

London Erratics v Chelsea Arts Club

The Erratics could only muster eight seasoned regulars for this fixture. The opposition had already kindly promised a spare player (Francis Palmer). And on the day, the stand-in CAC skipper agreed to make it ten-a-side – though curiously not in a way that would make the transferred batsman (likely to be someone called Moir) realise that he had been permanently sold. The Erratics won the toss, and elected to field. An independent umpire would be officiating.

Brian Berrigan and Matthew Eltringham bowled very tidily, and kept the ambitions of the batsmen in check. A good catch by Chris Dunabin at slip removed a threatening left-hander. The arrival of scorer Robert Waller indicated that the weather had held up play at Edgbaston; the arrival of a fine mist of rain did not interrupt proceedings at Dunsfold. When lunch was taken at 12.30, the feeling was that the CAC's score of 123 for 1 could have been worse, given the creaky nature of the Erratics fielders.

The tasty lunch was taken inside the Sun Inn, because of the damp conditions. When the teams walked back to resume, the rain had become steadier. Skipper James Rivington, resigned to bowling the first over after lunch, was in no particular hurry to take to the field, and neither were the batsmen. The rain got a tad harder, and the CAC captain felt obliged to wheel the covers over the strip that the village side would be using the next day. As the volume of general murmuring in the pavilion grew, James strode out to the wicket and discovered the squelchy pools that were beginning to form on the square. There still had to be the ritual protestations of 'give it another thirty minutes' from the more hardline players. But the two captains opted for sanity and sent everyone home.

A pity not to get a proper game. But the Erratics probably avoided a right shellacking.

The Erratics side (in alphabetical order): Brian Berrigan, †Bill Bush, Patrick Cobb, Chris Dunabin, Matthew Eltringham, Richard Heller, Mike Long, Francis Palmer, *James Rivington.

JR

CHELSEA ARTS CLUB — batting

1	not out		64
2	c Dunabin	b Berrigan	12
3	not out		38
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

123 for 1

LONDON ERRATICS — bowling

Berrigan	12	1	50	1
Eltringham	8	2	37	0
Heller	4	0	31	0

Fall of wickets: 1–29