

January 2014 / Issue 17

KEY STAGE 4 INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 22nd January
6.00pm - 8.00pm

Brief presentation at 6.00pm in School Hall
followed by opportunity to speak to subject teachers.

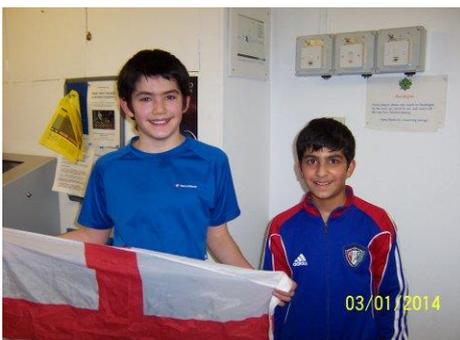
This event is for Year 8 students and parents.

(All Year 8 students will receive an information booklet regarding preferences on Friday 17th January).

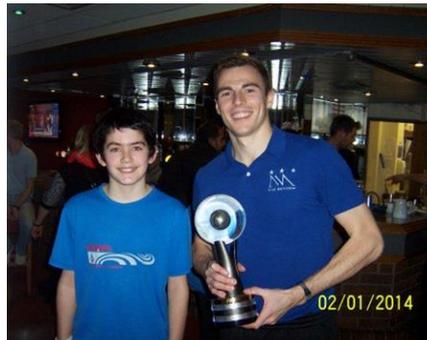
SQUASH BRITISH OPEN REPORT

From the 2nd to the 6th of January, I was lucky enough to participate in the British Junior Open – the world's most prestigious event for juniors playing squash. People from all over the world would come to this event including Egyptians, Norwegians, Mexicans and even Jordanians. It was such good experience so I would try to make the most of it. I had a bye in the first round because I was ranked in the top 5 in England. This meant that I was guaranteed at least 32nd, which meant I had already beaten my previous record of 39th before I'd even started playing any matches.

My first game and second round match was against America's No.3 Mateo Giraldo. The score was 11-6, 12-10, 11-13, 11-7 in 31 minutes. I lost, but it was a good game and it was good experience. The next opponent was Kuwaiti national champion: Abdulaziz Jasem. This time the result was reversed in my favour: 11-6, 11-7, 11-9, finishing in 20 minutes. I was now playing for places 17-24 in a world open! An achievement I will remember for the rest of my life. My 3rd round match was against fellow Englishman, Sam Osbourne-Wylde, a crafty young player with a unique game. I had never lost to him, but I needed to keep my head, and do that I did, winning 11-2, 10-12, 11-5, 11-7 in 25 minutes. Ben Sockett was my next opponent. I played him in the British Closed a couple of months ago and lost by the narrowest of margins, so I was seeking revenge. Sadly it didn't happen and I played pretty poorly losing 11-6, 11-7, 11-4 in 16 minutes. My final match was against Harry Anderson, whom I'd also never beaten. I had played him in Pontefract the previous week and lost badly, so losing 11-8, 7-11, 11-3, 13-11 in 29 minutes wasn't such a bad result. The tournament was over and my overall position was 20th. I had exceeded all expectations and beaten my previous finishing position by 19 places. I also went to Hallamshire squash club to get my Nick Matthew autobiography signed (by Nick Matthew.) He is a Yorkshire man and is now the world champion three times, and is ranked number 1 in the world.



Kuwaiti national champion:
Abdulaziz Jasem



Marcus with Nick Matthew and his
World Championship trophy



Marcus next to the official sign outside
one of the three host clubs : Abbeydale

SCOTTISH JUNIOR OPEN

Again from the 7th to the 9th of January, I went up to Scotland for a few days, to compete in the Scottish Junior open. The draw was extremely tough and finishing anywhere above 9th was good. My first round match was against Scotland's No.5 Ruadhri Macdougall. He was relatively young and I won quite easily 11-1, 11-1, 11-3. However my next match was a lot harder as I was playing the number 5 seed and Egyptian (they have the top 10 players in the world) - Marawan El Borrolossy. The score was 11-8, 10-12, 13-11, 3-11, 13-11 to me! His dad used to be a top 10 professional player, and he now runs an academy in Cairo. He invited me there, and he gave me their kit!!! I was now playing Indian and Asia's No.1 Tushar Shahani, who came 7th in the British when I came 20th. I went in probably expecting to lose so I didn't play well and I lost 11-3, 11-7, 11-5. In the 4th and final round I was playing the Scottish national champion - Alasdair Prott in the bronze medal match. He was quite big and had good power, so I knew it would be close and it was as the score 11-8, 12-10, 2-11, 12-10 suggests. I came 3rd overall and I won the bronze medal. The player from India took gold and the Irish No.2 came second. I always love these foreign tournaments and this was arguably my favourite.



Marcus Tranter – Year 8 Student

American Themed Lunch

The canteen will be serving burgers, corn on the cob, hotdogs and potato wedges on Monday lunchtime.

Please come and try our American themed lunch. We look forward to seeing you.

Canteen Staff

