

Toulouse CC vs Barmen

Sunday 3rd May

Weather: fine, light wind, 25C

Pitch: 80% grass, 20% bog (good considering)

When our venerable fixtures secretary booked this touring side for a game, I am sure he realised that rather than being in the pub trade they were all in fact barristers. I am also sure he realized that they were on the whole good cricketers, a fact that was re-enforced, like a punishing cross examination, when they beat the best team in our league, Tarn, by a ball, the day before. This stunning out of court settlement after being not many for three at one point, chasing a score of 200+ total. By the way credit should be given to Jeff, Nick and Philippe who spent a large part of their Saturday organizing the day for both Barmen and Tarn. I'll let you ask Jeff this weekend how they got on...! I also understand that Gobby never wants to see another slice of bread again, quiche from now on please skip.

Our squad included two new members Pete Tarr (Jolly Jack, every big toes nemesis) and Fergus, who played for the opposition and soon became our very own bogeyman taking 2 for 17 of his 7 overs, oh yes and a catch....his own team mates.....funny they had him fielding by the bog as well.

Anyway, two fags, skip for the day, won the toss and promptly put us in to bat, only to reap the rewards by getting out for 1 (LBW, talk us through that one Mart') as one of the opening pair. Lipster and Jolly Jack then made one of the sturdier partnerships (14 runs) before Pete was out for a swashbuckling 11, including a couple of fours. The lip then carried his bat with several batting partners to make his TCC top score of 30, during which time he attempted to emasculate himself with his own bat, before being bowled by our own green friend (.....bowled, our best batsman too.....) A period of glacial like progress ensued, with the highlight a cameo knock of 10 from the Fidget. As a result the TCC managed a miserly 84 with the second best score after Wardle brother the Elder, coming from Mr Extras, again, with 12.

It was clear from the solid and competent bowling that we could expect a similar performance with the bat. We were not disappointed, the Barmen confidently smacking anything wayward either over the bog or towards the attractive horse riding person. This said Jolly Jack bowled very well, making a strong case before the judge for all rounder status. But even this performance and the white-hot finger of Ed, could not alter the verdict, a loss by four wickets with quite a few overs to spare. The only positives to come from the game were that Fergus won't be playing for any more touring sides, and everyone was well entertained by a crippled cat at the death. As someone pointed out, "one less life" and as he pointed out "and one less toe". Lastly and more tastefully, well done to all, the teas was tops, keep it up and good luck against the Noe boys this weekend.

