

Rowledge are through to the Surrey/Berkshire Area Final of the Npower National Village Cup Competition after their 85 run win on Sunday against Moreton CC, report as follows:

Winning the toss Moreton put Rowledge into bat, a decision that was initially justified with the first over dismissal of Gary Clapham to A. Gloak's (of Grayswood fame) slower delivery. Ian Metcalfe then joined Darren Mitchell to repair the early damage both batsman taking particular care against Gloak who put in a fine opening spell of 1 for 23 from his 9 overs. Though the scoring rate over the first 15 overs was just over 3 an over both batsman despatched the loose deliveries with great power. The pair gradually accelerated the scoring rate and were not parted until Mitchell was bowled for a fine 63 after a partnership of 119. Ricky Yates (23) and Nick Morant (30) added impetus to the scoring rate with Metcalfe, who remained undefeated after a personal best of 89 not out, an innings that steered Rowledge to 246 for 5.

Moreton found the opening attack of Tim Wheatley and Richard Forbes hard to get away and by the eleventh over had lost both openers for 37 to Forbes. David Lloyd shuffling his attack made runs difficult to come by against the spinners and though most of the Moreton batsman got into double figures no one could go on to make a big score.

Rowledge 246 for 5 (Ian Metcalfe 89*, Darren Mitchell 63, Nick Morant 30, Ricky Yates 23)

Moreton 161 All Out (Ben Wish 2 for 23, Richard Forbes 2 for 20, Rob Smith 2 for 37)

Rowledge will now play Purley on Thames in the Area Final on Sunday 24th June at Rowledge