

## **Inter Insular #60 2011**

The match was played at KGV, Guernsey

on Saturday 3rd September 2011

for the Marlborough Trophy

50 overs per side

Umpires M Gray (Guernsey) and R Stockton (Jersey), J Mountford (3rd umpire)

Scorers S Veillard (Guernsey) and D Livingston (Jersey)

Toss won by Guernsey who elected to bat

Guernsey won by 147 runs

### **PREVIEW**

Guernsey Press

'Weather has had a massive bearing already' by Gareth Le Prevost

It is indicative of the summer we have had that the most memorable match outside of the GPL was one decided by the Duckworth/Lewis method ... and that was the wrong D/L method at that. But there can be no doubting that cricket has been hampered by wet weather throughout the season and there can also be no doubt that it has had a big bearing on today's inter-insular squads.

The fact is, neither Guernsey nor Jersey's better players have had the amount of cricket they would have liked ahead of World Cricket League Division Six. To a large degree that is why, with Kuala Lumpur looming large on the horizon, both islands have chosen to go with their Malaysia contingents today at the KGV. In Guernsey's case it is not far off being a full strength squad anyway. With Tim Ravenscroft not eligible for the inter-insular while he bases himself in Hampshire to ply his trade professionally the one glaring absentee is Tim Duke. Under different circumstances the former Essex second XI man would surely have been taking the field today on current form and for what he can offer the Greens with both bat and ball. However, Duke is unavailable for the WCL6 and those who are going need game time, so he misses out.



Jeremy Frith starts off his long innings

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It is not an argument that will find favour with everyone, the inter-insular match being one that is looked upon in isolation, but it is a perfectly understandable reason. By sheer reputation Jersey look the worse hit of the two islands. An inter-insular squad lacking such names as Carlyon, Driver and Jones represents a new era for the Reds and I must admit not to being familiar with a couple of the Caesareans who will feature on today's scorecard. But that is not to say they should be underestimated. Ed Farley, one we do know about, has already shown Guernsey exactly what he is capable of with his blistering innings to see his side to victory at FB Fields in the European Division One T20 Championship just a few weeks ago.

You can wager too that under the astute leadership of captain Peter Gough and Australian coach Craig Hogan Jersey will be a strong fielding unit and will take whatever runs are available to them when they are out in the middle. In addition, Gough revealed this week that the nervousness that usually creeps into the camp in the build-up to an inter-insular was not apparent to him this time around.



Stuart Le Prevost opens up

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But no matter who is or is not playing (and when has there ever been a year when a chosen XI has met with 100 per cent approval?). This is the inter-insular and the 22 men who contest it will be desperate to claim Channel Islands bragging rights for the next year. Personal experience since 1997, the year Guernsey's captain made his debut, has told me just what this means to the players and that is why I anticipate another enthralling encounter. Over the years I have also been told on countless occasions that you cannot buy experience. That is why I am backing Guernsey for the eighth win in 10 years.

## **MATCH**

Guernsey Press

"Masterly Frith hits 'ton' in special day for Sarnians" by Gareth Le Prevost

Seldom has there been such a one-sided inter-insular. The fact that Jersey fell three runs short of matching Jeremy Frith's individual score alone emphasises just how dominant Guernsey were at the KGV on Saturday.

Centurian Frith was the undoubted star of the performance as he collected yet another man-of-the-match award, but the strength in depth of the hosts' squad was evident whereas, with several big name players absent, the visitors simply asked too much of a very youthful side. It was over as a contest a good hour and a half before Gary Rich claimed the final wicket to wrap up a 147-run victory with what is likely to be the last ball of his distinguished inter-insular career, providing he lives up to his word that the trip to Malaysia for World Cricket League Division Six will be his Guernsey swansong.

The one setback of the day for Guernsey came before the match had started with Stuart Bisson unable to play due to a spot of groin trouble. Other than that it pretty much all went to plan after Stuart Le Prevost had won the toss and took the opportunity to bat, even though the home side were to lose their first wicket in the opening over of the day. Credit to James Faudemer for his swift piece of work close in on the leg side to gather the ball and threw down the stumps with a direct hit at the bowler's end, but poor GH Smit probably would have made his ground had he not slipped while trying to turn after backing up too far.

Unfortunately for Jersey the wicket came at a price as Paul Connolly was struck in the face by the ball as he backed up the throw and had to leave the field, not to return until late on in the piece. All that wicket did, however, was to give Frith more time to bat and, as all his teammates will tell you, that is just what he loves to do. At the other end Lee Savident was looking in fine nick too, caressing a succession of boundaries both sides of the wicket as the Jersey attack struggled to find consistency with their line and length early on. The ease with which Savident and Frith added 59 for the second wicket in less than 12 overs was almost unnatural for an inter-insular clash, which are generally tense affairs with no inch asked for – nor given. It was hard to see where Jersey were going to make another breakthrough until the former Hampshire pro tried to assert himself on the left-arm spin of Ben Stevens. The bowler though produced a good'un that spun past the advancing opener and wicketkeeper Ed Farley did the rest to send Savident back to the hutch with 27 to his name.

Ross Kneller kept the momentum going with Frith for a while, adding a brisk 17 from just 24 balls but just as he was looking set he drove one straight to Peter Gough at extra cover to give James Faudemer his first inter-insular wicket. Jersey, however, had to wait for another 25 overs before striking again.

For years now Frith and Le Prevost have been building match-winning partnerships in both club and representative cricket and this was to be no exception. With the field spread the majority of their runs came in ones and twos, but they rarely looked in trouble bar the occasional leg before appeal from the de Beauvoir end, from where the spinners were operating.



Ben Ferbrache cuts the ball through the off side

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In fact, Le Prevost had 25 to his name before he struck his first boundary, going to show that the Greens were content to manoeuvre the ball around and not risk losing any more wickets. Frith brought up his 50 off his 80th delivery with a single into the covers in the 27th over and by the time the 30th had been bowled the home side were cruising with 124 on the board. The score kept ticking over nicely and soon the boundaries were starting to punctuate the singles. As the rate accelerated, so Frith closed in on his ton and, having moved quickly through the 90s, in the 40th over he pushed the ball into the off-side for the necessary run that brought with it a deserved standing ovation. Then he really started to enjoy himself, with 20 coming off his next 29 runs coming in boundaries before he eventually fell during the batting powerplay, looking to hit Stevens, Jersey's most impressive bowler, over mid-wicket but managed only to sky the ball straight to the fielder there.



Stuart Le Prevost and Jeremy Frith take a drinks break during their record breaking partnership  
Guernseycricketphotos

Le Prevost, who made 44 out of a fourth-wicket stand of 141, went the next ball as he missed an attempted sweep and debutant David Hooper did not last long either in the search for quick runs, being undone by a full quick ball from Kay. However, Jamie Nussbaumer, Ben Ferbrache and Tom Kimber pushed the score up past 250 at the death, Kimber providing the fireworks in the last over with the only six of the game over wide long on.

As long as Guernsey bowled well, a total of 273 looked ample – and so it proved with plenty to spare. After Savident had beaten the bat three times in the first over of the reply, Chris van Vliet then struck with his first ball in inter-insular cricket, removing his fellow debutant Dan Garton who got a regulation nick to who else but Frith at first slip. Fours overs later van Vliet added the dangerman Farley to his tally as the batsman was late on an attempted pull shot and spliced a simple catch to Hooper on the leg side.





Jeremy Frith sets about the Jersey batsmen

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The introduction of Nussbaumer soon paid dividends too as he hung on to a return catch to remove Stevens with only his second delivery and Jersey were 41 for three. When Savident got the wicket he deserved, to dismiss Sam dela Haye, the writing was truly on the wall for Jersey. Gough and Kay valiantly tried to rebuild the innings and notched up a fifth-wicket stand worth 42, but there was to be no miraculous comeback for the Reds. The introduction of Frith brought the downfall of both batsmen – Kay bowled around his legs as he played a sweep shot and Gough was brilliantly caught low down by a diving Nussbaumer at mid-wicket.

Rich was soon in on the act as Alex Cooke edged one to Kimber and Tom Minty followed in the next over, chipping a Frith full toss straight to Smit at mid-on. Connelly bravely came out to bat and was the ninth to fall, before Rich trapped 'Chuggy' Perchard leg before to wrap up a comprehensive victory with more than 16 overs remaining.



Champagne moment as Guernsey receive the trophy

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'It is always flat with no real lateral movement, but it was a little bit slow so 220-230 was about a par score and to get the score we did was pleasing,' said Frith of the conditions in the middle, before explaining how surprised he was to find himself there so early. 'I looked down and then all of a sudden when I looked back up GH was walking out and I didn't know what had happened. But to get off to the good start that we did was no representation of the wicket – we were well ahead of what you would expect to be after 10-15 overs. You always have a desire to score quicker as the innings progresses and push the pedal a bit, but it was always key to see out those middle overs because if you strive to get more than are available that's when you get all out for 160. I thought overall we batted nicely.' As for his bowling: "I've bowled better and taken none, so I'll take four with two coming from full tosses." Frith chuckled. Now the focus turns to Malaysia. "It's nice to have a game together, it was a good run out and there are lots of positives to take out of it, but we still cannot take anything for granted when we go to KL," said Frith.





The 'donkeys' celebrate the win      Guernseycricketphotos      GCB website

Guernsey made it three wins in a row at a sundrenched KGV on Saturday as they comfortably beat Jersey in the Marlborough Inter Insular Trophy. Batting first Guernsey overcame the early loss of GH Smit unfortunately run out backing up a little too enthusiastically in the first over to eventually record a score of 273 for 7 in their 50 overs. This total was built around a masterclass of an innings from Jeremy Frith who scored 129 from 139 balls and, was supported by the skipper Stuart Le Prevost with 44 and Lee Savident with 27. The innings ended with a little flurry from Ben Ferbrache and Tom Kimber as Guernsey amassed a score some 30-40 runs ahead of what they might have hoped for. For Jersey Ben Stevens shone with the ball taking 4 for 35 from his 10 overs.

Jersey's innings also saw an early wicket as Chris Van Vliet on Inter Insular debut had fellow debutant Dan Garton caught behind by who else but Frith with his first ball and followed this up with the wicket of big hitting Ed Farley four overs later. Peter Gough and Anthony Kay tried to rebuild and added 42 for the fifth wicket but Frith soon decided he had more headlines to write removing both. Gary Rich in what might be his last Inter Insular came on and took a couple of wickets including the final wicket of Perchard to set up wild celebrations including a stampede by the St Sampsons posse.

Frith was named Man-of-the-Match for his 129 and bowling figures of 9-1-30-4.....oh and a catch!



Jeremy Frith gets his hands on the man-of-the-match award

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Ed – J Frith (129) is the fourth Guernsey player to score a century, this being the highest score of the four, Stan Cleal (103), Stuart Mackay (100\*), Lee Savident (102\*)