



SUSSEX CHESS NEWS

2014

**'Greece' lightning, the
Sussex youngsters taking
chess world by storm**



**Farewell to a
chess legend**

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Brighton prove a point in the 200 club

Ian Comley reflects on an eventful season

THIS was another thrilling season of chess, with 13 clubs fielding 36 teams, playing a total of 324 matches across four divisions.

In division 1, the top teams all have first boards graded 200 and above. Brighton & Hove 1 proved to be a notch above their closest contenders and were clear winners with 8/9. They were a point ahead of their rivals and only dropped two draws to second-placed Hastings & St Leonards 1 and Worthing 1.

Horsham 2 won the second division by only dropping half a point to Hastings & St Leonards 3. Eastbourne 1 were a point behind but led the division for most of the season and only the individual result separated them.

Crowborough 2 dominated division 3 with a perfect score of 8/8, leaving their nearest rivals, Woodpushers 1, trailing on 5.5/8. In division 4, Horsham 5 won another very closely fought division and just pipped Hastings & St Leonards 5 who dropped a point in the very last game of the season.

Eight teams competed in the Knockout, resulting in Lewes and Haywards Heath facing each other in the Knockout competition. Lewes fielded a lower graded team and thanks to the handicapping system they needed just 1.5 points to win the competition. Haywards

Heath foiled their plans with an impressive 5 - 0 clean sweep to convincingly win this trophy.

The winners of the best performances in each division were :

Overall	Andrew Caswill	Brighton & Hove 5	6.5/7	92.9%
Division 1	John Henshaw	Brighton & Hove 1	8/9	88.9%
Division 2	Peter Farr	Argumentatives	8/9	88.9%
Division 3	David Fryer	Crowborough 2	7/7	100%
Division 4	Andrew Caswill	Brighton & Hove 5	6.5/7	92.9%

Julie Denning has long done sterling work for the league and county in a variety of roles, including web editor and fixtures secretary. She has finally decided to lighten the load by now stepping down from web editor after making a huge success of this role. The league is enormously grateful to all her contribution in this role over the years.

The website has become the hub of exciting seasons and while her formal workload included collating and publishing all results, she also became an agony aunt for a perplexing list of queries.

The role is in good hands as Barry Maufe (Lewes) has stepped forward to take this forward to new successes.

Paul Batchelor reports on how Brighton kept their county crown in an exciting final against Hastings & St Leonards

BRIGHTON & Hove were at home to Hastings & St Leonards in the McArthur Cup Final.

Brighton & Hove won the toss and elected to take white on the odd boards. Just over an hour into the match, the Hastings & St. Leonards board two had failed to appear. As

observations, the game looked fairly even throughout. Perhaps, not surprisingly, this game also ended in a draw.

Chris Lowe played a Centre Counter game as black versus Andrew Fleming. A sequence of moves were repeated several times and Chris claimed a draw by three-

Home and dry for Brighton

per rules, this meant board two had lost by default.

Geoffrey James was duly credited with the win, albeit not an-over-the board one. Several days later, it transpired the player in question had forgotten the fixture and this was the reason for their non-appearance.

John Henshaw was black against Bernard Cafferty on board four. The game developed into a King's Indian defence. John duly equalised and the game was drawn. Importantly, Brighton & Hove still retained a one point advantage which they had gained through the default win. Brian Denman was playing the white side of an Accelerated Dragon against Francis Rayner. From my

fold repletion. The claim was upheld and their game ended in a draw.

My own game had been a Veresov opening against Ollie Willson. I had the white pieces. In the end, I was able to break through on the queenside and won a large amount of material. Ollie resigned. This win propelled Brighton & Hove to 3.5 points and the match was already over.

Mustapha Othman faced a Modern defence as played by Robert Elliston. I watched them play a long drawn-out ending. This ended, as the majority of games had, in a draw.

Thus Brighton & Hove were to win this final by the score 4-2.

Feliks retains county title

THERE were nine entrants for the past season's Individual Championship, two of whom, Andy Briggs and Lawrence Rhodes, met in a preliminary round to see who would play the defending champion, Feliks Kwiatkowski, in the quarter-finals.

Lawrence emerged the winner and the other pairings were Jerry Anstead v Peter Kemp, Brian Denman v Mustapha Othman and Bernard Cafferty v Callum Brewer.

There were no surprise results and the

semi-finals saw Peter drawn against Feliks and Bernard against Brian.

Black triumphed in both of these and in the two-game final, Brian, as white, drew against Feliks in the first and in the second Feliks won, to retain his title.

Congratulations to him and thanks to all contestants for assisting in the completion of the tournament by the end of May.

**Joe Sharp,
Tournament Controller**

Brighton overcome Hastings in final

McARTHUR CUP

**Defending Champions:
Brighton & Hove**

**Preliminary round: Woodpushers ½
Horsham 5½.**

**Semi-finals: Horsham 1½ Brighton &
Hove 4½; Haywards Heath 1½ Hastings &
St Leonards 4½.**

**Final, Hove, May 10: Brighton & Hove 4
Hastings & St Leonards 2.**

- 1 Brian Denman (w) ½ Francis Rayner**
- 2 Geoff James 1-0 default**
- 3 Paul Batchelor 1-0 Ollie Willson**
- 4 John Henshaw ½ Bernard Cafferty**
- 5 Mustafa Othman ½ Robert Elliston**
- 6 Chris Lowe ½ Andrew Fleming**

Paul Buswell

Lewes snatch trophy from title-holders

PAUL WATSON TROPHY

(average grade ≤ 150)

Defending Champions: Horsham

**Quarter-finals: Bognor & Arun 1½ Lewes
2½; Bexhill 2½ v Woodpushers 1½; Hastings
& St Leonards 1½ Haywards Heath 2½;
Horsham bye. Semi-finals: Bexhill ½ Lewes
3½; Haywards Heath 1½ Horsham 2½.**

Final, Lewes, May 6:

Lewes 2½ Horsham 1½.

- 1 Barry Maufe ½ Peter Harbott**
- 2 James Pullan 1 Chris Heath 0**
- 3 Richard Welford ½ Nick Warren**
- 4 Matthew Britnell ½ Richard Moorhouse**

Paul Buswell

Running like clockwork

THERE have been no significant changes to the grading system over the past year, and the system has operated smoothly from my standpoint.

If you haven't visited the online grading database recently, it's worth a look at <http://www.ecfgrading.org.uk/new/menu.php>.

It now contains quite a wealth of data on your grading history, including games for the current season that have been submitted by me or another grader, but aren't yet included in your grade. Spotting any errors at that stage (I'm not infallible!)

might avoid a mistake in your next published grade.

As discussed in my report as ECF and SCCU delegate, there is a suggestion that the ECF might seek to bar from grading any games that were potentially subject to adjudication (whether the game was actually adjudicated or not).

If you play in such a competition (e. g. the Mid Sussex League) this could affect you and I would welcome your views.

Julie Denning
Grading Officer

GRADING/ADJUDICATION

Eight positions adjudicated

THE adjudication panel consists of Gareth Anthony, Bernard Cafferty, Geoff James, Feliks Kwiatkowski, James Mansson, Mike Nicholas, Dix Roberts, Luke Rutherford and Robert Elliston.

We had eight positions to consider this year. Most positions - seven - were sent by email. There was one appeal, which was upheld.

All failed claim payments were made promptly. Positions for consideration should be received within ten days of the game being played; day 1 is the date of the match.

Robert Elliston
robertvelliston@aol.com

War of the words

DELEGATE'S REPORT...

**SCCU and ECF delegate
Julie Denning reports on
another highly eventful
year...including the
ongoing presidential saga**

APART from a very brief SGM held immediately after the ECF council meeting/AGM last October, the SCCU has followed its usual pattern of two executive committee meetings (each shortly ahead of the ECF council meetings in April and October) and the AGM in late-June.

I suspect many of our chess community might have only a vague idea of what the SCCU does, apart, perhaps, from knowing that it organises the regional rounds of county matches that precede the national stages.

If you are in this category you might care to visit the SCCU website at <http://www.sccu.ndo.co.uk/index.htm> The link "About the SCCU" gives a brief account of its history and activities. It is one of a number of regional unions that, in the overall hierarchy, lie between county associations and the ECF.

It has the status of a "constituent unit" of the ECF, which gives it not only voting rights at ECF council meetings, but also the right on its own volition to raise agenda items at council meetings. In addition to county matches, the union organises or sponsors a number of other events, particularly in junior chess, where Sussex is having a very successful time at present.

The union also has the right to allocate a number of qualifying places for the British Championships each year. It does this by allocating them to various congresses to award to their winners. Its executive committee meetings are therefore taken up with routine administrative matters for these various activities and consideration of ECF

matters – either how to vote on items at the forthcoming ECF council meeting or matters to be taken up at a future ECF council meeting.

I seek to consult with, and report back to, key representatives of the county association and club contacts prior to and after each of these SCCU meetings as I do also for ECF council meetings.

In this way, I aim to represent the views of the Sussex chess community and provide detailed feedback including accounting for how I have used the voting rights entrusted to me on your behalf. I rely upon those key contacts to circulate those detailed reports as they see fit, so will only highlight a couple of current SCCU topics in this report.

The SCCU is concerned about the possible imposition of increased fines by the ECF on unions or individual county teams. These increases had been slipped into the rules for the 2014 national stages of the county matches.

Each union is invited each December to state how many teams it wishes to nominate for each section of the national stages.

If it then fails to take up places it has requested, the union is liable for a newly-instituted fine of £100 for each unfilled nomination. Although there has so far been no indication of the ECF actually levying such fines, the SCCU could be liable for failing to take up a requested nomination in the U160 section.

The SCCU has decided to seek to get the ECF to drop the threat of such fines. Once a nomination has been accepted, any team defaulting individual boards or an entire match is now liable to a fine of £10 per

defaulted board or £100 for a defaulted match, both being double the previous level of fine.

The SCCU recognised the frustration that can be caused to opponents by such defaulting so decided not to challenge this change, but our team captains must bear this in mind.

The other current topic of SCCU discussion that I wish to highlight is an understanding that the ECF might seek to bar from grading any game potentially liable to be decided by adjudication, regardless of whether or not it did actually go to adjudication.

It is also believed that the ECF Board might adopt such a stipulation without reference to council. If you play in any such event (e.g. the Mid Sussex League) this could affect you. I spoke strongly against such a change at the most recent SCCU meeting and received the support of other county delegates.

If such a change was brought in I believe any such event would have two choices; either adopt alternative time rules (almost certainly adopting a quickplay finish format) or withdraw from grading.

In either case, I fear a number of participants would stop playing in the event concerned and many might also decide to drop their ECF membership.

Attendees of this SCCU meeting included an ECF non-executive director who we are counting on to take these concerns up with the ECF Board if they do consider such a change of grading rules.

At the very least, the SCCU would seek to ensure that matter was put to a vote by the

ECF Council rather than simply imposed by ECF Board diktat.

Turning to ECF Council matters, it has been quite an eventful year. The greatest drama has been over the election of, quickly followed by the loss of confidence in, and resignation of, a new president who succeeded in unseating the incumbent at the October, 2013, AGM.

I'm sure most readers will be familiar with this saga, which has been widely reported and discussed, so I will not repeat it all here. In précis, the new president was Andrew Paulson, a rather colourful entrepreneurial American who managed to depose Roger Edwards, who had served as president for the previous year. Within a matter of weeks, Paulson seemed to upset just about every other ECF director and lost a vote of confidence by the Board. There followed an

awkward impasse while Paulson appeared reluctant to resign, but finally did so in conjunction with an agreement by the rest of the Board, subject to council endorsement, to support his bid to become deputy president of the European Chess Union. (Paulson was expecting to run for ECU deputy president on the ticket of a challenger for the post of president. The ECF has a vote in this election.)

While this agreement was advertised as genuine by the Board, many suspected it was a cobbled together expediency – a view that was reinforced by the sudden resignation of Sean Hewitt as a non-executive director, apparently wishing to dissociate himself from the agreement.

In the end, the April, 2014, ECF council meeting refused to endorse the agreement the Board had proposed. The ECF has since



MIND GAMES:
Presidential
matters
continued to
rage

announced it would support the incumbent ECU president and Paulson's name has subsequently been dropped from the opposing ECU election ticket. As a further twist, utilising the rights of a number of organisations for whom he is the nominated delegate to the ECF, Sean Hewitt petitioned the Board to call an EGM of Council for the sole purpose of making a proposal that he (Sean Hewitt) be reappointed as a non-executive director.

The Board found a way to side-step this and instead co-opted Angus French from Surrey to fill the vacant non-exec post. The post of president remains vacant until the October, 2014, AGM.

The ECF Membership scheme is entering its third season and appears to be going well. The ECF

Board certainly claim that membership is running ahead of their original expectations.

Membership and game fees are to remain unchanged for a further year, but I'm anticipating the ECF will be seeking increases for the 2015/16 season.

Their overall finances are reasonably healthy compared with where they were a couple of years ago.

However, they have benefited from favourable "one-off" factors in both the last

(until August, 2013) and current (until August, 2014) financial periods. Otherwise, they would have roughly broken even in 2012/13 and probably achieved just a small surplus in 2013/14.

The ECF has been considering for many years seeking charity status. This finally seems to be moving forward. Although the current idea would see the ECF remain as it is now, a separate "charitable incorporated organisation", to be called the Chess Trust, would be established.

Obviously such a body would be ineffective

without funds. The April council meeting agenda included a proposal to remedy this by transferring the bulk of the funds (almost £300k) held by the BCF to the Chess Trust.

However, this proposal was withdrawn by the Board at the last minute, pending further consideration.

While the setting up of the Chess Trust, with suitable

funding, will be a major event for the BCF / ECF as we currently know them, I do not foresee significant impact, in least in the short-term, for amateur chess in our clubs or leagues.

During the year, we continued to try to track down the county chess archives that had gone missing while in the care of the ECF.

As reported more fully by Brian Denman, this has proved fruitless.

“The ECF Board certainly claim membership is running ahead of original expectations”

Vain search for our chess archive

Brian Denman says the trail has gone cold in the search to find an invaluable collection

ARCHIVES

THE Sussex chess archives - a collection of historical memorabilia - was handed to the English Chess Federation by Chris Ravilious in 2010.

The intention was that they would be housed safely in the National Chess Library in Hastings.

Unfortunately, the library stopped taking chess collections and the archives remained in store at Battle.

Some time after this, the ECF carried out a reorganisation of its office and its historical collections were transferred to a registry in Hastings.

However, something went wrong during this process and in December, 2012, I was told that the archives were missing, perhaps accidentally destroyed.

There was clearly a chance that the archives were in the Hastings registry, but for a long time executives of the ECF were unhelpful in our attempts to gain access to this storage facility.

Fortunately Phil Ehr came to our assistance and on April 9, Julie Denning and I visited the Hastings registry. Sadly, there was no sign

of the Sussex chess archives, though a number of other collections were there.

It is incredibly unlucky that someone seems to have acted with great incompetence and separated out the archives from the other collections and thrown them out.

I am one of only two people alive in Sussex who have actually seen the archives, and it becomes increasingly likely that, when I am no longer around, the memory of the early days of chess in the county will disappear.

I would like to thank Bob Elliston, Paul Buswell, Bernard Cafferty and Julie Denning for their help in trying to locate the archives.



A timely argument to resolve games

Steve Smith, chairman of Chichester Chess Club, weighs up the arguments



WHEN I began playing chess on the south coast in 1973, I remember Fisher, Spassky and all that, and it was difficult to get into the venue of Bognor Regis Chess Club, such were the numbers of players, and we played in a room above the bar of The Terminus Hotel.

The room was fine as far as chess-playing was concerned. However, a significant altercation arose during the AGM over the insistence, by some, of the use of clocks for Championship and Division 2 games. After much heated discussion, a move rate of 25 moves in 75

minutes was agreed, with a sealed move to be made for unfinished games which then continued at a rate of 20 moves per hour.

Well, let us think about this. The game is often at its most complex around move 25 and the moves immediately preceding this. If one knew a bit of opening theory, say to move 10 or so, then there wasn't much need for original thought before the almost inevitable adjournment.

One of the old boys even had the first six or so moves of the most common openings written inside the back cover of his score book and he quite openly consulted this if move order got varied and he got confused.

Still, as I didn't play the Giuoco Piano or the Lopez,

this was not of much consequence to me. More significant was the fact I did on one occasion in the 1978 Club Championship have a game of 103 moves that extended over four sessions!

This was containable only because the club met twice a week (on Tuesdays and Fridays) and we played much less inter-club league or county chess and most of that was usually at weekends.

As a matter of principle, I would always analyse adjourned positions on my own and eschewed guidance from others. This seemed only fair at the time.

So much for the history, now these days we all have software that is much more reliable than human analysis and should we therefore use that?

This vexed question has been solved for me – I have lost my CD and my engine no longer works – so I do all my adjournment analysis by hand, as it were.

Truth be told, I am not missing the flights of fantasy that engines generate. Furthermore, I do know of an adjournment position an engine thought very favourable to one of my team, he turned up to continue and was lost inside 15 moves!

The line played by his oppo had a flaw, allowing mate in five involving a two-piece sacrifice. This winning line was not found over the board, nor reviewed at all by my

player, as it featured very low on the list of some 40+ variations.

So maybe engines alone are not that much of a problem – or are they?

Is it fair someone has a computer friend graded 3500+ while someone else does not.

Does this incompatibility outweigh the carnage and nonsense of a time scramble with all its accompanying injustices?

Or should we play longer sessions with accelerating time rates ? In

Bristol, we played 50 moves in two hours, starting at 7pm, and that sorted most games in a single session.

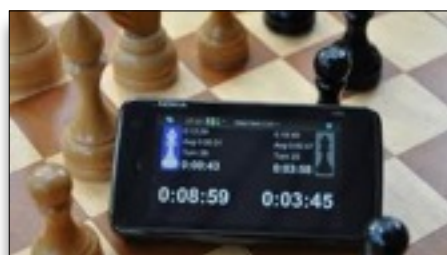
Those few games still in progress were adjudicated, if not agreed by players and match captains.

The irony of this, however, was the 40 minutes used to adjudicate could have had a 20 minutes each quick finish – this was unheard of

in those days but would that have been fairer? It seems to me that there is no good answer to this conundrum – it is just a matter of which of these characteristics is deemed to be the least unsatisfactory.

One final thought, I opt to play on in my serious games. In practice, very few go even to a second session. In many cases, the result can be agreed without resumption.

**“This vexed question
has been solved for
me - I have lost my
CD and my engine no
longer works”**



Daniel - a legend of county chess

Daniel Hirsch, September 6, 1929 – February 22, 2014:
Brian Denman pays tribute to an amazing man

OBITUARY...



BOARD DECISION: Daniel considers his next move against one of his grandchildren

THE Sussex Chess Association lost one of its most popular players when Daniel Hirsch passed away earlier this year, aged 84.

His full name was Julius Heinrich Robert Daniel Hirsch, though he preferred to be

known as Daniel. He was born in Berlin and his aptitude for mathematics and chess was clearly inherited from his father, Kurt. In the early 1930s the family was short of money and Kurt was writing a scientific column in the

Vossische Zeitung magazine while studying for a doctorate. He achieved the qualification in 1933, but when the Nazis came to power, they closed down the magazine.

Their brutal treatment of the Jews was soon apparent and Kurt decided to emigrate as he and his wife, Elsa, followed the Jewish faith. By the end of 1934, the family had relocated to England. Kurt won the chess championship of Leicestershire from 1944-46, as well as the Northumberland Championship in 1950 and by 1958 had become a maths professor at Queen Mary College in London.

Daniel attended Wyggeston Grammar School, Leicester, and in 1946 he won the Leicestershire junior chess championship.

He competed in the British Boys' Championship at Hastings in 1947, but did not reach the final section.

However, in that same year, he did well to win the British Junior Correspondence Championship. On leaving school, Daniel carried out National Service at RAF Coltishall, Norfolk.

He did not serve the usual two-year term, but gained dispensation to serve for a reduced period. In 1948, he married Muriel Josephine Stanley at Hinckley and in 1949, started a maths degree at King's College, Cambridge. Although he played chess for

the university, he was not in the matches against Oxford University from 1950-52. He used to wear his university scarf with pride even in recent times.

After obtaining a B.A., Daniel went into teaching, serving as an Assistant Master at Goole G.S. from 1952-55 and at Royal G.S., Newcastle-on-Tyne, from 1955-59. He then moved into further education, lecturing at Rutherford College of Technology, Newcastle from 1959-62.

He was awarded an M.A. from

Cambridge in 1961 and an M.Sc. from Durham University in 1962. The next step was a bold one, as he travelled to Kampala in Uganda to lecture at Makerere University (1963-70). While there, he had an article 'A Note on non-commutative polynormals subject to degree-Preservation'

published in the Journal of the London Mathematical Society (1967).

In 1970, Daniel returned to England and became resident in Crawley. He worked as a Senior Lecturer and then a Principal Lecturer at the City of London Polytechnic until his retirement in 1992.

In about 1970, he joined Crawley Chess Club and resurrected his chess career, which had probably been neglected for some time. Crawley Chess Club was going through a particularly good period, competing in the National Club Championship and achieving considerable success in the McArthur Cup

“In 1994 he was instrumental in Sussex winning the Southern Counties Championship”

and Mid Sussex League. In 1973 and 1974, Daniel was graded 178, which is the highest figure that I have been able to find for him. In the mid-1970s he also joined Horley Chess Club and was a member for a number of years.

Daniel regularly played for the county, usually in the second team, but he also made a number of appearances for the first team on the lower boards. On one such occasion in 1994 he was instrumental in Sussex winning the Southern Counties Championship.

Playing on board 20 at Orpington, he got into a terrible position, but battled on. In the end, his opponent went astray and Daniel won the game in 77 moves. As a result, Sussex beat Kent 10.5 to 9.5 and became Southern Counties champions.

Daniel became Sussex second team captain in 1989 and undertook this onerous duty until 2008. From 1992, the team was restricted to players graded under 175 (180 since 2009).

In 2003 and 2006, the team won the national championship for this grade, which showed what a good captain he was.

John Cannon has told me that Daniel drove players to matches and paid for refreshments out of his own pocket, even latterly for U180, U160 and U140 matches in which he was not otherwise involved!

He also bought a suitcase to transport a set of county equipment and was known to have carried this heavy load by train, if he was temporarily without a car.

In 2002, he was presented with the Ken Gunnell Trophy, which is awarded annually to players giving special service to the cause of Sussex chess. Another example of Daniel's generosity was the way in which he gave

training to juniors. Another county post which Daniel undertook was that of Sussex delegate to the Southern Counties Chess Union, travelling to the sometimes lengthy meetings from 1992 to 1994 and then from 1997 to 2010.

Daniel was a keen correspondence player and a regular member of the county team for many years. As he grew older and his standard dropped, he agreed to act as reserve for the team.

This selfless action meant the side did not concede any games by default. For his generosity in helping the team, he was honoured as the Sussex correspondence player of the year for 2007.

On his retirement, Daniel had more time to enter individual competitions. He won the West Sussex Queen trophy in 1994, 1995, 2003 and 2004, and was first equal with Bill Partridge in 2007. He also won the Sussex Veterans Championship in 1992, 1995, 2000 and 2005.

In 2009, Crawley Chess Club disbanded after its membership had declined, which must have come as a real blow to Daniel, as he had been the chairman for many years. Not to be deterred, he decided to join East Grinstead Chess Club, where he was a member until 2012, although it was probably because of health problems that he stopped attending at the end of 2011.

Robert Fisher described Daniel as a great raconteur, who had been greatly missed when he left the club. He added that Daniel had supported the county teams not just as a player, but as chief cook and bottle washer, as he supplied refreshments to the home and visiting teams.

Daniel had been greatly affected by the death of his wife, Muriel, in 2006, and his health went into a gradual decline.

His last few months were spent in a care home in Manchester, close to where one of his sons, Jimmy, lived. Daniel's keenness and affability knew no bounds and his passing was a sad day indeed.

□ I would like to thank all those who have helped with this obituary, in particular Robin Hirsch, John Cannon, John Dodgson, Robert Fisher, Suzanne Marshall, and Peter Monteith, and Jane Clarke at King's College, Cambridge.

THE following game has an attractive rook sacrifice on move 23:

R D Hirsch – D A Moore, Sussex v Civil Service correspondence match board 6, 1981

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.e3 b6 5.Nf3 Bb7 6.d5 d6 7.e4 exd5 8.exd5 Be7 9.Bd3 0–0 10.b3 Nbd7 11.h3 Re8 12.0–0 Nf8 13.Qc2 Ng6 14.Ng5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 Bxg5 16.Bxg5 Qxg5 17.f4 Qd8 18.f5 Ne5 19.f6 Nxd3 20.Ne7+ Kf8 21.Qxd3 gxf6 22.Qxh7 Kxe7 23.Rxf6 Kd7 24.Rxf7+ Kc6 25.Rxb7 Rh8 26.Qf7 d5 27.Rc7+ Kd6 28.cxd5 Qh4 29.Rd1 Rae8 30.Rc6+ Ke5 31.Re6+ Rxe6 32.Qxe6+ Kf4 33.Rf1+

A remarkable chess player

**Professor Sir John
Cornforth, September 7,
1917 - December 8, 2013.
Brian Denman looks back
on his life**

JOHN Warcup Cornforth was born in Sydney, Australia.

His father was a Classics and French teacher, while his mother was a nurse. When John was only 10 years of age, he started to have problems in hearing and the disease, otosclerosis, left him completely deaf by the age of 20 except for tinnitus causing a ringing in his ears. He attended Sydney Boys' High School and was 13 years of age when he first learned the moves of chess. By 1933, his standard had advanced sufficiently for him to

win the New South Wales under-16 championship. In 1934, he won a place at Sydney University and three years later graduated in chemistry with a first-class degree and a university medal. He had to carry out considerable individual research to achieve this as he had difficulty in hearing the lectures. It was at university that he first met Rita Harradence, a fellow chemistry student, who later became his wife. She was to be a great help to him with his communication problems.

By the end of 1936, John was one of the strongest chess players in Australia and he competed in the 1936-37 national championship at Perth. He scored 6/11 in this competition and broke an Australian record by giving a 12-board blindfold simultaneous in that city.

About a month later, he was invited to play in a strong tournament arranged by Lajos Steiner in Sydney, but did not do so well in this event, scoring 1.5 out of 8. He was more successful in the New South Wales Championship held in the spring of that year when he came second in this significant event.

John stayed on at Sydney University and obtained an M Sc degree. In 1939, he and Rita both won scholarships to Oxford and they travelled to England together. John had won a place at St Catherine's College and Rita

at Somerville College. While they were in the Indian Ocean, war broke out and passage through the Mediterranean was now impossible. The ship took a long detour round Africa to reach its destination. In 1941, John obtained a Ph.D. and in that same year he married Rita. They stayed on at university and formed part of a team, which worked on the drug penicillin. In 1945, John won the Oxfordshire Championship.

In 1946, John took up employment with the National Institute for Medical Research, which was then at Hampstead. He joined the

Hampstead CC and played for the club in many London League matches. He also represented Middlesex in 'over-the-board' matches and later played for the county in correspondence chess.

He remained loyal to Hampstead and Middlesex when in 1962 a new job with Shell Research Ltd took him to Sittingbourne in Kent. He was co-director at Shell's Milstead Laboratory of

Chemical Enzymology from 1962-68 and director from 1968-75. It was here that he carried out most of his research into the stereochemistry of enzyme action, which led to him being awarded the joint Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1975. In that same year, he was appointed Royal Society Research Professor at Sussex University.

John had taken a break from 'over-the-board' chess in 1970, but on coming to Sussex he began to represent his new county as well as playing for Sussex University. He later

**“He broke an
Australian record by
giving a 12 board
blindfold
simultaneous in**

transferred his allegiance to Brighton Chess Club, where he was a member from about 1977-82. In this period, he represented the club in four McArthur Cup finals and in 1979 won against J. W. Branford of Oxford University in the National Club Championship final.

In 1982, he decided to give up over-the-board chess, but continued playing for the Sussex correspondence team until 1995. In Sussex Chess, 1995, he is quoted as saying: "My sight of the board is getting slower and analysis has become laborious." He hardly ever lost a game of correspondence chess and his results for the county over the previous 15 years were nine wins out of 15 games with six draws and no losses. It should also be mentioned that he was on the Sussex adjudication panel for many years.

John was awarded a CBE in 1972, was knighted in 1977 and was made Companion of the Order of Australia in 1991.

Although he officially retired from work in 1982, he carried out chemical research for many years after that. He could not hear music, but took comfort from reading the works of poets.

He suffered a great loss when Rita died at the family home in Lewes in 2012.

He himself passed away about a year later at the Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, aged 96. Brighton Chess Club would like to thank, Philippa, one of his daughters, for donating John's chess books to the club library. Below is the score of a game he won against a player who became British champion in 1957.

The rook sacrifice on move 30 is decisive.

**Fazekas, Dr S -
Cornforth, JW [A16]
Oxfordshire
Championship, 1941.
Brian Denman writes: I
enclose the score of a
game that he won
against a player who
was British champion
in 1957. The rook
sacrifice on move 30 is
decisive.**

**1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.g3
Bg7 4.Bg2 c5 5.e3 0-0
6.d4 cxd4 7.exd4 d6
8.Nf3 Nc6 9.0-0 Bg4**

**10.h3 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Qb6
12.Ne2 Nd7 13.Be3 Qa6
14.Qd3 Nb6 15.Rfc1 d5
16.b3 e5 17.Qc3 exd4
18.Nxd4 dxc4 19.bxc4
Rad8 20.Bxc6 bxc6
21.c5 Nd5 22.Qc4 Qc8
23.Kh2 Rfe8 24.Rab1
Nxe3 25.fxe3 Rxe3
26.Rd1 Qc7 27.Ne2
Rde8 28.Rd2 Qe5
29.Rbb2 Qh5 30.Nd4
Rxc3 31.Kxc3 Re3+
32.Kf2 Bxd4 33.Rb8+
Re8+ 34.Qxd4 Rxb8
35.Qd6 Qh4+ 36.Kg2
Qe4+ 37.Kh2 Re8**

**38.Qg3 Qe5 39.Qxe5
Rxe5 40.Rd8+ Kg7
41.Ra8 Re2+ 42.Kg3
Rxa2 43.Rc8 Ra6 44.Kf4
Kf6 45.Rd8 Ra4+
46.Kg3 Rc4 47.Rd6+
Ke5 48.Rxc6 h5 49.Rc7
Rc3+ 50.Kh4 f6 51.Rd7
a5 52.c6 Rxc6 53.Rb7
a4 'and wins'. Source:
British Chess Magazine
of June 1941. Also
published in The
Australasian Chess
Review of November
1, 1941 (up to Black's
39th move). 0-1**

The Argumentatives

AS defending KO champions, The Args put in another creditable performance this season before losing at the semi-final stage.

However, in the MSL Division 2, we found it hard to win matches and eventually finished

eighth, just avoiding relegation. Yet on top board, Peter Farr remained unbeaten with a series of excellent wins making him easily the best player in the division.

Individual results (MSL + KO) : Peter Farr 10/11, Jim Graham 4.5/11, Paul Kington 6/11, Dennis Collard 2/10, Mike Garson 2.5/10, Mike Card 0.5/2. **Paul Kington**

Bexhill

THE club has enjoyed its most successful season for at least a decade, with its membership now above 30 (a threefold increase in the last three years).

Members attend regularly from as far afield as Battle, Eastbourne and Robertsbridge, with several being also members of Hastings & St. Leonards Chess Club.

During the year, the long-serving treasurer, Ian Brown had to stand down through ill-health and was replaced by John Kimber. Ian, Joe Blake and Derek Cosens have been members since the nineties. One pleasing result of now having meetings on Saturdays as well as Tuesdays is the influx of young juniors who have increased the average playing strength as well as lowering the average age of the membership – which used to be over 70!

The club is first and foremost a social club, with no participation in league chess, but that does not mean that it has not had its successes against clubs whose players have far more experience of serious match play.

We reached the semi-finals of the Paul Watson Knockout Trophy, by beating Woodpushers in the first round by the score of 2½-1½, with juniors Jonathan and Thomas

Finn winning their games and Thomas Minter drawing. Our next opponents were the highly experienced Lewes club. The result was ½-3½, but the match was much closer than indicated by the score, with all the games except that on top board going into the third hour. Special commendation must go to Thomas Minter for his hard-fought draw against an opponent graded 187.

The other highlight of the season was the second of two regular matches against Hastings & St Leonards, a rapidplay contest with 10 players a side, over five rounds. Hastings were determined to win, having lost the previous two, their intent shown by their fielding a considerably stronger side than ever before. Bexhill's team included five Finns: Thomas, Jonathan, Daniel and Matthew, plus father, Peter. However, eight of the club's stronger players were not available. The match started ominously with the loss of the first four games, but determined play on the top boards brought equality.

From then on it was nip and tuck all the way. The final score (with only one draw all afternoon) was 25½-24½ . . . to Bexhill. Thomas and Jonathan both won four of their five games, their performance in the top section being bettered only by the Hastings junior, Danny Lowe, who won all five of his

but he had been in trouble against Thomas Finn when two pawns down.

During the season there were also two simultaneous displays, one by the multiple (and current) Hastings champion, Francis Rayner, who lost no games, with one draw. The other was by the Under-16 British

Champion, Ollie Willson, who did equally well, conceding just one draw (against Thomas Minter) in twelve games, although he could have lost against Michael Dean, who was material up at one stage.

Joe Sharp
secretary

Bognor & Arun

A SEASON of varying fortunes but an enjoyable one none the less.

The club's major teams, in combination with Chichester Chess Club, performed very satisfactorily in the Portsmouth League.

The A team, led by Chichester's Steve Smith, finished lower middle table in division one and the B team, led by our Mick Plumb, finished joint bottom but only two points behind the champions.

The plaudits, however, go to Mike Spence and the C team for winning their own division.

As last season, the club made minimal progress in the Paul Watson Trophy, losing 2½ - 1½ to eventual winners Lewes. On the individual front, congratulations go to Keith Davies, who won the PCL Ruth Rose Cup. Among domestic matters 195-graded Jaimie Wilson (who else) has again won the club championship.

He will not, however, be getting his paws on the Knockout Cup. Remarkably, and over three hard-fought sessions, yours truly managed to beat him – deservedly I thought – for the first time since 2008.

Keith Davies won this trophy, beating PhilipWake in the final.

My own season, for those who might take an interest in it, has also included a loss – also deservedly – to 40-graded Celia Buckley. Funny old game.

The Bognor Club's magnificent chandelier continues to shine down on its chess players. The club meets at 7pm every Friday and has chess to suit every standard - just get in touch with the secretary, Donald Close, on 01243 267037 or visit the website www.bognorandarunchessclub.co.uk. New members are always very welcome.

Bill Partridge



DEEP IN THOUGHT: Ian Schreiber ponders his next move at East Preston Festival, where Bognor players took on all challengers. Top left, Keith Davies, and below, Jaimie Wilson.

Brighton and Hove

THE club has enjoyed a successful season with the membership total rising from 53 to 61.

It takes time to build a stable and successful club and we are fortunate in having excellent premises at The Avenue Bridge Club in Hove.

The first team had a particularly successful season, retaining both the Mowatt and McArthur cups. These trophies are awarded annually to the winners of the Mid Sussex League Championship and the Sussex clubs' competition respectively. Altogether, we entered five teams in the Mid Sussex League. Four of the teams retained their position in the league in which they were playing, but the fourth team finished in a relegation position in Division 3. Special praise should be given to John Henshaw and Andrew Caswill for being awarded tankards by the league because of their performances in Division 1 and Division 4 respectively.

It was our turn to travel to Dieppe for the annual fixture in September last year. We took 11 players across the Channel, but unfortunately were defeated heavily by the score of 9-2. These matches started in 2007 and each club has now won three times with the 2009 fixture being drawn. Dieppe Chess Club seems to be putting out stronger teams these days and we can expect a hard match in the fixture at Hove this September.

Other friendly matches were arranged during the season. In March, we played a match at the club against a Sussex University team. The players in both sides had a grading of approximately under 110 and we won the match by the score of 4.5 to

2.5. A similarly graded match was also arranged against Hastings away in May. It was agreed that this should be a rapidplay match and each of the five players in the teams played two games. The final result was a 7-3 win for our club. Another venture was to play two matches online through chess.com and our opponents were Hastings and Uckfield. We won against the first of these opponents 10-6, but lost against the second 5.5-2.5.

A good percentage of games was completed in the club tournaments. I won the club championship, Paul Selby and Hussaini Ndakwo came first equal in the Plummer Knight (U-160), Peter Benson won the Tasker Tankard (U-125) and Oliver Loftus was the winner of the Denman Cup (U-100).

A number of the club players have taken part in external tournaments. Mustapha Othman did well to come joint third in the e2e4 Sunningdale U-2050 event in May. 13 year old Callum Brewer has continued to show considerable promise. In October last year, he was selected to play on board 1 for the National Junior Squad U-16 team to play in the Go for Grandmaster event against Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands at Antwerp. Callum also kept the adults in order in his role as captain of the online team!

Ezra Kirk, whose chess has been restricted this season because of his studying for exams, gave two simulms at the club, in September, 2013, and June, 2014. He is the highest ranked player for his age in this country and is already a FIDE master. He plans to take a year off from his studies to try to become an international master and then to follow this by going to university.

Although chess is a quiet game and competitive matches are taken seriously, it should be mentioned that we play in more than one room and there is plenty of banter and camaraderie among the members.

A friendly club and in August last year we set up our boards and pieces in both New

Road, Brighton and Brunswick Square, Hove and invited the public to play against us.

We also arranged a group outing to watch the film 'Computer Chess' at the Duke of York's cinema last November.

Brian Denman

Chichester

CHICHESTER Chess Club meet at the Fishbourne Centre, Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne on Monday, from 7.15 p.m.

The centre offers excellent facilities for chess, as well as having a great many other activities on offer which are set out on their very informative website:

www.fishbournecentre.org.uk

The chess club also has a website giving up to date league results and results from our

internal club competitions:

www.chichesterchessclub.co.uk

Our membership is growing year by year and is now at 24.

Jointly with Bognor & Arun Chess Club, we entered four teams in the Portsmouth League. The A team finished fourth in the first division.

In a very competitive second division, the B team finished joint bottom but only two points behind the champions.

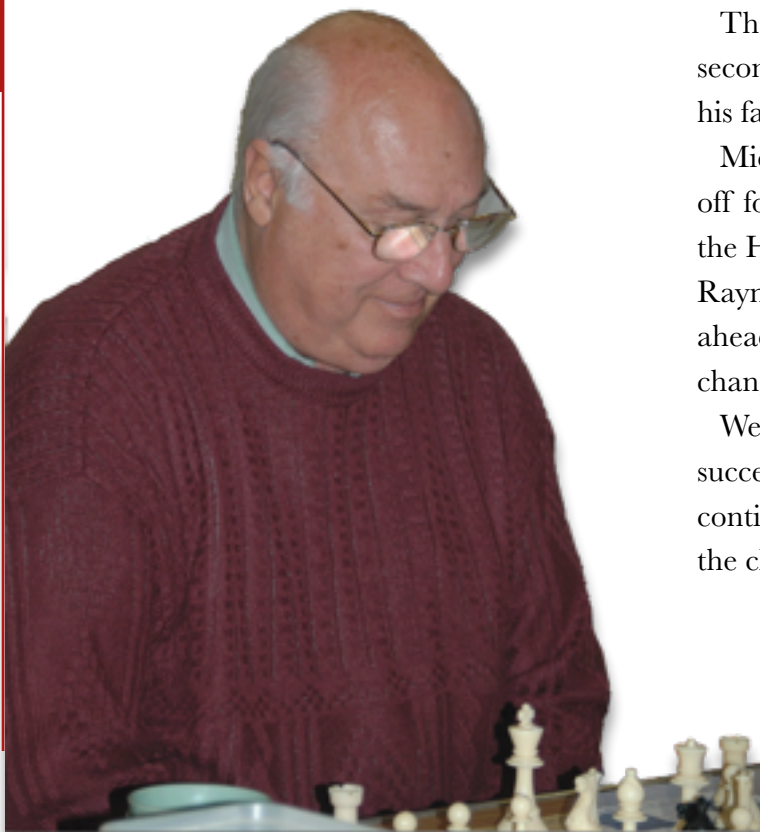
We had an excellent season in the third division, with the C team winning the division for a second successive season and the D team coming third.

The club championship was won, for the second time, by Andrew McDougall, with his father, Bill, finishing as runner-up.

Mick Plumb beat John Kalber in a play-off for the Under 130 Championship, while the Handicap Competition, for The Peter Rayment Trophy, was won by Keith Davies, ahead of John Kalber, with the lead changing hands almost weekly.

We are looking forward to our very successful association with Bognor & Arun continuing in the Portsmouth League, with the club continuing to thrive at Fishbourne.

Philip Wake



THINKING AHEAD: John Kalber, just missing out on two trophies

Crowborough

THE season 2013-14 was a busy one for Crowborough Chess Club as we returned to four teams in the Mid Sussex League.

The first team held their own in the 1st division, finishing mid-table with a perfectly balanced record of three wins, three draws and three losses.

Total games	45	Score 24.0 or 53%
Average opponent's grade	174	Team performance 176
Captain's Averages	Peter Kemp	5½/9 performance 198
No of players used	14	Peter Kemp 9 games
Best average	Brian Tarhon	1½/2 or 75%

The second team stormed away with the 3rd division championship and a perfect score of eight wins, no draws, no losses.

Total games played	40	Score 31.5 or 79%
Average opponent's grade	122	Team performance 153
Captain's Averages	Chris Dunn	3/5 performance 122
No of players used	9	Gerry Michaud 8 games
Best average	David Fryer	7/7 or 100%

The third team scored 50% with four wins, no draws and four losses

Total games played	40	Score 21.0 or 53%
Average opponent's grade	120	Team performance 122
Captain's Averages	Caroline Campion	4½/7 performance 131
No of players used	13	Caroline Campion 7 games
Best average	Luke Pannett	2/2 or 100%
	Jonathan Lawrance	3½/4 or 88%

The fourth team were our draw specialists with two wins, four draws and two losses.

Total games played	40	Score 20.5 or 51%
Average opponent's grade	98	Team performance 101
Captain's Averages	Non playing	
No of players used	10	Matthew Pannett 8 games
Best average	Amardip Ahluwalia	5/6 or 83%
	Matthew Pannett	5½/8 or 69%

Our KO Cup team reached the semi-finals, losing to the eventual winners.

Overall team performances:

Total games played	175	Score 101.5 or 58%
Average opponent's grade	130	Team performance 138
No of players used	26	Jonathan Lawrance 14 games

The Crowborough Rapidplay tournament took place in September, 2013, with 39 entries competing for the £100 first prize.

Stoyan Ivanov came 1st with David Tucker 2nd and Amy Hoare, Ian Snape and John Sugden equal third. The 29th Crowborough Chess Congress takes place this year on Saturday, September 13.

The Winter Lightning tournament was won by Robert Elliston, while Jonathan Tuck took the honours in the Spring Lightning tournament.

David Fryer
Crowborough Chess Club Secretary



SEVEN UP: Crowborough Junior Chess Club is thriving and for the first time this year we took part in an international team challenge against Crowborough's twinning partners Montargis in central France.

Seven players from four families travelled by coach to Montargis with a blitz match at the Mayoral reception followed by a five-game more leisurely rapidplay team event in the afternoon. Congratulations go to David Liu, Amardip Ahluwalia, Matthew Liu, Maxwell Kendall, Catherine Liu, Max Hardrade-Grosz and Laurie Kendall who when the dust cleared achieved a 22½-22½ draw - entente cordial.

The junior club participated in the UK Chess Challenge with 22 players progressing to the county Mega-Final where our under-7 girl, Elena Currah, played the following lovely game.:

Elena, Currah - Arjun, Kolani, Sussex Megafinal U7s (Round 5), May 3, 2014.
 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bc4 Bc5 5.d3 d6 6.Bg5 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.g4 Bg6 9.Nd5 h6 10.Be3 Nxd5 11.exd5 Ne7 12.Bxc5 dxc5 13.Nxe5 Nxd5 14.Qf3 Nf6 15.Qxb7 Rb8 16.Qxa7 Rxb2 17.Qa4+ Kf8 18.Qa3 Qd4 19.Qa8+ Ne8 20.0-0 Qxe5 21.Rae1 Qxe1 22.Rxe1 f6 23.Qa3 Rb6 24.Qxc5+ Rd6 25.Qa7 Bf7 26.Qb8 Rb6 27.Qa7 g5 28.Qa3+ Kg7 29.Bxf7 Kxf7 30.Qe7+ Kg6 31.Qe4+ Kf7 32.Qd5+ Kg6 33.Re7 Rf8 34.Qf5# 1-0

David Fryer



RECRUITMENT DRIVE: Members of East Grinstead ready to take on all-comers at Forest Row fun day in June

CLUBS...

East Grinstead

WE continue to meet every Tuesday at the Age Concern building in East Grinstead, which offers a quiet and well lit venue ideal for chess.

The building also offers good access for wheelchair-users or anyone with mobility difficulties.

It is also pleasing to report that during the season we have seen a slight increase in membership, which has helped to ensure we have been able to meet all our obligations to the Mid Sussex league, both home and away.

To promote chess, we entered a tree in the Forest Row Christmas tree festival and this was voted in 10th place out of 25 entries.

Our entry was a branch off of a tree from my back garden which I painted white.

My wife then wound black tape along the branches, from which we hung chess pieces. A friend made the giant chess piece at the top. By the time this article is published, we will also have run a stall at the Twinning Fun Day, where we plan to set up four boards and challenge all-comers to a game.

It is hoped this might prove popular and also find us some additional members. Let's hope the sun shines.

I would like to finish this short report by thanking my fellow chess players at East Grinstead who have ensured a good turnout throughout the year.

**Bob Dyke,
Chairman**

Hastings & St Leonards

THE 2013/14 season will probably be remembered most for the club's conversion to a limited company and a registered charity, assuming always that our September club AGM passes the final enabling resolutions.

The club has now taken legal ownership of its building, which for the past 60 years had been owned in quasi-trust by Pelton House Ltd, now dissolved.

Over the board, Francis Rayner retained his club championship title, although it took him to his last game (a draw against Bernard Cafferty) to clinch it: Rayner 7/9, Cafferty 6½, Howard Tebbs 5½.

The second division, the Pelton Cup, was won by club secretary Ken Lucas with 8½/11 ahead of Jeremy Hudson and Mason Woodhams, both 7½.

The third division Rush Cup finished with joint leaders Greg Chandler and George Jelliss 5½/7 ahead of Umberto Jozwiak 5; a play-off finished 1-1 and the cup is shared.

The top section of the Winter rapid-play was won by Alfredo Luaces 12/14 ahead of Steve Blewitt 11½; the B section by Alfred Mikurenda 12½/14 ahead of Ken Lucas 12.

Our performances in Sussex and Mid Sussex competitions are recorded elsewhere in this publication.

In the Kent League, we entered only one team this season; we had players for more, but too few drivers. This team in the average grade ≤ 170 section won its regional division but went down in the county semi-final by 3½-2½ to Petts Wood & Orpington.

Congratulations are due to Francis Rayner, who has been picked to play for Wales in August's Olympiad in Tromsø, Norway.

Finally, a valediction to our nonagenarian vice-president, John Felton, who died in November.

Paul Buswell

Haywards Heath

IN Division 1, it was a season of mid-table respectability for the team from the heart of Mid Sussex, 6th out of 10 with 4/9. The highlight of season was our cup run in the MSCL Handicap Knockout Cup. We generally fielded strong teams and beat Horsham and Crowborough on our way to the final with Lewes.

Needing 4 to win from the handicapping, we produced a 5-0 victory. This is the first time we have won this competition in recorded history (which in this case dates back to 1976/77).

Our second team in Division 3 also managed mid-table respectability, scoring 4½/8, to finish 4th out of nine teams. Our third team bucked the trend, scoring a league record -2/8 to prop up Division 4 and thus the entire league.

Viv Cole

Horsham

HORSHAM had many highlights this year. In the Mid Sussex League (MSL) we returned to fielding six teams and are proud to have won both division 2 and division 4.

Our juniors were notable in their contribution to the main club this year, with at least four graduating from the thriving junior section and one match saw the club represented by four out of five team members under 16.

Team	Div	Place	Score
Horsham 1	1	3rd	5.5 /9
Horsham 2	2	1st	8.5/9
Horsham 3	2	7th	3 /9
Horsham 4	3	4th	4/8
Horsham 5	4	1st	6.5/8
Horsham 6	4	5th	4/8

The MSL returned to four divisions, with Horsham representation in every division. Horsham 1 are always a contender for the winner of division 1, but ended third this year behind Brighton & Hove 1 and Hastings & St Leonards 1. Interestingly, our first team actually scored half a game point more than second-placed Hastings 26.5, which reflects the tight struggle at the top of the division.

In division 2, Horsham 2 only dropped half a point to Hastings & St Leonards 3 and finished with an impressive 8.5/9. Horsham 3 achieved three good wins against Brighton & Hove 3, Worthing 3 and East Grinstead 1 to end up with 7/10.

In Division 3, Horsham 4 ended up in mid-table, coming fifth (out of ten) with draws

against third and fourth-placed Uckfield 1 and Haywards Heath 2. Finally, Horsham 5 scooped division 4 in the final breath of the competition, as Horsham 6 pulled off an unexpected win against second placed Hastings & St Leonards 4. Horsham 6 ended up fifth with a creditable 5/8 score.

All told, we played 45 matches in the MSL and this pays testament to the vibrancy of this excellent competition which continues to take place in a friendly but competitive manner.

We also play competitive chess as a club in other competitions. In the MSL Knockout, we enter a single team, finding that many members do not like the quickplay time limits. The handicapping element, whereby stronger teams need higher scores to win, has led to some interesting situations and we have had a number of recent successes in this format. Sadly, not this year, where we were knocked out in the first round by Haywards Heath.

In the Sussex competitions, we play in both the McArthur cup and the Paul Watson Trophy. In the McArthur cup we once again were beaten by Brighton & Hove in the first round. We fared better in the Paul Watson Trophy, in which we firstly defeated Haywards Heath before losing to Lewes.

With the resurrection of the Sussex U140 team, Horsham players easily set a season's record, when 21 members played a total of 102 county games. Although Sussex won only four of the 15 matches involved, the Horsham contingent achieved a small plus score of 52 points, boosted by Brian Donnelly's excellent 5/5 in the Sussex Open matches and Minor Counties quarter-final.

Ian Comley



GAME ON: Action from the annual juniors v seniors match at Worthing Chess Club

Worthing

WE knew it was going to be a difficult season, with several players leaving for university and business reasons.

In that respect, our 4th place for the 1st in division 1 and the same for the 4th in division 4 was very creditable. Our 2nd team, promoted to division 1, and our 3rd, promoted to division 2, duly suffered and were both relegated.

The internal competitions resulted in the club championship being shared for the first time since 1998 between Keith Homeyard and Dave Graham. What was significant is that prior to this championship, Keith Homeyard had won

the title six times, with his first title going back to 1969.

David Graham won his first title in 1980 and had won the championship eight times prior to this year's tournament.

David Graham won the Knockout, Colin Parker the Knockout Plate, and Phil Crompton, the Derrick Trophy.

Eight-year-old Alec Hedger won his first club tournament by winning the Ladder Trophy and the new Rapidplay tournament was won by Chris Jones.

Dave Wallis won the Ron Saunders Trophy, which is awarded to the player scoring the most points against higher-rated opponents.

Chris Jones

SUSSEX play in the Southern Counties Region which this year produced three of the four semi-finalists in the ECF County Championship.

The SCCU is the strongest region in the country and Sussex did very well to win three of their five matches in 2013/14.

The season began with a narrow loss 7-9 away at defending ECF champions, Surrey, where a couple of

Open

games went away from us in the latter stages of the match. The following month, Middlesex were the visitors and we recorded a good 9.5-6.5 win.

We crept past Hertfordshire 8.5-7.5, giving the captain a number of nervous moments as the final half-point was very elusive and not secured until five minutes from the finish.

A strong Kent side were too powerful for us next (6-10) but we finished the section in style with a 10-6 win over Essex.

At the ECF stage we entered the minor counties competition but lost narrowly to a Leicestershire team featuring GM Mark Hebden. Special mention should go to Brian Donnelly who scored 5/5 in the SCCU.

Dix Roberts

Under 180

OUR first match was against Surrey at Coulsdon. They proved to be the stronger side and ran out 10.5-5.5 winners. Wins for Sussex were credited to Paul Taylor, Tim Spanton and Adrian Pickersgill.

The next fixture was home to Essex. Wins for Sussex were recorded by Martin Roe and Adrian Pickersgill. The score-line remained the same, though,

10.5-5.5 to our adversaries.

The penultimate fixture was away to Kent. We held the top four boards to a draw and Alan Palmer and Paul Selby gained excellent victories. However, the home side won 10.5-5.5.

The last fixture - versus Middlesex - was evenly matched on grading (159-160). We were to lose by 7-9. Winners for Sussex on the day were Chris Lowe, Paul Selby, Dona Strauss and Brian Izzard.

Paul Batchelor

Under 160

WE revived the Under 160 team this season after several years out of play.

We recorded one win, one loss and two drawn matches. However, we failed to progress to the national stages owing to the arcane rules of the competition.

Although we earned more game points than Kent, they went through by winning our

match with them (held in Kent!)

Nevertheless, I should like to thank all those people who took part (regardless of results), who often had to travel long distances in bad weather.

Best individual results : Chris Heath, Bob Lanzer and Tim Woods 3/4; Melusi Nkomo 2/2; John Cannon, Tim Pavlovic, John Marshall and Bill Partridge 2/3; Paul Selby, Paul Kington and Mike Reddie 2/4.

Paul Kington

	SURREY	Oct 19 2013	SUSSEX
1	Stephen Berry 214 (W)	1 0	Zhuo Ren Lim 217
2	Marcus Osborne 214	1 0	Mark Broom 210
3	Nigel Povah 215	½ ½	Feliks Kwiatkowski 205
4	Mark Josse 199	½ ½	Brian Denman 195
5	Roger Emerson 194	1 0	Anthony Higgs 194
6	Paul Shepherd 192	1 0	Jeffrey Boardman 189
7	Graham Keane 184	1 0	James Mansson 187
8	Akshaya Kalaiyalahan 178	½ ½	Paul Batchelor 187
9	Dan Rosen 186	½ ½	Jaimie Wilson 186
10	David Rowson 185	½ ½	Martin Costley 183
11	Dan Staples 185	½ ½	Geoffrey James 183
12	Tariq Oozeerally 178	1 0	David Roberts 182
13	Geoff Marchant 170	0 1	Peter Farr 180
14	Alex Golding 156	0 1	Brian Donnelly 175
15	Victor Odunaiya 161	0 1	Paul Taylor 175
16	Hajane Anbukumar 145	0 1	Adrian Pickersgill 172
	Coulsdon	9-7	

	SUSSEX	Nov 9 2013	MIDDLESEX
1	Mark Broom 210 (B)	½ ½	Richard Bates 229
2	Feliks Kwiatkowski 205	½ ½	Zehra Topel 212
3	Brian Denman 195	1 0	Colin Crouch 213
4	Anthony Higgs 194	½ ½	Robert Eames 208
5	Jeffrey Boardman 189	0 1	Richard McMichael 204
6	James Mansson 187	½ ½	Peter Batchelor 199
7	Paul Batchelor 187	0 1	Steven Coles 189
8	Jaimie Wilson 186	1 0	Peter Ackley 186
9	Martin Costley 183	½ ½	Colin Mackenzie 184
10	Geoffrey James 183	1 0	Trevor Dunmore 182
11	David Roberts 182	1 0	Nevil Chan 180
12	Peter Farr 180	½ ½	John Quinn 180
13	Morgan Blake 178	1 0	def
14	Brian Donnelly 175	1 0	Anthony Fulton 175
15	Paul Taylor 175	0 1	Guy Batchelor 170
16	Tim Spanton 174	½ ½	George Dickson 168
	Hassocks	9½-6½	

	SUSSEX	Jan 18 2014	HERTS
1	Mark Broom 210 (B)	0 1	Venkat Tiruchirapalli 221
2	Feliks Kwiatkowski 205	½ ½	Simon Knott 214
3	Brian Denman 195	0 1	Steve Swanson 216
4	Anthony Higgs 194	½ ½	Simon Roe 194
5	Jeffrey Boardman 189	1 0	Mike Boyce 188
6	James Mansson 187	½ ½	Jerry Rudge 186
7	Paul Batchelor 187	0 1	Steve Law 184
8	Jaimie Wilson 186	0 1	Peter Rice 177
9	Martin Costley 183	½ ½	Howard Tebbs 174
10	Geoffrey James 183	1 0	Steve Tovey 166
11	David Roberts 182	0 1	Jeremy Ward (165e)
12	Peter Farr 180	½ ½	Tim Thurstan 162
13	Robert Elliston 175	1 0	Ian Mutton 144
14	Brian Donnelly 175	1 0	Alan Gore 136
15	Paul Taylor 175	1 0	Michael Price 133
16	Tim Spanton 174	1 0	Mir Wali 134
	Hassocks	8½-7½	

	KENT	Feb 8 2014	SUSSEX
1	N McDonald 233 (W)	1 0	Feliks Kwiatkowski 208
2	M Taylor 215	1 0	Mark Broom 205
3	AE Hanreck 216	½ ½	Brian Denman 204
4	PJ Morris 213	1 0	Anthony Higgs 195
5	A Mayhew 212	½ ½	Jaimie Wilson 195
6	P Talsma 202	1 0	Jeffrey Boardman 193
7	B Spink 196	½ ½	Geoffrey James 191
8	D Tucker 194	1 0	David Roberts 188
9	JN Briggs 188	0 1	Brian Donnelly 188
10	JN Sugden 183	½ ½	Martin Costley 187
11	JS Williams 174	1 0	Paul Batchelor 186
12	DJ Shire 180	½ ½	James Mansson 185
13	R Everson 174	½ ½	Peter Farr 185
14	J Anstead 170	0 1	Robert Elliston 182
15	S Jacob 171	½ ½	Tim Spanton 173
16	D Barnes 157	½ ½	Paul Taylor 170
	Dartford	10-6	

	SUSSEX	March 15 2014	ESSEX
1	Feliks Kwiatkowski 208 (W)	1 0	Tim Hebbes 198
2	Mark Broom 205	1 0	David Spearman 188
3	Brian Denman 204	½ ½	Jeff Goldberg 186
4	Gareth Anthony 200	1 0	Maksim Cheslavskiy 186
5	Anthony Higgs 195	½ ½	Larry Marden 177
6	Jamie Wilson 195	1 0	Vladimir Parols 173
7	Brian Donnelly 188	1 0	Daniel Gallagher 174
8	David Roberts 188	½ ½	Ivan Myall 173
9	Martin Costley 187	½ ½	Steve Rix 173
10	Paul Batchelor 186	0 1	Kevin White 172
11	Peter Farr 185	1 0	Richard Weeber 172
12	James Mansson 185	0 1	Ian Reynolds 171
13	Robert Elliston 182	½ ½	Jim Howson 169
14	Tim Spanton 173	0 1	Malcolm Kingsley 166
15	Paul Taylor 170	1 0	Neville Twitchell 162
16	Adrian Pickersgill 169	½ ½	Philip Staniland 161
	Hassocks	10-6	

	SURREY	Oct 12 2013	SUSSEX
1	Ian Heppell 178 (B)	½ ½	Chris Lowe 178
2	Tariq Oozeerally 178	½ ½	Morgan Blake 177
3	Sam Porter 177	0 1	Paul Taylor 175
4	Anthony Andrews 174	0 1	Tim Spanton 174
5	Mike Singleton 173	0 1	Adrian Pickersgill 172
6	Albert Yiamakis 171	1 0	Mel Young 163
7	Geoff Marchant 170	1 0	Alan Palmer 161
8	Owen Phillips 170	1 0	L. John Cannon 153
9	Nick L Edwards 168	1 0	Brian Izzard 145
10	Yian-Jiang Zhou 160	½ ½	Mick Reddie 144
11	Koby Kalavannan 159	1 0	W John Marshall 144
12	Alex Golding 156	1 0	Tim Woods 143
13	Francis Fields 151	0 1	Bob Lanzer 143
14	Ian Deswarte 158	1 0	def
15	Nick Grey 158	1 0	def
16	H Trevor Jones 152	1 0	def
	Coulsdon	10½-5½	

	SUSSEX	Nov 23 2013	ESSEX
1	Chris Lowe 178 (B)	0 1	Maxsim Cheslavskiy 178
2	Morgan Blake 177	0 1	Vladimir Parols 174
3	Robert Elliston 175	½ ½	Ian Hunnable 174
4	Paul Taylor 175	½ ½	Larry Marden 173
5	Tim Spanton 174	½ ½	Ian Reynolds 173
6	Adrian Pickersgill 172	1 0	Ivor Smith 173
7	Martin Roe 166	1 0	Richard Weeber 172
8	Alan Palmer 158	0 1	John Moore 171
9	L. John Cannon 153	½ ½	Jim Howson 171
10	Paul Selby 147	½ ½	Christopher Hampton 171
11	Don Banks 147	0 1	Steven Rix 164
12	Tim Pavlovic	0 1	Daniel Gallagher 164
13	Brian Izzard 145	0 1	Neville Twitchell 165
14	Michael Reddie 144	½ ½	Matthew Shaw 163
15	Tim Woods 143	½ ½	Peter Laundry 161
16	Robert Lanzer 143	0 1	Philip Staniland 160
		5½ -10½	

	KENT	Jan 25 2014	SUSSEX
1	Robert Maguire 179 (B)	½ ½	Robert Elliston 175
2	Alan Atkinson 176	½ ½	Paul Taylor 175
3	J Stuart Williams 173	½ ½	Adrian Pickersgill 172
4	Ian McAllan 169	½ ½	Mel Young 163
5	Bob Everson 168	0 1	Alan Palmer 158
6	George Hollands 167	1 0	L John Cannon 153
7	Trefor Owens 167	0 1	Paul Selby 147
8	Peter Wood 162	½ ½	Tim Pavlovic
9	Syd Jacob 159	1 0	Brian Izzard 145
10	Paul Rutland 158	½ ½	Mick Reddie 144
11	Mike Wiltshire 156	½ ½	Tim Woods 143
12	Andy Waters 144	1 0	def
13	Peter Childs 154	1 0	def
14	John Cook 151	1 0	def
15	Mark Houghton 147	1 0	def
16	Geoff Bishop 146	1 0	def
	Dartford	10½-5½	

	SUSSEX	March 8, 2014	MIDDLESEX
1	Robert Elliston 182 (W)	0 1	Mark Davey 183
2	Chris Lowe 175	1 0	Mateusz Dydak 182
3	Tim Spanton 173	0 1	Guy Batchelor 173
4	Daniel Sutton 172	0 1	D Ian Calvert 172
5	Paul Taylor 170	1 0	Anthony Fulton 171
6	Adrian Pickersgill 169	½ ½	George Dickson 169
7	Martin Roe 164	0 1	Michael Lam 167
8	Mel Young 162	0 1	Jonathan Kay 161
9	Paul Selby 158	1 0	Roger Scowen 157
10	Alan Palmer 156	0 1	Paul Kennelly 155
11	Dona Strauss 150	1 0	Greg Breed 150
12	L John Cannon 146	½ ½	Richard Thursby 151
13	Michael Reddie 146	½ ½	Rajinder Jhooti 150
14	Timothy Woods 145	0 1	Russell Campbell 147
15	Brian Izzard 145	1 0	Christopher Kreuzer 144
16	Robert Lanzer 144	½ ½	Jagdeep Dhemrait 138
	Hassocks	7-9	

	SUSSEX	Nov 9 2013	ESSEX
1	L John Cannon 153 (B)	½ ½	David Millward 159
2	Oliver Weiss 152	0 1	Gavin Strachan 159
3	Dona Strauss 151	0 1	Leslie Crane 158
4	Colin Parker 149	½ ½	Paul Barclay 157
5	Don Banks 147	½ ½	Edison Figueroa 156
6	Paul Selby 147	1 0	Ian Morgan 155
7	Michael C Harris 146	0 1	Rod Johnson 152
8	Chris Heath 146	1 0	Alan Riddoch 149
9	Paul Kington 146	0 1	John Wright 146
10	Tim Pavlovic	1 0	Rob Davies 145
11	Brian Izzard 145	½ ½	Mustapha Rahaman 143
12	W John Marshall 144	1 0	Oliver Finnegan 142
13	Michael Reddie 144	½ ½	Ian Woodward 142
14	Robert Lanzer 143	0 1	Ken Groce 137
15	Timothy Woods 143	½ ½	Paul Haddock 137
16	Melusi Nkomo 140	1 0	Peter Nickals 133
	Horsham	8-8	

	SURREY	Jan 18 2014	SUSSEX
1	Richard Meikle-Briggs 147	1 0	Alan Palmer 158 (B)
2	Ian Deswarte 158	½ ½	L John Cannon 153
3	Chris Clegg 157	1 0	Oliver Weiss 152
4	Nick Grey 155	1 0	Dona Strauss 151
5	Graham Wallis 153	1 0	Colin Parker 149
6	H Trevor Jones 152	½ ½	William Partridge 148
7	Francis Fields 151	1 0	Don Banks 147
8	John R McKenna 146	½ ½	Paul Selby 147
9	Daniel Muir 145	½ ½	Michael Harris 146
10	Alicia Mason 141	0 1	Chris Heath 146
11	Ian Mason 140	0 1	Paul Kington 146
12	Ian McLeod 140	½ ½	Brian Izzard 145
13	John Moore 138	½ ½	Mchael Reddie 144
14	James Golding 129	0 1	Robert Lanzer 143
15	Barry Miles 114	0 1	Timothy Woods 143
16	William Golding 61	0 1	David Chilvers 133
	Ashstead	8-8	

	SUSSEX	Feb 8 2014	MIDDLESEX
1	L John Cannon 146 (W)	1 0	Paul Kennelly 164
2	Dona Strauss 150	0 1	Ray Harper 164
3	Colin Parker 148	½ ½	Charles McAleenan 161
4	William Partridge 140	1 0	Roger Scowen 157
5	Don Banks 134	0 1	Bill Phillips 156
6	Paul Selby 158	0 1	Frank Zurstiege 151
7	Michael Harris 141	½ ½	Greg Breed 150
8	Chris Heath 151	½ ½	Peter Morton 149
9	Paul Kington 145	½ ½	Russell Campbell 147
10	Tim Pavlovic 147	½ ½	Ian Cross 146
11	W John Marshall 140	1 0	Nigel Colter 142
12	Michael Reddie 146	½ ½	John Woolley 141
13	Robert Lanzer 144	1 0	Jagdeep Dhemrait 138
14	Timothy Woods 145	1 0	Peter Hawran 136
15	Melusi Nkomo 140	1 0	Mike Price 135
16	David Chilvers 138	½ ½	Keith Jones 144
	Horsham	9½-6½	

	KENT	March 15 2014	SUSSEX
1	Syd Jacob 159 171 (W)	½ ½	Paul Selby 158
2	Peter Childs 154 162	½ ½	Alan Palmer 156
3	Paul Rutland 158 160	1 0	Oliver Weiss 154
4	Tim Gluckman 149 159	½ ½	Chris Heath 151
5	Bob Lane 153 158	½ ½	Tim Pavlovic 147
6	Geoff Bishop 146 156	½ ½	Michael Reddie 146
7	Andy Waters 155 154	1 0	Brian Izzard 145
8	Barry Beavis 151 154	½ ½	Paul Kington 145
9	David Eden 152 148	½ ½	Timothy Woods 145
10	Derek Davis 144 146	0 1	Robert Lanzer 144
11	Robin East 142 145	1 0	John Marshall 140
12	Gary Sharp 136 145	½ ½	William Partridge 140
13	Simon Court 144 142	1 0	David Chilvers 138
14	Paul Challis 143 142	½ ½	Paul Richardson 137
15	James Everson 144 139	0 1	Keith Osborne 124
16	Jake Modica	1 0	Julie Denning 116
	Dartford	9½-6½	

	SUSSEX	Oct 12 2013	MIDDLESEX
1	Daniel Brooks 137 (B)	1 0	Martin Leanse 137
2	Keith Osborne 137	0 1	Robert Mumford 136
3	Arthur De Silver 127	1 0	John Harvey 134
4	Roland Rattray 125	½ ½	Joseph Farrell 134
5	David Simpkins 125	1 0	Steve Sonnis 133
6	Cassie Graham 125	½ ½	Ronald Crooks 131
7	Brian Howard e125	0 1	Peter Grant-Ross 131
8	David Curtis 124	0 1	Doug Bonn 129
9	David Wallis 120	0 1	Brian Foster 129
10	Alex Von Der Becke 120	1 0	Ray Hamilton 127
11	Paul Richardson 120	1 0	Wilson Ransome 124
12	Roger Waddingham 118	0 1	Des Byrne 123
13	David Britton 116	½ ½	Elena Bote 120
14	Peter Helliwell 107	0 1	Mark Huba 120
15	Gary Whitmore 92	½ ½	Gerald Parfett 117
16	Mark Baldock 92	½ ½	Andrew Davison 111
	Horsham	7½- 8½	

	HERTS	Nov 23 2013	SUSSEX
1	Alan Gore 136 (W)	½ ½	Ray Hunt 128
2	Michael Flatt 136	0 1	Arthur De Silver 127
3	Mike Price 133	1 0	David Simpkins 125
4	Gary Ruddick 133	1 0	Cassie Graham 125
5	Simon Cage 134	0 1	David Curtis 124
6	Mar Wali 134	1 0	Michael Plumb 121
7	Paul Laskier 126	0 1	Paul Richardson 120
8	David Belton 121	0 1	David Wallis 120
9	Chris Cook 125	1 0	Julie Denning 118
10	Ed Magee 120	1 0	Roger Waddingham 118
11	Austin McMahon 121	0 1	Brian Howard 117
12	Keith Woodhouse 118	0 1	David Britton 116
13	Peter Dunks 121	1 0	Peter Helliwell 107
14	John Leake 120	1 0	Mark Baldock 92
15	Ray Butcher 120	1 0	Gary Whitmore 92
16	Ray Claret 119	1 0	def
	Harpenden	9½-6½	

	SUSSEX	Jan 25 2014	ESSEX
1	Daniel Brooks 137 (W)	1 0	Ken Groce 137
2	Arthur De Silver 127	0 1	Phil Foley 137
3	David Simpkins 125	½ ½	Vladimir Chtym 135
4	Roland Rattray 125	0 1	David Smith 135
5	Cassie Graham 125	0 1	Keith Cook 133
6	David Curtis 124	½ ½	Richard Joyce 132
7	David Wallis 120	0 1	Charlton Siddo 131
8	Alex Von Der Becke 120	½ ½	Mark Ashley 130
9	Paul Richardson 120	½ ½	Simon Moth 129
10	Roger Waddingham 118	1 0	Tony Loh 121
11	Julie Denning 118	½ ½	Stephen Rosser 121
12	Brian Howard 117	½ ½	Kevin Sweeney 121
13	David Britton 116	0 1	Geoff Cooper 120
14	Peter Helliwell 107	0 1	Barry Jones 117
15	Mark Baldock 92	1 0	Ronnie Melhuish 101
16	Gary Whitmore 92	1 0	David Watkins 98
	Horsham	7-9	

	KENT	Feb 22 2014	SUSSEX
1	Chris Marshall 139 148 (B)	1 0	Arthur De Silver 127
2	Gary Sharp 136 145	1 0	David Simpkins 126
3	Mike Wood 135 140	½ ½	Douglas Stevenson 125
4	Chris Bernard 134 133	½ ½	Cassie Graham 125
5	Rob Thompson 125 140	½ ½	David Curtis 124
6	David Gilbert 121 138	½ ½	David Britton 123
7	Laurence Jones 131 129	½ ½	Roger Waddingham 122
8	Hugh Tassell 125 128	1 0	Andrew Mayer 121
9	Alan Sherriff 127 125	1 0	David Wallis 120
10	Michael Shahoud 128 126	½ ½	Julie Denning 118
11	David Lettington 125 122	1 0	Chris Boyes 106
12	Steve Bond 123 124	1 0	Gary Whitmore 92
13	Pete Hickey 97 103	0 1	Mark Baldock 92
14	Peter Blundell 121 121	1 0	Macer Hall 85
15	Andrew Gillard 115 115	1 0	Ken Haworth 71
16	Douglas Smith 97 103	1 0	def
	Dartford	12-4	

	SUSSEX	March 8 2014	SURREY
1	Keith Osborne 137 (B)	½ ½	John Moore 138
2	Ray Hunt 128	0 1	Krishna Mehendale 137
3	Arthur De Silva 127	½ ½	Mike Gunn 135
4	David Simpkins 125	0 1	Stephen Moss 132
5	def	0 1	Lamidi Evbuomwan 130
6	Roland Rattray 125	0 1	Robin Lee 130
7	David Curtis 124	0 1	Victoria Sit 129
8	David Britton 119	0 1	James Golding 129
9	Roger Waddingham 118	½ ½	David Charters 128
10	Andrew Mayer 121	0 1	John Davis 128
11	David Wallis 120	½ ½	Roger Barnett 127
12	Paul Richardson 120	½ ½	Nicholas Driver 125
13	Julie Denning 118	½ ½	Ben Widdicombe 121
14	Chris Boyes 106	½ ½	Howard Walden 121
15	Mark Baldock 92	½ ½	Ken Chamberlain 120
16	Macer Hall 85	0 1	Selvarattinam Somupillai 118
	Horsham	4-12	

	SUSSEX (Quarter-final)	May 17 2014	LEICESTER
1	Feliks Kwiatkowski 205 208	0 1	Mark Hebden 247 249 (W)
2	Brian Denman 195 205	1 0	Martin Burrows 193 198
3	Jaimie Wilson 186 195	0 1	Alan Agnew 185 197
4	Jeffrey Boardman 189 193	0 1	Graham Sharpe 178 185
5	David Roberts 182 188	1 0	Andrew Morley 177 188
6	Paul Batchelor 187 186	½ ½	John Denton 179 175
7	Peter Farr 180 185	½ ½	Brian Galligan 183 180
8	James Mansson 187 185	0 1	Ray Burgess 174 173
9	Mustapha Othman	1 0	John Robinson 178 178
10	Alan Palmer 158 156	1 0	John Mitchell 169 170
11	Paul Selby 147 158	0 1	Sean Sheahan 166 170
12	L John Cannon 153 146	½ ½	Alfonso Jimenez 175 167
13	Paul Kington 146 145	1 0	Chino Nwachukwu 171 163
14	Timothy Woods 143 145	½ ½	Karl Potter 163 161
15	W John Marshall 144 140	½ ½	Shabir Okhai
16	def	0 1	Sean Hewitt 166 169
	Bushey, Herts	7½-8½	

Editor's note

I AM greatly indebted to all those people who have contributed editorial - word and pictures - for this year's edition of Sussex Chess News. You have all made my job so much easier! I am also very grateful to Keith Davies, who very kindly proof-read all the pages.

Mick Plumb, Editor

It's been tough-going

ALTHOUGH we have not quite finished in this year's county correspondence chess competition, it looks like Sussex will be relegated from the Ward Higgs (the first division) to the Sinclair (the second division).

Last year, we stormed through the Sinclair to gain promotion, but unfortunately, we found this year rather more difficult.

In the remaining games in play, we hope to pick up two or three wins, but that is unlikely to be enough to save us.

As well as the county competition, we also entered a team of four (James

Mansson, Tim Spanton, Paul Batchelor and David Fryer) in the second edition of the British Websaver Team Tournament. Playing this year in division two, it looks like we have secured promotion by finishing second, and so should play in the division one in the next edition.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has played for the teams this year, and hope that they found their games interesting and enjoyable.

James Mansson
Sussex Correspondence
chess captain

HOW THINGS STAND: The results as of July 17 are:

Board	Sussex Player	White	Black	Opponent
1	James Mansson	0.5	0.5	Duncan Chambers
2	Leslie Eastoe	0.5	0.5	Richard Ward
3	Bob Elliston	0.5	0	J. Cooper
4	Tim Spanton	0	0.5	Andrew Dearnley
5	Paul Batchelor	In play	In play	Terry Hart
6	Joe Sharp	0	0	John Carleton
7	David Fryer	0	0	Matthew Piper
8	Ralph Mansson	In play	In play	Michael Dyer

The kids are all right!

Carol Graham says there's no shortage of promising young players coming through the ranks



WHAT A YEAR THAT WAS: Action from the year just gone, and immediately above, Matthew and Amardip, who represented England in Greece



TROPHY TRIUMPH: The Sussex Under 14 team...SCCU champions and left, a younger player deep in concentration



THE season 2013-14 was another very successful year for junior chess in Sussex.

Numbers at our training days and tournaments continued to grow, with several venues straining at the seams.

Continued on page 46



FEELING CHAMPION: The Under 11 team...national champions. Below, David Howell calls in at a tournament in Eastbourne, and below... last game standing!

JUNIOR CHESS...

We were sorry to lose FM Alex Therrien from our coaching team due to work pressures but very pleased to recruit ex-Sussex junior IM Thomas Rendle. After a gap of several years, we have also been able to staff an analysis room at our tournaments, which has proved popular with both children and parents.

Crucial to the growth has been continuing grassroots activity in schools through the Academy Schools programme with Academy directors Brian Stockham, Dave Graham, Bob Noyce and Gareth Anthony all successfully signposting the pathway from school chess to opportunities in Sussex and beyond.

During the year, Angeline Howell has reached out to several new schools in the Seaford and Eastbourne areas. We are also very grateful to Hastings Chess Club's Gary Willson and Mason Woodhams for the work



JUNIOR CHESS...



they are doing in Hastings. Not surprising then that our schools cup competitions saw an increase in entries, particularly at U11 and U14 level - thanks to co-ordinator Balvinder Ahluwalia, whose drive and efficiency produced five very successful finals.

dedicated weekly junior clubs in Crowborough, Burgess Hill, Hastings, Horsham, Crawley and Worthing.

Sadly, Christopher Dunworth is now dividing his time between Brighton and Nottingham, meaning there has been a

slight loss of activity in the Brighton area. Thanks to all the Sussex clubs who have welcomed juniors – many of our more experienced players have benefited from playing in club

competitions and in the Mid Sussex League.

SJC also run the Weald Congress in July each year in order to offer local

Age Group	Cup	Champions
U19	Wilson Cup	Uckfield CTC
U16 (Postponed 2013 Final)	Sir Clarence Sadd Cup	Bishop Bell, Eastbourne
U16 (2014 Final)	Sir Clarence Sadd Cup	Bishop Bell, Eastbourne
U14	Butler Cup	Downlands, Hassocks
U11	Primary Cup	Broadwater, Worthing

During the year, motivated Burgess Hill parents, led by Peter Barton, set up a weekly junior club so there are now

opportunities to compete at standard play – thanks to all who have supported this initiative.

The 4NCL offers further developmental opportunities for the top juniors and so Sussex sponsor two teams in division 3. The first team made up of coaches, parents and ex-juniors had an excellent season securing promotion to division 2.

There are nine national titles available to compete for and when I wrote this review last year Sussex were holding three of them including the coveted EPSCA U11 title. I'm very proud to report that under Mike Forster's leadership the title was successfully defended, and our older players under the stewardship of Sue Howell won the NYCA Championships at U12, U14 and U16 level, plus the ECF U18 Championship! It is particularly satisfying that unlike some counties who draw their teams from a small



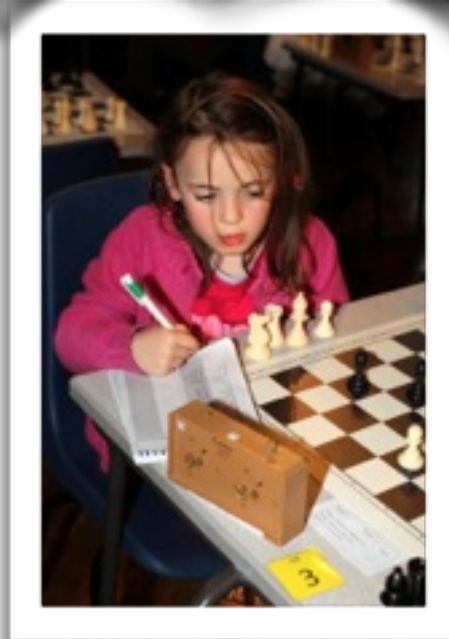
BATTLING IT OUT: Prizewinners at the Mega final, Amy Hoare watches the girls tournament, bottom left, other prize-winners below, and bottom right, the Under 18s



number of schools, our teams are truly representative of the length and breadth of the county.

Finally, there are some individual successes to celebrate: Amardip Ahluwalia, Freddie Coleman, Daniel Finn and Matthew Forster were all selected to the NCJS England Squad; Ollie Willson won the U16 Championship at the British CC in Torquay; and Amardip, Amy Hoare, Brian Tarhon, Matthew Forster, Josh Higgs, Oli and Matthew Howell, Cosima Keen, Jude Lenier were all selected by the ECF to represent England in various tournaments abroad. Rhys Cumming, now 19, represented Oxford in the Varsity match.

All this would not be possible without the support of our parents and volunteers. We said goodbye to longstanding committee members John Higgs, Sue Howell and Huiqi Liu who all stepped down after many years' service as their children move through to adult chess. All have made a huge contribution to the smooth running of Sussex Junior Chess and will be much missed.



STUDIES IN CONCENTRATION: Further action from the year, including Worthing juniors v adults, below left



County crushing

John Cannon (Horsham) v David Barnes, Sussex Open v Kent, board 16, March 16, 2013

I was drafted into the Sussex team following a withdrawal on the day, and met an opponent with his guard down.

1.e4 d5; 2.exd5 Qxd5; 3.Nc3 Qa5; 4.Bc4 Nf6; 5.d3 Bg4; 6.f3 Bf5; 7.Bd2 Qb6; 8.Qe2 e6; 9.O-O-O c6; 10.h4 Bg6; 11.g4 h5? (h6); 12.g5 N3d7? (Nd5 and loss of the dP is damage limitation); 13.Bxe6 Bxd3; 14.Bxd7+ + 1-0

John Cannon

Nevil Chan v Dix Roberts (Horsham), Sussex Open v Middlesex, November 9, 2013

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 e6 3.Nf3 c5 4.d5 b5 5.dxe6 fxe6 6.Nxb5 d5 7.e3 Nc6 8.Be2 a6 9.Na3 Bd6 10.0-0 0-0 11.b3 Qe7 12.c4 Bb7 13.Nc2 Rad8 14.cxd5 exd5 15.Bd3 Ne5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.Rb1 Ne4 18.Bxe4 [18.Bb2 Bxb2 19.Rxb2 Nxf2 20.Rxf2 Rxf2 21.Kxf2 Qf6+ wins] 18...dxe4 19.Qe2 Rf6 20.f4 [20.Bb2 Bxh2+ 21.Kxh2 Rh6+ 22.Kg1 Qh4 wins 23.f4 exf3 24.Rxf3 Bxf3 25.Qc4+ Qxc4 26.bxc4 Be4; 20.Ba3 Bxh2+ 21.Kxh2 Rh6+ 22.Kg1 Qh4 23.f4 exf3 24.Qc4+ Qxc4 25.bxc4 fxg2 26.Rxb7 gxf1 Q+ 27.Kxf1 Rd2 winning] 20...exf3 21.gxf3 Rxf3 [21...Rg6+ 22.Kh1 Bxh2 is simpler] 22.Rxf3 Qg5+ 0-1

Dix Roberts

Ian Comley (Horsham 2) v David Wallis (Worthing 3), MSL Div.2, March 11, 2014

A position for the connoisseurs. W under-promoted to a Knight with check, but there was a more elegant finish.



Black is threatening mate, and play continued 42.g8=N+ Kg7 43.Rg5+ Kh8 44.Rh5 and W won on move 48, but the computer later found that W had under-promoted the 'wrong' pawn and had a mate in four, by 42.Rf6+ Kxg7 43.e8=N+ Kg8 44.Rg5+ Kh8 45.Rf8 mate.

Anthony Higgs - Paul Taylor, Horsham Club Championship, March 26, 2013

1.d4 f5 2.Qd3!? e6 3.g4 [The Manhattan Gambit. Probably unsound, but some very wild and exciting games can occur] 3...fxg4 4.h3 gxh3 [A brave decision. Many Black players opt to return the pawn with 4...g3 to keep lines closed] 5.Nxh3 Be7?! 6.Nf4!

[Already Black is in some trouble] 6...Nh6 7.Nh5 Bf6 8.Nc3 d5 9.Nxg7+ Bxg7 10.Bxh6 Qf6 11.Bxg7 Qxg7 12.0-0-0 Nc6 13.Bh3?! [Looking back now I can't believe I didn't play 13.e4 which the position practically screams for. Black's king would be in serious jeopardy after the centre opens] 13...Bd7 14.f4 0-0-0 15.Rhg1 Qh6 16.Qf3 [Setting a nasty little trap which I felt sure that my opponent, who is known for sharp and tactical play, would not be able to resist stepping into...] 16...e5? [...which he promptly does. This looks like a neat way to solve the problem of the e6 pawn but has a serious flaw] 17.Bxd7+ Rxd7 18.dxe5! d4 19.Ne4 [Only now did my opponent realise that his intended 19...Nxe5 is met with 20.Rh1! Nxf3 21.Rxh6 and the Black knight is trapped on an open board] 19...Rf8 20.e6?! [Another psychological ploy. I felt certain that Paul would not be able to resist giving up the exchange to drive my king into the centre. Just as well he did, as 20...Re7 21.Ng5 Qf6! is fine for Black. I was in the tactical 'zone' now and was blithely dismissing such positional concerns!] 20...Qxe6 21.Nc5 Qxa2 22.Nxd7 Qa1+ 23.Kd2 Qa5+ 24.c3 Kxd7 25.Qh3+ [Preventing Kc8 after which the sacrifice would have merit] 25...Kd8 26.Rg7 Qd5? 27.Kc1 [Good enough, but missing a glorious way to win. I considered 27.c4 Qd6 but then the threat of Qxf4+ made me reject the idea of attacking the queen. However, using the other pawn works: 27.e4!! Qd6 – how often do you get to annotate that the alternative en passant double check loses to a discovered pin?! – 28.e5 Qd5 29.c4 Qa5+ 30.Ke2 Nb8 31.Rxd4+ Ke8 32.Qc8 is mate] 27...Rxf4

28.Qxh7 Re4 29.Rg8+ Re8 30.Rdg1!

[Forcing Black into a lost endgame. He fights hard but the passed e-pawn makes the win straightforward for White] 30...Ne7 31.Rxe8+ Kxe8 32.Qh8+ Kd7 33.Qxd4 Ke6 34.Qxd5+ Nxd5 35.Rg7 a5 36.e4 Ne7 37.Kd2 b5 38.Rg5 c6 39.c4! [The king invades and it is all over] 39...bxc4 40.Kc3 Nc8 41.Rxa5 Nd6 42.Kd4 1-0

Anthony Higgs



Peter Harbott (Horsham 1) v Morgan Blake (Worthing 1), MSL Div 1, January 28, 2014

This was the crucial juncture, where B had to choose between 39...Ka5 and Kc5. He chose 39...Kc5, but there was no refuge on the kingside light squares and a perpetual check was forced. Instead 39...Ka5 was the right move, and after 40.Qc7+ Ka4 41.Rb4+ Qxb4 42.Qxc6+ Kb3! 43.Qxd5+ Qc4! W would have been lost, as 44.Qxd2 allows 44...Qf1+ with mate to follow. A tough line to see just before the time control!

A wild affair featuring the missed opportunity of “your everyday en passant double check losing to a discovered pin”!

**James Mansson (Horsham) v Peter Farr
(The Args), MSL Knockout Round 2,
February 26, 2014. Notes by James
Mansson, who described it as a 'coffee
house' game.**

1.d4 Nf6; 2.c4 c5; 3.d5 e6; 4.Nc3 exd5;
5.cxd5 d6; 6.e4 g6; 7.Nge2 Bg7; 8.Ng3 O-O;
9.Be2 a6; 10.a4 Nbd7; 11.O-O Re8; 12.f4 h5;
13.e5!? dxe5; 14.f5 e4; 15.fxg6 fxg6; 16.Bg5
Qb6; 17.Qc2 c4+; 18.Kh1 Nh7; 19.Bh4?!
(This idea is dubious, but fortunately for
White, Black ducks the challenge. 19.Bf4 is
better) 19...Ne5?! (19...g5!; 20.Bxh5 Rf8;
21.Nf5 Rxf5; 22.Rxf5 Ndf6 [not 22...gxh4
23.Bf7+]; 23.Bf2 e3; 24.Rf3 exf2; 25.Bg6
Nf8); 20.Ngxe4 Bf5; 21.a5 Qe3; 22.Bf2
(22.Rxf5! gxf5 23.Nd6 Nd3 24.Nxc4 Nf2+
25.Bxf2 Qxf2 26.Rf1 Qc5 27.Rxf5) 22...Qh6;
23.h3 Ng5; 24.Rae1? (This should have lost.
24.Bg1 is better.) 24...Nxe4; 25.Nxe4 Ng4?
(25...Qf4! wins a piece); 26.Bxg4 hxg4;
27.Qxc4 gxh3; 28.g3 Qh5; 29.Bc5 Qg4?
(29...Re5); 30.Rf4! Bxe4+ (time control);
31.Kh2! Qg5? (31...Bd3! was a better try,
luring the queen off the same diagonal as the
king. After 32.Qxd3 Qd7 33.Rxe8+ Rxe8
34.d6 White has a strong attack, but Black has
better chances of defending.); 32.Rfxe4 Rxe4;
33.Rxe4 (White's various threats are
decisive) 33...Bf6; 34.Be3! Qh5; 35.d6+ Kg7;
36.Bd4! Rf8; 37.Qc7+ Rf7; 38.Bxf6+ Kxf6;
39.Rf4+ Ke5; 40.Qxf7 (40.d7+ Ke6
41.Qb6+ Ke5 42.Qe3+ Kd6 43.d8=Q+ Rd7
44.Qd4+ Qd5 45.Rf6# is the improbable
"computer mate"), but the text move is good
enough, so Black resigned.

James Mansson

**Gatwick Masters, October 27, 2013,
Brian Denman v JP Jackson**

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 a6 5.Bd3
Bc5 6.Nb3 Be7 7.O-O d6 8.f4 Nd7 { 8...Nc6
is a more active move. } 9.Qf3 Qc7 10.Bd2
{ 10 Be3 would have been a more normal and
perhaps better line. I was trying to take my
opponent out of the regular book lines. }
10...Ngf6 11.Bc3 e5 12.N1d2 b5 { Hoping to
follow next move with b4 winning a piece. }
13.Kh1 O-O 14.a4 bxa4 { A mistake as it
gives White plenty of space on the queen side.
Better was 14...Rb8. } 15.Rxa4 Bb7 { Better
chances were offered by 15...exf4 16 Qxf4
Ne5. } 16.Rc4 Qb8 17.Rb4 d5 { A losing
move. 17...Qc7 was better. } 18.Rxb7 { Now
White wins in all variations as his bishops
spring into life. } 18...Qxb7 19.fxe5 dxe4
20.Nxe4 Nd5 21.Nf6+ Bxf6 { If 21...gxh3 22
Qg4+ followed by 23 Qf5 mates. } 22.exf6 g6
23.Be4 N7b6 24.Qh3 h5 25.Qg3 Rfc8 { If
25...Kh7 26 Rf5 is decisive. } 26.Qg5 Kf8
{ Black tries to escape to the queen's side with
his king, but White's next move means that this
could only be achieved with massive loss of
material. } 27.Re1 1-0

Brian Denman

**Adrian Pickersgill - Bernard Cafferty,
Hastings Chess Club Championship,
October 24, 2013**

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 f3 e6 4 Bf4 The sequel, moves 10/11, indicates that the normal 4 Nc3 or 4 Be3 is better 4...Qb6! 5 b3 Nf6 6 e5 Nfd7 7 c3 c5 8 Ne2 Nc6 9 a3 a5 After this, Black has a good form of the French Defence, with the Pf3 a sore thumb in White's position 10 Bg3 Be7 11 Bf2 0-0 12 Nd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 f6 14 f4? He had to take on f6 14...fxe5 15 dxe5 (15 fxe5 Ndx5!) 15...Bc5? A natural move, but Black could take on e5, due to the smothered mate by ...Nd3 if White takes the Q. I looked at the possibility, but found the answer 15...Ndx5 16 Nc4 awkward to meet. However, there is then the crushing rejoinder 16...Bb4+! Check out the variations! 16 Bxc5 Nxc5 17 Qc2 Bd7 18 Rc1 Ne4? Rather hasty, as the superior 18...Rac8 would accumulate threats 19 Nxe4 dxe4 20 g3? Nxe5! 21 fxe5? White took 13 minutes over this error, instead of the obvious capture on e4, though the uncastled king is a serious drawback k.21... Qf2+ 22 Kd1 Rad8 23 Qb2 Bb5+ 24 Kc2 Bd3+ In a brainstorm Black announced mate here, which is certainly premature; play continued ... 25 Kc3 Rc8+ 26 Kd2 Bxe2 and White resigns in view of 27 Be2 Rfd8+ or 27 Rxc8 Bxf1+ (or 27...Bd3+) 28 Kc1 Rxc8+ 29 Kb1 Bd3+ 30 Ka1 Rc2 winning the Q and soon mating.

Bernard Cafferty

**C.Nwachakwa 171 (Leicestershire) v
Paul Kington 146 (Sussex) Board 13 -
May 17, 2014**

All our team were about 30 minutes behind on the clock so this game has its errors!

Obviously white should not have allowed the invasion of his second rank!

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 f5 4 d4 fxe4 5 Bxc6 dxc6 6 Nxe5 Nf6 7 Bg5 Bd6 8 OO Bxe5(?) 9 dxe5 Qxd1 10 Rxd1 Nd5 11 c4 Ne7 12 Nc3 Bf5 13 Re1(!) Ng6(!) 14 Nxe4 h6 15 Bd2 OOO 16 Bc3 Nf4(!) 17 Ng3 Be6 18 Re4 g5(!) 19 b3 Rh7(!) 20 Re3 Rhd7 21 f3 Rd3 22 Rae1 Rxe3 23 Rxe3 Rd1ch 24 Kf2(?) Rc1(!) 25 Ne4 Rc2ch 26 Kf1(?) Rxg2 27 Nc5 Bh3 28 Ke1 Rxh2(!) 29 Kd1 Ne6 30 Nxe6 Bxe6 31 Re2 Rxe2 32 Kxe2 Kd7 33 Kf2 Bf5 34 a3 c5 35 Kg3 Ke6 36 f4 gxf4ch 37 Kxf4 Bc2 38 b4 cxb4 39 axb4 c5(!) 40 bxc5 Bd3 41 Ke3 Bxc4 42 Kd4 Bd5 43 Bd2 h5 44 Bg5 a5 45 Bh4 a4 46 Be1 a3 47 Bc3 h4 48 White resigns

Paul Kington

**County championship final, game 1.
Haywards Heath, May 25, 2014. W: Brian
Denman. B: Feliks Kwiatkowski. Sicilian
Defence, Sveshnikov Variation.**

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6;
5.Nc3 e5; 6.Ndb5 d6; 7.Nd5 Nxd5; 8.ed Nb8;
9.c4 a6; 10.Nc3 Be7; 11.Be2 O-O; 12.O-O
Nd7; 13.f4 f5; 14.Kh1 Bf6; 15.a4 Qc7; [We
have a position typical of the 7.Nd5 variation.
White's chances lie in pushing the Q-side
majority. Black will try to restrain the majority
and work on the K-side and down the centre.]
16.Qc2 ef; 17.Bxf4 Ne5; 18.a5! Bd7; 19.b3
Rae8; 20.Ra2 ... ; [White's position is nothing
special, and I agree with Brian, who
commented that Black should have simply
doubled on the e-file with a comfortable
game.] 20. ... Ng6; 21.Bg3 Bd4; 22.Bd3 Ne5;
23.Ne2 Ba7; [Perhaps 23. ... Bc5; was less
artificial.] 24.h3 Nxd3; [There was no need to
hurry the exchange of this piece – maybe just
24. ... Rf7;.] 25.Qxd3 Re4; 26.Bf4 Rfe8;
27.Nc3? ... ; [According to the computer,
27.Ng3 ... ; would have given White a plus,
which shows that Black lost the thread
somewhere.] 27. ... Re1; 28.Ra1 Rxf1+;
29.Qxf1 Bd4; 30.Qd3 Be5; 31.Bxe5 Rxe5;
32.Qd4 Re8; 33.Kg1 ... ;

Draw agreed : ½-½. By this time we had
each lost interest in what is probably indeed
just a level position.

**County championship final, game 2.
Brighton & Hove Chess Club, May 31,
2014. W: Feliks Kwiatkowski. B: Brian
Denman. King's Indian Attack.**

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 e6; 3.d3 ... ; [I hadn't even
prepared this properly. I just wanted to play
something different from my usual range of
openings.] 3. ... Nc6; 4.g3 d5; 5.Nbd2 Nf6;
6.Bg2 Be7; 7.O-O O-O; 8.Re1 b5; 9.e5 Nd7;
10.Nf1 a5; 11.h4 ...; [This is one of the main
lines. 'Officially', Black has no problems in
this variation. Black will push pawns and
pieces down the Q-side, and try to hook them
round, to attack the White centre from the side
and from behind. White will try to penetrate
the Black castled position by a mixture of
plans. One subset of ideas involves Qh5,
Bf4, Ng4 and Ng5. Another subset involves
exchanging the dark-squared bishops and
driving the h-pawn to h6. I prefer White's
chances in principle, on any occasion where
Black is not specifically expecting the
opening. However, Brian now overturned all
my expectations.]

11. ... f6!?!; [Wow! The usual idea is to play
moves like ... Ba6; ... b4; and ... a4;. My
resources are incomplete, but I was later
unable to find any serious game where Brian's
obvious move had been played. Nor could I
find any clear reason why the move had
hitherto been shunned. 12.ef Nxf6; [I now
thought for 32 minutes. All I could see was
problems. The move I wanted to play is
13.Bh3 ... ;. However, the sacrifice 13. ... e5;
leads to a lot of activity. Perhaps the computer

will find some way to take and keep the material without compromising the position. I decided to duck the win of material, swap the dark-squared bishops and restrain the e-pawn. It was a practical plan, tailored to the psychological needs of the occasion.]

13.Bf4 Bd6; 14.Bxd6 Qxd6; 15.d4 Bd7; 16.c3 b4; 17.Rc1!? bc; 18.bcRab8; [White's plan was to threaten c4. It was nothing special, and Black has a reasonable position. The e-pawn is not an immediate problem and there is activity on the Q-side.] 19.N1d2 c4; 20.Ne5 Ne8;. [But now the feel of the game has changed. Black should have tried ... Rb2 earlier, to provoke exchanges of the heavy pieces. Stodging up the pawns does not seem to meet the needs of the situation.] 21.N2f3 Nc7; 22.Qc2 Nxe5; 23.Nxe5 Rb6; 24.Rb1 R8b8; 25.Rxb6 Rxb6; 26.Rb1 Be8; 27.Rxb6 Qxb6; 28.Qc1 ... ;.

[At this stage I had used 105 minutes of the 120 allowed for 40 moves, while Brian had

used only 73. Black's position is not brilliant, for White's pawn configuration and minor pieces are superior to Black's. But there should be no immediate peril. All Black had to do was use his time advantage to find some sensible, dour moves to hold the game. Instead, the pressure of the occasion got to my opponent.]

28. ... a4?; 29.Qa3! ... ;. The dark square weakness proves decisive. 29. ... Qb8; 30.Qe7 Qc8; 31.Bh3 Bh5; 32.Kg2 ... ; [There were probably better moves, but I was short of time and wanted to force Black to make decisions.] 32. ... Bd1; 33.a3 Bc2; 34.h5 Be4+; 35.Kh2 Bf5; 36.Bxf5 ef; 37.h6 gh; 38.Qf7+ Kh8; 39.Qf6+ Kg8; 40.Nf7 Black resigned. The Championship stays in Haywards Heath for the third successive year. 1-0.

**Feliks
Kwiatkowski**

Sussex Chess competition entry form

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

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