

While 17,000 basked in sunshine at Edgbaston, a crowd of 2 settled down into the late evening sunshine at LCCC to watch battle commence against our only vanquished team of the year. I quickly established that the other member of the crowd was in fact the lady who kindly drove Marcos to hospital after he got hit by a ball and Winfield subsequently broke his finger 2 years ago. Those of us present on Tuesday evening in Glenno's garden were able to deduce (perhaps from a smidge too much information) that said finger is now fixed and fully operational.

I sat back to enjoy the evening's entertainment, surrounded by tress and meadows, rich with the scent of freshly cut grass...

I was awoken from a brief slumber to find that someone had won the toss and the SADS were bowling. More to the point, Churchy was bowling wearing a jumper one would guess was from his school days. Maybe that was just when it was last washed.

WG opened from the pavilion end and induced a false shot second ball with a shot that skied over Busted's head. Scampering in his new post GlamRock look, Busted was able to pull the ball up inches from the boundary.

Not 2 balls later a further false shot saw an aerial drive heading towards mid off. "Money's on the ball" came the shout and not since I put £5 on Liverpool in the 1988 FA Cup final have I been so certain about anything. But again I was wrong. Using experience gained from his time in the parachute regiment, Col Jones (retired) tumbled gracefully forwards and clung onto a marvellous catch. First blood to the SADS, and the batsman left the field chuntering. It then dawned on me that the Oppo had rather forgotten that I was present, an experience I am not totally unfamiliar with in my domestic life apart from the odd requests for money and lifts. As such I was able to overhear a number "observations" on our bowling and fielding and with it being exam week in our household, I thought I'd include a short quiz for you.

1. Which SADS player thought it was a good idea to "watch" the solar eclipse earlier in the day, therefore making it difficult to catch a ball coming to him on the boundary?
 - s) Bondy
 - t) WG
 - u) Paggers
2. What happened immediately after the Oppo captain said: "A couple of their guys look quite useful in the field?"
 - a. Matt let a ball through his legs for 4
 - b. I fell off my chair
 - c. a) & b)
3. Jones's Pies seemed to have changed this year.
 - b) He's putting them in the oven at a lower temperature
 - c) He's using vegan ingredients

- d) He's bowling slower and flatter.
4. Which bowler were the Oppo talking about when they said: "He's a bit tricky that chap. Quite slinging. Probably chucking it"
- q) Clampers
- r) Dennis
- s) Busted.

Answers at the end of class.

All in all, a very tidy bowling performance. WG finishing with 2- 8, Clampers 1-17, CRS 1-17 and Busted 1-8 with Fishers scoring 113.

At the interval between innings, Bursar Col Jones (para, retired ,BAR) presented me with a red exercise book and suggested that I might like to spend the evening doing double maths in the scoring room. Fortunately, calculators were allowed and I was able to show my working on a regular basis. For the first 4 overs, not much calculator work was required to be honest as we limped towards 11 off 4 overs for the loss of Dennis "Dennis" Lillee and Matt to some tidy Fishers opening bowling. The scoring room was hardly a den of activity for the next 3 overs either as Wilsers and Church edged towards 20 off 7. Wilsers found some decent rhythm, striking confident 1s and 2s with the occasional 4. Churchy too found some form in his last game before he goes to be studied by medicine. With a number of lusty blows and two towering sixes Churchy retired to warm applause. Having moved the score on to 84 off 14 overs, the SADS were scenting another Fishers victory. "Can we play you every week?" came the chant. Perhaps this would be necessary to reverse our fortunes. Next up was Busted – again with a swagger in his post Glitter style – and kept the runs flowing until getting a good one from their returning bowler, departing for 12. Bondy, with eyesight returning from earlier views of the ring of fire, started as nervously as man who has scored 14 runs in the past 3 seasons. But with the running ability of a gazelle – or just running ability – was able to keep up with the required rate and we reached 97 off 17 overs. At the other end wickets were tumbling. Jonesy may be a useful parachutist but with his feet on the ground he found it difficult to get back for Bondy's early call of "2 Michael!". Paggers looked as elegant as ever but was bowled by a good one from the opener and Clampers got a decent one that nipped away and he was caught behind.

Cometh the hour, in strode WG. Promoting himself above CRS and with 9 needed from 2 overs, he set about creating confusion amongst the fielding team with idiosyncratic calling and running. This left us needing 3 off the last over. 2 tight balls, one scrambled single, 2 more tight balls. 2 required off the last ball. One scrambled single left the scores level! With no appetite for a super over, we retired to the bar, happy to remain unbeaten by Fishers this season.

Thanks to the classroom support from Bondy, Busted and Paggers. A most enjoyable evening's viewing.