

## HURLEY 1XI v Amersham Hill – 28<sup>st</sup> May 2011

### **HURLEY**

P Ridgeway	c McKenzie b Harrison	29	
N Akhtar	c Harrison b Platt	9	
M Cole	c Fletcher b McKenzie	17	
T Moore	c McKenzie b Harrison	13	
C Louw	st Fletcher b Harrison	20	
R Brown	b Evans	55	1x6
T Balchin	c Fletcher b Rawlinson	24	
J Chambers	c Richardson-Hill b Evans	1	
J Langlands	Not Out	28	
C Ainger	b Rawlinson	0	
	Extras	41	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>237ao</b>	

### **AMERSHAM HILL**

S Hamilton	c Akhtar b Langlands	0
A Harrison	c Brown b Langlands	6
G McKenzie	c Cole b Ridgeway	1
A Rawlston	c Brown b Akhtar	73
J Richardson-Hill	c Chambers b Cole	14
D Telford	c Chambers b Akhtar	54
J Evans	b Akhtar	0
C Fletcher	lbw Akhtar	11
N Ahmed	Not Out	25
E Hedley	Not Out	2
	Extras	16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>202-8</b>

J Langlands	10-1-29-2	M Cole	9-1-44-1
P Ridgeway	13-5-36-1	N Akhtar	12-2-45-4
C Louw	8-1-36-0		

Hurley's severely decimated resources, not helped by two drop outs early morning, delivered a gutsy performance to get the better of a draw at home to Amersham Hill in the Chilterns League Division 2 on Saturday. The lure of a wet Bank Holiday was obviously too much of a pull rather than face an Amersham side whose constant geeing up and succession of clichés was only quelled by a patient and intelligent second wicket partnership of 65 between Phil Ridgeway (29) and Mike Cole (17). Hurley lost the toss and were asked to bat, skipper Naeem Akhtar (9) promoting himself to cover the vacant opening slot. The experiment failed as a horrible squirt/cut/paddle steered to slip dismissed Akhtar with the score on 20. This provided the cue for the visitors to raise the volume a notch until sensible batting and a torrent of byes and wides jollied the Hurley score onto 85. Hurley then lost Cole and Ridgeway in successive overs and Clemens Louw (20) and Tim Moore (13) failed to dig in and Hurley teetered on 127-5. Ross Brown (55) and Trevor Balchin (24) then rebuilt the innings with a stand of 67, young Brown playing the dominant role with some mature stroke play despite the distraction of a low aerobic display by a lone Spitfire along the Thames and in front of Danesfield Manor. This partnership propelled Hurley to 194 before Brown was bowled by Evans for a fine half century. With Balchin providing the glue and Jonathan Langlands (28not) some Heinz 57 varieties of shot making, 10 man Hurley were bowled out for 237 in 48 overs.

Fine drizzle arrived at tea and made Hurley's decision to start with the old ball a sound one as Amersham disappeared to 13-3. Langlands (2-29) a late inclusion saw immediate success as his third ball was lobbed to mid on by the hapless Hamilton (0). Mike Cole made his now customary appalling weekly spill, dropping McKenzie on 0, a more horrendous drop than Simon Cowell and the lovely namesake Cheryl Cole from X-Factor. Whilst Hurley were blissfully contemplating a transfer of Coles, Mike made amends picking up McKenzie next over as he tried to sweep Ridgeway (1-36). Two big partnerships involving the South African Andy Rawlston (73) of 59 and 66 set the visitors back on track

and at 138-4 from 36 overs the game was back in the balance. Akhtar (4-45) had Rawlston caught by locum keeper Brown and then bowled Evans (0) with a slower delivery to reduce Amersham to 144-6. Dan Telford (55) delivered some big booming hitting until Jack Chambers clung on to one brilliantly at deep mid on again from the charismatic Akhtar. Ahmed (25not) saw the visitors past 200 before they settled for the draw at 202-8.