

Shepley v Golcar
 Sykes Cup Semi Final
 Sunday 3 July 2011
 Marsh Lane, Shepley

Shepley played superbly to overcome Golcar in the Sykes Cup semi-final in front of a large and lively crowd at Marsh Lane. The Golcar Male Voice Choir was out in force! Danny Glover has finally found his form at the toss and elected to bat on a hot afternoon. SP Singh and Tom Denton got off to a bright start, before Denton was bowled by Hinchliffe with the score on 27. Tim Rees (33) joined Singh as the pair put on 80 for the second wicket before Rees was run out. In came Liam Wiles for the decisive stand of the game as he and Singh put on 122 at almost 7 an over, with Wiles reaching 69 in 63 balls with a flurry of boundaries. Rashid (21) and Ellis (15*) made good contributions, but it was Singh who dominated the innings, carrying his bat for 116* to add to his 123 the previous day. Shepley's 289-4 was a demanding total to chase against such a good attack, and so it proved.

Golcar got off to a decent, if slowish, start as they reached 41 before Singh's great weekend got even better as he had Golcar danger man Steve Whitwam (27) caught by Tim Rees. Illingworth fell immediately afterwards to Craig Glover, who bowled a wonderfully controlled spell of 11-5-16-2. Opener Lee Baxter (66) was forced into a defensive role and stayed limpet-like as others fell around him, reaching his 50 off 140 balls. Amar Rashid (4-72) picked up more wickets, as did Danny Glover (2-35). The bowlers were helped by some excellent fielding, catching and stumping led by birthday boy Munch Sykes and Oliver Huntington.

Shepley won by 94 runs against a good side to reach only its third Sykes Cup final in its 79th year in the competition. Both those earlier finals, the last 22 years ago, were lost. This team has every chance of making its mark.

Shepley

Tom Denton		b W Hinchliffe	14
SP Singh	not out		116
Tim Rees	run out		33
Liam Wiles	c C Ruscoe	b J McNamara	69
Amar Rashid	c M Illingworth	b W Hinchliffe	21
Huw Ellis	not out		15
Nigel Hoyle	dnb		
Danny Glover*	dnb		
Craig Glover	dnb		
Oliver Huntington	dnb		
Tom Sykes†	dnb		
		Extras (b10;lb9;nb2)	21
		Total (50 overs)	289-4

Bowling

S Whitwam	15	3	45	0
W Hinchliffe	14	1	61	2
J McNamara	13	0	84	2
C Horner	4	0	40	0
C Ruscoe	4	0	41	0

Golcar

Lee Baxter		b D Glover	66
Steve Whitwam*	c T Rees	b SP Singh	27
Michael Illingworth	c O Huntington	b C Glover	0
James Sykes		b C Glover	12
Craig Ruscoe	c O Huntington	b A Rashid	14
Craig Horner	run out		1
Jack McNamara	c T Sykes	b A Rashid	31
Chris Fawcett	st T Sykes	b A Rashid	1
Mick Smith	st T Sykes	b A Rashid	26
Will Hinchliffe		b D Glover	4
Mark Wilson†	not out		0
		Extras (b4;lb6; nb7)	13
		Total (46.1 overs)	195

Bowling

D Glover	8.1	1	35	2
C Glover	11	5	16	2
A Rashid	12	1	72	4
SP Singh	15	1	65	1

Shepley beat Golcar by 94 runs