

Rowledge were grateful for Simon Bonser's shelved retirement plans as he claimed 5 for 23, ripping out Hartley Wintney's top order to help Rowledge recover from a poor showing with the bat and to an eventual 12 run win.

Drizzle forced a late start and the game was reduced to 44 overs per side.

Jack Cockram took 4 for 13 from 9 overs with his slow left arm spin, using clever changes of pace to deceive Rowledge's batsmen. New Zealander Scott Baldwin bowled a hostile spell to claim three wickets as Rowledge slumped to 167 all out having elected to bat first.

Extras turned out to be top scorer for Rowledge, as just three men made it into the twenties, one of whom was all-rounder Adam Sharp, who resigned for the club midweek, having previously played for the Surrey border side in 2008.

Bonser was immediately on his mark, bowling just short of a length outside off stump, generating bounce and movement off the green, yet hard surface. He provided the perfect start as Matt Evans feathered the third ball behind to gift Ian Metcalfe the first of six victims.

Bonser soon had Will Phillips caught behind, took a return catch off pinch hitter Gareth Phillips and trapped Baldwin in front, before accounting for Hugh Jowett to complete his five wicket haul with the penultimate ball of his nine over spell, leaving the hosts in the mire at 53 for 5.

Only really Richard Norris, the Hartley Wintney captain, looked at all comfortable against Bonser, managing to get on top of the bounce, but Tim Wheatley found his inside edge and Cockram's hopes of a perfect all-round day were quickly dashed as Wheatley struck his middle stump very first ball.

At this point Hartley Wintney required 101 to win with three wickets in hand from 22 overs and Rowledge were now very much in the driving seat. However a number of well connected swipes from Julian Ford and great support from youngest Matt Kerr, renewed hope for Hartley Wintney.

Rob Smith managed to find the edge of Kerr's bat but with the short boundary, Ford's increasingly clean, yet rather ugly hitting proved a real danger. He was dropped twice with his score on 34, but David Lloyd came on to take his wicket in his first over. Pressing forward for a rare defensive press, Ford dragged his back foot out of his crease and was stumped for 48.

Mature batting from last pair Mark Teale and Chris Jolley saw them put on 36 runs before Lloyd ended Rowledge's worries as Jolley nicked off twelve runs short of the target with 16 balls remaining.

Rowledge

C.Yates jnr	lbw	b Cockram	29
G.Clapham	c Ford	b Jolley	11
D.Lloyd		b Cockram	4
P.Dickinson		b Baldwin	22
R.Yates	lbw	b Cockram	7
I.Metcalf	lbw	b Cockram	5
A.Sharp	c Phillips	b Jolley	27
R.Smith		b Teale	10
T.Wheatley	not out		9
C.Bloomfield		b Baldwin	9
S.Bonser	c Norris	b Baldwin	0
		Extras	34
		Total	167 all out

Bowling; Jowett 9-1-39-0, Jolley 9-2-30-2, Cockram 9-3-13-4, Baldwin 8-0-42-3, Teale 6-1-31-1

Hartley Wintney

M.Evans	c Metcalfe	b Bonser	0
G.Phillips	c and	b Bonser	17
W.Phillips	c Metcalfe	b Bonser	4
S.Baldwin	lbw	b Bonser	1
R.Norris	c Metcalfe	b Wheatley	20
H.Jowett	lbw	b Bonser	6
J.Ford	st Metcalfe	b Lloyd	48
J.Cockram		b Wheatley	0
M.Kerr	c Metcalfe	b Smith	9
M.Teale	not out		17
C.Jolley	c Metcalfe	b Lloyd	17
		Extras	16
		Total	155 all out

Bowling; Bonser 9-2-23-5, Sharp 6-0-17-0, Wheatley 9-3-29-2, R.Yates 5-0-27-0, Smith 7-0-24-1, Lloyd 5.2-0-21-0