

## **SECTION 9**

### **Sussex Sharks Visually Impaired Cricket Club**

#### **Junior Section:**

This year the Sharks juniors won the annual Kersey Cup tournament at the MCC Indoor School. After having been beaten for the first time ever in 2007 they were pretty keen to get back what they consider to be their trophy! Matthew Greenhough the Captain also felt the weight of expectancy on his shoulders. The Sharks got off to a flyer beating Joseph Clarke School by more than 35 runs in a six over match. Ali Issa stood out with some fantastic hitting. The Sharks then went on to beat the Hampshire hawks and confirmed themselves as Champions by beating last year's winners the Cricket for Change Lions. Danielle Garratt put in an outstanding performance with the ball and the Sharks were thrilled to win the trophy for the fifth time in six years.

The Sharks also took part in two Inter County Tournaments both at the Cricket for Change Centre in Surrey. They played against Essex, Surrey and Kent. Unfortunately neither tournament was to end as happily as The Kersey Cup. Essex a newly formed team who had been putting in some hard training made the most of some complacent Sharks performances to push the Sharks into the Runners Up spot in both tournaments. Matthew Short stood out for the Sharks with classical batting and high quality bowling. James Millard last year's player of the season also performed well with a Collingwood like fielding display.

The junior's notable achievements were

- Matthew Greenhough making his senior debut
- Ali Issa and Matthew Greenhough being selected to represent the Cricket for Change Pirates in Barbados against the West Indies Blind Cricket Team. Matthew opened the batting, Ali was devastating with the ball and in the field assisting the Pirates to hold their own against an International team

#### **Seniors**

The Sharks seniors entered this year's BCEW league and The Primary Club Knock Out Cup. Having secured a top three finish last year and a semi-final placing in the cup an equally good season was hoped for. A rain affected season saw the Sharks finishing a steady fourth in the league. Two highlights were bowling Metro out for 61 and Northants out for 92. Easy victories were achieved in both these matches. Unfortunately the Sharks didn't deliver the goods against Metro in the cup. Having collapsed to 107 all out. It was going to be a big challenge to turn the game round. The Sharks had Metro at 75 for 6 and the game looked on! However, Metro's tailenders put in a dogged performance to see them home with three wickets in hand. Metro went on to win their fourth final in five years.

The senior's notable achievements for the year were

- John Garbett being nominated BCEW's B1 of the Year
- John Garbett, Miles Northwood, Joe Harrison, Daniel Field, Simon Ledwith and David Allen all played for England against the West Indies and have been selected to play against Australia in Australia for the Blind Ashes 2008

**Andy Dalby-Welsh**

**Coach**