

Gentlemen of West London v. Ottershaw

Sunday 26 June, Old Tenisonians. Gents won toss. Sunny, 21C

Won by 115 runs

Gentlemen of West London			Ottershaw				
*H. Patel	c Halstead	b T. Chaudhry	1	Ramasamy	c Sudireddy	b Gulati	4
Namilikonda	c Toop	b R. Timizi	40	*†Halstead	c S. Patel	b Gulati	31
Kota	run out		123	O. Timizi	st Sudireddy	b H. Patel	43
†Sudireddy		b R. Timizi	2	O. Chaudhry		b Gulati	0
R. Patel	c Kanuri	b O. Timizi	33	Ahmed		b H. Patel	20
S. Patel		b T. Chaudhry	0	Kannuri	c Namilikonda	b H. Patel	0
Pingili	c Halstead	b T. Chaudhry	7	Mahesh	c Sudireddy	b H. Patel	3
Puli	run out		15	Stapleton	not out		10
Tanniru	c Ahmed	b O. Timizi	10	T. Chaudhry		b H. Patel	0
Gulati	not out		7	R. Timizi	c and	b S. Patel	13
Krishna	not out		0	Toop	run out (Puli)		0
Extras	w5 nb3 b3 lb1		12	Extras	w3 nb4 b3 lb1		11
Total	9 wickets	40 overs	250	Total	All out	27.3 overs	135
FoW: 8, 77, 85, 200, 210, 218, 241, 250				FoW: 5, 57, 57, 99, 99, 109, 112, 118, 135, 135			
Bowling: T. Chaudhry 8-0-60-3, Ahmed 8-0-33-0, R. Timizi 7-0-39-2, Toop 4-0-36-0, Halstead 2-0-8-0, Kanuri 3-0-32-0, Stapleton 4-0-30-0, O. Timizi 4-0-8-2				Bowling: Krishna 4-0-27-0, Gulati 6-0-16-3, Tanniru 4-0-42-0, Pingili 4-0-16-0, H. Patel 4-0-8-5, Puli 2-0-11-0, S. Patel 2-0-10-1, R. Patel 1.3-0-1-0			

The Gents welcomed Ottershaw to our favoured home ground for what was a wonderful game of cricket played in good spirit, **writes Hemin Patel**. The ground was immaculate, the groundsman had prepared a glorious batting wicket and once Gents' skipper and his helpers had moved the boundaries we were ready for battle. Hemin had subbed in Gents' vice-captain Ratti to go for the toss due to his luck in gambling and he did not disappoint, won it and elected to bat. Hemin and Srini opened the batting against world-class swing bowling with both batsmen struggling to time the ball. A few overs in, Hemin made a match-winning decision and selflessly got out, edging behind, to get Gents' superstar Pavan into bat, as he knew that he would not disappoint and score yet another 100.

Srini and Pavan took the attack to the bowlers scoring at ease and putting the pressure back on them. Srini was then caught and with Ratti bowled soon after, in came the under-pressure, double golden-duck superstar Raj. Could Raj survive at least one ball? Yes he could, met with cheers from the bench and the umpires. Raj soon got into the groove and his confidence grew. A strong partnership with Pavan of 115 ensured that the run-rate was high and increased the momentum. Pavan was at his fluent best and to his surprise brought up his third ton of the year and looked like he would beat the club's highest individual score of 158. The Gents continued to score freely and as wickets fell each batsmen did his best to keep the runs ticking along. Gents ended on 250-9 and felt confident going into the break.

Vamsee and Bobby opened the bowling and an angry Bobby, who was not invited to Amsterdam by his friend, took it out on the batsmen and was aggressive and accurate. His consistency soon earned him his first wicket of Shan Ramasamy, caught behind. Sanjay took a clinical fumbling catch to give Bobby his second and shortly after he cleaned bowled Omar Chaudhry. With three wickets falling, the skipper felt confident we would secure victory easily, but brilliant batting from Omar Tirmizi and Sarosh Ahmed soon quietened the Gents, both batsmen using the pace of the bowlers to score quickly and effectively. The skipper decided this was the time to take the pace off the ball, thought world-class spin bowling the way to go and bought himself on: a decision that changed the course of the game. Aiming for the rough outside the off stump Hemin was in the groove straight away bowling Sarosh Ahmed. The ball turned a mile! He then had the wicket of Kannuri, neatly caught by Srini. Then it was the key wicket of Omar Tirmizi, a ball that can only be described as the ball of the day. Flight and guile confused the batsman who ran past it and Ratti neatly took off the bails. With a five-for in sight the skipper ignored the will of the team to take a breather and took two further wickets. Some would say this is probably the best spell of bowling the Gents have ever seen and the writer has no grounds to disagree. Old-timer Sanjay then took a clean caught and bowled and superstar fielder Chandra, who had been excellent all day, ran out Toop to secure the victory. Overall a great game of cricket, with standout performances from Pavan, Raj, Srini and Chandra but Hemin Patel outshone them all.

