



The 12th Man Cricket Week

Andover Cricket Club

Saturday July 31st 2004

League weekend No 14

The tourists will be now have returned from the week away and doubtless will be wiser and poorer for the exertions. Now the attentions of the club turns towards Cricket Week. A whole week of cricket fixtures and the bar open; heaven on Earth.

The week begins with the attractive fixture against Chase Sports on Monday. On Tuesday there will be the Andrew Clark Memorial match. It is impossible to believe that it is a year ago since 'Clarky' was taken off in the middle of a good spell but time has indeed gone forward and this match is between an Andover XI and a

team brought together by Simon Reeves featuring many old friends.. Please make every effort to be here for the day. On Wednesday we have Hampshire Police visiting us so make sure the tax is paid on your car. The on Thursday and Friday two touring teams, Dulwich and Southend are here.

All starts are 2.00pm and a splendid week is in prospect.

There are lists up in the entrance to the pavilion please make sure your name is on them if you want to play.

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Tourists
If anyone has any pictures, incriminatig or otherwise, you would like to go on the web site please let me have them. JB

Overseas Tour

John Walsh is keen for us to go on an overseas tour next year. He has suggested either South Africa or the West Indies. If tou are interested then put your name on the list against the one that you would like to go on.




Pride



Was Tino Best's wild slog against Ashley Giles last week the most crass dismissal ever seen in a test match? Wouldn't you like to have been a fly on the wall to hear what was said to him as he returned to the dressing room?

There have been some strange dismissals in test match cricket. Graham Gooch was given out handled ball when he swatted the ball away from his stumps with his hand as it appeared to be about to fall onto the bails. He responded afterwards that it was the only thing he think of to do in the circumstances. It was not long after this that another England player was given out handled ball (I can't remember who no doubt Tim will tell me during the day) when he swept the ball away with his hand.

But these were freaks and Tino Best's capitulation was simply awful. It showed absolutely no desire to fight or to support Chanderpaul at the other end. Surely this is what cricket is all about at whatever level you play. You have to have pride in your own performance. Pride in your team and make it as dammed hard as possible for the opposition to beat you.

Some years ago we went to Sulhamstead & Ufton with a Sunday 3rd XI. They had put out a strong Sunday team and set the wicket to one side of the square resulting in a thirty five yard boundary square of the wicket. If dave Howard had been umpiring he would have had to stand in the bar at square leg. Their opener had a simple technique when batting with this boundary on his leg side; put left leg across in front of off stump, whack ball over mid wicket, a half — hit would go for six; I know because I was bowling from that end. They finally declared at 278 — 6. (Baxter 14 overs 1wkt 114runs). The opener, having had his bat, showed no regard for the game, or respect for the opposition and went home!! I begged the captain to let me open the batting promising that they would have to dig me out. Final score Andover 107 - 9 (Baxter 46*). That's the stuff to bring the crowds back to cricket. My point is that, however lowly we might be, we weren't going to just roll over and give them the game. Sunday 3rd XI we may have been but we were also playing for Andover Cricket Club and took pride in that. Dare I suggest that even a test team could learn from us.



JB's CAPTAIN'S LOG



Ah the joy of winning. It must be the most satisfying feeling you can have and still have your clothes on. Forget all this, "It matters not whether you won or lost but how you play the game." Rubbish, that was for Victorian Empire builders and even the author of that little rhyme was eventually turned to bitterness after the death of his son in some futile battle during the First World War when he wrote. "If they should ask us why they died. Tell them because our fathers lied." No winning is everything.

Last week was a good week for the club overall. Only the 1st XI didn't couldn't a win on Saturday. Pride of place probably goes to the 3rds who won in the tightest of circumstances. Reduced to 66 — 6 they recovered to 205 all out. Then bowled Cadnam out for 203 with just two balls left.

A look at the league tables as we approach the last quarter of the season will reveal that all the teams are fairly comfortable. It is true that the 1st XI are only one place above relegation slot but there is a large gap between them and the bottom two. The seconds are in the race for promotion behind Fair Oak. The 3rd XI are just below half way and the 4ths have lifted themselves up the table with two wins recently. The 5ths have an outside chance of promotion.

Selection this week threw up its usual set of 'whatifs' 'howabouts' 'whodowes'. Andy Sale celebrates his 'ton' last week by being unavailable this week. So Tim Brown, after two good performances in the 4ths gets a recall.



Andover Cricket Club TEAMS



1st XI vs OTs & Romsey (A): I. Langdown*, R. Miller, M. Miller, J. Hayward, R. Taylor, M. Hooper, R. Atkins, C. Vandermerwre, D. Woodhouse, S. Williams, T. Radford Sc: L. Morgan.

2nd XI vs Lymington II (H): I. Gardner, M. Copleston, Al Hooper, C. Travis, P. Funnell, R. Oostendorp, N. Dancer, A. Hooper, J. Walsh, S. Summers. Ump: D. Howard, Sc: T. Adams

3rd XI (A): vs AWE Tadley (A): A. McMahon*, O. Williams, T. Brown, C. Jackson+, C. Hadfield, M. Adams, M. Guilfoyle, J. Oostendorp, S. Reeves, J. Williams, D. Dancer. Ump: S. Williams. Sc: P. Hadfield

4th XI vs Littleton & W. Hill (H): J. Baxter*, R. Channon+, M. Roberts, T. Lucker, A. Green, D. Essex, S. Robertson, F. Andrews, O. Goss, D. O'Reilly, C. Breeze. Ump: K. Williams Sc: R. Moger

5th XI vs Penton II (H) From: P Knight, J Hadfield, R. Andrews, L. Andrews, K. Brown, A. Bryan, J. Gallon, T. Smith, S. Hodgson, E. Jackson, C. Sherlock, D. Leavesley, J. Gallon Ump: J. Bradley. Sc:

Yep, that's it for the fourteenth Saturday. Fourteen down four to go Let's hope for a good return today. All comments would be gratefully received either in writing, verbally or e-mail to info@andovercricketclub.co.uk If you've been missed off or offended you probably deserved it.

12th Man has been edited by: John Baxter. Deadline for any comments articles is the Wednesday prior to publication. For up to date news of Andover Cricket Club visit

www.andovercricketclub.co.uk

Cheers