

Boston's Kevin McCarthy has given me one of his games from last year's 4NCL when he was playing in Division 3 for Slough Sharks 2 against Nigel Ferrington of Wessex 2 played at the Paragon Hotel in Birmingham.

In the opening Kevin, as white, played 1. d4 Nf6 2. Bf4 g6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. h3 0-0 5. e3 d6 6. Bd3 Nbd7 7. Nbd2 Re8 8. Bh2 e5 9. dxe5 dxe5 but black seemed to have a slight advantage with the pawn on e5 10. Bc4 h6 11. 0-0 Qe7 12. c3 Nh7 13. Qc2 c6 but this was short lived as Kevin saw an opportunity (see diagram) can you?

Kevin played 14. Qxg6 winning the pawn 14. ...b5 15. Bb3 Nhf8 16. Qxc6 and a second pawn fell and from this point Kevin never looked back helping Slough to win 5-3.

This year Kevin is playing for Lincolnshire's own team Pandora's Box who have entered the 4NCL for the first time starting in Division 4. Their season started with mixed fortunes in the two matches, played again at the Paragon Hotel. They lost 2½ - 3½ to Monmouth on the Saturday but fared better with a 4-2 win over The Weald Collective 1 on the Sunday.

As well as Kevin the six man team included Boston teammate Nigel Birtwistle, Joe Kilshaw from Grimsby and David Coates from Lincoln together with Robert Taylor and Jos Wolley recruited from Slough Sharks.

I shall include a couple of their games in future week's but you can find further details and follow their progress throughout the season together with lots of other interesting info at www.PandorasBoxChessClub.org.uk.

