COPLEY KEEP CUP

1974

By Chris Judge

COPLEY RETAINED the Parish Cup with a 14-run victory in the final at the Ramsdens but how Greetland must have kicked themselves at not taking the trophy.

But let nothing be taken away from the performance of Copley for they played very well yesterday.

This was the third time they had won the trophy in seven years and the chances are they could complete the double, as they did last year.

In last year's final Ron Bellenger bowled Copley to victory and collected the man of the match award. This time it was Dennis Bowyer.

Bowyer, given little recognition in the past, took four wickets for 48, but it was only his last few overs that many runs were scored off him.

His performance gave little difficulty to Mr George Woodhead, secretary of the Collinson Cup, in nominating him for the man of the match award.

Paul Beck, with a forceful 48 and Derek Smith with a patient 37 not out also played their part in Copley's triumph, but the man I thought brought them victory was their captain, Brian Hume.

DIFFERENCE

His strategic field placing saved many runs and he used his bowlers well. This was perhaps the real difference between victory and defeat.

Greetland were not unlucky. They had their chance but did not accept it.

Their opening bowlers, Nigel Pitchforth and Derek Moody, bowled too short, and Beck made them pay the penalty. After he departed to a fine catch by Harold Pidgeon the innings was built round Smith.

Smith stayed at the crease for 39 overs, but should have gone when on 21. Malcolm Sandford dropped a fairly easy chance in the slips.

When Beck went the run rate dropped. Gordon Spencer was always scratching for runs against Sandford and Eric Green went for 14 to a good catch by Brian Pickles in the covers.

Michael Doggett then came in to score some quick runs. Sandford was taken off and this was perhaps a grave mistake for Pitchforth returned and continued to bowl short. When Doggett went, English and then Harry Wood kept the runs flowing and Copley reached 100 off their 40 overs for eight wickets.

SLIP CATCH

Greetland's start, like Copley's, was far from good. Green went in the third over to a catch by Wood off Andy Whitehead, and Harry Sykes followed soon afterwards to an excellent slip catch by Beck off Bellenger.

Greetland's task was [illegible] [illegible] Brian [illegible]

partners could not match his big hitting. He and the experienced Jack Hayes had to score 22 off the last two overs to win. They did not give up trying, even when it was beyond them, and helped as much as anyone to make it a good match.

Greetland were let down by Tetlaw and Sandford, who were expected to get runs quickly. [illegible] Pickles had taken advantage of some of the quick singles offered it could have been a lot closer.

As it was the better team on the day won and no one would deny that Copley did not deserve to win.

Copley 100 for eight declared. — Bell v Sandford b Pitchforth [illegible] Beck v Fidgeon b Moody [illegible] [illegible] Green [illegible] [illegible] Doggett b Bowyer [illegible] Wood b Whitehead [illegible] Bellenger [illegible] Bowyer [illegible] Sandford v Bell [illegible] Eric Green [illegible] [illegible] Bowyer b Whitehead [illegible] Bowling: Whitehead [illegible] Hume [illegible]

Parish Cup [illegible] peers on P[illegible]

COPLEY SECOND XI
FIRST DIVISION CHAMPIONS 1974

Sam Connor Gary Varley Howard Turner John Hodgson Ian Lockwood
Phillip Gatehouse Trevor Binns Gary Crawford Mark Ingham Richard Yates Graham Briggs
Eddie Griffiths John Dixon Roy Smith (President) Tom Thorpe (Capt) Roger Dixon