Lincoln B, Lincoln's development team in the Lincolnshire League Division 2 South were in action when they visited St.James Church Hall where Louth were the hosts. Both team had lost their opening matches so shared bottom place on no points so a win would lift either team off the bottom.

On board 1 Lincoln's Neil Roberts was paired as black against Adam Cook with the opening following the 4 knights game 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nc3 Nc6 with all 4 knights deployed. White then played 4. Bc4 (see diagram) which is one of those positions where black can gain an advantage - can you see it?

Neil played 4. ...Nxe4 5. Nxe4 d5 forking knight and bishop 6. Bb5 dxe4 7. Nxe5 so far materially equal but Neil now played 7. ...Qg5 8. Bxc6+ bxc6 9. d4 protecting the knight on e5 but Neil won the pawn with 9. ...Qxg2 10. Rf1 Bh3 11. Qe2 Qxf1+ 12. Qxf1 Bxf1 13. Kxf1 winning the exchange for Neil and he went onto win a few moves later.

Draws also for Bailey Williams, who has impressed since he joined the club earlier in the season, and yours truly meant that the match was drawn 2-2.

This is the second season that Lincoln have fielded 2 teams in Division 2 South with the idea of providing opportunities for up and coming hopefuls to play in the cut and thrust of competitive chess. Last season, Lincoln B failed to gain a single point but, with a slightly stronger team, this match saw the team gain its first point — with hopefully more to come.

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

