

Blog from the Boundary, 2nd XI v Middleton Cheney 05th June 10

After last week's washout, GP "A" hosted our 2nd home game at Wootton and welcomed our old chums Middleton Cheney. Looking for a bit of revenge for knocking us out of the Egg cup and with the weather being very warm and muggy, yet not hot enough to fry an egg, the day was set to be a cracking one!! (you might get a sense where this blog is going?)

First off we had 12 players (following some poor comms between the skip and Ben "not so" Young), something unknown for GP "A" (well 11.5 counting Ish and his limp). The return of Danny Gason was short lived, as he took one for the team and was happy to give up his spot as to please "her in doors" and we welcomed back Alan F after poaching him from the firsts.

In normal tradition, Ishy was no where to be seen but on his way and the skipper kept his run going by losing the toss. Middleton chose to field and the skip and Ben, padded up and was set to crack on.

The skip was first to lose his wicket after being bowled and caught in the 3rd over and going for yet another big fat egg! That's 3 in as many games (1 was a cup game) and with the skip yet to score a single run this year, he is probably not seeing the yolk. Still, you can't make an omelette without breaking some eggs, so we can expect something special soon. In fairness to the skip, it looked like a harsh call as the ball was tossed just under his chin. However neither of the umpires saw it that way and he had to walk.

Alan F was in next in and clearly made his intentions known, knocking the first 2 for 4's. Ben was next to be rumbled going for 4 after nicking the last ball of the 8th to be caught behind, leaving GP on 27-2.

Julian was up next and with the first 3 of his scoring shots all being 4's, he too was clearly setting out his stall. Both Julian and Alan had a nice little partnership going, racking up 31 between them until Alan was bowled in the 14th for 32 (28 of those coming from 4's).

From here on in, it all went egg shaped with Jag, Jake, Ish and Jamie all waddling in and waddling off for big fat eggs. 4 ducks back to back must have been beyond Middleton's egg expectations, yet Julian still managed to put on another 17 runs in their somewhere .

Grundy was next in and intent on not being the 6th duck of the day, was relieved to score 2 before finding himself getting caught. Matt then followed, however soon found himself being caught after scoring 5. Tiger was last in and with the skippers talk of just "batting out the last 22 overs" (Tiger batting out 22? Ha ha ha – best yolk of the day) set about his business nervously.

Unfortunately it was Julian who lost his wicket getting bowled in the 30th and finishing on a top score of 48, with Tiger finishing on 6 N.O.

So with GP "A" finishing on 117 all out, the team were left wondering if they had done enough when going into tea.

Following tea, Grundy and Matt started the attack and it was Grundy who struck first in the 5th with a wicket maiden. Not to be out done, Matt followed suite in the 6th with a wicket maiden of his own. Matt then took another 2 in his next 2 overs with Grundy picking up another 2 maiden wickets in the 9th and 11th leaving Middleton on the ropes at 12 for 6. This was just the start GP "A" wanted and having scrambled the oppo and leaving them shell shocked, it now put them in an excellent position (is it me, or these puns getting worse?).

Grundy was unlucky not to take another when the bat skied one in the air straight behind him and the skipper who was in slip, made the shout and flapped at it gloriously, egg on his face for his troubles.

Middleton tried to make a come back of it putting on 32 runs in the next 6 overs, before Grundy saw off their top bat of the day with a nice little "yolker" for 23. Drinks came in the 20th and Middleton was on 55 for 7. Grundy picked up where he left off before drinks, taking another in the 21st. Giving Matt a rest, the skip turned to Tiger in the 22nd who got an LBW appeal with his first ball. Grundy wrapped it up with the first ball of the 23rd, bowling blokey clean to finish Middleton off on just 60 all out.

An excellent result and a truly quaking game!!

If we keep this momentum going lads, we will have an eggcellent chance at promotion!!

WB's play of the game-

Grundy's 6 wickets – he was eggstatic

WB's other play of the game-

Going to share this between Julian's 48 and Matt's "tighter than the skip at the bar" bowling.

WB's did you know? -

GP collected 5 eggs today, with the oppo chipping in another 3 to make a total of 8 in one match – surly that is going take some cracking to be beaten!!

More next week!

WB