN COMMON INTERESTS