

Here's looking at
you kid....



SUSSEX CHESS NEWS

2015

Amy's haul
of trophies



Sussex Individual Championship 2014/15

THERE were eight entries in this season's competition.

In the first round, Brian Denman beat Martin Faulkner, Feliks Kwiatkowski

(last season's champion) beat Tim Pavlovic, Bernard Cafferty defeated Andy Briggs, and Jerry Anstead was successful in his match against Tim Yu.

Adjudications

ONLY four positions to consider this year and no appeals

Adjudicators active this year were: Bernard Cafferty , Geoff James, Mike Nicholas, James Mansson and Robert Elliston

One position was like a chess problem
White to play , win or draw ?



Mike found a solution.

White win. By playing Kc1, Kb2, Ka3, and eventually manoeuvring the black square B to d2, c1, b2 and if necessary a1, so that eventually the W K can gain access to the b4 square when it's game over for black.

Robert Elliston

SCCA adjudication secretary

In the semi-finals, Feliks was paired with Jerry and Brian faced Bernard, as he did at the same stage last season.

The first games between each pair were draws, but in the second games, with reversed colours, Feliks and Brian both emerged victorious to produce a repeat of last season's final pairing.

The final turned into a marathon affair, which Brian Denman won 2½-1½ after four games lasting around 23 hours!

All four games were adjourned - games 1, 2 and 4 were all draws, the third being a win for Brian.

This is chess in the classic style: the time control is 40 moves in two hours, with adjournment if necessary after a four-hour session.

For removal of doubt, both players have forsworn the use of computer analysis.

The control is then 20 moves an hour, with a further four-hour session possible.

It seems that the keywords between these two contestants are attrition and stamina.

The winner is a worthy county champion.

J. Sharp

Tournament Controller

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Paul Batchelor reflects on a resounding defence of their title by McArthur Cup holders Brighton & Hove...

Battle of Hastings: Some fighting chess



McARTHUR CUP...

HASTINGS & St Leonards hosted Brighton & Hove for the 2015 final.

Geoffrey James renewed a rivalry that stretched back to 1969 when he faced John Sugden. Their opening was a Caro-Kann defence. Geoffrey won an exchange and soon after, the game.

Brighton & Hove took the lead. Brian Denman was paired with Howard Tebbs. Their game was a Slav defence. This was to end in a draw.

Simon Wilks was to play Sussex County Chess Association president Robert Elliston. The game was a Catalan, with Simon playing the black side. This ended peacefully in a draw.

Julien Carron, making his debut for the club, was to face Francis Rayner, who has represented Wales apparently.

The opening was an Open Sicilian. At the end of a joint time scramble, it became apparent Francis had made one move too few. The game was won by the Brighton & Hove player. My game finished next. It had been a Bird's opening.

My opponent offered the draw and I accepted. Brighton & Hove now had 3.5 points and could not be caught. Callum Brewer, a promising young player, was playing Rasa Norinkeviciute, who has a WFM title.

The opening was a Sicilian defence. Callum won a pawn and with seconds to spare on Callum's clock, Rasa resigned, although mate was inevitable. So the final score was Hastings & St Leonards 1.5 Brighton & Hove 4.5. Brighton & Hove had won and retain the McArthur Cup.

...while Paul Buswell, who's standing down as tournament controller, reflects on another successful year's matches

McARTHUR CUP

CONGRATULATIONS to Brighton & Hove on retaining the McArthur Cup.

Semi-finals: Hastings & St Leonard's 4½
Horsham 1½; Haywards Heath 2 Brighton & Hove 4.

Final: Hastings & St Leonards 1½
Brighton & Hove 4½. 1. Francis Rayner (w)
0-1 Julien Carron; 2. Howard Tebbs (b) ½-
½ Brian Denman; 3. Bob Elliston (w) ½-½
Simon Wilks; 4. John Sugden (b) 0-1
Geoffrey James; 5. Jerry Anstead (w) ½-½

Paul Batchelor; 6. Rasa Norinkeviciute (b)
0-1 Callum Brewer.

I am stepping down from chess admin and I do not know who will be running next year's competition.

That will be a matter for the AGM of the County Association, to be held in September sometime.

If you have any observations to make on how the event should be organised, that's the meeting to put them to, or you can contact Bob Elliston, county president.

PAUL WATSON TROPHY

CONGRATULATIONS to Lewes, who retain the Paul Watson Trophy title.

Quarter-finals: Args 1 v Bognor & Arun 3; Woodpushers 1½ v Uckfield 2½;
Haywards Heath 0 v Horsham 4; Lewes
bye.

Semi-finals: Bognor & Arun 1½ v
Uckfield 2½; Horsham 1 v Lewes 3.

Final: Uckfield 1½ v Lewes 2½.

Toby Harris (159) 0-1 Barry Maufe
(164); Peter Weston (124) ½-½ Richard
Welford (148); Simon McDonald (117) 0-1
Matthew Britnell (135); Brian Stockham
(116) 1-0 Jonathan Britnell (97e).

We didn't have any 2-2s this season but I'm still not happy with the tie-break but have nothing better to offer. Five boards might be better but you need bigger cars.

Fantastic: Division One here we come!

Sue Howell, Sussex Martlets Admin Manager, gives her account of Sussex Martlets' wonderful 4NCL season

SUSSEX MARTLETS...

SUSSEX MARTLETS ended a fabulous season in the 4NCL, with their first team gaining promotion to division one.

Having only entered division 2 at the beginning of the season after trying for promotion for several years, our only ambition had been to avoid relegation!

However, at each of the five weekends, the squad pulled out some fantastic results, beating much more experienced and higher rated opposition, including teams that hire in players.

The background to the team has always been Sussex Junior Chess and they have continued to sponsor our entry fees (no small contribution).

The squad is made up mostly of current and former juniors - some at university, parents and coaches. All with a connection to Sussex. With just over 30 players in the squad, we had to field 14 players each

weekend - eight in the first team and six in the second team (in division 3).

The first seven rounds for the first team were played in pools, with the top teams

being allocated to the

promotion pool and the bottom fighting to avoid relegation back to division 3. We had been allocated to the A section of division 2 which was the stronger half and losing to 3Cs (a team relegated from div 1) in the first match

in October, we knew it was going to be tough but we bounced back that weekend to beat a strong Guildford 3 team 4.5 to 3.5 and this was to set the tone for the season.

“After trying for promotion for several years, our only ambition had been to avoid relegation!”



November saw us beat Anglian Avengers and KJCA Knights and January saw us beating Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg but losing to Brown Jack.

The March weekend had a rearranged date and this met a clash with a SJC event ruling out most of our adults and therefore a very junior based team faced Cam Uni 2 being out-rated 2006 to 2056 but coming home with a win 5.5 to 2.5.

This same team then faced the challenge of the first game in the promotion pool and this time against White Rose with a rating of 2136 they won magnificently 5-3. At this point, the calculators came out and it look likely that we would be promoted to div 1.

However, we sealed second place in div 2 with wins over Grantham Sharks 2 and Barbican in the final weekend over the first May bank holiday.

Congratulations to all the players and thank you to David Grant, Rhys Cummings and Grant Bucher for their support on the management side and all the players and parents for transport.

The second team had a slightly disappointing season, losing too many matches 2.5 to 3.5 and finished just below half-way.

The whole competition now moves from Daventry to Birmingham and Telford for the 2015-16 season starting again in October.

Full details of the squad and results can be seen at

www.4ncl.co.uk.

If anyone is interested in joining us on our adventures then please email -

susan.howell5@btinternet.com



**Zhuo Ren Lim, W v
Anthony Stebbings 1-0
4NCL Division 2a, Hinckley Island,
January 11**

1.Nf3 c5 2.g3 Nc6 3.Bg2 g6 4.d4
cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 6.Nxc6 bxc6 7.c4
Rb8 8.Qc2 Qa5+ 9.Nd2 Nf6 10.O-O c5
11.b3 O-O 12.Bb2 d6 13.Rfd1 Bb7
14.e4 Nd7 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Qb2+
Kg8 17.Nf1 Ne5 18.Ne3 Nc6 19.Nd5
Bc8 20.h4 Bg4 21.f3 Be6 22.h5 Qd8
23.f4 Nd4 24.Ne3 Qd7 25.Rxd4 cxd4
26.Qxd4 f6 27.Bf3 Kg7 28.Kf2 Qb7
29.Kg2 Qb6 30.Qd2 Qc5 31.Rh1 Rh8
32.f5 gxf5 33.exf5 Bxf5 34.h6+ Kf8
35.Rh5 e6 36.Nxf5 exf5 37.Rxf5 Qb4
38.Qg5 Ke7 39.Qxf6+ Kd7 40.Qg7+
Ke6 41.Qf7# 1-0

**Atreya Mandnikar W (Cambridge
University 2) v William M Graham
(Sussex Martlets 1) 0-1
4NCL Division 2a, Birmingham
Airport, March 28**

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.Bd3
Nc6 5.Nf3 Nge7 6.Bg5 f6 7.Bh4 Bf5 8.c3
Qd7 9.O-O O-O-O 10.Qc2 h5 11.Bg3
Bxd3 12.Qxd3 Nf5 13.h3 g5
14.h4 Rg8 15.b4 Bd6
16.hxg5 Bxg3 17.fxg3
Nxg3 18.Re1 Ne4 19.b5
Ne7 20.gxf6 Rxg2+
21.Kxg2 Qg4+ 22.Kf1 Nf5
23.Re2 Qh3+ 24.Rg2
Nfg3+ 25.Ke1 Qxg2
26.Nbd2 Nxd2 27.Nxd2
Qg1+ 28.Nf1 Nxf1 29.Qxf1
Re8+ 30.Kd2 Qg5+ 31.Kc2
Rf8 32.Qh3+ Kd8 33.Rf1
h4 34.Rf5 Qg6 35.Qf3
Rxf6 36.Qxd5+ Kc8 0-1



CONCENTRATING HARD... action from last season's Four Nations Chess League Picture: Ray Morris-Hill

Alexander J Gordon-Brown W
(Cambridge University) v Chris I
Howell (Sussex Martlets) 0-1
4NCL Division 2a, Birmingham
Airport, March 28

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4
d6 5.f4 O-O 6.Nf3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.Be2
exd5 9.exd5 Re8 10.O-O Bf5
11.Bd3 Bxd3 12.Qxd3 Na6 13.a3
Nc7 14.f5 a6 15.Bg5 b5 16.Nh4
Re5 17.Rad1 h6 18.Bf4 bxc4
19.Qh3 g5 20.Bxe5 dxe5 21.Qe3
gxh4 22.Qxc5 Nb5 23.Qxc4 Qb6+
24.Kh1 Nd4 25.b4 Ng4 26.Rd3 e4
27.Nxe4 Re8 28.Qc5 Qb8 29.Nd6
Nf2+ 30.Kg1 Nxd3 0-1

James P Holland W
(Grantham Sharks 2)
v Alex L Therrien
(Sussex Martlets) 0-1
4NCL Division 2c,
Hinckley Island
May 2

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6
3.c4 b6 4.Bf4 Bb7
5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Qb3 c5
7.dxc5 Na6 8.cxb6
Ne4 9.a3 Bxc3+
10.bxc3 Nac5 11.Qc2
axb6 12.e3 g5 13.Be5
f6 14.Bg3 h5 15.h4
Nxc3 16.fxg3 Be4

17.Qf2 g4 18.Nd2 Bg6
19.Be2 O-O 20.Qf4
Kg7 21.e4 Qb8 22.O-O
Qxf4 23.gxf4 Nxe4
24.Nxe4 Bxe4 25.Rfd1
Ra7 26.Rd2 Rfa8
27.Rda2 Kf7 28.g3
Ke7 29.Kf2 Kd6
30.Ke3 Bc6 31.Bd3
Kc5 32.Kd2 d6 33.Kc2
e5 34.fxe5 dxe5
35.Rf1 Bf3 36.Rb1
Bc6 37.Rf1 Bf3
38.Rb1 Ra5 39.Raa1
e4 40.Bf1 Rxa3
41.Rb5+ Kc6 42.Rxa3
Rxa3 43.Rb2 Ra1 0-1

Grading lists every month? I don't think so!

County grading officer Julie Denning reports on a trouble-free year...but there may be changes on the horizon

FROM my perspective, grading has run without any problems over the past year.

The ECF made a slight change in how grades are calculated in the January list. This related to using results from earlier periods in order to include up to 30 games in the latest calculation.

They reverted to the use of an average result in past periods, rather than most recent games where some, but not all, games from a six-month grading period are taken into account.

This may have caused a little surprise when your January grade came out and if you try to keep a running record of your performance, you will need to do the calculations accordingly.

Last year, I reported on a proposal from the ECF that games played in an event where adjudication was an option should be excluded from grading.

I feared this might have a major impact on events like the Mid-Sussex League and I was glad that this was defeated.

I've now heard rumours that other changes might be proposed, including more frequent grading lists; perhaps as frequent as monthly.

I must admit that as a grading reporter I'm not immediately attracted to this idea. It wouldn't increase the overall annual workload, and it might be argued that it would be a good discipline to keep up with results throughout the year, rather than having concentrated periods of work twice a year.

However, having a reporting deadline to meet every month could well impact on a grader's personal life or other commitments. If anyone has strong views on this either way, please let me know.



National changes not so grand for us

SCCU and ECF delegate Julie Denning reports on a less tumultuous year for the ECF

DELEGATE'S REPORT...

SCCU activity over the past year has followed the usual pattern of committee meetings ahead of the 2 ECF Council meetings (October and April) and the AGM in June.

The main topic I believe we need to be keeping an eye on is possible changes to the format of the County Championships.

The ECF director of Home Chess published a discussion paper on the ECF Forum, seeking views on a number of possible changes. I was surprised to see this appear very shortly after the April ECF Council meeting at which the subject had not been raised.

This suggests to me that the discussion paper was very much a flyer put out by this individual director rather than something that had already received detailed ECF Board scrutiny and agreement.

The current situation that we're familiar with is of a two-stage competition. In the early part of the season, we compete in the regional (Union) stage from which some teams are nominated to take part in the national (Final) stage run by the ECF towards the end of the season.

Central to the discussion paper was that teams might be able to enter the final stage directly, regardless of any Union stage, and

that the final stage could start earlier in the season, potentially overlapping with any Union stage.

It was noted that the extent of the Union stages varied widely across the country, with some (including the SCCU) running extensive and well supported competitions, whereas in some other unions this stage was much less extensive or even non-existent. The discussion paper suggested that the current situation might be seen as unfair on counties in unions with an extensive regional competition in so much as their teams had to play several qualifying matches at the regional stage to get the opportunity to play in the final stage.

The consensus within both Sussex and the SCCU as a whole is that we do not share this view! Far from doing us a favour, we like the current situation, with hard-fought regional rounds providing a number of matches without undue travelling requirements, prior to the possibility of playing in the national stage.

I would be concerned that if playing in the SCCU's regional matches was no longer a requirement for entering the national stage, and if the two stages were allowed to overlap, the regional stage would, over time, lose relevance and support.

The outcome would be less competitive chess being played and the loss of a format (normally Saturday afternoon, 4¹/₂ hour playing session, no adjudication) that many currently enjoy.

Our current understanding is that the Home Director has taken on board objections to his proposals from SCCU and others and that any final proposals will be rather different.

The Home Director's discussion paper also touched on the point of entry fees for the County Championships and this is an area where the SCCU is supporting a change.

At present, all teams entering a regional stage are required to pay an entry fee to the ECF. Consequently, the ECF collects far more from SCCU counties than it does from Unions that hold lesser, or no, regional rounds.

This seems unfair to us as we may well enter no more teams in the national stage than such other unions, but bear a disproportionate share of the ECF fees. Unless there are final proposals from the Home Director to change this, the SCCU will put a motion to the ECF AGM in October that ECF fees are only payable for teams playing in the national stage.

A final point concerning the County Championships is the use of "F" category grades. These were introduced with the January, 2015, grading list.

Initially, SCCU took the view that these were "published grades" so should be accepted as such in meeting the rules for eligibility to play in grade-limited

competitions. Subsequently, there has been a change of heart. For the 2015/16 season onwards, players with only "F" category grades (standard- or rapid-play) will be deemed to be ungraded and only eligible to play in grade-limited competitions with the prior agreement of the county match controller.

Another topic that is causing some concern is that of public liability insurance for clubs and organisations, and specifically rather onerous conditions related to

protection of children, youths and vulnerable groups that are contained in the insurance scheme promoted by the ECF. I have contacted Sussex clubs and organisations in detail about this and do ask that any using this ECF scheme give due attention to this.

Unless previously resolved, this is likely to be raised at the ECF AGM in October.

I have served as SCCU deputy president for the past two years – a role that hasn't actually involved any extra duties. In keeping with SCCU tradition, the incumbent president (David Smith) stood down at this summer's AGM and I was elected to replace him. Again, following normal SCCU practice, I will also act as SCCU delegate to ECF Council for my period as SCCU president.

With the shenanigans surrounding their past president behind them, the ECF seems to have enjoyed a less tumultuous season, but still with plenty going on. The season started with the Council meeting/AGM in

**“The ECF
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less tumultuous
season”**

October that I was asked to chair.

Council readily elected Dominic Lawson, the well-known journalist, author and, of course, Sussex chess player, to become president.

The re-election of the incumbent CEO was a rather less consensual affair. With no other candidate, Phil Ehr was comfortably re-elected, with 75% of the votes cast – but that left 25% registering dissent by voting for “none of the above”.

While lacking the insight to judge individual merits, I have been left with the suspicion that Board affairs continue to involve a degree of internal friction.

Also at the AGM, Council rejected a proposal that games potentially subject to adjudication be excluded from grading. I appreciate that there are passionately held views on both sides of the adjudication debate, but to be, in effect, using grading as a proxy to fight this argument seemed to me wholly inappropriate. It was noteworthy that the proposal was put to Council by an individual director, rather than by the Board as a whole.

The Finance Council meeting in April was rather poorly attended. In the light of on-going debate over representation and democratic processes in ECF affairs, it was disappointing to see how few delegates turned up. Although many no doubt appointed a proxy to act on their behalf, voting numbers suggested that about one third of votes were not exercised at all.

At this Finance Council, the finance director was able to report a satisfactory position, anticipating an above budget surplus for the year until August 31, 2015, of around £35k.

However, this was attributed to a number of exceptional circumstances that would not be repeated in the following year.

Consequently, despite this surplus, increases to both membership and game fees were proposed.

These increases would be the first since the membership scheme was introduced three years ago. In part, the Board argued for increases in order to bolster reserves and to be able to fund new, but as yet unspecified, initiatives.

Increases of £2, £3 and £4 for Bronze, Silver and Gold Memberships respectively were approved by the slimmest majority, with strong views expressed by some that they expected to see more specific plans for how the additional income would be used. Given that the membership fee increases had been approved, it seemed natural that some increases in game fees would also be agreed, but I was surprised that increases of 25% (well above the % increases in membership fees) went through quite easily.

One new initiative that was presented was from Traci Whitfield, Director of Junior Chess, to establish an ECF FIDE Academy to develop promising juniors, with the objective of some achieving GM status by the age of 18.

Funding would come from various sources, including parents, and on-going sources, including parents, and on-going

NEW PRESIDENT: Dominic Lawson



financial support from the ECF was not envisaged, but an ECF contribution of £5k towards start-up costs was being budgeted for.

The finance director reported that the newly established charity, The Chess Trust, had now been registered with the Charity Commission.

However, there have so far been no new ideas on funding the trust since these were put on hold at the 2014 Finance Council.

“Strategy” was a word frequently heard at the April meeting, but without a great deal of strategy behind it.

The CEO presented a Strategy Statement that Council accepted, but it was seen as very much a work in progress with significant development still required.

An ongoing contention many have with the ECF Board is over the means, and adequacy, of their communications with their membership.

This is not unrelated to wider questions of representation that are being considered by an Independent Constitutional and Governance Review that is being carried out.

The person leading this review, Gareth Pearce, gave an update on progress at the April Council meeting. The review was established by a resolution from Council in October, 2013, with a mandate to report back to Council within two years.

Although the work had only recently got underway, Gareth Pearce anticipated that a report would be provided to the Board in

time for it to be discussed at the October 2015 Council meeting/AGM.

As part of their work, the review team were inviting representatives of the chess Unions to meet with them. In my newly elected SCCU role, I have recently taken up this invitation.

All these matters, and other besides, have been addressed in detail in the various post-meeting reports that I circulate to officials of the various Sussex chess organisations and main contacts at each club.

While we may no longer be seeing the sort of fireworks that were emanating from the ECF a year or two ago, having the finances on a more secure

footing, efforts to develop clearer strategies and the outcome of the current review into constitutional and governance matters mean that we might see a range of significant developments over the next year or two.

**“Strategy was
a word
frequently
heard at the
April meeting”**





DEEP THOUGHT: GM Nigel Short performs a simul at Brighton College

Our youngsters make Short work of the opposition

5-page pictures special on our amazing Junior Chess progress



ALL SMILES: Sussex Under 12 team - NYCA national champions

Words: Carol
Graham
Pictures:
David Grey



WINNING MENTALITY: Sussex Under 16 team - NYCA national champions



FINAL MOVES: last game to finish

JUNIOR chess continues to thrive in Sussex, with attendance at our training days and tournaments consistently around the 100 mark.

We also support the UK's largest junior chess event – the Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge – by organising the Sussex-wide ‘Megafinal’, which attracts nearly 450 entrants, many of whom have never played outside their school chess club before. It was also our

JUNIOR CHESS...

turn to host an under-11 county team jamboree – so overall a very busy year.

Sadly, we have seen a marked increase in the cost of venues and so with regret have had to raise prices – but at £12 per full day, our aim is to make chess as affordable as possible.

Our younger county teams have had a developmental year, gaining

valuable experience of wider competition ready for next season. We have noticed that other counties have improved their offering in terms of training and tournaments, some even offering weekly sessions, resulting in some very stiff competition this year.

Our older teams have held up extremely well; winning both the SCCU

U14 Championship and the National NYCA Championships at U12, U14, and U16 age groups. Our U18 team were runners-up in both.

This year, we had new controllers for our Schools Cup competitions – thanks to Chris Jones and Andy Cooper for presiding over very successful events at primary (U11) and secondary (U14) levels. More than 50 teams took part from 40 different schools with a good balance between the state and independent sectors. The length and breadth of the county was represented, from Billingshurst in the west, to Robertsbridge in the east.



GIRLS ONLY:
the Sussex girls championships

HONOURS BOARD

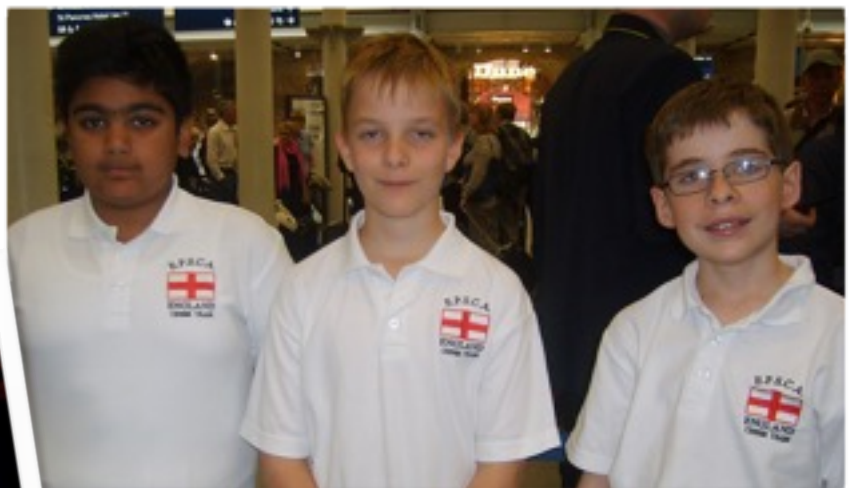
Primary Cup (U11)	Div 1	Copthorne Prep
	Div 2	English Martyrs, Worthing
	Div 3	London Meed, Burgess Hill
	Div 4	Harlands, Uckfield
Butler Cup (U14)	Cup	Copthorne Prep
	Plate	Ashdown House, Forest Row
	Shield	Downlands Community School, Hassocks
Sadd Cup (U16)	Deferred to Autumn 2015	
Wilson Cup (U18)	Deferred to Autumn 2015	

JUNIOR CHESS...



BOARD DECISIONS: action from the Megafinal, above, and the under eights championships, left

FAMOUS FOOTSTEPS: The 2014 Sussex under seven champion with 1998 Sussex under seven champion, GM David Howell



FLYING THE FLAG: Sussex players representing England in Flanders



Finally, there are some individual successes to celebrate: Dominic Miller, George Neale and Calum Salmons were all selected to the NCJS England Squad; Amy Hoare won the British Women's title at the British Chess Championships in Aberystwyth; and Amardip Ahluwalia, Callum Brewer, Freddie Coleman, Daniel and Thomas Finn, Matthew

Forster, Oli Howell and Billy Twigge-Molecey were all selected to represent England in various tournaments abroad. We wish Amy every success for the future as she heads off to university. As well as being a very loyal member of our teams for over 10 years, she has also been a very popular mentor of our U11 Girls team.

All this would not be possible without the support of our parents and volunteers.

We would also like to thank the many Sussex clubs who now welcome our juniors to their club nights – this is vital to their chess development, but also for the long term future of chess.

www.sussexjuniorchess.org

...JUNIOR CHESS



STUDIES IN CONCENTRATION:
Sussex youngsters ponder their next moves



HISTORY-MAKER: Arthur Hall pictured in the British Universities team championship at Cambridge in 1959. Photo by courtesy of Chess magazine.

King of the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit

Brian Denman looks at the amazing life of Arthur Hall,
March 10, 1935 - August 24, 2012

OBITUARY...

ALTHOUGH it is about three years since Arthur Hall died, news of his passing only recently reached local chess players.

He was born at Northolt, Middlesex, and became a promising young player at Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, Hampstead. In 1953, he competed in the British Boys' Championship at Hastings and scored six points out of nine.

After this, it is likely that he did national service before entering Queen's College, Oxford, as a maths student in 1956. It would seem that he now led a very active chess life and he played in four Oxford v Cambridge university matches between 1957 and 1960. In 1957, he became British Universities' champion and was first equal in this competition in 1960.

He also went on a tour to Yugoslavia in 1957 when representing a combined Oxford and Cambridge universities side. Another

success of his while at university was in winning the City of Oxford Championship. In this period, he played for Oxfordshire against Sussex on more than one occasion and for at least part of the time was a member of the Harrow and Cedars chess clubs. The latter club, which was formed by David Mabbs and David Rumens, was also located in the Harrow area and for a time was very successful.

After Arthur obtained his degree in 1959, he probably spent a year in post-graduate teachers' training. When he played in the 1960 Oxford v Cambridge university match, he was still listed as being at Queen's College.

However, early in 1960, he started playing for Hastings CC and he may have been in the town on teaching practice. Later that year he became resident therein and took up a post at Hurst Court Preparatory School.

In a period from the late 1950s to the late 1960s, Arthur took part in several congresses and these included the Chess Ltd tournament at Eastbourne, the Bognor Stevenson Memorial Tournament (later called the Churchill Memorial Tournament), British Chess Federation Major Open events and the Northern Open at Whitby.

He usually performed creditably in these competitions and in 1961 he earned the right to play in the British Championship at Leicester. Facing strong opposition in this event, he scored four points out of 11.

Arthur taught in Hastings until 1967 and in his first full season in Sussex he won the county championship, defeating C. Kendal of Bognor in the final. In an earlier round he had won against Arthur Winsor, the Hastings CC champion, but it was the latter who kept winning the club championship. In fact, despite Arthur Hall's success in becoming county champion in 1961 he never won the Hastings CC Championship. In the 1961-62 season, he took on the hard task of playing board one for Sussex and in the last match he held British champion, Jonathan Penrose, to a draw, enabling the county to win the Amboyna Shield.

In this period, Arthur also represented East Sussex in the Sexton Cup triangular competition. The other teams in this event were Brighton and West Sussex.

In 1963, Arthur also joined Worthing CC. He would live at Hastings during term time and had the chance to stay at his parents' house at Goring, Worthing, during the school holidays. For a couple of seasons he

represented Worthing in the McArthur Cup.

The Worthing Gazette had a chess column written by Leslie Head and in its edition of September 25, 1963, Arthur became number eight in a series of Sussex chess personalities specially featured in the newspaper. In 1964, he played on board nine in a Southern Counties' team against a Midlands representative side.

In 1967, Arthur left Hastings and his maths teaching took him to Pinner. He continued to lead an active chess life and

rejoined Harrow CC (there is also a record of his being a member of Amersham CC in 1970). For several years he continued to represent Sussex in county matches while living in the London area. In 1968, he received the Worthing

Gazette's Norman award (named after former Sussex champion, George Norman,) for his excellent results in county matches during the 1967-68 season.

He returned to Sussex in 1978 and started teaching scholarship maths for a few periods each week at Sompting Abbots Preparatory School. It seems likely that he supplemented his income by giving private tuition. He was probably at the school for several years though unfortunately I do not know the year in which he retired from the post. Now based regularly in West Sussex, Arthur joined Rustington Chess Club and rejoined Worthing Chess Club. He played for both clubs in the McArthur Cup at different times and won the Worthing CC Championship in 1981. Another success was his winning the West Sussex Queen competition in 1979.

He continued to represent Sussex while living in London

As Arthur grew older, he gradually slipped down the order for the county first team. Sometimes he also played for the second team.

In the 1996-97 season, the number of first team players in the Southern Counties Open competition was reduced to 16, which made it harder to be selected for the side.

Arthur's last county game seems to have been on March 25, 2000, when he drew with Jerry Anstead (Kent) on board seven of an under 175 match.

In the early 1990s Arthur played for at least two seasons for the Gambiteers in the South West Sussex League. Arthur's love of gambits made him an ideal player for this team. In 1996 he entered the Sussex Veterans' Championship and also represented Worthing CC in the McArthur Cup final.

It seems that Arthur's 'over-the-board' chess career virtually came to an end in 2000, though he probably played correspondence chess for some time after that. He turned up at Dorothy Stringer School, Brighton, on July 13, 2002, to take part in the Sussex Jamboree, but his opponent failed to make an appearance. An entry on the Bognor and Arun Chess Club website dated June 18, 2006, mentions that Arthur was present at the East Preston Festival when the chess club took on all-comers.

Arthur took part in at least three simultaneous exhibitions given by masters. In 1960, he lost against Svetozar Gligoric when the game formed part of a radio broadcast on BBC's Network Three. In 1962, he was defeated by Mikhail Botvinnik, but in 1990

he gained a good win against Malcolm Pein at Worthing.

Arthur is known throughout the world for his knowledge of the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. He had become interested in this opening while at university and in 1964 he wrote two articles on the gambit in the magazine called 'Chess'.

His knowledge of the opening was such that he reached the world final stages of at least one international Blackmar-Diemer correspondence tournament.

**In 1990 he
gained a good
win against
Malcolm Pein at
Worthing**

His name was even jointly quoted for one of the variations of the gambit. The opening sequence of 1 d4 d5 2 e4 dxe4 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 f3 exf3 5 Nxf3 Bg4 6 h3 Bxf3 7 Qxf3 c6 8 g4 constitutes the Seidel-Hall attack named after Arthur and Norbert Seidel of German nationality.

There has been some uncertainty as to whether Arthur wrote a book on the Blackmar-Diemer Gambit. The Autumn 1980/Winter 1981 issue of Sussex Chess News stated that in the late spring of that year Arthur's book would be published by 'The Chess Player' of Nottingham, but Tony Gillam, the publisher, has no recollection of such a book.

Arthur's correspondence chess was not confined to Blackmar-Diemer competitions. He entered several individual correspondence competitions including the Sussex Correspondence Championship, the British Correspondence Chess Society Championship, the British Correspondence Championship Candidates event, the British Postal Chess Federation Grand Open competition and the Postal Chess Club Premier.

He also represented the British Correspondence Chess Society in the British Postal Chess Federation clubs' competition and played for the British Postal Chess Federation in a match against the USA.

Already by the 1960-61 season he was playing for Sussex in the counties' correspondence competition and he was a regular in the team until the 1996-97 season.

Arthur's love of gambits resulted in his playing many brilliant games. He had a quiet and modest personality which belied the fact that he could be a fearsome attacking player.

The first time that I played him he trotted out the obscure Wilkes-Barre variation of the Two Knights Defence and soon it seemed that pieces were flying at me from different directions.

In the Hastings and St Leonards Observer of March 21, 1964, the columnist, Frank

Rhoden, quoted what he called a 'Bellocian ballad':

*'A dreadfall fate those types befalls
Who pinch a pawn of Arthur Hall's.'*

{N.B. the above spelling mistake is probably deliberate!}

I enclose two of Arthur's best games. The first of these won the prize given by Bruce Hayden for the best game by a Sussex player in county chess for the season. It has a pretty finish.

The second game is a Blackmar-Diemer Gambit brilliancy.

Arthur died in Worthing Hospital about three years ago and it is sad that no chess player in Sussex seems to have known about this at the time.

There have probably been several cases where a player has given up the game because of old age and then been forgotten about by his fellow club members.

If chess is to be considered a social game, we should try to keep in touch with our former members and friends.

Wheeler, GW - Hall, A [E84]

**Kent v Sussex in London board 4,
November 7,1964**

1.c4 g6 2.Nc3 Bg7 3.d4 Nf6 4.e4 d6
5.f3 Nc6 6.Be3 a6 7.Nge2 0-0 8.Qd2 Rb8
9.g4 b5 10.cxb5 axb5 11.Ng3 b4 12.Nd1
e5 13.d5 Nd4 14.Be2 b3 15.Bxd4 exd4
16.a3 Nd7 17.Nf2 Qh4 18.f4 Nc5 19.0-0
Na4 20.Qd3 Rb6 21.Qc4 Ba6 22.Qxa4
Bxe2 23.Nxe2 Qxf2 24.Qc4 Qe3+ 25.Kb1
Qxe4+ 26.Ka1 c5 27.dxc6 Rxc6 28.Qd3
Qg2 29.Nxd4 Ra8 30.Qd2 Rc1+! 31.Qxc1
Rxa3+ 32.Kb1 Ra1+ 33.Kxa1 Qa8+

Sources: Annual report of the Sussex Chess Association and Worthing Gazette of 6.10.1965. 0-1

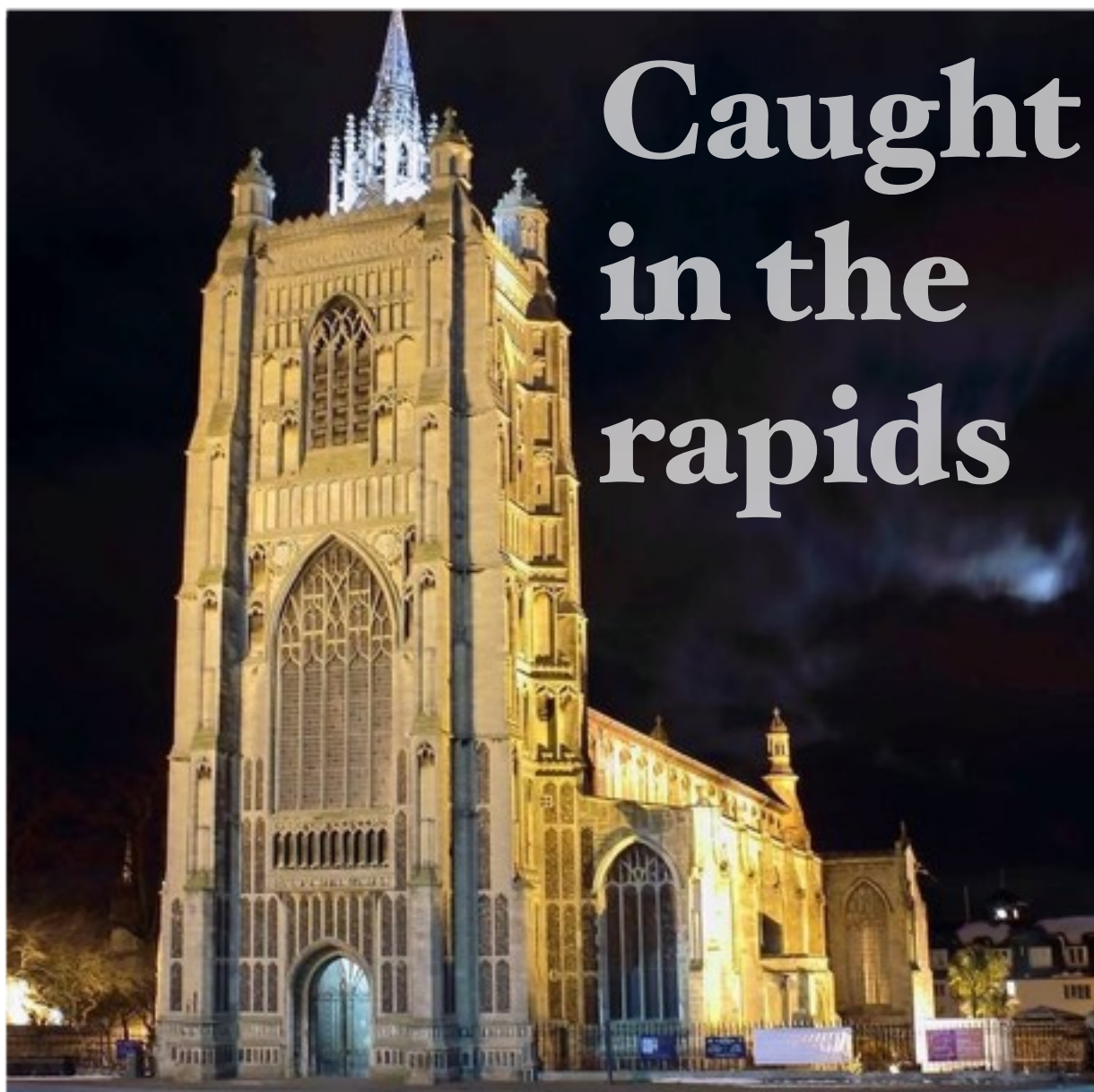
Hall, A - Dingwall,FG [D00]

**McArthur. Cup Rustington v
Chichester board 1, January 6,1979**

1.d4 Nf6 2.f3 d5 3.e4 dxe4 4.Nc3
exf3 5.Nxf3 e6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.Bd3 Nbd7
8.0-0 0-0 9.Qe1 c5 10.Qh4 h6
11.Bxh6 gxh6 12.Qxh6 c4
13.Ng5! cxd3 14.Nce4
dxc2 15.Rxf6

Sources: 'Sussex Chess News' (published about June, 1979) and 'Blackmar-Diemer Gambit' - Gary Lane - Batsford (1995). Played at Chichester. 1-0





Caught in the rapids

**NORWICH'S FINEST: St Peter Mancroft Church, one of the finest in the UK.
First-time visitors often mistake it for the cathedral**

**Keith Osborne tells of his
trip to East Anglia for the
Norwich Rapidplay**

I LIVE in Seaford, and play for Lewes Chess Club, but I also play in numerous congresses, as well as playing for the Sussex County U-140 and U-160 teams.

I am particularly keen on one day Rapidplay events, and while I am still playing in full weekend congresses, my focus is moving towards Rapidplays.

My diary fills up a long way in advance, and I work on the basis of first come, first served.

By the time in the previous year that I had notice of the exact date of the Norwich event I had, alas, already, entered another congress that was being held that weekend. So unfortunately, last year, I had to miss out on the event. But I did have a very nice weekend, nonetheless. After a catastrophic start, I went on to play some good chess, and despite the loss of my first game, I came away with a grading prize. The event was held in an English city with one of the strangest street names in England – in its centre, this city has a medieval street called “The Land of Green Ginger”. Do you know where I was playing?

So when the date of this year’s Norwich event was published in October last year, on checking my diary I was delighted to find that I had no prior engagements that weekend, so I promptly got my entry in, and within a few days hotel and rail tickets had been booked.

Norwich is England’s most attractive and elegant city, and is always a pleasure to be in. With more medieval churches in the city than any other city in northern Europe, the city of London not excepted, and the most complete surviving medieval street pattern of any English city, for its size - its population is half that of Brighton and Hove - it punches well above its weight. On every street, there is something of interest.

The downside (and it is only slight) is that Norwich is a little remote, though only two hours from London by rail. And Norwich, unlike most places, is not really on the way to anywhere else. Until recently, it had also been rather slow to reach by road, as it was not connected to London by uninterrupted dual-carriageway or motorway – happily, that has recently been resolved with the complete dualling of the A11.

The rail service is a complete contrast to the Brighton mainline. There is a train every half-hour on weekdays to and from London, taking typically one hour and 50 minutes.



ELM HILL: The most scenic and visited street in Norwich

And so to the weekend! I already knew in advance that my journey from London would be more complicated and longer than usual, as there were no direct trains from Liverpool Street to Norwich that weekend.

Instead, passengers were offered a train to Billericay, then an hour and a half on a

replacement bus service to Manningtree, and from there a train to Norwich.

But one of the advantages of being widely travelled (as in my professional life I am a consultant) is that I have a very good idea of direction, and of public transport routes and connections. So I knew how to make the journey from London to Norwich by rail all the way, and much more easily.

Thus I arrived in Norwich in reasonable time, about half an hour longer than had I come directly from Liverpool Street.

After quickly checking in to my hotel, I went into the city for coffee and a look around, before making my way back to the hotel for a short rest (well, I had been on the go since I left my home at 8.45am that morning!)

The following morning I was enjoying a leisurely breakfast in the hotel, overlooking the languid River Wensum, and thinking that I could almost be in a Flemish city.

While I was in the middle of this delightful reverie, suddenly a chess player from West Norfolk dashed past me, on his way out of the hotel, not having seen me. I was surprised how much time he was giving himself to walk to the venue for the Rapidplay – maybe he had not walked there before, and was unsure of how long it would take. With a degree of smugness I knew exactly how long it would take me to walk, having done it before.

So, about half an hour later I was leaving the hotel, to walk to the venue, the Gas Social club. Arriving just in time for the kick-off, it was nice to see familiar faces, as well as a sprinkling of new ones.

Starting just before 10am, I had a relatively easy win in round 1 with black, and then, with black again, the second round saw me meeting someone I had played before. This opponent and I have always been about the same strength, and very similar grades.

He and I last played in December, 2013. Then, in what had otherwise been a fairly even game, he was bit unlucky to lose to me in the end.

So I wondered whether he would win today... In a Queen's Gambit declined, I went for the seldom-played Aldrington variation (last recorded: Ottawa, 1962), and

we emerged into a fairly even middle game. While materially we were absolutely equal, I felt I had just a slight positional advantage (Fritz, after move 31, +0.0079), and fortunately I was able to gently turn the screw: unfortunately for him, as we moved into the endgame, he blundered.

So, with 2/2, going into round three, I found I was the leader in my section. A tough game in the third round, ending in a draw, and I was still the leader.

After lunch, another win, still in the lead, and then a draw, still in the lead, with my nearest rival snapping at my heels just half a point behind me. Alas, in the final game, I lost a queening race – something I seldom do – so I lost that game.

And equally unfortunately for me, my nearest rival won his game, so he leapfrogged me to claim first place, half a point ahead of me, so I ended up second. But it had been a very nice day, and I had the consolation of enjoyable games, and a nice little cash prize to go home with.

Taking a taxi back to my hotel, I had a short rest, before venturing out to the riverside suburb of Thorpe St Andrew (“the Chelsea of Norwich”) where I had a quiet and relaxing evening, with a nice dinner by the riverside.

And so to the following morning... making my way down for breakfast in the hotel, I found the West Norfolk player already in the middle of breakfast, so I joined him.

I caught the 0900 from Norwich station, and everything went well with my journey, and I eventually arrived home at Seaford about two o'clock. It had been a nice minibreak in Norwich, and chess-wise, a successful weekend.

The Argumentatives

THE Args lost to Brighton in the KO and then to Bognor in an extra match.

In the Mid-Sussex League Division 2, we found it hard to win games, not to mention matches.

But a late spurt of form meant that we were even deprived of relegation!

Individual results : Peter Farr 5.9/9, Jim Graham 5.5/10, Paul Kington 5/9.

Substitute Mike Card contributed an unbeaten 2/3, while Mike Garson also helped with some useful draws. As for Dennis Collard, he was his usual cheerful self as captain.

We remain the happiest team in the league!

Paul Kington

Bexhill

THE past season saw the resumption of the club's tournaments after a lapse of many years. The Championship had nine entries and was keenly contested among the top players. The eventual joint-winners were Roy Webb (the longest-standing member, who first joined in the 1980s) and John Kimber, with a score of 5½/9. They agreed to share the trophy, which was first competed for in the 1930/1931 season.

Third was Alfred Mikurenda, who will not mind it being revealed that he is by a considerable margin the most senior member. His score was 5/9.

The top seven competitors were separated by only 1½ points, which is indicative of the increasing playing strength of members.

In the secondary tournament, the Gordon Trophy, which had a large entry of 12, there was a remarkable performance by young Batuhan Kaya, who reached his 12th birthday during the season. He scored 9½/11, with three draws and no losses.

He was closely followed on 9/11 by Paul Lendon, who could manage only a draw against Batuhan. Third was one of our

newest members, David Slidel, with 8½/11.

The club's fine record of three successive wins in the bi-annual friendly matches against Hastings had to come to an end some time. In March, Hastings fielded their strongest overall side yet and their strength in depth, plus far greater experience of match play, resulted in a fairly convincing win by 29½ points to 20½.

However, in the top group of the two, Bexhill scored 15 to 10, thanks to good performances by Thomas and Daniel Finn, who won 9 points out of 10 between them. The next match, later this year, is predicted to be much closer.

Tuesday, June 16 – Sussex Day – was marked by the first-ever Blitz Tournament (for a new trophy), in which 14 members competed. The winners were Roy Webb and Derek Cosens (another whose original membership goes back to the last century).

They scored 5/6 and were followed by Alan Ticehurst on 4½/6. The season's prizes and certificates were presented by the newly elected Mayor of Bexhill, Maurice Watson.

J. Sharp, secretary

Bognor & Arun



YOUR MOVE: Chairman Bill Partridge, right, takes on an opponent during the club's chess challenge at East Preston Festival

CLUBS...

THE club enjoyed another excellent year of Portsmouth League chess and a full programme of individual friendly and tournament games.

As usual, the Bognor and Chichester combined clubs did well in the Portsmouth League, finishing third in Division 1 and top of Division 2. The clubs' third strings did less well in Division 3, Chichester/Bognor finishing mid-table and Chichester/Bognor last. A complete reversal of last year's placings wherein the B team finished last and the C team finished first.

On the individual tournament front, Jaimie Wilson won his seventh consecutive club championship, the U120 section being won by Andrew Keil and the U100 by Warwick Turner. The Knockout Cup and other tournaments are in their final stages.

The year saw the welcome return of Rolandas Lukoshius. He strengthens the

club considerably although not enough to win us the Paul Watson Trophy where we outgraded but didn't beat Uckfield.

On the social side, the club repeated its midsummer event at East Preston Festival, this time hosted by the Seaview Hotel where we renewed some old acquaintances over the chess-board. Another al-fresco event, this time at Chichester member Bill McDougall's elegant Hampshire home, saw Bognor's Jaimie and Rolandas contested the 5-minute chess final above other Bognor and Chichester players, a tournament in which accurate chess was entirely optional.

A very friendly and sociable club. It 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 www.bognorandarunchessclub.co.uk New members are always very welcome.

Bill Partridge

Brighton and Hove

ANOTHER happy and successful year has passed at the Brighton and Hove Club.

Our membership has dipped slightly to 50 but most leavers are transient for one reason or another and not lost to chess.

After the pressure on tables on some match nights last year, we took the decision to go for an additional Wednesday night for the winter season.

The idea was for an extra, quieter, mainly-matches evening to take the excess. We were also hoping for some coaching sessions and a junior group to run the same evening.

The coaching didn't happen, the junior group proved problematic, and finally the match captains preferred the adrenalin-fuelled bustle of Thursdays to the unfrequented calm of Wednesdays.

It has long been considered that a club as large as Brighton and Hove should welcome juniors and preferably run a junior club.

Brian Denman, brilliant as player and coach, was willing to give it a try.

In the end, it was deemed not viable, or perhaps just surplus to existing provision. Currently, the club's only junior is Callum Brewer, the U18 Sussex Champion (aged 14).

We had five teams in the Mid-Sussex League this season plus, for the first time, one in the Knockout competition. Although slipping



CAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT: Brighton had a feline visitor who came in via scaffolding to settle down for a snooze at one of the boards

from the top spot, we came only half a match point behind Worthing in division one and won in divisions two and four.

The Knockout entry was in part an exercise in play-to-the-finish three-hour chess over the frequent Fritz-finishes of

the divisions. We have a number of upcoming players who thrived on this and our luck held out to the end - Callum neatly trapping Feliks's queen to give us a win in the final.

In Sussex County Chess, we retained the McArthur Cup, beating Hastings and St. Leonards 4.5 to 1.5. We were fortunate to be able to field our latest international player, Julien Carron, a Swiss IM, who beat Francis Rayner on board one. Paul Batchelor continues his stalwart service as captain of our McArthur Cup team, our first team and the Sussex County U180s.

Internally, we ran three standardplay tournaments. Brian Denman was once again club champion, followed by Geoffrey James and Callum Brewer in second and third place. The Plummer Knight was won by Julian Clark, better known as a Woodpusher, followed by Oli Weiss and Jan ten Sythoff in

second and third. The Tasker Tankard was won by Terry Brown, followed by Rob Counsell and Alaa Albadin. In addition, we ran a more flexible Open Tournament - open to all and throughout the year - so new members can start playing standard graded games as soon as they join the club.

The Rapidplay Ladder has seen fewer games this season although that, too, remains in play.

We played our annual fixture against Dieppe in September, winning at home 11-4, and we have a team of 15 ready to go to Dieppe over the August bank holiday. This is always a good trip with much French wine, conviviality and efforts at cross-cultural banter. Before that we have two 'outreach' days planned. This entails transferring the club into the sun - hopefully - and enticing the curiosity of strangers.

Sue Chadwick

Chichester

CHICHESTER Chess Club meets at the Fishbourne Centre, Fishbourne, on Monday evenings, 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 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 stands at 26.

Jointly with Bognor & Arun Chess Club, we entered four teams in the Portsmouth League. The A team finished 3rd in the first

division. The B Team put up a terrific performance to win the second division championship by four clear points. The C Team finished 2nd to a very strong Portsmouth B team, while the D team were clear winners of the league's wooden spoon!

The Club Championship was won, for the first time, by Bill McDougall, with a score of 6½ points from 7, his son, Andrew, finishing as runner-up, just half a point behind.

The Under 130 Championship was won by Rafael Harbour with a score of 7½ from 9 with Ian Richardson half a point behind.

The Handicap Competition, for The Peter Rayment Trophy, was won by Keith Davies.

Philip Wake, club secretary

Crowborough



EYES ON THE PRIZE: Action from Crowborough Chess Congress

CLUBS...

AS always, the season started with the Crowborough Chess Congress which attracted over 40 entries.

Prize winners were:

THIS year's congress takes place on Saturday, September 12, with an increased prize fund.

See our website crowboroughchess.org for entry details.

We ran two teams in the Mid-Sussex Chess League, with our 1st team comfortably holding their own in the top division while the seconds, following promotion last season, struggled in Division 2 despite some good individual performances by Jon Lawrance and Amardip Ahluwalia. In the KO Cup, we reached the semi-finals.

Name	Pts		Prize
Ian Snape	5½	1st Place	£100
David Graham	5	2nd Place	£60
Peter Kemp	4½	3rd= (Albany Cup)	£30
Rasa Norinkeviciute	4½	3rd= (U180 Grading)	£30
Rowan Brown	4½	3rd= (Ungraded)	£30
Philip Foley	4	U160 Grading	£30
Martin Faulkner	4	U140 Grading	£30
Liam Backler	2	U120 Grading	£30
James West	2	U100 Grading	£30
Gerry Michaud	3½	Veteran	£30

RESULTS		Jul 14	Jan 15	TEAM TOTAL			
Player		Grade	Grade	Score	Plyd	%	Perf
Anthony	Gareth	203	199	1.5	3	50%	206
Kemp	Peter	200	202	7.0	10	70%	203
Elliston	Robert	181	184	3.0	5	60%	182
Fryer	David	169	180	2.0	6	33%	156
Lawrance	Jon	160	159	6.5	12	54%	168
Liu	David	158	165	0.0	2	0%	116
Michaud	Gerald	155	155	5.5	8	69%	184
Ahluwalia	Amardip	147	152	10.5	14	75%	179
Salmon	Graham	132	133	1.0	6	17%	107
Dunn	Chris	131	125	0.5	9	6%	94
Redman	Michael	125	133	1.0	3	33%	114
Campion	Caroline	114	113	3.0	9	33%	100
McCulloch	Gary	109	115	1.0	2	50%	126
Grant	Don	80	76	0.0	3	0%	70
Fryer	Kieron	65	65	0.0	1	0%	53
TOTAL				42.5	93	46%	150

OUR 4 internal Club Championship sections, at different time controls and grading restrictions, are currently ongoing but two lightning tournaments were completed, with success for Chris Dunn in the Winter Blitz while Peter Kemp and Jonathan Tuck shared first place in the Summer Blitz.



The Crowborough Junior Chess Club is going from strength to strength, with over 40 members regularly attending our club night which is a mixture of training and competitive games. Our junior members have achieved numerous successes over the season in Sussex, nationally and internationally.

The Junior Club internal champions were:

- The Crowborough Town Council Cup awarded at the Crowborough Grand Prix was won by Amardip Ahluwalia.
- Autumn Championship – Liam Scott
- Winter UK Chess Challenge – Oliver Manchester
- Spring Championship – Elena Currah
- Summer Championship – Grace Lamb

AS a junior club, we run a qualifying tournament for UK Chess Challenge and we had a marvellous representation in the Southern Giga-Final. Qualifying for the Giga-Final is a great achievement anything further is incredible.

A total of 50,000 children entered across the UK and only 2,000 reached the Giga Final. About 55 reach the Tera-Final and 120 the Challengers.

Section	Name		Pts	Qualification
Under 7 Boys A	Laurie	Kendall	2	
Under 7 Girls	Elena	Currah	5	Challengers
Under 8 Boys A	Suriya	Velayudham	4	Silver Plate
Under 8 Boys C	Corey	Little	3	
Under 8 Girls	Lauren	Manchester	4	Silver Plate
Under 8 Girls	Sophie	Rees	3	
Under 9 Boys A	Leo	Yu	5	Challengers
Under 9 Boys B	Liam	Scott	2½	
Under 9 Boys C	Dexter	Little	1	
Under 9 Boys C	Thomas	Martin	2	
Under 9 Girls	Sara	Enache	2½	
Under 10 Boys B	Thomas	Manchester	4	Silver Plate
Under 10 Boys C	Matthew	Liu	3½	Silver Plate
Under 10 Boys D	Oliver	Manchester	5	Challengers
Under 10 Boys D	Giovanni	Currah	3½	Silver Plate
Under 11 Boys A	Amardip	Ahluwalia	5½	Tera-final
Under 11 Boys B	Roland	Bourne	5	Challengers
Under 15 Boys	David	Liu	3½	Silver Plate

Good luck to all our players who have reached the Finals of the UK Chess Challenge.

David Fryer
Crowborough Secretary

East Grinstead

WE are a small friendly club which meets every Tuesday at the Age Concern building in East Grinstead.

At the start of the 2014 - 2015 season, we lost a few of our regular players but I am pleased to report that during the year new members were attracted and we were able to fulfil all our obligations for all league matches.

Our biggest change for the season was to re-introduce the internal chess league

lost 0; Total points 8pts; 4 Robert Dyke: won 5; drawn 1; lost 5; Total points 5.5pts; 5; Norman Hawkins: won 5; drawn 1; lost 0; Total points 5.5pts.

Where members gained the same points, then the order was decided by whoever played the most games, thereby

encouraging members to play as many games as possible. The competition worked well and encouraged new and old members to mix.

We are aware that we are still a small club and to encourage awareness we entered for the second year a Christmas Tree in the annual Christmas Tree Festival.

A friend made three giant chess pieces (Kings) and we entered under the name of We Three Kings. We did not win but it did get the chess club noticed. On the same theme we again took part in the Forest Row Twinning Fun Day and set up four boards to take on allcomers.

The weather was kind and at one stage we had all four boards in play and a group of youngsters from the local school watching on.

Again, we do not know whether we will get any new members but it is good to be seen out and about.

As always my thanks go to all my fellow chess players who have so actively supported the club throughout the year.

Bob Dyke, chairman



BRANCHING OUT: the club's entry in the Christmas Tree Festival

which is open to all ECF members, enabling more graded games to be played. This proved to be very popular and my thanks go to Norman Hawkins who did a splendid job on behalf of the club.

Fifteen members of the club took part, with the top places being: 1: Robert Fisher - won 10; drawn 1; lost 0; Total points 10.5pts; 2: Alan Smith - won 8; drawn 0; lost 4; Total points 8pts; 3: Ian Dennis: won 7; drawn 2;

Hastings

FOR the first time in almost 120 years, the Kent Championship Trophy has been wrested from the hands of Kent clubs.

Hastings & St Leonards, who started playing across the border some 15 years ago, reached their first Kent final earlier this month and returned home victorious after a nail-biting contest Hastings had won their regional league and had to face the winners of the 'metropolitan Kent' section.

Their opponents in the Dartford showdown were Beckenham & Bromley, described beforehand by non-playing captain Ray Brooks as a "a pretty tough bunch of hombres". But the Sussex team took them on and beat them, although it needed not just the primary but the secondary tie-break to split the match score of 3-3.

Brooks described almost all his team as playing aggressively and it worked! Individual scores: Francis Rayner loss, Bob Elliston draw, John Sugden win, Rasa Norinkeviciute win, Andrew Fleming draw, Mel Young loss.

Dr John Sugden is champion of the Club. The former Cambridge don and retired translator, now resident in Bexhill, took the

lead from the outset and finished on 6 points from 7 games.

Bernard Cafferty, doyen of the club, made a valiant effort to catch him but was thwarted in his final game by mid-table Welshman Paul Kelly, who battled Cafferty to a 67-move drawn game. Cafferty finished on 5½ points, with Jerry Anstead on 4 taking the bronze place.

The Pelton Cup, the club's second division contest, initially resulted in a four-way tie between Adrian Cload, Jeremy Hudson, Robert Smart and Mason Woodhams all on 6 points from 9 games. Cload went on to win a play off.

The third division Rush Cup was taken by Steve Oakman with a perfect 8 from 8, ahead of Batuhan Kaya 6 and Umberto Jozwiak 5½

Club member Jude Lenier represented Oxford University in the RAC Varsity Match; unfortunately he lost his own game although the dark blues tied the match 4-4 overall. Nineteen-year-old Lenier is a freshman at Brasenose College studying Politics Philosophy & Economics (David Cameron's old college and subject!)

Paul Buswell

Haywards Heath

THE Year-Book of Chess, 1913, states that Haywards Heath Chess Club meets at 8, Boltro Road, Haywards Heath, and that the club contact is F. Cheall at No.5.

Cheall's hairdresser's business is still going at No.5, and the club carries on too, although not in Boltro Road.

We have survived a season rendered awkward by unexpected accommodation difficulties. The 1st team hung on to a spot

in division 1 of the Mid-Sussex League (MSL), and the other teams fulfilled their purpose of spreading competitive playing experience throughout the club. We had a good run in the MSL Knockout competition, but stumbled in the final against Brighton & Hove, when this writer misplayed and lost a decent position against Callum Brewer, of whom more will doubtless be heard.

Feliks Kwiatkowski

Horsham

THE news of Amy Hoare's outstanding success at the 2014 British Chess Championships in Aberystwyth came just too late for inclusion in Sussex Chess News 2014.

As is widely known, Amy simultaneously won the British and English Ladies Championships and the British Under-21 Girls Championship.

She is pictured with the 1904 British Ladies Championship trophy at Horsham Chess Club's AGM on September 2, last year.

Horsham had another very exciting and busy season, with 40 active players participating in the Mid-Sussex Chess League and Sussex competitions. We also completed our usual set of varied internal competitions and, as detailed later, more of our members than ever before represented the county at the weekend.

The biggest change this year was the very active participation of so many



NATIONAL SUCCESS:
Amy Hoare

juniors in the main club, competing in the internal competitions and with five playing in club matches.

Every year they get stronger and stronger and this is a great testament to Anthony Higgs, and Mike Forster's efforts over the preceding years. The table (right) summarises the team's performance, with Horsham 4 providing the silverware for this season by winning Division 3.

Horsham 3 equalled the winner's score in Division 2, but finished second on tie-break. Horsham played 48 matches and 238 games across six teams in all four divisions and scored a very respectable 57% overall. Two players had outstanding seasons, with Julie Denning winning the tankard for the best individual performance in the league and Matthew Forster winning the tankard for the best performance in Division 2.

Horsham lost their opening matches in the Mid-Sussex League Knockout to Brighton and in the McArthur Cup to Hastings.

In the Paul Watson Cup, Horsham firstly beat Haywards Heath, before losing to Lewes in the final - a repeat of last year's final. I mentioned last year that it is a shame that these competitions are not better supported and I would like to repeat this comment. Other clubs please note!

Before I turn to the internal competitions, it may be of interest to note that Horsham Methodist Church, where Horsham Chess Club has met for the past 45

Team	Div	Place	Score
Horsham 1	1	3rd	7 / 9
Horsham 2	1	8th	2.5/9
Horsham 3	2	2nd	6.5 / 8
Horsham 4	3	1st	6/7
Horsham 5	3	5th	3.5/7
Horsham 6	4	3rd	5/8

years, held a Christmas Tree Festival over the weekend of December 20 and 21. A total of 32 trees (together with other seasonal decorations) were on display, mostly supplied and decorated, to reflect their activities, by church groups or outside organisations that use the premises.

Variety, imagination and creativity were the keynotes and the very successful festival raised more than £800 for the charity Action for Children. Horsham Chess Club's tree (pictured left) was among the entries particularly admired.

The club held the usual three all-play-all competitions, with Peter Harbott becoming club champion by winning the Rook. Nick Warren won the Bishop and Julie Denning continuing an excellent season by winning the Knight Tournament Cup. The club's Quickplay Competition features 15-minute games, with a Plate Competition for first round losers and this year produced an unusual situation where Mike Forster won the main Competition and his son,



**BRANCHING OUT:
Horsham's tree**

Matthew, won the Plate! This season, the annual ten-second Lightning Tournament needed four initial sections, to accommodate a record entry, for what is a fun but blunder-full evening, and Mike Forster was again in top form as the winner.

The Knockout Cup was won, for the second successive year, by Gavin Lock and the Plate by Paul Taylor.

Julie Denning won the Knight Cup for the highest match percentage, scoring 10/12. Zevon Rustom won the Peter Alford cup for the junior competition and lastly Peter Harbott won the informal end-of-season Invitational Competition.

Horsham representation in county matches produced record figures, when 24

members played 108 games with a plus score of 56.5 points. (Sussex scored 39% in the 18 matches involved.)

Notable Horsham scores were Paul Taylor 7/9; Bob Lanzer 4.5/6; Paul Richardson 5.5/8 (unbeaten) and Brian Howard 3.5/4).

John Cannon reached a record 500 county matches in November (played over a period of 63 years), which was reported on at the [Horsham Chess Club](#) and [SCCU](#) websites and in the magazine 'Chess'.

At the Hastings Congress, Chris Heath won the 39-player U150 Weekend Minor outright.

Ian Comley,
secretary

Worthing

A GOOD season for the club with the 1st team emerging as Mid-Sussex champions and going through the season unbeaten.

An added bonus was Dave Graham and Michael Nicholas sharing the best averages tankard for division 1 and Phil Crompton for division 4.

The juniors continue to excel, with George Neale and Dominic Miller achieving norms to get into the national junior squad and Dominic obtaining a chess scholarship at Brighton University.

The 3rd team narrowly missed automatic promotion with 3rd place in division 2 and the 4th team in division 4 came a very creditable 4th.

Unfortunately, our third team were defaulted a match point when captain Chris Boyes was taken into hospital. With all the other commitments we were unable to field a team and this now looks as if it has cost us

dearly with relegation into division 4 looming.

Internal results:

Club Championship, Dave Graham
Derrick Trophy, Phil Crompton
Knockout, Dave Graham

Knockout Plate, shared between Dave
Bradley and Darren Jones

Ladder Competition, Peter Larwood
Bernard Bruno Handicap Rapidplay, Chris
Jones

Ron Saunders Trophy (for performances
against higher opposition) Alec Hedger
Ron Saunders Handicap Rapidplay,, Alec
Hedger

Finally, Dave Graham and Chris Jones completed the season with the annual simultaneous and play 30 games, winning 25 and drawing five, much to our relief with so many improving juniors as opponents.

Chris Jones

Under 180

OUR first match was away to Essex. This was to prove a tough baptism for the new season. We were soundly beaten by 11.5-4.5, but we had two winning players in Paul Taylor and Paul Selby.

The next match was at home to Kent. This match was to be a 9-7 Sussex victory. Sussex winners were: Chris Lowe, Anthony Higgs, Paul Taylor, Laurence Butt, Tim Woods and Thomas Finn. A good turn- around following the defeat first up in the season.

The third match of the season was away to Middlesex. This we were to lose by 9.5-6.5. Sussex winners were: Paul Taylor, Callum Brewer, Michael Reddie, Robert Lanzer and John Cannon. A high number of winners. Did this mean we were perhaps destined for greater things? Possibly so.

Now on to the fourth and final SCCU fixture, against Surrey. The home venue is usually an advantage and this proved to be the case in this important match. Despite losing the toss, Sussex were to romp to victory by 9.5-6.5, thereby coming third in their section and qualifying for a place in the

ECF National stage. Sussex scored 29.5 game points and 2 match points during the Southern Counties Chess Union Season. Winners for Sussex on the day were: James Mansson, Tim Spanton, Mel Young, Laurence Butt, Alan Palmer, Cassie Graham and Arran Airlie.

For the first time during my captaincy, Sussex U180 were to play in the ECF National Stages. We had qualified by coming third in the Southern Counties Chess Union U180 section. We were drawn away to Warwickshire. After the announcements we settled down to play. Winners for Sussex were Paul Taylor and Timothy Woods. It was not to be our day and we lost 11.5-4.5. Our season was over, but we had actually reached and played in the National Stages this season. Well done to everyone and please keep it up for the coming season. Special thanks to John Cannon for help with equipment and setting up, also Shaun Brewer for his contacts with the junior players.

Paul Batchelor

Under 160

FOR the second year running, the Under 160 team got 2 match points from 4, this time by winning the home matches and losing the away ones.

However, we again just missed progressing to the nationals, despite being very competitive against all the other counties.

We were certainly very unlucky to play in London on a day of transport chaos which cost us a vital default game.

Nevertheless, I should like to thank all those who took part and congratulate the following for the best results: Robert Lanzer 3/3; Michael Harris 2.5/4; Paul Richardson and Chris Heath 2/3; Tim Pavlovic and Dona Strauss 2/4.

Paul Kington

	ESSEX	Oct 11, 2014	SUSSEX
1	Neil Carr 220 (B)	0 1	Brian Denman 203
2	David Sands 202	½ ½	Brian Donnelly 189
3	John Hodgson 198	½ ½	Peter Farr 189
4	Tim Hebbes 192	½ ½	Geoffrey James 187
5	David Spearman 189	½ ½	Martin Costley 185
6	Jeff Goldberg 184	0 1	Jaimie Wilson 184
7	Ian Reynolds 184	½ ½	David Roberts 182
8	John Moore 181	½ ½	Paul Batchelor 178
9	Kevin White 180	0 1	Adrian Pickersgill 178
10	Kevin Bowmer 179	1 0	James Mansson 170
11	John White 179	½ ½	Anthony Higgs 166
12	Ian Hunnable 173	0 1	Paul Taylor 166
13	Daniel Gallagher 172	0 1	Tim Spanton 165
14	Larry Marden 171	½ ½	Callum Brewer 163
15	Steven Rix 170	1 0	Alan Palmer 151
16	Philip Staniland 168	1 0	def
	<i>(Wanstead)</i>	7-9	

	SUSSEX	Nov 22, 2014	SURREY
1	Feliks Kwiatkowski 212 (W)	0 1	Steve Berry 220
2	Brian Denman 203	½ ½	Nigel Povah 212
3	Gareth Anthony 203	½ ½	Ian Sharpe 204
4	Bernard Cafferty 193	1 0	Roger Emerson 202
5	Peter Farr 189	0 1	Russell Granat 201
6	Jaimie Wilson 184	½ ½	Marcus Osborne 195
7	Martin Costley 185	½ ½	Ashkaya Kalaiyalahan 194
8	Ollie Willson 184	1 0	Alex Golding 181
9	Robert Fitzgerald 183	0 1	Julian Way 183
10	David Roberts 182	½ ½	Angus French 188
11	Robert Elliston 181	1 0	Alan Punnett 183
12	Paul Batchelor 178	0 1	Keith Richardson 175
13	Adrian Pickersgill 178	½ ½	Daniel Rosen 176
14	James Mansson 170	1 0	Julien Shepley 178
15	Anthony Higgs 166	½ ½	Philip Stimpson 170
16	Paul Taylor 166	1 0	Owen Phillips 170
	<i>(Hassocks)</i>	8½-7½	

	MIDDLESEX	Jan 17, 2015	SUSSEX
1	Richard Bates 230 (W)	1 0	Feliks Kwiatkowski 212
2	Jochem Snuverink 226	1 0	Brian Denman 203
3	Peter Batchelor 225	1 0	Mark Broom 203
4	Robert Eames 212	½ ½	Gareth Anthony 203
5	Andrew Stone 208	1 0	Peter Farr 189
6	Etan Ilfeld 199	½ ½	Jaimie Wilson 188
7	Colin Crouch 200	½ ½	Geoffrey James 187
8	Mark Davey 193	1 0	Martin Costley 185
9	Steven Coles 190	1 0	Ollie Willson 184
10	Peter Ackley 188	½ ½	David Roberts 182
11	Simon Spivack 200	1 0	Paul Batchelor 178
12	Andrew Gilfillan 185	0 1	Adrian Pickersgill 178
13	Guy Batchelor 180	½ ½	James Mansson 170
14	Ti Chen 175	½ ½	Anthony Higgs 166
15	Nevil Chan 177	0 1	Paul Taylor 166
16	Mateusz Dydak 169	1 0	Timothy Spanton 165
	<i>(Willesden)</i>	11-5	

	SUSSEX	March 7, 2015	KENT
1	Feliks Kwiatkowski 209 (B)	1 0	N McDonald 233
2	Brian Denman 204	½ ½	AJ Stebbings 219
3	Gareth Anthony 199	½ ½	MR Taylor 217
4	Mark Broom 197	0 1	PJ Morris 211
5	Bernard Cafferty 194	½ ½	AE Hanreck 215
6	Peter Farr 191	0 1	I Snape 199
7	Brian Donnelly 189	0 1	B Spink 198
8	Jaime Wilson 188	1 0	J Bayford 195
9	Geoffrey James 187	0 1	D Tucker 190
10	Martin Costley 185	½ ½	JN Briggs 189
11	David Roberts 185	0 1	JN Sugden 183
12	Robert Elliston 184	½ ½	JS Williams 180
13	Robert Fitzgerald 179	0 1	A Atkinson 179
14	James Mansson 174	1 0	J Anstead 177
15	Paul Batchelor 172	½ ½	DR Morris 165
16	Paul Taylor 171	0 1	RJ Everson 165
	<i>(Hassocks)</i>	6-10	

	ESSEX	Oct 25, 2014	SUSSEX
1	John White 179 (B)	½ ½	Paul Batchelor 178
2	Ian Hunnab 173	½ ½	Adrian Pickersgill 178
3	Larry Marden 171	½ ½	James Mansson 170
4	Vladimir Parols 171	0 1	Paul Taylor 166
5	Steven Rix 170	1 0	Mel Young 164
6	Colin Ramage 170	1 0	Callum Brewer 163
7	Philip Staniland 168	0 1	Paul Selby 161
8	Naomi Wei 163	½ ½	Tim Pavlovic 152
9	Terry Whitton 164	1 0	Alan Palmer 151
10	Ivor Smith 163	1 0	Mick Reddie 150
11	David Millward 163	½ ½	Tim Woods 149
12	Les Crane 161	1 0	L,John Cannon 146
13	Richard Weeber 158	1 0	Matthew Howell 130
14	Neville Twitchell 155	1 0	Oliver Howell 124
15	Mark Murrell 159	1 0	def
16	Paul Barclay 150	1 0	def
	<i>(Wanstead)</i>	11½-4½	

	SUSSEX	Nov 29, 2014	KENT
1	Paul Batchelor 178 (W)	½ ½	J Stuart Williams 179
2	Adrian Pickersgill 178	½ ½	John Sugden 177
3	Chris Lowe 175	1 0	David Morris 173
4	James Mansson 170	0 1	Jerry Anstead 173
5	Anthony Higgs 169	1 0	Trefor Owens 172
6	Paul Taylor 166	1 0	Peter Wood 171
7	Paul Selby 161	0 1	Syd Jacob 170
8	Laurence Butt	1 0	Ian McAllan 170
9	Alan Palmer 151	½ ½	Bob Everson 164
10	Mick Reddie 150	½ ½	Cos Charles 164
11	Tim Woods 149	1 0	Henry Cove 162
12	L,John Cannon 146	0 1	Vic Rumsey 161
13	Thomas Finn 146	1 0	Andy Waters 159
14	Bob Lanzer 143	½ ½	Peter Childs 154
15	Cassie Graham 133	½ ½	Mike Wiltshire 148
16	Daniel Finn 124	0 1	Paul Rutland 147
	<i>(Hassocks)</i>	9-7	

	MIDDLESEX	Feb 21, 2015	SUSSEX
1	Nevil Chan 179 (W)	½ ½	Adrian Pickersgill 177
2	D Ian Calvert 176	½ ½	James Mansson 174
3	Colin Mackenzie 175	1 0	Paul Batchelor 172
4	Andy Hayler 174	0 1	Paul Taylor 171
5	Robert Kane 173	1 0	Tim Spanton 168
6	Dydak Mateusz 170	0 1	Callum Brewer 166
7	V Ray Harper 168	0 1	Michael Reddie 153
8	George Dickson 167	0 1	Robert Lanzer 150
9	Leon Fincham 166	½ ½	Timothy Woods 146
10	David White 165	0 1	L John Cannon 142
11	Jonathan Kay 160	1 0	Mel Young 161
12	Christopher Kreuzer 167	1 0	def
13	Anthony Fulton 173	1 0	def
14	Paul Kennelly 156	1 0	def
15	Charles McAleenan 154	1 0	def
16	John Woolley 148	1 0	def
	<i>(Willesden)</i>	9½-6½	

	SUSSEX	March 14, 2015	SURREY
1	Adrian Pickersgill 178 (B)	0 1	Keith Richardson 177
2	James Mansson 174	1 0	Daniel Rosen 177
3	Paul Batchelor 172	½ ½	Ian Heppell 175
4	Paul Taylor 171	0 1	John Foley 178
5	Tim Spanton 168	1 0	Philip Stimpson 173
6	Callum Brewer 166	½ ½	Michael Singleton 171
7	Mel Young 161	1 0	Guilhem Denninger 170
8	Paul Selby 159	0 1	David Sedgwick 164
9	Laurence Butt 154	1 0	Nicholas Edwards 162
10	Mick Reddie 153	½ ½	Neil Maxwell 146
11	Amardip Ahluwalia 152	0 1	Ian Deswarte 161
12	Alan Palmer 151	1 0	Nigel White e159
13	Tim Woods 146	½ ½	Ken Inwood 154
14	L John Cannon 142	½ ½	H Trevor Jones 148
15	Cassie Graham 142	1 0	John McKenna 142
16	Arran Airlie 139	1 0	Barry Miles 119
	<i>(Hassocks)</i>	9½- 6½	

...UNDER 180

	WARWICKS	Semi-Final May 16, 2015	SUSSEX
1	Amrik Singh 178 176 (W)	1 0	James Mansson 170 174
2	Joshua Pink 178 176	1 0	Paul Batchelor 178 172
3	Simon Smith 175 172	0 1	Paul Taylor 166 171
4	Philip Bull 177 165	1 0	Callum Brewer 166 171
5	Anthony Green 173 175	½ ½	Mel Young 164 161
6	Mark Cundy 172 179	½ ½	Paul Selby 161 159
7	Keith Escott 171 171	½ ½	Tim Pavlovic 152 159
8	Francis Batchelor 171 168	½ ½	Alan Palmer 151 151
9	Richard Smith 169 175	1 0	Robert Lanzer 143 150
10	Martin Smyth 165 165	0 1	Timothy Woods 149 146
11	Anthony Sadler 165 160	1 0	W John Marshall 147 146
12	Thomas Robinson 160 170	1 0	L John Cannon 146 142
13	John Mildenhall 163 158	½ ½	Brian Izzard 136 133
14	Sean Ralph 164 164	1 0	def
15	Richard Reynolds 159 151	1 0	def
16	Robert Reynolds 154 151	1 0	def
		11½-4½	

Thank you for your contributions

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

Mick Plumb



	SUSSEX	Oct 11, 2014	SURREY
1	Paul Kington 154 (W)	1 0	Nick Grey 157
2	Tim Pavlovic 153	0 1	Chris Clegg 150
3	Michael Reddie 150	½ ½	H Trevor Jones 149
4	Timothy Woods 149	½ ½	Graham Wallis 145
5	Michael Harris 148	½ ½	John McKenna 142
6	W John Marshall 147	1 0	Edward Offer 137
7	L John Cannon 146	1 0	Adrian Waldock 136
8	Colin Parker 144	1 0	Marek Turowski 136
9	Robert Lanzer 143	0 1	Stephen Moss 136
10	Melusi Nkomo 138	½ ½	Nic Driver 131
11	Paul Richardson 138	0 1	Lamidi Evbuomwan 130
12	Brian Izzard 136	½ ½	Keith Buckley 128
13	Dona Strauss 135	1 0	David Charters 125
14	Keith Osborne 131	1 0	Richard Tillett 110
15	Lucy Bennet-Stevens 121	0 1	Julian Walker 109
16	Roger Waddingham 116	1 0	def
	<i>(Horsham)</i>	9½- 6½	

	MIDDLESEX	Nov 22, 2014	SUSSEX
1	Paul Kennelly 156 (B)	½ ½	Paul Kington 154
2	Bill Phillips 155	½ ½	Tim Pavlovic 153
3	Richard Thursby 155	0 1	Alan Palmer 151
4	Fraser Lees 154	½ ½	Michael Reddie 150
5	Peter Morton 153	½ ½	Timothy Woods 149
6	Russell Campbell 153	½ ½	Chris Heath 149
7	Roger Scowen 152	0 1	Michael Harris 148
8	Atreya Mandnikar 152	1 0	W John Marshall 147
9	Jagdeep Dhemrait 152	1 0	L John Cannon 146
10	Greg Breed 151	1 0	Colin Parker 144
11	Frank Zurstiege 151	0 1	Robert Lanzer 143
12	Mark Fountain 151	1 0	William Partridge 142
13	Ian Cross 147	1 0	Melusi Nkomo 138
14	Nigel Colter 146	½ ½	Brian Izzard 136
15	Jonathan Rubeck 145	0 1	Dona Strauss 135
16	John Woolley 141	1 0	def
	<i>(Willesden)</i>	9-7	

	SUSSEX	Jan 17, 2015	KENT
1	Paul Kington 154 (B)	½ ½	Dave Clear 159
2	Tim Pavlovic 153	½ ½	Chris Marshall 159
3	Alan Palmer 151	½ ½	Ian Hames 157
4	Michael Reddie 150	½ ½	Mark Houghton 157
5	Chris Heath 149	½ ½	Peter Childs 154
6	Timothy Woods 149	½ ½	Dave Barnes 153
7	Michael Harris 148	½ ½	Geoff Bishop 152
8	L John Cannon 146	½ ½	Roger Winterburn 152
9	Colin Parker 144	0 1	Mike Wood 150
10	Robert Lanzer 143	1 0	Bob Lane 149
11	Julie Denning (r) 117	½ ½	Mike Wiltshire 148
12	Paul Richardson 138	½ ½	Barry Beavis 148
13	Brian Izzard 136	0 1	Paul Rutland 147
14	Dona Strauss 135	½ ½	Gary Sharp 146
15	Don Banks 128	1 0	Simon Court 145
16	Lucy Bennet-Stevens 121	1 0	Robin East 142
	<i>(Horsham)</i>	8½- 7½	

	ESSEX	March 7, 2015	SUSSEX
1	Neville Twitchell 161 (W)	1 0	Tim Pavlovic 159
2	Richard Weeber 159	0 1	Chris Heath 153
3	Mark Murrell 158	1 0	Mike Reddie 153
4	John Davenport 155	½ ½	Daniel Brooks 153
5	Peter Laundry 155	½ ½	Paul Kington 152
6	Rod Johnson 153	1 0	Alan Palmer 151
7	Ken Clow 150	1 0	def
8	Malcolm Kingsley 149	½ ½	Timothy Woods 146
9	Paul Barclay 149	1 0	W John Marshall 146
10	David Smith 148	½ ½	Michael Harris 143
11	Ian Woodward 148	0 1	Paul Richardson 142
12	Josh Winiberg 147	½ ½	William Partridge 139
13	Ian Morgan 146	½ ½	Dona Strauss 138
14	Ken Groce 145	½ ½	Keith Osborne 132
15	Partha Mulay 144	0 1	Melusi Nkomo 130
16	Roland Johnson 141	1 0	Julie Denning 128
	<i>(Wanstead)</i>	9½-6½	

	ESSEX	Oct 25, 2014	SUSSEX
1	Keith Cook 139 (B)	0 1	Paul Richardson 138
2	Mark Ashley 136	1 0	Brian Izzard 136
3	Robert Davies 135	0 1	Dona Strauss 135
4	Niall Ali 134	1 0	Tony Hewitt 130
5	Devdoot Barman 133	½ ½	David Curtis 127
6	Mark Rivlin 130	0 1	Roland Rattray 126
7	Charlton Siddo 128	½ ½	Mark Baldock 124
8	Geoff Cooper 128	½ ½	Brian Howard 123
9	Ken Groce 126	0 1	David Simpkins 123
10	Peter Nickals 122	1 0	David Wallis 121
11	Kevin Sweeney 118	1 0	Andrew Mayer 121
12	Vladimir Chтым 115	1 0	David Britton 120
13	Trevor Dickerson 115	½ ½	Julie Denning 117
14	Howard Berlin 115	½ ½	Roger Waddingham 116
15	Herbie Alley 115	½ ½	Mark Hewitt 106
16	Atul Sooraj 66	1 0	Gary Whitmore 92
	<i>(Wanstead)</i>	9-7	

	SUSSEX	Nov 29, 2014	KENT
1	Paul Richardson 138 (B)	½ ½	Rob Thompson 137
2	Brian Izzard 136	½ ½	Andy Heard 136
3	Keith Osborne 131	0 1	Derek Davis 134
4	David Curtis 127	0 1	David Gilbert 132
5	Roland Rattray 126	0 1	Richard Bedwell 128
6	Mark Baldock 124	1 0	Michael Shahoud 127
7	Brian Howard 123	1 0	David Orr 127
8	David Simpkins 123	0 1	David Fowler 125
9	David Wallis 121	½ ½	Alan Sherriff 125
10	Andrew Mayer 121	1 0	Hugh Tassell 125
11	Lucy Bennet-Stevens 121	0 1	Paul Arnold 125
12	David Britton 120	½ ½	Graham Hillman 124
13	Julie Denning 117	½ ½	Kartik Velayudham 123
14	Roger Waddingham 116	0 1	Jerry Pol 121
15	Paul Northcott 115	½ ½	Sunil Parthiban 120
16	Gary Whitmore 92	0 1	Tyrone Jefferies 119
	<i>(Horsham)</i>	6-10	

	SURREY	Jan 10, 2015	SUSSEX
1	Peter Lawrence 138 (B)	½ ½	Paul Richardson 138
2	Graham Andrews 137	1 0	Michael Plumb 132
3	Adrian Waldoock 136	½ ½	Keith Osborne 131
4	Victoria Sit 133	0 1	David Curtis 127
5	Nigel White 132	1 0	Roland Rattray 126
6	Selvarattinam Gengadharan 132	0 1	Brian Howard 123
7	Lamidi Evbuomwan 130	1 0	David Simpkins 123
8	John Davis 128	½ ½	David Wallis 121
9	Michael Gunn 126	1 0	Andrew Mayer 121
10	David Charters 125	½ ½	Lucy Bennet-Stevens 121
11	Ken Chamberlain 121	0 1	David Britton 120
12	Barry Miles 121	½ ½	Julie Denning 117
13	Richard Tillett 110	1 0	Roger Waddingham 116
14	Robin Lee 107	1 0	Peter Helliwell 104
15	Michael Bolan 107	½ ½	Mike Spence 100
16	David Howes 102	0 1	Gary Whitmore 92
	<i>(Ashstead)</i>	9-7	

	SUSSEX	Jan 24, 2015	HERTS
1	Paul Richardson 138 (B)	½ ½	Alan Gore 137
2	Brian Izzard 136	1 0	Peter Seeley 136
3	Dona Strauss 135	0 1	Keith Woodhouse 135
4	Keith Osborne 131	1 0	Terry Douse 134
5	David Curtis 127	0 1	Michael Flatt 134
6	Roland Rattray 126	1 0	Chris Russell 134
7	Mark Baldock 124	1 0	Corinne Mountford 130
8	Brian Howard 123	1 0	Austin McMahon 128
9	David Simpkins 123	0 1	Ed Magee 128
10	David Wallis 121	0 1	Paul Laskier 126
11	Andrew mayer 121	½ ½	Simon Cage 121
12	Lucy Bennet-Stevens 121	½ ½	John Leake 119
13	David Britton 120	0 1	Terry O'Sullivan 115
14	Julie Denning 117	½ ½	Roger Kearns 114
15	Paul Northcott 115	1 0	Peter Dunks 113
16	David Bennett 88	1 0	def
	<i>(Horsham)</i>	9-7	

	MIDDLESEX	March 14, 2015	SUSSEX
1	def (W)	0 1	Paul Richardson 138
2	Michael Price 135	0 1	Dona Strauss 135
3	Peter Hawran 134	½ ½	David Curtis 127
4	Martin Leanse 134	½ ½	Roland Rattray 126
5	Peter Grant-Ross 134	1 0	Mark Baldock 124
6	Steve Sonnis 133	1 0	David Wallis 121
7	Gerald Parfett 128	½ ½	Andrew Mayer 121
8	Cormac O'Caolaidhe 128	½ ½	Julie Denning 117
9	John Harvey 125	0 1	Roger Waddingham 116
10	Martin Leman 120	½ ½	Peter Helliwell 104
11	Mark Huba 118	0 1	Mike Spence 100
12	Brian Foster 112	½ ½	David Bennett 88
13	Timothy Crouch 137	1 0	def
14	Joseph Farrell 128	1 0	def
15	Robert Mumford 124	1 0	def
16	Peter Pickering 124	1 0	def
	<i>(Willesden)</i>	9-7	

Red letter day as we enjoy a lucky escape

James Mansson, Sussex Correspondence Chess captain tells of mid-table hope after relegation drama



CORRESPONDENCE...

ALTHOUGH I was pessimistic about our chances in last year's Ward-Higgs competition (2013-14), we managed to escape relegation by the skin of our teeth.

We were in a four-way tie for last, with two teams due to be relegated. However,

there was some confusion as to the tie-break rules, so the TD decided not to relegate any of them, but increase the division size by two for the following season.

The final results for the team were:

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	1	0	Terry Hart
6	Joe Sharp	0	0	John Carleton
7	David Fryer	0	0	Matthew Piper
8	Ralph Mansson	1	1	Michael Dyer

“Joe Sharp was unfortunate to drop a board... and then face another really strong opponent!”

Most of the games have been completed in this year’s competition (2014-15). Although things are still not entirely clear, it

looks like Sussex will finish in a comfortable mid-table position. The current results for the team are:

Board	Sussex Player	White	Black	Opponent
1	James Mansson	In play	0	Philip Barber
2	Leslie Eastoe	1	1	William Hewitt
3	Bob Elliston	0.5	0	Neil Carr
4	Tim Spanton	1	1	Arthur Reed
5	Paul Batchelor	1	0.5	Ihor Lewyk
6	Ralph Mansson	In play	In play	Matthew Piper
7	Joe Sharp	0	0	Alan Sutton
8	David Fryer	0.5	In play	Michael Squires

...CORRESPONDENCE

Joe Sharp was unfortunate to drop a board...and then face another really strong opponent! Special congratulations to Tim Spanton on a couple of quick wins and also to Leslie Eastoe for his 2-0 score on board two.

We also entered a team of four (James Mansson, Tim Spanton, Paul Batchelor and David Fryer) in the second edition of the British Webserver Team Tournament. Playing this year in division two, we secured promotion by finishing second, and have just started play in the division one in the third edition.



W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B: Brian Denman.

**Sussex County Championship final,
Game 1, April 18 and May 9. Hove.
Sicilian Defence.**

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 e6; 3.d4 cd; 4.Nxd4 Nf6;
5.Nc3 d6; 6.g4 Nc6; 7.g5 Nd7; 8.Be3 a6;
9.Rg1 Nd7e5; 10.Rg3 b5. [I had chosen the
sharp g4 line to counter Black's usual
Scheveningen variation. Black comes out
aggressively with his pieces and I go wrong
very quickly.] 11.Nxc6 Nxc6; 12.a3 [I felt
I stood badly already and that 11.f4 may have
kept the game level.] 12. ... Rb8. [Qa5 may
have been even stronger.] 13.Qd2 Be7; 14.Bg2
Qa5; 15.Rb1 b4; 16.ab Rxb4; 17.b3 0-0;
18.Na4 Qc7; [My computer favoured
running the King to f1 and g1 from move 17,
and it thinks Black could now have played
18. ... e5; with a small plus. 18. ... Qxa4 gives
interesting play, but obviously it was too
unclear for Black to contemplate.] 19.Rd1
Rd8; 20.Kf1 d5!?!; [Black decides to open the
centre before White is fully co-ordinated.
Whatever the objective soundness of the
move, it has serious psychological force.] 21.
ed ed; 22.Qc3 [Black gets too much play
after 22.Bxd5 Be6; or even 22. ... Nd4.] 22. ...
Be6. [My computer likes both ... d4 and ...
Rb5 here, with advantage to Black in either
case.] 23.Bc5!?! [The computer prefers
Nc5 but assesses it as only equal.] 23. ... Rb7;
[23. ... d4; 24.Qa1] 24.Bxe7 Nxe7; 25.Nc5
Rc8; 26.b4 Rb6; 27.Qe1? Qf4!; [Each side
was under time pressure here.] 28.Nxe6 Rxe6;
[Black looks better, and 28. ... fe may be even
stronger.] 29.Qd2 Qc4+; 30.Rd3 [Black is
better, and any sensible move would have kept
a small plus.] 30. ... Qxc2?; 31.Bh3 Qxd2;
32.R3xd2 Rb8; 33. Bxe6 fe; 34.Rb1? [In
bad time trouble I went passive. 34.Ra2 looks
better.] 34. ... Nc6; 35.R2b2 Rb5; 36.Ke2 e5;
37.h4 Kf7; 38.Ke3 Ke6; 39.Kf3 Kf5; 40.Kg3
e4. [Time trouble was over and I sealed a
move.] 41.Ra1 [This sacrifices a pawn for
lots of activity. You will see, for instance, that
after 41. ... a5; 42.Rc2 ... ; White penetrates to
c7. However, I was fed up with the position

and immediately offered a draw on
resumption. Black accepted as he thought he
was a little worse.] $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$.

**W: Brian Denman. B: F. J.
Kwiatkowski.**

**Sussex County Championship final,
Game 2, June 14 and 20. Haywards
Heath. Queen's Indian Defence.**

1.d4 Nf6; 2.c4 e6; 3.Nf3 b6; 4.a3 Ba6;
5.Qc2 Bb7; 6.Nc3 c5; 7.e3 ... ; [To show just
how raggedly I have been playing, my next
move is a mistake. The approved method is
7. ... Be7. That is because 8.d5 ed; 9.cd Nxd5;
10.Qe4 f5 is fine for Black. I had overlooked
the f-pawn push.] 7. ... Bxf3; 8.gf cd; 9.ed
Nc6; 10.Be3 [White might have tried
10.d5. ... ; but ... Nd4 looks adequate.] 10. ...
Rc8; 11.Bd3 g6; [Black must now be much
better.] 12.Rd1 Bg7; 13.Qe2 0-0; 14.f4 Nh5;
15.Be4 Qh4; 16.Nb5 f5; [Just ... Nxf4 was
simplest.] 17.Bxc6 dc; 18.Nd6 Rc7; [I had
played to isolate the knight deliberately.] 19.c5
b5; 20.a4 a6; 21.ab ab; 22.Bc1 Kh8; 23.Qe3
Nf6; 24.Qg3 Qh5; 25.f3 Nd5; 26.0-0 Bf6!?!;
[Black could just take the a-file. Each side was
under time pressure.] 27.Qe1 Re7; 28.Qg3
Qh6; 29.h3 Qh4?!; [29. ... Ra8 with a large
plus.] 30.Qxh4 Bxh4; 31.Kg2 Rd7. [31. ...
Ra7!] 32.Rd3 Kg7; 33.Ra3 Be7; 34.Ra6
Bxd6; 35.cd Rxd6; 36.Bd2 Rc8; 37.Rc1 Kf7
38.Ra7+ Rc7; 39.Ra8 R[6]d7; 40.Ra6 Rd6;
41.Kg3 [Time trouble was now over and
Black sealed a move.] 41. ... Nf6; 42.Be3 h6;
43.h4 Nd5; 44.Bd2 Ne7; 45.Be3 Rd6-d7;
46.Rc2 Rc8; 47.Kf2 Rb7; 48.b3 Ke8; 49.Rc1
Kd7; [I just could not find a clear plan, so
simply manoeuvred. White was doing the
same, and waiting for opportunities.] 50.Bd2
Nd5; 51.Rg1 Rg8; 52.Rc1 Rc7; 53.Ba5
[Here is indeed an opportunity, for I had
totally miscalculated this position.] 53. ...
Nxf4; 54.Bxc7 Nd3+; 55.Ke3 Nxc1; 56.Be5
Nxb3; 57.Ra7+ Ke8; 58.Ra8+ [The
bishop has turned into a monster. Here the
parties agreed a draw. White may even have
tried his luck by chasing the knight with Ra3
ideas, but he was pleased to have escaped a
lost game.] $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$.

W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. B: Brian Denman. Sussex County Championship final ,game 3, July 5, Haywards Heath.

Sicilian Defence, Scheveningen

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 d6 6.g3 Nc6 7.Bg2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Bd7 10.a4 Ne5 11.Ndb5 a6 12.Na3 Qc7 13.Qe2 Bc6 14.Rfd1 Rac8 15.h3 Rfe8 16.f4 Ng6 17.Qf2 Nd7 18.a5 Qxa5 19.Nab5 Qd8 20.Nxd6 Bxd6 21.Rxd6 Qc7 22.Rad1 Ngf8 23.R6d2 f6 24.Ne2 e5 25.f5 b5 26.Nc3 b4 27.Nd5 Bxd5 28.exd5 Qd6 29.Ra1 Rc7 30.Bf1 Nb8 31.Bb6 Rcc8 32.Ba7 Nfd7 33.Ra5 e4 34.Qf4 Ne5 35.Rf2 Qc7 36.Bxb8 Qxa5 37.Bxe5 Rxe5 38.b3 Rc3 39.Bc4 Qb6 40.Kg2 e3 41.Re2 a5 42.d6+ [sealed: resumed 19th July 2015.] Kf8 43.Qf3 Rxc4 44.bxc4 Qxd6 45.Qa8+ Kf7 46.Qa7+ Qe7 47.Qd4 Qc5 48.Qd7+ Re7 49.Qd3 a4 50.g4 a3 51.Qb3 Re4 52.c3 Qxc4 53.Qxc4+ Rxc4 54.cxb4 Rxb4 55.Kf3 Rb2 56.Rxe3 a2 57.Ra3 Rb3+ 58.Rxb3 a1 Q 59.Rb7+ Kf8 60.Rb8+ Ke7 61.Rb7+ Kd6 62.Rxg7 Qc3+ 63.Kg2 Ke5 64.Rxh7 Kf4. White resigns. 0-1.

W: Brian Denman. B: F. J. Kwiatkowski.

Sussex County Championship final game 4, July 26, Haywards Heath.

Sicilian Defence, Sveshnikov Variation.

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 e5 6.Ndb5 d6 7.Bg5 a6 8.Na3 b5 9.Bxf6 gxf6 10.Nd5 f5 11.Bd3 Be6 12.Nxb5? axb5 13.Bxb5 Rc8 14.c3 fxe4 15.0-0 Bg7?! 16.Nb4 Bd7 17.Qxd6 Qe7 18.Rad1 Qxd6 19.Rxd6 Nb8 20.Rxd7 Nxd7 21.Rd1 Rc7 22.Na6 Rb7 23.Bc6 Rxb2 24.Bxd7+ Ke7 25.Nb4 e3 26.fxe3 Bh6 27.Nc6+ Kf8 28.Nxe5 Bxe3+ 29.Kh1

Rxa2 30.Bb5 Kg7 31.g3 Rha8 32.Bc4 Ra1 33.Rxa1 Rxa1+ 34.Kg2 f6 35.Ng4 Bd2 36.Kf3 Bxc3 37.Ne3 Ra4 38.g4 Be5 39.h4 Rb4 40.Ke4 Bb2 41.Kd5 Bc1 42.Nf5+ Kf8 43.h5 Rb2 44.Ke6 Bg5 45.Nd6 Rb6 46.Kd5 Bf4 47.Nf5 Rb2 48.Ke6 Rc2 49.Bd5 Bg5 50.Nd6 Re2+ Sealed: resumed on 2nd August 2015.

51.Ne4 Re1 52.Kd7 Rg1 53.Nc5 Kg7 54.Bf3 Rg3 55.Be2 Rg2 56.Bf3 Rf2 57.Be4 Rd2+ 58.Ke6 Re2 59.Kd7 Rd2+ 60.Ke6 Rd1 61.Bf5 Bf4 62.Ne4 h6 63.Ke7 Be5 64.Bg6 Rd4 65.Bf5 Rc4 66.Ke8 Rc6 67.Bd7 Rc4 68.Bf5 Rc7 69.Bd7 Ra7 70.Bf5 Ra8+ 71.Ke7 Bb2 72.Bg6 Ba3+ 73.Kd7 Ra7+ 74.Ke8 Ra8+ 75.Kd7 Ra7+ 76.Ke8 Re7+ 77.Kd8 Re5 78.Kd7 Bb4 79.Ng3 Bd2 80.Ne4 Bf4 81.Bf5 Bg5 82.Kd6 Bf4 83.Kd7 Bh2 84.Bg6 Bf4 85.Bf5 Bc1 86.Bg6 Bb2 87.Kd6 Ba3+ 88.Kd7 Re7+ 89.Kd8 Ra7. White announced his intention of playing 90.Ke8 ...; and successfully claimed a draw by three-fold repetition. 1/2-1/2.

I played each of these games in a complete mental fog. Overall in the match, in four games I had one game where I attained a superior position and three games which were won, and failed to win even once. This repeated a pattern that for some reason had set in over the past season.

Feliks Kwiatkowski

One interesting point concerns the oldest ever county champion. I am aware that the oldest player to win the title was Ernest Reed (a Brighton player) in 1938, when he was aged 69. Next is Bernard Cafferty aged 68 by winning the competition in 2003. I am now 67, but I doubt that I shall be attempting to break the record.

Brian Denman

W: Richard Bates, I.M. [Middlesex] B: F. J. Kwiatkowski. [Sussex].

Board 1/16, County match, January 17 at Willesden.

Modern Benoni Defence.

This whole season was characterised by almost everything going wrong that could conceivably go wrong, not just on the board itself, but also in the travel and physical arrangements for club, county and personal fixtures. The fruits were a chain of zeros and halves from positions that were once superior or even winning. This game is exceptional in that at least I was outplayed properly.

1.d4 Nf6; 2.Nf3 e6; 3.c4 c5; 4.d5 d6; 5.Nc3 ed; 6.cd g6; 7.h3 Bg7; 8.e4 0-0; 9.Bd3 a6; 10.0-0 b5. [We have reached a standard position in the Modern Classical variation. Practice shows that it is equally valid for White to play both 10.0-0 ... , permitting the advance ... b5; and 10.a4 ... , restraining the advance.] 11.Bf4 Bb7? [Black goes wrong already. The idea was to connect the rooks and double them on the e-file as soon as possible. However, moving the bishop at once leaves no pressure on the e-pawn, permitting White to develop smoothly and to bring his QR into the attack easily. Therefore, 11. ... Re8 was needed, stopping the immediate deployment of the Q to d2, because of the threat to the e-pawn.] 12.Qd2 Re8; 13.Rae1 Qb6; 14.Bh6 Nbd7; 15.Bxg7 Kxg7. [Now Black's king is minus a key defender, but had I tried 14. ... Bh8, then Bates could have swung the Q to g5 and continued the attack.] 16.Re3 Re7; 17.Ne2 Rae8 18.Ng3 [Bates has, in the words of John Nunn, "brought all his pieces to the party". The K-side attack has got to be faster than anything that Black can whip up on the Q-side.] 18. ... a5; 19.Nh4 c4; 20.Bb1 Re5; 21.Kh1 Nc5; 22.R1e1 Qd8; 23.Nf3 R5e7; 24.Nd4 Qb6. [Now Bates finishes me off with a brilliant sacrificial attack.] 25.Ngf5+! gf; 26.Rg3+ Kh8; 27.Qh6 Nh5; 28.Qxh5 Nxe4; 29.Rxe4! fe; 30.Rg7!! Kxg7; 31.Qg5+ Kf8; 32.Nf5 f6; 33.Qxf6+ ...

Black resigns. 1-0.

W: F. J. Kwiatkowski. [Haywards Heath]

B: Callum Brewer. [Brighton & Hove].

Mid-Sussex League Knockout Competition, Final; Board 1. May 14, Hove.

Caro-Kann Defence.

1.e4 c6; 2.d4 d5; 3.Nc3 de; 4.Nxe4 Nd7; [This is the Smyslov system – perfectly reasonable.] 5.Bc4 [The modern line is to play Ng5 at once, and follow up with Bd3] 5. ... e6; 6.Ng5 e6; 7.Qe2 Nb6; 8.Bd3 Be7?!; [It is normal to play 8. ... h6; 9.N5f3 c5.] 9.N1f3 0-0; 10.0-0 h6; 11.Ne4 Nbd5; 12.Nxf6+ Nxf6; 13.c3 [White has emerged with only a small advantage, despite Black having played an inferior line.] 13. ... b6; [13. ... c5; was probably a better move.] 14.Bf4 Bb7. [There is nothing wrong with completing development, but White might have done better to play Ne5, to be followed by Qf3 and Qg3.] 15.Rad1 Qc8; 16.c4 Rd8; [16.Be5 ... ; and 16.Ne5 ... ; fell into consideration.] 17.Bb1 Ba6; 18.b3 c5; 19.Be5 [By this stage, I felt I had no advantage. Black can achieve easy equality simply by dropping the bishop back to b7.] 19. ... cd; 20.Nxd4 Qc5; [Black's last is very provocative, and again Bb7 was an easier path. By this point, each side was in real time trouble.] 21.Rfe1 Rac8; [21. ... Bb7; 21. ... Rd7!?] 22.Qc2 g6; [White was trying to line up an attack on h7. By moving another pawn in front of the king, Black opens up the possibility of a White piece sacrifice. Unfortunately, these take time to calculate.] 23.a4? [23.Nxe6 Rxd1; 24.Qxd1 fe; 25.Qd3 gives a vicious attack.] 23. ... Bb7?!; [This was a sensible time trouble move, but 23. ... Ng4 would have been awkward to meet.] 24.f3? Rd7. [24. ... Nd7!] 25.Kh1 R8d8; 26.Bxf6? Bxf6; [White's capture is immediate suicide, but 27.Qc3 Nd5 is superior for Black.] 27.Nb5 Qe5!; [27. ... Qb4 achieves the same aim.] 28.Rf1 [28.Nxa7 Rd2;] 28. ... Rxd1+; 29.Rxd1 Rxd1+; 30.Qxd1 a6; 31.Na3? [31.Nd6 ... ; keeps the game alive, but Black is still much better.] 31. ... Qb2; [Total domination.] 32.Nc2 Qxb3; 33.Qf1 Bc6; 34.h3 Bxa4; 35.Kh2 Bc6; 36.Qc1 Qxc4; 37.Qxh6 Be5+ 38.Kg1 Bf4; White resigns. 0-1.

W: Neil McDonald, International Grandmaster. [Kent] B: F. J. Kwiatkowski, [Sussex]. County Match, Board 1/16. March 7 at Hassocks. Sicilian Defence.

[Much of the action occurred off the board. The United Reformed Church Hall, where county matches are played, is just a few yards from the Hassocks Pet Centre. The Centre hosts a large number of cats, as roaming residents, not stock. I took the opportunity to make a visit before the match, and treated myself to the agreeable company and attentions of well over a dozen felines. I turned up at the Hall thoroughly stoked up. While a loss for McDonald was by no means inevitable, whoever I was to play was always in for a hard time.]

1.e4 c5; 2.Nf3 Nc6; 3.g3 d5; [What's going on? White had written a book on the King's Indian Attack and I suspect he was trying to play into it. Black must play the bold d-pawn push to avoid it.] 4.ed Qxd5; 5.Nc3 Qe6+; 6.Be2 [Obviously White did not want this position, but did not want to concede an endgame after 6.Qe2] 6. ... Nd4; 7. Nxd4 cd; 8.Nb5 Qc6; 9.f3 e5; 10.c3 [10.Bd3 has been played in this position, when White is not much worse.] 10. ... a6; 11.a4 Bf5; 12.Na3 d3; 13.Bf1 e4; 14.Bg2 Nf6; 15.b4 ef; 16.Qxf3 Be4; 17.Qe3 Be7; 18.Bxe4 Nxe4; 19.Rf1 ... ; [White chickens out of 0-0, which admittedly had its disadvantages long-term, and his fate must theoretically be sealed. The only issue is whether Black can keep his nerve. After the move played, my computer suggests the cold-blooded 19. ... Nxc3. I was short of time, and wanted simply to complete my development. I was happy to let the d-pawn go, because it blocked my own pieces from getting at the back of the enemy position.] 19. ... 0-0; 20.Qxd3 Rad8; 21.Qc4 Qg6; [At this point,

White had used about 50 minutes and Black had used 90. The time control was 35 moves in 105 minutes, then a 30-minute quickplay. The idea of ... Qg6 was to stop the king reaching c2.] 22.Nb1 Bf6; [White hunkers down and hopes that Black will self-destruct.] 23. Kd1 Rc8; 24.Qe2 Rfd8; 25.Ra3 Nxc3+; 26.Nxc3 Bxc3; 27.Ra2 Qb1; 28.Rc2 Bxb4; White resigned. 0-1.

Notes by F. J. Kwiatkowski

**McArthur Cup Hastings v Horsham, February 17, 2015
White I.S.Comley (Horsham) v
J.N.Sugden, board 6**

1.c4 g6; 2.g3 Bg7; 3.Bg2 e5; 4.Nc3 d6; 5.e4 Ne7; 6.Nge2 Nbc6; 7.0-0 0-0; 8.d3 Be6; 9.Nd5 Qd7 (the downside of this move is that it allows a tactic based on Nf6); 10.Bh6 f5; 11.Bxg7 Kxg7; 12.f4 (restraining the f P's advance); Rae8 13.Qd2 fxe4 14.dxe4 Bg4 15.f5 (this creates significant problems for B)... Bxe2?!; 16.f6+ Kh8 (B has no choice for a few moves); 17.fxe7 Rxf1+; 18.Bxf1 Bh5 (this prevents a WQ on h6 from protecting a B on h3); 19.Qh6 (this wins, but even better was Qf2, which I failed to find over the board i.e. 19.Qf2 Nxe7 20.Qf7 Rg8 21.Nxe7 Qe8 22.Qxg8+ Qxg8 23.Nxg8 Kxg8) 19...Nxe7; now if W plays 20 Nf6 Ng8! creates problems, with the Q preventing mate on h7 and countering 21 Nxd7 with ... Nxh6, so W continued with 20.Bh3 Qxh3; 21.Nf6 Bg4; 22.Qxh3 Bxh3; 23.Nxe8 (now W reaches a better endgame the exchange up) ... Kg8; 24.Nxc7 Kf7; 25.Rd1 Nc8; 26.Kf2 Ke7; 27.Kf3 h5 (preventing g4 but weakening g6); 28.Ke3 Kd7; 29.Nb5 Ke7; 30.b3 a6; 31.Nc7 Kd7; 32.Nd5 Na7 (almost balancing the position, but it fails to a tactic); 33.c5 Nc8; 34.Nb6+ Nxb6; 35.Rxd6+ 1-0

Notes by Ian Comley

A.R.J. Higgs - P.N. Kington
Horsham Club Championship
 2014-15

Notes by Anthony Higgs

AN interesting game that could have ended with two different double checkmates from four separate pieces...

1.d4 f5 2.Qd3!? [My opponent is well-known as a very solid player, and before this game had played seven games in the championship and drawn every single one! Something sharp was called for and the Manhattan Gambit seemed to fit the bill...]
2...e6 3.g4 fxg4 4.h3 g3 [The most practical way to proceed. 4...gxh3 5.Nxh3 can be very dangerous for Black.] **5.Qxg3 Nf6 6.Nc3 Nc6 7.Be3!?** [7.e3 Nb4! is awkward for White. The move played ensures the retention of the light-squared bishop.] **7...g6 8.O-O-O Bd6 9.Qg2 O-O** [A brave decision. The computer thinks this is fine, but from a practical point of view White's moves flow naturally from this point.] **10.Bh6 Re8 11.e4 Nh5 12.e5 Bf8 13.Bg5 Be7 14.h4 d5 15.exd6 cxd6 16.Nh3 d5?** [This creates too many dark-squared weaknesses in Black's position. White's kingside, which was doing nothing until recently, suddenly leaps into action.] **17.Be2 Ng7 18.h5!** [I only gave this about 20 seconds' thought. It simply must be the best move here.] **18...e5 19.Bxe7 Bxh3 20.Qxh3 Qxe7 21.Nxd5** [21.hxg6 is also

very strong. The move played allows me to introduce new pieces to the attack.] **21... Qg5+ 22.Kb1 exd4 23.Bc4 Kh8 24.hxg6 h5** [A sad necessity. 24...Qxg6? 25.Nf4 Qf5 26.Qxh7+! Qxh7 27.Ng6 is mate.] **25.Rdg1 Qe5 26.f4 Qd6**

[Time for an attractive finish...]



27.Qxh5+! Nxh5 28.Rxh5+ [A slight blemish. 28.g7+ Kh7 (or 28...Kg8 29. Nf6 double checkmate!) 29.Rxh5+ Qh6 30.Nf6 mate is much quicker.] **28...Kg7** [There are many ways to win after 28...Kg8 but the most attractive line found by the computer is 29.Nf6+ Kf8 30.g7+ Ke7 31.g8=Q Rxc8 32.Rh7+ Rg7 33.Rxc8+ Kxf6 34.Rf7+ Kg6 35.Bd3 mate with a very pretty final position.] **29.Rh7+** [After 29...Kf8 30.g7+ Kf7 31.g8(Q) is double checkmate, amusingly with two different pieces from the bishop and knight that could also have given double checkmate in the earlier variation!]
1-0

O. Froom – G.R. Lock
Mid-Sussex League Div 1,
Horsham 1 v Eastbourne 1, Board 1
Notes by Gavin Lock

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3 dxe4 4.fxe4 e5 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Bc4 Nd7 7.O-O Ngf6 8.c3 Bd6 9.Qb3 [The critical move, hitting b7 and f7, though its not without some risk. White can also play more naturally with 9.Bg5 O-O 10.Nbd2 Qc7 11.Qe1] **9...O-O 10.Qxb7 11.gxf3 exd4 12.cxd4**



Nxe4!? [A completely sound sacrifice to exploit the open kingside. White must now defend accurately.] **13.fxe4 Qh4 14.Rf2** [14.Rxf7 is another alternative, 14...Qxh2+ 15.Kf1 Rxf7+ 16.Bxf7+ Kxf7 17.Qxa8 Qh1+ 18.Ke2 Qxe4+ 19.Kd1 Qg4+ 20.Kc2 Qe4+ 21.Kd1 Qg4+ is a

draw.] **14...Qg4+ 15.Rg2** [15.Kh1 Qxe4+ just drops an important central pawn. The safer 15. Kf1 Qd1+ 16. Kg2 Qg4+ 17. Kf1 Qd1+ 18. Kg2 is a draw.] **15...Qd1+ 16.Bf1 Qxc1 17.Qxd7 Bf4!** [The most accurate move that creates the dual threat of ...Rad8 and ...Be3+. White remains a piece up but his entire queenside is paralysed and the king's dark squares are very weak.] **18. Re2?!** [This natural move creates further problems for White. 18.Qf5 defending the bishop is more tenacious as well as getting away from the d-file so that ...Rad8 doesn't come with tempo, e.g. 18...g6 19.Qf6 Rad8 20.Re2 Be3+ 21.Rxe3 Qxe3+ 22.Qf2 Qxe4 23.Nd2 Qxd4 =+] **18...Be3+ 19.Kg2 Rad8 20.Qh3** [20.Qf5 defending the bishop is again the strongest defence, though White's position can no longer be defended in any case: 20...Bxd4 21.e5 g6 22.Qc2 Qg5+ 23.Kf3 f6 and the white king will soon be mated.] **20...Bxd4 21.Qb3** [Defending b2 is the most natural, though Black's next wins the game cleanly.] **21...Rd6 22.Nd2 Qxa1 23.Qf3 Rg6+ 24.Kh3** [24.Kh1 Rg1#] **24...Qxa2 25.Nb3 c5 26.Nxd4 cxd4 27.Qf5 Qb3+ 28.Kh4 Rf6 29.Qh3 Rh6+** [and White resigns, an amazing game!] **0-1**

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Peter Kemp
SCCA
Treasurer

PATRONS

To SCCA Treasurer P.D.Kemp

From Name (Block capitals).....

Address.....

.....

.....

I enclose my Patron's fee for 2015-16 of £.....

Signature.....

Email address (for confirmation of receipt)

Cheques should be payable to "Sussex County Chess Association".
Receipts will be issued by email or by post on receipt of a SAE

President	Robert Elliston	Cherry Tree Cottage, 2 Marlpit Gardens, Ticehurst, East Sussex, TN5 7BB. Tel: 01580 200609
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U-140 Team Captain		
Correspondence Team Captain	James Mansson	jmansson@argo-software.co.uk
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