

Crockham Hill/ Oxsted + Limpsfield 5th XI v ORCC 4th XI Match Report

This week saw us make the trip from Poplar road all the way through deepest darkest Surrey and into deepest darkest Kent to take on Crockham Hill AKA Oxsted & Limpsfield 5th XI. This involved a very early meet at the club and a very long drive! The team for this week involved 3 changes with Beardo, Joe Dearsley and Elliott Caffery coming in to the team replacing Padge, Callum and Eshen. This left Wrighty to don the keeping gloves for the first time in his life!

Crocksted Hill's ground was a very nice place indeed and you could tell there was money around by the Ferrari and various types of expensive looking Range Rover Sports littering the outfield.

Toss report: After examining what appeared to be a sponge, Wrighty called incorrectly and we were sent in by Oxsted Hill's skipper. (0/2)

Scutts and Beardo went out to open, and Scutts soon made his way back to the hut after one stuck in the sponge and he popped a return catch back to the bowler. Wrighty came in and this prompted Beardo to start giving the fielders catching practice along with smiting the odd boundary to keep the score ticking over. Wrighty started to get bogged down by one of the openers and after playing a few very straight drives back at the non-strikers end stumps, was caught at point after aiming a booming drive through the covers. Beardo continued to provide catching practice for the fielders, and along with JD advanced the score until Beardo's luck eventually ran out and was caught for an entertaining 40. Sumair came and went, then Stu and Joe started to put the foot down and accelerate the scoring against some average bowling. JD finally fell for a well made 27 after a couple of maximums. Marshy hung around with Stu before being bowled, then after a late flurry of boundaries from Elliot and Mo, we declared on 200 – 8 with Stu being left stranded on 47*

This week's wagon wheel...



Tea was alright, a little fancy in some places, but very nice nonetheless!

After Wrighty's team talk of make the batsmen play at everything, (Certain bowlers took this to heart more than others... Marshy!) Rob Lewsey bowled an excellent opening spell, removing one of the openers. He was ably assisted by Mo, who bowled with a maturity beyond his tender years (even though he was whinging about having to bowl uphill!) and went unrewarded in a deserving opening spell. Tony came on and was almost immediately rewarded with the wicket of Crockham + Limpsfield's number 3, who skied a catch for Wrighty to comfortably take. The catching bug seemed to have spread as the other opener was dropped several times, as was the number 4. Elliott finally

accounted for the other opener with a brute of an inswinger, but the number 4 who was dropped by Wrighty on 5 and several more times before he reached 30 took a liking to Marshy after the drinks break, dispatching him for a few big maximums. Scutts also felt the same treatment. Eventually, the return of Rob Lewsey accounted for him, bowled for 91, but by then the damage had been done. Mo finally took a well deserved wicket after some tight death bowling, and Rob claimed another scalp. Despite the late wobble, the damage was already done and Oxsted, Limpsfield and Crockham Hill crossed the line with 3 wickets and 10 balls remaining.

The batting and bowling (bar a few notable exceptions... Marshy!) were brilliant but the catching or lack of ultimately let us down.

Next week sees the visit of Streatham & Marlborough to Nursery Road