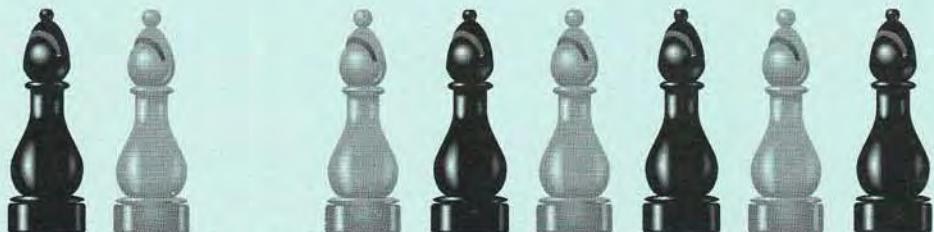


The Missing Bishop

No. 9

June 2001



www.SussexJuniorChess.fsnet.co.uk

50p

to non members



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| | |
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|----------------|-----------------|
| Jonathan Tuck | 01342 - 315 075 |
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| | |
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| Simon Deere | |
| Simon Deere | |
| Dave Stracey | |
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| Anne-Marie Prescott | |
| David Kafetz | |
| Nick Barraclough | |
| Nick Barraclough | |
| Caroline Campion | 01273 - 835 734 |
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| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
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| Ruth Tucker | 01273 - 846 107 |
| Rod Draper | |
| Simon Deere | 01892 - 663 688 |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Simon Deere | |

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: Witch: "I'll turn you into a frog" Medusa: "Not if I turn you to stone first!" - Idina Glyn and Kitty Grub of Fonthill Lodge in East Grinstead add an extra dimension to their game.

© 2001 Sussex Junior Chess

Off the board . . .

Almost time for the summer break, an opportunity to reflect on the year's events and take a well-deserved rest from a hectic chess circuit. Except of course for the Rest of England v Sussex match in London - an invitation earned by winning the U11 National Championships last year - the British Land UK Chess Challenge Gigafinal in Sheffield, the British Championships in Scarborough, the . . . did I say rest? Perhaps I had better rethink that part!

This season may be drawing to a close but preparations are well underway for the next. Once again it is time to welcome some new faces to the ranks of SJC organisers and express my gratitude to the people who have helped out this season.

Firstly, welcome to David Kafetz, father of Elliott and Jed, who will be taking over design of entry forms for next season's events. David had voiced a concern over the quality and usefulness of the maps to SJC chairman Stephen Penty at one of our events earlier in the year. They certainly did not help IM Graeme Buckley, who enjoyed a thirty minute sightseeing tour of Bexhill whilst driving around looking for the training venue. Stephen, never one to miss an opportunity, began by asking David if perhaps he might like to produce some better ones that we could use. A short while later David emerged from the exchange in complete control of entry forms. Well done David (*and Stephen!*)

We have also had one or two problems booking venues for events throughout the year including



Round 1 at Eastbourne - a record entry for an SJC Grand Prix event.

the Southwater tournament which took place in Horsham and the Bexhill training that moved to Little Common. Enter Stephen once more for another little chat with some willing parents. Our thanks to Gareth and Elizabeth Blundell, parents of William, Tristan and Ben, who will be making sure the appropriate venues are properly booked in advance so that David can show us all how to get there!

Many congratulations to Anne-Marie Prescott and all who have helped with the catering, keeping us all 'refreshed' throughout the season whilst raising much needed funds. Volunteers to help with catering are always very welcome.

On the subject of raising funds, I am very grateful to Diane Margolis who generously agreed to sell the Missing Bishop raffle squares at several recent events. Earlier in the season, I had accepted an invitation from Simon Deere to attend an arbiter's course. The course required a two and a half hour written exam, covering six sides of A4 that Simon had somehow forgot to mention, and for which I have profusely 'thanked' him on many subsequent occasions. As a consequence I now often double up as an arbiter at SJC tournaments and have less time to sell the squares. Adopting Stephen's approach to management has led to Diane agreeing to help out.

Finally a big thank you to everyone; players, parents, trainers, schools etc. who has contributed to another great season of Sussex Chess!

Stuart Hayden
Editor

Sussex Team Competitions . . .

Under 11 Team

It is amazing, that, after winning the National Championships last year everyone wants to talk to you and invite you to events. And so it was that preparations for the defence of the title began in February at a new friendly tournament in Reading. The tournament provided an ideal opportunity for the less experienced players, short-listed for the team, to play. The experimental side performed extremely well finishing a close second to the full Hampshire squad, defeating Buckinghamshire and the hosts Berkshire. This ensured that we would be facing a major headache as to whom to leave out in the zonal competition.

The zonal was very much an on and off affair with the exact venue uncertain until a week before the event after the original organisers had withdrawn. Eventually Essex stepped into the breach and we travelled to Basildon for a nerve wracking tournament. With very little separating the teams in the South East region no one could afford a bad round. Fortune smiled and we came home second behind Richmond. Job done.

The final in Catford, hosted by Kent, was excellently run, with computer results almost instantly available from



Under 11's - The full squad, coach and manager at the Final in Catford

our own Nick Barracough. Seventeen teams from all over England and Wales took part. We opened our account, equalling the Sussex record of sixteen and a half points from a possible twenty, in second place half a point behind the favourites Richmond, but a clear point ahead of the chasing pack. Round 2 proved much harder where the team managed a respectable twelve and a half points. Richmond had extended their lead but Sussex remained a clear second.

Jonathan and I went into 'last round motivation' mode - targeting second place as hopes were very slim of catching the excellent Richmond team. The plan worked as we achieved a new record of seventeen points in the round closing the gap on Richmond to three and a half points and opening a massive margin of five and a half points over third place Essex. This clearly demonstrated that last year had not been a fluke and that we are the best "real" county in the country.

My thanks go to all the players and their parents, especially the captains Stephanie (Zonal) and Grant (Final). They have both set new standards of leadership for future generations to follow.



The under 9 squad at the zonal in Burgess Hill

On a very personal note, I would like to say a big thank you to all those involved in the presentation of the framed photograph of this year's team and the card containing the names of all the players from the 2000 and 2001 teams. I shall treasure both. Those who know me well, may be surprised to know that I was lost for words at the Downs Tournament!

Simon Deere, Team Manager

Under 9 Team

The under 9 Zonal in Burgess Hill was the first time that Sussex have been awarded the opportunity to host an EPSCA event. The pressure was on to see that everything ran smoothly throughout the day. Many thanks go to all the SJC organisers and volunteers who helped to make the day a success earning welcome praise from many of the other teams taking part.

The overall winners on the day were Richmond with a half point lead over Essex. The Sussex Seals narrowly missed reaching the final after being edged out of the last qualification place by a single point to relative newcomers to junior team chess, Hertfordshire.

A number of the 'Seals' turned in excellent performances. David Grant scored a perfect three out of three and James Arnold a very commendable two. Nick Fraser scored one and a half points earning high praise for his style of play from IM Mike Basman, manager of the Wey Valley Side.

Many of the current side are still under 8's and will be able to return to play for the team next season. So watch out! With an extra year of experience and training, hopes are very high for future success.

NYCA U16 Championships

In March, the newly formed under 16 team travelled to Reading for the NYCA Championships. Although our top board was missing due to a previous commitment there was still plenty of experience and talent on hand.

Nine teams played in the tournament with Richmond and Kent looking to have the strongest claims.

Kent made an excellent start leading Richmond by three points, with Sussex scoring a modest four. Six points in the next round helped to liven things up but the Richmond steamroller had started to move up a gear with ten.

Although the top honours were out of reach the team still managed a creditable four and a half points in the final round battling to the end. Considering the average age of the team we performed well. Nimai McCarthy played stylishly winning all three of his games. I was also very impressed with the organisational skills of Charlie Linford in his "player/coach role."

David Stracey,
Team Manager

Team competitions continued . . .

U14/U90 Team

Having defeated Surrey in the qualifying round, the Sussex team travelled to Basildon in March full of confidence to compete in the SCCU U14/U90 final. Two other teams contested the final, hosts Essex and Oxfordshire. The competition was played over two rounds in a jamboree format.

Team Manager Martin May had much at stake with a unique record to maintain - a team managed by Martin had yet to lose a competition. His secret? No team talk, just a gentle word of encouragement with each individual. Whilst we all know the value of the chocolate incentive only Martin knows the secret of the most effective distribution.

All began well with seven wins from twelve games keeping us in joint first position with Oxfordshire after the first round.



The U14/U90 Team - back row: Christopher Murphy, Richard Howell-Peak, Felix Sullivan, Martin May, James May, Daniel Khoo, Deborah Margolis - front Row: Danny Glebocki, Joe Fraser, Matthew Linnett, Steven Stracey, Adam Prescott & Ellie Hayden

Then disaster struck with three quick losses at the start of the second round. Martin, however, remained cool, examined the mathematics of the situation and formed a simple plan - win eight of the nine remaining matches. A quick inspection of the progress made by the Sussex players in the remaining games revealed that the plan had merit.

One by one the remaining Sussex players returned with wins until victory rested on the game between Danny Glebocki and his Oxford opponent. Danny was an exchange up and closing in. Daniel Khoo observing from the sidelines spotted a winning combination . . . now would Danny see it too? . . . we watched . . . and waited . . . held our breath . . . and then . . . the move was played. From just the exchange to a whole piece up - the game and match were won and the 'Mars Maestro' Manager's reputation was assured!

Girl's News . . .

Girl's chess in Sussex looks set for a bright future with a number of positive developments in the last few weeks.

The Sussex Serpents have a new team manager, East Grinstead wizard, David Fryer. David has been busy organising friendly matches for the new season starting with a match in June against county champions Surrey, to increase experience and help raise team spirit. I am sure that all the girls would like to thank previous manager Rod Draper for his contribution to Sussex Girl's chess over the past three years and also to David and Jill Arscott for filling in before David's appointment.

Girls have also featured highly in recent Sussex Grand Prix tournaments with both Rachel Peat and Abi Fryer winning U11 Minor titles. Katherine Rattle from Uckfield became the recipient of this year's Sussex Top Girl prize following the Downs tournament at Worthing. The method used to decide on



Katherine Rattle - Holy Cross, Uckfield Senior Squad - Top Sussex Girl 2001

the winner was once described by former Girl's Team manager Rod Draper as follows: a complicated scoring system including 50% for effort throughout the year, 50% for attendance at SJC events and 50% for success. "I never was very good at maths" he added.

A special award provided by the Grand Prix sponsor, given to the player who has shown the greatest commitment to chess throughout the season was made for the first time this year. The winner was Sarah Linnett from Hellingly.



Sarah Linnett of Hellingly - First winner of the Commitment Award

Sarah has attended virtually all Sussex events throughout the year, played three times for the under 11 team and even stepped in for under 14's in an emergency. Only a brief spell in hospital managed to keep Sarah away from her chess at all during the year. She won a special award from U11 captain Grant Bucher at the Finals in Catford as the quietest player in the team, so we may not hear Sarah celebrating her award by shouting from the rooftops!

Grand Prix 2000/2001 Season . . .

The Grand Prix season has now been completed following the final two tournaments at Eastbourne and Worthing.

The Eastbourne competition took place in February at a new SJC venue, Ocklynge School. I would like to express our thanks to all involved from the school for their help.



U11 Major trophy winners from Eastbourne - Harry Hawkins, Rachel Peat & Nicholas Fraser

Regular visitor, Rachel Peat from Woking, won the U11 minor section keeping all the boys firmly in their place. Joe Richardson proved to be the cream of the crop winning the U11 major section and Charlie - "please Sir, may I have a larger trophy cabinet?" - Linford once again won the U18 section with another perfect six out of six score.

SJC were hoping to break the century barrier for number of entries. Unfortunately winter ailments intervened and despite a few latecomers numbers fell just two short of the magic hundred, although still a new record.



U11 Major trophy winners at Eastbourne - Andrew Tucker, Joe Richardson & Daniel Kho



U18 trophy winners at Eastbourne - Theo Penty, Charlie Linford & David Barracough. Be careful Theo - if the wind changes you'll stay like that!

The season's finale, the Downs Open at Worthing in May, blessed us with the now traditional beautiful weather. Everyone was very relaxed, and the standard of play was higher than ever.

The domination of the young ladies continued in the U11 minor section where Abi Fryer claimed the spoils. This was the closest fought section of the season with four players all finishing equal first with five wins in six games. With the tie break applied, spare a thought for Mark Willsher, who finished just out of the trophies in fourth place.



U11 Minor trophy winners at Worthing - Avinoam Baruch, Abi Fryer, David Grant & Mark Willsher

Charles de Nicolay managed to stem the tide of 'girl power' in the U11 major, coming home the victor, half a point ahead of Hannah Dale and Ellie Hayden. No prizes for guessing the winner of the U18 section or their score, but give yourself a pat on the back if you went for Charlie Linford and six out of six!



U11 Major trophy winners at Worthing - Ellie Hayden, Charles de Nicolay & Hannah Dale

Next season the U18 section will be split into major and minor sections in a similar way to the U11's. Hopefully this will help encourage some of the more casual players. At least they will be spared facing Charlie!

Full results of all this season's tournaments, Grand Prix scores and current



U18 trophy winners at Worthing - Danny Glebocki, Charlie Linford and Michael Hamilton

SJC grades with all the latest news are available on the website at www.SussexJuniorChess.fsnet.co.uk or by contacting me with a S.A.E.

Finally, the parent's tournaments, organised by Michael Peat continue to prove ever popular as a means to pass time between rounds. The man in form at the moment is Paul Kelly winner at both Eastbourne and Worthing. Paul, one of the Sussex trainers, also runs a book stall at many events supplying all our chess needs. I hope he is looking forward to a severe increase in handicap at the next event. No more than three minutes on his clock should suffice!

Simon Deere
Tournament Organiser



Yehuda Baruch & David Kafetz battling bravely in the parents tourney at Eastbourne



A Riddle:

My first is in board, but not in square
 My second is in knight and also in king
 My third is in stale but not in mate
 My fourth is in check but not in queen
 My fifth is in rook and also in fork
 My last is in pawn and also in pin
 What am I?

• • • • SPOTS! • • • •

Six friends were throwing dice. Each threw a different number from 1 to 6. Using the clues, Can you work out the number of spots on each throw and the name of the player?

1. The first throw did not produce a 2.
2. One of the players is called Freddie.
3. Ben had the fifth throw.
4. Edward threw immediately before the boy who scored 1.
5. The fourth player threw a 6, which was one more than Daniel threw.
6. Andrew threw immediately after Chris.
7. Andrew threw one more than Edward, but his score was beaten by the next player to throw.
8. Edward threw first.

| 1 st throw | 2 nd throw | 3 rd throw | 4 th throw | 5 th throw | 6 th throw |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|

Spots:

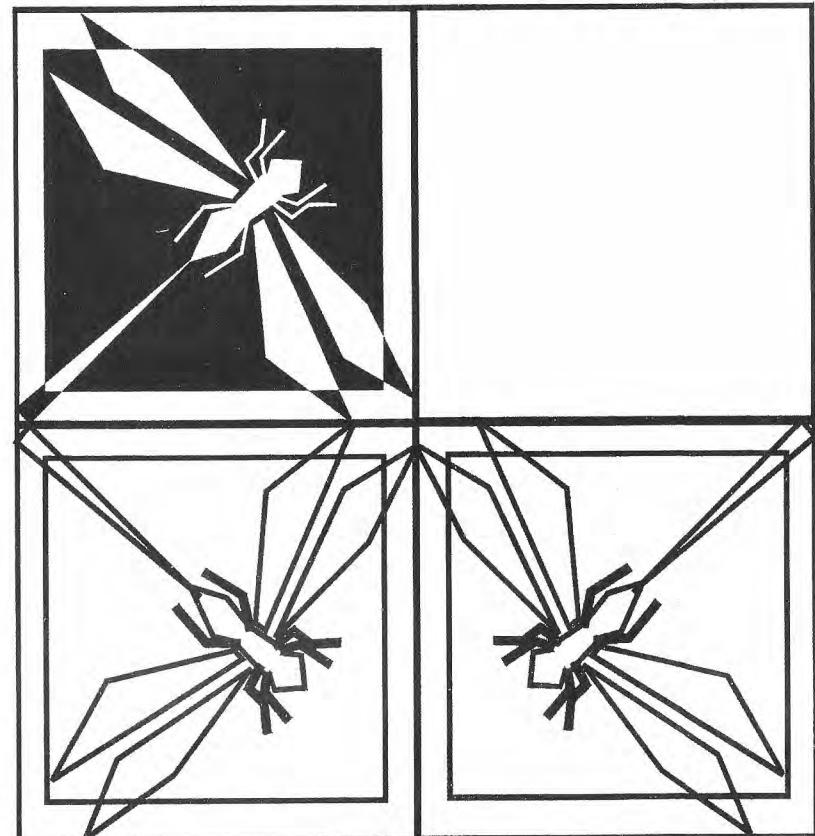
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Name: _____

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| S | P | O |
| I | R | S |
| O | N | C |

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the square?

Can you complete the four squares below, so that the pictures and colours are the opposite of their mirrored image?



SJC Grand Prix 2000/2001 winners gallery . . .

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 and at the end of the season 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.

With the sixth competition completed at the Downs Tournament it was time to hand out the prizes. This year's Grand Prix has proved especially tough with some 35 players making the effort to turn out for all 6 tournaments. Many of the final placings were only decided on the very last game of the season. Often, only half a point or a tie-break making the difference between the top positions. This will be a very hard act to follow next season!

Under 7

| | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|
| 1st | Ben Blundell | 16½ |
| 2nd | Jed Kafetz | 9½ |
| 3rd | Jack Arscott | 6½ |



U7 winner - Ben Blundell

Under 8

| | | |
|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 1st | Nicholas Fraser | 16½ |
| 2nd | Christopher Linnett | 15 |
| 3rd | Simon Tucker | 14½ |



Under 8 winners - Simon Tucker, Nicholas Fraser & Christopher Linnett

Under 9

| | | |
|-----|------------------|-----|
| 1st | Tristan Blundell | 17½ |
| 2nd | James Arnold | 15 |
| 3rd | Jessica Wood | 14 |



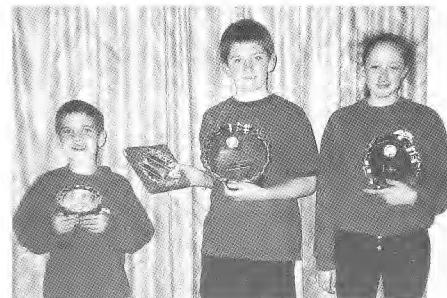
U9 winners - Jessica Wood, Tristan Blundell & James Arnold

Under 10

| | | |
|-----|----------------|-----|
| 1st | Andrew Tucker | 19½ |
| 2nd | Eleanor Hayden | 17½ |
| 3rd | Avinoam Baruch | 17½ |

Under 11

| | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----|
| 1st | Daniel Khoo | 19 |
| 2nd | Charles de Nicolay | 18 |
| 3rd | Joe Richardson | 17½ |



U10 winners - Avinoam Baruch, Andrew Tucker & Ellie Hayden



U13 winners - James May, Michael Hamilton & Matthew Linnett

Under 14

| | | |
|-----|----------------|----|
| 1st | Calvin Peat | 12 |
| 2nd | Rebecca Tuck | 7½ |
| 3rd | Thomas Poulsom | 5½ |



U14 winners - Rebecca Tuck & Calvin Peat

Under 15

| | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----|
| 1st | Charlie Linford | 22½ |
| 2nd | Elliott Callow | 14 |
| 3rd | Jonathan Dale | 13½ |



U15 winners - Elliott Callow & Charlie Linford

Under 13

| | | |
|-----|------------------|-----|
| 1st | Michael Hamilton | 17½ |
| 2nd | Matthew Linnett | 15½ |
| 3rd | James May | 13½ |

A 45 minute consultation . . .

One of the most popular afternoon activities at coaching days is the consultation game. Two trainers each take a group of students and work in a separate room. A match board is then placed on neutral territory outside the two rooms. The first group begins working together to agree a move. The boy or girl who makes the best suggestion is then elected to go out to the match board and play the move. A member of the opposing group notes the move, takes it back to their group to 'consult' on the best reply. Usually each team has 45 minutes on the clock.

The following consultation game was played at the training day in February at Bexhill. Groups led by Paul Kelly and Francis Rayner combined together to face a team led by International Master Graeme Buckley. Paul and Francis' team was made up of a number of Sussex U12 players whilst Graeme's team mainly consisted of under 11 team members preparing for the EPSCA zonal in March. After the game all three trainers praised the players involved for what turned out to be an excellent match. The game is given here annotated by David Fryer.

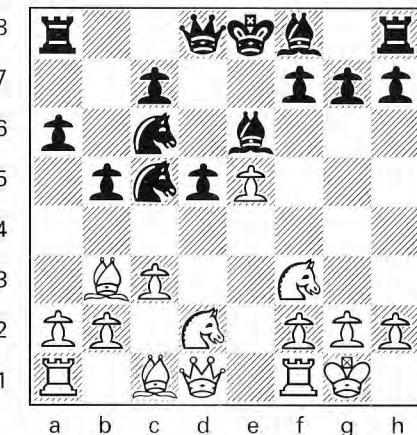
Consultation Game
Bexhill Training - 24-02-2001
Paul Kelly & Francis Rayner Group vs.
Graeme Buckley Group.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 attacking the undefended pawn on e5 2...Nc6 defends the attacked pawn 3.Bb5 attacks the defender 3...a6 attacks the attacker! 4.Ba4 retreats to fight another day as 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5. Nxe5 does not win a pawn due to 5... Qd4 4...Nf6 5.0-0 not defending their e4 pawn but planning to attack the centre with Re1 c3 and d4 and therefore not wanting to waste time with d3 5...Nxe4 Black cocks a snook at the threats down

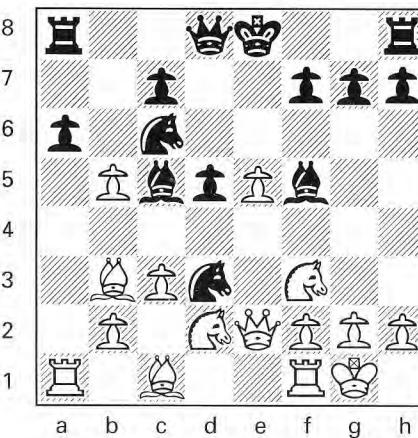


Rachel Escudier and Joe Fraser help to preserve Graeme Buckley's reputation by finding excellent moves during the match.

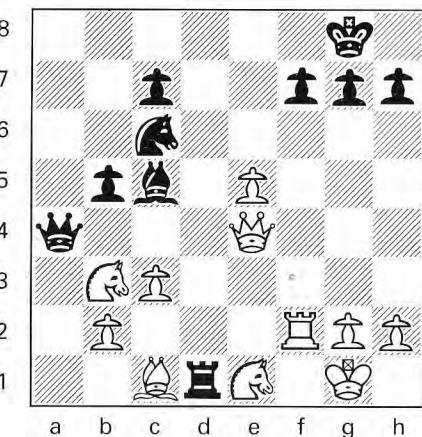
the e file and takes the White pawn. 6.d4 White immediately strikes in the centre knowing that if the e5 pawn is dislodged then Black will be in big trouble 6...b5 7.Bb3 d5 after avoiding the self pin by playing 6...b5 Black contests the centre with d5 at the same time defending their knight on e4 and releasing the white squared bishop 8.dxe5 Be6 as everyone knows I do not like bishops that think they are pawns but in this case Black has no other sensible way of defending the d5 pawn 9.Nbd2 Nc5 10.c3



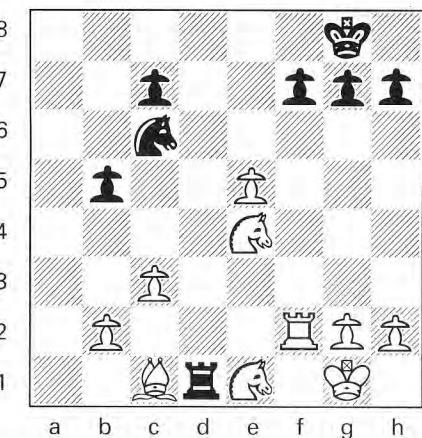
10...Nd3 The knight is now charged up with 4 moves of energy and is deep in enemy territory without protection. Three other moves deserved consideration (i) 10...Be7 developing the last minor piece and allowing castling (ii) 10...d4 an aggressive move that tries to take advantage of the e file being temporarily blocked by the knight on e2 or (iii) 10...Bg4 pinning the knight on f3 and moving that bishop from e6 11.Qe2 Bf5 the knight calls for backup 12.a4 but do not forget why the bishop was on e6 in the first place 12...Be5 13.axb5



13...axb5? This is a good example of why not to automatically play the recapture. The Black queen is overworked defending the d5 pawn and the rook on a8. She needed some help from her trusty steed with 13... Nf4 14.Rxa8 Qxa8 15.Bxd5 0-0 16.Nb3 Knights belong in the centre so 16.Ne4 is preferable cutting off the Black knight's support 16...Rd8 17.Be4 17.c4 is another good alternative suggested by the group at this point. 17...Bxe4 18.Qxe4 Nxg2! 19.Rxf2 things are starting to go astray for White as after this move the back rank is very weak. 19.Qe2 or Qc2 would have been better but White was probably worried about the double check 19...Nh3 19...Rd1+ 20.Ne1 Qa4!!



This very fine move was found by Joe Fraser 21.Nxc5 everything else loses at least the exchange e.g. 21.Qe2 Bxf2+ 22.Qxf2 Qxb3 or 21.Nd4 Nxd4 22.cxd4 Bxd4 23.Qe2 Bxf2+ 24.Qxf2 Rxc1 21...Qxe4 22.Nxe4



Unfortunately at this point Black in a better position lost on time but I hope that this exciting game is continued at the next training day.

Have you have played an exciting game that you would like to see published in The Missing Bishop? Hand a copy to David Fryer for consideration!

The Sussex Primary Cup . . .

Thirty-six teams from primary schools around the county entered this year's competition. The first round games played before Christmas help to reveal the relative strength of the teams. After Christmas the teams are reordered with the strongest teams playing in the higher divisions. The top four teams from each of the divisional groups then qualify to play in the finals in May.

This years the finals were once again held at Hellingly CPS near Hailsham, and our thanks go to Mrs Bangert and Mr Lindsay of Hellingly for their assistance in staging the event.



Holy Cross A - Sussex Primary Cup winners - Stephen Wrathall, Ellie Hayden, Mark Willsher & Mark Carter

The division one final saw Holy Cross, Uckfield attempting to defend the title they won last year against St. Lawrence, Hurstpierpoint. Holy Cross took a two games to one lead but St. Lawrence would still be able to win the match on the tie break, so the fate of the cup rested on the final game played between the captains of each team. After a titanic struggle Holy Cross triumphed becoming the first school to retain the

trophy since Sir Henry Fermor, Crowborough in 1993.



Cottesmore - division two champions - Cyril Ng Lung Kit, Alex Reeve-Tucker, Hugo Wood and Charles de Nicolay

The division two final saw Cottesmore School comprehensively defeat Great Walstead four-nil. In the third division competition hosts Hellingly saw their 'Gators' team defeat Stonegate three-one to take the prize.



Hellingly CPS - division three winners - Christopher Denyer, Micky Sasse, James Silk-Satterley and Katherine Reiley

If your school has a chess club and would like to take part in next year's competition please contact SJC tournament organiser Simon Deere on 01892 663688

Schools Merit Awards . . .

We've reached over 300!

The Merit Award Scheme that was introduced in May 1999 now has forty-five registered schools. In total, well over three hundred certificates have now been issued, comprising 331 Bronze, 31 Silver and 1 Gold.

Teaching Packs for the Bronze and Silver levels are available enabling children to work through the requirements at their own speed. The introductory Bronze award is extremely simple to administer, taking only ten minutes to test.

British Land UK Megafinal . . .

This year over one hundred and seventy children from around the county reached the second stage of the UK Chess Challenge. Sussex hosted the Megafinal at Oakmeads school in Burgess Hill in May.

All competitors scoring four points or more qualified for the next round, the Gigafinal, at the Octagon Centre in Sheffield in July. With the increase in popularity of this competition, Sussex will be sending a record number of entries this year.

Megafinal Winners

Supremas

| | |
|-----|-----------------------|
| U7 | Chloe McDonald |
| U9 | Jessica Wood |
| U10 | Ellie Hayden |
| U11 | Stephanie Barraclough |
| U13 | Katherine Rattle |
| U15 | Rebecca Tuck |

Supremos

| | |
|-----|---------------------|
| U7 | Ben Blundell |
| U8 | Christopher Linnett |
| U9 | Tristan Blundell |
| U10 | David Howell |
| U11 | Joe Fraser |
| U13 | Theo Penty |
| U15 | Lee Crossthwaite |

Outside the county . . .

International News

Four players from Sussex, (this is a record for Sussex and possibly a national record) have been selected to represent England in the 2001 World (Spain) and European Championships (Greece).

David Howell once again doubles up, playing in both, whilst Thomas Rendle and Sebastian Pozzo will be travelling to Spain in November whereas Stephanie Barracough will be visiting Greece in September.

National News

At the England Team trials played at Liverpool, Stephanie and Grant Bucher both qualified for the the 24 strong England squad. Grant will be off to play in Holland later this month. Joe Richardson's score has earned him an England appearance later this year. The selectors have also chosen Daniel Khoo to represent the Rest of England in a forthcoming match.

At the National U12 qualifying event, held at Yately Manor in April, Sebastian Pozzo played brilliantly to secure second place ahead of 53 other players. Playing opponents two years older than himself Sebastian remained unbeaten, drawing with the eventual winner Robert Heaton of Richmond in the last round.

Charles reaches lofty heights

The delightful Loft Junior Tournament, that started in the loft of Girl's Manager David Fryer over twenty years ago, held its second ever junior event in Horley, Surrey last month. Charles de Nicolay emerged as winner half a point ahead of Joe Fraser

with Christopher Linnett and Andrew Tucker in equal third place.

David Grant, much to his mother's consternation, won a giant tin of chocolates for the junior grading prize. Rebecca Tuck, the previous year's winner, organised all the pairings.

Kent Family Tournament

This tournament superbly organised by Kent Junior Chess Association, gives mums and dads the opportunity to take part in a competition alongside their offspring. With guest controller GM Chris Ward there was always going to be plenty of fun and entertainment.

The top graded adult players were severely handicapped. Tony Stebbings (201 BCF) found himself playing an unknown wearing a large hat and dark glasses in round one, who was later revealed to be GM John Emms. David Fryer (161 BCF) usually had little more than ten minutes on his clock but was soundly beaten by one younger opponent, who used barely more than two minutes of his fifty!

A number of Sussex families crossed the border to Sevenoaks managing to carry off some of the most prestigious prizes.

The unluckiest player award (Why is the controller so mean to me?) - Stephanie Barracough

Architectural appreciation award (looking at the ceiling) - Abi Fryer

Best junior was Ellie Hayden who together with father Stuart won the Family Trophy.

Charlie's 'tier' of joy . . .

Sussex Young Masters

The Young Masters is a long play tournament where the games can be played at any mutually agreeable venue - usually at one of the player's homes. It gives the competitors valuable experience of playing chess with plenty of time on the clock, the games are eligible for long play grading and parents get the opportunity to meet and share experiences over a cup of coffee in comfortable surroundings!

This year ten players split into two divisions of five entered. David Barracough and Theo Penty qualified from section A and Michael Hamilton and Charlie Linford from section B. Theo

And finally . . .

Imagine my surprise when I arrived for the training day at Rottingdean to be told that Jonathan and Simon would be joining my group. I know that they have both been getting a little rusty lately but it seemed an extreme measure. When they came in and sat down I was in for another shock - it seemed as if the excitement of the day had knock years off of both of them. I would swear that neither looked a day over eleven years old.

Then the truth was revealed, quite by coincidence, sat together at the front of the group were Jonathan Barnard and Simon Healy both bearing a remarkable

and Charlie won through the semi-finals and met in the final at Theo's house. Charlie won the final winning both matches. It is the third year in succession that Charlie has won the tournament. The specially commissioned wooden trophy is made up of three tiers with a number of badges on each. The third win ensures that Charlie has sole possession of the top tier hence Charlie's tier of joy!

Next season, to encourage more entries the competition will split into major and minor sections in similar fashion to the Grand Prix tournaments to give less experienced players a fairer game. To enter contact Ruth Tucker on 01273 846107



Jonathan Barnard and Simon Healy at the Rottingdean Coaching and Fun Day
resemblance to their older SJC counterparts!

Sussex Junior Chess - Summer/Autumn Diary

SJC Events

For all these events contact
Simon Deere 01892 663688

Sat 30 June/Sun 1 July
U14/U18 Sussex Closed Champs
Westmeston, Ditchling

Sat 8 September
Coaching & Fun Day
Venue tba

Sat 15th September (GP 1)
Crowborough Open
U11 Maj & Min, U18 Maj & Min

Sat 29 September (GP2)
South West Sussex Open
Chichester
London Qualifier Event
U8, U10, U12, U14, U16

Sat 6 October
Coaching & Fun Day including
Under 8 Champs (Closed)
Lindfield

Sat 20 October
Horsham Open
U11 Maj & Min, U18 Maj & Min

Sat 10 November
Coaching & Fun Day
Herstmonceux

Sat 17 November (Prov)
U9 Champs (Closed)
Ditchling

Sat 24 November (Prov)
U11 Champs (Closed)
Great Walstead

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.belinfante.demon.co.uk

Other Events

Sat 23 June
Sussex Scorpions
v. Rest of England
Streatham
Simon Deere 01892 663688

Sun 24 June
Basingstoke Junior Open
All age groups
Joe French 01256 472537

Sun 24 June
Richmond Junior Champs
U8/U9/U10/U11
Hampton
Richard James 0208 898 1190

Sun 8 July
Richmond Junior Champs
U12/U14/U16
Hampton
Richard James 0208 898 1190

Sat 14 July (U7 to U10)
Sun 15 July (U11 to U18)
British Land UK Gigafinal
The Octagon Centre
Sheffield
Mike Basman 0208 397 1826

Sun 29 July to Sat 11 August
Smith & Williamson
British Chess Champs.
The Spa Centre
Scarborough
Mr J. M. Robinson 01536 26169

Sat 26 August
Sun 27 August
British Land UK Terrafinal
Mike Basman 0208 397 1826