



BULLETIN

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Facts we try to get right. Opinions, unless otherwise attributed, are the Editor's.

ORDERS FOR NEXT YEAR

All Bulletin subscriptions expire with this issue. There's a renewal form in the envelope somewhere. Return it straight away if you want to renew. You know you'll forget otherwise. County Secretaries get a free copy automatically courtesy of the SCCU, so long as I know who they are. Other county officers receiving free copies, match captains for example, do so because their counties have subscribed on their behalf. I don't automatically know who match captains are and I don't send them free copies anyway. Prod your county treasurer or secretary if you think it prudent. All members of the SCCU Executive get a free copy if they choose not to pay. Some other people get free copies for odd reasons, and they need not renew unless I forget.

We *do* have a Grading Secretary. Howard Grist has volunteered since the AGM. We're not selling SCCU Lists, but there is an order form for **BCF Grading Lists**. It doesn't go to the same address as Bulletin orders. Don't try to combine the two in one order. (We're only human. At best you'll get what you ordered, at worst we'll shred half of it.) County Secretaries are being sent lots of GL order forms, with a request to distribute them to clubs when convenient. The List has a CD with it, whether you want it or not, containing everything on the List and more besides. The CD is not sold separately.

County Lists. The SCCU will not be selling County Lists as in the past. We understand from the BCF, but you may wish to check with them, that it is OK for a County, having bought the CD, to extract data from it how it pleases and publish it how it pleases.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Richard,

6.6.99

Since the 4NCL started six years ago, we have sensibly avoided clashes between 4NCL weekends and our Open Division county matches. With the number of teams in the 4NCL expanding to embrace players of lesser strength than hitherto, I wonder whether we should now seek also to avoid clashes between the 4NCL and our U175 Division matches.

I have raised the subject with County Match Controller David Smith, who was sympathetic but pointed to the difficulties which he already has in fitting in all the fixtures. I imagine that the first objective will continue to be to avoid clashes between the 4NCL and the Open Division. Given this policy, it may well be possible to ensure either that U175 matches do not clash with Open matches, or that they do not clash with the 4NCL, but not both. If this is the choice, what do others think?

DAVID SEDGWICK

Croydon

Dear Richard,

9.6.99

In his letter of 6 June, David Sedgwick has raised the question of whether it is more important to avoid clashes between U175 matches and 4NCL fixtures than it is to continue to avoid clashes between U175 matches and Open matches. I believe that I am correct in stating that there was only one clash between a 4NCL weekend and a round of U175 matches in the season just completed, so there does not appear to be too much of a problem at present. However, the arrangement of fixtures would be trickier if, as I very much hope, Kent were to re-enter the U175 Division and boost the competition to five teams, and as I recognise that a number of potential Kent U175 players are involved with Invicta Knights 2 it is entirely appropriate that this issue is being raised now.

The relative importance of the 4NCL and the Open Division in terms of the players available to an U175 captain is likely to vary from County to County, and we should obtain views from all the relevant match captains before seeking to reach a conclusion. However, speaking as the Essex U175 match captain, I have an extremely strong preference for continuing to avoid clashes between the U175 and the Open. I cannot recollect a single occasion in my three years as captain when an Essex player has cited a 4NCL commitment as a reason for missing a match. In contrast, the Open team has had to draw on players eligible for the U175 side in ALL of its matches this season, the number concerned on a match by match basis in the Union qualifying competition being 6, 8, 5, 9, 7, 10, 4 and 6. Although we might get away with it occasionally (as the quarter finals of the National Stages demonstrated) it would be extremely difficult for Essex to do itself justice on a regular basis in both of the competitions if the fixtures at the Union stage clashed, and I seriously doubt whether I would feel inclined to continue as the U175 match captain if this was the route that we went down.

Yours sincerely

JOHN PHILPOTT

Chingford

Quick reply? Well, it was a Website correspondence.

SCCU AGM

The SCCU AGM was held 3.7.99 at the Marquis of Clanricarde (a pub) in Southwick St, London W2. 14 attended, which was barely more than a quorum. Last year's figure was 20. Main points:

(1) County matches. The County Match Controller's report mentioned the worrying number of individual game defaults (quite apart from the two defaulted matches). This has occasioned comment at BCF level as well. Someone

asked if the Union had ever considered punitive sanctions for individual defaults. (It hasn't, not recently at any rate.) The Executive Committee was asked to have a think about this.

(2) Juniors. The missing trophies came up again. Research has not revealed their whereabouts, so far. However, the meeting was reasonably satisfied of their existence. Unless someone's melted them down. (Or chopped them up. rjh does not know what sort of trophies they are.) It is thought that one of the current Champions may be investigating.

The U14/U90 competition is set to continue, and the (retiring) President announced his intention to donate a trophy. Girls U18 Jamborees. These are to be held the day after the "Boys" ones. No one felt able to say how this would affect entries, but we couldn't do much worse than last year's Two. Last season's, that is. 2000 events are 4th and 5th March, in Chelmsford.

(3) Money. The Accounts 1998-9, showing a deficit for the year of £231 (£515 budgeted!) were adopted. The meeting agreed a budget deficit of £830 for 1999-2000. This included an increase in Bulletin sub from £6 to £9, following an increase in duplicating costs. It was too early to say how Bulletin sales would be affected by the introduction of the Website. Website allocation is £200, but considerable savings might be made in future by switching to a free ISP.

(4) Election of Officers. Names and addresses are inside the front cover. No surprises. Chris Majer is your new President. His predecessor, John Philpott, did not stand for office but has taken over as Essex rep. The office of Deputy President was left temporarily vacant, and there were no candidates for Grading Secretary. Which brings us to

(5) Grading. It is not our custom to record apologies for absence in these website reports. But we'll mention the apologies of the (retiring) Grading Secretary, because the reason is of interest. He was in the middle of a weekend session at the BCF Office, working flat out on data for the August List. [Not said at the meeting, but the BCF had a small grading-crisis on at the time following the departure of its employee responsible for grading.]

The meeting debated whether we needed an SCCU Grading List this year. One of its advantages has been its A5 format, which makes it more portable than the BCF monster. But that's without extras like Rapidplay grades, and it was doubtful if we could fit those into A5. It was decided, by a majority of 5 to 2, that we could do without an SCCU List this year. Exact figures were not available, but income from sales has always been fairly small in comparison with income from BCF lists. (The Unions get a commission on BCF lists, and have them on a sale-or-return basis.)

Preparing and marketing the SCCU Grading List, and marketing the BCF one, has always been the Grading Secretary's biggest job. Almost his only job, setting aside any grading he may do personally. Or Results-Officering. A suggestion to go back to Election of Officers and see if we had a volunteer, now the job had got smaller, was not taken up. But no one leapt to his feet when the suggestion was made. [rjh: We *could* stop selling BCF lists, and still use someone in a general co-ordinating capacity. Maybe it will come to that.]

Another thing Grading Secretaries have done, now we think of it, is to produce County Lists on request. But it is quite possible for a County to negotiate directly with the BCF. One County said it was doing so.

(6) Non-County Members. The meeting elected the London Chess Association and the Coulsdon Chess Fellowship, bringing the number of NCMs to five. Contact details for the new members are where you'd expect.

(7) SCCU Tournament Rules. The new draft was approved, after some amendments. Someone proposed an additional rule saying (more or less) that a substitute may not be stronger than the player he replaces. Feelings were quite strong on this one, in both directions. Some thought it would tie a match captain's hands too much, and the addition was not agreed.¹

The draft said nothing about penalties for failing to meet deadlines, when contacting opponents or sending results. However, the meeting agreed that offences should be firmly stamped on.

(8) Counties Rapidplay Championship. This year's event is 9th October in Sheffield. It was always more or less a Midlands thing, but it has now started to move around the country. Next year's event has been offered to the SCCU. We would have to see what Counties were interested.

What, only eight items? It was more, on the Agenda, but we haven't missed a lot out except for the detail. The meeting closed at the civilised time of 5 pm, having taken something under three hours.

¹ *Item 7.* Do readers have any views on this one? Your Editor's county has had such a rule for as long as he can remember, in its inter-club tournaments, and no one ever complains about it. He's always assumed, perhaps wrongly, that it's the same in other counties. Maybe match captains have an easier life in club tournaments.

SCCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

3rd July 1999

The Executive met, as always, immediately after the AGM, and the attendance was almost identical. At least one person commented adversely on the counties' lack of interest in the AGM.

Fred Manning was co-opted, and confirmed in his job of Curator of Equipment. The Executive appointed the *Rules & Appeals Sub-Committee* : CE Majer, RJ Haddrell, JA Philpott; *representatives to the BCF*: CEM for Management Board, plus RJH, NC Mackett, WA Suttill for Council; and a *representative to the London Chess Association* (FC Manning).

It also fixed the date of the next meeting, provisionally, as Friday 3rd September. Backup date 10th September. The Executive always fixes its other dates at the September meeting. It was noted that the AGM might have to be in July again (Saturday 1st) since the 24th June was BCF Counties Finals Day.

BCF MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING

19 June 1999

The influence of Howard Curtis as the new Director of Management Services was apparent on the agenda where suggested timings were given for each item. Stewart Reuben had given the following instructions:

"Speakers will be expected to hold their speeches to five minutes or less. Only introducers of proposals may possibly be allowed to address a topic twice. Papers supplied on the day of the meeting will not be considered unless the chairman rules they are emergency matters. The Director of Management Services will be in charge of assuring these conditions are met."

Despite sceptical predictions in certain quarters (and the occasional descent into the more traditional MB shambles, as when the meeting dates for 2000 were discussed) the plan to complete the agenda worked, and there was 15 minutes at the end for any other business to be considered. Some points emerging:

- The 1998/99 deficit which was forecast at £20,341 in April might prove to be worse by £3/4,000.
- The Finance Committee Chairman had provided an interim report on the Investigation into the finances surrounding the Witley Junior International Event. A response from Alec Webster, the Junior Squad Treasurer, to certain questions that had been raised with him was tabled at the meeting. Certain points needed to be followed up before it would be appropriate for this to come into the public domain. The Board did, however, endorse the general principle that another organisation can only use the "BCF" name with the approval of the Board or Council.
- Chris Howell confirmed that the grading list would be published in July. It might omit some events (as previous lists have done) but that would be attributable to results not being submitted to the Office and not to problems with the central processing. The new disk for graders¹ was a major improvement on the first, with which there had been many problems. After the present list, non-electronic submission would not be accepted for an event unless the results could be fitted onto one sheet of A4. It is not clear how the implied discrimination against graders without a computer fits into the equal opportunities policy discussed later in the meeting.
- It was agreed to proceed for 1999/2000 on the basis of the draft Game Fee Regulations which had been circulated with the April Finance Council papers. In respect of the issues where Council had been offered options, the Board decided to run with the status quo in respect of payments for Winter Leagues and discounts. Much to the disappointment of the Director, it also decided to retain a September rather than June date for the change in the Game Fee rate. This will prevent the planned invoicing system from being implemented during his term of office.
- The Finance Committee had produced an interim report on forecasting and budgeting controls, which give or take the odd comment along the lines of "what is proposed is far too tight - we will never get anything done if this goes through" was generally well received. Longer term matters being considered include the appropriateness of the 30 April accounting date. Urgent action is being taken to find two volunteers to act as assistants to the Finance Director.
- Howard Curtis had accomplished the far from straightforward task of compiling an up to date text of the Board standing orders. This will now serve as the starting point for development; many of the Finance Committee recommendations on forecasting and budgeting controls are likely to end up here.
- Howard Curtis was appointed to lead a team to co-ordinate the BCF's efforts in the Chess as a Sport campaign.
- The Counties Rapidplay will be held in Sheffield on October 9. The event is to be offered to the SCCU for 2000.
- The Home Chess Director reported that he had dismissed Adrian Dawson from his post as the Officer responsible for Chess in Prisons as he was not satisfied with his stewardship. Each Union will be asked to nominate a person to act as a local contact.
- In future the Board will elect somebody to chair its meetings who may or may not be the Chairman of the BCF. Stewart Reuben may miss the September Council meeting as he has been invited to be an arbiter at the World Junior Championships in Armenia. If Stewart is not available, David Sedgwick will chair the Board meeting that day and be recommended to Council as the chairman for the Council meeting.
- Sarah Hurst had resigned as editor of ChessMoves to take up a post in Azerbaijan with the BCF. It was agreed that Stewart Reuben would act as temporary editor; prior to advertising for a permanent successor, the Board will consider the future role of the publication.
- Chris Howell and David Sedgwick would not be standing for re-election to their present directorships in September.
- The loss of the Onyx sponsorship of the Grand Prix is now in the public domain; a new sponsor was being sought.
- The British Championships in 2000 would be held at Millfield School
- Michael Adams had retained the Player of the Year title. There would be no Club of the Year Award; the criteria would be amended to take into account the coaching offered to members, the outreach into the community and the activities of the club during a calendar year.
- Howard Curtis would use his office facilities to get the BCF Website updated and running. *[rjh 25.7.99: Not yet he hasn't. Got other things on his plate, shouldn't wonder.]*

- The Hastings International Chess Centre project appeared to be moribund until chess became a sport.
- Proceedings concluded with Stan Goodall thanking Stewart and Howard for a decent meeting, and a round of applause. Not a bad note for your correspondent to conclude with at the end of his period as SCCU representative to the Board.

John Philpott 23 June 1999

¹ *rjh: Grading CD arrived that day (19th June). Haven't looked at the improved programs yet, I'm still using my own. But there must have been some grading traffic on the Office's mail server. Send anything around that time and you got their standard all-purpose acknowledgment. Things have been fairly hectic since, as well. Certain Directors have been practically living in the BCF Office this last month. And the odd occasional volunteer or four. Last I heard, they expected to meet the printer's deadline of Monday 26 July and put the list on sale in the first week of the British.*

CONGRESS RESULTS

GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY 17th July 1999

Part of the Onxy Grand Prix

Open (15 pl) 1 IM Jonathan Parker (Monarchs) 5½/6 £60; 2 Jovanka Houska (Slough) 4½ £30; 3 Deiter Seidel (Germany) 4 £15... *Grading* U175 Kieran Smallbone (Basingstoke) 4 (won a voucher for a meal for two at the Piccola Italia Restaurant in Golders Green, donated by co-owner, and regular Golders Green participant, Salvatore Pepe)

Major U160 (18 pl) 1 Jonathan Lappage (Oxford) 5/6 £60; 2-3 Martin Page (Insurance CC), Tom Quilter (Gerrards Cross) 4½ £22.50... *Grading* U145 Oliver Cooley (St Olaves) 4 (meal-for-two voucher)

Minor U130 (23 pl) 1-2 CJ de Mooi (Hammersmith CC), Norman Harris (Metropolitan) 5/6 £45; 3 Paul E Richards (Whitstable) 4½ £15... *Grading* U115 Ray Gosden (Whitstable) 3½ (meal for two). Also Barry Sandercock (Veteran) 3½

Amateur U100 (29 pl) 1 Joel Bird (Southampton Uni) 6/6 £60; 2 Alex Lim (Hounslow) 4½ £15; 3-4 Jason Klimach (Ilford), Jan Wassermann-Fry (Whitstable) 4½/6 £25 (includes U85 and Junior prize respectively)

Results Adam Raof

GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY 26th June 1999

Open (13 pl) 1 Roy Royce (formerly Sagall: 188, Hampstead) 5/6 £60; 2 Paul Georghiou (209, Barnet) 4½ £30; 3-6 Alastair Compton (168, King's Head: U175 prize £20), Marcus Osborne (180, Wallington), Oleg Choulechko (Russia), Jim Plaskett (236g, Hastings) 4...

Major U160 (21 pl) 1 Oliver Cooley (139, St Olaves) 6/6 £60; 2 Andrew Bigg (129, Beckenham) 5 £30; 3-5 Donny Muter (138, Richmond), Simon Warman (129, Imperial), Douglas Hogan (Ireland) 4... *Grading* U145 Muter, Hogan £10

Minor U130 (20 pl) 1-2 Alexander Meynell (125, Streatham), CJ de Mooi (119s, West London) 5/6 £45; 3-5 Alexander O'Neill (97, Ilford), David Bareham (125, Bradon Forest), David McNish (125, Edmonton) 4... *Grading* U115 O'Neill £20

Amateur U100 (23 pl) 1-3 Edward Leung (86, Richmond Juniors), Clive Blackburn (89, Northampton), David Everitt (92, Haywards Heath) 5/6 £30; 4 Robert Walker (97, King's Gambit Nottingham) 4½; 5-6 James Berlin (99, Ilford: Highest Under 16 £10), William McLaughlin (85, Metropolitan) 4; 7-10 Dominic Howard (94, Charlton), Howard Berlin (96, Ilford), Derek Birt (85, Hayes Middx), Andrew Fabisz (87, NW London) 3½... *Grading* U85 Mark A Richards (82, Whitstable) 3 £10

Results Adam Raof

24th RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY at Hampton, 6th June 1999

Open (17 pl) 1 IM Andrew Ledger (London) 5/6; 2-4 IM Mike Basman (Chessington), IM Peter Large (London), IM Simon Williams (London) 4½... *Grading* U200 Marcus Osborne (Wallington) 3; U180 Nicholas Moloney (London) 3

Major U160 (16 pl) 1 Dan Mayers (Wadhurst Sussex) 5/6; 2 Simon Wrigley (Purley) 4½; 3-5 John Foley (London), Donny Muter (London), John Woolley (Northolt) 4... *Grading* U140 Muter, Woolley

Intermediate U120 (19 pl) 1 Derek Birt (Hayes Middx) 5½/6; 2 Anna Partington (RJCC/Leatherhead) 5; 3 Joe Xuereb (New Malden) 4½... *Grading* U100 Edward Leung (RJCC/London), Sebastian Pozzo (London) 3½

Minor U80 (28 pl) 1-2 Timothy Seymour (RJCC/Sunbury), Jonah Specter (Northwood, Middx) 5/6; 3-5 Kevin Allsop (Suffolk), Harry Godfrey (RJCC/Osterley), Marco Lizzul (RJCC/Hampton) 4½...

28 players

Latoka Engineering Grand Prix

The Grand Prix, for Richmond regulars, took in all six of this season's Richmond Rapidplays. Eight prizes of £75, in different grading categories. Don't know precisely what the categories were. Winners: **A** IM Simon Williams (London); **B** no qualifying scores!; **C** Chris Briscoe (West Molesey); **D** Dave Faldon (London); **E** Donny Muter (London); **F** Paul Kendall (London); **G** Anna Partington (RJCC/Leatherhead); **H** Timothy Seymour (RJCC/Sunbury). *Consolation prizes* to Graeme Buckley, Malcolm Miles, James Snowden

Results Richard James

HENDON (10 minute) BLITZ 3rd June 1999

1 Paul Georghiou 202 6/6 £40; 2-4 Bertie Barlow 185, Mike Tasker 175, David Iwi 130 5 £10 each; 5 (and £10 grading prize) Neville Belinfante 99 4½... 40 played

Results Adam Raof. Hendon Blitz takes place on the first Thursday of every month, 7.30 to 10 pm, at St Albans Church Hall, Golders Green NW11. Entry fee £5.

GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY 22nd May 1999

Open (10 pl) 1 GM Aaron Summerscale (Hackney) 5½/6 £60; 2 IM Colin Crouch (Harrow) 5 £30; 3 Paul Georghiou (Barnet) 4...

Major U160 (10 pl) 1 Adam Dakin (London N1) 6/6 £30*; 2 Emyr Jones (Imperial Knights) 4 £60; 3-5 E Michael White, Dan E Mayers (Marshall: *Veteran*), Maor Shine (Hendon) 3½...

Minor U130 (18 pl) 1-2 Claire Lusher (Fareham), Lee Gold (Hendon) 5/6 £45; 3 David McNish (Edmonton) 4½; 4-5 Lucy Smith (Oxford City), Maurice Siegel (Waltham Forest) 4... *Grading* U115 Siegel: two Grandmaster Videos.

Amateur U100 (10 pl) 1 Nick Burrows (Bolton) 6/6 £60; 2 Clive Blackburn (Northampton) 4 £30; 3 Adrian Fabisz (Willesden) 3½...

* Ungraded Player Rule

Results Adam Raof

GOLDERS GREEN BLITZ 4th May 1999

24 played. 1-3 IM Colin Crouch (Harrow), Andrew Kitchlew (ISH), Costas Harris (QEB's) 5/6; 4-5 Alfredo Luaces (Kings Head), Ortwin Kreibich (GER) 4½; 6-7 Adam Joelson (highest placed Hendon Club member on tie-break:

"Hendon Fiver"), Lee Gold (also Hendon) 4; 8-10 Chris Jones (Hendon), Jamie Hillman, Michel Hockx (NL) 3½...

Blitz is held on the first Thursday of every month.

Results Adam Raof

JUNIOR NEWS

UK CHESS CHALLENGE**SAITEK GIGAFINAL at NOTTINGHAM**

1.7.99

Ultimos and Ultimas:

Under 18 Boys Adam Hunt (Oxford); Girls Iva Anguelov (Middx)

Under 15 Boys Lorin D'Costa (Herts); Girls Catherine David (Oxford)

Under 13 Boys Thomas Rendle (St Leonards Sussex); Girls Heather Walker (Southend)

Under 11 Boys Jamie Hillman (Middx); Girls Naomi Scott (Devon)

Under 10 Boys Thomas Sharp (Kent); Girls Sarah Hegarty (Surrey)

Under 9 Boys Graham Hantman (Surrey); Girls Naomi Miller (Oxford)

Under 8 Boys David Howell (Sussex); Girls Selina Khoo (Surrey)

Under 7 Boys Stuart Graham (Salop); Girls Poppy Maxwell (Oxford)

Simuls: Matthew Sadler +25 =1 -1; Jon Speelman +19 =8 -3 (both of these had élite opponents); Graeme Buckley +31 =0 -0; Robert Bellin +28 =1 -0; Susan Lalic +24 =1 -1; Jovanka Houska +27 =1 -2; Ketevan Arahamia +26 =7 -0.

The **Terafinal** is at Olympia, Kensington, on Saturday 28th August. These 16 winners will contest a four-round (RP50/50) Swiss to decide the ultimate winner, who for reasons we've never understood will be called the STRAT. Well, press release (received about 20th July) says it's a Swiss. A parent (parents are often more reliable than press releases) tells us it's actually a KO as last year, with players moving into the Challengers when eliminated. What Challengers? Read on.

There will also be a *Challengers Tournament* (RP 30/30) for Gigafinal runners-up. Challengers: U18 Richard S Jones (S Wales), Sarah Ellis (Hants); U15 Matthew Broomfield (Sy), Kirsty Stevenson (Scotland); U13 Christopher Dorrington (Lincs), Graham Morris (Berks), Teresa Khoo (Sy); U11 William Bennet (Cams), Nathan Butterworth (Lancs), Charlotte Wilcox (Staffs); U10 Robert Heaton (Sy), Matthew Elstrop (Hants), Rebecca Gilbert (Sy); U9 Joe Richardson (Sx), James Porter (Middx), Abigail Flint (Essex); U8 Michael Keetley (Notts), Karen Jones (Kent), Jana Briggs (Mx); U7 Alastair Crosswell (Herts), Olivia Barber (Sy).

Prizes: Main Tournament £500; top Girl and top U11 £250 each. Challengers: £250, £150, &100, £50, £ 30. Plus *Grading* U100 £30, U51 £30 (grades as calculated by Leonard Barden prior to the Gigafinal)

WIREPLAY

13.7.99

There was a new Internet Schools Championship starting back in the Spring term, and we've been wondering what happened to it. They told us a while back that they'd had a fair number of entries just on the deadline, but the competition got bogged down. Slightly cryptic reply to recent inquiries suggests that it was never completed, but they're expecting quicker and easier-to-use software in September and intend to continue then. Watch this space.

KENT JUNIOR GRAND PRIX: Final Event

at the Astor of Hever School Maidstone, Saturday 3rd July 1999

Under 18 (18 pl) 1-2 Andrew Bigg, Matthew Noakes 5/6; 3-4 Oliver Cooley, Heather Richards 4½; 5 Alistair Taylor 3½...

Under 11 (23 pl) 1 Stephan Wassermann-Fry 5½/6; 2 Michael Marrow 5; 3-4 Heather Russell-Kay, Tom Shillingford 4½; 5-7 David Franklin, Harry Ryan-Smith, Sam Siebert 4...

Under 9 (16 pl) 1 Geoffrey Walters 6/6; 2-3 Nicholas Kidson, Kenrick de Nazareth 4½; 4 Karen Jones 4...

Best School Award: Amherst Sevenoaks

Bulletin's Award for Best Name of the Season: Kenrick de Nazareth

Bob Barnes of the British Chess Problem Society gave a well received presentation. "Then a fabulous buffet supper was provided."

Your Editor has never fathomed the Grand Prix scoring rules, but the season's winners were:

Under 18 Andrew Bigg (U16)

Under 11 Thomas Sharp (U10)

Under 9 Geoffrey Walters

For more details, see the excellent Kent Junior Website www.kjca.ndirect.co.uk

KENT SCHOOLS LEAGUE 1998-9: update

Under 11 (38 entries) Final Congress, for the 8 regional qualifiers, was held 4.7.99. 1 Amherst Sevenoaks 19½/25; 2 Barming Maidstone 17... *Reserves* 1 Emily Beeney (Barming) 5/5... For more details, see note to last item.

SCCU U18 JAMBOREES 2000 and 2001

Next season's "Open" (that is, not sex-restricted) Jamboree will be held on Saturday 4th March 2000 at King Edward VI Grammar School, Chelmsford. Once again there will be just one jamboree, with the winner qualifying for the BCF Open (other meaning) Final and the next highest-placed eligible team qualifying for the Minor. Everyone's eligible except Kent.

So that girls may play in the "Open" as well as the Girls event, it is proposed to hold the Girls Jamboree on the following day, at Temple Sutton Primary School in Southend. This is a departure from previous practice, and Nigel Dennis suggests that the AGM may wish to discuss it.

The 2001 event will be in Hertfordshire on the 3rd March (with the Girls on the following day again, if it's what people want).

ECGCF

Finals at Abingdon 3rd July 1999: 1 Surrey 17/18; 2 Oxon 9½; 3 Notts 9; 4 Lincs 7; 5 Devon 6½; 6 Somerset 5

Minor Finals at Coulsdon 12th June 1999: 1 Middx 14/18; 2 Northants 10½; 3 Sussex 9; 4 Staffs 7; 5 Hants 4½

The ECGCF is to run the competitions again this season at U14 level. (It was always intended to be U14, but ran at U13 in the inaugural season.)

SCCU U14/U90 CHAMPIONSHIP: Fixtures 1999-2000

Nigel Dennis gives the provisional list for next season. Kent and Herts, who did not enter last year, are thinking about it.

Oct	2		Jan	15	BuO SyK EM
	9			22	
	16	BrO KSy ME		29	OBr KSx MH
	23		Feb	5	<i>Squad Championships U14,12 at Yateley</i>
	30			12	BrBu SxSy HE
Nov	6	OBu SxK HM		19	
	13			26	
	20		Mar	4	Finals at Chelmsford
	27			11	
Dec	4	BuBr SySx EH		18	
	11	<i>LJCC U14,10,8 at Stoke on Trent</i>		25	

NATIONAL CLUB

OPEN

Semi-finals Ilford 4 2 Bristol & Clifton; Maidstone ½ 5½ Wood Green

Final Wood Green 4 2 Ilford

OPEN PLATE

Final Charlton* 3 3 Hounslow

MAJOR U175

Semi-finals Radbroke Hall 1 5 Guildford; Eastbourne 3½ 1½ Wanstead & Woodford

Final Guildford 3 2 Eastbourne

MAJOR PLATE

Semi-finals Southampton* 2½ 2½ Reading; Maidstone 2½ 2½ *Ashfield

Final Southampton* 2½ 2½ Ashfield

INTERMEDIATE U150

Semi-finals Gambit 1½ 3½ Bedford; Maidstone* 2½ 2½ Cardiff

Final Maidstone 3 2 Bedford

INTERMEDIATE PLATE

Semi-finals Cosham 3 2 Kings Head; Rose Foregrove 4 1 Gt Lever

Final Cosham 3 2 Rose Foregrove

MINOR U125

Semi-finals (by 30.5.99) Basingstoke 3 2 Cowley; Ashfield 3½ 1½ Bourne End

Final Ashfield 3 2 Basingstoke

MINOR PLATE

Semi-finals (by 30.5.99) Coulsdon & Purley 1½ 3½

Crusaders (Blackburn); Waltham Forest w/o scr Reading

Final Crusaders 3 2 Waltham Forest

UNDER 100

Final Magdalen College School 4 1 Ashtead

UNDER 100 PLATE

Final Basingstoke 4 1 Syston

HANDICAP RAPIDPLAY

Final Cardiff* (154) 2½ 5½ Bolton (190)

HANDICAP PLATE

Semi-Finals Mushrooms 5½ 2½ *Poulton le Fylde; and (presumably) Basildon beat Southbourne or Maidstone or Rainham

Final Poulton le Fylde (153) 8 0 Basildon (120)

COUNTY MATCHES: BCF STAGE

OPEN

SEMI-FINALS		Essex*		5.6.99		Cambs		Kent*		5.6.99		Dorset	
1	J Rogers 223 (W)	½	½	B Kelly 234	1	0	Neil McDonald 239	1	0	MJ Simons 197			
2	T Wall 221	0	1	M Ferguson 229	1	0	Ian R Watson 224	1	0	GA White 192			
3	MS Twyble 206	½	½	H Hunt 226	1	0	Alan E Hanreck 210	1	0	AS Pleasants 193			
4	AP Lewis 204	0	1	KCC Mah 221	1	0	Andrew L Mack 204	1	0	SJ Shutler 189			
5	D Sands 207	½	½	J Vigus 210	1	0	John Naylor 200	1	0	JR Hopkins 186			
6	JH Hodgson 197	½	½	D Moskovic 206	½	½	John N Sugden 198	½	½	KP Goater 183			
7	J Manley 188	½	½	A Cohen 213	½	½	David Farndon 198	½	½	MJ Freeman 183			
8	M Rich 184	0	1	D Hassapis (so) 197	½	½	Peter P Taylor 191	½	½	B Hirsch 181			
9	R White 182	0	1	N Regan 195	1	0	Nigel P Donovan 190	1	0	J Tyrer 178			
10	LE Marden 179	½	½	P Crocker 194	1	0	Lyndon R Gurr 190	1	0	GJ Willetts 177			
11	JA Goldberg 178	1	0	M Thornton 181	1	0	Rory MR O'Kelly 190	1	0	D Keddie 177			
12	PL Williamson 162	0	1	J Gooding 182	1	0	John D Wager 187	1	0	IC Clark 172			
13	AR Brett 178	½	½	K Sheffler -	0	1	Alexis M Harakis 184	0	1	CB Jenks 172			
14	TD Whitton 177	0	1	P McMahon 160	1	0	Gordon Botley 184	1	0	PR Kemp 163			
15	R Parker 176	1	0	M Campbell 158	1	0	J Stuart Williams 176	1	0	V Jenson 160			
16	JC Moore 170	0	1	S Essen 153	½	½	Chris B Rice 169	½	½	SC Crisp 152			
	(Wanstead House)	5½	10½					13	3				

FINAL

Cambs		26.6.99		Kent	
1	J Mestel 228 (W)	1	0	Neil McDonald 239	
2	J Parker 237	1	0	Danny Gormally 227	
3	M Turner 231	1	0	Ian Watson 224	
4	M Ferguson 229	0	1	Neil Dickenson 213	
5	K Mah 221	1	0	Alan Hanreck 210	
6	E Dearing 215	1	0	Andrew Mack 204	
7	J Vigus 211	1	0	John Naylor 200	
8	D Moskovic 208	½	½	John Sugden 198	
9	A Harley 206	½	½	David Farndon 198	
10	A Hon 205	0	1	Peter Taylor 191	
11	A Cohen 212	½	½	Nigel Donovan 190	
12	H Jakubovics 197	½	½	Rory O'Kelly 190	
13	D Hassabis 197	½	½	Lyndon Gurr 190	
14	N Alfred 193	1	0	John Wager 187	
15	N Regan 194	1	0	Alexis Harakis 184	
16	R Churm 185	½	½	Chris Rice 169	
		11	5		

There was speculation that a vacation-hit Cambs might fall short of their usual strength. They didn't. They even came up with a 215 who hadn't so far played for them this season. Or at all, probably. Kent, outgraded by 10 points or so per board, must still have been disappointed not to improve on their Cambs result in the SCCU stage.

MINOR COUNTIES

SEMI-FINALS		5.6.99		Bucks		Norfolk		6.6.99		Herts*	
Suffolk		0	1	Andrew P Smith 201	M Gough 202 (W)	0	1	Simon JB Knott 219			
1	Karl Bowden 202 (W)	½	½	John R Sharp 187	M Harris 201	½	½	Steve Swanson 204			
2	Mike Cook 189	½	½	Alex Tucker 189	B Wolkowski 194	0	1	Paul V Byway 197			
3	Steve Gregory 187	0	1	Robert J Richmond 189	G Heide 191	1	0	Jeremy F Rudge 189			
4	Paul Botham 180	0	1	Mike Lambshire 185	S Orton 187	0	1	Howard L Tebbs 177			
5	Ian Wallis 179	½	½	Gerald Moore 189	D Lemoir 186	1	0	Lorin AR D'Costa 172			
6	Shaoun (so) Munson 172	0	1	Jonathan E Beedle 182	B Collinson 183	1	0	Keith Woodhouse (r) 105			
7	Tim Lunn 168	0	1	Hans Hansen 176	J Wells 178	0	1	JN Fraser-Mitchell 177			
8	Stephen Ruthen 166	0	1	Ray Edwards 183	M Woolnough 176	½	½	Kevin R Clark 179			
9	Alex Charity 165	1	0	Phil Bonafont 185	P Smith 170	1	0	Chris E Majer 177			
10	Robert Sanders 165	1	0	Richard O'Brien 167	D Hall 168	½	½	Steve J Tovey 174			
11	John Feavyour 162	1	0	Andy Robbings 161	J Dawson 156	0	1	John R Denton 173			
12	Gordon Mouton 161	0	1	Roger de Coverly 161	R Wood 153	0	1	D Ross Brennan 170			
13	Laurie Pott 156	0	1	Malcolm Armstrong 172	T Mantripp 148	½	½	Philip J Gregory 163			
14	Kevin Greenacre 153	0	1	Majid Mashayekh 158	S Moore 147	1	0	Barry Morris 158			
15	Scott Taylor 147	0	1	Stephen Law 160	P Badger 140	1	0	Steven Weston 151			
16	Y Peter Keffler 137	5½	10½		(Gt Shelford Cambs)	8	8				
	(Royston)			mean grade 178	mean grade 174			mean grade 174			
	mean grade 168				Herts won on board count.						

FINAL		26.6.99		Bucks	
Herts					
1 Simon JB Knott 219	1	0	0	Andrew Smith 201	
2 Steve Swanson 204	1	0	0	John Sharp 187	
3 Gary Kenworthy 206	½	½	½	Alex Tucker 189	
4 Paul V Byway 197	1	0	0	Robert Richmond 189	
5 C Harris 174	0	1	0	Gerald Moore 189	
6 Howard L Tebbs 177	1	0	0	Jonathan Beedle 182	
7 Lorin AR D'Costa 172	0	1	0	Hans Hansen 176	
8 JN Fraser-Mitchell 177	0	1	0	Phil Bonafont 185	
9 Kevin R Clark 179	1	0	0	Richard O'Brien 167	
10 Chris E Majer 177	½	½	½	Andy Robbings 161	
11 Steve J Tovey 174	½	½	½	Roger de Coverly 161	
12 John R Denton 173	0	1	0	Malcolm Armstrong 172	
13 D Ross Brennan 170	1	0	0	Koichi Nicholas 151	
14 Philip J Gregory 163	½	½	½	Steve Law 160	
15 Barry Morris 158	0	1	0	Majid Mashayekh 158	
16 Steven Weston 151	½	½	½	Steve James 143	
	8½		7½		
mean grade 179				mean grade 173	

Bucks have been a revelation this year. But Herts (just) reversed the SCCU-stage result when it mattered. There was never more than a point in it. At 7½-7½ the Bucks bd 2, with less than five minutes on both clocks, had a perpetual. But Bucks needed a win...

Essex-Devon below:

Essex mc: "Last year, Devon gave us our toughest match. They've done it again." It was tough, with everything depending on the last (bd 4) game, the last game in the Finals and spectators falling over one another, and Essex needing a win.

UNDER 175

SEMI-FINAL		5.6.99		Warwicks	
Essex*					
1 Tim Hebbes 174 (W)	½	½	½	Alan Lloyd 174	
2 Rod J Nixon 170	1	0	0	David Garner 174	
3 Ivor BN Smith 173	1	0	0	Martin Smyth 172	
4 William L Saunders 171	0	1	0	Colin Green 164	
5 George E McNally 172	½	½	½	Keith Thomas 162	
6 David J Millward 169	0	1	0	David Kearney 161	
7 Ian D Hunnable 166	½	½	½	Ed Goodwin 161	
8 Peter C Doye 166	½	½	½	Andrew Price 160	
9 Dave G Pearse 163	1	0	0	David Thomas 160	
10 Lawrence Trent 151	1	0	0	Ron Drury -	
11 Paul R Barclay 165	½	½	½	Ian Fisher 160	
12 Roy Heppinstall 162	½	½	½	Ed Lee 159	
13 Neville H Twitchell 162	0	1	0	Karl Forman 157	
14 John White 161	1	0	0	def	
15 Les J Crane 159	½	½	½	Robert Wallman 153	
16 Colin R Ramage 153	1	0	0	Lee Collier 152	
(Wanstead House)	9½		6½		

FINAL		26.6.99		Devon	
Essex					
Tim Hebbes 174 (W)	0	1	0	Nicholas S Lee 173	
Ivor BN Smith 173	0	1	0	Alan W Brusey 171	
William L Saunders 171	1	0	0	Nicholas A Frost 167	
George E McNally 172	1	0	0	Ieuan C Ward 167	
David J Millward 169	½	½	½	Paul Brooks 163	
Tom O'Brien 168	0	1	0	D Regis 163	
Ian D Hunnable 166	½	½	½	David Richardson 161	
Peter C Doye 166	1	0	0	BWR Hewson 161	
Dave G Pearse 163	½	½	½	TF Thynne 160	
Paul R Barclay 151	0	1	0	A Pinkerton 162	
Lawrence Trent 151	1	0	0	A Roderick 157	
Roy Heppinstall 162	0	1	0	M Cox 156	
Neville H Twitchell 162	1	0	0	P Trussler 156	
John White 161	½	½	½	C Bellers 156	
Colin Ramage 153	½	½	½	P Marriott 149	
Mark Weighell 151	1	0	0	IS Mason 87	
	8½		7½		

¹ Essex bd 14 says his opponent was not RC Towers 152 as posted on the day. No confirmation yet, but he should know.

UNDER 150

SEMI-FINALS		5.6.99		Kent*	
Lancs					
1 R Chapman 148 (B)	1	0	0	Mike Wiltshire 149	
2 S Horrocks 146	½	½	½	Vic Southern -	
3 J Whitfield 144	½	½	½	Paul Rutland 147	
4 J Tennant-Smith 143	1	0	0	Andy Heard 147	
5 J Hopkins 142	0	1	0	Oliver Cooley 146	
6 F Rushworth 141	½	½	½	Peter Titmas 146	
7 M Hamer 141	0	1	0	Peter Childs 143	
8 A Dunkerley 140	1	0	0	Alan Sherriff 142	
9 E Dobson 140	1	0	0	def	
10 R Tokeley 137	0	1	0	Dave Helsby 141	
11 R Wild 136	0	1	0	Alan Sands 140	
12 P Raynor 132	0	1	0	Ian Hames 140	
13 D Jones 129	0	1	0	Steve Chick 139	
14 D Gaston 129	1	0	0	Geoff Steele 137	
15 J Grindrod 126	½	½	½	Derek Davis 131	
16 W O'Rourke 122	1	0	0	Mike Jones 124	
(Syston)	8		8		
Lancs won on board count.					

Sussex*		5.6.99		Warwicks	
LJ Cannon 149 (W)	0	1	0	MB Fox 147	
DL Roberts 148	0	1	0	CR Charman 144	
PA Greaves 147	½	½	½	R Reynolds 145	
PR Selby 146	½	½	½	KP Jones 143	
K Davies 146	½	½	½	AM Russell 142	
IK Edgson 146	0	1	0	D Reeves 136	
WH Partridge 144	1	0	0	P Tomkins 140	
PN Kington 144	½	½	½	W Archibald 131	
JLA Stone 142	½	½	½	CJ Lund-Yates 141	
EJ Hillier 140	½	½	½	M Soszynski 135	
TJ Woods 135	½	½	½	GF Windows 128	
BJ Izzard 128	1	0	0	MJ Tarlow 139	
GJ Cox 130	½	½	½	F Jimenez 128	
DJ Cork 127	1	0	0	B Briscoe 133	
PJ Helliwell 129	0	1	0	A Cottom 128	
JL Bryant 119	1	0	0	AJ Kent 136	
(Holmer Green Bucks)	8		8		
Warwicks won on board count.					

FINAL

Warwicks	26.6.99	Lancs
1 M Fox 147	½ ½	Roger Chapman 148
2 C Charman 144	½ ½	Steve Horrocks 146
3 R Reynolds 145	½ ½	John Whitfield 144
4 M Drugan 143	½ ½	Jim Tennant-Smith 143
5 D Reeves 131	1 0	John Hopkins 142
6 K Jones 143	1 0	Frank Rushworth 141
7 A Russell 142	1 0	Phil Hughes 141
8 C Lund-Yates 141	0 1	Allan Dunkerley 140
9 G Windows 128	1 0	Emlyn Dobson 140
10 M Soszynski 135	½ ½	Rob Tokeley 137
11 F Jimenez 128	½ ½	Roy Wold 136
12 K Gilbert 133	½ ½	Phil Raynor 132
13 A Cotton 128	0 1	Darren Jones 129
14 J Asbury 134	0 1	Dave Gaston 129
15 A Kent 136	½ ½	John Grindrod 126
16 B Briscoe 133	0 1	William O'Rourke 122
	8	8

Warwicks won on board count. The U50 looks to be anyone's next year. You'll have noticed that both Finalists had knocked out SCCU teams on board count in the semi-finals.

London League 1998-9

Div 1 1 Wood Green 11/11; 2 Streatham 9; 3 Hackney 8½; 4 Beckenham & Charlton 6½; 5 Ilford 5½; 6 Ks Head 5½; 7 Cavendish 4½; 8 Richmond 4½; 9 Athenaeum 4; 10 Barbican 2; 11 Mushrooms 1½; 12 Lewisham -½

Div 2 1 Drunken Ns 8/10; 2 Wood Gn II 7½; 3 Wimbledon 6 4 Ks Head II 5½; 5 Barbican II 5; 6 Metropolitan 4½; 7 Phoenix 4½; 8 Wanstead 4½; 9 Newham 3½; 10 Wdbridge 2½½; 11 Intl Students 1

Div 3 1 Richmond II 8/10; 2 Streatham II 6; 3 Lewisham II 6 4 Hackney II 5; 5 Cavendish II 5; 6 Ilford II 3½; 7 Wimbledon II 3½; 8 Hammersmith 3½; 9 Stock Exchange 2½; 10 Morley Coll 2; 11 Barbican III 1

Div 4 1 Battersea 6½/9; 2 Metropolitan II 6½; 3 Becknham & Charlton 6; 4 Ks Hd III 6; 5 DHSS 4; 6 Athenaeum II 3½; 7 Willesden 3; 8 Wanstead II 3; 9 Ateneo 1; 10 W London ½

Div 5 1 London Deaf 10/12; 2 GLCC 8; 3 Ks Hd IV 8; 4 Metropolitan III 8; 5 Dulwich Plough 8; 6 Waltham Forest 5½; 7 Ilford III 4½; 8 Capablanca 4½; 9 Morley Coll II 4; 10 DHSS II 3½; 11 Battersea II ½; 12 GLCC II -½; 13 Barbican IV -3

Results London League website

UNDER 125

SEMI-FINAL

Herts*	5.6.99	Suffolk
1 M Wali 124 (W)	½ ½	A Harvey 124
2 M Price 124	1 0	D Pugh 122
3 L Roche 124	1 0	J Kent 122
4 T Wright 122	0 1	C Roberts 103
5 P Bunce 123	½ ½	R Child 118
6 C Byrne 119	1 0	I Webster 113
7 P Laskier 120	1 0	S Lewis 116
8 M Jones 121	1 0	A Barnes 110
9 M Flatt 119	1 0	M Coughtrey 110
10 N Jones e120	1 0	S Payne 112
11 J Leake 120	0 1	P Lamint 110
12 J Lanaway 122	1 0	J Lambert 108
13 T Lowson 120	1 0	R Smith 105
14 J Moore 113	½ ½	M Spalding 104
15 R Harrison 113	½ ½	V Allen 99
16 Q Latif 101 (St Albans)	1 0	K Payne 95
	12	4

FINAL

Cambs	26.6.99	Herts
C Dorrington 105	1 0	M Wali 124
D Mankelow 124	½ ½	M Price
T Poole 124	1 0	L Roche 124
R Taraskevicius 124	1 0	T Wright 122
J Greiller 123	0 1	P Bunce 123
Yemon Choi 123	1 0	C Byrne 119
R Mycroft 75	1 0	P Laskier 120
S Hart 121	0 1	G Howard 121
D Lane 120	0 1	M Jones 121
M Craig 120	0 1	M Flatt 119
P Miller 118	1 0	N Jones 120
C Norton 115	0 1	J Lanaway 122
M Docherty 114	½ ½	J Leake 120
I Stone 113	1 0	K Griggs 115
Z Harper 113	½ ½	J Moore 113
B Cruse 111	0 1	Q Latif
	8½	7½

UNDER 100

SEMI-FINAL

Surrey*	5.6.99	Essex
1 Alexandra Wilson 99 j	1 0	Andrew Bowcock 99 (B)
2 Keith Foreman 99	½ ½	Ron Prickett 95
3 Matthew Taylor 97	½ ½	James Luck 96
4 Anna Partington 91 j	1 0	George Smith 97
5 Richard Jones 99	1 0	David Gatherall 95
6 Daniel Hegarty 83 j	1 0	Jason Klimach 89 j
7 Harvey Murray-Smith 96	1 0	Mark Huntley 86 j
8 Chris Chapman 96 j	0 1	Matthew Jellett 89 j
9 John Silvertown 94	0 1	Heather Walker 86 j
10 Lana Boztas 92	½ ½	Paul Houghton 76
11 Laila Tillet 91	0 1	Andrew Murphy 82 j
12 Richard Davey 93 (Coulson)	½ ½	Nicholas Jellett 72 j
	7	5

FINAL

Surrey	26.6.99	Lancs
Alexandra Wilson 99	1 0	Nicholas Ward 92
Sagar Deva 97	0 1	Richard Nicholas 99
Richard Greensmith 97	1 0	Cory Hazlehurst 86
Keith Foreman 99	0 1	Christopher Statter -
Matthew Taylor 97	½ ½	Adam Wiseman 98
Richard Jones 99	1 0	Craig Lythgoe 97
Arthur Meaton 97	0 1	Richard Neale 88
Sarah Hegarty 92	½ ½	Christian Lamb 84
Daniel Hegarty 83	1 0	Steven Gardner 60
H Murray-Smith 96	1 0	Robert Dingle 52
John Silvertown 94	1 0	Toby Greenwood 76
Lana Boztas 92	1 0	Christopher Walker 69
	8	4

On the Internet

Had an article called that in the July 1998 issue. There was then a handful of County sites in the SCCU patch, probably one or two more than I realised, and a fair number of Club and League ones. This year everyone's at it, the SCCU included.

There are now, on a quick count, seven County sites in our area. But only two adult ones: Essex and Herts. And five Junior ones. Why are the juniors making all the running? Two new County junior sites in the last six months, and no new adult ones since don't know when. I have heard there's one in the offing, though.

That's County sites. There's been more activity at Club and League level. I make it 15 Clubs and 6 Leagues now, with several new ones this year in both categories. And that's just the ones I know about.

On the national front, the BCF site has disappointed though it will hopefully improve under new management.

Best Buy Nationally. The only place to go for English news in general, though it carries International stuff as well, is the BCM site wkweb1.cableinet.co.uk/jsaunders/nclindex.htm. The specialist for junior news is Neville Belinfante members.aol.com/NevilleBel/barnknig.htm. The SCCU's own site www.sccu.ndirect.co.uk, while basically a regional site, covers some national things other sites don't (like reasonably full National Club and *Times* results, and BCF Stage county matches and general BCF news). But you get those in the Bulletin anyway!

Best Club Buy. In the SCCU, Barnet's site www.gtryfon.demon.co.uk/bcc. Bit over the top on graphics, and one page plays music at you, but it's crammed with interesting stuff. Outside the SCCU, try Exeter Chess Club www.ex.ac.uk/~dregis/DR/ecc.html

Recommended. Subject to your personal interests, I recommend anything that gets updated frequently. Sticking my neck out, and with apologies to any I've missed, in the SCCU the Club and League sites that seem to stay more or less up to date are: Berks Juniors; Insurance CC; Kent Juniors; London Chess League; Surbiton CC; Surrey Girls CL; Sussex Juniors. Would have mentioned the London PSCA if they'd corrected the mistake I told them about ages ago. Imperial College CC, can't say because it's brand new. I won't give the addresses. If you've got Internet access you can find them anyway (they all have links on the SCCU site). I have included in the count, but won't name, the ghost sites that haven't changed in the last two or three years. One of them, perhaps a real ghost, disappears every so often and comes back again when you weren't expecting it.

Why buy the Bulletin if you can get it all on the Internet? It's true that little goes in the Bulletin these days that hasn't already been on the SCCU Website for a week or nine. (This article is an exception.) The Bulletin does have the advantage of portability. Its other advantage is permanence. This year's results will still be on the website in a year's time, hived off into the Archive. Two years, probably. Maybe three. But where will you go for them when you want to show them to your grandchildren?

RJH

CONGRESS DIARY

- Aug 1-14 Smith & Williamson British Championships at Scarborough. Numerous events. BCF, 9a Grand Parade, St Leonards, E Sussex TN38 0DD 01424 442500 office@bcf.org.uk
 14 GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY Open; U160,130,100. Adam Raouf, 21 Golderton, Prince of Wales Close, Hendon, London NW4 4QZ 0181 202 0982
 28-30 35th BERKS & BUCKS at Reading. Open plus graded sections. Nigel W Dennis, Boundary House, 230 Greys Rd, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 1QY 01491 576052
 28-3 COULSDON CHESS FESTIVAL International Open, FIDE rated. Scott Freeman, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Rd, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA 0181 645 9586
 Sep 4-5 COULSDON Open; U170,130,100. Scott Freeman as immediately above.
 5 PAIGNTON BCQ Open 7 rds, plus 5-rd events. SR Boniface, 11 Henrietta St, Lower Easton, Bristol BS5 6HU
 18 GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY as 14 Aug
 24-26 10th MAIDSTONE BCQ. Open; U160,130,105. NC Mackett, 50 Hedley St, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5AD. Enquiries to Lyndon Gurr 01622 221244 (work)
 Oct 9 COULSDON CF RAPIDPLAY Open; U170,130,90. Scott Freeman as 28 Aug-3 Sep
 9 NATIONAL COUNTIES TEAM RAPIDPLAY at Sheffield. Chris Dunworth, Bunny Cottage, 5 Warren Rd, Croydon
 10 YORKSHIRE OPEN HANDICAP RAPIDPLAY at Sheffield. Chris Dunworth as immediately above.

"The BCF Office has recently sent me more than 1,000 e mail reminders in the space of 72 hours." - John Philpott

An SCCU Trophy was missing, after the AGM at the Marquis of Clanricarde on the 3rd July. It hadn't been presented, but two days afterwards it suddenly dawned on someone that we hadn't got it. Two senior SCCU officials had had a good look round at the end of the meeting, especially on the bar where the trophies had been, and there was no way we were leaving anything lying around.

Ten days later an SCCU Person was in the pub, for reasons of his own. SCCU Person: "We didn't leave a Trophy behind at the end of the meeting, did we?"

Landlord: "You did, you know. Here it is. I found it on the bar upstairs, in the room you were using, between two beer pumps."

Pause.

"It does look a bit like a beer pump, doesn't it?"

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: *Chessex* for May/June; Surrey Girls CL Newsletter for May and June