

## Inter Insular #18 1969

The match was played at College Field, Guernsey  
on Thursday 14th August 1969  
for the Players Gold Leaf Trophy  
Umpires Ken Clayton (Guernsey) and Frank Crumpton (Jersey)  
Scorers (Guernsey) and (Jersey)  
Toss won by Guernsey who elected to field  
Jersey won by 101 runs



Guernsey team prior to the match (not many smiles after the match!)  
GEP

Ken Clayton (Ump) Richard Kirkpatrick Simon Hollyer-Hill

Alan Bisson Ian Fitchett Tony Shepherd Jack Martel

Micky Fooks ?? Frank Crumpton (Ump)

Bryan Preston Warren Barrett Ricky Mills Tico Mechem

Richard Kirkpatrick first played in 1960 but obscurely was down to bat at number 11 and didn't bowl either. Kirk was born in the Second World War at Burton-on-Trent to a Guernsey mother, Beryl, nee Paine. In an interview with Nigel Baudains of the Guernsey Press on his retirement from the Civil Service (Chief Officer of the Public Services Department) it was revealed how he came to play for Guernsey.

'The young Kirk was a keen cricketer and on one occasion his boss, JP 'Johnny' Robert, who most knew as Fatty, refused him leave to open the bowling for

Guernsey in the annual inter-insular. Kirk raised the matter with Jurat Carl Blad, a highly distinguished cricketer himself who had scored a century for Elizabeth College against Victoria. 'He told me: "You work for the States don't you? Take it you are playing".' The next day Kirk had a visit from JP Robert. 'He told me he'd been thinking about it and it was a great honour to play cricket for Guernsey so I could have the day off.' He also represented Guernsey at rugby and athletics.

## MATCH

'Guernsey's miserable 47!'

'Landslide cricket win for Jersey'

Guernsey hopes of their first cricket inter-insular victory for several years looked bright with the scoreboard at 23 for four at the College Field yesterday. Skipper Bryan Preston's decision to put Jersey in to bat seemed sound. And there is no dispute that it was the right decision for how could any captain bargain for what followed?

Jersey won by a landslide. Out for an ordinary 148 they dismissed Guernsey for a miserable 47. It was all too easy!

The wicket looked green when Preston won the toss and at 11am the atmosphere was heavy. Pace bowlers Richard Kirkpatrick and Tony Shepherd had things much their own way. Kirkpatrick, a surprise selection for Guernsey, was the more impressive. He moved the ball dangerously and had opening batsmen Billingham and Meynell in trouble. The first wicket fell at 10 when Billingham, who had a couple of deliveries earlier survived a caught and bowled by Kirkpatrick, received a really nasty one and managed only to divert the ball to the diving Alan Bisson at second slip.

On came Warren Barrett and he persuaded former Guernsey player Alan Conway to hole out to midwicket. Skipper Preston immediately brought on Ricky Mills and he, too, had a wicket in his first over – star player Meynell popping up a catch to forward short leg Fitchet. Jersey were in dire trouble at 19 for three. Worse was to follow. Soon, David Hunt, a Jersey success in Jersey but who has consistently failed in inter-island battles, did the same as Meynell – Jersey 23 for 4.

Jersey skipper Harry Jones joined Peter Osment and some sanity was returned to the match. They grafted runs and 55 were on the board when they were parted. Barry Thorp, a new Jersey representative double – soccer and cricket –

carried on the good work later and Jersey survived from their terrible start to end with 148.

Even so, this seemed a target well within the reach of a Guernsey side seemingly loaded with runs. It was not to be. Ricky Mills, a player full of runs these days, was the first to go and he was followed next ball by Guernsey's best batsman Alan Bisson – both victims to Ian Kearns. Fast bowler Tony Howeson, who has starred here with MCC carried on the good work for Jersey and our best batsmen tumbled humbly. Bryan Preston powered two lovely sixes but hopes of a Guernsey revival were not really on, Tony Shepherd also hit well but it was a very dejected Guernsey side which acknowledged the triumphant Jersey men as they trooped off easy winners.

Ian Kearns remembers Bryan Preston hitting him for two huge sixes but then having the pleasure of catching him out the next over. He thinks they are still looking for the balls in St Peter Port.

GCL president Mr John Martel presented the inter-island trophy to Jersey's Harry Jones whose comment was, 'This is what we came for, you can try to get it back any time you like'. Guernsey cricketers must take it from here!