

Christchurch Sun 2nd Match Reports 2010

Broadstone 2nds, 15th Aug. Home

Another Sunday and another step closer to promotion for the Nevolution.

After turning down numerous offers from first teamers wanting a game this weekend we were all present and correct at fortress Hurn Bridge for the visit of Broadstone with the exception of Kieron who was somewhere between Christchurch and Swanage.

The opposing skipper lost the toss and as usual I chose to bat. The returning Chris Dear and Craig Campbell opened and it was the former who went first after clipping one onto his stumps. For successive weeks the skipper walked to the crease and soon walked back again and after 11 overs we were 34/4. Lloyd 'I don't move for catches' Alexander and Jonny 'I also don't move for catches' Oliver then shared a partnership of 60 to rebuild our innings before Lloyd was bowled for 36. Ross 'Basil' Bannon came in, hit a massive 6 then got out and Ben 'Dog the Bounty Hunter' Hunter clipped one to mid wicket for 4.

Ben '10' Moesbauer strode out to the crease to meet Kieron who, for once was somehow sober. After watching him scratch around for a while you could tell he doesn't normally play without being at least slightly under the influence. Together they put on 38 and when Ben was out my Dad came out to bat in his first game of the season. He ended up with a 0* as Kieron got us to exactly 170 before being bowled for 31.

Not for the first time this season we took to the field having posted what I would consider a below-par score, yet we again came away with a win. This definitely is Division 6 for a reason!

Myself and Kieron opened up and when I replaced myself with PJ, Broadstone were 22/5 off 14 overs and when Ben Hunter replaced Kieron from the top end things were all but wrapped up with the score on 32/6 from 19. Seven overs later it was game over when Ben made up for his previous 3.4 overs of dross to pick up the last 2 wickets and finish with a double wicket maiden. Broadstone were all out for 76 in just 26 overs. I finished with 2-14, Kieron 3-14, PJ 3-15 and Ben 2-27.

Sturminster & Hinton away next week in a game which could seal our promotion.

Christchurch: B Nethersole, S Nethersole, C Campbell, C Dear, PJ Etheridge, L Alexander, J Oliver, R Bannon, B Hunter, K Burton, B Moesbauer.

Ibberton, 8th Aug. Home

Another Sunday and another chance to right the previous weeks wrongs. Ibberton made the long journey from the middle of absolutely nowhere to the Bridge and were lucky enough to win the toss and bat first. A decision which

made their catching practice oh so slightly pointless.

Anyway, a somewhat disappointed Nevolution took to the field under the Christchurch dome and we soon had our early breakthrough with Ben 'MILF' Hunter removing the number 1 bat for 5. Thirteen more overs passed (unlucky for some) before the next wicket fell, PJ removing the other opening bat for 23. A Sullivan and K Abbott then put on 80 for the 3rd wicket before the latter was out caught in the 35th over. Wickets then fell regularly and if it hadn't been for the resistance of Sullivan then we'd have been chasing a much smaller total.

The ten men of Ibberton ended on 205/8 from their allotted 45 overs with myself claiming 4 wickets and Ross 'Basil' Bannon 2 whilst PJ and Ben both took 1. A Sullivan was eventually bowled for 94 - not the first person to miss out on a ton!

After seeing how the wicket played the day before I was slightly apprehensive about how it would play during our run chase seeing as we were now effectively batting 4th on a pitch which was shocking from ball one on Saturday.

Pete Wedge and Craig opened and complemented each other nicely. Pete played aggressively and hit the buffet bowling on offer to all parts of the ground whilst Craig took his time and measured his approach. Things were looking too good to be true with the scoreboard showing 100/0 off 22 overs. Craig was the first to go, LBW with the score on 149 from 30.

The skipper walked to the crease and soon walked back again following yet another low score and was soon joined by James Adams. Wedge junior lost his concentration and skied a catch on 91 meaning we'd gone from 149/0 to 157/4. Lloyd and Jonny 'teflon' Oliver finished the game in style and 5 overs after meeting in the middle they'd won us the game quite comfortably in the end. The Nevolution win by 6 wickets.

A good run chase for once but we're still dropping far too many catches. 7 last week and at least 4 this time around - something to work on perhaps?

Christchurch: B Nethersole, C Campbell, L Alexander, J Oliver, B Hunter, P Wedge, D Campbell, PJ Etheridge, P Hayes, R Bannon, J Adams,

Boscombe, 25th July. Home

After last weeks embarrassing defeat to Ferndown & Wayfarers the Party Bus rolled back into the fortress Hurn Bridge car park for what was a must win game. Boscombe quite impressively boasted five members of the same family among their ranks along with the evergreen 'Rocket' Ron Dickinson.

As has become true to form this season I won the toss and chose to bat. A brand new opening partnership took to the field with debutants Matt and Pete Wedge turning out after being roped in at the last minute. Wedge senior went

first with the score on 49 from 8 overs for 23 and Pete followed 3 overs later for 33. The middle order attempted to rebuild the innings and did so to an extent but with the exception of Craig (4) who nicked one behind we were all guilty of playing poor shots.

I (18) got a ball that popped off the surface and flew 20 feet in the air, Lloyd (8) chipped one to mid wicket, Darren (2) and PJ (2) were both bowled going back to full balls and when Ross 'Boom Boom' Bannon was eventually caught for 20 after giving numerous opportunities things were looking grim. Ben Moesbauer, playing his first game of the season played some good shots (mixed in with the lucky ones) and got to 23 before being bowled with the score now 154/9.

Paul Etheridge (PJ's dad for those who don't know) strode out to join Pete Hayes at number 11 after Kieron decided to get stranded in Southampton. Unfortunately it was all soon over and we were all out for 154 in 36.2 overs.

The usual questions floated round my head during tea - how had we batted so poorly? and did we have enough to win? It hadn't gone unnoticed that the same side we were playing had hit 270+ the previous week against league leaders Ellingham.

So we went out to field and what happened next can be summed up in one word. Ridiculous. PJ made the break through in the 2nd over and I managed to turn my bad back off and take 2 wickets in the following over.

After 5 overs Boscombe were 8/3. At times like these you don't want to become complacent but not even that was needed as 'Night wear' took his third wicket and then 2 more in his next over. He finished his short yet destructive spell with figures of 4-1-11-5. I took the 8th wicket to fall before finishing with 5-1-14-3 and Wedge junior finished off the game in his first over with a double wicket maiden. Having been 25/5 we dismissed them for 26, a winning margin of 128 runs. Only 4 batsmen managed to score and even those were disgusting hoicks across the line.

Ben M kept well taking 3 catches and despite the batting performance it was good all round cricket from the Church.

19 points will keep us in 2nd place and next week we're back on the road to play the league leaders Ellingham.

The Christchurch Nevolution: B Nethersole, C Campbell, B Moesbauer, M Wedge, P Wedge, D Campbell, L Alexander, R Bannon, P Hayes, PJ Etheridge, Paul Etheridge.

Portland RT 2nds, 11th July. Home

After a weeks break for the Party Bus we entertained Portland at what is becoming 'Fortress Hurn Bridge'. We were searching for an eighth consecutive win and revenge for a crushing defeat in week 1 (what game is

that? I hear some of you say).

After winning the toss and choosing to bat proceedings did not start off how we would have liked. After 9 overs the Church were 62/5 with Bannon (2), Burton (2), Nethersole (28), C. Dear (18) and Yates (0) all back in the hut. Craig Campbell and Lloyd Alexander began the rebuilding job against what some would describe as profitable bowling but it wasn't as easy as it looked.

Both played excellently to restrict themselves to ones and twos when it would have been much easier to get carried away and throw away their wicket. Craig eventually fell for 14 in 17 overs with the score on 101/6 which soon became 104/7. The skipper was beginning to get jittery after the runs had almost completely dried up. PJ came to the crease and from then on the runs began to flow like the Stour as both batsmen began to cash in on the buffet bowling dished up.

'Night wear' departed for 24 with the scoreboard now reading 153/8 and soon after Darren departed without troubling the scorers to leave Pete Hayes and Lloyd 'Quinky' Alexander to play out the last 5 overs. In which time the latter began to hit out and passed 50 for the 2nd time this season. To see someone who last year struggled for runs now hog the strike really was a sight for sore eyes! We ended on 207/9 with Lloyd not out on 69 after grinding it out for 37 overs.

With the Nevolution now in a game winning position we were confident it wouldn't take much to dismiss the opposition. I took the first two wickets to fall and when drinks were taken Portland were 66-3 after PJ had one of their openers trapped LBW in his first over.

Keiron Burton bowled well and was unlucky not to get more wickets due to some stupidly dubious umpiring to match the decisions Yatesy was denied earlier on. We kept on taking wickets at regular intervals and at 101/7 we were sure the game was wrapped up.

PJ finished his spell with great figures of 7-0-18-3 and I replaced him to try and finish things off. Despite this, runs were still coming for the visitors more frequently than we would have liked. Eventually the last wicket fell on 167 and another 20 points were making its way to Christchurch. I finished with figures of 11.4-1-49-5 and Kieron with 9-1-46-1.

Thanks to Joe 'Double 0' Yates for turning out for us once again after work. The new nickname is all thanks to his second ball duck and lack of wickets. He also left his trousers in the changing room so god knows what he wore home!

Christchurch: B Nethersole, C Campbell, J Oliver, R Bannon, K Burton, C Dear, J Yates, L Alexander, PJ Etheridge, D Campbell, P Hayes.

Old Bournemouthians, 27th June. Away

On a day which the majority of this country would rather forget due to a certain football score we rolled up to Littledown at 9.30am, an ungodly hour for some on a Sunday morning and that's what it turned out to be for the majority of the opposition. The arranged 10am start became 10.45 when the opposition skipper turned up with the stumps.

We bowled first despite the fact the temperature was already in the mid 20's and quickly started to get through the 10 batsmen attempting to take us on. Only M. Owen at number 6 provided any real resistance with 25 whilst his team mates battled a mixture of good bowling, hot temperatures and hangovers of various severity.

Stupidly we conceded 25 extras and that pushed Old Bournemouthians upto 83 all out in 27.1 overs. Yours truly with 5 wickets and PJ, Darren, Ben and Ross all taking one each.

Party bus debutant Dusty Miller proved he'd bought his ticket way in advance with a blistering 53 and was aided by Ross Bannon who made 27* as we finished on 84/1 in just 7.5 overs. God knows what could have happened had we batted first!

Christchurch: B Nethersole, C Campbell, J Oliver, M Miller, R Bannon, PJ Etheridge, B Hunter, L Alexander, D Felton, D Campbell, T Havelock.

Sturminster and Hinton, 20th June, Home.

The Christchurch Nevolution's party bus continues to rumble along the road to the top of the league tonight after what was a stop-start performance in this 3rd vs 4th clash.

Normal service was resumed when I won the toss and chose to bat in the Christchurch Dome sunshine with the in form Thorpe and returning Ross Bannon opening up. We trundled along nicely until Ross was bowled in the 12th over for 17 with the score on 55. Thorpey, playing his last game before departing for France again, fell just after drinks for 41. The skipper followed soon after as did Lloyd Alexander and Craig Campbell. The blue caps were 81/5 from 19 overs and it wasn't looking good.

Kieron Burton and Ben Hunter began the rebuilding job and pushed the score on to 112 before Ben departed. Jonny Oliver and then Darren Campbell added some vital runs but it was Nozzer who stole the show with a well ground out 53 not out when we were bowled out for 177 in the 37th over.

Sturminster began their reply steadily despite losing two wickets to the opening spell of Ben Hunter and at the first drinks break they were 69/4 with Kieron and PJ taking a wicket each.

Three overs after drinks the game was virtually all but over after Kieron's 'man of the match sealing' triple wicket maiden dismissed batsmen numbers 5,7 and 8. PJ picked up two further wickets, the second coming after a ridiculous

field change paid off first ball. It was left to yours truly to take the final wicket of the day by bowling the number 9 for 34 as the opposition finished on 138 in 29.2 overs.

Yet again we weren't pretty to watch but we've picked up another 20 points and at the end of the day (not only is it night!) but that's what we wanted more than anything else. Old Bournemouthians next week and we'll obviously be looking to make it 7 wins in a row!

Up the Nevolution!

Christchurch: B Nethersole, C Campbell, R Thorpe, K Burton, L Alexander, C Campbell, B Hunter, J Oliver, D Campbell, PJ Etheridge, P Hayes.

Broadstone 2nds, 13th June. Away.

Last week Thorpe, this week yours truly.

Yet another 20 points for the Nevolution even if it wasn't as slick a performance as we'd got used to after recent weeks.

I lost the toss for the second time this season and the Broadstone skipper rightly chose to bat first on a pitch with small boundaries (Neville measured one side at only 34 yards from the strip we were to use).

Myself and Ben Hunter opened up and soon the opposition were 2 down with only 9 on the board and when I took a break the board read 56/3 and soon 68/4 after 14 overs.

That would be the last wicket activity for a while as bowler after bowler plugged away but couldn't break the resilient partnership that was building and it took for the opening batsman to retire hurt shortly after bringing up his 100 for the wickets to begin falling again. I instantly took 3 quick wickets and soon the bonus points were racking up as Darren Campbell joined in the action with two for himself.

Broadstone were all out for 264 in the penultimate over. I finished with 12-1-48-4, Ben took 12-0-73-4 and Darren 4.4-1-31-2. Other bowlers were tried but couldn't force a breakthrough.

Surprisingly I was quietly confident that we could chase the total down but when I joined Thorpe at the crease in the 3rd over with the score 15/3 that mood had slightly changed.

Safe to say there was very little to worry about as we steadily began to take apart the young bowlers that were used like lambs to the slaughter. I hit the 6th over of the innings for 32, made up of four sixes and two fours. We kept pushing the score on and when Thorpe was bowled around his legs for 44 we were on 119 from just 13 overs and the run chase was well and truly on.

I took over the initiative and continued to score freely with Lloyd Alexander at

the other end doing a job. When he departed we were 170/5 from 19 and in which time I'd passed 50 for the first time this season. Craig Campbell came in to join me and from then on we didn't look back. I eventually brought up my maiden century despite being at the crease for only 20 overs including eight fours and seven sixes.

Unfortunately I soon holed out in the 27th over for 107 to deep backward square leg, who finally held onto one and it was left to Craig and Ben to knock off the remaining 41 runs needed for victory. That task was carried out with all too much ease and the Nevolution ended on 265/6 in the 33rd over with Craig 30* and Ben 20*.

Yet another fantastic performance before a huge game next week at home to Sturminster & Hinton. 98 points from our last 100 has seen us rise up the table and another win next week could well see us go to the top of the league.

Up the Nevolution!

Ibberton, 6th June. Away.

Yet another lovely day for the party bus to come out of the garage. This time in idillic, rural Dorset.

After telling the team we'd be playing on astroturf we were all shocked upon arrival to find a grass wicket which was to be used for the first time ever. Surprisingly I won the toss for the 4th week in a row and again elected to bat first.

Thorpey and Owen opened up before the latter was out for 1 and I joined Ryan for what was a short lived 12 until I got the only good ball of the innings from their left handed opening bowler and departed for 12. Alex Mullings then help 'the windmill' set about the opposition bowling whilst taking full advantage of the shocking fielding performance. Eventhough we were playing on a pitch which resembled Tellytubby land there was still some horrendous fielding on show.

Alex and Ryan put on 84 for the 3rd wicket and then it was the turn of Lloyd to support Thorpey. Between them they put on 115 with Thorpey reaching maiden ton with a 6 over cover and then continued to take apart the bowlers before he was caught on the rope for 132. A top knock. We were 231/4 from 37 overs.

Lloyd and Nick Mullings continued to score freely, adding another 63 to the total. Arguably the moment of the match came in the final over when Lloyd took one step down the pitch and launched the bowler back over his head for 6 to bring up his first ever 50. He was bowled the following ball but for someone who hardly ever reached double figures last season it was a quality innings and a massive improvement.

The Nevolution ended on 298/6 with Mullings senior 32 not out.

The best way to describe the Ibberton reply would be either that they had no intention of attempting to chase down our total or that we were too good for them. Both are probably true but I never expected it to be that easy.

I made the breakthrough before bowling like a drain whilst Alex took wickets and bowled maidens from the other end. When PJ replaced me we were already well through them with the scoreboard showing 34/6. Mullings junior had taken 4 wickets whilst there had also been a slightly unfortunate run out.

PJ took the first of his 3 wickets with his 5th ball but the score relatively raced onto 55 before the next wicket fell, again to PJ. Darren Campbell marked his only over by having the number 10 bat caught at mid wicket then PJ wrapped up the innings with the first ball of the 17th over. Short and sweet and back at the bridge by 7.

Ibberton were all out for 63, a crushing 235 run defeat. Only 2 batsmen made double figures whilst Alex finished with figures of 7-5-9-4 and PJ with 3.1-0-21-3.

Thanks to those who played, especially those who didn't get to bat or bowl.

Christchurch: B Nethersole, C Campbell, R Thorpe, O Farnes, A Mullings, L Alexander, N Mullings, D Campbell, PJ Etheridge, J Taylor, T Havelock.

Ellingham, 30th May. Home

Another Sunday, another win and yet another 20 points for the twos!

The vast improvement in the Hurn Bridge wicket continued for another week eventhough it was so green it looked like it was wearing a high-vis jacket! I won the toss for the third week in a row and again chose to bat first knowing all too well that we're better and defending a total than chasing one.

For the second week in a row we've profited from a first teamer dropping down and thanks to Joe Yates' knock of 60, supported ably by extras with 57! As usual other batsmen got starts but nobody could press home the advantage against some indifferent bowling with only Jonny Oliver getting over 20. The Nevolution ended on 207/9 after only managing to score a measly 13 off of the last 6 overs (PJ blocked out the last 2 balls and is yet to score a run this season!).

Ellingham's reply was dealt a massive blow in the 4th over when Yatesy first bowled Ed 'Smokey Joe' Galloway before removing their dangerman Ali Redfern with the very next ball, much to my delight. I chipped in by bowling the number 4 and at the same time their other opening batsman retired hurt so when I made a double bowling change the visitors were effectively 61/4.

PJ broke up the 5th wicket partnership that was building by bowling the number 6 for 21 after he'd starting hitting out and looking like a threat to

ending the winning streak. At drinks the run rate had increased and the opponents were looking good on 118/5 with two batsman settled at the crease.

I brought back myself and Joe and 4 overs later I broke the partnership, trapping B. New LBW for 25 before bowling the number 8 with the last ball of the over. At the other end, I Rouse took the attack to Yatesy and hit him for 37 off his next 2 overs, including 3 6s! Squeaky bum time was approaching whilst I took 2 more wickets in between Joe getting smashed over cow corner for fun (despite having 3 men down there).

Yatesy had the last laugh though, removing Rouse with the first ball of his last over for 71 to wrap up the win by 28 runs with Ellingham finishing on 179 all out. Joe ended up with figures of 11.1-0-63-3 and I ended with 12-1-43-5.

The Church: B Nethersole, C Campbell, J Oliver, M Norman, R Bannon, L Alexander, J Yates, R Kingham, B Hunter, P Hayes, PJ Etheridge