

## Carsons & Mangotsfield CC

Weekend 14/15<sup>th</sup> May 2016

The weekend was bathed in glorious sunshine which made a pleasant change from the torrential downpours, thunder and lightning that we experienced earlier in the week.

After much heartache and time spent toing and froing I am pleased to say that the monumental efforts of our Club Captain, Alex Payne, we managed to get out both a 1<sup>st</sup> XI and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI on Saturday and a Sunday side as well.

### 1<sup>st</sup> XI v's Pak Bristolians

After winning the toss and electing to field, the two Pak Bristolian openers were very quickly despatched back to the club House. However a third wicket stand of over 50 guided the away team to three figures before a devastating spell from Jack Digby (6 overs, 1 maiden, 3 for 19) reduced the visitors to 165 all out. Other notable contributions came from Elliott Robertshaw, who was playing his first game after returning to the Club, (Welcome back Royalty Jr), returning with figures of 6.5 overs, 0 maidens, 3 for 33), and Anthony Goodwin (Gooders) who has been convinced that you are never too old if you are good enough, taking 2 catches behind the stumps.

The innings of Carsons & Mangotsfield got off to the worst start possible with the stumps of Mr Robertshaw Senior been shattered and his majesty returning to the changing rooms for 0. Mr Norris (Reverend) steadied the ship but unfortunately our middle order could not stay with him. Pak Bristolians opening bowler, Qaisar Shahbaz returning with match figures of 9 overs, 6 maidens, 5 for 5. At 76 for 7 saw the skipper stride to the crease, injured hand heavily strapped following his efforts earlier in the day when he took a wonderful catch to dismiss the opposition's main batsman. For all who were there, they witnessed what only has been described as the best innings by a Carsons & Mangotsfield batsman in many a year with glorious off drives and flicks behind square one handed. It brought back memories of Malcom Marshall striding out to bat one handed against England all those years ago. With 3 overs to go and needing 11 to win, the opposition were becoming more and more agitated until suddenly a mix up in the middle saw Alex stranded short of his crease and the game was over. So close, and yet so far. ☹

### 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v's Barrown Gurney

Having lost the toss, the 10 men of Carsons & Mangotsfield were put into bat on a track that had a good covering of grass and a lush outfield. The openers of Mark Pitt (79) and Colin Angell (46\*) started slowly but built an opening stand of 106 before the Skipper fell to a flick of his toes and was caught low down at square leg. Keven Phipps (26) confidently strode out to the middle for his first knock of the year determined to ensure that the run rate of 5 an over did not drop and went about running the legs off Colin until he was clean bowled. After our 40 overs we finished on 185 for 2. At one stage the magical 200 was on but the feeling was that with some tight bowling this was too many, as it was to be proven.

Barrow Gurney started well with an opening stand of 70 until Bernie Forge was cleaned bowled by Max Clark and the very next over saw a suicide run to the arm of Kevin Phipps who through to the wicket keepers end, right over the top of the stumps enabling Sam Wooldrige to remove the bails with the batsman still short of his ground. After 24 overs, Barrow Gurney were 116 for 3 and well placed for the final onslaught, however they hadn't banked on the mesmerising bowling of Mike Wallage (8 overs, 1 maiden, 3 for 19) and Andy Knight (8 overs, 0 maidens, 2 for 29) who restricted Barrow to 169 for 8, thereby giving Carsons & Mangotsfield a win by 16 runs. After week 2 of the season Carsons & Mangotsfield sit proudly top of the league by 1 point from Bristol Civil Service, and Portishead in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Next week sees the return of the runs machine and elected skipper Ian Rosling and we look to build on our excellent start with a home game against Old Bristol/Westbury 4<sup>th</sup> XI.

### Sunday XI v's Easton Cowboys

After a couple of late withdrawals, the dependable Alex Payne, hand still strapped and his daughter Harriet volunteered to complete the numbers so that we could field a full team. Having lost the toss and being asked to bat, we made heavy weather of the first few overs on a track which had appeared to sweat overnight whilst under the covers and which was still drying out. We lost early wickets but the dependable Madhu Prasad guided his way to 50 with some elegant shots. Controversy is not a stranger to Jack Digby having been given out caught, only to be recalled as it was subsequently deemed that the ball when struck was over waist height. He later fell to a contentious decision LBW, although he was later

seen making up with the umpire! 😊 With some quick running between Darren Shellard (44) and Sam Brayley (26), Carsons & Mangotsfield reached a respectable total of 192 all out.

Easton Cowboys started poorly with Jo Hubbard, who was playing his first game for 2 years, steaming in, clean bowling the opening batsman with an unplayable leg cutter at speed. The Cowboys looked to regroup although with the speed of Jo and the guile of Madhu from the other end, the batmen never looked comfortable. For a brief period, the Cowboys went along at 6 an over, but after being 114 for 3, they were dismissed all out for 126 with Max Clark taking 4 wickets giving him a very respectable weekend's work.

The Sunday Team sit proudly top of the League with 100% record after 3 games. Whilst it is still early in the season, the start is brilliant and long may it continue.

Next Week:-

**1<sup>st</sup> XI v's Bristol Sri Lankans – Away**

**2<sup>nd</sup> XI v's Old Bristolians Westbury 4<sup>th</sup> - Home**

**3<sup>rd</sup> XI v's Winterbourne 5<sup>th</sup> – Away**

**Sunday v's Purnell - Away**

If you are interested in Playing for Carsons & Mangotsfield then please let Alex Payne know. His contact number is 07917 126347. All ages are welcome.