

HURLEY v Fleet Street Strollers**Date: 18th Sept.****Played at Hurley****Innings of Hurley**

S. Kayani		b. Hodgson	3
P. Ridgeway	c. &	b. Ovenden	7
Steve Taylor	LBW	b. Hodgson	40
C. Williams	c. Hodgson	b. Brodbeck	27
S. Riaz	c. Addis	b. Brodbeck	0
A. Morgans	LBW	b. Hodgson	0
M. Walton		b. Allsopp	9
M. Basharat	c. Ball	b. Brodbeck	0
M. Hampton	c. Brodbeck	b. Turner	51
A. Allen	Not out		20
Scott Taylor	Not out		3
		Extras	20
		Total	180
		For	9

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
P. Ovenden	13	1	33	1
J. Hodgson	15	2	44	3
S. Brodbeck	11	1	42	3
L. Allsopp	5	0	21	1
J. Turner	4	0	36	1

Innings of Fleet Street Strollers

H. McDougall		b. Riaz	37
M. Jones	c. Morgans	b. Ridgeway	1
J. Addis	c. Basharat	b. Ridgeway	46
D. Boyle		b. Riaz	9
P. Ovenden	c. Walton	b. Steve Taylor	41
J. Ball		b. Riaz	7
J. Hodgson	Not out		14
P. Patston	c. Walton	b. Steve Taylor	0
J. Turner		b. Riaz	5
S. Brodbeck	Not out		0
		Extras	18
		Total	178
		For	8

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
P. Ridgeway	14	3	36	2
S. Riaz	15	1	73	4
M. Basharat	6	1	28	0
Scott Taylor	4	0	20	0
Steve Taylor	3	0	10	2

Result: Match drawn.

After their drawn match on Saturday, Hurley and Fleet Street Strollers rejoined battle at Shepherds Lane on Sunday in what turned out to be a thrilling encounter, with the result in doubt until the final ball. The home side won the toss and opted to bat first but struggled to make headway. Both openers were back in the hutch inside 9 overs with only 18 runs on the board. Steve Taylor (40) and Clive Williams (27) steadied the ship with a partnership of 53 for the third wicket before the loss of Williams to Simon Brodbeck precipitated a middle order collapse as Hurley slumped to 88 for 7, with Riaz, Morgans and Basharat all failing to trouble the scorers. When Mike Walton (9) was bowled by Allsopp things looked bleak for Hurley at 102 for 8, but skipper Matt Hampton took the bull by the horns and butchered the bowling of Brodbeck and Turner on his way to a half century from 45 deliveries, ably supported by Amy Allen (20*), Hampton hit some meaty blows to make mince meat of Turner's figures. Hampton was eventually undone by a high full toss from Turner which he could only lob to Brodbeck at fine leg. Allen and Scott Taylor (3*) added another ten runs before a declaration on 180 for 8.

Hurley opted to open the bowling with the pace of Shobab Riaz and left arm spin of Phil Ridgeway and it was Ridgeway who made the early breakthrough. Jones got a leading edge which was well caught by Alan Morgans at mid-on. Hamish McDougall

(37) and Jono Addis (46) battled hard to survive against Riaz as he worked up to his full pace, with both batsmen putting their bodies on the line. As the match entered the last 20 overs, it was finely balanced with 110 runs required. Ridgeway bowled with great control and got the vital wicket of Addis with a flighted delivery which found the leading edge as the batsman advanced down the wicket, which flew to Basharat. Riaz was recalled to the attack and his pace proved too much for Boyle who saw his middle stump ripped out of the ground. Piers Ovenden (41) and McDougall edged the Strollers ever nearer to victory and when Mc Dougall's two hour vigil at the crease was ended by Riaz, 51 runs were needed from 8 overs. Steve Taylor replaced Ridgeway at the Thames end and struck in his second over with the vital wicket of Ovenden, toe ending a wide delivery to the keeper. Patston only lasted two deliveries before trying to pull Taylor, the ball looped up on the leg side and Walton dived forward to claim the catch which was turned down by the umpire, only for the batsman to sportingly walk off admitting that the ball had flicked his glove. With three wickets and three overs remaining, eighteen runs were still required for victory. Hodgson chanced his arm and managed to pick up eight runs off Riaz, leaving ten required from the final dozen deliveries. Five dot balls from Taylor increased the pressure on the batsmen, but his final delivery was a full toss which Turner put away for a boundary. With six required and Hodgson on strike, the final over was entrusted to Riaz and he did not disappoint, a bye and two singles from the first three deliveries was followed by the wicket of Turner, leaving Brodbeck requiring three to win from the final delivery which he was unable to get a bat on. A thrilling way to end the season at Shepherds Lane, with both teams having contributed to an exciting game of cricket.