



End of Season roundup

With the incorporation of the Broadland Youth Cricket League into the competition, it was a record entry of 61 teams that took to the field for the tenth season of the South Norfolk Community League.

In a much enlarged U9 league, Topcroft and Brooke were the most successful teams early on with a late surge from Gt. Melton. But it was Topcroft, winning all of their games, who carried off the silverware with Brooke second and Gt.Melton third.

The U11 Leagues demonstrated how much this age group has matured with the pairs format long since abandoned. The Barnard League witnessed the closest of finishes with Garboldisham top, Hethersett & Tas Valley second and Old Buckenham third. In the Tungate League it was again Topcroft's year with Mattishall and Lowestoft Town close behind.

There was less doubt about the destination of the U13 trophies as in the South Breckland League Rocklands swept all before them in an unbeaten run. There was plenty of intense competition behind them and it was Gt.Melton and Gt.Ellingham who filled the second and third spots. Similarly in the Whetman League, Norwich won all of their games to top the table by a substantial margin from Hethersett and Tas Valley and, tied for third place, Acle and Topcroft.

The U15 leagues witnessed some outstanding cricket over our short summer and it was new team Acle who carried off the spoils in the Blue group with Norwich runners up and Horsford third. But it was to be Rocklands year as they impressed again in the Green League, losing only a single game with Garboldisham and Bradenham hot on their heels.

There was plenty of disruption in the U17 League and this competition really only got going late in the summer. Despite this, most teams managed to complete their required fixtures. In the end the result was very close with Mattishall winning by the narrowest of margins followed by Old Buckenham and Cringleford Lodge. Hethersett and Tas Valley performed impressively but unfortunately were unable to complete sufficient games to be included in the final tables.

A brand new event, The RCP Carnival Cup, rounded off the season with the top two teams from each league taking part in this invitation tournament with three days of cricket hosted at Garboldisham CC. On Tuesday Garboldisham U15s triumphed in the final against Norwich while on the U13 day Rocklands underlined their dominance of this age group with a comfortable win over Gt.Melton. Garboldisham have been the team to beat at U11 and as we wrapped up the year they showed their supremacy again as they overcame Topcroft in the last match of the summer.

With compulsory retirement now in place for batsmen in all but the U17 league, won by Zak Fisher of Mattishall with the only century (102no v Diss) there were only best bowling awards on offer and these went to U9 Lewis Reeder of Topcroft (4 for 1 v Gt.Melton), U11 Daniel Worby of Garboldisham (4 for 1 v Mundford), U13 D.Eke of Rocklands (4 for 2 v Gt.Ellingham), U15 Jed Bilverstone of Gt.Ellingham (4 for 2 v Garboldisham) and U17 Toby Culling of Garboldisham (6 for 9 v Mattishall), the first ever six wicket haul in the ten year history of the competition.

Joe Harris September 10th 2016

RCP Carnival Cup Day 3 – U11

Match 1 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Topcroft

Good contributions from the top three Thorndyk (33no), Hayes 25 and Robertson (20) got the ball rolling for Tas but the rate slowed as the innings moved towards its close and Topcroft got into their groove with both bowling and fielding. Only 20 runs were added from the last five overs as Tas set their opponents 102. Pick of Topcroft's attack was Lewis Reeder and Sparrow whose six combined overs went for only 21 runs.

Topcroft were below strength with the Suffolk schools returning early and lost Sparrow early before White (21) and Reeder (33no) added 55 including a prodigious 27 from their first power play. Tas rather struggled with their line and length and Topcroft reached the total with nearly four overs to spare.

Hethersett & Tas Valley 102 for 2.

Topcroft 103 for 2.

Topcroft won by 6 wickets.

Match 2 Mattishall v Garboldisham

Stoltz (30no) provided the backbone of Mattishall's innings but there was little support from the others, the final total of 91 owing much to Garby's generous contribution of 46 extras.

Garboldisham were in imperious form and although Mattishall took five wickets with a well balanced performance, the result of the game was never really in any doubt as Harte (15), Whittam (26) and Skilleter (25) guided the home team to victory in the penultimate over.

Mattishall 91 for 5.

Garboldisham 92 for 5.

Garboldisham won by 3 wickets.

3rd/4th Playoff

In the playoff game v Mattishall, Tas still seemed rather out of sorts and were unable again to capitalise on a good start to their innings. Hayes (26) and Worley (22) both batted well but despite plenty of wickets in hand the last five overs were disappointing, delivering just 25.

There were no such problems for Mattishall with all four who batted (Stoltz 25, Lake 22no, Braybrooke 15 and Tillcock 12no) chipping in decent contributions as they reached the target in the thirteenth over.

Hethersett & Tas Valley 110 for 2.

Mattishall 113 for 2.

Mattishall won by 6 wickets.

Final Garboldisham v Topcroft

Harte (9) went fairly quickly before a partnership of 45 between Whitlam (29) and Aldous (21) set Garboldisham on their way. Topcroft bowled well but were hampered at times by some inattentive fielding. However, restricting the home side to just 103 with only 14 extras was a creditable achievement for this scratch team.

With Pywell and White both quickly back in the pavilion a rout looked possible but a masterly knock from Emms (28) restored some faith although with only 30 on the board at the halfway stage the result looked clear and increasingly unlikely that Topcroft could bat out their overs. But small contributions from the others enabled them to reach 8s before their last wicket fell with 2 balls remaining, a plucky performance.

Garboldisham 103 for 5.

Topcroft 83 all out.

Garboldisham won by 20 runs.

1st. Garboldisham. 2nd. Topcroft. 3rd. Mattishall. 4th. Hethersett & Tas Valley.

Congratulations to Garboldisham on their Cup and League wins and to all clubs, managers, parents and helpers, along with Garboldisham, who made this such a successful first event.

JH September 3rd 2016

RCP Carnival Cup – Day 2

U13s Sparkle in the sun.

Day two and it was the u13s turn to strut their stuff as the sun beat down on another glorious late summer's day.

Some of this reporting is extremely truncated as all of the scorebook photos were corrupted and only partially recovered but in Match one Gt.Melton saw off a strong challenge from Norwich in a close run game.

On the other pitch, Tas Valley were facing League champions Rocklands, who delivered a cracking first wicket partnership of 71 with Thresh (42no) and Eke (40no) leading the way. With these two retired, although the tempo slowed, significant contributions from Hood (22no) and Crosswaite (12no) carried Rocklands to an impressive 140 for the loss of a single wicket.

Tas replied in spirited style but it was slow going at the start. Way (26), Gibson (18) and Birch (26) all made decent contributions but they were always behind the rate and their dash for runs later in the innings came at a price as they were bowled out for 122.

Rocklands 140 for 1.

Hethersett & Tas Valley 122 all out.

Rocklands won by 7 wickets.

After another restorative lunch, Tas took on Norwich for the 3rd/4th place playoff, a match in which Tas made 144, the highest of the day.

Norwich were more measured in their approach here and came to the last over needing 14. On Tuesday their U15s plundered 13 off five balls against Rocklands but they could not replicate the achievement here and finished just a handful of runs short.

In an exciting final watched by a large crowd, Rocklands, having already won the league, were effectively playing for the double. Batting first, and spurred on again by the rock solid Thresh (41no), they set a blistering pace. Melton bowled and fielded with real determination but strong efforts from all of Rocklands' batsmen (Eke 20, Hood 37no) made this a real team effort and, despite losing wickets, they retained considerable momentum. The rate slowed towards the end but the final total of 134 would prove a testing one.

Melton batted elegantly in their reply and it was beautiful to watch these young batsmen in action. But they demonstrated little sense of urgency in the early overs. Kannan (41no) and Green (42no) were an absolute joy but at the halfway mark only 49 was on the board and once these two had retired no other reached double figures. The 40 needed off the last two overs was just too much, even with the final power play, and they were bowled out 22 short.

Rocklands 134 for 2.
Gt.Melton 112 all out.
Rocklands won by 22 runs.

1st. Rocklands. 2nd. Gt.Melton. 3rd. Hethersett & Tas Valley. 4th. Norwich

Many congratulations to Rocklands who were presented with their medals by Richard Jefferson who has done so much for Youth Cricket in the past. And thanks again to Garboldisham CC for their consummate hospitality.

JH September 3rd 2016

2016 Cringleford Report Round-up

... with the Cringleford U17 squad mainly composed of U16s this late week of cricket seemed a welcome distraction to those awaiting GCSE results with some potentially wondering what difference that hour, day, week or month of revision missed along the way would have made but thankfully no one was left wondering what difference revision would have made.

Those familiar with playing at this time of year will understand the differences in light to that of June and July.... so important to get those games underway at 5:30pm and concluded before 7:45pm. In practice though with teams having to travel more than 30 minutes and with most team support shackled to work-stations until 5pm... getting the game started much before 6pm has been an aspiration rather than the reality.

Monday 22 August v TAS

On a late Summer's evening the small Cringleford contingent travelled 8 miles to soak up the last of the day's sunshine in the picturesque Tas valley with the visitors preference for rugs and sunglasses in an elevated position afforded by the top of the batter.

The out of form Cringleford batsmen batted first and whilst able to spot the ball were unable to find the gaps and succumbed to three catches and one run out to post a meagre 90 with four wickets gone and deliveries faced from all seven Tas field players such is the depth of their bowling or the confidence of their Captain.

Suitably refreshed Cringleford took to the field to see if they could find an early breakthrough yet knowing that it might all be over in twelve overs. The first pair bowled four overs and with 30 on the board it seemed like the game might finish even sooner and then the fifth over brought a nice caught and bowled and the sixth a fine catch on the boundary by Duffy but with 46 on the board the game was gone and the right time to share the remaining overs fairly... just as well because the total was overhauled before the tenth.

None of the bowling performances from either team was especially memorable but of the Tas batsmen Clarke was 50 not out and the sizable Matthews looked powerful.

Tuesday 23 August v Diss

Cringleford welcomed the 22 mile travelling Diss on yet another sunny evening with both teams fielding understrength teams; a common feature of playing in August. Diss batted first and the board ticked over at a fairly consistent 5 or 6 per over to finish all out on 98. The wickets taken seemed to be spread fairly evenly amongst the six bowlers.... of the batsmen Young looked assured and was unlucky to be caught on 36; Heaton (J) posted a strong 19 but the nature of the run-out would have made the car journey home somewhat uncomfortable for one passenger... with older sibling Heaton (A) standing resolute and returning younger 'J' for the equivalent of an early shower in seventies vernacular. Calling is so important in cricket.

Cringleford batted well enough for the loss of three wickets to overhaul the total in the twelfth over with the light starting to fade. Pick of the batsmen, Sharpe looking solid on 38 not out.

Wednesday 24 August v Garboldisham

Cringleford travelled the 23 miles to The Langley home to one of the best wickets we would play on this season and with over 150 years of cricketing history countless others have enjoyed that same pleasure too. Happily the bar was all primed for their beer festival but sadly the cask ales still being conditioned and as yet... untapped; that pleasure awaited others but not those tonight.

Keen to get the game underway by 5:45pm the team of seven from Cringleford arrived at 5:30pm to find the Home team making good use of the splendid net facility and in no rush to start the game...what about the light boys?.

Garby batted first and the scoreboard moved quickly but Baker (29) and Culling (12) fell early to the determine six fielders; Southgate put on a decent 47 and the team finished on a challenging 141.

The Cringleford batsmen took to the field to await the Garby fielders lingered somewhat in the kitchen with the Sun falling quickly. The opening batsmen of Duffy (60) and Singh (43) put on a fist wicket partnership of 116 with four overs to come.. at times like these the game can go either way but with two balls to go it would be Cringleford that triumphed and Garby may reflect on the fading light and whether that favours the batting or the fielding side. That kind of debate could last all evening in a well-stocked cask conditioned bar... but not tonight.

Tonight's match was the last SNCL for Josh Bunn and Toby Batchelor by virtue of age and we encourage them to continue playing and supporting club cricket.

Tim Duffy September 3rd 2016

RCP Carnival Cup Day 1 - U15

Match 1 Acle v Garboldisham

Winners of the U15 Blue League, Acle, were no match today for Garboldisham, fresh from their Junior Alliance victory. Put into bat after losing the toss, Acle lost quick wickets with Adams (3), Blazer (11), Chakrabat (2) back in the pavilion rather too soon. A really low score looked possible before a knock of 30 off twenty balls from Wright, well supported by Littlewood (11) put some gloss on the scorecard as they totalled 81 off 13.3 overs.

Garby though, fancied putting their feet up for a while as the sun poured down on this beautiful ground. Culling (35no) and Southgate (43 no) made short work of gathering the required runs in a little over five overs.

Acle 81 off 13.3 overs.

Garboldisham 82 for 0 off 5.4 overs

Garboldisham won by 7 wickets.

Match 2 Rocklands v Norwich

Andrew Thresh led the way with an unbeaten 53 as Rocklands powered their way to 123. He was short of support though with only Coates (19) and Taylor (10) reaching double figures. Brister was the most economical of the bowlers for Norwich conceding a miserly ten runs off his three overs as Rocklands finished on 123 for 5.

Norwich were always behind the required rate in their innings despite substantial contributions of 49 from Bowman and 51 no from Lake, and with thirteen required off the last six balls it was surely Rocklands' game. But some below par fielding combined with interesting field placings enabled Norwich to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat with one ball to spare.

Rocklands 123 for 5 16 overs.

Norwich 125 for 4 15.5 overs.

Norwich won by 3 wickets.

Match 3 Rocklands v Acle 3rd/4th playoff

Acle delivered little of the help yourself bowling they had served up to Garboldisham in the morning and Rocklands really struggled to generate any real momentum. There was a decent stand of 50 for the second wicket with Thresh (35) the top scorer and Taylor (15) chipping in, but there was little in reserve after this as Rocklands finished on 83 for 5.

Acle at least had the decency to take a little more time than Garboldisham had in the morning before overhauling the modest total. Knocks of 38no by Hastings, 24no by Gooch and 11 from Bangy were enough to secure third place in nine overs.

Rocklands 83 for 5 off 16 overs.

Acle 90 for 1 off 9 overs.

Acle won by 6 wickets.

Match 4 Garboldisham v Norwich

We were all waiting for a thriller – and this was it. Garboldisham lost the dangerous Culling (14) early and shortly after Johnson (1) but Southgate (46) and Hart (26) added 55 aided by some excellent running between the wickets. By the end of the tenth

over Garby had 99 on the board and a huge total looked possible, but Norwich stuck to their task taking wickets whenever they looked like being completely overwhelmed. In the end just 42 came from the last six overs.

Garboldisham bowled and fielded with real commitment and it was clear that the pairing of Bowman (29) and Lake (53no) was going to be crucial and, although they were always behind the rate, the possibility of an upset was always there. Norwich saved their second power play until the penultimate over still needing 24. Although they scored twelve from this, it was not enough as they bravely finished 7 runs short leaving Garboldisham to lift the inaugural RCP Carnival Cup Trophy in an exciting finish that delivered some sumptuous youth cricket to end the day.

Garboldisham 141 for 6 off 16 overs.

Norwich 134 for 8 off 16 overs.

Garboldisham won by 1 wicket.

Final standings: 1st. Garboldisham, 2nd. Norwich 3rd. Acle 4th. Rocklands

Many thanks to all of the teams and their managers/coaches who attended and to Garboldisham for their wonderful hospitality on this inaugural Carnival Day.

JH August 31st 2016

U13 Gt.Melton v Rocklands

Rocklands won with 2 balls to spare after an excellent run chase led by Andrew Thresh who hit 40 off the first 6 overs. Luke Webster and then Alastair Hood then took advantage of some indifferent Melton bowling to continue the momentum, leaving Rocklands to score 4 to win off Charlie Green's last over. A single was followed by two dots before Ralph Garrod dispatched the ball for four to ensure Rocklands preserved their unbeaten SNCL record. Ethan Rushton with 2-15 in his 3 overs was Melton's best bowler.

Earlier Saxon Earley (21) and Lohit Kannan (23) got the Melton innings off to a good start with a partnership of 54 in 7.1 overs before Saxon became the first of 6 run outs. Sam Johnson (22), Olly Black (12) and James Bridges (10) also made significant contributions to Melton's total of 117. A great one-handed catch by Garrod to dismiss Johnson was the only Melton wicket credited to a bowler - Flynn Crosswaite.

After defeat in yesterday's Alliance Alan Bridgewater Final there was a distinct end-of-season complacency in Melton's performance and Rocklands fully deserved their victory - a rare one over Melton at this age group.

Steve Phoenix August 24th 2016

U13 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Gt.Melton Girls

Gt Melton Girls won the toss and elected to field first.

Tas openers Ben Harvey and Hal Worley strode confidently to the crease only for the usually rock solid Ben to be returned just 3 balls into the innings by a super length delivery from girl's Captain, Caitlin Ellis. 0-1, not a good start. Tas Captain Jack Gibson came in at no 3 and, together with Hal, set about restoring Tas' fortunes, taking the score to 74 by the 10th over with a variety of well timed and placed shots punctuated with several 4's apiece.

The Girls team had been 3 short and so the team was supplemented by Ethan Ellis (Caitlin's younger brother, an U9) and 2 Tas spectators, Toby and Sophie. Sophie bowled very well for the visitors and in her 2nd over clean bowled Hal (19), again with a great length ball. 74-2.

Senuja Jayakody at no 3 looked confident as he walked onto the field and proceeded to hit a 6 and a 4 with his first 2 balls. He and Jack pushed the score along quickly in the next 4 overs until Jack retired on 42* in the 13th over. Senuja was joined at the crease by Billy Gibson, who was trapped LBW after just 3 balls by Alice Greenslade. 120-3. Jake Groves joined Senuja and together they batted out the remaining 2.5 overs hitting the ball well and making quick singles with good calling and backing up. Tas finished on 136 for 3. Senuja finished on 25*, Jake on 6*.

With signs of the light beginning to fade Caitlin and Megan Ellse opened the batting for Melton. Will Worley for Tas opened with a couple of uncharacteristic loose balls, the first a high no ball which Caitlin took at head height and smashed away for 4. Great shot! Ending the first over on 12 for no loss, the chase looked on as the girls batted confidently together, taking quick singles along the way. Will Robertson in his first over checked their scoring with some accurate bowling and then Will W returning for his 2nd over, rediscovered his usual rhythm and line bowling Megan with his 2nd ball. 17-1.

Will R's 2nd over took Caitlin LBW (10) on the first ball and young U9 Jess Ellse (0) on the 2nd ball With Alice Greenslade and Hannah Skitteral now together in the middle the ship steadied briefly until Alice was caught behind by Jack Gibson off Ben Harvey's bowling. 33-4 from 7 overs.

Ethan Ellse, only an U9, then joined Hannah and together they batted and ran very confidently, pushing the score on steadily until the 15th over when Ethan (5), against much older opposition was bowled by Senuja 59-5. Being short of batters, Jess Ellse returned to the crease but was again bowled by Will R. As there were only 4 balls remaining, the Tas boys invited her to stay there to finish off the innings, happily scoring a run in the process and (in her 3rd visit to the crease) ending Not Out!. GM Girls ended on 66 for 6 with Hannah Skitteral not out 12.

Will R from Tas had the best bowling figures on the night of 3 for 13.

Best batting performances, Jack Gibson 42*, Senuja Jayakody 25* both for Tas

Sara Worley August 23rd 2016

U9 Topcroft v Gt.Melton

Topcroft CC Under 9's played host to Great Melton CC in their last match of the season with both teams undefeated in the South Norfolk Community League. Topcroft won the toss and asked Gt Melton to bat first. Topcroft bowled and fielded very well and claimed the first wicket with a run out following a great throw. The second pair of the visitors batted very well and took the score to 134 for 1 after 8 overs with some great running between the wickets. The game though was then turned on its head in the 10th over, as Lewis Reeder took four wickets, all clean bowled. Further wickets were taken by Jayden Collins, Josh White and James Adcock as Gt Melton finished on 146 for 8, Net 105.

In reply, Topcroft batted with great control trying to protect their wickets. Some great bowling from the Gt Melton openers took two early wickets but after that Topcroft kept batting with great concentration. Last pair Lewis Reeder and Brodie Reavie batted superbly against the returning openers of the visitors, Reeder finishing on 14 not out as Topcroft finished on 151 for 2 Net 141, winning the match by 36 runs and subsequently the SNCL title. A great match from both teams played in great spirit.

David Reeder August 21st 2016

U17 Garboldisham v Mattishall

On a lovely summer's evening Garboldisham finally got their Under 17 season under way with a victory away to Mattishall, with the visitors batting first.

Culling (3) went early to Fisher before Baker and Penrose got the scoreboard ticking, Penrose was stumped with the score around the 40 mark, Ling joined Baker at the crease and together put on an unbeaten 80 run partnership with Baker (48) and Ling (38) both not out. Mattishall bowled straight and fielded well to keep the score down to a chase-able target.

Early wickets were the key and Fisher (14) was caught by Ling off the bowling of Southgate in the 4th over. Davison and Gagen then batted well and the scoreboard rose to 70. Davison was then caught on the boundary for 25 off the bowling of Culling and despite Dickerson and Humes hitting the odd ball to the boundary the Mattishall batsmen struggled against the pace of Culling who went on to take a hatrick and finished with the leagues BEST ever figures of 6 for 9. Garboldisham won by 40 runs.

Thomas Ling August 11th 2016

U11 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Norwich

The game was played at Tas in glorious cricketing weather. Norwich won the toss and elected to field first leaving Tas to bat first. Norwich Bowled well with Wilson topping the figures getting 0-8 off of 3 overs. Tas were scoring at a steady rate until The pair of Menuka (18) and James W (12) picked up the run rate with some lovely shots. Tas ended on 168 with the fall of no wickets.

When Norwich came up to bat they were picking up runs quicker than Tas had in the early stages of the game with some brilliant shots and clever singles. The game was looking to be a close one until Tas got a few quick wickets with Ollie L being the top of the figures with 3-9. Harry C was the highest scorer for Norwich hitting 9 runs as they finished 24 runs short on 142.

The game was played in great spirits and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, it was a great morning game of cricket.

Ben Woodruff August 8th 2016

U9 Gt.Melton v Mattishall

Taking 12 wickets against Mattishall, resulted in a convincing win by 81 runs for the Gt Melton under 9s. Winning the toss, Daniel Graves decided to field first. The visitors started brightly and were looking comfortable until an excellent run out by Blade Early, throwing in to keeper Noah Moore, brought a halt to their progress. The bowlers then applied the pressure which saw James Alcock, Harry Cheal and Oliver Wormstone each take two wickets. Daniel took 3 and another run out with a very accurate throw at the stumps. Blade took 1 and Jack Rowley and Dylan Crawley were unlucky as their accurate bowling restricted the scoring without the reward of a wicket. Mattishall closed on 164-12 (104).

The runs came freely for Gt Melton. Noah top scored with 12 not out including some powerful hitting and excellent boundary stops by the visitors. Blade, Harry and James took every available single with the running between the wickets providing some exciting viewing for the spectators. Jack, Dylan and Oliver also picked up runs as the innings closed at 190 for the loss of just 1

wicket (185). This was one of those memorable sunny evenings at Melton Park when the excellent cricket played by both sides was as enjoyable as the friendly spirit in which it was played.

Daniel Graves (c), Noah Moore (w/k), James Alcock, Jack Rowley, Blade Early, Dylan Crawley, Oliver Wormstone, Harry Cheal

Guy McCurley August 5th 2016

U11 Mattishall v Cringleford Lodge

Mattishall won the toss and opted to field. Very tight bowling from Stoltz, Tillbrook and Braybrook, with wickets for Stoltz (2) and Tillbrook (1) helped keep Cringleford to a respectable 83 for 4 off their overs. Alderton batted well for his 25 but eventually fell to a great catch behind the stumps by Lake. Seaton also took his first wicket on the last bowl of his overs.

Mattishall battled well with Stoltz retiring on 33. Cringleford probably gave too many extras and were unfortunately unable to take any Mattishall wickets although Downing and Singh bowled well.

A strong all round performance for Mattishall who reached the target after 12.2 overs, a well deserved victory.

James Braybrook July 31st 2016

U13 Mulbarton v Norwich

Mulbarton put on their strongest batting performance of the season; in particular an unbeaten 40 by Cameron Amis opening the innings supported by Bobby, Freddie and Arjuna. Only one wicket fell in a dominant innings.

Norwich openers were equal to the task and Liam J scored 35 supported by Nathan, Buzz, Matthew and Kien. It all culminated in a thrilling and confusing ending, with the number of runs needed to win changing up and down almost every ball! With 40 runs needed off the last 4 overs, Norwich managed 35 in the penultimate 3 leaving only 5 runs to get off the last. The tension clearly mounted and the last over which to his credit Arjuna did not shy away from bowling went : Wicket - Wide - Wicket - Wide - Wide and Norwich scraped through. Both sets of boys played exemplary cricket and I was proud to see the attitude of the kids.

N Puvanachandra July 29th 2016

U11 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Gt.Melton

Tas won the toss and decided to field. And field they did, extremely well especially in the first few overs pegging Gt Melton back to 33-1 by the 8th over. The wicket coming in the 3rd over, Will Robertson taking the wicket of opener Henry Bugg. Once settled no 3 Ben Gaskin and Ben Johnson pushed the score on, aided by some loose Tas bowling. However Tas continued to field extremely well with several direct hits which made the Melton batsmen think twice about taking quick singles. Melton ended their 16 overs on 104-1.

The Tas openers, birthday boy Josh Hayes and U9 Menuka Jayakody aware of the task ahead of them, started solidly and almost equalled the scoring rate against the accurate Melton opening bowlers 30 for no loss after 8 overs. Josh and Menuka pressed on and were running well until, in the 12th over Josh was bowled by Ben Johnson, 59-1. Will Robertson joined Menuka but was also bowled by Johnson in the 14th over 69-2. Captain Will Worley came in at 4 and he and Menuka added another 17 in the last 2 overs but sadly not enough to reach the required score. Tas finished on 86-2, 19 short of their target. A good game on a lovely day!

Best bowling for Tas - Will Robertson 1-15 Best batting for Tas - Menuka Jayakody not out 25

Best bowling for Gt Melton Ben Johnson - 2-16 Best batting for Gt Melton Ben Johnson - 29*

Sara Worley July 25th 2016

U11 Mulbarton v Saham Toney

A very sunny Sunday morning brought the first win of the season for the U11s!

Captain Naraen Prabhakar won the toss and elected to field first, with Rupert Amis and Blake Riches joining the team for their first match.

Naraen and Hiruja opened the bowling with some very good accurate bowling and Naraen took a catch off his own bowling to take the first wicket in the 4th over. Faris and Olivia took over the bowling and Mulbarton had another breakthrough when an excellent throw-in from Hiruja resulted in the run out of Ethan in Olivia's first over. Barnaby Amis then had a brilliant spell, taking two wickets in 2 balls in a double wicket maiden over, narrowly missing his hat trick. Rupert and Blake both bowled really well in their first match, and with some good saves behind the stumps by Elliot Beeson, Saham finished on 90 for 5 with the help of the extras and top scorer, Jamie Ross, 18 not out.

Mulbarton were keen to chase down the runs, but Saham struck early with Faris bowled by Jamie Ross in the 2nd over. Elliot was striking the ball well, but had to retire for a time when the ball struck him hard on the foot. This brought together Naraen and Hiruja who focused on making runs and, with a bit of encouragement to take the singles, managed to push the score on to 82

before Hiruja was run out. Elliot returned to resume his innings but was quickly bowled bringing Barnaby Amis to the crease, hitting a ball for the winning 2 runs bringing Mulbarton to 92 for 3, with a lot of help from the extras on both sides.

David and Anne Osborn July 25th 2016

U11 Mattishall v Acle

Summer finally arrived in Mattishall for this top of the table u11 clash. Both sides contributed to an excellent game. Mattishall batted first and reached a respectable 83 for 5. Mattishall's improving middle order led the way with good scores for Tillbrook, Braybrook and Walker. Braybrook (16) and Walker (12*) putting on a 37 run partnership for the 4th wicket.

Acle responded quickly and Finn led the way with some strong hitting down the ground before retiring on 31 not out. Mattishall's bowlers gave away more extras than usual as they strived to control the attacking batsmen. Walker bowling opener Jack for 6 and a quick run out were the only wickets to fall. A strong batting performance by Acle and a well deserved victory.

Rob Walker July 25th 2016

U17 Cringleford Lodge v Old Buckenham

Thursday 21 July was definitely cricketing weather for Cringleford's first home game of the season against Old Buckingham.. Le sol est brille. OB won the toss and put CL in to bat. OB set the field to cover the boundaries and the ball slowed quite quickly in the longer grass meaning quite some leg effort was required by batsmen to keep the board ticking over. After finding ourselves well behind our target run rate we knew we would need to push and with that our wickets began to tumble to finish on quite a lowly 95 for the fall of 5 wickets.

Suitably refreshed CL took to the field and were able to peg OB back but finding the OB batsmen were hard to shift. CL worked hard in the field and as OB looked to up their run rate so too the catching and run-out opportunities came; catching made more difficult at times by the setting Sun. The game came down to the final over by Jones with five runs required... a good first three would surely favour CL but alas only three balls were required with OB posting a three wicket win in what was a much closer game than that.

Tim Duffy July 23rd 2016

U13 Gt.Melton v Mundford

Cameron Graveling scored 42 not out and took 1-5 in 3 overs of left-arm spin as he made a welcome return to action after missing most of the season with a broken arm. Cameron, who was recently named man-of-the-match for Norfolk U12s following his first fiver for the county, opened the batting after Sam Johnson had won the toss at Mundford. He added 28 for the first wicket with Jack Gorman (9) before Jack ran himself out, but the most significant partnership came with James Bridges. The pair scored 80 in 8 overs, with Bridges contributing 29 before being very well caught by Will Martin. Graveling eventually retired having scored an excellent 42 that included 6 fours. Skipper Johnson then took up the challenge of adding a few late runs, hitting a superbly-timed six over square leg in his 12 not out. It enabled Melton to score an impressive 136-3. Mundford's fielding was good and the bowlers stuck to their task well with Ciaran Rees (3-0-12-1) the most impressive.

Mundford never threatened Melton's total as accurate bowling kept them under pressure from the start. They were 14-3 in the 5th over and eventually got to 51-5 with Martin unbeaten on 10. Graveling was as impressive with the ball as with the bat but he was well-backed up by the other bowlers, Bridges (2-1-1-0), Rocco Iaccarino (2-0-10-1), Charlie Green (2-0-4-0), Gorman (2-0-7-1), Johnson (2-0-6-0) and Kashual Avunkumar (3-0-14-1) on his debut. Olly Leinster had his best game so far behind the stumps and there were good catches from Iaccarino and Graveling plus a direct-hit run out by Bridges.

Steve Phoenix July 22nd 2016

U15 Rocklands v Garboldisham

Garboldisham batted first with G Southgate (30) and D Thorne (18) the pick of the batsmen. D Eke taking a wicket the first ball of the game and taking a further two wickets for Rocklands. With only 7 players, Garboldisham were bowled out after 14 overs setting a total of 70.

Garboldisham started in the field strongly, taking two early wickets before J Barlow (26 n.o) and D Eke (23 n.o) finished strongly to win the game for Rocklands with two overs to spare. J Barlow scoring the winning runs with a huge six.

Matthew Barnett July 20th 2016

U13 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Acle

It was a beautiful evening at Tas for a game of cricket, with the spectators and coaches all hoping for a good close match and happily the two teams didn't disappoint.

Tas won the toss and elected to field first. The innings didn't start well for Tas with a no ball hit for 4 by Jack Patterson who followed it up with another 4 on the next ball. The first over ended with Acle 13 runs to the better - a flying start. Luckily the Tas bowling quickly got back on track and the 2nd over saw a wicket for Alex Bird with Angus Blazer brilliantly caught by Ben Way who took a very high catch with the sun making it very tricky. 14-1. Ruben Goupal came in at no. 3 and Acle settled down to some fine hitting and stroke play, the total steadily advancing despite some accurate bowling.

The next breakthrough came when danger man Patterson was caught off Jake Groves on 18 followed by Anthony Ringwood (2) falling LBW to Jamie Wilks. The Acle batsmen led by Goupal and Ben Gray (19*) put on 44 runs in the last 5 overs until Ben Way in the final over removed first Goupal (17) and then a superb piece of wicket keeping by Jack Gibson stumping Max Littlewood on the penultimate ball. Acle finished on 100-5.

The Tas innings started in similar fashion to the Acle innings with a no ball hit for 4, the first over generating 8 runs. Isaac Birch hit a superb 4 but was then bowled by Ben Gray going for a similar shot. Opener Ben Harvey was joined at the crease by Ben Way and the pair set about their task in a solid way seeing off the Acle bowlers successfully. With 8 overs gone they needed 8 an over to get a win for their team and so they set about turning singles into 2's, hitting some lovely boundaries along the way. With 3 overs to go they only needed 14 to win and were sailing along when Ben Harvey (19) was marginally run out by an excellent direct hit by Anthony Ringland. Jack Gibson joined Ben Way and still needing 14 proceeded to place the ball and take 6 runs in the 14th and 15th overs. So, into the final over still requiring 3 to win. A swing and a miss by Jack on the 1st ball, dot ball on the 2nd but then a superbly hit 4 to win the game for Tas.

Man of the Match - Ben Way for a superb 31 not out, bowling figures of 2-9 and a great catch.

In summary, a terrific game which came down to the wire. Thanks to Alex and the Acle team for a great evening's cricket.

Sara Worley July 19th 2016

U15 Thetford v Old Buckenham

Thetford u15s entertained Old Buckenham at Mundford road in what turned out to be an absolute thriller. Old Bucks batted 1st and got off to a rocky start losing a wicket in the 1st over. They were soon 24 for 2 in the 4th over but Blake and Bint steadied the ship putting on a patient 25 partnership. But 49 for 3 soon became 49 for 6 when Baulch bowled a triple wicket maiden. But a solid last wicket stand from Binton and Heuschneider who put on 56 for the last wicket helped them to 105 all out.

In reply Thetford were soon in trouble at 22 for 3 with great bowling from Bint and Cole. But a 66 run stand between Baulch (49) and Clark put the game on a knife edge. But when Baulch was well caught on the boundary Thetford were left needing 9 off the last over. But the impressive Bint came back to wrap up victory by one run. Great game by both teams with a number of impressive performances on both sides.

Craig Baulch July 18th 2016

U15 Bradenham v Rocklands

A steady batting performance by the home side ensured a challenging total of 104 for 3 was set. Contributions of 32 from Lewis Watts and 26 NO from Liam Kevern were the mainstay of the innings. Congratulations must go the Rockland's bowlers who all bowled well, only conceding 3 wides from 16 overs and 12 extras in total.

In reply the visitors lost an early wicket but the 2nd wicket partnership moved the score to 33 before A Thresh was caught by Anthony Woodcock off the bowling of Kevern. Luke Webster anchored the Rocklands innings and when he was run out for a well made 27 the task looked daunting. Rocklands continued to play their shots but the miserly bowling of Jake Whitwood (2 for 5 off 3) and Lewis Watts (0 for 4 from 3) made the task that much more difficult. Rocklands finished on 75 for 5

Dave Caffyn July 19th 2016

U11 Mulbarton v Rocklands

A very warm Sunday morning served up a very competitive game of cricket. Mulbarton were put in to bat first. Scoring proved very difficult for both sides. Elliot Beeson managed to run himself out without facing a ball thanks to a direct hit. Captain Naraen Prabhakar hit some fine shots before also running himself out! Tom Weston was promoted to opening the batting and looked solid when a leg side ball unluckily hit his pads and ricocheted onto his stumps. James Lee and Ruby Broad came in and hit some nice shots but had difficulty piercing the field. Pick of the Rocklands bowlers were Amos Coates and Ben Barlow. Mulbarton made 49 for 4.

Hiruja Nanayakkara opened the bowling and removed opener Alfie Williams in the first over. Naraen Prabhakar then brought himself on with an opening wicket maiden bowling Beau Brown. In his next over he removed danger man Charlie Furness. However despite a spirited display in the field, Rocklands reached their target in the 11th over for the loss of 3 wickets. Rocklands won by 4 wickets.

Martin Phillips July 19th 2016

U11 Mulbarton v Garboldisham

A strong Garboldisham side batted first and put together an impressive hard hitting performance aided by some rather weak Mulbarton bowling. The 3 top order batsmen were all retired having reached 30 not out. However, top scorer was "Extras". Pick of the Mulbarton bowlers were Tom Weston and Faris Hanif. Garboldisham scored 149 for 0 off their 16 overs.

Fortunately Mulbarton put up a much better batting performance. Naraen Prabhakar looked to be in fine form with a cracking boundary early on in his innings. The next shot looked to be heading the same way only to be plucked out of the air by a stunning catch at cover point. Tom Weston looked to be settling in for an anchorman innings when he unleashed a superb lofted cover drive to the boundary. Olivia Coman hit some fine shots near the end of the innings and was ably assisted by Ruby Broad to ensure that Mulbarton batted out their 16 overs. Mulbarton finished on 47 for 6. Garboldisham won by 103 runs.

Martin Phillips July 14th 2016

U15 Bradenham v Gt.Ellingham

A very close match won by Bradenham, with Liam Kevern hitting 3 boundaries from the 1st 3 balls of the last over to get them over the line.

Gt Ellingham batted 1st and set a total of 100 for 4 with an excellent 43 from H Spelman. The wickets were shared between Lewis Watts and Liam Kevern with 2 each.

Bradenham were in trouble at 15 for 3 with Spelman ripping through the top order. Skipper, Kevern anchored the innings and had support from Matt Horne and Harvey Ellis (10NO) and it was this pairing that saw the home side to victory with 3 balls to spare ending on 104 for 4.

Dave Caffyn July 13th 2016

U11 Old Buckenham v Mulbarton

Old Buckenham won the toss and elected to bat. The early Mulbarton bowling was tidy. The best bowler was Friedrich Morris who started with a wicket maiden and conceded only 3 runs in his 3 overs. He was well supported by Naraen Prabhakar and Hiruja Nanayakkara and by some excellent fielding, particularly by James Lee on the boundary. Old Buckenham's Will Waller hit a six and 4 boundaries before being retired. Opener Ben Lloyd added a patient 18 before being bowled by Mulbarton captain Naraen. Old Buckenham scored 98 for 2 from their 16 overs.

The Mulbarton innings started promisingly with Faris Hanif and Elliott Beeson looking solid. Elliott was then bowled. Naraen came in and hit his first ball for 4 with a lovely leg glance. After another boundary he was unlucky to be bowled from a full pitched delivery. Unfortunately what followed was some rather comical running between the wickets. Hiruja managed to run himself out and then James Lee was also unluckily run out. Faris batted sensibly almost carrying his bat until he was the last man out in the last over. Good bowling and fielding by Old Buckenham meant that Mulbarton were never able to raise the run rate sufficiently. Mulbarton finished on 45 for 7. Old Buckenham won by 53 runs.

Martin Phillips July 11th 2016

U13 Gt.Melton v Old Buckenham

Melton U13s first completed match since 6th June resulted in a convincing 60-run win over Old Buckenham. It was an excellent team performance with Melton totalling 109 for the loss of only one wicket, then bowling out the visitors for 49 helped by 5 excellent catches and a direct hit run out, a fielding performance that enabled Charlie Green to return figures of 2-0-3-3 and brought wickets for skipper Sam Johnson, Callum Sparkes and impressive debutant Rocco Iaccarino.

Charlie Green retired on 22 and Jack Gorman on 31, Lohit Kannan was not out 12 and Rocco Iaccarino not out 7 as Melton totalled 109-1, with Sam Johnson (6) the only wicket to fall, bowled by Zanda Britton. Bucks skipper Daniel Bint (3-1-5-0) was their most impressive bowler.

A good four-over opening spell from Charlie Green and Ben Johnson which saw Green bag 3 wickets thanks to very good catches from Iaccarino, Sparkes and Sam Johnson. Although Bint scored 23 Bucks never looked likely to threaten Melton as wickets fell regularly. Two more excellent catches by Ben Johnson and a direct run out by Jack Gorman completed an impressive fielding performance and gave Callum Sparkes and Rocco their first wickets.

Steve Phoenix July 8th 2016

U9 Topcroft v Hethersett & Tas Valley

Topcroft U9's welcomed an improving H&TV side on a glorious summers evening. H&TV batted first and found run scoring difficult against a tight home attack. It wasn't until the last pair that they really got going as Jacob scored 11 runs including a delightful straight driven four. H&TV finished on 142 for 6, Net 112 as Topcroft gave away a miserly 11 extras. For the hosts Jayden took 3 for 7 plus there were also wickets for James, Lewis and Lauren.

In reply Topcroft scored well although did lose 5 wickets against a solid visiting attack. J Wright 2 for 6 and Aiden 2 for 18 the pick of the H&TV bowlers. For Topcroft Fraser scored an impressive 21 runs and Lewis an excellent 32 runs to finish 208 for 5, Net 183 to leave Topcroft winners by 71 runs in what was a very sporting game of cricket.

David Reeder July 8th 2016

U15 Rocklands v Thetford

The Under 15s finally got their season underway having previously been thwarted by postponed fixtures and bad weather.

Skipper Noah Coates won the toss against Thetford and put the visitors into bat. Their total of 75 was largely built around an innings of 21 by skipper James Baulch. For the hosts Noah lead the way with 2 for 6 from 3 overs with wickets also taken by Daisy Eke with 1 for 9 and Jamie Taylor with 1 for 11 both from three overs apiece. They were well supported by remaining team members; James Barlow, Tom Woods, Alex and Nicholas Good and Andrew Thresh both with the ball and in the field.

In reply Rocklands started cautiously particularly against the bowling of Baulch but he was kept at bay by U13 Captain Andrew Thresh with solid defence. The total was reached just inside 13 overs with Noah scoring 21, James 9 and Andrew (17 n.o.) and Daisy (1 n.o.) to finish the job.

Angus Coates July 8th 2016

U11 Gt.Melton v Mundford

Great Melton lost the toss and were put into bat. They made a good start with Ben Gaskin 25 and Corry Rushton 13 putting on 45 for the first wicket before Rushton was run out trying to take one to the keeper. Strong late order batting by James Cooper (not out 19) pushed the score on to a very healthy 99 for 4 off the 16 overs

An early breakthrough by Ben Johnson, who ended with an impressive 4 wks for 2 runs off 2.3 overs, got Melton off to a good start. All bowlers supported well with William Bailey being the pick of the rest with 2 wks for 11 runs off 2 overs. Good pressure in the field kept the runs down and with wickets falling at regular intervals with only Wakefield (26) and Long (13) putting up any real resistance. The last wicket fell in the 16th over with the score on 70 giving Melton a well earned victory.

Steve Phoenix July 8th 2016

U13 Gt.Melton Girls v Mulbarton

Mulbarton Batted first on a pitch that didn't look like it was going to be doing much. Both openers got off to a good start but Ellis was the first to break the partnership. Mackintosh came in at three and some stylish fours and quick singles saw him to his 40. Mawby's third over surprised Mulbarton with a 3 Wicket Maiden.

Mubarton finished on 128 for 5. Melton's turn to bat with Mawby scoring well in the previous match, unfortunately she couldn't quite match her previous performance and made just one. Ellis came to the batting attack and along with Ellse made a partnership of 72 runs. Ellse fell for 9 and Monsey soon followed her out. Ellis managed to finish the innings with a great four. Before Mulbarton claimed the win, winning by 41 runs.

Hannah Brook July 5th 2016

U13 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Mulbarton

Tas won the toss and decided to bowl first. The Tas team performed very well in the field working hard to create 2 run outs (both Alex Bird), 2 catches (Billy Gibson and Isaac Birch) and many examples of athletic run-saving fielding. Coupled with only 11 extras, Mulbarton had to work very hard for their 66 for 5. There were some good batting performances by Freddie Patison (22*) and B Sheppard (15).

In reply Tas were rocked early on with the loss of Isaac Birch (7) in the 3rd over, bowled by Macintosh but then captain Jack Gibson came in to bat and with Ben Harvey (12) restored calm hitting 6 4's on his way to an unbeaten 27*. When Ben Harvey was caught & bowled by Burton, Ben Way (7*) came in to help Jack reach the required score with 3 overs to spare.

Sara Worley July 4th 2016

U11 Gt.Ellingham v Hethersett & Tas Valley

Gt Ellingham won the toss and elected to field first. Ellingham struck early with a run out in the first over but thereafter Tas steadied their ship with opener Josh Hayes and Steven Linge (club debut) batting extremely well together. A feature of their partnership being the number of quick singles that they ran showing great communication between the two. The pair were only split in the final over when Steven was bowled by Daniel Billings. The Tas innings finished on 107 for 2, aided by 87 extras.

Although Gt Ellingham are a very new and young team they approached a daunting run chase with spirit. Unfortunately for them the Tas bowling and fielding didn't allow much room for a fight back and Gt Ellingham finished on 43 all out.

A very nice match played with fairness with the Spirit of Cricket alive and well in both teams.

Sara Worley July 3rd 2016

U13 Mulbarton v Cringleford Lodge

Mulbarton finally got their season off and running on the 1st July at home to Cringleford Lodge. Comfortable victory earlier in the season in a pre-season friendly did not reflect what turned out to be a much closer encounter this time round. Cringleford put Mulbarton into bat and the young Mulbarton team made a stuttering start. Robert Mackintosh was atypically clean bowled for 1 by Barston and a fine piece of fielding in deep square leg accounted for Freddie Paterson on 7. Arjuna Puvanachandra (20 not out) joined Cameron Amis (28) to both steady the ship and then take on the score to a competitive level before Cameron was given out LBW to McKinnon Evans. 2 fours by Sam Johns in the last 2 balls proved to be hugely influential in the end.

The Cringleford innings was punctuated by a steady fall of wickets, in particular a sudden flurry when Matthew Burton took 3 wickets in 1 over for only 2 runs. Some steady batting by Cutter did bring Cringleford right back into the match and they found themselves needing 24 runs off the last 4 overs. Good fielding by Mulbarton including Max Tomlinson and Rohan Damodar and a couple of tight overs from Arjuna (2 overs for 2 runs) and Robert (3 overs for 4 runs) finished with Freddie taking the last Cringleford wicket with the penultimate bowl of the last over.

Mulbarton won by 9 runs and continue their unbeaten run from last season's U11 team which have matured into a very tidy U13 outfit with a very positive and enjoyable attitude to cricket.

Narman Puvanachandra July 3rd 2016

U15 Gt.Melton v Acle

Acle batted first and looked in little trouble at 43-1 off 6 overs but Craig Wilson & Tom Moye dismissed Gooch (13) and Adams (22) and Acle slipped to 45-5 before a late rally took their 16-over score to 64-6. Wilson bagged 2-5 in just 1.5 overs and skipper Moye (1-2) only bowled one over as Jack Williamson (1-12) and Sam Johnson (1-12) bagged a wicket apiece.

Having restricted Acle to just 64 a first win for Melton's U15s looked possible but Melton's brittle batting let them down. Wilson (1), Moye (2), Johnson (1), Green (0) and Williamson (0) all fell in the first 8 overs to leave Melton struggling at 14-5 before Becky Greenslade (13) and Kai Wilkinson-Loines (12) showed some resistance with a 6th wicket stand of 30. With Wilkinson-Loines eventually run out by a direct hit and Greenslade providing S.Blazer (2.1-0-3-3) with his third wicket, Melton were all out in the final over for 47 and the match was finished in time for everyone to see England lose to Iceland!

Steve Phoenix June 28th 2016

U13 Mundford v Gt.Ellingham

Mundford batting first with an opening partnership of 48 between Maddie Bunten and Charlie Wakefield, who were both dismissed by O Atkin, continued to score at a reasonable rate setting 95 for 4.

In reply Gt Ellingham opened with J Bilverstone who batted with control and power to reach 41 retired, setting up a victorious return to the crease to manage the last wicket partnership and score the winning runs with a couple of overs to spare. Harry Wakefield with 2 wickets for 4 runs was the pick of the Mundford bowlers ably supported by some good fielding. A very enjoyable and tight game played in good spirit and very pleasant weather!

Robin Yates June 22nd 2016

U11 Mulbarton v Hethersett & Tas Valley

Tas won the toss and elected to bowl first. Tas opening bowlers Will Robertson and Alex soon removed Barnaby Amis. Captain Naraen Prabhakar was looking comfortable opening the batting at the other end until he also missed a straight ball and was bowled. Elliott Beeson hit 2 excellent leg side shots for boundaries ending up top scorer on 16 not out. Hiruja Nanayakkara was unluckily bowled having played on. On a damp wicket and outfield on which scoring was not easy, Mulbarton set a target of 71 for 4.

The Tas opening batsmen Will and Josh rarely looked in any sort of trouble from the young Mulbarton bowling attack. Pick of the Mulbarton bowlers were Haruja and Tom Weston. Tas openers played very sensibly without risking their wickets ending up 15 and 16 not out to win the match after 10.1 overs. Tas won by 7 wickets.

Thanks to the Tas U11 manager Sara for making this a very friendly enjoyable game.

Martin Phillips June 20th 2016

U11 Garboldisham v Mundford

Garby lost the toss and were asked to bat, Oscar Skilleter and Ronnie Stevenson opened up and got off to a solid start before Oscar was bowled for a well made 16, that bought Charlie Aldous to the crease and he yet again played a match winning innings, playing sensibly on a tricky wet pitch, and hitting the bad balls for 4! Eventually finishing 22 not out at the end, well supported by Ronnie 8, James Davey 7 and Daniel Worby 4 not out. The boys would have to bowl well to defend a slightly below par score. All bowlers did just that, they bowled straight and disciplined and restricted Mundford to just 64-5 from there 16 overs.

1 wicket for Oliver Lambert and very impressive figures from Daniel Worby of 3 overs, 2 maidens, 4 wickets for just one run!

James Worby June 20th 2016

U11 Rocklands v Gt.Ellingham

Rocklands, hosting a young Great Ellingham team, won the toss and decided to field first despite only having 7 players. Ellingham ended their 16 over spell with a total of 48runs for the loss of 3 wickets. The majority of the runs coming from some loose bowling by Rocklands. There were some noticeable bowling performances though with Thomas Bridges bowling 3 overs: 1 maiden, 2 wickets for 6 runs, Amos Coates who bowled 3 overs, 2 maidens, 3 runs for 1 wicket and Ben Barlow, 3 overs, 1 maiden for 4 runs. It was good to see our other bowlers putting their efforts during training into practice on the pitch! Mentions must be made to N. Ewin of Great Ellingham who batted throughout the full 16 overs to finish not out!

Rocklands came in to bat with Thomas Bridges and Alfie Williams who reached the winning score with the first ball of the 7th over. Thomas scored 22 not out and Alfie 10 not out!

Angus Coates June 20th 2016

U15 Mulbarton v Acle

Mulbarton, put into bat on a pitch only just dry enough for cricket, laboured to score any runs off the bat while Acle similarly struggled with their line, particularly early on in the innings. Unusually, it was the first eight overs that were to prove the most productive for Mulbarton as Thorpe (11) and Bunn (7) looked comfortable before both being removed by Mann (4 for 11). There was little left in the tank after this as the batsmen came and went but the team sensibly managed to bat out their overs and finish on 44.

Wides were to top score in Mulbarton's innings and they very nearly did in Acle's too. Howell, and particularly Chapman, bowled with real conviction but were unable to put any real pressure on Acle as Gooch (20no) well supported by Blazer (3no) reached the target with a boundary off the last ball of the sixth over.

Mulbarton 44 for 5 (16 overs) Acle 46 for 0 (6 overs)

Joe Harris June 15th 2016

U11 Mundford v Mulbarton

Mulbarton U11 commenced the defence of their South Norfolk Community League title for the 2016 season away at Mundford. A very young and inexperienced Mulbarton team were led by Naraen Prabhakar who did very well captaining for the first time. Mundford captain Harry Wakefield won the toss and decided to bowl first, opening the bowling himself. The Mundford bowling was generally accurate and difficult to score from. The Mulbarton batsmen were not good at defending the straight ball – 4 were out bowled. Naraen was unlucky to fall to an excellent catch by Ollie Long at square leg off the bowling of Wakefield. Tom Weston and Hanif Faris batted well but star batsman was debutant Hiruja Nanayakkara who ended up undefeated. Although Mulbarton did not put up a very big score, it was impressive that we managed to bat out the allotted 16 overs with wickets intact against a pretty good Mundford bowling attack. There is a little work to do in the nets, particularly around calling and backing up! Mulbarton ended up on 42 for 5.

Mundford captain Wakefield also opened the batting and virtually won the game single-handed with some very impressive if rather unorthodox hitting. As a result Mundford reached the Mulbarton target almost entirely in boundaries in 5 overs. Mundford won by 7 wickets.

Martin Phillips June 13th 2016

U11 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Saham Toney

A very close match was played out this morning at Tas, completed just ahead of the rain. Tas lost the toss and were put into bat.

Tas openers Worley (8) and Thorndyke (13) started well taking the score to 40 when in the 7th over George Mower made the breakthrough for Saham, bowling Joe Thorndyke. After that the wickets fell fairly regularly with the decisive blow by Shawn Ross with 3 wickets in the 14th over. Tas managed to hold on without further loss to finish on 66-6. Toby Groves and Ashton Gricks being the remaining batsmen and Shawn Ross finishing with figures of 3 wickets for 5 runs.

Top scorer for Tas was Joe Thorndyke. Best bowler for Saham was Shawn Ross 3 wickets for 5 runs.

Saham's reply started slowly against accurate opening bowling. Jamie Ross's was the first wicket to fall, bowled by Will Worley in the 2nd over. Shawn Ross followed in the next over, run out by Worley from Thornyke's bowling. The 4th over saw a double wicket maiden by Worley leaving Saham rocking at 10-4. Tas thought they'd done the hard work but Ethan Miln came in and supported Saham's eventual top scorer Joe McCarthy (13*) very well. The score increased steadily, mostly due to some loose Tas bowling leaving Saham at the end of the 13th over needing only 7 to win. Captain Thorndyke brought himself back into the attack bowling a much needed maiden, followed by Worley, who was hit for 4 by McCarthy leaving Saham needing 3 to win from the final over. A nervy last over ensued but Harrison Winship was up to the challenge bowling Tazio with his first ball. Tara came in at number 8 but was unable to score from Harry's very accurate bowling. Saham finished on 65-6 just 1 run short and Tas breathed a very big sigh of relief!

Top scorer for Saham was Joe McCarthy 13 (not out) Best bowler for Tas was Will Worley 3 wickets for 5 runs

Sara Worley June 13th 2016

U15 Mulbarton v Horsford

Mulbarton U15s kicked off the 2016 season with a home fixture against Horsford in the South Norfolk Community League. A rather inexperienced and understrength Mulbarton team were captained for the first time by Richard Bunn who also kept wicket. Horsford won the toss and elected to bat. Horsford skipper Billy Harvey opened the innings and proceeded to put some rather rusty Mulbarton bowling to the sword with opening partner C Makin nudging runs at the other end. The opening partnership was finally broken with some excellent straight bowling from Tommy Chapman. First he bowled Billy Harvey, then had Adam Knight plumb LBW next ball leading to close to uncontrolled excitement for the hat-trick ball which just passed the outside edge of James Goodson. Goodson then settled in and accelerated the scoreboard with some big hitting. Horsford completed their 16 overs in 121 for 2 (Harvey 24, Makin 29 not out, Goodson 27 not out).

It would be kindest to say very little about the Mulbarton batting performance in this match! Dan Phillips was really the only batsman to offer any resistance including one sweetly struck straight drive for 4. The rest of the team hardly troubled the scorers. The pick of the Horsford bowlers was Josh Kirk who took 4 wickets for 7 runs in his 3 overs. Mulbarton were all out for 40 runs.

Well done to Horsford won convincingly by 81 runs.

Martin Phillips June 9th 2016

U11 Saham Toney v Garboldisham

Saham Toney batted first on a lovely batting wicket and scored reasonably well but regular Garboldisham wickets held back the home side from reaching a very high score, eventually finishing up on 77 with Garby's Charlie Aldous picking up 2 wickets.

With the score looking an achievable target Garby's batsmen made light work off knocking off the runs with Elliot Hart 32 not out and Jack Whitlam 20 not out, with the rest made up with extras. Another maximum points win for Garboldisham who have made a promising start to the season.

Thomas Ling May 31st 2016

U11 Rocklands v Hethersett & Tas Valley

On a sunny morning at Rocklands a key innings of 26 by J. Thorndyke held the Tas Valley innings together which helped by a generous sprinkling of wides and no balls enabled Tas to post 83 for 4 wickets in their 16 overs.

For Rocklands Flynn Crosthwaite took 2 wickets for 10, Amos Coates 1 for 4 from 3 overs and Ben Barlow 1 for 5 also from 3 overs. The Rocklands reply never really recovered from a devastating opening burst from Will Worley and

Menuka who took two wickets apiece. One wicket each for J. Thorndyke, H. Winsip and T. Groves ensured a comfortable win for Tas.

The Tas innings started rather worryingly with 2 wickets in the first 2 balls, 3 wickets down by over 3 but then Joe Thorndyke and Menuka Jayakody steadied the ship. Menuka out in the penultimate over, bowled by Amos Coates for 9. Joe top scoring with 26 not out. Tas score 83-4.

In reply Rocklands were pretty shaky against accurate Tas bowling and quick fielding. By over 4 Rocklands were 9 for 4 with 2 wickets for Will Worley in the 1st and 3rd over and 2 wickets for Menuka Jayakody whose 1st over was a maiden and 2nd a double wicket maiden. It proved difficult for Rocklands to recover from this and they were eventually all out for 33 in the 11th over.

Best batting – Joe Thorndyke (Tas) 26 *Best bowling – Menuka Jayakody 0 for 2 wickets from 2

Sara Worley May 30th 2016

U11 Mattishall v Brooke

A tightly fought game between Mattishall and Brooke edged by Mattishall by 2 wickets with 8 balls to spare.

Batting first Brooke started quickly with 23 runs coming from the first four overs. Excellent batting by the Brooke number 3 - Adam W (20 runs) - saw Brooke reach a respectable 63 off their allotted overs. A tight bowling effort by Mattishall with wickets for stalwarts Stoltz, Walker and Braybrook as well as debutant Wakeman.

A solid batting effort followed for Mattishall with contributions from all and a standout innings from Stoltz (28 not out). Excellent fielding at cover by Ben PS saw two run outs with direct hits. A deserved victory for Mattishall following an absorbing game.

Rob Walker May 30th 2016

U13 Gt.Melton v Gt.Ellingham

Despite an impressive all-round performance from Ethan Rushton, Melton's U13s made a disappointing start to their South Norfolk Community League campaign, losing to Ellingham by 5 wickets. It was the second meeting between the teams in a week and Melton manager Clive Gristwood used the opportunity to give a few more members of his squad some match experience. It was good to see the likes of Callum Sparkes, Marcello Merdyk and Under 12s, Ben Fletcher, Nat Buxton, Harry Ryan and Rushton being rewarded for their skill and enthusiasm and they all showed enough to deserve further opportunities but, on the day, too many dropped catches, missed run outs and the excellent batting of Jed Bilverstone, cost Melton the match.

Melton totalled 80 in their 16 overs thanks mainly to a solid and sensible unbeaten 34 from Rushton who played some excellent shots. He and Ollie Leinster ran well and their 49-run partnership in 8 overs enabled Melton to post a reasonable score after Ellingham's Arron Draper (3-1-5-2) and Jed Bilverstone (2-0-11-1) had removed skipper James Bridges (6), Ben Fletcher (1) and Nat Buxton (2) cheaply.

With Ellingham struggling at 28-1 after 8 overs, the Rushton/Leinster combination accounting for Atkin (1), Melton looked well in control but Bilverstone, who had started slowly, had other ideas, hitting several boundaries. The realisation that Ellingham could, in fact, win the match seemed to slowly dawn on Melton's players. Although Rushton (2-1-7-1) bowled Draper, Bilverstone grew in confidence and Melton seemed unable to counter his aggression. As chances were missed, the home supporters became more excited and Melton began to show greater urgency. The final over came with Ellingham still needing 10...but Bilverstone only needed 4 balls!

Bridges only conceded 6 runs in 3 tight overs and Rushton and Leinster (2-0-4-1) both bowled as well as they had batted and, although, Melton's cricket at times wasn't as good as it could have been, credit must go to Ellingham who played much better than they did in the first encounter between the sides.

Steve Phoenix May 27th 2016

U9 Brooke v Garboldisham

After a difficult start batting first Brooke built a solid platform and the last two pairs put on 25 runs in a 6 over spell without losing a further wicket. This resulted in Brooke posting a Score of 160 for 5 (135 net).

In reply Garboldisham scored 149 for 7 (net 114) Having lost a couple of early wickets their batsman then went on an 8 over period without losing a further wicket. There was some excellent running by the batsmen putting pressure on the Brooke fielders. It was left to an outstanding last four over spell resulting in 4 wickets shared equally between Harry Grove and Billy Keeler to see Brooke to victory by 21 runs.

John Whitehead (Brooke) May 22nd 2016

U9 Mattishall v Topcroft

Topcroft travelled to Mattishall in what turned out to be a great advert for U9 cricket.

Mattishall batted first and scored 171 for 11 (Net 116) as the Topcroft attack bowled very tight lines. Josh White took 3 for 3 and James Adcock 2 for 9.

In reply Topcroft posted 198 for 5 (Net 173) with Lewis Reeder top scoring with 16 not out. A good performance from Topcroft but credit to Mattishall who were very impressive in their first ever U9 match.

David Reeder May 16th 2016

U11 Hethersett & Tas Valley v Old Buckenham

Old Buckenham lost the toss and were put into bat. Old Buck were rattled early on when opener Reuben was bowled in the 1st over by Will Worley. Will's day continued happily as he took his 2nd wicket at the end of his 2nd over, leaving Old Buck reeling at 15-2 after 3 overs. Great fielding by Alex Douglas and WK Josh Hayes accounted for the 3rd wicket - 25-3 after 6. William Waller came into bat at 4 and steadied the ship with Old Buck's top score of 17 partnered first by Fergus and then Perry but he was finally caught by Alex from the first ball of James Hollis' spell going for another big hit 56-5. Liam and Perry pushed the score on to 81-5 until Perry was run out by Alex in the final over. Old Buck's scored finished at 82-6.

Tas proceeded carefully and methodically in pursuit of their target of 83. Openers Will Worley and Joe Thorndyke pushed the score steadily at around 6 an over. They ran well between the wickets, with great communication and seizing on chances to take quick singles whenever possible. They reached the required amount with a 4 by Will in the 14th over. Will ended on 29, Joe with 13.

Will Worley top scored on the day with 29 and also had the best bowling figures (11-2 from 3) closely followed by Alex Douglas with 11-2 from 2). Special mention to Alex Douglas on his debut for Tas, taking 1 wicket, 1 catch and being involved in 2 run outs.

Notable performances from Old Buck were:

Batting - top scorers William Waller (17) and Perry (9)

Bowling - best figures Caitlin 2 runs from 2 overs, Charlie 8 runs from 2 overs.

Sara Worley May 16th 2016

U9 Norwich v Brooke

Brooke batted first and scored 155 net. Top scorer Will Panter with 10, Edward Lewis with 8 and the shot of the innings, a straight drive for four, by Harry Whitehead!

Norwich ended on 133 net, with 4 wickets taken by Brooke. 2 for Will, 1 for Harry Groves and a run out courtesy of a Billy Keeler direct hit!

Thomas Woollorton playing his first game as WK did a tremendous job, conceding only 4 byes!

Matt Collinge (Brooke) May 9th 2016

End of Season Roundup 2015

The late summer weather proved a bit of a stinker this year, washing out many of the league's final fixtures. But despite this, there was still plenty to celebrate in this ninth year of the competition as a record fifty entries demonstrated there is still plenty of life in the youth game.

In the U17 league it was soon clear that the primary contest would be between title holders Dereham and new boys Gt.Melton. Both won all five of their games setting up a tasty final between the two, but frustratingly, this was another victim of the truculent climate which left Dereham to retain the trophy with their marginally superior points' total. Diss' Campbell Young's 95no against Mattishall was the best with the bat while Dereham's Sam Inston took 4 for 3 against the same club to bag best bowling.

At U15, the destination of the trophy was clearer as Cringleford Lodge blazed a trail in winning all of their games with some big hitting innings and securing the title well before the season ended. Hardingham finished second and could have run them close had their season not rather fizzled out in the latter rounds - Gt.Melton, last year's champions, finished third. Appropriately, it was Lodge's destructive Ishan Singh whose 108 against Mulbarton, the only century, was best knock with Ollie South of Tas Valley returning best bowling figures with his 5 for 16 against Mattishall, the solitary fifer of the summer.

In the larger U13 league, Melton were favourites from the off and duly delivered losing only one of their games to, surprisingly, Gt.Melton Girls. Topcroft also performed strongly as runners up winning as many games followed closely by Tas Valley and Old Buckenham. With compulsory retirement being trialled this season there were no best batting awards in the U13 or U11 age groups but Topcroft's Lewis Reeder dominated with the ball filling both top slots, his best being 4 for 4 against Rocklands.

Like the U15 age group, there was to be a new name on the U11 Derek Bernard Cup as Mulbarton finally secured a title in their seventeenth year. Their compact and cohesive squad dominated throughout the summer and never really looked like losing any games and, in the end, finished well clear of the chasing pack led by Topcroft, whose Luke Bettridge scooped best bowling with 4 for 5 against Dereham, with Tas Valley second and Melton third, all separated by less than a single point.

Joe Harris - September 7th 2015

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