

# SUSSEX CHESS NEWS

2012

Village  
romps to  
victory  
Pages 10-11

Brighton  
breezy  
Page 9

All the  
way  
to the  
semis  
Page 12

**The future's in safe hands**

**Our youngsters take the country by storm!**



# What a year..!

**Open team leads the way**

PAGE 12

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**History in the making**

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**Youngsters do us proud...again**

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**Your entry form to next year's competitions**

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**Cheers...East Grinstead's Ian celebrates**

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**Shame about the T-shirt... PAGE 5**



# Trouble-free year for adjudications

Our adjudications panel is Gareth Anthony, Bernard Cafferty, Robert Elliston, Feliks Kwiatkowski, Geoffrey James, James Mannson, Mike Nicholas, Dix Roberts and Luke Rutherford.

We had 11 positions to consider and one appeal (not upheld). This year, claims were allowed by email and this was used in nine positions.

I am pleased to record the prompt payment of the £5 fee by emailers whose claims were unsuccessful.

**Robert Elliston**  
Adjudication Secretary  
[robertvelliston@aol.com](mailto:robertvelliston@aol.com)

# Sussex are denied postal hat-trick

FOR the first time since its inauguration in 1922, there was no County & District CC Championship this season.

Even the Second World War could not prevent this event from taking place!

I do not know why the C&DCCC failed to start and I have had no explanation from either the Controller or the ECF.

One-time Sussex CC player Steve Giddins sums up the situation in his Blog at <http://stevegiddinschessblog.co.uk/2012/06/no-checks-in-the-post.html>

If the competition is revived, I will contact all previous players with a view to entering a team or teams.



Sussex won the Ward-Higgs in 1948, 1995, 1999, 2000, 2010 and 2011; 2012 was to have been our 'finest hour' but we have been denied the chance of a hat-trick.

**John Dodgson**

## A year of success

**WELCOME** to the 2012 edition of Sussex Chess News.

**My immense thanks to everyone who has submitted reports and pictures for inclusion. I know what busy lives some of you lead...so the effort is much appreciated. Thanks, too, to Keith Davies for proof-reading this year's edition.**

**We can report on a highly rewarding year for the Open team...and further encouraging signs for the future with the individual and team successes by our talented youngsters.**

**A new era dawns for grading fees...it's to be hoped this provides a workable and financially viable solution.**

**Finally, and most importantly, we urge as many people as possible to enter the competitions detailed on P42.**

**Mick Plumb, Editor**

**INDIVIDUAL**

**County Championship**

Round 1:

David Fryer scr v Paul BATCHELOR w/o  
 Andy Briggs 0 v Feliks KWIATKOWSKI 1  
 Bernard Cafferty 1/2-1/2 v Jerry ANSTEAD 1/2-1/2  
 Luke RUTHERFORD bye

Semi-Final:

Paul Batchelor 0 v Feliks KWIATKOWSKI 1  
 Jerry Anstead 0 v Luke RUTHERFORD 1

Final (two game match):

Feliks KWIATKOWSKI 1/2,1 v Luke Rutherford  
 1/2, 0

**Veterans' Championship**

Semi-Final:

Bob ELLISTON 1/2,1 v Paul Buswell 1/2,0  
 Geoffrey JAMES 1/2,1 v Jerry Anstead 1/2,0

Final (two-game match):

Geoffrey JAMES 0,1 v Bob ELLISTON 1,0  
*Title shared by mutual agreement*

**West Sussex Queen** (grade <160)

Semi-Final:

Roland RATTRAY 1 v David Curtis 0  
 Jeffrey BOARDMAN 1 v Edward Upsdell 0

Final (two game match):

Jeffrey BOARDMAN 1,1 v Roland Rattray 0,0

**East Sussex Queen** (grade <160)

Final (two game match):

Andy BRIGGS 1,1/2 v Susan Chadwick 0,1/2

**TEAM**

**McArthur Cup**

Preliminary round:

BOGNOR & ARUN 3 1/2 St. Francis & Haywards  
 Heath 2 1/2

Semi-Finals:

Horsham 2 1/2 BRIGHTON & HOVE 3 1/2  
 HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS 6 Bognor &  
 Arun 0

Final: Winners BRIGHTON (See Page 9)

**Paul Watson trophy** (average grade <150)

Preliminary round:

HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS 2 1/2 Battle U3A  
 1 1/2  
 Uckfield 2 HORSHAM 2

*(Horsham won on bottom board elimination, board count  
 being level)*

Semi-finals:

ST. FRANCIS & HAYWARDS HEATH 2 1/2  
 Hastings & St. Leonards 1 1/2  
 LEWES 3 Horsham 1

Final:

Lewes 1 1/2 v ST. FRANCIS & HAYWARDS  
 HEATH 2 1/2

1 Barry Maufe (160) 1-0 Jeffrey Boardman (157)  
 2 James Pullan (150) 0-1 Rob Fitzgerald (168)  
 3 Matthew Britnell (136) 0-1 David Curtis (140)  
 4 Richard Welford (134) 1/2-1/2 Joe Thorley (116)

*(Lewes Black on odds)*

# Checks and balances ...and *that* T-shirt



## ECF delegate **JULIE DENNING** reflects on a highly controversial year

A COUPLE of matters have dominated debate at the national level this season.

Firstly, there has been the fundamental change to the way the ECF seeks to raise finance. The need for change was brought about by the sudden loss of a government grant as part of the overall financial squeeze the country is experiencing.

The AGM in October, 2011, voted in favour of a system of mandatory ECF membership for graded players and the abolition of game fees.

Final details of the intended new scheme were then presented to the Finance Council meeting in April. Between the AGM and this council meeting, the ECF had decided that a limited game fee option should be retained in case too many players opted not to take out membership.

However, this is intended to be for a transitional period only, while the membership scheme beds down and, hopefully, players come to accept it. The game fee has also been set at a rather punitive level (£ 2 per

standardplay game per player) to try to discourage this option being used. Various levels of membership will be offered.

For those whose chess playing is

limited to club, league and county matches, the basic (“Bronze”) level of membership will suffice. This will cost £ 13 per annum for adults (with a £ 1 reduction for joining on-line) and entitle you to have an unlimited number of games from such competitions graded.

Participation in graded congresses will require at least “Silver” membership, while “Gold” membership will also cover FIDE-rated events. Junior membership will be available at reduced cost. Finally, there will be “Platinum” membership, which brings the added perks of an ECF diary and a copy of the yearbook and is, perhaps, aimed at those of a more altruistic nature who wish to do a bit more to support the Federation.

The new scheme takes effect from September 1, 2012. Full details are available from the ECF website ([www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk)).

The other matter that has dominated ECF discussions has been an unfortunate incident at the end of last summer’s British Championships.

C J de Mooi, ECF President, was invited to present the prizes. However, he was challenged before this could take place over the nature of his attire, which some felt was inappropriate, particularly where junior



*CENTRE OF ATTENTION: ECF president C J de Mooi*

players were concerned.

As followers of various chess forums and blogs will be only too aware, this blew up into an enormous furore over just who said what to whom, how the matter was subsequently dealt with, including statements to the press, and with a great deal of hurt feelings all round among a number of stalwarts of the UK chess fraternity.

All a highly unfortunate distraction from “C J’s” presidency, which in other respects has been seen as highly beneficial to the ECF.

At a somewhat lesser level, the SCCU scored a success in getting the ECF to adopt a resolution that

allows the possibility of individual matches at the final stage of the county championships being staged other than in one central location.

This is seen as advantageous where, for example, two teams from the south of England are involved and would otherwise have to travel to Leicester (the established venue for the finals) rather than mutually agreeing to a rather more convenient venue.

It was also felt that a Midlands venue was advantageous to Midlands counties who would find it easier to get sufficient players to turn out.

## Website is a mine of information



### County grading officer JULIE DENNING reports how players' grades are being updated regularly

THE big change in grading matters during the 2011/12 season has been the standard play list following the established pattern of the rapid play list in having a mid-season update.

The season now consists of two halves, July to December and January to June. Apart from the introduction of twice-yearly grades, this is also a slight change of grading year which used to be June to May.

The on-line grading list on the ECF website ([www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk)) also now contains far more data, with details of every graded game being listed for each player.

The list is also being up-dated quite regularly to correct errors that are spotted.

I would urge strongly that all players avail themselves of this facility.

Try as I might to take care and check things, I accept that I do make some mistakes, or indeed there might be errors in results as they were given to me.

If anyone finds such an error, or omission, please let me know at the earliest opportunity so that corrections can be made.

Note that as of this season, I have also been reporting grading results for the SCCU,

so if you spot any errors involving the regional round of county matches or other SCCU-sponsored events, it's likely that that's also down to me.

The image shows a handwritten chess tournament results sheet. The title is 'The World Chess Championship - AlGhathli Trophy' with the date 'Nov 18/19 - 22/17/2004'. The sheet is filled with handwritten entries, including player names, grades, and results. The columns are organized into several sections, likely representing different rounds or categories of the tournament. The handwriting is in black ink on a white background.



# Brighton breezy as Hastings edged out



## Mid-Sussex League secretary IAN COMLEY reports on an enthralling season

THE league had another highly competitive year in all three divisions. A total of 302 games were played in the main divisions, with a further six games played in the Knockout.

In division one, the two dominant teams were Brighton & Hove 1 and Hastings & St Leonard's. In their individual match before Christmas, the Brighton team won 3-2 but opened up an chance to their rivals when they lost to Knoll Knights.

In the meantime, however, Hastings & St Leonard's had drawn with both Horsham 1 and Eastbourne 1 and were unable to catch up, so Brighton & Hove 1 were worthy winners of the Mowatt Cup, with 10 out of 11 points.

The bottom two clubs in division 1 were Woodpushers 1 (1½ /11) and Uckfield 1 (1/11) who face chess in the second division next season.

In division two, Lewes 1 were far and away the strongest team of the division, winning 9/10 matches. Their only loss was against Lewes 2, which they lost 3-2 and was decided by a fine win by Danny Brookes (138) over Martin Costley (187) on top board.

Lewes 2 were narrowly deprived of coming second by a technical contravention of the rules which led to the loss of a match point as penalty.

As a result, Brighton & Hove 2, who scored a very strong 6½ /10, will be joining Lewes 1 in division one next year. St Francis & Haywards Heath 2 were

bottom of the division with 1/10 and Eastbourne 2 also face relegation with 3/10.

Division three was won by Hastings & St Leonard's 3 (7½/9) who nudged out Brighton & Hove 4 by just half a point.

These two teams established a clear lead from the pack who all enjoyed some very competitive chess. This is perhaps best illustrated by East Grinstead 2 who, despite coming bottom of the division, managed to pick up 2½ /9 with no fewer than five draws.

The Knockout was better supported than in previous years and Uckfield won this competition which was impressive given that their first year in the Mid-Sussex Chess League was only 2006-7.

Their route to the trophy was not entirely straightforward given that, having beaten Woodpushers in the first round, their game against Horsham was eventful. In fact, they appeared to have lost 3-2 when a dispute about a phone sounding earlier in the evening was resolved and resulted in Uckfield winning 3-2 after all. Uckfield drew with Lewes in the finals, which was sufficient for them to win under the handicapping rules. It was particularly welcome that there were no disputes and only 11 adjudications with just two appeals. The league has decided to revert to four divisions in 2013/4, which means the final positions from next season will determine which division teams will find themselves in during the following season. I am sure this will lead to some fighting chess!

*The Knockout was better supported than in previous years*

# MID-SUSSEX LEAGUE

## Division 1

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	No.	MP	GP	DP
1	Brighton & Hove 1		3	3½	4	2	3	4	3½	3½	3½	4½	4½	11	10	39	
2	Hastings & St Leonard's 1	2		3	2½	3	2½	3½	3	3	4	4½	4	11	9	35	
3	Worthing 1	1½	2		3	2½	3	1½	5	4	3½	4	4½	11	7½	34½	
4	Horsham 1	1	2½	2		2½	2½	4	4	3½	3	3½	4	11	7½	32½	
5	Knoll Knights	3	2	2½	2½		2	2	2½	4	4	4½	4½	11	6½	33½	
6	Eastbourne 1	2	2½	2	2½	3		1	2½	2	3	4	4	11	5½	28½	
7	St Francis & Haywards Heath 1	1	1½	3½	1	3	4		2½	3	1½	4½	1½	11	5½	27	
8	Hastings & St Leonard's 2	1½	2	0	1	2½	2½	2½		1½	2½	3	3½	11	4	22½	
9	Crowborough 1	1½	2	1	1½	1	3	2	3½		2½	3	3½	11	3½†	24½	
10	Horsham 2	1½	1	1½	2	1	2	3½	2½	2½		2½	3½	11	3½	23½	
11	Woodpushers 1	½	½	1	1½	½	1	½	2	2	2½		3	11	1½	15	1
12	Uckfield 1	½	1	½	1	½	1	3½	1½	1½	1½	2		11	1	14½	

† 1MP deducted for match default (Rule 6.2)

## Division 2

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	No.	MP	GP	DP
1	Lewes 1		4½	2	5	4	4½	3	3½	3	4	5	10	9	38½	
2	Brighton & Hove 2	½		3	2	2	4½	2½	4	4	3	4½	10	6½	30	
3	Lewes 2	3	2		3	3	2½	½	3½	3½	3	3†	10	6½†	27	1
4	Horsham 3	0	3	2		2	2½	4	4	3	2½	3	10	6	26	
5	Argumentatives	1	3	2	3		1½	2	2½	3	4½	3½	10	5½	26	1
6	Worthing 2	½	½	2½	2½	3½		2½	2½	1½	3	5	10	5	24	
7	East Grinstead 1	2	2½	4½	1	3	2½		1½	2	2½	2½	10	4	24	
8	Woodpushers 2	1 ½	1	1½	1	2½	2½	3½		1	3	3½	10	4	21	
9	Brighton & Hove 3	2	1	1½	2	2	3½	3	4		2	2½	10	3½	23½	3
10	Eastbourne 2	1	2	2	2½	½	2	2½	2	3		4½	10	3	22	
11	St Francis & Haywards Heath 2	0	½	2	2	1½	0	2½	1½	2½	½		10	1	13	1

† 1MP deducted for match default (Rule 6.2)

## Division 3

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	No.	MP	GP	DP
1	Hastings & St Leonard's 3		2	2½	4	5	3	4	3½	4	4	9	7½	32	
2	Brighton & Hove 4	3		3	3½	3½	2	3	4½	2½	2½	9	7	27½	
3	Crowborough 2	2½	2		2	3½	4	3½	2½	4	2½	9	5½	26½	
4	Horsham 4	1	1½	3		3½	2	2	2½	3½	3	9	4½	22	1
5	St Francis & Haywards Heath 3	0	1½	1½	1½		3	3	4½	2	3½	9	4	20½	1
6	Uckfield 2	2	3	1	3	2		1½	3	1	3	9	4	19½	
7	Worthing 3	1	2	1½	3	2	3½		1	4½	2½	9	3½	21	
8	Brighton & Hove 5	1½	½	2½	2½	½	2	4		4	2½	9	3½	20	
9	Horsham 5	1	2½	1	1½	3	4	½	1		2½	9	3	17	
10	East Grinstead 2	1	2½	2½	2	1½	2	2½	2½	2½		9	2½	19	



THE match began with a reverse for the home side, when, at 2.15pm, a quarter of an hour before the scheduled start, Chris Howell phoned Paul Buswell, in attendance as Controller, that he was stuck in a traffic jam at Flimwell.

He had left home at noon, but the hot sun had brought out many weekend drivers.

As he was likely to lose too much time had the original board order stood, even if traffic thinned out, it was decided to field Paul Kelly, also in attendance, on bottom board. Chris, in fact, got here just before 3pm, but the die had been cast.

The scheduled boards 6-4 each had to move up one and so depart from the planned colour distribution.

Four draws of varying content occurred on the bottom four boards. Paul Kelly tried long and hard in a blocked position to no avail. A draw was agreed with a knight and equal pawns each after 55 moves.

I was under pressure. Paul Batchelor turned down a draw after 21 moves only to offer it himself three moves later. This left the top two boards fighting it out.

Francis played ingeniously with a neat opening idea (abstain from 13 d4) and a made promising exchange sacrifice. This gave him raking bishops and a knight infiltration at d6. Brian had to return the exchange, and after a further liquidation white forced a queen and pawn ending, three pawns up after 35 moves.

John, our best scorer in the Mid-Sussex League this season, had a slightly inferior position after 35 moves of a Benoni, as he had three pawns on the colour of his bishop. In the second session, he gradually lost ground and had to resign after about 65 moves, with each player having only a minute left on their clocks. Four in a row for Brighton!

The best game of the match was on second board: Francis Rayner v Brian Denman

1 c4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6 3 b4 Bg7 4 Bb2 0-0 5 g3 c6 6 Bg2 d5 7 cxd5 cxd5 8 0-0 a5 9 b5 a4 To fix the b-pawn, so requiring the Nb1 to move to the edge. 10 Na3 Qd6 11 Rc1 Nbd7 12 Qc2 e5 This weakens the square d6, but how is White to exploit this? 13 d3! Re8 14 e4! Aha! 14...Bh6 15 exd5 Eureka! The squares c4 and d6 beckon. 15...Bxc1

# Heat's on as Kelly gets his eye in



**BERNARD CAFFERTY reports on this year's titanic struggle between Hastings and Brighton**

116 Nc4! Qxd5?! 17 Rxc1 Qe6 18 Ng5 Qe7 19 Ba3 Qd8 20 Nd6! Finally got there. White's minor pieces rule the roost. 20..Rf8 21 Nxb7 This is right, rather than the tempting 21 Nxf7. 21...Bxb7 22 Bxb7 Rb8 23 Bc6 Ng4 ( Or 23...Re8 24 Qc4) 24 Bxf8 Nxf8 25 Nxf7 Now it works as the Ng4 hangs to a Qc4+. 25...Qf6 26 Bd5 Kg7 27 h3 Rc8 28 Bc4 Steady, the Buffs! 28...Nh6 29 Nxb6 Kxh6 30 Qxa4 Out of the pin and aiming at a pin on the 6th rank. 30...Ne6 31 Qa6 Rf8 32 Qb6! Re8 33 Bxe6 Rxe6 34 Rc6 Rxc6 35 Qxc6 Resigns – short comments based on Francis Rayner's post-match demonstration of the main points of the game.

## Match facts

**Brighton and Hove 3 Hastings and St Leonard's 3, played at Hastings May 26**

- 1 L. Rutherford (W) 1-0 J N. Sugden
- 2 B. Denman 0-1 F. Rayner
- 3 G. James ½ R. Almond
- 4 J. Henshaw ½ R. V. Elliston
- 5 P. Batchelor ½ B. Cafferty
- 6 C. Lowe ½ P. Kelly

Brighton win on board count

# Farmers plough



## County archivist **BRIAN DENMAN** recalls when a village team beat mighty Hastings

TOWARDS the end of last year, I received an enquiry from Mr James Tree of Lodsworth Heritage Association concerning Lodsworth Chess Club.

Chess in the Lodsworth, Petworth and Midhurst areas was often interconnected and the first known club in the area was formed at Petworth in about 1879.

Lodsworth Chess Club was started in 1889 and the Vicar of Lodsworth, the Rev C. S. Chilver, is believed to have played a part in its beginning.

There were several village clubs at this time, but usually they were not of long duration. Lodsworth Chess Club, however, was to have a longer life and, although there are significant gaps in its existence, it appears that it was only World War Two which finally brought it to a final end.

Even then, a new club, Lodsworth, Petworth and District Chess Club, was formed at Petworth in 1945, though it does not seem to have lasted for many years.

Mr Tree kindly sent me a couple of photographs involving Lodsworth Chess Club and one of these is reproduced here.

In 1921, Lodsworth won the McArthur Cup, defeating Hastings 4-2 in the final. This was a considerable achievement for the village club, but it must be mentioned that for many years the rules of the competition were such that Brighton and Hastings clubs were not permitted to field their strongest players.

On the other hand, Lodsworth had the Bridger brothers in their team, both of whom were experienced county players.

James had already won the county championship in 1893 and William subsequently won the title in 1926. Both were farmers and there is a story that they used to play each other at chess without sight of a board while they carried out their ploughing.

It was only in the mid-1960s that the McArthur Cup became an open competition. In the photograph we see the trophy that was presented in 1921. The top of the trophy is the same as

nowadays, but the plinth, which had the names of all the players in each winning team, was replaced many years ago.

With so many names recorded there, space would have been at a premium and eventually - perhaps at the end of World War Two - the shields were taken off the plinth and placed on a separate shield which still exists.

A new plinth was supplied and this also has now been replaced for want of space. The latest plinth has existed for only a few years.

Earlier this year, it was interesting to meet Tom Guy again. As a young man, he had won the Brighton CC Championship in 1957 and 1960 and had produced three issues of a Brighton Chess Journal.

Following the creation of this local chess magazine, a Brighton Journal tournament was held which was run on a Swiss system.

This attracted several strong local players. After about 1961, Tom's interest in the game declined, and, although he continued to live in Brighton for several more years, his job in the Midland Bank eventually took him to Portsmouth in 1970.

Another move took place in 1972, this time to Nottingham. Here, he resumed his playing career for

*Lodsworth had the Bridger brothers in their team*

# village to victory

a few years. In 1986, he moved to Tunbridge Wells and nowadays his chess is almost entirely confined to correspondence games. I enclose a couple of examples of his play:

## Guy, T - Springgay, DG [B40] Brighton CC Championship, September 29, 1960

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Bd3 e5 7.Nf5 0-0 8.0-0 Bxc3 9.bxc3 d5 10.Ng3 h6 11.c4 dxe4 12.Nxe4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 Qh4 14.Qe2 Re8 15.f4 Nd7 16.Bb2 Nc5 17.g3 Qd8 18.fxe5 Na4 19.Rad1 Qg5 20.Bd4 Bh3 21.Rf4 Rad8 22.Bd5 Be6 23.Rdf1 Re7 24.Qf3 b6 25.h4 Qg6 26.h5 Qxc2 27.Rf2 Qb1+ 28.Kh2 Nc5 29.Bxc5 bxc5 30.Bxe6 Rxe6 31.Rxf7 Rxe5 32.Rxg7+ Kh8 33.Rg6 1-0

## Lees, D - Guy, T [E87] BCF Congress at Aberystwyth Major Open (9), August 23, 1961

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 e5 6.d5 0-0 7.Be3 Nh5 8.Bd3 f5 9.exf5 gxf5 10.Nge2 Na6 11.Qd2 Nc5 12.Bc2 a5 13.0-0-0 Bd7 14.Rdg1 a4 15.g4 fxg4 16.fxg4 Nf4 17.Nxf4 exf4 18.Bxf4 a3

19.Bg5 axb2+ 20.Kxb2 Rxa2+ 21.Kxa2 Qa8+ 22.Kb1 Qa5 23.Na2 Qxa2+ 24.Kxa2 Ra8+ 25.Ba4 Rxa4+ 26.Kb1 Ra1+ 27.Kc2 Ba4# 0-1

□ The Sussex Chess archives remain in store at the ECF offices at Battle. The plan is for this collection of historical memorabilia to eventually become part of the National Chess Library at the University College in Hastings.

The library itself has had a problem with space and it has been hoped that the erection of a new university building in the close vicinity will allow expansion. There have been delays in the construction of this new building and it now seems to be finished. At the time of writing, however, it appears that the National Chess Library has not changed to its planned new format.



*McARTHUR MAGIC: The victorious Lodsworth village chess team, which beat Hastings in 1921, a magnificent achievement*

□ One final question: does anybody know what has happened to Mandy Hepworth? As a pupil at Westergate School near

Chichester, she came first equal in the British U-14 Girls Championship in 1980 and won outright the British U-16 tournament in 1984. She went on to represent England ladies in the Dubai Olympiad in 1986. It appears that she gave up competitive chess in about the late 1980s.



## Open

I THINK it should be considered a successful season for the Open team.

Having gone from hero to zero by being SCCU champions and reaching the national final two years ago, followed by the wooden spoon last year in the SCCU stage with an unearned Minor Counties place, this season we were runners-up in the SCCU stage.

This means we have become the holders of the Stevenson Trophy, as the result of three good home wins against Essex, Middlesex and Hertfordshire. The former and latter were by convincing margins against weaker teams, but we had a much harder fought 9-7 win against Middlesex where the teams were evenly matched.

Unfortunately, we experienced heavy defeats in the away matches against Surrey and Kent. Although we had weakened teams for those matches, it appeared to be for various reasons rather than due to unwillingness to travel.



**RICHARD ALMOND** reflects on an outstanding season for the Open team

The Open section remains highly competitive, as apart from our fluctuation from top to bottom and then up the table again over the last three seasons, we were second out of six teams despite scoring less game points than all except Hertfordshire, who lost all their matches.

Final SCCU standings; 1. Surrey 4/5 2.Sussex 3 3.Middlesex 3 4.Essex 3 5.Kent 2 6.Hertfordshire 0 (ties decided by mini-league between teams involved – Sussex 2, Middlesex 1. Essex 0).

**The Open section remains highly competitive**

# It was tough...but they did us proud!

The weakest team fielded this season, and for a long time, was in the match against Surrey at Coulsdon, which clashed with Guy Fawkes' Night and took away a few players among other reasons.

Sadly, Surrey had made a concerted effort to strengthen their team including a GM, having seen our first round fine performance against Essex, and so the combined outcome of these factors was that we lost 3-13. Although the result against Kent was also disappointing, it was the last match of the SCCU stage and we would finish second regardless of the result.

In the ECF Stage quarter-final we played Norfolk at a halfway venue at Writtle Chess Club in Essex, where we received excellent hospitality from Essex captain Ivor Smith and his club colleagues. The teams were closely matched and with five boards still in play the result was still in doubt, especially as it was clear we would lose on board count if the



match was drawn. Fortunately, the games turned in our favour and we won 9½-6½.

As we were playing Surrey in the semi-final, we had a proper home match, which is rare in the ECF stages. Although our team was considerably stronger than the match in the SCCU stage, Surrey was still too strong for us, and we lost 5-11. Our resistance was much greater than the result might suggest. The match was played at Horsham with

grateful thanks to John Cannon for his assistance. Surprisingly, we can't say that we were eliminated by the national champions, as Middlesex defeated Surrey in the final.

Thank you to everyone who has played and supported the team during the last seven years, and I hope this will continue as Dix Roberts and Paul Batchelor take over the reins.

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### Under 180

OUR opening fixture was at home against Middlesex. This match contained many hard-fought games.

Only six games were to end in draws. Winners for Sussex on the day were Robert Fitzgerald, Paul Taylor, Mel Young and Roland Rattray. Unfortunately, Sussex were to lose a close contest by 7-9.

The next fixture was against Surrey away. This was also another close contest where Sussex were to lose narrowly. Winners for Sussex on this occasion were Jaimie Wilson, Robert Fitzgerald and Chris Lowe. Again, the score line was Sussex 7 Opposition 9.

Our third fixture was against Essex. Essex had been last year's group winner. We did, however, have the advantage of being the home team.

Against the odds, we were to achieve a convincing victory. The match ended 11-5 in Sussex's favour. Winners for Sussex were Adrian Pickersgill, Robert

Fitzgerald, Jeffrey Boardman, Paul Taylor, Mick Reddie, John Cannon, Chris Lowe, Neil Fitzgerald and myself.

The last fixture of the season was against Kent. Unfortunately, this was an away fixture. We were not to taste success as we had in the previous home fixture, versus this opposition. Kent were to run out victors by the score 9½-5½. Sussex did, however, record some individual winners. Winners were Adrian Pickersgill, Anthony Higgs and John Marshall.

During the season, we had scored 30.5 game points and one match point. Nine players scored in excess of 50 per cent. These were Adrian Pickersgill, Robert Fitzgerald, Mel Young, John Cannon, Neil Fitzgerald, Chris Lowe, John Marshall, Anthony Higgs and myself.

Seven players were to play in all four fixtures. The 'ever-presents' were Jaimie Wilson, Adrian Pickersgill, Paul Taylor, Jeffrey Boardman, Mick Reddie, Paul Kington and myself.

**Paul Batchelor**

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### Under 160

LAST year I reported on a disappointing 2010-1011 season, during which Sussex, unlike all the other counties, was unable to field a single team completely above 139.

Twenty-six players were called on and all five matches were lost. It had been hoped that the number of available players between 140 and 160 would increase for 2011-2012, but unfortunately the opposite proved to be the case, with five stalwarts

going above 160, several dropping below 140 and two others forsaking county chess completely.

At the same time, only one solitary player became newly available and, despite extensive enquiries, it became very clear that entering an U160 team was not possible.

While I do not wish to stand for re-election, should anyone else like to try and resurrect the U160 team, I would be happy to provide every possible assistance.

**John Cannon**

## Under 140

THIS was the second season that I had captained the Sussex U-140 team, and generally speaking, it was easier for me than the first season.

This was probably because I now knew the key people in the county who would be candidates to play – and equally, they now knew me!

This season, we started off with an away match, and then we had three consecutive home matches, and finishing with a final away match. So five matches, against Kent, Surrey, Middlesex, Hertfordshire and Essex.

All the matches, which were over 16 boards, were played on Saturday afternoons, and our three home matches were played at Horsham Chess Club. A particular thank-you here to John Cannon of Horsham Chess Club for his help in facilitating the arrangements at Horsham.

So, how did we do? Well, some bad news, and some good news. The bad news is that we did not do very well – the better news is that I found it considerably easier to build teams this season, compared with last season. The outcome of this is that over the whole season we defaulted on just two games.

Out of a possible 80 points (5 x 16) we scored 38, including the two defaults. Unlike last season, the top 8 and the bottom 8 boards scored very similarly.

A summary of the matches: We lost to Kent 6½ - 9½; We lost to Surrey 6½ - 9½; We won against Middlesex 11 – 5; We lost to Hertfordshire 6½ - 9½; We lost to Essex 7½ - 8½.

As you can see, a fine win against Middlesex, a narrow defeat by Essex, and, rather strangely, three defeats all with the same score against Kent, Surrey and Hertfordshire.

This season we welcomed these newcomers to the team: Andy Mitchell, Tim Woods, Arthur de Silver, David Britton, Gary Whitmore, Julie Denning, Melusi Nkomo, Sue Chadwick and Will Graham.

As always, thanks to all players who took part. A special mention to those who played in all five matches: Arthur de Silver (Brighton), David Wallis

(Worthing), Julie Denning (Brighton), Macer Hall (Lewes), Richard Barrowclough (Horsham), Sue Chadwick (Brighton) and Tim Woods.

Congratulations also to Arthur who was our highest-scoring player this season, with 4/5.

A couple of general observations from the season: We scored better when we were playing at home than in away matches There was no difference between results for white or black.

Another observation, based on my experience of both this and last season, is that I think 16 boards is now probably too many for Saturday afternoon matches.

Despite a lot of effort on my part, I only just got full teams in three of the matches – there was no reserve or contingency, and as you can see from above, in two matches we defaulted on one board in each.

I think the time has come for this matter – of the number of boards in matches - to be considered in detail. The situation is considerably different from, say, 10 years ago.

People now have such busy lives and I detect that there is less of a willingness to give up not only a Saturday afternoon, but, particularly for the away matches, the whole of Saturday.

The fact that it was again not possible to get a full team out on all of the five matches makes the point.

**The position is considerably different from, say, 10 years ago**

**Keith Osborne**





# COUNTY RESULTS

OPEN

8.10.11	Sussex		Essex
1	Luke Rutherford 211	0 1	David Sands 213 (B)
2	FJ Kwiatkowski 205	½ ½	John Hodgson 200
3	Mark Broom 196	1 0	Tim Hebbes 190
4	Peter Kemp 191	1 0	Ivan Myall 188
5	Ken Norman 191	1 0	David Spearman 181
6	Peter Farr 191	½ ½	Larry Marden 180
7	Richard Almond 188	1 0	D Ian Reynolds 179
8	Martin Costley 187	1 0	Neville Twitchell 173
9	Geoffrey James 186	½ ½	Chris Hampton 172
10	Bernard Cafferty 184	1 0	Ivor Smith 170
11	Robert Elliston 180	½ ½	Ian Hunnable 170
12	David Roberts 180	½ ½	Howard Grist 170
13	Jaimie Wilson 179	½ ½	Mark Murrell 168
14	Tim Spanton 178	1 0	David Brock 166
15	Brian Donnelly 177	½ ½	David Millward 164
16	Paul Batchelor 175	1 0	Colin Ramage 160
<i>Hassocks</i>		11 ½ 4 ½	

5.11.11	Surrey		Sussex
1	Bogdan Lalic 232 (W)	1 0	Mark Broom 196
2	Samuel Franklin 201	1 0	Kenneth Norman 191
3	Russell Granat 210	1 0	Peter Farr 191
4	Stephen Berry 208	½ ½	Richard Almond 188
5	Peter Lalic 192	½ ½	Geoffrey James 186
6	Mark Josse 203	½ ½	David Roberts 180
7	Matthew Anderton 204	1 0	Jaimie Wilson 179
8	Marcus Osborne 204	1 0	Tim Spanton 178
9	Ian Sharpe 196	1 0	Paul Batchelor 175
10	Keith Richardson 190	1 0	Andrew Fleming 172
11	Roger Emerson 190	½ ½	Christopher Yates 169
12	Graham Keane 186	1 0	Paul Taylor 160
13	Nasir Rizvi 184	1 0	Alan Palmer 161
14	Paul Shepherd 179	0 1	Jeffrey Boardman 157
15	Dan Rosen 186	1 0	Brian Izzard 147
16	Richard Edwards 182	1 0	John Cannon 148
<i>Coulsdon</i>		13-3	

## COUNTY RESULTS

7.1.12	Sussex		Middlesex
1	<b>Luke Rutherford 211 (B)</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Richard Bates 221</b>
2	<b>FJ Kwiatkowski 205</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Colin Crouch 210</b>
3	<b>Donald Macfarlane 200</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Richard McMichael 198</b>
4	<b>Mark Broom 196</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Jochen Wittmann 198</b>
5	<b>Gareth Anthony 197</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Carsten Pedersen 197</b>
6	<b>Ken Norman 191</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Daniel Farkas 188</b>
7	<b>Peter Farr 191</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Simon Spivack 193</b>
8	<b>Richard Almond 188</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Paul McKeown 185</b>
9	<b>Martin Costley 187</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Colin Mackenzie 184</b>
10	<b>Geoffrey James 186</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Nevil Chan 184</b>
11	<b>Bernard Cafferty 184</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Mark Davey 182</b>
12	<b>David Roberts 180</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Peter Ackley 178</b>
13	<b>Robert Elliston 180</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Steven Coles 179</b>
14	<b>Jamie Wilson 179</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>George Dickson 172</b>
15	<b>Brian Donnelly 177</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>D Ian Calvert 167</b>
16	<b>Tim Spanton 178</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Anthony Fulton 165</b>
<i>Hassocks</i>		<b>9-7</b>	

	Sussex		Herts
1	<b>Luke Rutherford 211 (W)</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Jerry Rudge 197</b>
2	<b>FJ Kwiatkowski 207</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Paul Byway 191</b>
3	<b>Mark Broom 195</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Stephen Law 181</b>
4	<b>Martin Costley 193</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Mike Boyce 180</b>
5	<b>Geoffrey James 189</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Tarisai Savanhu 177</b>
6	<b>Peter Farr 184</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Barry Morris 173</b>
7	<b>Paul Batchelor 184</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Tim Thurstan 172</b>
8	<b>David Roberts 182</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Peter Rice 169</b>
9	<b>Richard Almond 194</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>def</b>
10	<b>Robert Elliston 181</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Paul Kenning 156</b>
11	<b>Bernard Cafferty 180</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Michael Price 148</b>
12	<b>Brian Donnelly 180</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Jon Barnes 145</b>
13	<b>Matthew Payne 179</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Lara Osiyemi 142</b>
14	<b>Jaimie Wilson 177</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Ian Mutton 140</b>
15	<b>Adrian Pickersgill 170</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Alan Gore 139</b>
16	<b>Tim Spanton 160</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Jim Ship 119</b>
<i>Hassocks</i>		<b>12-4</b>	

## COUNTY RESULTS

3.3.12	Kent		Sussex
1	Martin Taylor 211 (W)	1 0	Luke Rutherford 211
2	Alan Hanreck 209	½ ½	Gareth Anthony 200
3	Ian Snape 207	1 0	Mark Broom 195
4	Paul Talsma 206	1 0	Richard Almond 194
5	Tony Stebbings 193	1 0	Kenneth I Norman 191
6	John Sugden 191	½ ½	Geoffrey James 188
7	Andrew Mayhew 190	1 0	Paul Batchelor 184
8	Ben Spink 190	1 0	David Roberts 182
9	Chris I Howell 190	½ ½	Robert Elliston 181
10	J Stuart Williams 184	½ ½	Brian Donnelly 180
11	Gordon Botley 180	½ ½	Matthew Payne 179
12	Mark Robertson 178	0 1	Jamie Wilson 177
13	David Morris 176	½ ½	Adrian Pickersgill 170
14	Patrick L Smith 176j	1 0	Anthony Higgs 170
15	Jerry Anstead 171	½ ½	Jeffrey Boardman 166
16	Jorge Rios 169	1 0	Alan Palmer 165
<i>Dartford</i>		11½ 4½	

20.5.12	Norfolk	Quarter-final	Sussex
1	Michael Harris 213 (W)	½ ½	Feliks Kwiatkowski 207
2	Caius Turner 201	0 1	Gareth Anthony 200
3	Kamil Przybyla 185	1 0	Mark Broom 195
4	David LeMoir 186	1 0	Richard Almond 194
5	William Boulton 191	½ ½	Martin Costley 193
6	Roy Hughes 182	0 1	Peter Kemp 184
7	Terry Turner 175	0 1	Peter Farr 184
8	Benjamin Collison 178	1 0	Paul Batchelor 184
9	David Hall 180	1 0	David N Roberts 182
10	Jonathan Wells 175	½ ½	Robert Elliston 181
11	Mervyn Hughes 170	½ ½	Jaimie Wilson 177
12	Jeff Dawson 176	0 1	Adrian Pickersgill 170
13	Steve Moore 170	0 1	Jeffrey Boardman 166
14	Brian Jeffery 172	½ ½	Alan Palmer 165
15	Cor Dekker	0 1	Tim Spanton 160
16	Jonathan Burrows 158	0 1	John Cannon 147
<i>Writtle</i>		6½ 9½	



## COUNTY RESULTS

	Sussex	Semi-final	Surrey
<b>1</b>	<b>Feliks Kwiatkowski 207</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Yang-Fan Zhou 230 (B)</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Gareth Anthony 200</b>	<b>½ ½</b>	<b>Gavin Wall 226</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Mark Broom 195</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Stephen Berry 216</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Richard Almond 194</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Marcus Osborne 205</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Martin Costley 193</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Ian Sharpe 199</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Geoffrey James 188</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Nigel Povah 212</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Peter Farr 184</b>	<b>½ ½</b>	<b>Clive Frostick 196</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Paul Batchelor 184</b>	<b>½ ½</b>	<b>Graham Keane 192</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Robert Elliston 181</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Mark Josse 196</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Matthew Payne 179</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>John Foley 191</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Jamie Wilson 179</b>	<b>½ ½</b>	<b>Nasir Rizvi 190</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Brian Donnelly 180</b>	<b>½ ½</b>	<b>Keith Richardson 186</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Rasa Norinkeviciute 172</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>David Rowson 190</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Adrian Pickersgill 170</b>	<b>½ ½</b>	<b>Paul Shepherd 184</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Jeffrey Boardman 166</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Robin Haldane 180</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Tim Spanton 160</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Daniel Rosen 179</b>
<i>Horsham</i>		<b>5 11</b>	

# COUNTY RESULTS

UNDER 180

19.11.11	Sussex		Middlesex
1	Jaimie Wilson 179 (W)	0 1	Michael Tasker 178
2	Tim Spanton 178	½ ½	Peter Ackley 178
3	Paul Batchelor 175	½ ½	Steven Coles 179
4	Adrian Pickersgill 168	0 1	Russell Campbell 173
5	Robert Fitzgerald 168	1 0	George Dickson 172
6	def	0 1	D Ian Calvert 167
7	Paul Taylor 160	1 0	John Tobisch 172
8	Mel Young 159	1 0	Charles McAleenan 166
9	Jeffrey Boardman 157	0 1	Geoff Hermes 170
10	Mick Reddie 155	0 1	Christopher Kreuzer 168
11	Robert Lanzer 153	½ ½	Anthony Fulton 165
12	Paul Kington 151	½ ½	David White 161
13	L John Cannon 148	½ ½	Nigel Colter 151
14	Brian Izzard 147	½ ½	Michael C Price 147
15	David Curtis 140	0 1	Frank Zurstiege 140
16	Roland Rattray 136	1 0	def
<i>Hassocks</i>		7-9	

21.1.12	Surrey		Sussex
1	Tariq Oozerally 175	0 1	Jaimie Wilson 179 (W)
2	Alan Punnett 179	1 0	Tim Spanton 178
3	Phil Stimpson 175	½ ½	Paul Batchelor 175
4	Julien Shepley 177	½ ½	Adrian Pickersgill 168
5	Geoff Marchant 174	0 1	Robert Fitzgerald 168
6	Owen Phillips 170	½ ½	Alan Palmer 161
7	Yasser Tello 174	1 0	Paul Taylor 160
8	Angus James 174	½ ½	Mel Young 159
9	Nick Grey 164	1 0	Jeffrey Boardman 157
10	Nick Edwards 164	1 0	Mick Reddie 155
11	H Trevor Jones 161	½ ½	Paul Kington 151
12	Paul Barasi 171	½ ½	L John Cannon 148
13	Francis Fields 158	0 1	Chris Lowe e143
14	Chris Clegg 152	½ ½	David Curtis 140
15	Victor Odunaiya 149	1 0	Roland Rattray 136
16	Ian Deswarte 144	½ ½	Neil Fitzgerald 121
<i>Ashstead</i>		9-7	

## COUNTY RESULTS

25.2.12	Sussex		Essex
1	<b>Paul Batchelor 184 (W)</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>D Ian Reynolds 163</b>
2	<b>Jaimie Wilson 177</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Chris Hampton 170</b>
3	<b>Adrian Pickersgill 170</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Jim Howson 174</b>
4	<b>Robert Fitzgerald 169</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Ivor Smith 168</b>
5	<b>Jeffrey Boardman 166</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Neville Twitchell 169</b>
6	<b>Alan Palmer 165</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Howard Grist 173</b>
7	<b>Paul Taylor 163</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>David Brock 160</b>
8	<b>Tim Spanton 160</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Matthew Shaw 165</b>
9	<b>Mel Young 159</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>David Millward 168</b>
10	<b>Mick Reddie 154</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Roderick Johnson 161</b>
11	<b>Paul Kington 151</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Peter Doye 164</b>
12	<b>L John Cannon 147</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Philip Staniland 157</b>
13	<b>Chris Lowe e143</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Malcolm Kingsley 165</b>
14	<b>David Curtis 133</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Tom Winter 147</b>
15	<b>Roland Rattray 127</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>John Wright 150</b>
16	<b>Neil Fitzgerald 121</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>def</b>
<i>Hassocks</i>		<b>11-5</b>	

17.3.12	Kent		Sussex
1	<b>Jorge Rios 169 (W)</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Paul Batchelor 184</b>
2	<b>Patrick Smith 176</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Jamie Wilson 177</b>
3	<b>David Horton 172</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Adrian Pickersgill 170</b>
4	<b>Bob Everson 168</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>Anthony Higgs 170</b>
5	<b>Syd Jacob 166</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Jeffrey Boardman 166</b>
6	<b>Peter Wood 166</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Alan Palmer 165</b>
7	<b>Duncan Bell 165</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Paul Taylor 163</b>
8	<b>Dave Barnes 164</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Tim Spanton 160</b>
9	<b>Raunak Rao 154</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>Mick Reddie 155</b>
10	<b>Bob Lane 153</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	<b>Paul Kington 151</b>
11	<b>Conrad Allison 151</b>	<b>0 1</b>	<b>W John Marshall 141</b>
12	<b>Peter Childs 151</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>David Curtis 133</b>
13	<b>Paul Rutland 150</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>def</b>
14	<b>Alan Sherriff 146</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>def</b>
15	<b>Terry J Lloyd 142</b>	<b>1 0</b>	<b>def</b>
16	<b>def</b>	<b>0 0</b>	<b>def</b>
<i>Dartford</i>		<b>9½ - 5½</b>	

# COUNTY RESULTS

UNDER 140

22.10.11	Kent		Sussex
1	Malcolm Mourant 138	0 1	Melusi Nkomo 139 (W)
2	Mike Wood 135	0 1	Tim Woods 139
3	Mike Hawkes 135	1 0	Keith Osborne 137
4	Mark Stone 134	1 0	Julie Denning 135
5	David Gilbert 134	½ ½	Roger Waddingham 134
6	Peter Thomas 133	1 0	David Wallis 133
7	David Helps 129	1 0	John Scholey 133
8	David Orr 126	0 1	Arthur De Silver 126
9	Stephen Bond 125	0 1	Richard Barrowclough 125
10	Mike Peek 124	0 1	Richard Moorhouse 121
11	Mark Finch 121	1 0	Andrew Mayer 120
12	Ian Clark 120	0 1	Michael Dean 117
13	Joe Neanor 120	1 0	Caroline Champion 114
14	Robert Thompson 118	1 0	Susan Chadwick 107
15	Tyrone Jefferies 116	1 0	Macer Hall 66
16	def	0 0	def
	<i>Dartford</i>	8½ 6½	

12.11.11	Sussex		Surrey
1	Tim Woods 139 (B)	1 0	James Mendes 139
2	Andy Mitchell 138	0 1	Alun Harford 137
3	Keith Osborne 137	0 1	Akshaya Kalaiyalahan 137
4	Julie Denning 135	½ ½	John Moore 135
5	Roger Waddingham 134	0 1	Gavin Poludniowski 135
6	David Wallis 133	½ ½	Nick Driver 135
7	John Scholey 133	0 1	Graham Wallis e135
8	Arthur De Silver 126	½ ½	Lamidi Evbuomwan 132
9	Richard Barrowclough	½ ½	David Howes 132
10	Toby Harris 125	1 0	Selva Somupillai 131
11	Will Graham 125	1 0	Mike Gunn 130
12	Richard Moorhouse 121	½ ½	Daniel Young 129
13	Michael Dean 117	½ ½	Kaushalya Kularatnam e129
14	Caroline Champion 114	½ ½	Ken Chamberlain 128
15	Susan Chadwick 107	0 1	Pavan Murali 128
16	Macer Hall 66	0 1	A Qaiyum Khan 124
	<i>Horsham</i>	6½ 9½	



## COUNTY RESULTS

21.1.12	Sussex		Middlesex
1	Tim Woods 139 (W)	1 0	D McNish 137
2	Keith Osborne 137	0 1	C Cooke 133
3	Julie Denning 135	0 1	P Grant-Ross 133
4	David Wallis 133	1 0	A Costeloe 131
5	Arthur De Silver 126	½ ½	A Morton 131
6	Richard Barrowclough	0 1	W Ransome 130
7	Will Graham 125	1 0	G Parfett 127
8	Mick Plumb 121	1 0	K Pattni 127
9	Andrew Mayer 120	1 0	M Huba 124
10	Michael Dean 117	0 1	A Eyton e130
11	Susan Chadwick 107	1 0	D Byrne 118
12	Jon Young 106	1 0	M Pole
13	David Britton 99	1 0	G Balouka-Myers 53
14	David Pople 86	½ ½	R Balouka-Myers 75
15	David Bradley 83	1 0	A Jabbari *
16	Macer Hall 66	1 0	def
Horsham		11-4	*ineligible player - 1 point deducted

25.2.12	Sussex		Herts
1	Melusi Nkomo 150 (B)	1 0	Stephen Dicks 138
2	Tim Woods 142	0 1	Jonathan Phillips 140
3	Keith Osborne 133	0 1	Andrew Maclaren 140
4	David Wallis 131	½ ½	Keith Woodhouse 132
5	John Scholey 129	½ ½	Chris Cook 129
6	Roger Waddingham 126	0 1	Mir Wali 129
7	Julie Denning 125	½ ½	John Leake 129
8	Arthur De Silver 132	1 0	Barrie Saunders 140
9	Richard Barrowclough	½ ½	Simon Cage 127
10	Andrew Mayer 124	0 1	Terry O'Sullivan 128
11	Michael Dean 113	0 1	Ed Magee 103
12	Caroline Champion 111	½ ½	Graham Williams 121
13	Jon Young 106	0 1	Steve Zsibrita 121
14	Susan Chadwick 103	0 1	Roger Kearns 118
15	David Britton 108	1 0	Mod Heylen 100
16	Macer Hall 71	1 0	def
Horsham		6½ 9½	

## COUNTY RESULTS

17.3.12	Essex		Sussex
1	<b>Sean Carew e139 (W)</b>	½ ½	<b>Tim Woods 142</b>
2	<b>Ed Porter 138</b>	½ ½	<b>Keith Osborne 133</b>
3	<b>Dennis Dartnell 138</b>	1 0	<b>Julie Denning 125</b>
4	<b>def</b>	0 1	<b>Roger Waddingham 126</b>
5	<b>Valerio Falasca e136</b>	0 1	<b>David Wallis 131</b>
6	<b>Simon Moth 139</b>	½ ½	<b>John E Scholey 129</b>
7	<b>Vladimir Chtym 129</b>	0 1	<b>Arthur De Silver 132</b>
8	<b>Tony Loh 126</b>	1 0	<b>Richard Barrowclough 120</b>
9	<b>Geoff Cooper 120</b>	1 0	<b>Andrew Mayer 124</b>
10	<b>Richard Joyce 116</b>	1 0	<b>Caroline Champion 111</b>
11	<b>Chris Phillips 108</b>	0 1	<b>Susan Chadwick 103</b>
12	<b>Steve Woodall 105</b>	0 1	<b>David Britton 108</b>
13	<b>Herbie Alley 96</b>	1 0	<b>David Bradley 82</b>
14	<b>John Porter 90</b>	1 0	<b>Gary Whitmore 73</b>
15	<b>Ronnie Melhuish 89</b>	0 1	<b>Macer Hall 71</b>
16	<b>David Cannan 135</b>	1 0	<b>def</b>
<i>Wanstead</i>		8½ 7½	

# The future's never looked brighter



**CAROL GRAHAM and TOM BORLAND report on another outstanding year for the county's youngsters**

AS I pulled together my notes to write this review I was staggered by the amount of junior chess that has taken place in Sussex this season.

Last year's report introduced our new Academy Schools initiative, whereby small-scale events are organised for schools in a locality, thus introducing competitive chess to a new audience and providing a bridge into our Sussex-wide events once participants are ready.

We are really excited that this season new Academy areas have been established in Crowborough and Heathfield, East Grinstead and Worthing; and closer links have been built with Christopher Dunworth's already successful operation in the Brighton and Hove area.

David Burt, a long-time friend and sponsor of Sussex Junior Chess, presented us with a bronze relief as a trophy to be awarded each year to the most successful Academies school. The first winner was Birchwood Grove school in Burgess Hill, which is already generating a promising stream of county players.

We continued to run our usual programme of nine training days, four age-limited tournaments, and six grand-prix tournaments at venues around the county. Numbers attending are rising, topping 100 at



*ALL SMILES:  
The U13 team  
- ECF national  
champions  
2012*



*WHAT NEXT?: Deep concentration at the Sussex Megafinal of the UK Chess Challenge, also pictured on the front cover*

**4-PAGE SPECIAL**





*SO PROUD: The U11 girls - EPSCA champions, 2012*

several events, which is a testimony to the success of the Academies initiative. We are also increasingly attracting strong players from outside Sussex to our grands prix, which gives our strongest players additional opportunities to test themselves.

We once again fielded teams in U9, U11, U11 girls, U12, U13, U14, U16 and U18 national competitions, with considerable success. Competition for places, particularly in the younger age groups has been stiff.

A notable breakthrough was made this year by our Under-11 girls team, who won their national championships for the first time. Our U9s were runners-up in their competition, and our U11s came third. Our U12s retained their title as NYCA national champions and were joined as champions by our U14s. At the end of June, our U18s relinquished their title as ECF champions (by one point)...but our U13s took the ECF U13 Championship for the first time.

At one point, Sussex held five of the nine national junior chess team trophies which are available (still four at the time of writing!) We are particularly pleased that, in all cases, our teams are truly representative of Sussex, being drawn from all corners of the county; the 12 players in our



*DEEP IN THOUGHT: Some of our youngest players at our Under-8 championships*

*CHESS CAN BE FUN: Matthew, Oli and Amardip enjoy some analysis and banter between rounds at the Worthing GP*





## JUNIOR CHESS



U12 team came from 12 different schools!

Sussex has a long tradition of school chess competitions, and this year saw a resurgence of entries at secondary level. Worth School and Uckfield Community Technology College reached the finals of both the Wilson Cup (U19) and the Sir Clarence Sadd Cup (U16) with Worth winning the Wilson and UCTC the Sir Clarence



*YOUNG AND KEEN: the Under-7s Championship held in June at Great Walstead School*



*GOOD MOVE: Far left, the girls sections at the Sussex Megafinal, and, inset, our top players, including Amy Hoare, Jude Lenier and Matt Payne analysing and playing Exchange chess between rounds at the recent ECF national championships held at Eton*

Sadd. Eighteen schools entered the Butler Cup (U14) with UCTC winning a very close and exciting final against Cophthorne Prep and newcomers Darvell School winning the Butler Plate.

The Primary Cup always sees the largest entry, and this year was no exception, with 45 teams taking part



from Angmering in the West to Little Common in the East. Broadwater CE Middle School, Worthing retained the Division 1 title for the second year, with Copthorne Prep winning both Divisions 2 and 3.

As always there were some outstanding individual performances. Callum Brewer from Brighton was recently selected for the England U11 Squad; Amy Hoare will be representing England at the European Youth Championships in Prague in August; and Robert Fitzgerald, Joshua Higgs, Amy Hoare, Cosima Keen, and Brian Tarhon have been selected for the World Youth Championships to be held in Slovenia in November.

As an organisation, we were very excited and gratified that the SCCU saw fit to nominate us for a British Chess Educational Trust (BCET) award this year and have just heard that this has been successful. We hope this will be presented at one of our events in the autumn.

We are very grateful for the financial support that we have received over the 2011/12 season from Deutsch (UK), the Quest Partnership, the East Sussex Council for Voluntary Youth Service and several individual donors. Our



*STUDY TIME: Our senior players analyse a game at the Worth Grand Prix*

bursary scheme ensures that no Sussex youngsters are deprived of the opportunity to play representative chess for reasons of financial hardship.

Finally, it remains to thank all our volunteers for their hard work this season. We would also like to acknowledge the captains of the county teams who have provided opportunities for some of our older juniors to represent Sussex at adult level; also the Brighton & Hove, Hastings, Horsham, Woodpushers and Worthing chess clubs who have been particularly welcoming to our juniors this year.

*BOARD DECISION: Amy Hoare, Jude Lenier and Matt Payne between rounds at the recent ECF national championships held at Eton*



### The Argumentatives

ONCE again, division 2 had one strong side, but the Args could claim on grading to have a chance of second place, only to eventually finish fifth with 5.5 from 10 matches again. We also lost 4-2 in the Knockout against Lewes.

Like the previous season, we managed to lose the toss in virtually every match except against a couple

of the weaker sides. Yet if the league ever revert to the more logical six-a-side, the Args would struggle to field a team!

We were helped out in several matches by Bob Huston and Mike Card, but the individual scores of the regulars (including KO match) were: Peter Farr 8/11; Jim Graham 8.5/11; Paul Kington 6/11; Dennis Collard 2/6; Mike Garson 2.5/8.

**Paul Kington**

### Bexhill

IT may not be realised that Bexhill Chess Club has been in continuous existence since the 1890s.

It has begun to thrive again after a period in the doldrums. This is partly due to the fact that its venue, the Grosvenor Park Nursing & Residential Home in Brookfield Road, is perhaps the best in the county, particularly after its recent complete refurbishment.

The club has also started meeting on Saturday afternoons in addition to the previous Tuesdays only. This change has seen a hoped-for interest from several juniors, which has resulted in a dramatic lowering of the average age of the members. Previously, in regular friendly matches with Hastings & St Leonards, the average has been in the seventies, which pointed to the need to attract fresh blood. There are also several women members among its

regulars of a dozen or so, and some members travel from as far afield as Robertsbridge and Eastbourne.

The club is for social, friendly chess and does not compete in any league. This does not mean that the playing standard is low, as shown by the fact that it has about a 50 per cent record in its matches against Hastings. The latest took place last month and resulted in a 6-4 win to Bexhill. In addition, there have been regular simultaneous displays against current or former Hastings Chess Champions, with several Bexhill players achieving wins and draws over the last few years.

Beginners are welcome and may expect to receive as much coaching as they wish.

Further information and a Google map showing the exact location of the club venue may be found at: <http://www.clubbz.com/club/35939/bexhill/bexhill-chess-club>.

**Joseph Sharp**

### Bognor & Arun [www.bognorandarun chessclub.co.uk](http://www.bognorandarunchessclub.co.uk)

THE club had another full and enjoyable season with individual competitions and match-play participation in combination with Chichester Chess Club in both the Sussex and Portsmouth leagues.

The Club Championship was won yet again by Jaimie Wilson, a success that has begun to be something of a habit. For good measure, he has also mopped up the Club Knockout Cup.

The combined Bognor and Chichester teams competed well in all three divisions of the

Portsmouth League, finishing behind Fareham in divisions 1 and 2 and behind Portsmouth in division 3.

In the Cole Cup, the club reached the final, and Fareham. Jaimie Wilson was the club's most successful performer in division 1 while John Kalber, Ray Hunt, Laszlo Sagi and Mick Plumb excelled in divisions 2 and 3. In the McArthur Cup, the Bognor & Arun Chess Club overcame a strong and newly formed Haywards Heath & St Francis Club only to lose decisively in the semi-final at Hastings.

The club continue to enjoy the chandelier-lit premises of The Bognor Club, meeting every Friday from 7pm onwards.

**Bill Partridge**



## Brighton & Hove

[www.brightonandhovechessclub.org](http://www.brightonandhovechessclub.org)

ANOTHER spectacular year for Brighton and Hove as we continue to thrive and attract new members to our club – now occupying the entire first floor of the Avenue Bridge Club in Third Avenue, Hove.

This consists of three large playing rooms plus library, computer room with wireless internet and Fritz, kitchen and even a bathroom. And continuing to meet both on a weekday evening and a Saturday afternoon gives members the chance to either come when it suits them and/or play double the chess!

This year, we dropped down to a cautious five teams in the Mid-Sussex League, not because we were short of players but more because we were short of cars, although we intend to bite the bullet again next season and have another crack at six. With end-of-year membership approaching 60 and our teams evenly divided between the three divisions, the pressure is on.

This even spread has been brought about by the promotion of the second team to the first division and the fourth team to the second division this season.

In the first division, our first team were the outright winners, the first time they have achieved this since 2004. They were assisted by Luke Rutherford's outstanding performance of 9/11 on board one, winning the Division One Tankard for best match average. The first team wound up the season with another success in the McArthur Cup for the fourth



*STREET CHESS: Brighton and Hove's promo day in June with (going up the left side of the table) Callum Brewer, Sue Chadwick, Paul Selby, Rob Counsell (standing) and (down the right side) Paul Batchelor, Chris Lowe and Michael Cain*



*DOUBLE WINNERS: Paul Batchelor with the MSL First Division Mowatt Cup and Luke Rutherford with the Best Match Average Tankard for Division One*

consecutive year, a mere one board point being all that separated them from fellow-finalists Hastings and St Leonards. Game winners were Luke Rutherford and first team and McArthur Cup captain, Paul Batchelor. This win means Brighton and Hove have completed the 'double' of winning both division one in the Mid-Sussex League and the SCCA McArthur Cup in the same year.

Internally, the club has five longplay tournaments, a rapidplay ladder and a time-handicap knockout competition. Geoff James has retained the Club Championship trophy again this year.

We have a standing fixture against Dieppe Chess Club, a friendly match which we play home/away at the end of the summer. Dieppe won this at home for the first time last year, 7-5. Also in September, Luke Rutherford took on the club in a simultaneous which he won 16½ - 1½, the escapees being Chris Lowe 1 and Peter Benson ½.

Although we have few juniors, our youngest member, Callum Brewer, came joint second in the England Squad Trials in May, easily winning himself a place on the U11 England team.

Another innovation this year has been taking chess to the streets as we carted our tables, chairs and four boards to the pedestrian precinct outside the Theatre Royal on a sunny day at the end of June. We had a constant stream of enquiries and interest and many takers competing for two free months' membership of the club if they beat a member. Callum did his bit for Sussex Junior Chess with possibly even more success – although we'll never know!

**Sue Chadwick**  
**President, Brighton and Hove Chess Club**



## Chichester

[www.chichesterchessclub.co.uk](http://www.chichesterchessclub.co.uk)

CHICHESTER Chess Club has had another very eventful year having, once again, had to find a new venue. We have, however, found excellent new facilities at the Fishbourne Centre, Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne. The centre provides us with a room which is ideal for chess and we also hope, a much more permanent home. We meet at the Fishbourne Centre on Monday evenings, from 7pm.

The centre itself has a great many activities on offer which are set out on their very informative website: [www.fishbournecentre.org.uk](http://www.fishbournecentre.org.uk)

We also now have a new website, giving up to date league results and results from our internal club competitions: [www.chichesterchessclub.co.uk](http://www.chichesterchessclub.co.uk)

We once again combined with Bognor & Arun Chess Club, entering a team in each of the three

divisions of the Portsmouth League. The A team finished fifth in a very competitive first division. The B Team, once again, finished second in the second division as did the C team in the third division. We again reached the final of the Cole Cup, this time going down 3-2 to a strong Fareham A team.

The Club Championship was won, for the first time, by Jaimie Wilson with a score of 5/6 and Keith Davies gaining the runner-up spot with 3½/6. Alex Miller was the Under 130 Champion, scoring 7½/8, with John Kalber runner-up with 7/8. The popular Handicap Competition, for The Peter Rayment Trophy, was again won by Keith Davies, with Michael Spence as runner-up.

We are looking forward to our very successful association with Bognor & Arun continuing in the Portsmouth League. We also hope our stay at The Fishbourne Centre proves to be a long and enjoyable one.

**Philip Wake, Club Secretary**

## Crowborough

[www.crowboroughchess.org](http://www.crowboroughchess.org)

THE new season 2012/13 will see some exciting changes for Crowborough Chess Club revolving around our new venue at the recently-opened Crowborough Community Centre.

As well as our regular Friday night club meetings, the new venue will also host a revived junior chess club with a structured training course starting on September 7, and on September 15, the 27th Crowborough Rapidplay will take place in the superb main hall. For details, see [www.crowboroughchess.org](http://www.crowboroughchess.org)

When Crowborough first team captain Peter Kemp saw the Mid-Sussex League fixture list at the start of the season he commented: "The opposition for the first four games look formidable and we might emerge pointless."

His fears were subsequently realised and with the early loss of two key players and Gareth Anthony being unable to play on Fridays, relegation was a distinct possibility.

However, Jonathan Lawrance, Chris Dunn, Graham Salmon and Michael Redman stepped up

from the second team and answered the challenge by performing so capably that relegation was comfortably avoided by reason of four wins and a draw from the last seven games.

With slender resources, Caroline Champion and her second team performed so well that a win in the final game would have secured an unlikely promotion from division three. Chris Dunn had a brilliant season, being undefeated in his nine games, notching up five victories. This gave him a runner-up performance of 78 per cent in the division 3 best player award.

The other Crowborough member to appear on the Mid Sussex roll of honour was Michael Redman, who turned out for the first and second teams, averaging 75 per cent from his eight games.

Chris Dunn picked up the Kenright Club Championship, as well as the Simon Deere and Richard Chamier trophies.

Matthew Grant won the Junior Long Play Club Championship, while Matthew Pannett picked up the Junior rapidplay chess award.

The quarterly speed chess tournaments were won by four different players - Peter Kemp, Jonathan Lawrance, Robert Elliston and Michael Redman.

**Don Grant**

### Eastbourne

OUR first team finished mid-table in Mid-Sussex League division one. The second team was next to last in division two, while our third team had to be withdrawn at the start of the season due the unavailability of a number of players.

Vince Ellis, first team captain, was pleased with his team's performance as they were outgraded in most of their matches.

The second team avoided relegation from the division, which was disappointing as, with one or two exceptions, they mostly evenly matched with their opponents.

As we now have the space in our new location, sharing with the Bridge Club, to stage matches in a separate room, we can avoid disturbing the match players but still entertain visitors and hopefully encourage new members.

As usual, this season's club competitions have not been completed at the time of writing. For the record, the current club champion and holder of the Southdown Rapidplay trophy is Rasa Norinkeviciute. The other trophy-holders are as follows: Challengers, Chris Hutton; the Oak King KO, retained by Doug Stevenson; The Christmas Rapidplay Handicap, Andrew Fleming, ahead of Alex Newlands.

**Mike Elgin**

### East Grinstead [www.egchess.org.uk](http://www.egchess.org.uk)

THE club, like many others, has encountered a challenging year. However, we have attracted several new faces and continue to meet every Tuesday at 7.30pm, commencing again in September, 2012.

We have two teams in the Mid-Sussex League but I regret to report we seem to be propping up others in the league.

It is not the winning, but the taking part which I try to remember, especially when travelling back from the south coast on a wet and foggy winter's night. Club nights are friendly and reasonably well attended, with biscuits and hot drinks on tap.

At our annual meeting, there was much discussion over the new fees for 2012 onwards but it is recognised that the central organisation is short of funds.

Several of our members cannot travel to away games so they are unable to see the benefit of paying an annual fee only for internal grading.

*CHEERS: Award-winning East Grinstead chess player Ian Dennis, left, with the Mid-Sussex Chess League cups for best match averages, presented by club chairman Bob Dyke*



I expect the majority will sign up to the ECF but others just enjoy their chess on a Tuesday evening.

**Bob Dyke**  
**Chairman, East Grinstead Chess Club**

## Hastings & St Leonard's www.hastingschessclub.co.uk

'STEADY as she goes' has been the theme of this season. A modest increase in membership, some success over the board, and another year passes.

Joint club champions for 2011/12 are Richard Almond and Bob Elliston, who shared the title with 7½/11, in a contest that went right to the very last game, when they played each other and drew; Adrian Pickersgill was third with 6½.

In the second division Pelton Cup, the title was shared between Steve Blewitt and Laurence Butt with 8/9; Jim Wheeler was third, with 5½. The third division Rush Cup did produce an outright winner in Joe Sharp who was clear winner with 6/7, ahead of Alan Ticehurst 5½ and Greg Chandler (Hastings) 5.

It was a solid but unremarkable season for the club's teams: commendable results overall, but patchy reward.

Our Mid-Sussex League title, won at the 11th hour last year, was taken by Brighton & Hove. The club's second team, also playing in division 1, managed yet again to fend off relegation. And Hastings & St Leonards' team performance of the season so far came from the third team, which won promotion from Mid-Sussex Division 3 as champions. Congratulations to Derek Cosens (in his first year as captain) and his team.

In the Kent League, our division 2 team qualified for the county semi-finals, going out 4-2 at Beckenham & Bromley. Unfortunately, our division 5 and 7 teams failed to emerge from the qualifying sections.

Disappointment in the McArthur Cup, with a tie-break defeat at home to Brighton & Hove; and mixed fortunes in the Paul Watson Trophy. Varied results, too, in friendlies against visiting out-of-county clubs.

As club chairman, it has remained my aim to have the club look outwards as otherwise I fear we will end up rattling

round like peas in a pod at Pelton House until one day membership numbers fall below a sustainable level.

I am concerned at how our membership demographic is light on younger people and on adults in mainstream employment; I feel it is essential to bring new people in and to give the club a higher profile, even if from time to time that challenges our custom and practice – conservatism is natural .

As part of this I was pleased that the club took part in Heritage Open Day events with a club champion simul' at the Hastings Stade last September, which was highly successful and will be repeated this year.

The club 'open day' as part of Hastings Week was also successful, although muted, and I expect that to be repeated again in 2012.

On the social front, we sponsored the Bobby Fischer film at the Electric Palace Cinema, sponsored by the club. And the Christmas function, excellently organised by Ann Penfold, to whom thanks, was much appreciated.

**Paul Buswell**



## Horsham

[www.horshamchessclub.btck.co.uk](http://www.horshamchessclub.btck.co.uk)

WE enjoyed another busy year of chess, with our usual combination of a busy Mid-Sussex League season and an intense series of internal club competitions.

For the first time this year, we also entered the two Sussex team competitions, the Paul Watson Cup and the McArthur Cup.

In the Mid-Sussex League, we entered six teams - two in both the first and third divisions and two in the Knockout Shield.

At various points in the season Horsham teams were leading all three divisions, which was looking very promising, but in the end the results in the main divisions were more middling of the table than exceptional, with Horsham 1, 3 and 4 coming fourth in divisions 1,2 and 3 respectively. Horsham 2 stayed firmly in the top division, thereby avoiding the yo-yo effect of some seasons ago.

Horsham failed to secure a hat-trick of wins in the Knockout Shield and so this was the first time for some years that the club did not win any MSL silver. However,

Richard Moorhouse won the tankards for best individual result in the third division (8/8) and for the whole league (8/9), with some exceptional results.

Unsurprisingly, this performance also secured the Horsham Club's trophy for best match percentage. The season was also remarkable from a Horsham point of view, for fielding young representatives. Matthew Forster was just nine years and four months old when he first represented Horsham, and Tristan Comley became the youngest team captain in our history (and probably in the Mid-Sussex League), being just 17 years and three months old for the first match.

In the McArthur Cup, Horsham lost to Brighton, 3 ½ - 2½, in a very high-powered and tight match.

We had slightly more luck in the Paul Watson Cup, by firstly defeating Uckfield, before losing to Lewes in the next round.

The internal competitions were as busy as ever, with a very tight struggle in the Rook competition (the Club Championship), which was eventually won by Dix Roberts on tie break from James Mansson. John Marshall won the all-play-all Bishop and newcomer Dave Britton won the all-play-all Knight.

James Mansson won the Knockout Cup, having finally outmanoeuvred Phil Stimpson in the final. There was a new name, Mike Forster, on the ten-second Lightning Tankard, and Mike also won the Knockout Plate. Meanwhile, Matthew Forster, his son, won the Peter Alford Cup for juniors, for the third successive year.

Paul Taylor managed to win the Quick Play Plate (10 minutes per player per game) and the Quick Play final, between James Mansson and Mike Forster, is yet to be decided.

In Sussex chess, 15 Horsham players played a total of 50 county games and achieved the narrowest plus score of 25½ points, which is particularly impressive in the context of a season where the three Sussex teams jointly totalled six wins and 10 losses.

Remarkably, John Cannon played in his 480th county match (winning with some panache), which is a testament to his long service to chess at both the club and county level over decades.

Melusi Nkomo won the under 140 Weald competition and Brian Donnelly also put in a first-rate performance at the King's Head Quickplay. Amy Hoare, now graded as the top English girl, continues to represent her country for England Juniors on both the European and World stage with regular international performances.

Horsham players are continuing to support chess across the county in an organisational manner. Dix Roberts is SCCA Secretary and Ian Comley is Mid-Sussex League Secretary.

Meanwhile Julie Denning makes a huge contribution to the Mid-Sussex Chess League, as fixtures secretary and web manager. She also acts as Sussex grading officer, Sussex SCCU delegate and Sussex ECF delegate. Her contribution to Sussex chess is quite extraordinary!



**Horsham  
players are  
continuing to  
support chess  
across the  
county**

**Ian Comley  
Horsham Chess Club**



### St Francis & Haywards Heath

LAST season, the club's first team romped division 2 of the Mid-Sussex League, with a 100 per cent record. We knew that division 1 would be a different ball game.

In the style of Sam Allardyce's "Our target is 40 points", I set the target of us getting four wins in order to stay up.

The team duly over-performed, winning our first four matches. As we entered 2012, dreams of title glory were in the air. Then disaster.

The league website pointed out that the team had now chalked up 22 months of winning every league match. Duly jinxed, we gained just half a point from our next three matches.

We finally settled into mid-table obscurity, finishing with 5½ from 11, good enough to finish seventh. Overall a good consolidation of our position in the top flight, and the promise of further glory next season. Thanks to all who made the adventure possible.

In the National Club championship, we faced a talented Tunbridge Wells side whose grading average was very close to the 175 limit. We got knocked out on the first occasion with a creditable 2.5 out of 6 – not quite enough to qualify.

We equally experienced a painful journey to Bognor Regis with a loss in the McArthur Cup. Our single victory this year was in the Paul Watson Trophy, with David Curtis and Rob Fitzgerald winning critical games in the final round to ensure victory.

**Jeffrey Boardman**



*TAKING THEM ALL ON: FM Alex Therrien ponders his next move in a club simul*

### Worthing

[www.worthingchessclub.co.uk](http://www.worthingchessclub.co.uk)

THE club continues to attract new members both senior - we welcomed back Keith Homeyard after a 20-year break! - and junior.

With Dave Graham now running a junior club, the future continues to look bright for the club. The club fielded three teams in the Mid-Sussex League and after a successful season looks to increase this to four next season.

Dave Graham captained the first team and led them to a strong finish and an excellent third place.

The juniors continue to make great improvement, many representing Sussex Juniors. Matthew Payne also represented England at junior level.

Dave Graham won the Club Championship and Knockout. Young Joseph Allin had an excellent win in the Derrick Trophy, beating Colin Parker in the playoff final. Colin Parker made up for this by winning the Ladder tournament, and Robin Trinkwon won the Ron Saunders Trophy.

The annual club simul saw FM Alex Therrien take on 17 players, Alex won 13 and drew 4.

**Chris Jones**

**Julian Clark – Bernard Cafferty, Hastings A v Woodpushers, Mid-Sussex League, March 1, 2012**

1 d4 Nf6 2 c3 b6 3 Bf4 Bb7 4 Nd2 e6 5 Qc2 d5 6 Ngf3 c5 7 e3 Be7 8 Ne5 0-0 9 Ndf3 Nbd7 10 Bd3 Rc8?

An obvious but superficial move. White could now generate serious threats by 11 Ng5! g6 (11...h6? 12 Bh7+ forces mate) 12 Bxg6 hxg6 13 Nxc6, but chooses an incorrect way to generate an attack.

11 g4? c4! 12 Be2 Ne4! 13 Nxd7 Qxd7 14 Ne5 Qd8 15 f3?

Another ‘attacking move’ which quickly rebounds.

15...Nd6 16 g5 (else ...f6 winning greater material) 16...Bxg5 17 Bxg5 Qxg5 18 Kd2 Nf5 19 f4 Qh4 20 Raf1 Rfd8 21 Qd1 b5 22 Bh5 Nd6! 23 Bf3 a5 24 Qe2

White could try to hold up the advance by 24 a3, but 24...b4 is then still feasible as Black’s N comes to b5, or even c4, with great force.

24...b4 25 Rhg1 Qe7 26 Rg3 bxc3+ 27 bxc3 Nf5 28 Rh3 Qa3 22 Rc1 Bc6! 30 Nxc6 Rxc6 31 e4 dxe4 32 Qxe4 Rcd6 33 Kd1? (still, there was no defence to ...Nxd4 as Black king reaches safety via f8 and e7) 33...Qxc1+ 0-1.

**Bernard Cafferty**

Two games illustrating Phil Stimpson’s aggressive style.

**Phillip J Gregory, Wimbledon - Phil.M. Stimpson, Thames Valley League, January 23, 2012**

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Nf6 3.c4 e6 4.dxe6 Bxe6 5.Nf3 Qe7 6.Qe2 Nc6 7.d4 Bg4 8.Qxe7+ Bxe7 9.Be3 0-0-0 10.d5 Nb4 11.Na3 c6 12.dxc6 Nxc6 13.Nc2 Nb4 14.Nxb4 Bxb4+ 15.Ke2 Rhe8 16.Rd1 Bc5 17.Rxd8+ Kxd8 18.h3 Bh5 19.g4 Bg6 20.Nd2 h5 21.Rg1 hxg4 22.hxg4 Nxg4 23.Rg3 Bh5 24.Kd3 Nxf2+ 25.Bxf2 Bxf2 26.Rh3 Bg4 27.Rh2 Bg3

28.Rg2 Bf5+ 29.Kc3 Bd6 30.Re2 Rxe2 31.Bxe2 Be5+ 32.Kb3 g5 33.Bf3 Kc7 34.Ne4 g4 35.Bg2 Bc8 36.Kc2 f5 37.Nd2 and resigns

**David A. Corder, Cosham (W) v Phil. M. Stimpson, Cole Cup , February 2, 2012**

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bg5 Ne4 3.Bh4 c5 4.f3 g5 5.fxe4 gxh4 6.e3 Bh6 7.Nc3 e6 8.Nf3 Bxe3 9.Qd3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Bh6 11.Be2 Nc6 12.Ncb5 0-0 13.g3 Ne5 14.Qc3 Qg5 15.Nf5 exf5 16.Qxe5 fxe4 17.Qxg5+ Bxg5 18.Nd6 f5 19.Rf1 hxg3 20.hxg3 h6 21.Bc4+ Kh7 22.Nxf5 d5 23.Bxd5 Bxf5 0-1

**John Cannon - Jonathan Burrows (John’s 480th county match, played over 62 years). ECF Stage Open quarter-final, Sussex v Norfolk, board 16, May 20, 2012**

1 e4 e5; 2 Nc3 Nf6; 3 f4 d5; 4 fxe5 Nxe4; 5 d3 Nxc3; 6 bxc3 d4; 7 Nf3 Nc6; 8 Be2 Bc4;

9 00 dxc3+; 10 Kh1 00; 11 Qe1 Nd4; 12 Bd1 (all ‘book’ so far) 12....Nxf3; 13 Bxf3 Re8; 14 Qg3 c6; 15 Bg5 Qc7; 16 Bf6 Bf1; 17 Be4 g6; 18 Rf4 Bg7; 19

Raf1 Be6; 20 Qh4! Bxa2; 21 Rf1f3 Be6 (Fritz gives 21....Rxe5!; 22 Bxe5 Bxe5; 23 Rg4 Bg7 +2.73); 22 g4 Qd7;

23 Rh3 h5; 24 Bxg7 (gxh5! Bxh3; 25 h6! is immediately conclusive); 24....Kxg7; 25 Qf6+ Kg8; 26 gxh5 Bxh3? ( 26....Qe7 prolongs the game, but B is still lost, for instance 27 Rg3 Qxf6; 28 exf6 Bd5; 29 hxg6 Re5; 31 g7! ++); 27 h6 Kf8; h7 resigns

**John Cannon**

TWO games by Horsham's James Mansson, both employing the Hedgehog Formation.

**Ian Kelly (Knoll Knights) - James Mansson (Horsham 1), Mid-Sussex League, Division 1, January 31, 2012.**

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.O-O e6 6.e3 Be7 7.b3 O-O 8.Bb2 d6 9.Qe2 Nbd7 10.Rd1 Rc8 11.Nc3 Qc7 12.Rac1 Qb8 13.d4 Rfe8 14.Ne1 Bxg2 15.Nxg2 cxd4 16.Rxd4 Qb7 17.e4 a6 (The usual Hedgehog game of cat and mouse ensues but who is the cat and who is the mouse?) 18.Rdd1 Bf8 19.f3 Qb8 20.Ne3 Ne5 (successfully provoking the weakening f4) 21.f4 Ned7 22.Nc2 b5! (This works

**Andrew Lawson 202 (North East England) - James Mansson 186 (e2e4.org.uk 2), 4NCL Division 3, Round 10, May 6, 2012**

1.Nf3 c5 2.c4 Nf6 3.g3 b6 4.Bg2 Bb7 5.O-O e6 6.Nc3 Be7 7.d4 cxd4 8.Qxd4 d6 9.Rd1 O-O 10.Qf4 a6 11.e4 Qc7 12.b3 Nbd7 13.Bb2 Rac8 14.Qe3 Rfe8 15.Rac1 Qb8 16.Nd4 Bf8 (both sides have deployed their forces in a standard way) 17.Qd2 Nc5 18.Re1 Red8 19.h3 Ba8 20.Rcd1 b5! (leading to an unbalanced situation, with White having a majority of pawns on the queenside, and Black in the centre. The presence of so many pieces makes the situation hard to evaluate) 21.cxb5 axb5 22.Ndxb5 Ncxe4 23.Nxe4 Nxe4 24.Bxe4 Bxe4 25.Rxe4 Qxb5 (White now had less than 20 minutes for the next 15 moves in this complex position, and immediately loses the thread, and stages an ineffective demonstration on the kingside) 26.Rg4?! Qf5 27.Rc1 d5 28.Kg2 h6 (better is 28...Rxc1! 29.Bxc1 Rc8 or 29.Qxc1 d4!) 29.Rf4 Qh7 30.Rg4 Qf5 31.Rf4 Qh7 32.a4 g5?! (Black now played a series of rash moves as both players ran short of time. 32...Rxc1! 33.Qxc1 Bd6 34.Rf3 e5 35.Qc6 d4 was sounder) 33.Rf3 f5?! 34.Re3?! (34.Rxc8 Rxc8 35.a5 looks strong) 34...Qd7 (now 34...d4! 35.Rxe6 Qb7+ 36.Kh2 Qxb3 would have given Black counterplay) 35.Rd3?! (missing the chance to take the game into a promising rook endgame with 35.Rxc8! Rxc8 36.Qd4 Bg7 37.Qxg7+ Qxg7 38.Bxg7 Kxg7

because e4 has been undermined) 23.cxb5 axb5 24.Qxb5 (if 24.Nxb5 24...Nxe4!) 24...Qa7+! 25.Kg2 Nc5! 26.e5 dxe5 27.fxe5 Ng4 28.Qe2 Qa8+ 29.Kh3 (this looks a risky square for the king, as the game proves) 29...h5 (Black was starting to run significantly short of time, with less than a minute a move left to make the time control at move 42) 30.Nd4 g6 31.Nf3? Bh6 32.Rb1 Be3 33.Rf1? Red8 (missing the strong 33...Ne4!) 34.Rbd1 Rxd1 35.Nxd1 Bh6 36.Bd4! (this came as a surprise and caused Black to run down his clock to under ten seconds) 36...Qe4 37.Qxe4 Nxe4 38.Re1 Ng5+ (now Black had four seconds left) 39.Nxg5 Bxg5 40.Bb2 Rc2 41.Rf1?!, overlooking Rxh2 mate (Black had two seconds left when he delivered mate!)

39.Rxe6 Rb8 40.a5 Rxb3 41.Re3!, bringing the rook back behind the pawn) 35...Bg7! 36.Bxg7 Kxg7 37.Qb2+ Kg6 38.Rxc8 Rxc8 39.Qe5 Rc6 40.g4!? f4! 41.h4 Rc1 42.hxg5 hxg5 43.b4!? (during the game, both players regarded this as a blunder, but in fact White seems to have decent play. However, he took a very long time over his next move, and ended up in serious time trouble for a second time) 43...Rc4 44.b5 (Black is fine after 44.Qh8 Qe7 45.Rh3 f3+ 46.Rxf3 Rxg4+ 47.Kf1 Rf4 48.Rxf4 gxf4) 44...Rxa4 45.b6 (Black is again fine after 45.Rc3 Rc4 46.Rxc4 dxc4 47.Qe4+ Kf6 48.Qxc4 Qd1) 45...Rb4?! (Black picked up the rook and was about to play 45...Re4?!, but then noticed 46.Qxe4+ just in time - 45...Qc6! was best) 46.Qb8 Qf7?! 47.Qd6?! ( 47.Rxd5 fails to 47...f3+! 48.Kg3 Qf4+! winning the rook, but White should have stopped ...f3 with 47.Rf3!) 47...f3+! (Black now had excellent counterplay, and White should have been looking to force a draw. However, he was really short of time and failed to judge the situation properly) 48.Rxf3 Rxg4+ 49.Rg3 Rf4 50.f3 Qf6! 51.Qa3? (White should force Black to take perpetual check with 51.b7 Qb2+) 51...Qd4?! ( 51...Rc4! 52.Qd3+ Qf5 leaves Black much better) 52.b7? ( 52.Qc1 forces Black to take the draw) 52...Qd2+ 53.Kg1 Rb4 54.Rg2 Rb1+ (there is a quicker mate with 54...Qe1+! 55.Kh2 Rh4 mate) 55.Kh2 Qf4+ 56.Rg3 Qh4+ 57.Kg2 Qh1+ 58.Kf2 Qe1+ 59.Kg2 Qf1+ 0-1

**James Mansson**

**Pickersgill,A (1990) - Hagesaether,A (2152)**  
**[B12] Hastings Masters 2011-12, Hastings**  
**(1), December 28, 2011**

A first round game from the Hastings Masters played in December 2011. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3 Be6 [This prevents the threatened move 6. Bc4 with an attack for white.] 6.c3 Nf6 7.Bd3 Nbd7 8.0-0 Qb6 9.Kh1 0-0-0 [Two moves have been played on my database, 9... 0-0-0 and 9... Bd6. Fritz gives Bd6 as the better choice.] 10.Qe2 Ng4 [The purpose of this move must be to prevent 11. Be3] 11.a4 a5 12.Na3 [12. b4 could have also been played.] 12...f6 13.Nc2 Bd6 14.Bd2 Bb3 [Not 14... Qxb2 which loses immediately to 15. Rfb1.] 15.Ne3 Nxe3 16.Bxe3 exd4 17.Nxd4 [The best piece

to take the pawn with.] 17...Bc5 18.Nxb3 Qxb3 [Fritz gives 18... Bxe3 as the better move.] 19.Bc4 Qb6 20.Bf4 Rhe8 21.Rfb1 g5 22.Bg3 h5 23.b4 [At last white's attack gets going.] 23...axb4 24.a5 Qa7 25.cxb4 Bd4 26.b5 ! [The rook sacrifice gives white a strong attack as compensation.] 26...Bxa1 27.bxc6 Be5 [Not 27... bc as 28. Ba6 wins immediately.] 28.cxd7+ Rxd7 29.Bb5 Red8 ? [29... Bxg3 is best according to Fritz. White now has a clear winning advantage.] 30.Bxd7+ Kxd7 31.Qb5+ Ke6 32.Qc4+ Ke7 33.Bxe5 Qxa5 [If 33... fe then 34. Qc7 is the best line for white.] 34.Rxb7+ Rd7 35.Rxd7+ [White misses the quickest win which is 35. Bd6.] 35...Kxd7 36.Qf7+ Kc8 37.Qe8+ Kb7 38.Qb8+ Kc6 39.Qc8+ Kb5 40.Qd7+ Ka6 41.Qc6+ Ka7 42.Qc7+ 1-0

**Pickersgill,A - Jones,H [B12] Hastings v**  
**Tunbridge W Kent L u170 bd 3, Hastings,**  
**April 1, 2012**

This game was played in the average under 170 Kent League in April 2012. It is my fourteenth encounter with Trevor Jones and proved to be my shortest so far. 1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bc4 [The standard reply threatening 7.

Bxf7+ and if 7... Kxf7 8. Nxe5+.] 6...Bxf3 7.Qxf3 Qh4+ 8.g3 Qf6 ? [Fritz gives 8... Qe7 as a better move. White now holds a clear advantage.] 9.Qb3 [Threatening both 10. Qxb7 and 10. Rf1.] 9...b5 10.Rf1 bxc4 11.Qb7 Qg6 12.Rf5 Bd6 13.dxe5 Ne7 ? [13... Qe6 was better, but the position is dire for black in any case.] 14.exd6 Nxf5 ?? [14... Qxd6 would have prolonged the game a little longer.] 15.Qc8# 1-0

**Adrian Pickersgill**

Jaimie Wilson, who went on to win the club championships at both Bognor and Chichester chess clubs, with a nice smothered mate

**Jaimie Wilson v Steve Smith, Chichester**  
**Club Championship, April 1, 2012 [ECO**  
**"B22"] [WhiteElo 179] [BlackElo 146]**

1. e4 c5 2. c3 e6 3. d4 d5 4. exd5 exd5 5. Nf3 Nf6 6. Bg5 c4 7. Be2 Be7 8. O-O O-O 9. b3 b5 10. a4 Bd7 11. Ne5 Qa5 12. Bf3 bxa4 13. bxc4 Re8 14. cxd5 Nxd5 15. Bd2 Qb5 16. c4 Qb2 17. Bxd5 Qxa1 18. Qh5 Qxd4 19. Qxf7+ Kh8 20. Qg8+ 1-0

**Jaimie Wilson**



**Sussex County Championship Final  
2011-12. Game 1, April 14, at Brighton &  
Hove Chess Club W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B:  
Luke Rutherford. Sicilian Defence,  
Scheveningen Variation.**

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 d6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6; 5.Nc3 a6;  
6.Be3 e6; 7.Qd2 Nc6; 8.0-0-0 Be7; 9.f3 0-0; 10.g4  
Nxd4; 11.Qxd4 Nd7; 12.Kb1 b5; 13.g5 Qa5; [The  
final is always more about psychology than about  
chess. At the time neither of us thought that Black  
could afford to capture the g-pawn, but there is no

**Game 2, June 30, at Brighton & Hove Chess  
Club. W: Luke Rutherford. B: F. J.  
Kwiatkowski. Modern Benoni, Modern  
Classical Variation.**

1.d4 Nf6; 2.c4 e6; 3.Nf3 c5; 4.d5 d6; 5.Nc3 ed;  
6.cd g6; 7.e4 ... [I lost to Luke in the Mid-Sussex  
League after 7.Nd2 Bg7; 8.e4 0-0; 9.Be2 Re8; 10.0-0  
a6; 11.a4 Nbd7; 12.Qc2 Rb8?!; (12. ... Ne5); 13.a5  
Ne5; 14.Ra3 g5; Black has a reasonable game, but I  
had forgotten the theory and spent an inordinate  
amount of time reaching this position. Predictably,  
this meant that, due to time trouble, I blew the  
opportunities that arose later.]

7. ... Bg7; 8.h3 ...; [This is the 'Modern Classical' –  
White prevents ... Bg4.] 8. ... 0-0; 9.Bd3 a6; [There is  
a known pawn sac – 9. ... b5. In my opinion, Black  
forgoes all winning chances here and the best he can  
hope for is a sterile drawn ending.] 10.a4 Nbd7;  
11.0-0 Nh5! [Black must stay active. ] 12.Bg5 Bf6;  
13.Be3 Re8; [I played 13. ... Rb8 against Gavin Lock  
in the Mid-Sussex League and drew after both sides  
had missed chances. The point is to reserve e8 for  
the Knight on h5 and transfer it to c7. I suspect each  
Rook move is of equal value, but ... Re8 is normal.]  
14.Qd2 Ne5; 15.Be2 Nxf3+; 16.Bxf3 Ng7; 17.a5 b5;  
18.ab Qxb6; 19.Na4 Qd8; [In my opinion, Black's  
opening has been a success. Don't be fooled by the  
'silly' position of the Black Knight. It is ready to  
support the pawn break ... f5, or to go e8-c7-b5-d4. I  
now ran myself into trouble trying to be clever.]  
20.Rfc1 ...; [White feeds pieces to the Q-side,  
because the usual White central and K-side breaks  
have been blocked.] 20. ... Rb8; 21.Ra3 Bd7?!; [It  
was better to just play the natural ... Be5,  
preparing ...f5.] 22.b3 Be5; 23.Nb2 Bb5; [My

clear advantage to White after the capture that I  
could find. The point is that the position after [e.g.]  
13. ... Bxg5; 14. Rg1 ... ; looks uncomfortable, and  
Black wanted to carry out one of the natural plans in  
the position instead. However, 13.h4 ... ; is probably  
a stronger move.]

14.h4 b4; 15.Ne2 Bb7?!; [My computer prefers  
15. ... Ne5; with mutual complications.] 16.h5 Rac8;  
[Now if 16. ... Ne5; 17.h6 ... ; is stronger than in the  
game.] 17.h6 e5; 18.Qd2 g6; 19.a3 Qc7!; [Black  
stays active and holds the game very attractively.]  
20.ab d5!; 21.ed Bxd5; 22.Qxd5 Qxc2+; 23.Ka1  
Qa4+ Agreed drawn. 1/2-1/2.

computer pointed out that ...Bxh3; is possible: 24.gh  
Qf6!; but prefers 24.Nc4, assessing this as a firm  
White plus. 23. ... f5 was also reasonable.] 24.Nc4  
Bxc4; 25.Rxc4 f5; 26.Rca4 Bf6; 27.g3? ...; [My  
computer prefers either Qd3 or Qc2, assessing these  
as better for White.] 27. ... fe; 28.Bxe4 Qc8?;  
[Nerves! After ... Qd7!; threatening both ... Qxh3;  
and ... Rxb3; Black is extremely active.] 29.g4 Re7?;  
[White's plus is restricted after ... a5;] 30.Qd3 ...;  
[30.Bd3 is better.] 30. ... Rb6; 31.Kg2 ...; [White  
prepares the push g5 by protecting the pawn on h3.  
Black now improves the Knight and gives the bishop  
an extra square.] 31. ... Ne8; [I now have a  
reasonable game, but I was in some time trouble,  
with 9 minutes left in which to make move 40.]

32.Rxa6?? c4!; [White blunders from the pressure  
of the occasion.] 33.Qxc4 Qxc4; 34.bc Rxa6;  
35.Rxa6 Rxe4; [Despite the extra piece, matters are  
far from clear. White now has to try 36.c5 with  
strong drawing chances, but Luke was visibly  
shocked by the blunder.] 36.Ra8? Kf7; 37.c5 dc;  
38.Bxc5 Be7; 39.Ra7 Kf8; 40.Be3 ...;

[White might have tried 40.d6 ... . At that stage I  
had only three minutes left, and was inclined to  
play ... Nxd6; 41.Bxd6 Bxd6; 42.Rxh7 Be7; when  
the position is awful for White, but with some  
grovelling chances. I had provisionally made ... Bxd6  
second choice, because after 41.Bxd6+ Nxd6;  
42.Rxh7 Nf7 I could not see a clear win. My  
computer, however, tells me that White is absolutely  
lost, e.g. 43.Kg3 Kg8; 44.Rh4 Ng5.]

40. ... Re5; 41. Ra5; ...

[This was the sealed move. Luke now considered  
the position. He must lose the d-pawn. After that, he  
has a pawn for his piece and drawing chances so very  
poor that he chose to resign without resuming.] 0-1.



**Sussex 1 v Middlesex 1 Board 2 [of 16],  
January 7, at the URC Hall, Hassocks. W: F.  
J. Kwiatkowski. B: Colin Crouch I.M.  
Centre-Counter Defence.**

1.e4 d5; 2.ed Qxd5; 3.Nc3 Qd6; 4.d4 Nf6; 5.Nf3  
c6; 6.Ne5 Nbd7; 7.f4 Nb6; 8.g4 g6; 9.Bg2 Be6;  
10.0-0?! Nbd5?!;

[My opinion is, first, the whole Qd6 line is suspect for Black and, second, that neither side played it that well on this occasion. Crouch should have pressured the d-pawn, but he had actually tried that in a previous game and had lost. I suspect this is why he deviated with ... Nbd5. Before that, I suspect White should prefer g5 to 0-0. ]

11.Na4! Rd8; 12.Nc5 Bc8; 13.g5 Nh5; 14.f5! Ng7;  
15.Ne4 Qc7;

[I knew I had to be much better, but I struggled to find a concrete solution. Note that there are latent Black threats from a capture on e5 and along the b8-h2 diagonal. My computer suggests the cold-blooded 16.fg hg; 17.Rxf7, and gives a wealth of complex tactics after either ... Nf5; or ... Be6; to justify its choice. I could not see a way to make it work during the game, so I chose something else.]

16.c4 Nb6; 17.Bf4 Nh5; 18.fg ... ;[18.Be3! ] 18. ...  
hg; 19.Nxg6 ... ;

**Hastings & St.Leonards 1 v St. Francis &  
Haywards Heath 1, [Board 1], Mid-Sussex  
League, Division 1. Played at Hastings, April  
26. W: Francis Rayner. B: F. J. Kwiatkowski.  
Sveshnikov Sicilian.**

[This was played at the Hastings home venue, nowhere near Mid-Sussex, despite this being ostensibly a Mid-Sussex League match. We arrived nearly half an hour late.] 1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6; 5.Nc3 e5; 6.Ndb5 d6; 7.Bg5 a6; 8.Na3 b5; 9.Bxf6 gf; 10.Nd5 f5; 11.c3 Bg7; 12.ef Bxf5; 13.Nc2 0-0; 14.Nce3 Be6; 15.Bd3 f5; 16.0-0 Kh8;

[All this is normal. Black has a choice of moves here. I chose ...Kh8 simply because I had not played it before.] 17. Bc2 ...; [17.Qh5 ...; is a stiffer test. The move chosen takes the immediate sting out of ...e4 ad waits to see if Black will do anything silly.] 17. ... Ne7; 18.Nxe7 Qxe7; 19.Nd5 Qb7; [I really wanted to play ... Qf7, because it is obvious that Black will

[The computer proposes 19.Nxf7 ... ; with outlandish tactical variations to justify its choice. The players now thrash about in the dark for a while.]

19. ... Nxf4; 20.Nxh8 Bg7; [The computer now assesses Black as better, but I needed to generate practical chances and complete my development.] 21.Rxf4 ...; [The assessment shifts to a large Black plus, then back to only a small Black plus.] 21. ... Qxf4; 22.Qh5 Bxd4+; 23.Kh1 Be6?; [The computer suggests ... Bg4 either here, or before playing ... Bxd4+.] 24.g6?! ... ; [Banditry, chosen in time trouble. The cold-blooded Rf1 was objectively better.] 24. ... Nxc4? [24. ... fg;] 25.Ng5! Qe5; [Black was worse anyway, but this should have lost on the spot.] 26.Nhxf7 ...; [26.gf+ Kd7; 27.Ng6 ... would also have worked.] 26. ... Bxf7; 27.gf+ Kd7;

28.Qg4+ ...; [At this point I had about one minute to make the time control at move 35. The computer suggests simply 28.Bh3+ ...; , but my move also should have won easily.] 28. ... e6; 29.Nxe6? ...; [29.Nf3 ...; wins.] 29. ... Qxe6; 30.Qxd4+ Nd6; 31.Rd1 Ke7?; [31. ... Kc7; 32.Qxa7 is a long-term win, but Black's blunder ends the game.] 32.Qh4+ ... . Black resigned. 1-0.

Not a perfect game, but it was very satisfying to beat an International Master.

have to attack the White King. However, I felt a need to guard the Q-side squares, and the Queen supports the pawn advances typical of this variation.] 20.Bb3 a5; 21.Ne3 Bxb3; 22.ab f4; 23.Qd5 Qd7; 24.Nc2 f3!?

[A critical point. I was about 20 minutes behind on the clock and wanted to create immediate problems. For what it's worth, the computer suggests 24. ... Qf5; 25.Rac1 e4; 26.Qxd6 f3; as a viable plan, but also assesses my actual choice positively for Black.]

25.Ne3 ...; [25.gf ...; probably had to be attempted, although Black has open lines towards the White King for all his pieces. Both ... Qh3 and ...Bh6 would be respectable tries.] 25. ... fg; 26.Rfd1 Rad8; [This may be too passive, but the practical chances stay with Black.] 27.Rxa5 Bh6; 28.Qe4?...; [White's nerve broke, even though he had lots of time in hand. 28.Nxg2 ...; had to be tried, although ... Qf5 and ... Qg4 each keep up a lot of pressure.] 28. ... Rf4; 29.Qxg2?? Rg8; 30.Ra8 Rff8 and White resigned: 0-1.

**St Francis & Haywards Heath 1 v The Argumentatives, Board 1. Mid-Sussex League KO competition 2011-12. Played at Haywards Heath, November 3. French Defence, Tarrasch Variation. W : F.J. Kwiatkowski [St. F & HH.] B: Peter Farr [Args]**

1.e4 e6; 2.d4 d5; 3.Nd2 Nf6; 4.e5 Nfd7; 5.c3 c5; 6.Bd3 Nc6; 7.Ne2 cd; 8.cd f6; 9.ef Nxf6; 10.Nf3 Bd6; 11.0-0 0-0; 12.Bf4 Bxf4; 13.Nxf4 Ne4; 14.Qc1

Qf6; [All this is normal, up to 14.Qc1 ...; when .... Ng5; is the usual reply.]

15.Nh5? ...; [The first step to disaster. 15.Ne2 was sane, with the usual tiny White plus.] 15. ... Qf5? [15. ... Qg6 16.Nf4 Qg4 is very bad for White.] 16.Ng3?? ...; [White failed to see that anything was amiss with the position and hence passed up the chance to play 16.Bxe4 de 17.Ng3, which at least avoids the immediate problem.] 16. ... Nxc3. White resigned, for Bxc3 is met by the check on e2. A bad day at the office: 0-1. **Feliks Kwiatkowski**

**Bognor Summer Tournament, July 22, W Mick Plumb B Jophn Kalber**

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 d6 5. h3 b5 6. Bb3 Na5 7. d3 Nxb3 8. axb3 {This and some other games now convince me that this attempt to thwart a W K-side attack is counter productive...} Bb7 9. O-O Be7 10. Be3 c5 {Strategically correct, hampering the W Q-side, frustrating for W - which is good for B !...} 11. Nbd2 Nf6 12. Qe2 O-O 13. Nh2

{Announcing a K-side attack. Now I will see that his two Ns can have more potential, if not correctly countered, than two Bs!...} h6 {A luft yes, but creating a target...} (13... d5 14. Ng4 Nd7 15. Nf3 d4 16. Bd2 Qc7 17. Bg5 f6

18. Bd2 f5 19. exf5 Rxf5 {and Black is looking good, but ...}) 14. f4 Qc7 (14... exf4 15. Bxf4 Qd7 16. Rf2 Rfe8 17. Raf1 Qe6 18. Bg3 Bc6 {This is what I had anticipated and 'looks' strong for W...}) 15. f5 {I had anticipated that Mick would play this which is why I didn't play exf4. I thought this pawn would aid my own blockade and I believe it did...} d5 16. Ng4 Kh7 {Just a bit edgy now!..} 17. Rac1 {I took this as meaning Mick wasn't clear how to attack and had become worried about how to break out on the Q-side...} dxe4 (17... Nxc3 18. Qxc3 d4 19. Bf2 Qd6 20. Bh4 Bxh4 21. Qxh4 f6) 18. Nxf6+ Bxf6 19. Nxe4 Bxe4 20. dxe4 Qc6 21. Qf3 Kg8 {Here I planned ...} (21... Bg5 22. Bxc3 hxc3 23.

Qh5+ Qh6 {Oh dear! I suddenly 'saw' a serious threat to my K and completely forgot about the Qh6 defence!! An irrationality that dogs my games...}) 22. Qg4

(22. Rfd1 Rfd8 23. Rd5 c4 24. Kf2 a5 25. bxc4 Qxc4 26. b3 Qc6 27. c4 {This may have been a decisive line for W following my wastful K move...})

22... Bg5 {This lacks the force it possessed a move earlier and I was busy (too busy) kicking myself...} 23. Bxc3 hxc3 24. Rce1 {Here Mick, a cautious attacker(!), misses a decisive chance to go ahead...} (24. Qxc3 {I cannot take the pawn because...} Qxe4 25. f6 Qg6 {The only move in town!...} 26. Qxe5 {Leaves me up the river - minus a paddle!..}) 24... f6 {The position 'looks' drawn now...} (24... Qf6 25. Rd1 Rfd8 26. Rd5 c4 27. bxc4 bxc4 28. c3 Rab8 29. Rf2 Rb5 30. Rxd8+ Qxd8 31. Qe2) 25. c3 {Mick is looking to occupy d5, maybe get a passed pawn...} (25. Rd1 Rad8) 25... Rf7 26. Rd1 Kf8 {In a quandary I look to a safe haven for my K but this isn't the way!...} 27. Rd5 Rd7 28. Rfd1 Rad8 29. c4 Rxd5 30. cxd5 {Mission accomplished...} Qd7 31. Qe2 Kf7 32. Ra1 Qa7 {Another failure of perception and I fall into the trap!...} (32... Qb7 33. Qh5+ Kg8 34.

Kf2 Qb6 35. Qe2 c4+ 36. Kf3 cxb3 37. Qd3 Rc8 38. Qxb3 {With a dangerous passed d-pawn...}) 33. Kh1 {Again Mick lets caution rob him of a winning advantage...c4+ is not a problem for him and does nothing for me...} g6 {Still not seeing it, I give him back his opportunity and he grabs it!} 34. Qxb5 gxf5 {I seriously considered...} (34... axb5 {but...}) 35. Rxa7+ Kf8 36. fxc6 {and I can go home!..}) 35. exf5 {Cautious again!. I see chances of a draw... I have to say I saw this manoeuvre and was waiting to resign...} (35. Rxa6 Qc7 36. Rc6 Qa7 37. Qc4 Kg7 38. d6 Rd7 39. exf5 Qa1+ 40. Kh2 Qb1 41. Qe6 {Goodnight John!...}) 35... Qd7 36. Qxc5 (36. Qxa6 Qxd5 37. Qb6 {I thought I would have nothing here, but it seems a draw was in prospect, thanks only to Mick letting me survive instead of crushing me...perhaps this is a worry, a quiet tribute to

my very occasional sparklers that turn things around!...} (37. Qc4 Qxc4 38. bxc4 {Is a draw...}) 37... e4 38. Ra7+ Rd7 39. Rxd7+ Qxd7 40. Qxc5 Qd1+ 41. Kh2 Qxb3 42. Qc7+ Kf8 43. Qd6+ Kf7 44. Qd7+ Kf8 45. Qd4 Kg7 46. Qxc4 Qb8+ 47. Kg1 Qxb2 48. Kh2 Qb8+ 49. Kg1 Qb2 50. Qf3) 36... Qxf5 37. d6 Rd7 38. Qc4+ Kg6 {A losing move...} 39. Qg8+ (39. Rf1 {My Q has no good move - yet another let-off!... Perhaps the gods are with me!...}) 39... Rg7 40. Qe8+ Rf7 41. Qc6 Here she stalls any attack on her K and maintains the pressure...} Qe6 (41...Qd3) 42. b4 Qb3 43. Rxa6 Qd3 44. d7 Qf1+ {I see a faint light - maybe Mick's caution will give me a chance yet!...} 45. Kh2 Rxd7 {This was totally unexpected and rattled Mick's confidence - so nearly home and now a possible Q is gone AND a pawn is lost...} 46. Qe4+ Qf5 {I have counterplay. With a huge emotional relief I see I have weathered the storm (very luckily!) and now my Q poses a threat ...} 47. Qxf5+ Kxf5 {My K seems the better placed to win a queening race in which I

could afford to give up my R for the Q-pawns...} 48. g4+ {In euphoria without a thought I play...} Ke4 {then...} 49. Rxf6 {blows my world apart and I resign at once. What a crass, totally unforced blunder. I am so upset I resign at once, feeling I don't deserve my good fortune and want

only to end it. I have no interest in seeing if I can save the game, feeling (quite wrongly) that I had thrown away a dramatic win. Only a draw was possible but I would have been in no state to try for it and Mick had be winning for nearly half the game anyway. If I play ...} Kd4 50. b3 e4 51. Kg2 Kd3 52. Kf2 Kd2 53. Re6 Rf7+ {and so on, but I couldn't see beyond resignation.

Mick, who had been suffering his own torments, was relieved to win after (knowingly I think) missing so many opportunities and also thinking (rightly) I might still draw. In the cool of the next day I believe justice was done.} 1-0

**John Kalber**



ENTRIES are invited for the various competitions run by the county.

**McArthur Cup**

for teams of six. Open to all clubs in Sussex. The county's premier competition, played as a K.O. 3½ hour playing session (prior to final) should permit evening matches.

(entry fee £8 per team, or £10 for unaffiliated clubs).

**The Paul Watson Trophy**

for teams of 4, played as a K.O. Open to all clubs in Sussex. 3½ hour playing session should permit evening matches. Maximum average grade of ≤150.

(entry fee £4 per team, or £6 for unaffiliated clubs).

**County Championship**

A K.O. competition with 'traditional' time controls permitting the leisure of adjournments rather than quick-play finishes. Open to players who live in Sussex or who are members of Sussex clubs

(entry fee £3.50)

**West Sussex Queen**

Open to players graded under 160 who live in West Sussex or who are members of clubs in West

Sussex. A K.O. competition; playing session of maximum 4½ hours with quick-play finishes  
 (entry fee £3.50).

**East Sussex Queen**

Open to players graded under 160 who live in East Sussex or who are members of clubs in East Sussex. A K.O. competition; playing session of maximum 4½ hours with quick-play finishes.

(entry fee £3.50).

**Veterans' Championship**

Open to players aged 60 or over on or after October 1, 2012, who live in Sussex or who are members of Sussex clubs. A K.O. competition; playing session of maximum 4½ hours with quick-play finishes.

(entry fee £3.50).

All entries should be sent to the tournament controller, Paul Buswell, 51 Kenilworth Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea TN38 0JL by Friday, SEPTEMBER 28. Or e-mail: PaulBuswellChess@aol.com

Cheques payable to Sussex County Chess Association.

Please tick the appropriate boxes above and complete details below.

Name of club or of individual competitor: .....

Address of club captain or of individual competitor: .....

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Phone number(s) and e-mail: .....

President	Robert Elliston	Cherry Tree Cottage, 2 Marlpit Gardens, Ticehurst, East Sussex, TN5 7BB. Tel: 01580 200609
Deputy President	Robert Williams	7 The Mount, 45 Meads Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN20 7PX . Tel : 01323 639766
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Treasurer	Peter Kemp	48 Burleigh Way, Crawley Down, West Sussex, RH10 4UQ Tel: 01342 717050
Auditor	Debbie Musgrove	
Open Team Captain	Richard Almond	5 The Willows, Sedlescombe Road North, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN37 7PA Tel: Home: 01424 753612; Work: 01424 453230; Mobile: 07905 479445 email : richardalmond141@hotmail.com
Open Team Captain (on the day)	Paul Selby	Garden Flat, 2A Cleveland Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 6FF Tel: 01273553825
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U-160 Team Captain	John Cannon	149 Compton Lane, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6BH 01403 253776 cannon149@tiscali.co.uk
U-140 Team Captain	Keith Osborne	01323 492158 KeithCOsborne@aol.com
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Patrons are exempt from board fees in county matches and will receive a complimentary copy of Sussex Chess.

County fees: Adults £15 (ECF members)/£25 (non-ECF members) and Juniors (U-18) £9

Please complete the form below and return to the Treasurer:

Peter Kemp  
48 Burleigh Way  
Crawley Down  
West Sussex  
RH10 4UQ

Thank you in anticipation of your support for Sussex Chess.

***Peter Kemp***  
***SCCA Treasurer***

To SCCA Treasurer P.D.Kemp

From Name (Block capitals).....

Address.....

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***I enclose my Patron's fee for 2012-13 of £.....***

Signature.....

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