

Tourists take a tumble

ON A RARE, beautiful summer's day, the Hampshire Hogs recorded a comprehensive eight-wicket victory in their inaugural fixture against the touring Jesters.

Despite losing the toss and being asked to bowl first on a typically flat Warnford wicket, the Hogs got off to a flyer when captain Jonny Bridcut reduced the visitors to 28 for 3 within the first ten overs.

The middle order then proceeded to nurse a steady recovery until lunch though could not prevent Charlie Russell trapping the opposition's most dangerous batsman lbw for 49.

Immediately after the break, the Hogs were in inspired form and,

led by the guile of Christopher Bazalgette, in harness with some excellent fielding, reduced their opponents to 120 for 7. A defiant lower order extended their score to 185 all out, though this was still considerably below par.

James Burrige and Bill Gunyon started the Hogs' reply in style, sharing a solid partnership of 96. After the loss of a couple of wickets midway through the final session, Burrige was joined by wicketkeeper Mark Dunn, and together they put on an unbeaten 60.

Just before victory was complete, Burrige hit the final boundary of the match to bring up his second century for the Hogs.