

Christchurch Sun 1st Match Reports 2008

Marnhull, 13th July, Home

Marnhull won the toss and decided to put the home side into bat. The 2 openers Si and Stu Sweatman, were getting alot of movement early on and were unlucky not to pick up any wickets. That said, Tom Hughes and Tony Robinson did well to put away the bad ball and at drinks the Church were 102 without loss. The change bolwers didn't get any joy either as Tony and I batted steadily until Tony was was eventually out for 53 in an opening stand of 176. Gareth Williams and Scott Kelly both came in to add 20's but the highlight of the innings was a (slightly streaky) unbeaten 132 from the skipper. We finished with 251/2 from the 45 overs.

In reply Marnhull got off to a steady enough start before Steve Pockneall once again did the business by removing their top three (3/50).. after that wickets fell regularly untill a detemind 9th wicket stand took the match to the final over. It was left to 'Slingshot' Ben Rayner who's fielding had been 'different gravey' to get the last two wickets in three balls to ensure the 20 pts.

Parley away next week.

Tom

Studland, 6th July. Away

Arrived at Studland @ 1.30pm to find the sun shining. The team (inc 12th man) had all arrived on time, with all their kit and there was not a hangover in sight... I won the toss and decided to bat. It proved to be a good decision as we made 330 all out with everyone getting a bat and scoring 30. After tea (a bbq and cold a beer) we quickly skittled the home side for 50 runs without giving away a single extra. The fielding was a highlight. The 20 points took us back to the top of the league and we were back in time to catch the end of the tennis.

If Carlsberg sponsored cricket teams.... Donners can you give them a buzz?

Marnhull at home next week.

Tom

Old Blandfordians, 29th June. Away

After the DeZote win on Friday and the first X1's victory on Saturday the were a few tired bodies making their way over to a breezy Blandford on Sunday afternoon.

We lost the toss and the home side put the Church in to bat where we got off to a good start with openers Tom Hughes (34) and 'Steady' Eddie Richmond putting us on 85 at drinks. Some good tight bowling from the home side in the middle of the innings left us on 115/5 with 10 overs remaining, Ed falling shortly after making his half century (53). Scott Kelly and Steve Pockneall

ensured the innings did not fizzle out as Scott crashed 78* with some massive blows with Steve chipping in with a handy 28 to leave us on 225/7 after 45 overs.

After an excellent tea the Priory looked alot keener in the field than in recent weeks and got off to an ideal start when Pockneall, possibly spurred on by his his visiting fan club, removed the 2 openers in his first 2 overs. Tight bowling combined with some excellent catching (and the promise of the Euro cup final) tore through the rest of the home sides batting order with Steve Pockneall equaling seasons best figures of 6/49 and Tony Robinson 3/24. OB's all out for 74.

Up top 4th at least I think and Studland away next week. Bring you swimmers!

DeZote final 7th August!!

Tom

Henstridge, 22nd June. Home.

Another top of the table clash though this time the weather was favourable. Henstridge won the toss and decided to bat on what looked a good batting track (at Hurn Bridge?? I hear you say)

The decision proved to be a good one and the visitors were sitting pretty on 130/0 odd at drinks. Chances in the field were few and far between and the Henstridge skipper survived a very stong stumping appeal (if only their umpire was as generous as the Church bolwers) before eventually falling for 60 ish. However, it was the other opener, South African Nick Tatham, that caused the damage. Nick played fine innings and eventually fell in the final over for a massive 148 runs. I'm sure if we could have dismissed him earlier that Henstridge would not of got anywhere near the 274/4 that they did amass from their 45 overs. No bowler did himself justice.

In reply, Ed Richmond and Myself opened the batting and got us off to a great start. Church were 105/0 off of 13 overs and the away side were starting to flap. However Ed was caught and bowled by A. Dyke for 33 and I fell soon after for 68 caught on the rope. It was then left to Steve Preston (61) to anchor the innings and I felt that we had enough batting to see us home and still be back in time for Spain vs Italy. I was wrong however and the middle order played some poor shots (not for the first time this season) and we were eventually all out for 248 runs. A shame as it would have been a great one to win. (A Dyke 5/50 N. Tatham 4/45)

Well played Henstridge, esp Nick Tatham.

Tom

Kingston Lacey, 15th June. Away.

Top of the table clash that we had been looking forward to all week. So typically it was raining as we made our way over. However, by about 3pm

there was bright sunshine which was burning off the excess water (though I must say the pitch wasn't the only thing that was steaming as I looked around the team) The Ump's decided that we could get 35 overs in each and I was happy to win the toss and put Lacy in to bat. 10 overs and 110/0 runs later I was glad to see the rain come back and rescue us with both Nick and James park smashing the Priory bowling all round Dorset (James Dougan even had the Echo photographer rooting through a nearby field at one point after being straight driven for a massive six by Nick.)

Another big game next week, Henstridge at home, hopefully Ben Rayner will learn that if he is going to hoot with the owls he needs to be able to fly with the eagles!

Tom

Poole Town, 1st June, Home.

We won the toss and having leant a lesson from Saturday's provisional skipper, we put the away side in to bat on a wet wicket.

Steve Pockneall (3/20) took out the top order in his first few overs and after that Poole never really got going except for a very fast (and annoyingly streaky) 70 from one of the middle order.

Skipper Hughes mopped up the tail taking 3/0 to leave the Town on 142 all out.

In reply, Priory started very well with Hughes(21) and Ed Richmond (43) putting on 75 for the 1st wicket. However, in true Sunday afternoon fashion, 5 wickets then fell for 6 runs and Poole had their tails up.

It was left to Brett Custard (29) and Tony Robinson (30*) to see us through to win by 4 wickets and help pick us up the 20 points that takwe us to second in the league!

Thanks to Rhys for taking time out from house hunting only to get run out for a duck!

Tom

Marnhull, 11th May. Away.

A much changed side this week with Rhys Dear and Robbie Woolner away on a French Exchange trip.

In contrast to last week, it was baking hot so it was a good toss to win and we duely batted on a decent looking track. Tony Robinson (19) and Eddie Richmond (52) got us off to a flyer again with 40 off the first few overs before Tony was caught and then the skipper was dismissed for a golden. The Marnhull bowlers took heart and and pegged back the flow of runs with wickets falling at regular intervals. It was only a gritty innings of 51 from Pepe Rayner that allowed the Church to finish up with 198/6 from their 45 overs with a quick fire last minute 22 from Gareth Thomas pushing the total on at

the end. J.McKay taking 4/49 for Marnhull.

Marnhull also got off to a good start putting on 60 in the first 10 overs before dangerman Stu Sweatman fell to Tony for 40. After that it was left to the evergreen Scott Kelly who used all his experience to slow the run rate combined with an excellent tight spell from 15 year old paceman James Dugan to make sure the match was always in favour of the away side. Marnhull were eventually all out for 151, with Scott 4/31 and James 3/35.

Christchurch take another 20 points with a 47 runs win (top of the league i think!)

Parley home next week.

Tom

Studland, 5th May. Home.

The Sunday season is off to a good start!

Studland won the toss and put a strong looking Church batting lineup in 1st in what turned out to be a rain affected match. The hosts put on 245/7 from their 45 overs in an innings that lasted till 6.10pm! Having had to come off twice for rain. Tony Robinson and Eddie Richmond got the home side off to a flyer with Tony notching up a quick fire 30. Youngster Rhys Dear came in at number 4 and showed what a good player he is developing into with 46 runs on his birthday. A player to watch out for this season I'm sure. All the other batsmen chipped in with a few but it was Eddie Richmond who was the mainstay of the innings eventually falling for 85. Studland skipper Mark Elliot was the pick of the bowling taking 4/39.

Set 159 from 25 overs, the Priory boys made light work of the Studland batting line up as play moved into twilight. Steve Pockneall (the Pro golfer from Dudsbury) bowled very well returning his best ever figures for the club taking 6/37 despite having a rather large 'headache' from Rhys' bithday the night before . Studland were eventually all out for 73 with no batsman reeally making his mark.

Marnhull away next week!

Tom