

## **Sharps Redmore and SRL battle it out for cricket's prestigious Acoustic Challenge Trophy.**

The sixth annual cricket match between Sound Research Laboratories and Sharps Redmore Partnership for the Acoustics Challenge Trophy took place under the blazing sun at Long Melford Cricket Club on 22nd June 2010. Sharps Redmore were looking to restore some pride having not won the trophy since 2006, while SRL were keen to keep the trophy on their mantelpiece for yet another year.

Sharps Redmore won the toss and elected to bowl, hoping to put the pressure on SRL to set a challenging total from their allotted 25 overs. SRL started brightly, but the dismissal in the second over of key man Andrew Wade for 15, caught in the deep by Sullivan, led to a mini collapse to 44 for 5 from 8 overs. With his home country beating France in the World Cup at the time, maybe the South African Wade's mind was elsewhere. Solid performances from Richard Budd (28\*) and Swainston (27) steadied the ship to move the score on to 99 before the next wicket fell. One wicket often leads to others and the last five wickets were taken at a cost of just 11 runs, with SRL finishing on a reasonable total of 110. The pick of the bowling for Sharps Redmore came from the unlikely sources of Court (3 for 29) and Paul "Poncherello" Riches (3-8).

Opening the Sharps Redmore innings, Court started cautiously and steadily, but an early disastrous run-out for fellow opener Gary King for 0 without facing a ball and then Court for 1 saw the nerves set in. Mark Taylor (retired on 27) and Keith Metcalfe (retired on 25) scored quickly, but with the rest of the batting order failing to post double figures, it came down to Tim Redmore (21 not out), ably supported by the somewhat inexperienced Tim Poths (7 not out ) to score the final runs of a measured innings. Good bowling from Wade (4 overs 1-1), Graham (5 overs 3-22) and Budd (3 overs 0-7) was not quite enough to prevent Sharps Redmore achieving their target with an over to spare. Thus, after a 4-year wait, the trophy has finally returned to the Sharps Redmore offices in Copdock, with SRL now 4-2 up in the series, which began in 2005.

The match was played in excellent spirit as usual, and ably umpired by Evan Strizaker, formerly of Ashford Borough Council and EHO Richard Woodcock, currently of Ashford Borough Council. The afternoon continued with a BBQ and drinks in the clubhouse into the evening and a good day was had by all.

As well as playing against each other every year, SRL and Sharps Redmore join forces occasionally to form the Acoustics XI cricket team. If anyone can form or already has a team and fancies a game, please contact Kieran Gayler at Sharps Redmore ([kieran@sharpsredmore.co.uk](mailto:kieran@sharpsredmore.co.uk)), or Richard Budd at SRL ([rbudd@soundresearch.co.uk](mailto:rbudd@soundresearch.co.uk)).