

THE CANARD

Newsletter of the Riviera Cricket Club

Sultry Summer Issue MMVI Volume III Issue 15

www.rivieracricket.com

THE DIX OF TWIXTTURRET

HIP - HIP HOWZAT?!

RIVIERA CRICKET CLUB SALUTES ENTRECASTEAUX C.C. ON THEIR TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Immediately, irresistably, of course, one's thoughts reach for Wittgenstein's meditation on The Gospels: in the face of such extraordinary events, how can we expect accuracy or consistency in the accounts people give?

And so it is with the founding of such a thing as a Cricket Club. Entrecasteaux Cricket Club celebrates its tenth anniversary this year and we wish them well, thanking them for these years of the consistent high-voltage rivalry without which one club alone cannot survive, and wondering where they get all those old Bernard Levin books they try to sell.

The history of the pioneering of their club is no clearer than our own, now that Ivar's photograph reproduced in the last issue pushes the date of earliest informal yet existential beginnings back even to 1989. It's a history entwined with ours too, what's more. Broadcaster and Old-Hand-Man-About-The-Var Douglas Gibbon can take much credit. And in a letter to the Editor he points out that he it was who first explained cricket to the town hall...

He had been travelling Provence with mike & tape recorder [remember them?] doing village programmes for Riviera Radio, sponsored by Ricard. (No fool, our Douglas.) As a man of enlightenmant, he had been taken by the gardens in front of the castle at Entrecasteaux, gardens designed by the great Le Nôtre. His programme in (probably) July 1995 had been recorded at the eatery Lou Picatou, at the foot of the steps up to the château:

"I interviewed the Mayor, members of the *Conseil municipal* and local residents. After the programme and an excellent lunch I was asked by M. Robert Cathelnais, President of the *Comité des Fêtes*, if I had any ideas..." It was at this hapless and possibly legless moment that the suggestion of a cricket match was made. "The one stumbling block might be the fact of the two goal posts; 'Not at all,' replied M.Cathelnais, 'we just lift them out of the ground.'"

At a subsequent meeting of the *Comité des Fêtes* Douglas was



That's enough of the history, yawn, what about the future? This action-shot of the Holy Field at St Vallier, taken by or of Solomon, bending over, reminds us that the Club faces the need to raise money, especially for upkeep of the matting!

Therefore this issue of The Canard contains a call-to-arms to the
BEER RAFFLE DAY on SUNDAY 13TH AUGUST
and advance notice of KEN FIELDER DAY
on SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER.

The latter will be a family & fun day for all Members & Friends, featuring a 20-20 match for the Ken Fielder Trophy and a Grand Raffle. So, we are looking for Donations for the Raffle...

Call Solomon to pledge your schlock.

06 21 77 69 80

NOTE THAT FOR AN UP-TO-DATE FIXTURE LIST,
PLEASE CONSULT WWW.RIVIERACRICKET.COM...

Financial Solutions for British Expatriates

Financial Advisers specializing in tax, inheritance,
investment and retirement planning



Siddalls

Robert Kent, Regional Manager

Tel: 04 92 28 72 80

Email: Robert@siddalls.com.fr

www.siddalls.fr



THE RIFF RAFFLE!

Sunday 13th August 2006

ASK NOT, JUST STUMP UP...

You 'orrible riff-raff, you're needed! The long-trodden, scuffed and fraying sacred St Vallier matting needs attention, the Club needs money, we are holding a BEER RAFFLE... It's as simple as that. There are 5 cases of beer to be won and tickets cost 20 Euros. Winner takes all, losers mooch all they can... Versailles all over again: *le nôtre?* – quite bloody right.

Tickets can be bought from Solomon on 06.21.77.69.80 or by e-mailing him at solomon.ani@wanadoo.fr...

Then in the autumn we are asking Members & Friends to donate for a GRAND RAFFLE on the KEN FIELDER DAY on Saturday 2nd September.

The Editor will donate a cricket painting he hasn't done yet and the tickets, themselves a limited print of one of his 'Wily Spinner' drawings Ken loved so much, will be around 50 Euros. Why don't you donate something? – a half-day of your services? a crate of Chablis? some old videos? Again, please contact Solomon with your bountiful largesse. No Bernard Levin, please.

And remember: "Ask not what your Club can do for you, ask what you can do for your Club." (J.F.Kitchener, Vice-Capt., Marilyn CC & West World XI.)

**And don't forget Saturday 2nd September: the Ken Fielder Day for all the family....
A 20-20 Match for all-comers with the Grand Raffle! Donate Now and Come Then!!**

summoned to explain the game of cricket and did so in the company of Anita Rieu-Sicart, founder, chief scoop and printer's devil of the Var Village Voice. Much of the early fund-raising involved Anita with Len Terry selling raffle tickets every Christmas, for instance. And much of the routing of doubters was achieved in the context of that strange, sometimes inflammably smug camaraderie Var village expats have that doesn't gel in the more dispersed and coagulated population of Alpes-Maritimes.

Douglas Gibbon's pivotal opening stand was followed not so much by him as by Anita & Len, with the encouragement and administrative enthusiasm of Robert Cathelnais. Ivar O'Brien's recollection is that the first match was on 8th & 9th June 1996 and that "earlier in the year I had met Douglas Gibbon, who was then broadcasting for the local radio and who specialised in individual village programmes extolling the advantages of each community, the venue on this occasion being Cabris. In conversation Douglas told me that he was going to promote a weekend fête at Entrecasteaux and fancied a cricket match for both days on the field beside where the fête would be held. Cabris Captain Jonathon Griffiths and I went to look at the field, the present football pitch; the rest of the terrain, where the cricket field now is, being then totally overgrown."

Play, perforce, would take place on the football zone. "I was able to arrange opposition by the fledgling Marseille and Montpellier clubs; on the day Cabris [today's Riviera] was at full strength but our opponents were short and so had to be lent players, one of whom was Dushyant Patel, then Cabris Treasurer. I well remember that Dushyant often took a seemingly perverse delight in playing against his own club whenever opportunity allowed.

"On the Saturday Marseille won using only seven batsmen, thanks to a vigorous century by Julian Biggs and 40* from Patel — who continued by taking 3 Cabris wickets, including top scorer John 'Bomber' Lancaster, who hit 60. On Sunday it was Montpellier who won by 33 runs, thanks to a batting collapse by Cabris, whose only decent scorer was J. Griffiths on 49. Sadly both these other clubs have faded away but Cabris

survives and Entrecasteaux emerged as a club and to have the best field for cricket in Provence. All best wishes to Len Terry and his Club as they celebrate their tenth anniversary."

E.C.C. mopped up the stars of those faded westerly clubs and has an enviable encatchment area; it has become much the most ambitious of the clubs we play. And where would we be without such characters as Lean Len Terry, his bowling controlled by messages from Mars, or E. R. R. Mitcham and his Martian dialect, not to mention Hatstand Lomax, the ruddy transcontinental umpire? Let alone the girls at the tea-tent & bookstall. Their scorers' tent has an electric fan! *C'est l'Amérique!* Ah, but no newsletter...

In the final analysis it's character that rules: Le Nôtre (1630-1700), genius of the French formal garden with its cunning 'infinity' perspectives, author of the lay-out of Versailles and Vaux-le-Vicomte among others, enjoys a peculiar homage at Entrecasteaux — Douglas reckons the public loo opposite the restaurant is the only one in France to have a view over one of his gardens. If you're a gent, that is...

Incapability Brown

THE LATIN WILLOW

We welcomed Salix this year for their first visit and here repeat some trivia about the Club; started in 1991, Salix draws together "a bunch of the consultants at Touche Ross in London who were either too old, too crap or whose partners were too miserable to let them play for a regular team. The first few years were mainly 20-over games, played after work versus like-minded teams and internal teams like Audit (yawn), Tax (double yawn) and Corporate Finance (too stuck-up to speak)." 1996 saw the first tours (first Exmoor, then Malvern and in 2000 Kent) and the first nets at Lord's. "In 1997 the original group had long since broken up to work for other firms and it was becoming increasingly hard to get anywhere in London after work for a 6.00 start, so the decision was made to take a chance and move the team up to Sunday friendlies, joining the Club Cricket Conference in 1998." Salix is Latin for willow; as for Creative Accountancy, yes, well, they brought too many players with them and the report of our 12-a-side game appears later in the issue.

OVERHEARD ON THE BOUNDARY

One: "Brian's always going on about Ivar's knees, innny?"
Other: "All he's ever seen, innit?"

MATCH REPORTS

Riviera C.C. v Halifax Nomads at St.Vallier, 8th April

Halifax won by 8 wickets

Halifax won the toss and elected to field.

Riviera: 128 off 36 overs

Ghauri 34; Natoli 31; Larg 28

Halifax: 130 for 2 off 31.3 overs

Larg, 7-1 off 8; Lal 23-2 off 8

Umpires: provided by batting side

Following an unprecedented show of cowardice from the jelly-spined vice-captain, a makeshift skipper was nominated. Fissures were first noticed in the Dakin leadership when inexperience rendered the coin toss void due to revelation that Eurocent coins do not possess a head...

Following the re-toss Halifax elected to field. Dakin & Ghauri opened for Riviera, Dakin stuttering in the first over, dropped behind off the second ball. Things then calmed down, due to some very mediocre bowling — mediocrity however matched by the batting... Wickets fell through frustration at lobbed-up dobbies and slow long-hops. The long grass in the outfield meant that boundaries were hard to find (the same for both sides, of course). Larg, Natoli & Ghauri offered the pick of the innings.

With a low total to protect — too many dropped catches — Riviera bowlers had their work cut out. Although wickets were few and far between, bowling was very tight up to drinks, the vistsors only 65-1 off 20. Larg was on his usual fiery form (7-0 off 8), five of his eight overs bowled without a single run scored. Natoli also did well to begin but suffered as the batsmen settled in with wickets in hand and the total in sight. The only wicket-taker for Riviera was Lal (23-2 off 8).

After the break a change of keeper was called for to allow Ghauri to slow things down a bit. The spritely Ani was sent back to long leg to plug the gap. Riviera's grip loosened and despite dispatching the 2nd opener, bats 3 & 4 brought home the pudding for the Yorkshiremen.

Having come up short in an attempt to soften up the visitors on the field, the home side rallied for the 3rd innings at the bar du Sénat. Several rounds were shared in rugby-bar style and sterling performances were put in by the club president Ranger, vice captain Ghauri (surviving a serious bout of

The Shirts Hit Ir Fan...
W A V E T H E F L A G !
B U Y A S H I R T !

Natty short-sleeved cricket shirts,
sporting the Riviera Cricket Club escutcheon,
are available in all sorts of sizes, junior & senior
(but not editorial or publisherish)
at a special price of just 25 Euros!

Give Irfan a shout: 06 18 92 06 68
or better by e-mail: irfan.ghauri@wanadoo.fr

"Gad! Less than the price of a bottle of wine!" D.Larger

Remember to mention The Canard when replying to advertisers.

smoke inhalation), the ever-present Larg, impromptu captain Dakin and the catering crew (the Anis). Stalwarts Larg, Ghauri & Dakin were last to leave following the presentation of a free but entirely necessary "one for the road" donated by the grateful management.

The following day's victory can surely be attributed in some small portion to the poor physical condition of the visiting side. Everyone played their part.

Steve Dakin

Riviera C.C. v Salix C.C. at St. Vallier, Saturday 22nd April

Riviera won by 6 wickets

Salix, touring with extra men, gifted a player to Rivera for a 12-a-side game. Salix won the toss and elected to bat

Salix: 193 off 39.4 overs

Natoli 21-0 off 8; Lamb 18-2 off 4; Newey 22-3 off 5

Riviera: 196 off 25.3

Lamb 88*; Martin 50

Umpires: provided by the batting side

Lamb to the slaughter? Salix turned out in a very professional uniform trying for a psychological advantage and putting the urchin-like Johnson to shame in his tight-fitting

BLIMEY, BLIGHTY?

RENEGADE CANARD ENGLAND TOUR 2008

There used to be the odd tour by Cabris C.C. — especially to Ivar's stamping ground at Harrietsham — but the idea never quite caught on with a Club whose membership has never been excessively flush either with readies or readiness. Of course, that was in the extortionate hellJet era but now that crossing the Channel is cheaper than a taxi to the aeroport, we have had the idea of promoting an unofficial 2008 Canard Cricket Tour in the barmy *Sud-Est* of England, just off the French coast.

Robin Mayes in Kent will be *Our Chap On The Spot* and since we have new friends in the two Sussex Clubs that toured here for the first time last season, Battsford and the Zambucca Tigers (returning 1st October this year), as well as this year's Salix, who knows what fixtures may emerge? The idea has been prompted by an introduction to The Editor, effected by Lord Lurgy, a.k.a. Derek Mayes, of no fixed abode, to Geoff Croasdale, the cheery Fixtures' Secretary of the Royal Household XI, who will play us at Windsor Castle on Saturday, 17th August, 2008, a kindness given their busy list of regular opponents. During the match we shall toast the 55th anniversary of the Coronation and there will be only English wine at luncheon.

Everything is flexible at this stage around that date, but we shall seek & fix provisional dates later this year in the hopes of 2 or even 3 other fixtures in four or five days. Save a fiver a week now and you'll have £500 to blow... Interested? Ideas? An Uncle in Sussex with a spare Bentley? Contact the Editor. And since you ask, in the event of rain we shall have a Shove-Ha'penny & Cross-Country Pint-Downing Tournament.

blue shorts. Riviera remained quietly confident given the strength and depth of the bowling attack and the experience in the batting line-up.

The first innings started with Lamb bowling a tight line up the hill and leaving nothing for the batsmen. Natoli the Italian ice-cream salesman ran downhill with pace and effort from the top with similar effect. Lamb's consistency & pace resulted in the first 2 wickets, one due to a skied edge caught at point by rock-steady Dakin following a commanding shout that kept Ghauri at a safe distance. The second saw the new batsman trapped squarely in front for an undeniable LBW. First change bought McCleod into the frame for his first spell which he kept very tidy and tight. Teddy Sherringham look-alike Martin was given the opportunity to offer up a few runs before drinks, giving away 9 off his second over. The score: a respectable 82-2 at drinks.

Surprisingly Martin kept hold of the ball after drinks but managed to stem the flow. The first real look at Newey, sporting the Dennis Lillie wannabe headband and this week's winner of the "ridiculous dive on the boundary" award, brought a caught behind by Ghauri, following the change of keeper during drinks, the less experienced Bristow having problems with his hands. (They couldn't keep hold of the ball.) The new batsman made his intentions clear and gave promise to the bowlers, thrashing at anything outside the off stump. This attack continued to punish Riviera but was almost halted when Lal put down a hard hit, boundary-bound catch at mid-wicket. The next ball saw his partner taken by Lamb at short extra cover in a packed off-side. No.6 bat was deftly run out following some nifty fielding from Natoli. The following ball, Newey bowled the new batsman and sent him quacking.

New change at the top brought the skipper on with his famous finger tweakers. A very difficult half chance was very nearly transformed by Dakin fielding too close for comfort. Lal replaced Newey up the hill with some unconventional round-the-wicket cupped-handers producing a catch by Martin at square leg. Some very shoddy keeping then created a let-off for a near run-out despite an inch-perfect throw. Jammy James McLeod was brought back up the hill after some gentle hints to the skipper. Good captaincy: McLeod went on to clean up — No.4 had been reaping havoc and was out caught & bowled McLeod. Two balls later the newcomer was dispatched without mercy, bringing the innings to a close.

The player offered to Rivera to enable the 12-a-sider was a self-professed batsman; this turned out to be self-deception. Sent in at No.2 the only movement he produced was the trembling of fear facing the relatively tame attack from his own friends. Wickets fell early while his frustrated partners took on the challenge. There was much dismay as Dakin fell first and the long anticipated Dakin-Johnson defensive partnership was not to be. In fact the first 3 wickets fell in fairly short order and Rivera were struggling at 12-3, with Johnson having been in and out without effect on the game. Then, in marched the skipper, smacked a 6 off his third ball and dug in his heels. Martin spanked the new spinner all over the place until the latter finally got in the groove and started causing problems. The partnership continued until Martin's 50 just after which a small lapse in concentration saw him dismissed. Next back to the pavillion was Peel whinging that his tally had been tampered with (6&4 short), but it was quite rightly pointed out that his score of 15 must be correct because that was what was in The Book. There can be no further argument. In the meantime Larry the Lamb had been racking up the score with some superb and hefty shots, several of which must surely be in contention for the coveted "biggest bash in the history of the club" award. He had been ably and unselfishly aided first by Peel and then Irfan who continued to partner him in a very expert anchor role, to equal the first innings score. A stylish 4 from Lamb brought to an end a very fine personal performance with both ball & bat and it was all over.

All the bowlers from Riviera performed well to contain the visitors to a respectable but chaseable score. Some outstanding batting from Martin and Lamb — supported well by both the skipper and then Ghauri — produced the goods for Riviera. A good day's cricket in superb weather. But the outfield is too long — where's the mower?

Steve Dakin

The Riviera Cricket Club

Committee Members & Club Officers

President — Brian Ranger

06 20 29 36 26

brian.ranger@wanadoo.fr

Secretary — Solomon Ani

06 21 77 69 80

solomon.ani@wanadoo.fr

Treasurer & Outfitter — Irfan Ghauri

06 18 92 06 68

irfan.ghauri@wanadoo.fr

Club Captain — Sir Peel Taggart

04 93 12 25 58 (+44 77 69 67 46 84)

peel@mxmg.com

**FRANCE CRICKET & ARSECCF
and Juniors Liaison — John Cook**

06 22 11 03 63 ifp1@msn.com

Catering Mastermind — Gloria Ani

Fixtures Secretary — Brain Arranger

Solomon Ani is responsible for the Match Kit
and Peel Taggart for Nets' Kit.

The Canard — Editter: Jonathon Brown

villaparasol@aol.com

www.rivieracricquet.com

SIDDALLS CUP CRICKET WEEKEND at Entrecasteaux, 13 & 14th May

Once a year, for the last 9 years, the finest cricketers in Southern France have joined battle for the prestigious Siddalls Cup. Historically there has been barely anything to chose between the South East Region and our neighbours from the South West, and the standard of cricket played has been consistently high. You might like to think of the jump in standards from club to regional cricket as akin to the jump between County and International cricket. I certainly do. Before the 2006 fixture, the series stood at 4-4, and this year Riviera Cricket Club was proud to have 5 players selected to represent the South East, and get our noses ahead. Irfan Ghauri, William Lamb, Phil Martin, Jonathan Griffiths and Peel Taggart all travelled to Entrecasteaux in the knowledge they were to face their sternest test of the season. Batting

first, South East provided — and survived — some early catching practice for the opposition and went on to post a total above par of 239 off their 45 overs, with more than half the runs coming from RCC willow. The South West was faced with a manageable but challenging run chase at 5.3 an over, but early wickets and tight bowling, most notably from Phil Martin (from an RCC perspective, of course), saw that run rate eventually drift to double figures. The South West lost their final wicket in the 41st over, having just breached the 200 run mark. So, South East leads the series 5-4 and we look forward to going west next year for what will assuredly be another closely fought contest.

Thanks to our hosts at Entrecasteaux for a sensationally lavish lunch, and for running a great day for all.

Peel Taggart

Siddalls International Trophy

45 overs per innings match

South East v South West

Saturday 13th May 2006

South East team: from Entrecasteaux - Anthony Slack (capt), Uddika Bandaranayake, Roshan Perera, Satpal Randhava, Saim Mohd & David Coates; from Riviera - Peel Taggart, Phil Martin, Jonathan Griffiths, Irfan Ghauri and William Lamb.

South East won by 47 runs

— giving them a 5-4 lead over the nine years of the contest.

Man of the Match: Peel Taggart.

South-East won the toss and elected to bat

South-East: 239-8 off 45 overs

Peel Taggart 69, Roshan Perera 42, Jon Griffiths 24, Irfan Ghauri 23, Bandaranayake 22, Will Lamb 19*

Chris Searson 2-24 off 9; Richard Cox 2-60 off 9.

South-West: 193-10 off 43.1 overs

Tom Martell (père) 24, Richard Cox 24, Adrian Raynor 23, Ben Martell (fils, 16) 12*.

Bandaranayake 2-14 off 5.1; Martin 2-26 off 9 in 1 spell; Lamb 2-30 off 5; Saim 2-34 off 7; Roshan 1-15 off 5.

Umpires: Mike Lomax & Brian Ranger.

South-West opening bowler (Raynor) pulled calf muscle early on and was given a runner in 2nd innings. Phil Martin was unfortunately run out at the bowler's end when Jon Griffiths crashed a short long-hop back to the bowler who gathered very quickly and threw down the wicket out of the back of his hand. On the other hand, South-West dropped several catches — notably Peel, at least twice — which was very costly to them and fine by us...

The day started clear, the clouded over and finished in a steady though very light rain. We enjoyed excellent catering — salmon & quiches with plenty of varied salads.

John Siddalls Junior Match — Under 13s

South East v South West

on Sunday 14th May

South East team: 9 from Riviera - Tasso Doyle (capt), Ryan Cook, Alex Ferrant, Nicolas Coombs, Rory McCleod, Max Razimbaud, Liam Worrall, Liam Green and Jack Denn; 2 from Entrecasteaux - Jacques Brunet & Sebastian Field.

South West team - from the two clubs of Bordeaux and St Aulaye

Special regulations agreed: batsman retires at 20, no bowler more than 4 overs, no batsman to be out first ball, no balls & wides to be 2 extras each but no extra delivery. Boundary placed at 30 metres.

South West won by 9 wkts

— thus pulling back to 1-1 after their defeat last year in the

first junior match (U.15s).

South-West won the toss and elected to field.

South-East: 76-10 off 20 overs

Ryan Cook 11, Nicolas Coombs 4.

Andrew Brunsdon 2-2 off 2; John Harding 2-11 off 3; Tom Smallwood 1-0 off 2; Alex Dudney 1-12 off 2.

South-West: 77-1 off 13.3 overs

Alex Dudney 23 (retired), Andrew Brunsdon 20 (retired), Charlie Smith 11*.

Alex Ferrant 1-2 off 2 [2-1-2-1].

Umpires: Mike Lomax & Graham Kelsey.

Noteworthy stat: South-West conceded 58 extras (wides 46) but South-East only 23.

John Siddalls Friendly 20/20

South East v South West

on Sunday 14th May

South West won by 100 runs

Man of the Match: Chris Searson.

South-West won the toss and elected to bat

South-West: 138-8 off 20 overs

David Bordes 43, Tom Martell 29, Rupert Holderness 20.

Roshan Perera 2-13 (4 overs)

South-East: 38-10 off 10 overs

Satpal Randhava 15, Julien Natoli 6.

Chris Searson 5-8 (4 overs), .

Umpires: David Trotman & Andrew Macaulay.

Note: David Bordes replaced the South-West's injured player (Raynor). South-West took all their catches; one in particular (by Neil Vasey), off a full-blooded, if slightly uppish, drive at short mid-wicket to dismiss Uddika, was a stunner at any level.

*notes & statistics kindly supplied by
Graham Kelsey*

THE LODI WEEKEND: or A GOLDEN DUCK TOURNAMENT Italy, 27th & 28th May 2006.

The tournament was between 6 teams — Winterthur (Zurich), Cossonay (Lausanne), CERN (Geneve), Milan & Idle Lodi (Italy) and Riviera Cricket Club.

The RCC team comprised Peel Taggart, Irfan Ghauri, Steve Dakin, Matt Johnson, David Larg, William Lamb, Mark Pierce and Solomon Ani. Support came from Gloria Ani, Frédérique & Ilhan Ghauri.

We arrived at Lodi on Friday afternoon, and all stayed at the best hotel in town (as was the Captain's request) — The Lodi Hotel. That evening we all went to the central piazza and took in the local ambience; then on to a restaurant next to where we'd been asked to meet Carlo Gendarini of Lodi Cricket Club, who was organising the tournament, and some of the other clubs' members too. So, after a boisterous, lively and convivial dinner, we received our playing schedule, had a few more drinks, some extra special ice cream and made our way to the central piazza in order to take a taxi back to our hotel. Regrettably, no-one had told us that the Lodi taxi service — um, all 2 cars of it — stopped at midnight! So, there we were, nine displaced Rivierans who, having failed to get the local Italian constabulary to "arrest" us and drop us all to the hotel, faced a gruelling walk back to the hotel. Without Matt's able path-finding, instead of a 50-minute walk it'd've been maybe double that.

On Saturday morning we arrived at the cricket ground and played two matches in succession — sadly losing both. The highlight of each game was undoubtedly Steve's bowling. The rules stipulated 12 overs per innings, batsmen to retire at 40 and no bowler to bowl more than 2 overs. It had become crystal clear during the first match that Steve was not in agreement with nor happy about the latter rule. Single-handedly, and without regard to either ego or pride, he set about both teams with a spectacular display of bowling — managing to bowl a total of 21 balls (for his two overs) in the 1st match and 17 in the 2nd. At the time it was obvious that he'd found a raw nerve amongst his fellow RCC members, however, later that evening, the incidents provided great mirth and much merriment during dinner and afterwards. The following day we played our 3rd and what turned out to be our final game. We put up the highest score of the entire tournament with Will, Peel and David all having to retire after exceeding the 40-run limit. We left after our match and returned home, having taken 5th place. The weekend was memorable, filled with a lot of fun and even more laughter.

Solomon Ani

Riviera C.C. v Entrecasteaux C.C. at Entrecasteaux, 2nd July

Entrecasteaux won by 153 runs

Entrecasteaux won the toss and elected to bat.

Entrecasteaux: 267-7 off 40 overs

Bandaranayake 55, Randhava 48, Slack 28.

R.C.C.: 114 off 25 overs

Taggart 54, Lamb 18

Perera 7-0-24-3; Bandaranayake 5-2-25-2; Coates 5-0-36-2;

Everton 1-0-2-2.

Umpires: David Trotman, Richard Thompson

League points awarded: Entrecasteaux 28 [20+4+4], Riviera 3 [0+0+3] These points are for winning/batting/bowling.

Any required strike rate is possible — after all, the other lot just did it; but that takes into account none of the psychology of the situation, nor the effect of having had to field first in temperatures in the high 30s and so on... And, dear

**LOOK THE PART!
PLAY YOUR PART!**

**Fashionable cool short-sleeved cricket shirts,
proudly sporting the Riviera Cricket Club emblem,
are now available in junior & senior sizes,
at a special price of just 25 Euros!**

**Get Irfan on the blower on 06 18 92 06 68
or better by e-mail: irfan.ghauri@wanadoo.fr**

"Gracious! Less than the cost of a crate of Cahors!" Ivar O'Brien

Always mention The Canard when replying to advertisers.

reader, gad, the psychology at Entrecasteaux is never simple. Moreover, not quite seven-an-over or so is a damnable figure requiring *nearly* two boundaries an over, just tighter than you might relish. We didn't relish and we didn't manage. Their first ten overs' or so batting seemed, from the shade of my boundary picnic at any rate, not to have been too threatening, but while they were solidly, misleadingly coiling themselves for an attack we had not made sufficient inroads to give their base a wobble. So it proved. One or two rather natty, classy shots served also, in the tennis manner, to do more damage than their actual score — they wilted an already sweltering morale. E.C.C. put out a strong team, as usual, and we were short of regulars.

Lunch was taken but apparently only twenty minutes had been sheduled and the only possible courteous reason for that could be to deliver the *coup de grace* as quickly as possible. Summoned peremptorily and in ungallant language back to the steamy field, we had a go but twenty-five overs saw us off — and thereafter rather less than twenty-five minutes saw the team off home too. Not much fun, even for a mad dog. French telly was there to record some stew-pot show about expats in France, in Normandy, Bordeaux and Provence; they fiddle-faddled about and at my picnic table we gave them a performance of the Marseillaise, humming gently while they took stills, having asked us not to move or speak. Their poor cameraman creased up. We kept po faces. Even they wonder what the hell it is we consider to be a fun way to sweat out a Sunday afternoon...

Jonathon Brown

THE SOUTH-EAST LEAGUE POOL 'D' ... SO FAR

RESULTS AS AT 11TH JULY

Entrecasteaux: played 3, won 3 — Monte Carlo: played 2, won 1 — Riviera: played 3, won 0

DATE	HOME TEAM	AWAY TEAM	RESULT	POINTS
2.iv	Riviera	Entrecasteaux	Entrecasteaux won by 7 wkts	Riviera 1, E.C.C. 25
7.v	Monte Carlo	Riviera	Monte Carlo won by 74 runs	Monte Carlo 27, Riviera 4
11.vi	Entrecasteaux	Monte Carlo	Entrecasteaux won by 70 runs	E.C.C. 28, Monte Carlo 4
2.vii	Entrecasteaux	Riviera	Entrecasteaux won by 153 runs	E.C.C. 28, Riviera 3
23.vii	Monte Carlo	Entrecasteaux		
13.viii	Riviera	Monte Carlo		
viii/ix	play-off			
9/10.ix	quarter-finals			
10/17	semi-finals & final			