Lincoln's team in Division 2 North of the Lincolnshire League played their first match of the new season when they visited the well appointed Millfields Hotel on Bargate in Grimsby where Grimsby D were the hosts.

Not so long ago Grimsby had 5 teams, 2 in Division 1 (Grimsby A & Grimsby B) and 3 in Division 2 (Grimsby C, Grimsby D & Grimsby E). However, a reduction in membership has resulted in Grimsby having 1 team in each division but they have retained the D suffix for historical reasons.

In this encounter on board 1 Lincoln's Andreas Sivacenko was paired as black against Grimsby captain Steve Allott and we pick up the game after white has just played 35. Bc2 (see diagram) from d3 allowing white to protect the pawn on d4. However, Andreas - already a pawn up - found a move to gain more material - can you see it?

Andreas played 35. ...Nxc5 and now threatens 36. ...Rxe2 so white replied with 36. Nf4 Ne4 37. Bxe4 Rxe4 and Andreas gains another pawn. White played 38. Qg2 threatening 39. Rxg7 but Andreas found another devastating move as he played 38. ...Rxf4 and white cannot reply with 39. Rxf4 as 39. ...Qxf4 and 40. ...Re1+ follows.

Instead white replied with 39. Rh3 Rxf1+ 40. Qxf1 Qxd4+ 41. Kg2 Qd2+ 42. Kf3 Re3+ 43. Kg4 Qd4+ and white's king is being forced up the board 44. Kg5 Re5+ 45. Kh6 Qe4 46. Qf6 threatening 47. Qxg7 but Andreas prevented this with 46. ... Re6 47. Kg5 Rxf6 winning the queen and white resigned.

Draws for Jules Brown and yours truly meant that the match finished 2-2.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XG on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. www.lincolnchessclub.co.uk

