

Inter Insular #46 1997

The match was played at King George V, Guernsey
on Saturday 9th August 1997

for the Tetley Bitter Challenge Trophy

50 overs per side

Umpires Les Ferbrache (Guernsey) and David Hunt (Jersey)

Scorers Sue Veillard (Guernsey) and Jane Le Gros (Jersey)

Toss won by Jersey who elected to bat

Jersey won by 8 runs



The King George V Playing Field pavilion

PREVIEW

The Jersey Island selectors have named the following team for this Saturday's inter-insular at KGV:

Mark Reynolds (captain), Steve Carlyon, Chris Jones, Steve Blampied, Tony Carlyon, Rob Braddock, Kevin Therin, Simon Short (wkt), Bradley Vowden, Nick Jewell, Lee Linton. Mike Mitchinson is the 12th man.

Guernsey Press

'Four new caps in Island side' by Andy Biggins

Will the new blood injected into the Guernsey XI announced yesterday be the saving grace of Sarnian cricket, following a dismal weekend when both the

Guernsey Under-21s and Over-40s failed against the arch rival.

Batsmen Stuart Le Prevost, Mark Jefferies and Tim Belton, and wicketkeeper Justin Ferbrache will get their first taste of inter-insular cricket this Saturday at the KGV, all included in a starting line-up announced by island selectors that contain few surprises. Belton cemented his place with a solid half-century on this ground in the GCA B game, Le Prevost only confirmed his place as late as Sunday, his superb 88 for the Under-21s proving his form.

Also recalled to the side is Cobo's opening bat Vince Kenny after a stop-start season and along with Richard Headington, skipper Richard Veillard and the all-round skills of the spinners Gary Rich and Ralph Anthony, there is no shortage of batting.

How many openers are there, though? One way or another two of the four who could fill this role will have to bat out of position. Kenny should have his chance to attack the new ball, combined with the patience of Jefferies. This leaves Headington to adapt his game at number five and Belton to come in at the alien number six spot. Still, there is plenty of scope for a healthy total. For this reason Justin Ferbrache has been offered the keeping place ahead of Gary Kimber. The young Salemite certainly has the edge with the gloves and is particularly useful standing up to Anthony. With runs not really a concern, although Ferbrache is no duffer with the willow anyway, the selectors have opted for the most genuine stumper. 'In this case we plumped for Justin, especially bearing in mind the strength in depth of the batting offered by the all-rounders in the side,' said chairman of selectors Mick Fooks.

The bowling is rather limited though, with Headington expected to fill-in as a third seamer. 'It was a tricky decision picking the last two seamers,' admitted Fooks. The two places are given to the left-armers Keith Le Cheminant and Mark Poole. As is the norm for an island game, though, the majority of the overs will be shared between the two spinners.

And for the KGV track itself, it certainly behaved itself in the over 40s game on Sunday. 'It did not play too badly at all,' said Fooks. Pierre Moody will have the 12th man duties on Saturday and the full Guernsey side in probable batting order is:

Jefferies, Kenny, Le Prevost, Veillard, Headington, Belton, Rich, Anthony, Ferbrache, Le Cheminant, Poole.

'Record breaker Ralph confident of victory' by Andy Biggins

Even a fruitless last five years in inter-insular campaigns doesn't dampen the

spirits of officially Guernsey's most consistent campaigner. Ralph Anthony has suffered years of inter-insular torment like the rest of us. He has been captain for the last four of those inter-insular defeats. Now aged 46 and relinquished of the skipper's arm band, he sets the record today for the number of consecutive performances against the old enemy.

Despite a barren local run Ralph still confidently suggests, 'I think we will win by a narrow margin.' Veteran of 21 previous campaigns, of all the players in Guernsey's XI he should know. The 21 games which become 22 today and push him level with Ricky Mills and Pierre Le Cocq in terms of total matches played – but still one behind Warren Barrett – have seen a dramatic swing in fortune. One advantage of such longevity is experience first hand of such fortune or lack of it. Ralph recalls the Guernsey form of the 70s and 80s and sees a similar pattern now within the Jersey side. 'I admit it does not come off the tongue too pleasantly but Jersey have been consistently the better side over the last decade.' he says, 'it has turned full circle, and if you had to pick a Channel Island side now there would be more Jerseymen in it.'

There is potential in the Guernsey squad he stresses. 'People feel part of a set-up now, they have been picked for a reason and they must play with confidence.' One area Guernsey have never been lacking is in 'team spirit'. He continues, 'I feel as if Jersey's time has come. It may not be this year but it will be soon.'

Of all his inter-insular games the 1988 win stands out as the most memorable, his first game as captain and a victory that came on Jersey turf. 1994, meanwhile, was the most disappointing, a humiliating 116-run defeat that meant for players and supporters alike Grainville was not a pleasant place to be as a Guernseyman. There is nothing that tickles a Jerseyman more than seeing a Guernseyman grovel, it is high time the roles were reversed. For all his critics Warren Barrett is considered by Ralph to be 'the best all-rounder that I have ever played with.' Likewise, he rates Miles Dobson as one of the best inter-insular bowlers for Guernsey. 'Mike Webber, too, has always really been an inter-insular player and there are not enough local players in recent years that have taken losing to heart quite as much as some of these names in the past.'

The respected Salemites skipper gives credit to his opposition too.

Among those Ralph admires is Barry Middleton. 'Barry is the best fast bowler in the Channel Islands who I have played against, or with. He is a totally

aggressive bowler – but never nasty with it,’ he says. In recent years he has had a few contests with the likes of Wart Jenner, another who stands out and who has ‘shown his class’, and the two Carlyon brothers, who have both had their good days. It is a contented Ralph that looks at today’s Guernsey side as well, though.

The selection that, personally, gives him the greatest satisfaction, is that of his club-mate and long-time gloveman. I shan’t say it is a partnership in the same ilk as Underwood and Knott, but Anthony and Ferbrache have certainly notched a few combined scalps in their time and it is all the more satisfying to Anthony that his Salemites colleague dons the gloves today, especially as he was instrumental in signing as a 15-year old, a raw talent out of La Mare de Carteret. ‘Justin could be the Mike Webber of the future,’ suggests Ralph, ‘I am very pleased for him.’

Another kind of partnership has also evolved, the spin wins if you like, and today will be no exception as both Ralph and Gary Rich will be expected to bowl a great deal of overs between them. ‘We will need to bowl well as a pair,’ stresses Ralph. Essentially, in the past few games, Jersey have not given our local batsmen as many spare balls to hit. Although Guernsey have their best ‘stock bowler’ in Pooley (Mark Poole) and genuine strike bowler in Keith Le Cheminant, the emphasis should be on a prolonged spin attack. With the pitch as it is Jersey may well panic if the spinners stay on.

As for the batting, Vince Kenny has the ideal inter-insular personality, you can afford one like him in any side. Ralph balances Kenny’s selection with the steady Tim Belton who will play a similar role to Steve Blampied for Jersey. As he says though, ‘You could pick any six of eight or nine batsmen and justify their selection.’

Finally to the skipper, Richard Veillard, Ralph’s successor. ‘He has the right pedigree. He has made the most of St Saviour’s talent in his own quiet way and very importantly he has played and scored runs at the top level,’ says Ralph. Of course, the KGV will also be making its debut on the stage. Perhaps it is 21 years of nostalgia but Ralph will miss the College Field. ‘It won’t feel exactly the same at the KGV. I applaud the money and efforts put into getting a grass wicket but there is just something about the College Field. Perhaps in time the KGV could also develop this,’ he sums up.

What the future holds – who knows. Ralph adds, ‘Now I have got where I have I would like to be the most capped player. Put it this way, I will have to be left

out.' Batting has now taken a backward step, but Guernsey's left-arm spinner suggests that his bowling could well survive a few more seasons yet. 'The fewer inter-insulars that are left for me, the more I want to play them,' he admits, 'and hopefully I will be playing for the Over-50s before I play for the Over-40s.' Work that one out!

It was one of the most admired local cricketers, Ted Enevoldson, who convinced a young Anthony to change from seam-up to finger spinning. That Afternoon League game, for Optimists against Tortevides, Guernsey cricketers witnessed the baptism of Ralph Anthony the spinner as he picked up nine wickets next to nothing. An island debut was imminent. 'Any number of selectors over a long period of time have kept faith in me,' he gratefully highlights. With his 10 team-mates he will be hoping to justify a further year of selection in today.

Once again Jersey have thrown together a number of all-rounders in their island side, a line-up that on paper seems to possess eight recognised batsmen and a similar number of bowlers. As always Jersey appear to have a good fielding side. Like Guernsey the visitors introduce three new faces, namely Kevin Therin, Bradley Vowden and Lee Linton. Bob Braddock returns after a five year absence. Therin as a lively middle-order left-handed bat, who has been scoring runs in Jersey this summer. A stroke player by nature the clean-hitter will probably come in at number seven or eight.

Vowden is a name many will recognise, simply because he has been on the fringe of the Jersey side for some time. Last year the Caesareans opted for mark Saralis at the expense of Vowden. This year the off-spinner gets the nod, not least for his batting, the main reason Sporting Club Francais got so close to Optimists in the final of the Channel Islands Knockout. Vowden knows as much about this wicket as any of the Sarnians.

As does South African Lee Linton, who has played twice on KGV strips. He had both a good GCA B team game and CI KO match for Springfield over here. He bowls with pace, has plenty of determination and can also bat. He has proved how controlled he can be when it matters. The former Hampshire Twos player has effectively taken the place of opening bowler Paul Horton who has struggled with a hamstring injury.

Add the experienced Braddock, another who bowls, but picked for his batting, together with the familiar foundations of the side, and Jersey will again be a tough team to beat. Chris Jones proved what a dangerous all-rounder he can

be with a super effort in the two-day game. Jekyll and Hyde, the two Carlyons will also be baying for Guernsey blood. The steady Steve Blampied is there in case an early wicket falls, while Simon Short is capable of heroics with the bat. SCF bowlers debutant skipper Mark Reynolds and Nick Jewell make up the balanced side. The team is described in the Jersey Evening Post as 'almost an embarrassment of riches.' Jersey captain Mark Reynolds is quoted as saying, 'I think the hardest job will be deciding who to bowl and when.'

Jersey Post

Three new caps against Guernsey by Paul Le Conte

Mark Reynolds captains Jersey in a senior cricket inter-insular for the first time. Already robbed of the services of Ward Jenner, Jon Giles, Colin Graham and Mark Saralis the selectors – Paul Robson, Trevor Moore and Barry Middleton – opted not to take a chance on the fitness of Paul Horton out for three weeks with a hamstring strain.

Newcomers are Bradley Vowden, cultured left-handed top-order batsman Kevin Therin, and South African pace bowler Lee Linton. Bob Braddock, capped once before in 1992 during a previous spell working in the island, deserves his recall.

MATCH

Guernsey Press

'Another painful defeat' by Andy Biggins

Another year, another defeat for Guernsey. The woeful inter-insular record for the Sarnians continued on Saturday at the KGV, perhaps more agonisingly than ever, though, as in the past six failures against Jersey, Guernsey have never been in a better position to break their sequence of defeats.

The psychological uncertainty that naturally comes from such a record prevented what had seemed a likely first win since 1991. Having bowled and fielded mostly quite well and always with spirit, the locals set about their batting with great gusto. Jersey bowled poorly and Guernsey were favourites. The vital difference was a turn around in the bowling. Where Guernsey had bowled well on a seamers' wicket – Keith Le Cheminant and Mark Poole tidy and focussed – Jersey were wayward with a multitude of wides. Guernsey let their discipline slip over the last 11 overs, though, whereas Jersey, namely Nick Jewell and Steve Carlyon, turned the screws and gave nothing away. When it mattered Jersey came out on top. For all his sometimes grating

personality traits, take nothing away from the rightful man-of-the-match, Jersey's Tony Carlyon, who struck one of the best innings I have seen, 93 not out off 86 balls when it was so vital.

Having won the toss Guernsey settled particularly well, the two left-armers, Poole and Le Cheminant, bowling with accuracy and above all, sense. Jersey were restricted to just 12 off their first seven overs, a run-rate that did not dramatically increase for some time. It was Poole who got a vital breakthrough. Steve Carlyon perhaps wary of the limited four-balls and scoring opportunities on offer, attempting to manufacture some form of late cut and playing on. Chris Jones, his opening partner, was also looking a little frustrated. He had reached 24 off 73 balls before he fell, courtesy of Le Cheminant, now in his 13th over, and the finger of Les Ferbrache.

Jersey were floundering at 53 for two wickets after 25 overs. A first ball swipe by Tony Carlyon seemed to suggest he was in a hurry, but he waited a further 58 balls to play his next rash shot, this time an edge to bring up his half-century. In Steve Blampied he had a useful foil. As Jones had done, the left-hander was content to occupy the crease. Le Cheminant breached his defence, though, in the 29th over with the Jersey total on 65. At this stage Guernsey were certainly content, as they were for a further eight overs. Spin had been introduced at both ends and while it definitely didn't trouble the powerful Carlyon, it accounted for the Jersey middle order, Kevin Therin bowled by a well-flighted Ralph Anthony delivery, Simon Short castled by Gary Rich and Bob Braddock finding the safe hands of Mark Jefferies at deepish mid-on, also off Rich.

Stemming runs from the Carlyon bat was an altogether trickier ask, however. He smashed eight fours and two big sixes in his stay at the crease. Bradley Vowden also got in the act, a huge six off Anthony, straight, hinted at a bowling change, but it was Rich who made room for a second Poole spell. Carlyon made hay while the glorious summer sun shone on a perfect KGV venue. The last 10 overs of the Jersey innings realised 73 runs and, important psychologically, Jersey reached the 200 mark. Not that Guernsey looked overly daunted with their four-an-over target. Vince Kenny kicked off in his usual, swash-buckling style, cutting two powerful fours off Linton before he was dealt a 'shocker' of a leg-before decision and was first man out with the score on nine after the first over.

Stuart Le Prevost, making his debut, looked the most experienced campaigner

on the pitch as soon as he joined colleague Jefferies. In a 69-ball stay he highlighted just what a threat he will be to Jersey for plenty of years to come. An authoritative square drive off Jewell to get off the mark stressed his excellent form. In all a further seven boundaries followed, all perfectly timed. Clips off the legs, cover drives and well placed dabs raced him on to 44. Guernsey were cruising and didn't their band of supporters let them know. Anchorman Jefferies had fallen for a patient 10 off 51 balls, the score on 59 in the 16th over, but the skipper Richard Veillard had kept the tempo going with a handy 16, before falling lbw to Jewell with one that kept low that trapped him on the back foot. Perhaps the prize wicket for Jersey, though, was Le Prevost. Attempting to force one ball too many he offered a return catch to Jewell who held on well low down. The balance of the game had evened up, only to be taken away from Jersey again by an excellent combination, Richard Headington and Tim Belton. The former looked to have so much time to play his shots, and complete with the most nonchalant of flicks for six, he looked capable of guiding his side home. That was until Jewell trapped him in front, leaving Belton and the last five men to score 48 off the last 10 overs. Rich tried valiantly before he was run out, likewise Belton played some cracking shots ahead of his smart stumping off Steve Carlyon's bowling. The run-rate was rising, the wickets were falling, and for the first time Jersey looked favourites. Guernsey's fate was sealed, needing 20 off the last four, Anthony was excellently caught in the deep by a running Linton, and Ferbrache fell the same way as Belton. Ten were needed off the last over, but Steve Carlyon had Le Cheminant caught behind by Short standing up with the third ball, and Jersey had snatched their sixth consecutive victory from an unlikely position.

Jersey Post

'Jersey tough it out' by Paul Le Conte

Mark Reynolds must be a good Monopoly player. He certainly knew when to play his 'get out of jail' card on Saturday as Jersey snatched victory from the jaws of defeat in the senior cricket inter-insular. Jersey's captain, on his debut, shuffled his pack one more time and a double bowling change produced the perfect combination.

Reynolds won the toss and had no hesitation in taking first use of the KGV track, where no team has yet won batting second.

The Guernsey innings started with some controversy. They made full use of the motorised heavy roller during the lunch interval, leading to a complaint from Reynolds to the two umpires. 'The Law states a maximum of 7 minutes rolling between innings and they used it for at least 20 minutes', the skipper said.

Top scorer for Guernsey was extras with 46.

Tony Carlyon was named man-of-the-match for the third year in a row.