

SHIRE COUL Week 9 saw more rain across the region, although thankfully the weekend programme was ~ largely completed (if truncated in places) after a busy week of cup action. 2025

After they failed to win for a third game in a row, Didsbury's lead was cut further. This time it was CAICKET LEAGUE lowly Neston who held them after another rain-affected afternoon in a match reduced to 92 overs. Tim Hughes (83) continued his great form, putting on 137 for the 1st with Tom Hafil (40), Luke Jones taking 5-38 as Dids declared on 244-8. Neston replied equally strongly, a lovely 103 from Matt Maritz (118 bs, 5x6, 13x4) and 54 from David Hurst helping get the hosts to 167-3 in the 38th. Dids rallied with run outs and some smart catching, Neston eventually clinging on at 224-9 to deny the visitors the victory. Hyde took full advantage with a fifth straight win, this time by 120 runs in the meeting of second v third. Liam Bowe recorded 7-24 on a day when Timperley's batting never fired, 126 all out chasing 247 in a 100-over game at Stockport Rd. George Balderson (75) and Luke Young (77) had earlier opened up with 151 for the 1st, Andrew Jackson then weighing in with 55 off 44 before later taking 2 wkts.

1975

YFARS

Another side with win momentum are Nantwich, a third successive win moving them upto fourth spot. Quite some win it was too - after a delayed start at Alderley Edge, Nantwich were put in and hustled out for just 131, a duck for Rob Jones amongst a clatter of early wkts. Jason Foulkes (30*) coaxed 32 runs for the last two wkts which was to prove of improbable significance as Sam Perry fell first ball (one of four AE ducks), the experienced Dabbers attack never letting that grip go. Olly Griffiths finished with 14-4-12-5 as AE folded for 111, a fifth straight loss for them. Chester BH put last week's horror show behind them with a comfortable 7 wkt win over an out-of-sorts Oxton, who ground out 169-9 in their 55 overs. Alex Money (70*) and Warren Goodwin (44) set CBH on their way to victory, achieved in the 34th over.

Brooklands' inconsistent form showed no sign of ending as they followed up a big win last week with a crushing loss on Sat. Put in at Bowdon, they lost Todd Walker first ball, then recovered to reach 40-1, before a shuddering collapse saw the board reading 47-8 just six overs later, Sid Mahadevan (6-17) & Haider Hussain (3-28) the destroyers as Brooklands were all out 75, Bowdon recording a 7 wkt win which gave them a 15 pt cushion over the bottom two. Widnes, at the foot and enduring a very disappointing 2025 so far, had another day to forget as they put visitors Lindow in, only to see them rack up 293-9. Fifties for Jamieson Hedges, Dan Newton and Sam Battersby (the latter two at a fair clip), and 36 extras, gave Widnes a mountain to climb, and they barely made it to base camp, 100 all out, Hedges 4-34 & Newton 2-29 to boot.



2025 WEEK 9 REVIEW cont.

Div 1 leaders Cheadle continued to keep the chasing pack at bay with an eighth straight win, struggling visitors Davenham the latest side to run into Josh Dooler's purple patch. The Cheadle skipper took a fourth 5-for

of the season, ending with 6-27 as the visitors folded for just 113, Ollie Tyson's patient 80 earlier helping his side to 219-6. Second place Bramhall became the latest side to capitalise on Grappenhall's travails, although Grappers could take some consolation from a creditable bowling display to keep Bram to 195-9 in their allocation. Grappers batting, however, couldn't cope even with no Simon Wilkinson, all out 90 as Liam Molloy rounded off a fine all-round display with 4-19 after earlier hitting 50. Port Sunlight won a terrific 92 overs game at Toft, Henry Murray making an excellent 128 (145 bs) for the youthful hosts who posted 248-5. However, a superb 137 psp in just 16 overs for the 4th wkt between Ben Nuttall (84*) and Muzammil Sheik (73) powered PS to their target with some six overs unused. Macclesfield's Andrew Poppa (109*) was another centurion as his side notched a fourth straight win, Macc reaching 232-5 against Stockport Georgians, whose reply showed some spirit, but once Francis Yates (53) fell it was 174-7, SG all out 190 to lose by 42 runs. Sale's Chris Williams returned 6-35 as his side dismissed Maritime for 169, and then made 52. However, when he came to the crease Sale were 7-4, soon to be 7-5 and later all out 125. In the other game Urmston beat hosts Marple by 105 runs.

In Div 2, Alvanley stretched their lead at the top after a surprisingly comfortable win over second-place Bollington. After winning the toss, Bolly's batting hit the buffers, 106 all out, Alv surviving a slight hiccup at 79-4 to win by 5 wkts. The rest of the division is compacted, with 19 pts separating third and ninth. Christleton's third win in four moved them into that third spot, wayward Haslington conceding 45 extras in Chris' 239-8 (Darcy Graham 55), Haslington all out 123 in reply. Ashton OM remain firmly below Haslington after an eighth successive defeat, going down by 5 wkts at Romiley, who are now fourth. Ashley recovered from last week's embarrassment to rack up 234, Ammad Mushtaq again the main man with 104 and 3-5 as opponents NE Cheshire were bowled out for 117. A rare run-fest at Grove Park as Cheadle Hulme had the scorers reaching for the energy drinks. Oliver Willett made a superb 115* (141 bs), he and Jordan Potts (69) putting on 163 for the 1st, before Adam Wilde piled in with 73*(47 bs) as CH posted 280-1 after being put in. So giddy were CH they then conceded 55 extras, the top score for a rueful Stockport side, all out for 206. In the other game Danny Leech's 86* was the class act in Oulton Park's 5 wkt win over Upton.

In Div 3, Heaton Mersey's scrappy 3 wkt win at Mobberley chasing 158 (Mobb conceding 40 extras) kept a six pt gap between them and Warrington, who won by 32 runs in an untidy contest at Oakmere which saw 79 extras ceded in total. Tattenhall are level on pts with Warrington after a fourth straight win, this one a biggie as their short ride to Barrow saw Tatt bowl the hosts out for just 95, Adrian Waddelove and skipper Freddie Cheshire taking 8-47 between them. Tatt had earlier posted 244 (Jack Bates 74, Max Harper 59). Hale Barns are in nosebleed territory after beating Winnington Park by 2 wkts, HB making a game of it by going from 144-3 to 155-7 in pursuit of 174, while Hawk Green skipper Dylan Heginbottom took 5-20 (and scored 41) as his side thrashed Over Peover. Innings of the day, however, was from Runcorn's no. 7 Nauman Akram, who blasted an amazing 94* (52 bs) to take his side from 130-8 to 221-8 and a 2 wkt win over Middlewich.

CCCL TABLES - WEEK 9 (JUN 14 - 15)

	1ST XI PREM					
MONTH	PTS	TEAM				
21	160	DIDSBURY				
44	154	HYDE				
25	138	TIMPERLEY				
48	122	NANTWICH				
20	116	CHESTER BH				
23	111	OXTON				
25	106	BROOKLANDS				
15	104	ALDERLEY EDGE				
33	101	LINDOW				
30	97	BOWDON				
11	82	NESTON				
6	65	WIDNES				
	MONTH 21 44 25 48 20 23 25 15 33 30 11	PTSMONTH16021154441382512248116201112310625104151013397308211				

1ST XI DIV 1				
TEAM	PTS	MONTH		
CHEADLE	166	40		
BRAMHALL	149	40		
P.SUNLIGHT	136	40		
MACCLESFIELD	135	40		
TOFT	116	8		
MARITIME	111	26		
SALE	108	11		
URMSTON	106	25		
MARPLE	102	25		
S.GEORGIANS	78	24		
DAVENHAM	58	5		
GRAPPENHALL	34	6		

1ST XI DIV 2				
TEAM	PTS	MONTH		
ALVANLEY	180	40		
BOLLINGTON	147	23		
CHRISTLETON	120	40		
ROMILEY	118	26		
ASHLEY	110	21		
N.E.CHESHIRE	104	11		
CHEADLE HULME	103	40		
UPTON	102	10		
OULTON PARK	101	25		
STOCKPORT	84	23		
HASLINGTON	67	8		
ASHTON OM	48	6		

1ST XI DIV 3					
PTS	MONTH				
153	40				
147	40				
147	40				
121	26				
118	24				
116	26				
115	10				
97	6				
84	9				
69	10				
68	40				
54	6				
	PTS 153 147 147 121 118 116 115 97 84 69 68				

2ND XI PREM				
TEAM	PTS	Т		
DIDSBURY	166			
TOFT	138			
CHEADLE	137	1		
CHESTER BH	134	12.		
OXTON	133			
WIDNES	119			
HYDE	99	_		
NANTWICH	92	T		
BROOKLANDS	78	2		
S.GEORGIANS	71			
TIMPERLEY	66	11.		
NESTON	61	12.		

2ND XI DIV	2ND XI DIV 1		SHIRE CO		
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS	4,5		-0	1
1. LINDOW	148	I.	NUMBER	11	7
2. UPTON 2	138	C I		7	K
3. MARITIME	137	1975		2	025
11. BRAMHALL	73		YEARS		
12. GRAPPENHALL	27	Cp,	CKET LA	as	ç.
			0	- NO	
			KET LI	in	
			CKETL	in	
2ND XI DIV	2		ND XI DIV		
2ND XI DIV	2 PTS	21			
		21 TOP &	ND XI DIV	3	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS	21 TOP & 1. A	ND XI DIV BOTTOM	' 3 PTS	
TOP & BOTTOM 1. A.EDGE	PTS 153	21 TOP & 1. A 2. N.E.	ND XI DIV BOTTOM ASHLEY	7 <mark>3</mark> PTS 166	
TOP & BOTTOM 1. A.EDGE 2. P.SUNLIGHT	PTS 153 149	21 TOP & 1. A 2. N.E. 3. V	ND XI DIV BOTTOM ASHLEY CHESHIRE	3 PTS 166 161	

3RD XI SUN PREM				
TEAM	PTS			
BROOKLANDS	64			
DIDSBURY	60			
TOFT	58			
SALE	52			
S.GEORGIANS	50			
MARPLE/COMPS.	42			
TIMPERLEY	38			
ASHLEY	38			
GRAPPENHALL	10			
NANTWICH	10			

3RD XI SUN D	DIV 1	3RD XI SUN DIV	
TOP & BOTTOM	PTS	TOP & BOTTOM	PTS
HYDE	80	T.METROVICKS 4	74
BRAMHALL	58	RUNCORN	64
ASHTON OM	20	BOLLINGTON	20
ROMILEY	-2	TIMPERLEY 6	12

SUN 3RD XI OTHER DIVISIONS

Div 3 East: Top - Sale 4 2nd - Bowdon 4

Div 3 West: Top - Widnes 2nd - Christleton

Div 4: Top - Cheadle Hulme 4 2nd - Stockport

RSK PROUDLY SPONSORS CHESHIRE COUNTY LEAGUE CRICKET

www.rskgroup.com

WEEK 9 2ND & 3RD XI CRICKET



2ND XI CRICKET: At the top, Didsbury extended their lead after recovering from 40-4 to post 180 against second placed Toft in a match reduced to 40 overs, Toft unable to get any real momentum going despite 65 from Aidan Clorley, Dids winning by 18 runs. Cheadle went third, 65* from Nick Reid guiding them to a 5

wkt win at Oxton, Ben Samuels making 51 in a decisive stand of 95. Chester BH held their nerve at Werneth Low to beat Hyde by 3 wkts, Ashraf Qureshi's 49 the top score of the match. Felix Birtles made 119 for Timperley as they made 248-3 at Nantwich, the hosts slumping to 55-4 in reply before rallying through James Mitchell (71), a fascinating game developing but the visitors holding on for a vital 24 run win. Stockport Georgians were even happier that they also won, victorious in their battle with fellow strugglers Neston, Bilal Shah taking 5-10 as Neston were all out 72.

Div 1 saw Lindow extend their lead at the top after beating second-place Maritime by 7 wkts, Rob Herriott making 51 after taking 2-2, Maritime all out 133. Upton 2s thus nudged above Maritime, glad of no.10 Tom Wood's 30 off 22 which lifted them to 235 against visitors Macc, who fought hard in a tight match but ran out of overs on 202-7. An incredible collapse by Marple handed H.Mersey a 2 run victory after posting just 95 at Oakley Villas, Marple reaching 70-3 but 7 overs later were 83-9, losing last man James Hirst to a catch at the wkt after a tense 10 wkt stand. Josh Patel made a superb 109 for struggling Bramhall at Alvanley but it was in vain as the hosts' know-how took them to a 20 run win, while Grappenhall remain well adrift after another pasting, Didsbury 2As beating them by 123 runs.

In Div 2 it was a good day for A.Edge's Alan Day who made 80 in his side's 144 run win at bottom side Warrington, Andrew Windle taking 7-19 as the hosts folded for 69. Even better for AE was the news that P.Sunlight got into a surprising tangle chasing just 140 at home to beat C.Hulme, PS all out 101 as AE went top. Oulton Park got a much needed win, by 100 runs at Ashton OM, to move off the bottom.

In Div 3 Salman Baig hit 100* for leaders Ashley, turning their 13-3 into 205-4 at Tattenhall, who were all out 178. N.E.Cheshire stayed second after beating Christleton (who donated 50 extras) by 35 runs, while Winnington Park kept the top two honest, beating CBH 3s by 77 runs. Basement side Neston 3s slumped to an embarrassing 10 wkt loss in their local argument with Oxton in a match which lasted 30 os.

Sunday 3rd XI News Didsbury benefitted from Nantwich's concession to move within four pts of Prem leaders Brooklands, who lost at Georgians. Toft went third after winning a fabulous match with Sale by just 3 runs, Phil Raikes making a superb 132 in Toft's 248-6 before Sale gave it a real go, Gareth Watterson taking 18 off the penultimate over, leaving 11 needed off the last. Having taken six off four, a mix-up having completed a single brought relief for the hosts, Sale getting just two pts for all their efforts *(which has to be looked at).* Marple/Comp. held on from 112-8 to reach their 141 target to beat Grappenhall (who at least moved off the foot of the table, albeit on alphabetical order) while Santosh Gopalakrishnan followed up his 164 last week with 71* this, his Timperley side winning by 7 wkts at Ashley. In Div 1 leaders Hyde won at H.Mersey despite Hunain Khan making 99 for the hosts. Second place Bramhall lost to Metrovicks while Dids 4s won at Ashton OM. Red Romiley faces at Birchvale Drive as Bowdon bowled them out for 30. Div 2 saw Metrovicks 4s and Runcorn both win.

1st XI T20 GROUP STAGE (1st XI T20 holders = OXTON)

Matchday 2 - Thursday June 12th escaped the predicted storms and downpours (apart from one cancellation) and saw some remarkable cricket played, as well as the near-certain exit at the group stage of the current holders Oxton.

Gp 1: Chester BH (102-2, 11.5 os) beat Oxton (97, 17.2 os) by 8 wkts Alex Money took 4-5 as Oxton collapsed from 87-4 and suffered a heavy defeat, leaving their destiny in the hands of others as Chester boosted their NRR significantly. **Upton v Port Sunlight** was cancelled due to wet conditions.

Gp 2: Maritime (183-7, 20 os) beat Widnes (107, 16.1 os) by 76 runs *no details available of a comfortable win by the Div 1 side over their Prem opponents.* **Neston (204-5, 20 os) beat Oulton Park (129, 18.1 os) by 75 runs** *David Hurst cracked a majestic 92 off 58 bs (4x6, 12x4) as Neston piled up an impregnable total at Little Budworth. Frank Farrington's 19-ball 43 was the smallest of consolations as OP exited the competition. If Neston beat Widnes on Tues, they will qualify.*

Gp 3: Bowdon (208-8, 19.5 os) beat Nantwich (204-4, 20 os) by 2 wkts. *In an breathtaking finish, Bowdon keeper John Sanders rounded off a magnificent innings with the winning boundary off the penultimate ball, finishing 116* (55 balls, 10x6, 8x4) as Nantwich were knocked out at the group stage for the first time. Earlier the Dabbers posted an imposing score as Jake Pearson (70 off 40 bs) and Spencer Byatt (50* off 44) added 116. Bowdon lost a wkt off the first ball of their reply but Sanders counter-attacked brilliantly, although he played a lone hand as partners came and went. With 15 needed off the last, Sanders hit a six off the first ball as no.10 Haider Hussain made up for his bowling being clobbered by helping add 31* for the 9th while Sanders completed his heroics.*

Haslington (108-6, 14.4 os) beat Toft (107-7, 20 os) by 4 wkts. Another shock result as the Div 2 strugglers overcame higher-ranked opposition. Toft's batting got stuck in first gear, hitting just 9x4 in an underwhelming inns. Tom Coppenhall blasted 70 off 40 bs (5x6, 7x4) as Haslington ended the night top of their group, with a game against Nantwich to play. Bowdon or Toft could also still qualify depending upon results and NRRs.

Gp 4: Alderley Edge (151-7) beat Brooklands (149) by 2 runs. Brooklands were 124-3 after 14 os and were odds-on for the win, but they lost both Kevin Carroll and Todd Walker (71 off 40 bs) in the same over and the jitters set in. Dan O'Gorman found the boundary to get Brook to within one hit of victory but was then bowled trying a reverse hit. Marple appear to have beaten Hawk Green by 1 wkt although the scorecard detail is unclear.

Gp 5: Hyde (175-4, 17.1 os) beat Sale (174-4, 20 os) by 6 wkts. Andrew Jackson's fearsome hitting decided an entertaining contest, the all-rounder hammering 96* off 53 bs (8x6, 5x4). Muneeb Iftikhar (67) and Tyrone Lawrence (49) had earlier added 110 in 10.3 overs for Sale but their total was rendered some way short. NE Cheshire (100-5, 14.2 os) beat Macclesfield (98, 19.5 os) by 5 wkts Qualifiers NEC produced another impressive display to defeat Macc, the strong Div 1 side restricted to just 2x6 and 5x4 as the accurate NEC attack held complete sway. Bailey Jenkinson then added to his 3-17 with 49 off 41 as NEC went top of the group.

Gp 6: Bramhall (140-2, 20 os) beat Cheadle Hulme (128-6, 20 os) by 12 runs *After Greg Dixon made* 67* for Bramhall, Amad Malik's lively 40 (24 bs) brought a sluggish CH reply to life, he and skipper Adam Wilde (47*) adding 78, but Malik's dismissal killed off any potential local derby upset. **Timperley (197-7, 20 os) beat Stockport Georgians (154-6, 20 os) by 43 runs** *Tim Reynolds smashed an imperious 129 (66 bs, 9x6, 12x4) as Timpers posted a*

healthy total. SG were always behind the rate and despite some brave blows from Ben Duckworth (42 off 30 bs) exited the competition.

Gp 7: Lindow (104-2, 8.5 os) beat Davenham (103, 19.2 os) by 8 wkts The Prem side made short work of the Div 1 strugglers, Dan Newton (63* off 25 bs) in a hurry to polish things off as, barring an unlikely set of results in the final games, Lindow booked their passage to the K/O stage. **Ashley (99-5, 11.3 os) bt Grappenhall (95-7, 20 os) by 5 wkts** Pierz Cyster took 3-10 and crashed 30* off just 11 bs to give Ashley a notional chance of qualifying.

Gp 8: Didsbury (284-4, 20 os) beat Urmston 73 (15 os) v Cheadle by 211 runs. A stupendous batting performance led by Tim Hughes (101 off 50 bs) and Rob Sehmi (60 off 19 bs) saw Dids post the second highest-ever total in the 1st XI competition, as the beleaguered Urmston bowlers went at 14.2 rpo.

Cheadle (121-1, 15.3 os) beat Heaton Mersey (120-8, 20 os) by 9 wkts *Ashley Burton (60* off 40 bs) secured a straightforward win for Cheadle, their upcoming match with Didsbury on Tues thus ensuring that the winner of that game will qualify for the K/O stages.*

Matchday 3 - Tuesday June 17th & Weds 18th June, see Play Cricket for fixture schedule.

2ND XI T20

The majority of Round 2 fixtures took place on a beautiful Tuesday evening, although holders Chester BH started their defence with a comfortable win on Monday.

Mon 9: Chester BH 2s (160-4, 20 os) beat Upton (78, 18 os) by 82 runs Holders Chester eased through, several substantive innings aided by 30 extras in their batting, before the seasoned amalgam of Robin Fisher and Dan Riley recorded combined figures of 8-1-24-7.

Tues 10: Alderley Edge (133-5, 18.4 os) beat N.E.Cheshire (129, 19.5 os) by 5 wkts John Steele hit 5 sixes in his 56-ball 70 for AE, the outstanding inns on the night after his teammate Ashray Bhamidipati had earlier taken 5-13.

Timperley 3s (126, 20 os) beat Brooklands (102, 18 os) by 24 runs *The Div 3 side pulled off a major surprise in beating Prem opponents, three run outs scuppering Brooklands hopes.*

Didsbury 2As (188-3, 20 os) beat Cheadle Hulme (98, 18.5 os) by 90 runs A superb unbeaten 101 (61 bs) from Archie Elder powered Dids to a total way out of reach for CH.

Grappenhall (134-4, 16.3 os) beat Davenham (132-5, 20 os) by 6 wkts *A bright start for*

OVER 40s UPDATE

WEST DIV: Wallasey (p4, w4) and Chester BH are top after four rounds, although CBH have only played twice, getting a second concession win of the season on Weds.

CENTRAL DIV 1: Timperley and Toft are on 16 pts at the top, Grappenhall beating Cheadle Hulme for a welcome win.

CENTRAL DIV 2: Hale Barns and Didsbury are still one/two despite both losing in the week. Having lost by 2 runs to Dids three wks ago, Lindow lost by 1 run to A.Edge in a dramatic finish.

CENTRAL DIV 3: Ashton OM beat Bowdon Vale on Weds to leapfrog them into top spot.

EAST DIV: The only division decided by average pts sees Bramhall on top with Woodley. NE Cheshire got their first win of the season, beating fellow-strugglers Marple.

Dav wasn't fully built upon, Grappers skipper Graeme Rowlands hitting an unbeaten 50 (35 bs) as his side celebrated a first win of the season.

Lindow (140-3, 17.3 os) beat Cheadle (138-7, 20 os) by 7 wkts Nihad Vaid's 93* (58 bs) was the highlight of Cheadle's inns but despite Lindow losing a wkt to the first ball of their reply, Rob Herriott's 90* (56 bs) helped power his side home to claim a Prem scalp.

Bramhall (131-3, 14 os) beat Marple (130-4, 20 os) by 6 wkts Marple were restricted to 2x6 and 6x4 by the accurate Bramhall attack, the Bram batters having no trouble sealing victory.

Nantwich (190-2, 20 os) beat Alvanley (141-8, 20 os) by 49 runs Nantwich keeper Phil Marsh made a fantastic 123* (67 bs, 8x6, 12x4) putting on 156 for the 1st wkt with Jakob Jordan (40) as the Dabbers put themselves out of reach.

Stockport Georgians (117-6, 19.1 os) beat Sale (115-5, 20 os) by 4 wkts Sale lost a wkt to the first ball of the match and never got going, managing just 1x6 and 7x4 in their inns which contained 61 dot balls. Georgians were in strife of their own at 77-6 before the 7th wkt pair held their nerve to add an unbroken 40.

Toft (125-2, 16.3 os) beat Romiley (121-8, 20 os) by 8 wkts A straightforward victory for Toft, Liam Clorley making 55* as they won by a sizeable margin.

Macclesfield (102-2, 15.2 os) beat Winnington Park (98-9, 20 os) by 8 wkts As easy as it gets for Macc who reached their modest target with comfort.

Other Round 2 fixtures to be played: Mon 16 - Widnes v Haslington; Tues 17 - Heaton Mersey v Didsbury 2; Weds 18 - Chester BH 3s v Neston 2s; Thurs 19 - Hyde v Bowdon.

Round 3 fixtures will be published next edition.

CHESHIRE CC NEWS

NCCA T20 GROUP 1, NANTWICH CC

Match 1: Staffs (198-7, 19.3 os) beat Cheshire (196-7) by 3 wkts Match 2: Staffs (129-3, 11.5 os) beat Cheshire (128-9) by 7 wkts

Cheshire face an uphill struggle to qualify for the T20 knockout stages after two losses to a dominant Staffordshire side at Nantwich on Sunday, Staffs going top of the group as a result.

In Match 1, a sticky start for Cheshire seemed to justify Staffs' decision to insert, but at 49–3 in the ninth, George Lavelle (51 off 24 bs) was joined by Kevin Carroll, the Brooklands skipper hammering 5 sixes in his 17–ball 50, Lavelle keeping the momentum going with the tail to see Cheshire post a respectable 196–7.

A blistering start to the Staffs reply led by Nils Priestly (63 off 22 bs) saw them 87-1 after the powerplay, but Cheshire pegged things back well, Staffs going from 128-2 to 168-7, before Matthew Morris (52* off 39) and ex-Lancs man Liam Hurt took 18 off the penultimate over, Hurt blasting a four and six to snatch a dramatic win with three balls remaining.

Match 2 was a totally different story. Staffs put Cheshire in again and, buoyed by their earlier triumph, produced a miserly display in the field, every chance offered being taken and wkts falling regularly. Cheshire wobbled to 84-9 in the 16th before Michael Finan (31*) and Andrew Dufty (15*) at least helped Cheshire bat 20 overs, but a target of 129 was never likely to trouble a strong Staffs outfit and so it proved. Nils Priestly again (53 off 22) and Liam Banks (35 off 18 to go with 2-10 earlier) had 66 on the board within 5 overs, Staffs over the line in the 12th to win by 7 wkts.

Cheshire need to regroup quickly for their crucial T20 meetings with Cumbria at Barrow-in-Furness CC on June 29th.

CHESHIRE CUP ROUND 2

BOWDEN LANE (MICHAEL HIBBERT C.G.): TIMPERLEY 231-8 (40 os) beat MARPLE 230-9 (40 os) by 1 run



Fred Vaughan-Hawkins' 70 (66 bs) and skipper Ed Galley (36) were the main contributions to Timpers' total. Marple got off to a terrible start in reply but from 15-2 Max Fitzgerald grew in confidence, adding 101 for the 4th wkt with Owen Reilly (50) as Fitzgerald reached a superb 104 (77 bs). Reilly took things on with the tail as the tension mounted, Galley (3-41) bowling him in the penultimate over. Marple needed 12 off the last but John Fowler's experience produced three dot balls, Ed Skelton's striking of the final ball for six the last act of a terrific match. Timpers now travel to Alderley Edge for Round 3 next Sunday.

DARK LANE: BREDBURY SM 173-7 (40 os) beat

NEW BRIGHTON 153 (39.3 os) by 20 runs. A real scalp for the Cheshire League side against their Liverpool Comp. opponents. BSM's Tom Maegraith made a patient 63 (105 bs) as his side made a decent fist of things with the bat. New Brighton reached 93-2 in reply but when the crucial wkt of Sam Jones (62) fell, Kyle O'Reilly's side started cutting through the opposition, NB tumbling to 145-9 as the runs dried to a crawl. Amidst noisy scenes, the last man was run out to as BSM celebrated a famous victory and another home draw, Maritime the visitors next Sunday and a fascinating match in prospect.

NATIONAL KNOCKOUT NEWS

Nantwich easily won through in the battle of the Prem heavyweights, winning at Didsbury by 9 wkts after Ali Chugtai (79*) and Rob Jones (53*) added an untroubled 142* in 20 overs. Earlier the Nantwich bowling & fielding had been unerring as Didsbury could only muster 145 after being put in, all five bowlers sharing the wkts. Nantwich now await their next opponents in the national stages of the competition.



CCCL XI v MCC An anniversary match to mark 50 years of the CCCL THURSDAY 19th JUNE 11.30 AM, TOFT CRICKET CLUB

Followed by a 3-course dinner at 19:30 with league figures past and present, and special guest speaker ROBERT CROFT (ex-Glamorgan & England).

Dinner tickets - £45 via Cheshire Cricket Board website ('News' section)

More information from davidjgane@btinternet.com



Written and compiled by Geoff Wellsteed
With a Foreword by Paul Allott

Geoff Wellsteed's lovingly researched and superbly chronicled account of the first 50 years of the CCCL has been selling well. The book is available to purchase on line through either the Cheshire Board web site or the CCCL via the Play Cricket site.

Costs are £10 for a posted copy or £5 for collection from Neston, Toft, or Didsbury.

League chairman David Humpage can also supply copies on his regular visits around Cheshire grounds, please ask him.

