

## Le Carpentier and Buckley Steal the Show for the Seconds

Tuesday, 16 May 2017

The Second Eleven entered the double weekend knowing that two victories would result in them returning to the top of the table.

Shaw were the visitors to Towncroft on Saturday. Skipper, Gareth Hughes won the toss and chose to bat first.

The innings was dominated by 16 year old Leighton Le Carpentier who faced the first ball and the last ball of the innings, finishing on 120 not out. Middleton finished on 262 for 9.

In reply only one Shaw batsman looked determined to take the attack to the Middleton attack. Opening batsman, Craig Thompson finishing on 52 not out as Shaw were bowled out for 77 as the bowling attack proved too strong.

On Sunday they made the trip to Little Hey Street for the top of the table clash against Heyside and their formidable batting line up.

The match was dominated by one man, Mark Buckley. He took 5 wickets, 4 catches and scored 81 not out in a high pressured chase.

Batting first, Heyside were in all kinds of trouble at 57 for 5 however some late order clubbing by Matthew Robinson and Lee Watkinson took their side to 161 all out.

Middleton's chase could not have started any worse, with Mo Shahid out with the score still on 0.

Buckley came to the crease the score on 20 for 2, still needing 140 for victory. Pressure was on his shoulders, but you would not have been able to tell as he played his shots with his natural flair and fluidity. All he needed was a partner to stay with him.

He found a capable ally in Ben Lee and the pair quickly dispatched anything slightly offline to the small boundaries as they led their team to victory with 10 overs left.

Buckley finishing on 81 off 84 and Lee, 40 off 29 deliveries.