



Wilson's XI v Lulworth Estate XI

With the sea mist rolling in the Wilsons 1st XI took to the field having lost the toss. The side turned to Torsten White and Mike Ellis to open up the bowling. The going was tough with the two Lulworth openers scoring well despite a slow outfield and some fantastic variation from the two opening bowlers. Torsten finally made a breakthrough with a slower ball, which was brilliantly taken in the covers. Each of the opening bowlers, having had two overs each, were replaced by Luke Mowbray and Ben Thornton.

The Lulworth batsmen persisted, but Ben made easy work of the Lulworth's number 3 with a screamer that went between bat and pad and dismantled the bails. Lulworth's star player was next in, but Luke made short work of him getting him out for a golden duck, bowling a yorker which Lulworth batsman tried to play over the top of Ben Thornton who was standing at short mid-on. Ben sprinted round to his right and took the most tremendous diving catch taking the ball with one hand over his right shoulder. Lulworth then started to create a partnership, often hitting the ball out to long-on, where Belinda Watson was fielding, who had an absolute rocket for an arm and managed to restrain the batting attack. One of the Lulworth batsmen, having made 25, retired from the game.

Harry Hughes-Davies then came onto bowl, who tossed the ball up, whereupon the Lulworth player absolutely connected with the ball, luckily Harry caught it as he would have required some pretty hefty dental work, taking his first wicket on debut in the process. The bowlers then rotated in the same sequence, with Torsten removing another Lulworth bowler with a piece of wizardry before, unfortunately, dropping an absolute dolly of a catch at mid-off off of Mike's bowling. Luke Mowbray came onto bowl and, with a peach of a slower ball, wrong-footed the Lulworth batsmen into playing the early, the ball popped up, which Luke snaffled with ease. The batsmen, with only a few overs left to score went onto the attack, which resulted in some superb pieces of fielding from both Ben Smith and Hen Watson, they both put their bodies on the line, sliding this way and that in order to cut the ball off before it crossed the boundary rope, saving fours left right and centre, much to the appreciation of the bowlers. Tim Olliff-Lee was solid as a rock behind the stumps, he had the glove-work of Gilchrist and sledging that he would have been proud of too. Harry then returned to the bowling attack to remove the final scalp of the game, with an absolute jaffa of a ball which just clipped the off stump. At the end of the innings Lulworth estate had made a respectable 114 for 7.

The Wilsons XI got off to a rocky start when Harry was dismissed for the third ball of the game with a ball that turned sharply off the turf, but Luke, who was the next player in, managed to create a fantastic partnership with Tim. The pair scored freely, Tim especially by showing all the many shots in his locker, hitting the ball around the park. Luke, facing some particularly vicious bowling, managed to rock back smashed the ball over square leg for the only six of the game, to loud whoops and cheers from the large crowd that had gathered to watch the two players bat. Unfortunately the partnership came to the end when Tim was bowled by a ball that kept low, having hit a foot hole. Torsten then took to the field for a lively but short-lived cameo, after he too was bowled.

Ben Thornton came in at 5 only to receive a brutal delivery which meant he played onto his stumps for a golden duck meaning that the Lulworth bowler was on a hat-trick. Mike walked out to the crease with pressure on his shoulders, the Lulworth crowd that had only gotten louder and



more numerous, was baying for blood, but Mike managed to shrug this off and saw off the rest of the over. Unfortunately, our star batsmen, Luke, was dismissed when an inside edge sent the ball into the bails, and this brought in Ben Smith on his debut for Wilson's. Ben and Mike played well defending the rapid Lulworth attack with the style reminiscent to a young Boycott, when unfortunately a dodgy bounce ended Mike's innings. Hen was next to the crease, raring to go, she managed to find the gaps in the field, playing and frustrating the fielders as though she was a puppet master and made a quick 5 runs. Unfortunately, she too was bowled, which meant that Belinda strode out to the middle. Her stroke play was Gower-esque in its fluency, playing straight and true, but she too was bowled after a lively innings. Wilson's were fortunate enough to enlist the services of two youngsters in the crowd as ringers after Ben Smith's imperious innings came to an end. Although the ringers managed to take the fight to the Lulworth bowlers it wasn't long until they too succumbed. Unfortunately, Wilson's were 49 all out and had lost the match.

If you would like to join the cricket team for the next game, please do get in touch with any of the current 1st XI.

Written by Harry Hughes-Davies