

Following on from the successful coaching day held at Lincoln Chess Club in November the next event is scheduled to take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2007, again at Lincoln Chess Club. If you would like an entry form or need further details then contact either Robert Dale on 01522-822454 or myself on 01522-888693.

Meanwhile, I had an interesting game with Nick Louth when Lincoln went to Louth for the Division 2 South fixture. Paired on board 1 Nick as white started with the Bird's opening 1. f4 d5 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3 Nf6 4. b3 g6 5. Bb2 Bg7 6. g4 0-0 7. h3 b6 8. d3 Bb7 9. Bg2 and both pairs of bishops assume the fianchetto formation 9. ...c5 10. Nbd2 Nc6 11. 0-0 and Nick castled to reach the position in the diagram.

In the coaching day last November Paul Blackman said that you should always be on the look out for a "fanciful move" in other words a move which looks silly at first glance but may in fact be match winning. The diagram is one such position with black to play. Unfortunately, I didn't heed Paul's advice as I was still in "developing my pieces mode" as I played 11. ...Rc8, much to Nick's relief. Can you spot what I should have played?

Had I played 11. ...Nxg4 followed either by 12. hxg4 Bxb2 or, as Nick suggested in post game analysis, by 12. Bxg7 Nxe3 13. Qe2 Nxf1 then things might have been different as it was our game was drawn which added to the win for Charlie Moss meant that Louth ran out winners by 2½ to 1½.

