

Devon v Wales, Shaldon CC, Thursday 24th May 2018

The most incredible run chase you could ever imagine took place at Shaldon CC as Devon successfully knocked off 300 against a strong Wales team, with local boy Charlie Woolnough smashing the winning 6 in the 44th over, before tucking his bat under his arm and calmly walking off the pitch.

At 9-2 chasing 297, it didn't look like Devon had much hope at all, but Richard Pyle, helping out at short notice after a drop-out, smashed a magnificent 154 off 118 balls to take us to the brink of victory. An innings that no one will forget in a hurry, 14 x 4s and nine 6's – all of them huge, and most of them landed half way down the hill towards Teignmouth.

Support for Richard came mainly from Jeff Heath (32), Marten Stanbury (26) and Tim Cooke (21) before he got out for 154, still needing 18 off three overs, but Woolnough smashed 17 off 6 balls to take us over the line. You won't see many better knocks than Pyle's, however long you play the game..



Richard Pyle 154

Before tea, and true to form, Devon lost the toss and Wales duly tried to bat us out of the game, which they very nearly did. The two Williams – Neil and Neal – once again enjoyed our bowlers as the Welsh side amassed 297-5. After Martin Powell smashed 61 off 32 balls, they must have thought they had enough, and they might well have done, but for a costly dropped catch.

The unfortunate John Lewis tried to take a skier, but in the process broke his thumb, and with his bone poking out, Charlie W took him off to the local hospital, leaving Wales with 10 in the field. Thankfully, they got back in time for Charlie to hit the winning runs, something which he, and all of us, will remember for many a cold winter's evening.

Wales 297-5

Devon 302-8 (Pyle 154, Heath 32, Stanbury 26, Cooke 21)

Debuts: Robin Lambert

Scorecard: <http://scsc.play-cricket.com/website/results/3224507>