

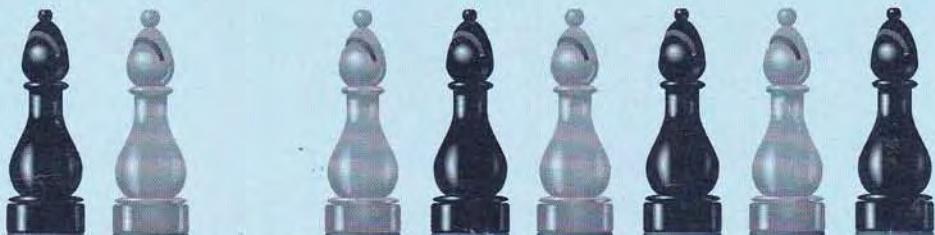
The Missing Bishop

No. 11

March 2002



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50p

to non members



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The Missing Bishop Newsletter is published by Sussex Junior Chess, which was established in 1995 to foster and promote chess for young people in Sussex. If you wish to contribute, please contact the Editor Stuart Hayden on 01825 767 728

Cover Photo - Age group winners at Hastings Grand Prix pictured with Andrei Kanchelskis and IM Petr Marusenko

Off the board . . .

The more observant of our readers, those who can bear to take time to examine the cover before opening up and pouring over the contents of The Missing Bishop will notice an additional logo, indicating the most exciting development for Sussex Junior Chess in recent months. This is, of course, the finalisation of our sponsorship deal with Deutsch Ltd. of Hastings. This will ensure that SJC can continue to provide excellent training and competitions for an increasing number of young people in Sussex. Chairman Stephen Penty explains further later in this magazine.

Our volunteers and organisers continue to serve us well. Many thanks to Tim Woods who has completed the construction of a player database. This should help us to speed up and increase the accuracy of mail-outs, keeping everyone better informed of our activities.

Michael, star of board and air . . .

In November last year Lewes Football Club reached the first round proper of the FA cup earning a lucrative first round draw away to Stoke City. At the same time as the players were travelling to Stoke so were the Sussex U14 chess team for the NYCA U14 Championships. The footballers went down 2 - 0 but the chess team triumphed, retaining their title.



Michael Hamilton at the SCCU U18 Jamboree, radio interviews a speciality!

On the subject of volunteers, we have a vacancy for a press officer. John Linnett the present incumbent is unable to devote the necessary time, due to work commitments. See Stephen's appeal on page 17 for more information, if you feel you just have too much time on your hands. *

Finally, and completely unrelated, a note on water. I live in Uckfield: very bad flooding last October. Travelled to the British Championships in Scarborough: worse flooding for 50 years. Bedford for the British Rapidplay: a dishwasher breaks flooding the tournament hall. Swindon for the West of England Championships: the water tank bursts in my hotel, all the water has to be turned off meaning no tea or coffee for breakfast. Just *what-er* is going on!

Stuart Hayden
Editor

His boundless enthusiasm as ever, getting the better of him, tournament organiser Simon Deere e-mailed John Radford, host of the Morning Show on BBC Southern Counties Radio to cheekily point out that the county could still hold its head up high.

Simon was then delighted to hear from the show's producer who wanted to interview one of the players. Local Hove boy, Michael Hamilton, was duly selected and travelled to the studio to be interviewed live on air.

Simon himself contributed by telephone from work extolling the virtues of Sussex Chess. Both will be happy to hand out photos and to sign autographs at future events!

Sussex Teams . . .

NYCA U14 Championships

If an aspiring team manager would like to learn how to win competitions, then they should have a word with Martin May. His U14 teams have maintained a fantastic unbeaten record under his leadership. In November he took the team to Stoke hoping to keep his record intact and help Sussex retain the NYCA U14 Championship.

The team started the tournament high in confidence, with only two changes from last year's successful squad. On top board, Theo Penty was unlucky to draw the top player in the competition, Li Wu from Warwickshire in the first round. Li had just returned from the world junior championships in Spain. However, quick wins from Joe Richardson and Nick Campion showed the way forward. The last player to finish was Matthew Linnett who conjured a super win with only seconds left on the clock, pushing Sussex into clear first place ahead of Warwickshire one point behind.

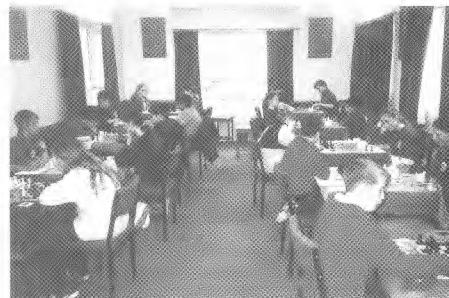
The second round saw the Sussex Blues return with a disappointing seven points, allowing Warwickshire to draw level. Theo, however, got back on track with a good win against Wiltshire.

Round 3 started well with quick wins for Grant Bucher, Joe Fraser and Daniel Khoo, but unfortunately Theo came up against another very tough player and was unable to add to the team score. A mixed bag followed with untimely losses for Joe Richardson and Stephanie Barraclough, but Felix Sullivan registering a perfect score kept hopes alive. This was followed by a win for David Barraclough against Richmond, a third win for Matthew Linnett giving him the second maximum score of the day. A draw from Adam Prescott gave Sussex the points needed to ensure at least joint first place, and when Kent lost the final match the cup was won outright.

A final word for James May, the manager's son, who achieved a perfect score in the reserve competition, demonstrating the strength in depth within Sussex at this level.

SCCU U14/U90 Championships

Another title that Martin is hoping to help Sussex retain is the SCCU U14/U90 Championship. Everything is going well so far with the team reaching the finals for the second successive year after finishing top of their qualification group, winning all four of their matches.



Sussex U14/U90 team in action against Hampshire at Basingstoke

The final will be Martin's twelfth outing as U14 manager so let us hope for a perfect dozen. His son James will move up to a higher age group next season and speculation is rife as to whether Martin will also move up to manage an older team, put his record on line by continuing to manage U14's, or retire an undefeated legend!

SCCU U18 Jamboree

The Sussex U18 team approached this tournament more with the objective of gaining experience for future years rather than with the expectation of picking up a prize. However, the youngsters (mostly under 16) triumphed by gaining third place ahead of many older and stronger teams.

The event was held at St. Paul's School in Hammersmith. The stars of the first round were Charlie Linford on board 1 who drew with James Foster and Michael Hamilton on board 3 with an unexpected but well played win against Edward Leung. Not two minutes earlier, the team manager had demonstrated his knowledge of chess by predicting a probable loss! An incredible half point was collected by Eleanor on board 9 against an opponent with a grade almost twice her own. With super wins from Joe Fraser and Nik Sinha playing his first representative match for Sussex, the final total was well above the most optimistic predictions.

The second and final round started well with quick wins from Nik, Grant and Joe. A good win from Adam was followed by a fantastic result from top board Charlie in beating Middlesex player, Tim Woodward graded 189. Another win from Michael against a strong opponent, and a well earned draw from Elliot Callow saw the final round score reach 6½. This was just sufficient for Sussex to take third place.

Many congratulations to all the team for a super performance. As most of this team will still be under 18 in four year's time, the prospects for the future look extremely promising!

4 Counties Invitational Tournament

The Sussex U11's scored a surprise win at the 4 Counties Invitational tournament organised by Nigel Dennis of Berkshire at Prospect College, Reading in February.

Competing against Berks, Bucks and Hants, several top players were omitted ensuring that all those under consideration for the forthcoming EPSCA zonal competition had a chance to show the selectors their full potential.

With everyone playing on higher boards than usual there were creditable performances right down the order. top board, Elliot Kafetz, drew two matches

against much higher graded opponents, whilst maximum scores were achieved by David Grant, Mark Carter, Abeer Mohamed, Simon Lynwood and Elizabeth Tehrani.

The team started with a steady win against Bucks and then excelled against Hants, the pre-tournament favourites. Another solid performance in the final match against Berks, ensured a Sussex victory.

The Sussex team spirit was excellent all afternoon, and our thanks are expressed to all the parents who attended and to the Berkshire organisers for an enjoyable event.

Girls Team News

Team Manager David Fryer has kept the Sussex Girls busy this season preparing for the EPSCA Girl's Team Championships in April with a number of friendly matches against other counties. With wins home and away against Hampshire and a narrow loss to Middlesex things are looking rosy. The U14 team took third place in the ECGCF regional qualifier two points behind Middlesex.



Sussex Girls at the ECGCF U14 regional qualifier at Hampton

Grand Prix 2001/02 Season . . .

The Sussex Grand Prix is a series of six tournaments held throughout the year. The best four scores of each player, regardless of section entered, are added together at the end of the season and the top three players in each age group receive a prize. Any player who competes in all six tournaments receives a special medal whilst those taking part in four or five receive a certificate.

Horsham Open - Round 3

Almost seventy players arrived to compete in the four sections of this year's keenly contested Horsham tournament.

The U18 Major was an extremely hard fought competition where winner Charlie Linford *only* scored 4½ points. He recovered from a first round defeat by Adam Prescott such that a draw in the final round against runner-up Lakshman Ruthirapathy was enough to seal victory. Adam was unable to capitalise on his excellent start eventually finishing third.

The inaugural U18 Minor trophy was won by Mithun Kailavasan from Pinner who scored 5½ points. James Guiney from Epsom Downs was second, half a point behind ahead of James May in third place, winning a Sussex trophy for the very first time after many years of trying.

The U11 Major demonstrated the improvement possible in only twelve months. Farris Ziyada won the U11 Minor at this event in October 2000; this year he returned to take the Major prize. Not bad for an Under 9! Gajern Kailavasan completed a great family day out with second placed ahead of Christopher Linnett who remained unbeaten with three wins and three draws.

The U11 Minor trophy was awarded

to Nicholas Thorne. Second, with her best ever tournament performance was Jessica Wood, leaving Simon Tucker to take third.

Worthy of special praise was Patrick Butler from Reading who scored 3½ in the Major but missed out on the Under 8 prize on tie break.

Hastings Open - Round 4

Nearly one hundred players took part in this event creating a new Hastings record. Sadly the three players from Nigeria who had shown interest in the tournament failed to arrive, so this year's furthest competitor travelled from Scotland! This event marked the start of the sponsorship of the Grand Prix series by Deutsch Ltd.

Two special guests were present on the day. Firstly, Ukrainian International footballer and Sussex resident Andrei Kanchelskis, once of Manchester United, and now playing at Glasgow Rangers. Andrei is a keen chess player, who was very interested in the organisation's activities. He presented the prizes and signed many autographs. Also there to lend a helping hand was fellow countryman IM Petr Marusenko.

The U18 Major section showed quality rather than quantity, with seven of Sussex's strongest players lining up. Defending champion Charlie Lindford took the title with six straight wins. In second place was Daniel Khoo, gaining his highest U18 placing in his first year in this age group. Joe Fraser and Adam Prescott finished in equal third.

A record entry of 34 players in the U18 Minor saw three players finish equal with five points. Danny Eichner was awarded the trophy on tie break, ahead of Elliot Callow and Kent regular Sam Siebert.

Andrew Tucker and Ellie Hayden shared the U11 Major title. The subsequent places were taken by Mark Carter, who started the season in the Minor Tournament and has shown great determination in moving to the Major, and Nicholas Thorne finishing ahead of his East Grinstead Chess Club team-mate.

In the U11 Minor, Sheila Dines a visitor from Surrey, played marvellously with five wins and a draw to take first place. Second was Thomas Seccombe, and third was the youngest player in the tournament Peter Williams, still a five year old!

All in all, an excellent event thoroughly enjoyed by players, parents and organisers alike.

Trophy winners from the various sections at Hastings pictured with Andrei Kanchelskis and IM Petr Marusenko who handed out the prizes



U11 Minor - Peter Williams, Thomas Seccombe & Sheila Dines



U18 Minor - Sam Siebert, Elliott Callow & Danny Eichner



U11 Major - Andrew Tucker, Tristan Blundell, Nicholas Thorne, Mark Carter & Ellie Hayden



U18 Major - Charlie Lindford, Daniel Khoo, Joe Fraser & Adam Prescott



Grand Prix Leader Board After Four Rounds

U7	William Maskell	10½
U8	Ben Blundell	14½
U9	David Grant	14½
	Christopher Linnett	14½
	Simon Tucker	14½
U10	James Arnold	16
U11	Nicholas Thorne	16
U12	Daniel Khoo	12
U13	Adam Prescott	17
U14	James May	14½
U15	Calvin Peat	10½
U16	Charlie Linford	19½
U17	Nikunj Sinha	4
	Nimai McCarthy	4

Outside the county . . .

A round up of the achievements of Sussex Juniors in tournaments outside of Sussex and at National and International events!

11-year-old **David Howell** played impressively at this year's Hastings Challengers tournament defeating Grand Master Colin McNab. This achievement broke Luke McShane's British record of being the youngest player to defeat a Grandmaster. Colin turned down a draw offer from David and then blundered his queen four moves later. The previous record was also set at Hastings in 1996 when Luke beat.... Colin McNab!

Another young player achieving excellent results both in and outside the county is Sussex U9 champion **Farris Ziyada**. Farris won the U12 Minor section at the London Junior Championships at the end of December losing only one game in the final round. He followed this up by winning the U9 Section at the South of England Championships in February. Farris will lead the Sussex Seals team in the EPSCA zonal later this month.



David Grant & Farris Ziyada compete for the Sussex U9 title - the pair were to meet again in the final round of the U9 section of the South of England Championships

Sussex U11 **Andrew Tucker** secured his place in the EPSCA U11 England Team trial at the first time of asking in Bradford back in November. Andrew has continued to play in the qualifying tournaments with great success, including an

excellent second in the EPSCA Rapidplay Championships in January.

The second Sussex player to qualify for the England Trial is **Ellie Hayden**, who collected her final qualification at the South of England Championships. Following wins in both Sussex and Surrey Girls Championships Ellie completed a trio of victories winning the U11 section of the BWCA National Girl's Championships at the end of February.



Stephanie Barraclough at the U14/U90 match against Hampshire

Sussex is very fortunate to have a number of players at the U12 age group making excellent progress on the national scene. Firstly, **Stephanie Barraclough**, who continues to be the most successful girl from Sussex, represented England in the European Championships last year. So far this season has she finished first in the U14 Minor section of the London Junior Championships and taken third place in the U12 section of the South of England Championships. Stephanie has represented Sussex at U125 level and also plays for Beeson Gregory 3 in the 4NCL, Britain's premier chess league.

Three boys all flying the flag for Sussex in the same age group are **Joe Fraser**, **Joe Richardson** and **Grant Bucher**. Both Joe's achieved a score of 3 from 5 at the South of England Championships with Grant just half a point behind. Joe Fraser, who had played brilliantly two months earlier at the London Junior Championships thus received an invite with the full national squad to Poland in June. Joe Richardson needs just one more top performance to earn a well merited inclusion. Grant also put in an excellent performance at the recent West of England Championships finishing undefeated with three wins and three draws.

When **Adam Prescott** arrived at the South of England Championships he generously agreed to move up an age group from the U13 section where he would have been top seed, to a much harder "invitation-only" U14. He went on to score one and a half points guaranteeing an entry for next years tournament from controller Peter Purland.

In the same section as Adam was Stephanie's older brother **David Barraclough** who also plays for the same 4NCL team. David is another Sussex Junior who has represented the county in U125 and U150 teams - so far with a perfect record of three wins from three games.

Theo Penty recently travelled along the coast to the Portsmouth Congress. Whilst his father Stephen was busily writing and sending material for this magazine from a local on-line internet café, Theo was demonstrating his prowess across the board finishing equal third in his section. Theo, now an U14, has already played for England on several occasions. He too has represented Sussex at U125 and U150 level only conceding half a point in five games.

Finally there is no stopping Sussex U18 captain **Charlie Linford**. After

some fine results in the British Championships Charlie returned to Scarborough for the local congress winning the U135 section finishing unbeaten with four wins and one draw. Charlie has made it all the way up to the Sussex U175 team only dropping a half point in four matches. He is also hoping to help his local team The Holt to the Mid Sussex league first division title this season.



Charlie Linford at the SCCU U18 Jamboree

National selection explained

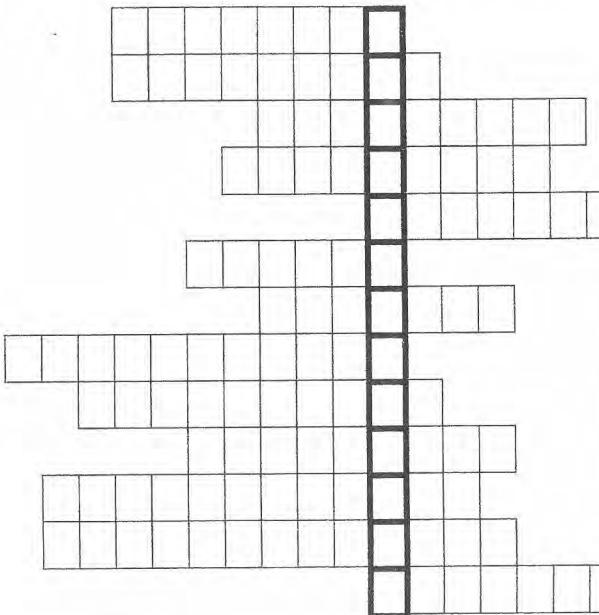
Many parents of keen chess playing youngsters would be forgiven for expressing bewilderment at how National selection works. Essentially, the structure can best be understood by working backwards. The England teams run by the BCF start with the U12 age group. These teams are selected from a national junior squad comprising 25 players in each year group from England's most talented chess players. Initial entry into this squad is normally at age 11 by way of selection for EPSCA's international team.

This team is selected in April of each year shortly after the completion of EPSCA's U-11 trial tournament to which players have to qualify by achieving a minimum score in a number of designated pre-trial tournaments held between November and March.

To ensure that no young talent is missed, county association organisers are invited to nominate players who, in their opinion, should be invited to compete in these pre-trial events.



Find the SJC answers and place in the grid to reveal a sentence downwards.



Who Plays Whom?

Sussex Six

Winners

U11 Team Name

A Slow Pace

Winning Cup

Sussex Sponsors

Tournament Venue

Popular Snacks

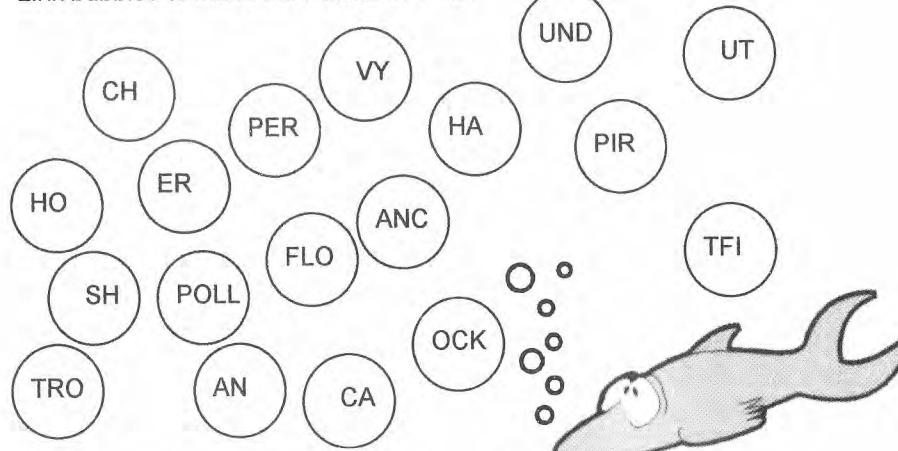
Notation Log

Long-play Tournament

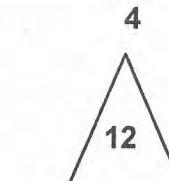
All The Latest News

Vital To Improve?

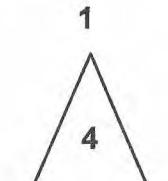
Link bubbles to make the names of 7 fish



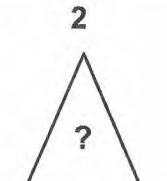
Find the missing numbers or letters to complete these mind bending puzzles.



7 9



1



5

B	F	J	N	R	?
3	5	8	13	21	?

3	1	4
7	2	9
1	5	?



B	F	J	P	?
3	9	17	27	?

6	4	4	1
4	N	L	7
5	U	?	1
6	10	14	2

195

383

575

763

955

?

Send contributions for the Kid's Page to:
Anne-Marie Prescott, The Rosery, New Place, Uckfield,
East Sussex. TN22 5DP

County Championships . . .

Under 9 Championships

The Sussex U9 Championships held in November at St Margaret's, Ditchling, featured an encouraging entry of 46 players who comprised an intriguing mix of newcomers and old favourites.

Defending champion Farris Ziyada, once again triumphed, but not without a tough struggle. He narrowly escaped with a draw in the fourth round from a losing position against Sebastian Stracey, leaving him with two very difficult games to retain his title.



U9 Individual prize winners - George Potts, Simon Tucker, Christopher Linnett, Farris Ziyada, David Grant & Sebastian Stracey

When Farris stumbled it seemed that he had given Christopher Linnett the opportunity to reverse last years result, but Christopher was to suffer in the next round at the hands of David Grant. David went on to finish second, leaving Christopher to take third place.

Christopher had the consolation of securing the school's title for Hellingly, along with Seb Stracey, James Draper and Alex Vine.

Schools Results

1st	Hellingly	13½
2nd	St. Margaret's, Ditchling	12½
3rd	St. Lawrence, H'point	11½

Under 9 School Teams



Hellingly, U9 Gold medal winners - James Draper, Alex Vine, Christopher Linnett & Sebastian Stracey



St Margaret's, Ditchling, U9 Silver medal winners - Fraser Strafford, Simon Tucker & Robert Vint



St. Lawrence, Hurstpierpoint, U9 Bronze medal winners - James Hollis, Travis Milyard, Jonathan Crickmore, Ben Blundell, Luke Pearce & Kit Tregebar

Individual Results

1st	Farris Ziyada	5½
2nd	David Grant	5
3rd	Christopher Linnett	5
4th	Simon Tucker	5
5th	Sebastian Stracey	4½
6th	George Potts	4½

Under 11 Championships

The Sussex U11 Championships were held a week later at a new venue (for this competition) at Oakmeads in Burgess Hill. Over fifty players took part, with, once again, several in their first Sussex competition.

The clear favourite Andrew Tucker seemed to be comfortably working his way through the field, until, that is, the last round. Here he met with a determined Abi Fryer, who despite being behind in material bravely fought on. When Andrew left the door open for a back rank mate, Abi was there to gratefully swoop in to win the game and the championship. This was a repeat of last year's event where a girl has won this tough U11 tournament.

Elliot Kafetz in round three was the only player to score a half against Abi. Andrew picked up the runner's up trophy with the consistent Christopher Linnett in third.

Once again, Hellingly won the team competition, this time with only three players taking part; Christopher & Sarah Linnett and James Draper.

Thus the moral for this year's tournament. Refuse to give up, keep on fighting even if you are behind, and try to spot any mistakes your opponent might make. The game is never over until you have shaken hands!

Simon Deere
Tournament Organiser



Abi Fryer, U11 Champion 2001

Individual Results

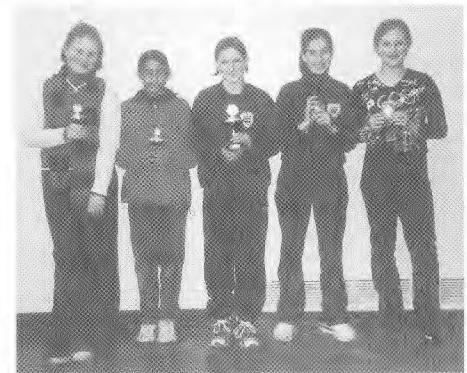
1st	Abi Fryer	5½
2nd	Andrew Tucker	5
3rd	Christopher Linnett	5
4th	Elliot Kafetz	5
5th	Farris Ziyada	5
6th	James Arnold	5

Schools Results

1st	Hellingly	13
2nd	Dorset House	11½
3rd	St Lawrence, H'point	11

Girls Championships

This years Sussex Girl's Championships also moved to a new venue at Harlands Primary School in Haywards Heath.



Girls U18 prize winners - Charlotte Allum, Chantal Sirisena, Katherine Rattle, Deborah Margolis and Jennifer Watkins



U11 individual prize winners - Abi Fryer, Lynsey Vaughan, Jessica Wood, Ellie Hayden, Elizabeth Tehrani & Sarah Linnett

Sussex were very pleased to welcome Chantal Sirisena and Jennifer Watkins who had travelled from Surrey to compete in the U18 Section. The competition proved to be very close with second and third places in the U11 section being shared by five players. Congratulations to Ellie Hayden U11 Champion and Katherine Rattle U18 Champion

Individual Results

1st	(1st U11)	Ellie Hayden	5
2nd	(1st U18)	Katherine Rattle	5
3rd	(2nd u18)	Chantal Sirisena	5
4th	(3rd U18)	Charlotte Allum	4
5th	(4th U18)	Deborah Margolis	4
=6th	(=2nd U11)	Abi Fryer	4
=6th	(=2nd U11)	Lynsey Vaughan	4
=6th	(=2nd U11)	Jessica Wood	4
=9th	(=3rd U11)	Sarah Linnett	3½
=9th	(=3rd U11)	Elizabeth Tehrani	3½



Age Group prize winners - Sarah Margolis U10, Helen Wrathall U10, Rebecca Grant U9 & Rhiannon Williams U8

Girls School Teams

- 1st Holy Cross, Uckfield
- 2nd Harlands, Haywards Heath
- 3rd Turners Hill



Holy Cross, Uckfield, Gold Medal winners - Lois May-Miller, Jessica Wood, Ellie Hayden, Lynsey Vaughan & Helen Wrathall



Harlands, Haywards Heath, Silver medal winners - Allanah Stratton, Rhana Nicolson & Anna Hargrave



Turners Hill, Bronze Medal winners - Danielle Robinson & Rhiannon Williams

Sponsorship . . .

Those of you who were not part of the record turnout at Hastings will have missed the announcement of Deutsch Ltd. becoming sponsors to Sussex Junior Chess.

Deutsch is a world leader in its field offering unrivalled expertise in the design and manufacture of specialised electronics including electrical and fibre optic connectors and electro-mechanical relays. The headquarters of its British operations is based in Hastings with outlets in northern Germany and France.

The company's generous sponsorship will be recognised through the introduction of its logo onto the team strip for all County junior players, that will be unveiled at the start of next season, and in the rebranding of the junior grand prix series. Their sponsorship will allow the association to complete its equipment

International trips . . .

Remember Aubergicourt. Well, Nîmes-sur-Sone could soon follow. If enough people have registered their interest with Jonathan Tuck, we could soon see a southern counties team of 40 or so juniors whisked off to Nîmes for a long weekend of chess playing (for the juniors) and sightseeing and highlife, (for the adults of course) in June this year.

Our French hosts will provide accommodation and board. The flight and incidental expenses for each person travelling are estimated at around £140. But, the trip will not happen without your support. So hurry and book your place. It is not too late, just.

programme as well as supporting travel and training for juniors keen to improve their game.

SJC organisers are absolutely delighted with this development. The success of our presentation to the company is a tribute to the endeavour of SJC organisers and a direct product of the success enjoyed by our junior teams nationally, over the last few years. Securing such eminent sponsors represents the coming of age of Sussex Junior Chess, and we are thrilled to be keeping such illustrious company as Formula 1 Champions, Ferrari and Michael Schumacher.

Stephen Penty
Chairperson

Sunny Sussex by the sea, might not have quite the same ring but The Princes Marine Hotel, Hove, will be hosting an equally prestigious international event. Joanna Lowry O'Reilly, the new organiser of junior chess in Ireland, has pulled out all the stops and will be matching Sussex across 40 boards on the last weekend of the Easter holidays.

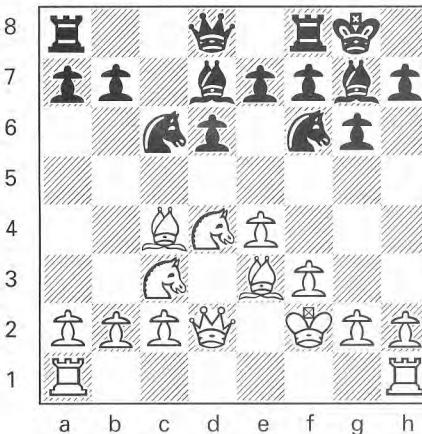
This promises to be an enjoyable and very competitive weekend - they take their chess very seriously in Ireland - so, if you are available, please make this known to Jonathan who will be choosing teams shortly.

Consultation with a Dragon . . .

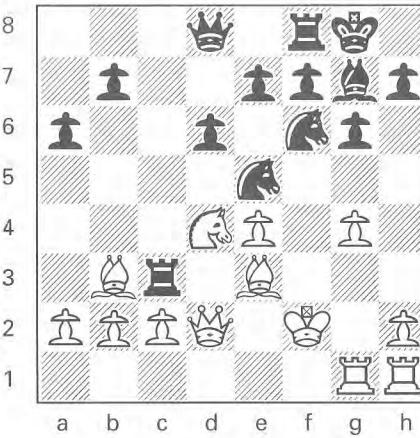
One of the favourite events at Sussex Coaching and Fun Days is a consultation match between two groups. These are always highly competitive and normally very lively affairs as can be seen from this game between **Francis Rayner's Team (white)** and **Trevor Norton's Team (black)** played last November at Herstmonceux.

Sicilian Dragon

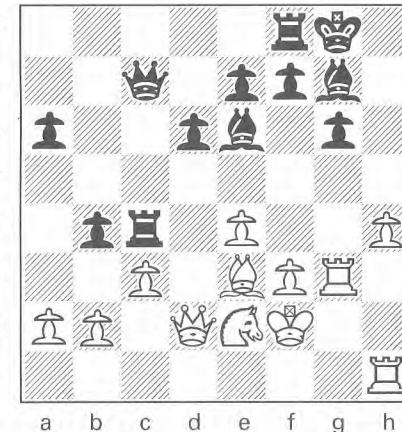
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 The Dragon variation of the Sicilian Defence is a great favourite of Sussex Juniors **6.Be3 Bg7 7.f3 0-0 8.Bc4 Nc6 9.Qd2 Bd7 10.Kf2!?**



Normally white would play 0-0-0 and launch a vicious attack against the Black fianchettoed King with his g and h pawns. Black meanwhile looks for play down the half open c file against the white King. White's idea by playing his King to f2 is to throw the Black Dragon off balance and leave him blowing fire at empty spaces. **10...Rc8 11.Bb3 Ne5 12.Rag1 a6 13.h3** White would like to immediately play 13.g4 but after 13...Bxg4 14.fxg4 Rxc3

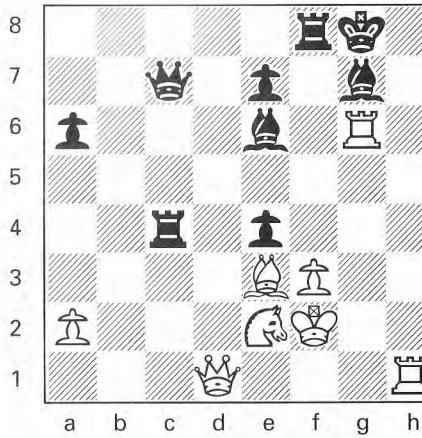


a nasty bite on e4 cannot be avoided
13...b5 14.g4 Nc4 15.Bxc4 Rxc4 16.h4 h5 17.gxh5 Nxh5 18.Nde2 Be6 19.Ng3 Nxg3 20.Rxg3 b4 21.Ne2 Qc7 22.c3



Now we will find out if white's plan conceptualised on move 10 really works. The Dragon's fire is blazing away at the c3 square but the white King is tucked up safe, faraway in his castle with his trusted steed and holy man for protection.
22...bxc3 23.bxc3 Bxc3 24.Qd1 d5 25.h5 dxе4

26.hxg6 fxg6 with this move Black opens the f file providing some very nasty counter threats **27.Rxg6 + Bg7**



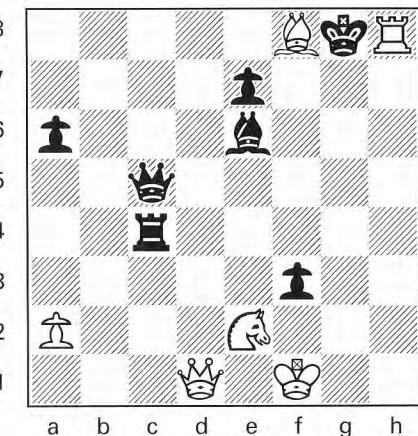
White has three possible paths here.
(1) Raise his shield with 28.c4
(2) Bring up re-enforcement's by 28.Bh6
(3) Strike immediately with **28.Rxg7+**

After a great deal of debate the White team go for the direct approach. The following are just examples of the alternatives so time spent analysing this position would be instructive for any ambitious players (Note 28.Rxe6? is bad due to Rxg3+ 29.Kg2 Rxe3 --)

- (a) 28.f4 Bf5 29.Rg5 Rf7 30.Bd4 e5 31.Bxe5 e3+ 32.Kf1 Qxe5 33.Qd8+ Rf8 34.Qxf8+ Kxf8 35.fxe5=
- (b) 28.Bh6 Rxg3+ 29.Kg2 Rc2 30.Rxg7+

Kf8 31.Rh7+ Kg8 32.Rh8+ Kf7 33.Rf8+ Kg6 34.Rxf3 exf3+35.Kxf3 Qc5 36.Nf4+ Kf7=

28...Kxg7 29.Bh6+ Kf7 30.Bxf8 Qc5+ [30...Kxf8 31.Rh8+ Kg7 32.Qa1+ Kf7 33.Qh1 Qb6+ 34.Kg3 Bf5 35.Rh7+] 31.Kf1 exf3 32.Rh7+ Kg8! [32...Kxf8 33.Qd8#] 33.Rh8+



33...Kf7 [33...Kxh8 34.Qa1+ Rd4 35.Nxd4 Bh3+ 36.Kf2=] **34.Rh7+ Kg8 35.Rh8+ Kf7 36.Rh7+ Kg8 37.Rh8+** with a draw by repetition.

The Dragon is matched blow for blow but not defeated $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$

David Fryer

Press Tzar vacancy . . .

When John Linnett (reluctantly, I suspect) took on the role of press Tzar two seasons ago, local and regional papers were deluged with regular press releases every month. The effect was immediate and obvious: a lot more press coverage which in turn attracted new players. Alas, John's time has not been as free as it once was and for the last year reporting of events even occasionally on our

own website, has been lost.

The role of Press Tzar - writing up and distributing press releases of SJC events, team successes, inter-school competitions - would be suitable for anyone who has some experience of writing a school, church, or club newsletter. Please contact either Jonathan Tuck or Simon Deere for further details.

Herstmonceux . . .

For the third consecutive year SJC produced a training day with a difference. Always on the cusp of autumn and winter, it was with some trepidation that we organised this year's special event within the Equatorial Group of telescope domes at Herstmonceux Science Park; which, for those who know something about optical astronomy in the mid-twentieth century, are unheated for better viewing.

Fortunately, the day was a delight with clear blue skies and an air temperature so benign that Norman Wood and David Kafetz established their reception outdoors, to the amusement of children and parents alike.



"Perhaps we could use the telescope to spy on our opponents in the consultation game!"

During the day over 120 juniors had the run of both indoor and outdoor educational hands-on exhibitions and in between the occasional bouts of training thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The same cannot be said, perhaps, for the trainers who valiantly kept to their task and suffered as a result in the bowels of the domes.

Nevertheless, the conclusion seemed to be that the experience had been on a par with the Bluebell Railway day in November 1999 and that a similar occasion next season would continue to be well supported. The organisers are to be warmly (no pun intended) thanked for their hard work in staging the event and running it so smoothly. Our special thanks are expressed to Jo Harris, the Schools Co-ordinator at HSP, without whose enthusiasm the day would not have been.



Harvey Murray-Smith coaching at Herstmonceux. Better keep those coats on lads - it's a little chilly in the basement of the telescope dome!

In response to a request for proposals of appropriate venues for next year, one wag was overheard to mention the possibility of Barbados to a friend. Sponsorship notwithstanding, suggestions closer to home would be appreciated!

Stephen Penty

And finally . . .

Sicilian Dragon?

On the last day before half term at Fonthill Lodge, East Grinstead, the pupils are allowed to attend school dressed as their favourite character from a book. It looks, however, as if at least one member of the chess club has been reading too many books on opening theory. "I've come as the Sicilian Dragon" declares Richard Lane, "I've had some good wins with this line, I just frighten my opponents into submission!"



Richard Lane of Fonthill Lodge with his own version of the Sicilian Dragon

Taking it too easy?

Pictured below is Norman Wood, father of Jessica and Jonathan, relaxing at the Herstmonceux coaching day with his newspaper and a flask of coffee while on registration duty! As we can all see he has made the classic fatal error of doing this in plain sight of SJC chairman Stephen Penty. Norman was later seen



Norman Wood - relaxing on duty - what will his next job be?

at the Sussex Girl's Championships serving Pot Noodles.

A polished act

Stephen always sets a good example, keeping himself busy as well as everyone else. Here he is killing two birds with one stone, shining the Sussex silverware whilst checking to see if any of the cups contain an odd genie with a few wishes to spare. He is certainly *a-lad-in* a million is our Stephen. A real *genie-us*!



Charles de Nicolay watches with fascination as Stephen Penty polishes in hope

Getting the priorities right

Sussex parents at the SCCU U18 Jamboree recognise the important things in life. Chess equipment to the floor and mini-TV on - Rusedski is playing in the Davis Cup against Spain.



David Hamilton, Scott Fraser and Anne-Marie Prescott find a way to relieve tension while their children compete

Sussex Junior Chess

Spring/Summer Diary

SJC Events

For all these events contact
Simon Deere 01892 663688

Sat 2 March

Coaching & Fun Day
Little Common, Bexhill

Sat 13 & Sun 14 April

Sussex Juniors v Irish Juniors
Princes Marine Hotel
Hove

Sat 20 April

Coaching & Fun Day
Aldrington, Hove

Sat 18 May (GP6)

Downs (Worthing) Open
U18 Maj & Min
U11 Maj & Min

Sat 15 June

Coaching & Fun Day inc.
U7 Champs (Closed)
East Grinstead

Sat 29 & Sun 30 June

U14/U18 Open Champs
Hurstpierpoint College

GP = Grand Prix Event

A printed calendar of national events can be obtained from the British Chess Federation.

Results, news, dates and contact details for Sussex events can be found on the SJC website which is regularly updated - www.SussexJuniorChess.fsnet.co.uk Other junior chess events of interest can also often be found at www.juniorchess.info

Team Events

Sat 9 March

U9 EPSCA Zonal
Leatherhead
G McCulloch 01444 458056

Sat 16 March

U11 EPSCA Zonal
Nottingham, SE London
Simon Deere 01892 663688

Sat 16 March

U16 NYCA Championships
Birmingham
Dave Stracey 01323 843742

Sat 20 Apr

EPSCA Girls Champs
Barnet
David Fryer 01342 317287

Sat 27 April

U9 EPSCA Finals
Nottingham
G McCulloch 01444 458056

Sat 11 May

U11 EPSCA Finals
Basingstoke
Simon Deere 01892 663688

Date tba

U14/U90 SCCU Finals
London
Martin May 01293 520496

Other Events

Sat 23 & Sun 24 Feb (Q)
West of England Champs
Swindon
M Debbage 01793 617619

Fri 5 to Sun 7 April (Q)
Nat. Jun. Squad Champs
Oldham
Marc Shaw 020 8931 2276

Sat 27 & Sun 28

England U11 Team Trials
Liverpool
Ian Cowen 01205 367736

Sat 4 May

British Land UK
Sussex Megafinal
Burgess Hill
Scott Fraser 01342 326517

Sat 20 & Sun 21 July

British Land UK Gigafinal
The Octagon Centre
Sheffield

Mike Basman 020 8397 1826

Sun 28 July to Sat 10 Aug

Smith & Williamson
British Chess Champs
The Riviera Centre
Torquay
BCF 01424 775222

**Q = Qualifying event for
England U11 Team trial**