

BRITISH PAIR GO 2003

Pineapples and Pairs

The 13th British Pair Go Championships was held on 25th May at Foxcombe Lodge Hotel, Boars Hill near Oxford. This was the fourth time that Roger and Jill had hosted the event and the food was as excellent as usual, both for the competitors at lunch time and for the koi carp in the garden pond. This year neatly there were four handicap teams and eight teams in the open section. Thanks to continuing support of the Japan Pair Go Committee and the British Pair Go Promotion Partners, everyone won a half of a pair of prizes, such as a pair of pineapples. However looking at the group photograph of everyone with their prizes, it would seem that Natasha had won a baby, though Matthew had not!

Organiser Francis Roads produced an extremely hard quiz where first and second names of famous people had to be re-paired; Jil Segerman and Tony Pitchford were the best at this scoring 17 out of 20. Steve Hefford was there supporting members of the Bracknell Club and got to choose the best dressed pair. This was Alison and Simon Bexfield for the second year running.

Leamington's Kirsty Healey (1 dan) and Matthew Macfadyen (6 dan) were persuaded to play at short notice and won the championship for the third year in a row. This time they had a hard struggle as they only beat Natasha Regan (1 dan Epsom) and Matthew Cocke (5 dan Norwich) by 2.5 points in round 2, and Letchworth's Alison Bexfield (2 dan) and Simon Bexfield (1 dan) by half a point in the final. Taking third place behind the Bexfields were Natasha and Matthew; fourth were Jackie Chai (3 kyu Bournemouth) and Francis Roads (4 dan Wanstead) (splitting the tie of those on 2 wins by CuSS).

In the handicap section Shawn Hearn (6 kyu Sleaford) and Nicola Hurden (10 kyu Bracknell) were on for a third win in a row, but lost to Swindon's Elinor Brooks (6 kyu) and Erik Hall (2 kyu). Despite Elinor and Erik then losing to Annie Hall (27 kyu Bracknell) and Jonathan Englefield (11 kyu High Wycombe), the CuSS tie-break made the Swindon pair the winners. Nicola and Shawn took second and Annie and young Jonathan took third, all with 2 wins.

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Helen Harvey
Martin Harvey
Anna Griffiths
Tony Atkins

Helen and Martin Harvey were the UK's representatives in Japan in November 2002. Unfortunately nobody from UK took part in the European Pair Go in Poland in 2003.



**BRITISH PAIR GO
WINNERS 2003**



**Champions Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen, are joined
by handicap winners Erik Hall and Elinor Brooks**