

Westward Ho!

The Magazine of the West of England Chess Union



January 1998

Vol. 4 No. 6

West of England Chess Union

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Junior Secretary:	Richard Rendell, 30, Stratton Road, Swindon, Wilts. The Union is seeking a successor to Richard who wishes to stand down.	01793-724039
Fixtures Secretary:	Frank Kingdon, 6, Blenheim Road, Weymouth. DT3 5AZ	01305-812237
B.C.F. Delegate:	John Dunleavy, 59, Belle Cross Road, Kingsbridge, Devon. TQ7 1NL	01548-857623
Auditor:	C. E. Winch, 9c, Southwoods, Yeovil. BA20 2QQ	01935-474269

Council Delegates:

County	Executive Delegate	Council Delegate
Cornwall	Roger Grime	Ian George
Devon	John Dunleavy	Ivor Annetts
Dorset	Adrian Rookes	Paul Foster
Gloucestershire	Phillip Meade	Geoff Mann
Hampshire	Stuart Dean	Charles Morris
Somerset	David Woodruff	Gerry Jepps
Wiltshire	Fenella Cohen	Richard Haydon
Bristol League	John Richards	Richard Palmer

Editorial

The season started very badly with the unprecedented withdrawal of two counties from the entire Inter-County programme. Gloucestershire are still unable to find a county captain prepared to take the helm.

Mr. Horlick did well, last season, in taking Gloucestershire through to the National stages after a hesitant start. At that point he was unfortunate in his attempts to agree a date and venue with their quarter-final opponents, Greater Manchester, and Gloucestershire have not played a match since.

Hampshire, on the other hand, had a captain ready and raring to go, Dominic Tunks, but with several other key positions within the county structure unfilled, it was decided that the Association as a whole should be frozen until such time that suitable willing volunteers could be found.

It is only in recent weeks that this problem has been resolved, with Liam O'Sullivan, John Wheeler and Ken Retallack becoming President, General Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Unfortunately, this has come too late for them to re-enter the Union stage of the county championship.

All this has left the other teams with a severely fractured programme which may lack continuity in that long gaps between matches can allow the overall interest of players to wane.

It is greatly to be hoped that Gloucestershire can join Hampshire in coming in from the cold and helping to revitalise the inter-county programme next season.

Things don't necessarily have to get worse all the time, the Torbay Congress congress being a case in point. John Dunleavy was very frustrated in having to cancel this year's event due to being effectively forced out by the management of the Toorak Hotel. Early attempts to find a suitable alternative all failed. Suddenly, the answer was found just over the road at the Riviera Centre. The event was re-arranged, and the venue proved one of the very best that anyone could remember. Management and staff could not have been more helpful and the facilities were superb.

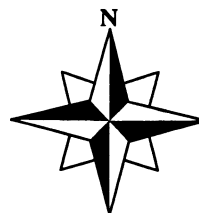
Neil Graham, new Congress Director for the BCF, visited the venue and confirmed it as venue for this year's British Championships and there is every chance the 1999 European Team Championships will be held there as well.

So from the brink of a local disaster, suddenly Torquay is about to become a centre for serious chess activity. Let us hope that players and organisers throughout the WECU area can both help to generate interest in chess in the west while the events are on, and benefit from that interest afterwards.

Hopefully, WECU's own forthcoming Easter Congress at Weymouth will be a successful one. Adrian Rookes has got everything in hand and brochures have been out for some time already.



Around the Counties



A round up of results and activities, some of which just missed the last deadline.

Bristol

Bristol's planned chess exchange with their twinned city of Hannover went ahead in October, when 6 players came over for a 5 day visit to mark the 50th anniversary of the twinning.

A number of hostelries were sampled, from Charterhouse to Cheddar, before getting down to the "Friendship Match", in which the Germans showed little charity by winning at a canter.

Steve Boniface is planning a return trip to Hannover in 1998. Anyone interested in joining this cultural expedition should contact Steve in the first instance on 0117-9393262.

Devon

Paignton Congress :: September 1997

Ron Bruce Premier:

1st FM C.W. Baker	(Keynsham) 6/7
2nd IM K. Panczyk	(Poland) 5½
3rd= D. W. W. Gunter	(Crystal Palace) 5
IM G. W. Lane	(Paignton)
A. Southall	(Halesowen)

Grading Prizes:

U-2200=H. Lamb	(Bolton) 4½
F. Parr	(Sutton)
U-2040 F. Stegeman	(Utrecht, Holland) 4½

Challengers U-170:

1st= P. J. Williams	(Camborne) 5½
J. R. Boyce	(Bristol & Clifton)
3rd= P. Mercs	(Fiveways) 5

	P. J. Patience	(Southampton)
	R. Towers	(Exeter)
	R. J. Wilcox	(Wimbledon)
Grading Prize:		
U-155	P. Merces	(Notts) 5
U-140=	C. W. Davies	(Rose Forgrove) 4
	J. Glover	(Loughborough)
	A. D. Wright	(Plymouth)
Minor U-125:		
1st	P. Grant-Ross	(King's Head) 6½
2nd	J. C. Marchant	(Hayes) 5½
3rd=	C. Gardiner	(Reading) 5
	D. J. Harris	(Hayes)
	E. D. Moller	(Haslemere)
	O. A. Namouk	(Hastings)
Grading Prizes:		
U110	R. C. Burroughs	(Metropolitan) 4½
U-99	I. S. Mason	(Teignmouth) 4
Graded American Sections: U-160		
A: 1st	S. E. Cranmer	(Long Eaton) 5
	2nd	J. N. Hawkins (Liverpool) 4½
B 1st	G. W. Harrison	(Gosforth) 5
	2nd	J. G. Sowerby (Colchester) 4½
C 1st	W. Ingham	(Paignton) 5½
	2nd=	J. W. Hall (E. Grinstead) 4½
	G. W. Naldrett	(Bracknell)
Holiday Tournament U-150		
1st=	L. Butt	(Eastbourne) 4/5
	J. R. Nicholson	(Fallowfield)
U-135=	J. F. Birch	(Birmingham) 3
	E. A. Finch	(Wigston)
	D. A. Patrick	(Halifax)
U-120	T. E. Berg	(Edmonton)

A much fuller account of Paignton, with many games from the Open, may be found in the Devon Chess Record No. 5, available from the publisher.

Dorset

Weymouth Congress

Championship Section:

1st	P. D. Helbig	187	4½
2nd=	M. J. Simons	184	4
	A. J. Pleasants	191	
4th	A. N. Greet	208	3½
Grading prize:	P. C. R. Lane	170	2½

Major:

1st	E. M. White	146	4½
2nd=	I. S. Annetts	142	4
	S. Pope	141	
	M. V. Abbott	149	
Grading Prize:	A. D. Wright	120	3

Gloucestershire

30th Cotswold Congress Archway School, Stroud: 24-26 May

Open:

1st	D. Pye	Portsmouth	5
2nd=	R. Haydon	Swindon	4½
	S. G. Peters	Aylesbury	
	J. Wittman	Oxford	

Grading prize E. M. White Bristol 4

Premier: (U156)

1st	M. J. R. White	Cheltenham	5
2nd=	R. Comley	Cheltenham	4½
	D. W. Robson	Oxford	

Grading prize: R. Furseman Redditch 4

Major: (U126)

1st	C. J. Kidd	Watford	6
2nd=	F. Collins	Bromsgrove	4½
	S. J. Knight	Totnes	

Grading prize: C. Levy Bristol 4

Minor: (U101)

1st	G. Brown	Gloucester	5½
2nd	R. J. Olley	Gainsborough	5
3rd=	D. Buckland	Oxford	4½
	A. Stephens	Gloucester	

Grading prize: N. Carter Cookham 4

105 competitors

Hampshire

Portsmouth & District League

Final Tables 1997

Division I

	P	W	D	L	Gs	Pts
1. Gosport 'A'	10	9	0	1	39	18
2. Cosham 'A'	10	7	0	3	37	14
3 Gosport 'B'	10	5	1	4	31½	11
4. Chichester 'A'	10	3	1	6	29	7
5. Fareham 'A'	10	3	1	6	24½	7
6. Emsworth 'A'	10	1	1	8	19	3

Division 2

	P	W	D	L	Gs	Pts
1. Portsmouth A	10	8	1	1	41½	17
2. Cosham 'B'	10	7	1	2	41	15
3 Fareham 'B'	10	4	1	5	25½	9
4. Petersfield	10	3	1	6	23	7
5. Emsworth 'B'	10	2	2	6	26	6
6. Chichester 'B'	10	2	2	6	23	6

Division 3

	P	W	D	L	Gs	Pts
1. Cosham 'C'	8	4	3	1	30½	11
2. Portsmouth B	8	5	0	3	29	10
3. Victory	8	4	1	3	27	9
4. Gosport 'C'	8	4	1	3	22	9
5. Portsmouth C	8	0	1	7	11½	1

Cole Cup: Gosport A 4 - 1 Portsmouth A
 Cole Plate: Gosport B 3½ - 1½ Emsworth

Individual: 1. D. Tunks (Emsworth) 5 pts
 2. D. Corner (Fareham) 5
 3. A. Carter (Cosham) 4½

Ruth Rose: A. Mayer (Portsmouth)
 John Grant: P. Richard (Gosport A)

It came as something of a shock to all when, in the summer, the Hampshire Chess Association decided to cease trading because of the lack of key officers. The hope was that such shock tactics would shake Hampshire folk out of their apparent apathy towards county affairs. The prospect of no county team and no county competitions would, it was hoped, encourage willing volunteers to come forward to fill the posts of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The latest news is that following an S. G. M. the posts were filled as follows:-

President: Liam O'Sullivan (Botley)
 Secretary: John Wheeler (Cosham)
 Treasurer: Ken Retallack (Botley)

Stuart Dean is staying on as Vice President and all other officers elected at the AGM in September have been confirmed in office.

Match Captain, Dominic Tunks, may try to organise some county matches in the New Year, probably on a friendly basis.

Everyone connected with the Union wishes Hampshire well in their efforts to get going again.



East Devon Congress

Fri. 27th February - Sunday 1st March 1998

Premier (any player graded under 200)
 Major (any player graded under 150)
 Intermediate (any player graded under 125)
 Minor (any player graded under 100)

Brochures now available

In the event of difficulty, contact The Secretary:-
 Guy Sparke, 12, Westbourne Terrace,
 Budleigh Salterton. EX9 6BR
 Tel: 01395-442585

Inter County Programme

CORNWALL v **WILTSHIRE**
 4th October 1997

1 Menadue J F S	189	1 - 0	Law A	206
2 George I.M.	178	½ - ½	Richmond P A	197
3 Mantle J S J	167	0 - 1	Haydon R	195
4 Grime R.J.	167	0 - 1	Elliott S	179
5 Bartlett S	136	0 - 1	Windebank G H	167
6 Boulden D	128	0 - 1	Wingfield N	159
7 Sellwood C	128	0 - 1	Phoutsady C	152
8 Wilde T J E	120	0 - 1	Woodward T	137
9 Stockton M	117	0 - 1	Willson J	131
10 Barkhysen A	106	1 - 0	Champion A W	128
11 Manton T	104	½ - ½	Carver R	105
12 Hughes M	99	1 - 0	Mayer A	109
13 Currah N	89	0 - 1	Saunders M	100

Cornwall defaulted Boards 14 to 16
 0 - 0

DORSET v **SOMERSET**
 4th October 1997

1 Noyce R C	195	1 - 0	Helbig P D	187
2 White G A	191	1 - 0	Brierley M	173
3 Simons M J	184	1 - 0	Trussler P K	170
4 Pleasants A J	191	1 - 0	Sellars M R	165
5 Freeman M J	172	1 - 0	Littlejohns D	160
6 Kemp Dr P	175	½ - ½	Rowe D	158
7 Waddington M	174	½ - ½	Fewkes J E	155
8 Jenks C B	172	1 - 0	Jepps G N	153
9 Willetts G J	171	1 - 0	Bamford A B	153
10 Laker L	166	1 - 0	Winch C E	149
11 Simms T E	164	0 - 1	Hendy J S	149
12 Clancy M	162	1 - 0	Wood D C	146
13 Tyrer J	164	1 - 0	Mc Kinley C T	144
14 Crisp S C	155	0 - 1	Gosling B G E	142
15 Needham H D	153	0 - 1	Manning P	140
16 Kingdon F C	153	1 - 0	Chapman P M	136

12 - 4

17 Burton R	152	½ - ½	Dobber P	136
18 Balfour D A	151	0 - 1	Meek A J	136
19 Mann C P B	150	½ - ½	Baker M R	133
20 Sarahs K A	145	1 - 0	Cole E W	132
21 Rapkins D G	143	0 - 1	Wallis T A	132
22 Cartwright G	137	1 - 0	Steer G	130
23 Brackner P	137	½ - ½	Senior N N	128
24 Oldfield J A	133	½ - ½	Knight R D	127
25 McKenna J	132	0 - 1	Woodruff D G	125
26 Walker B	130	1 - 0	Turner R D	113
27 Cherryson J C	129	½ - ½	Hurn P	113
28 Sheehan E A	123	1 - 0	Maishman R M	111
29 Primmatt A D	122	½ - ½	Cooper M E	106
30 Dalzell J	121	0 - 1	Roberts K J	100
31 Kelly W J	117	½ - ½	Helbig Mrs D J	90
32 Bullock A C	117	1 - 0	Default	

8½ - 7½

DEVON v CORNWALL
8th November 1997

1 Wheeler J F	181	0 - 1	Greet A N	208
2 Hewson B W R	176	½ - ½	Menadue J F S	189
3 Cowley D R	174	½ - ½	George I.M.	178
4 Dunn A	150	½ - ½	Mantle J S J	167
5 Lane P C R	171	1 - 0	Grime R.J.	167
6 Brusey A W	166	1 - 0	Default	0
7 Levy S	165	1 - 0	Trudeau G	145
8 Regis D	164	½ - ½	Bartlett S	136
9 Pickering A	163	0 - 1	Sellwood C	128
10 Ridolfo J	163	0 - 1	Greet D	127
11 Bellers C J	161	1 - 0	Wilde T J E	120
12 Halmkin P E	159	½ - ½	Stockton M	117
13 Frost N A	156	1 - 0	Hollingworth J	110
14 Hill D	153	1 - 0	Manton P	107
15 Blackmore M	153	1 - 0	Manton T	104
16 Gorodi J G	150	1 - 0	Hughes M	99
			10½- 5½	

SOMERSET v WILTSHIRE
8th November 1997

1 Helbig P D	187	0 - 1	Zeidler S P	209
2 Buckley S T	181	0 - 1	Law A	206
3 Buckley D E	170	½ - ½	Richmond P A	197
4 Sellars M R	165	0 - 1	Haydon R	195
5 McMillan I	163	0 - 1	Headlong T	193
6 Fewkes J E	155	0 - 1	Richmond J	188
7 Jepps G N	153	½ - ½	Cooper A C	182
8 Bamford A B	153	1 - 0	Elliott S	179
9 Hendy J S	149	½ - ½	Johnson B R	173
10 Wood D C	146	0 - 1	Windebank G H	167
11 McKinley C T	144	0 - 1	Wingfield N	159
12 Gosling B G E	142	0 - 1	Phoutsady C	152
13 Chapman P M	136	½ - ½	Callow C T	152
14 Meek A J	136	0 - 1	Ward D E	147
15 Baker M R	133	0 - 1	O'Byrne D L	146
16 Cole E W	132	1 - 0	Woodward T	137
			4 - 12	

17 Woodruff D G	125	0 - 1	Willson J	131
18 MacArthur D	123	0 - 1	Grant S	130
19 Barratt C F	119	½ - ½	Champion A W	128
20 Eadie R	118	0 - 1	Chase Jenny	113
21 Turner R D	113	0 - 1	Carver R	105
22 Buckley S A F	108	½ - ½	Saunders M	100
23 Helbig Mrs D J	90	1 - 0	Brown D	90
24 Buckley S B	87	½ - ½	Hartford Mrs E A	98
			2½- 5½	

DEVON v SOMERSET
6th December 1997

1 Wheeler J F	181	1 - 0	Whitcutt J	181
2 Hodge D J	180	1 - 0	Littlejohns D	160
3 Hewson B W R	176	½ - ½	Rowe D	158
4 Cowley D R	174	½ - ½	Fewkes J E	155
5 Dunn A	150	0 - 1	Jepps G N	153
6 Lane P C R	171	1 - 0	Bamford A B	153
7 Brusey A W	166	1 - 0	Winch C E	149
8 Regis D	164	1 - 0	Default	0
9 Pickering A	163	1 - 0	Mc Kinley C T	144
10 Bellers C J	161	0 - 1	Gosling B G E	142
11 Frost N A	156	1 - 0	Manning P	140
12 Lee R A	156	1 - 0	Chapman P M	136
13 Blackmore M	153	0 - 1	Dobber P	136
14 Hill D	153	½ - ½	Paine A	144
15 Gorodi J G	150	1 - 0	Baker M R	133
16 Towers R C	149	½ - ½	Cole E W	132
			11 - 5	

17 Abbot M V	149	1 - 0	Default	0
18 Taggart I	148	½ - ½	Ayres J	129
19 Annetts I S	142	0 - 1	Senior N N	128
20 Ingham W	144	0 - 1	Barratt C F	119
21 Pope S	141	½ - ½	Hunter G	121
22 Kennedy P J	141	½ - ½	Eadie R	118
23 Duckham J	136	½ - ½	Turner R D	113
24 Adams D	133	1 - 0	Hurn P	113
25 Scott R	132	1 - 0	Maishman R M	111
26 Chick T	130	½ - ½	Cooper M E	106
27 Jones R H	128	1 - 0	Young A	99
28 Atiomo W	128	1 - 0	Sarginson I A	103
29 Murr R	126	0 - 1	Berryman G T	94
30 Praill T	121	1 - 0	Dodden P	90
			8½- 5½	

Harold Meek Competition

	C	D	D	S	W	Pts
Cornwall	xxx	5½	---	---	4	0
Devon	10½	xxx	--	11	---	4
Dorset	---	---	xxx	12	--	2
Somerset	---	5	4	xxx	4	0
Wiltshire	12	---	---	12	xxx	4

Wayling Cup Competition

	D	D	S	W	Pts
Devon	xxx	---	8½	---	2
Dorset	---	xxx	8½	---	2
Somerset	5½	7½	xxx	2½	0
Wiltshire	---	---	5□	xxx	2

Details kindly supplied by Frank Kingdon.

W.E.C.U. Jamboree

Taunton 22nd September 1997

Senior Section

	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	tot
W	Wilts	1	1	1	½	0	½	1	½	1	½	1	½	8½
S	Somerset	½	0	1	0	1	1	1	½	1	½	1	½	8
Dt	Dorset	0	1	½	1	1	½	0	1	0	½	1	½	7
Dv	Devon	0	½	0	½	1	0	0	½	½	1	0	½	4½
C	Cornwall	½	½	½	0	0	0	½	0	0	0	0	0	2

Graded Section

	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	tot
S	Somerset	1	1	1	1	½	0	1	0	1	½	½	1	8½
Dv	Devon	1	0	0	½	½	1	½	1	0	1	½	½	6½
Dt	Dorset	0	½	1	½	½	1	0	1	1	0	½	0	6
W	Wilts	0	½	0	0	½	0	½	0	0	½	½	½	3

Senior Section

Bd	Team	White	Grd			Black	Grd	Team
1	W1	C. Cobb	210	1	0	R. Noyce	195	Dt1
2	C1	A. Greet	208	½	½	D. M. Moskovic	204	S1
3	Dt2	G. A. White	191	1	0	M. van Wissen	195	Dv1
4	Dv2	J. F. Wheeler	181	½	½	J. Menadue	189	C2
5	S2	J. Rudd	197	0	1	P. Richmond	197	W2
6	Dv3	B. W. R. Hewson	176	0	1	P. D. Helbig	187	S3
7	Dt3	M. J. Simons	184	½	½	I. M. George	178	C3
8	C4	R. Grime	167	0	1	R. Haydon	194	W3
9	W4	T. Headlong	195	½	½	D. Hodge	180	Dv4
10	S4	S. T. Buckley	182	0	1	A. Pleasance	191	Dt4
11	W5	J. Bourne	177	0	1	M. Brierly	173	S5
12	C5	S. Addicott	155	0	1	D. Cowley	174	Dv5
13	Dv6	A. Dunn		0	1	M. J. Freeman	185	Dt5
14	S6	D. E. Buckley	170	1	0	G. Trudeau	145	C6
15	Dt6	C. B. Jenks	172	½	½	S. Elliot	179	W6
16	Dv7	A. Brusey	166	0	1	G. Windebank	179	W7
17	Dt7	L. J. Laker	166	0	1	M. R. Sellars	165	S7
18	W8	N. Wingfield	159	½	½	S. Bartlett	136	C7
19	S8	J. E. Fewkes	155	½	½	A. Pickering	163	Dv8
20	C8	C. Sellwood	131	0	1	J. Tyrer	160	Dt8
21	W9	C. Phoutsady	152	1	0	F. C. Kingdon	153	Dt9
22	C9	T. Wilde	113	0	1	J. Brogden	161	S9
23	Dt10	R. Burton	152	½	½	C. J. Bellers	161	Dv9
24	Dv10	D. Regis	164	1	0	M. Stockton	117	C10
25	S10	D. Littlejohns	160	½	½	F. Headlong	154	W10
26	Dv11	df		0	1	G. N. Jepps	153	S11
27	Dt11	D. A. Balfour	151	1	0	T. Manton	95	C11
28	C12	S. Wilde	89	0	1	D. Ward	147	W11
29	W12	G. Tanner	132	½	½	R. Young	155	Dv12
30	S12	C. E. Winch	149	½	½	C. P. B. Mann	150	D12

Graded Section

Bd	Team	White	Grd			Black	Grd	Team
31	W1	T. Woodward	137	0	1	W. Ingham	144	Dv1
32	S1	D. C. Wood	146	½	½	K. A. Sarahs	145	Dt1
33	Dv2	I. S. Annetts	142	0	1	C. T. McKinley	144	S2
34	Dt2	D. G. E. Rapkins	143	½	½	J. Willson	131	W2
35	W3	A. Champion	128	0	1	B. G. E. Gosling	142	S3
36	Dv3	M. Hamon	135	0	1	G. Cartwright	137	Dt3
37	Dt4	B. Walker	130	½	½	P. Roberts	128	Dv4
38	S4	M. R. Baker	133	1	0	J. Chase	113	W4
39	S5	N. N. Senior	128	½	½	R. H. Jones	128	Dv5
40	W5	R. Carver	105	½	½	J. E. Harris	130	Dt5
41	Dv6	K. J. Bloodworth	128	1	0	D. Bareham	103	W6
42	Dt6	J. Cherryson	129	1	0	D. G. Woodruff	125	S6
43	Dv7	T. Prail	121	½	½	M. Saunders	108	W7
44	Dt7	C. J. F. Ambrose	125	0	1	D. MacArthur	123	S7
45	S8	R. D. Turner	113	0	1	A. Wright	120	Dv8
46	W8	D. Brown	90	0	1	A. D. Primmatt	122	Dt8
47	S9	R. Maishman	111	1	0	df		W9
48	Dt9	J. Dalzell	121	1	0	Paula Le Gallez	119	Dv9
49	Dv10	A. O'Reilly	113	1	0	W. J. Kelly	117	Dt10
50	W10	A. Gladwell	96	½	½	S. A. F. Buckley	108	S10
51	Dv11	M. Hannah	114	½	½	M. E. Cooper	106	S11
52	Dt11	J. Balem	110	½	½	P. Duffy	93	W11
53	W12	G. Loyden	88	½	½	T. Wonnacott	105	Dv12
54	S12	D. J. Helbig	90	1	0	R. A. Ursell	90	Dt12

The event was organised by WECU Treasurer, Jim Fewkes, and his team of helpers.

51st WECU Easter Congress

To be held at the Rembrandt Hotel, Weymouth.

Friday 10th April - Monday 13th April

7 rounds

Open Section & Championship

Major Section (Under 160)

Minor Section (Under 125)

Brochures are now available. In the event of difficulty, contact:-

Adrian Rookes,
6, Milton Close,
Weymouth.

DT3 5AZ

Tel: 01305-767912

Frome Congress 1997

Gerry Jepps reports.....

With two former British Champions playing (A. Phillips 1954) and Mrs E. Pritchard (Ladies Champion 1939, 1946, 1956 & 1965) the Open was a tough competition. However, Jack Rudd made it look easy - he even had time to work the demonstration board whilst winning his games. His final round game was against S. Giddins (207) the highest graded player in the tournament, yet he needed only 21 minutes on his clock to win. D. Coleman and P. J. Holt shared 2nd place, but Coleman was unfortunate to lose out on the second British Championship place on the closest of tie-breaks. In the Major M. Brown cruised to 4/4 before being pegged back in the final game to share 1st place with E. Matthewson.

Details:-

Open:

1st	J. Rudd	(Yeovil)	4½ pts
2nd=	P. J. Holt	(Olton)	4
	D. Coleman	(Ilford)	

U170 Grading prize:

J. Richards	(Horfield)
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Major: (U170)

1st=	M. Brown	(Clevedon)	4
	E. Matthewson	(Reading)	
3rd=	J. K. Fawcett	(Keynsham)	3½
	I. McMillan	(Sedgemoor)	
	E. Smith	(Basingstoke)	
	E. M. White	(Downend)	
	R. van Drie	(Holland)	

U140 Grading prize:

E. Smith

Intermediate: (U135)

1st	S. Chadaway	(Handsworth Wood)	4½
2nd=	D. Hartley	(Clay Cross)	4
	C. D. Thomas	(Harambee)	

U120 Grading prize:

C. Gardiner	(Reading)
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Minor: (U115)

1st	T. Chapman	(Yeovil)	5
2nd=	L. Beckford	(Harambee)	4
	M. Wood	(Downend & Fishponds)	

U90 Grading prize:

M. Girling	(Yeovil)
G. Wright	(Harambee)

Contenders (U90)

1st	D. MacArthur	(Keynsham)	5
2nd	J. MacArthur	(Keynsham)	4½
3rd=	A. Alsop	(Yeovil)	
	P. Carrick	(Bath)	4

U70 Grading prize:

D. Wherry	(Thamesdown)
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Somerset Senior Trophies were won by:-

Open:	J. Rudd	(Somerset Champion)
Major:	M. Brown	(Clevedon)
Intermediate:	R. Eadie	(Wells & Street)
Minor:	T. Chapman	(Yeovil)
Contenders:	D. MacArthur	(Keynsham)

Somerset Under 18 Champion: J. Rudd.

Under 14 Champion: M. Brierley (Burnham)

Cuprinol Junior Trophy: J. MacArthur (Keynsham)

Team Competition: Yeovil 'A'

And finally, Gerry has picked out three crucial games from the final round.

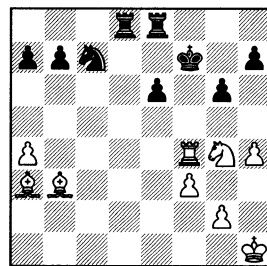
White: J. Rudd (3½ pts)

Black: S. Giddins (3½ pts)

Open Rd 5 Bd. 1

Queen's Gambit - Slav Defence

1. d4 d5	2. c4 c6
3. Nf3 Nf6	4. Nc3 dxc4
5. a4 Bf5	6. Ne5 e6
7. f3 c5	8. e4 cxd4
9. exf5 Bb4	10. Bxc4 dxc3
11. Qxd8+ Kxd8	12. 0-0 cxb2
13. Bxb2 Ke7	14. fxe6 fxe6
15. Nd3 Rc8	16. Bb3 Nc6
17. Rac1 Bd2	18. Rcd1 Be3+
19. Kh1 Bd4	20. Ba3+ Kf7
21. Rfe1 Nd5	22. Re4 Re8
23. Rxd4 Nxd4	24. Ne5+ Kg8
25. Rxd4 Rad8	26. h4 g6
27. Ng4 Kf7	28. Re4 Nc7
29. Rf4+ Resigns	



final position

Mate is forced 29...Kg7 30.Bb2+ Kg8 31.Nh6# 1-0

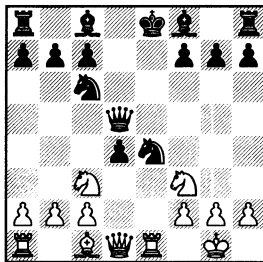
White: P. J. Holt (3/4)

Black: A. Phillips (3/4)

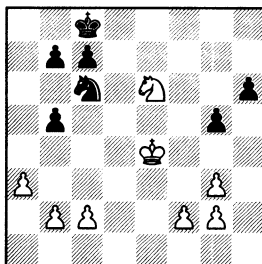
Open Rd 5 Bd. 3

Two Knights Defence - Max Lange Attack

1. e4 e5	2. Nf3 Nc6
3. Bc4 Nf6	4. d4 exd4
5. 0-0 Nxe4	6. Re1 d5
7. Bxd5 Qxd5	8. Nc3



- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 9. Nxe4 Be6 | 8.Qa5 |
| 11. Nxe6 fxe6 | 10. Neg5 0-0-0 |
| 13. Bg5 Rdf8 | 12. Rxe6 Bd6 |
| 15. a3 a6 | 14. Qe2 Kb8 |
| 17. Qxb5 axb5 | 16. Bh4 Qb5 |
| 19. Rae1 Rxe4 | 18. Re4 Re8 |
| 21. Kf1 Kc8 | 20. Rxe4 Rf8 |
| 23. hxg3 Rd8 | 22. Bg3 Bxg3 |
| 25. Kd3 Rf8 | 24. Ke2 h6 |
| 27. Nxd4 Ne5+ | 26. Rf4 Rd8 |
| 29. Ne6 g5 | 28. Kc3 Rd5 |
| 31. Kxd4 Nc6+ | 30. Rd4 Rxd4 |
| | 32. Ke4 Resigns |



final position

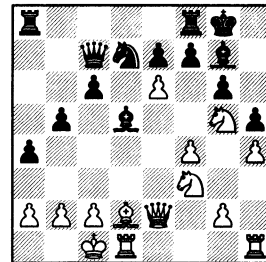
White: E. Matthewson (3/4)

Black: M. Brown (3/4)

Major Rd 5

Pirc

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. e4 d6 | 2. d4 Nf6 |
| 3. Nc3 g6 | 4. Bc4 Bg7 |
| 5. Qe2 c6 | 6. e5 dxe5 |
| 7. dxe5 Nd5 | 8. Bd2 Be6 |
| 9. 0-0-0 0-0 | Having castled on opposite sides, both players now initiate pawn storms at the earliest opportunity. |
| 11. f4 h5 | 10. h4 Qc7 |
| 13. Ne4 b5 | 12. Nf3 Nd7 |
| 15. Neg5 a4 | 14. Bb3 a5 |
| 17. e6 | 16. Bxd5 Bxd5 |

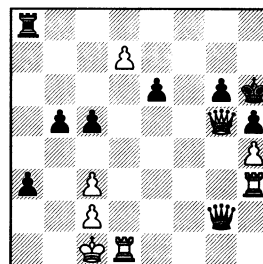


In spite of the activity on the wings, it's the centre that determines the outcome.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 17.Bxa2 | 18. exd7 Bc4 |
| 19. Qxe7 c5 | 20. Bc3 Qxf4+ |
| 21. Kb1 Bxc3 | 22. bxc3 Rfd8 |
| 23. Ne5 a3 | 24. Nc6 Qg3 |
| 25. Rh3 Qxg2 | 26. Nxd8 Ba2+ |
| 27. Kc1 | The "offer" must be |

declined, of course.

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 27.Bb3 | 28. Qe8+ Kg7 |
| 29. Nge6+ Bxe6 | 30. Nxe6+ fxe6 |
| 31. Qe7+ Kh6 | 32. Qg5+ Resigns |



final position



Gary's Christmas Cracker.

Gary Lane's Christmas cracker contained the following joke; allegedly.....

Q: What do you call two GMs analysing their wins in the hotel lobby?

A: Chessnuts boasting in an open foyer!

32nd Torbay Chess Congress

Torquay's Riviera Centre

28th - 30th Nov. 1997

John Dunleavy reports:.....

A total entry of 204 (12½% down on last year) enjoyed superb playing conditions, deemed by competitors to be unequalled in their experience, in an event where, again, no competitor scored a maximum. 40(!) players split a total pay-out of nearly £2,000. The congress maintained its reputation of being a hazardous event for GMs, when top seed Jim Plaskett was beaten in Round 4 by Andrew Smith of Slough, who won the qualifying place for the Smith & Williamson British Championships at the Riviera Centre in 1998 on tie-break from talented 12 year old Simon Buckley. Andrew was then himself beaten in Round 5 by IM Graeme Buckley, who took first prize. Six Buckyleys (from two families) competed, four of them in the Open!

RESULTS

Open (43):

1st=	G.N. Buckley	(Wolverhampton)	4½
2nd =	A.P. Smith	(Boume End)	
	S.T. Buckley	(Keynsham)	4
U-180=	P. Lane	(Exeter)	
	F Parr	(Sutton)	3
U-170=	A.W. Brusey	(Teignmouth)	
	F. Chambers	(Paignton)	
	A. Dunn	(Paignton)	
	D. Hill	(Exeter)	
	I. White	(Gloucester)	3

Junior Book Prize D Hodge (Teignmouth & Torquay Boys' Grammar School).

1998 Smith & Williamson British Qualifying Place AP Smith.

U-155 Major (48):

1st	R.A. Dean	(Pudsey)	4½
2nd=	P. Bloom	(Coulson & Purley)	
	B.H. Boomsma	(Palace Torquay)	
	A.J. Marsh	(W. Bromwich)	4
U-140	P.M. Chapman	(Yeovil)	
U-130	R. Fisher	(Sutton)	

Junior Book Prize R. Murr (Torquay Boys' G.S.)

U-125 Intermediate (57):

1st=	M. C. England	(Plymouth)	4½
	Dr.P.A. McFarlane	(Southampton)	
3rd =	O.A. Namouk	(Hastings)	
	G.L. Bishop	(London)	
	C.J. Leeson	(Solihull)	4
U-115=	C.J. Hill	(Jersey)	
	A.C. Summers	(Southampton)	
	C. Woolcock	(Barry)	3½
U-105	C. Moore	(Hams)	3½

Junior Book Prize A O'Reilly (Palace Torquay & Torquay Boys' G. S.).

U-100 Minor (56):

1st=	Samuel Buckley (9 yrs old!) (Keynsham)	
	R. Burroughs (Metropolitan)	4½
3rd=	K. Atkins (Exeter)	
	R. Davies (Stapleford, Notts),	
	P. Grist (Teignmouth/Torquay Boys' G. S.)	
	G. Phythian (Chorlton)	
	K.W. Smith (Sidcup)	4
U-90=	J.N.Britten (Brixham)	
	J. Clarke (Brixham)	
	Alex West (Torquay Boys' G. S.)	3½
U-75=	M. Cuggy (Brixham)	
	S. Howard (Palace Torquay)	
	P. Rastan (Plymouth)	
	D. Spink (Braille C.A.)	
	Y.E. Tuck (South Hams)	3

Junior Book Prize

S. Ariss (Torquay Boys' G.S/Palace Torquay).

Ralph Newman Cup

(Best score by a Devon player in the graded tournaments) M.C. England.

And now three key games from the Open.

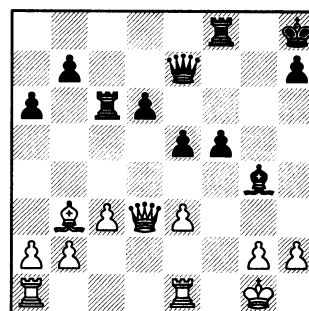
White: A. P. Smith

Black: H. J. Plaskett

Rd 4.

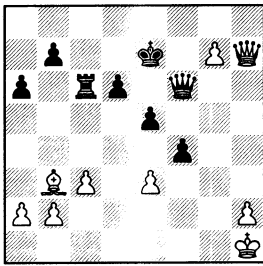
Sicilian Defence

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nb5 d6 6.Bf4 e5 7.Bg3 Be6 8.Nd2 Nf6 9.Bh4 a6 10.Nc3 Be7 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Nc4 Nd4 13.Ne3 Rc8 14.Bd3 0-0 15.Ncd5 Bg5 16.0-0 g6 17.c3 Nc6 18.Qf3 Kh8 19.Rfd1 Ne7 20.Nxe7 Qxe7 21.Bc2 Rc5 22.Bb3 Bc8 23.Nc4 Rc6 24.Qd3 Bg4 25.Re1 f5 26.exf5 gxf5 27.Ne3 Bxe3 28.fxe3



After much manoeuvring, White has an isolated central pawn, but on the other hand is able to exploit the half-open f-file. 28...Qg7 29.Kh1 Bh5 30.Rf1 Qg5 31.Rf2 Rf6 32.Raf1 Bg6 33.Qd5 Rf8 34.Qd2 Rf6 35.Qd5 Black perhaps needs to play Bf7 to challenge the White Queen's freedom of the white squares. 35...Rf8 36.Rf3 Qe7 37.R3f2 Kg7 38.Rd2 Qg5 39.Qe6 Re8 40.Qd7+

Re7 41.Qd8 Qf6 42.Qg8+ Kh6 43.Rf3 Re8 44.Rh3+ Kg5 45.Qd5 h5 46.Qf3 Kh6 47.g4 Rf8 48.gxh5 Be8 49.Rg2 Rh8 50.Rg6+ Bxg6 51.hxg6+ Kg7 [51...Kxg6 52.Qg3+ Qg5 53.Qxg5+ Kxg5 54.Rxh8] 52.Rxh8 Kxh8 53.Qh5+ Kg7 54.Qh7+ Kf8 55.Qg8+ Ke7 56.g7 f4 57.Qh7



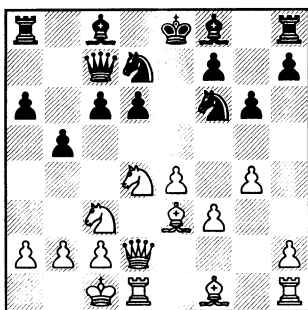
Final position

White: H. J. Plaskett.

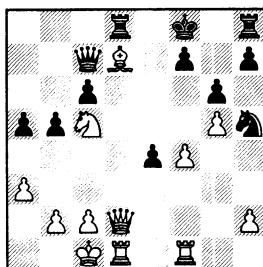
Black: F. Parr (Rd. 2)

Pirc Defence

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be3 c6 5.Qd2 Qc7 6.f3 Nbd7 7.g4 e5 8.Nge2 exd4 9.Nxd4 a6 10.0-0-0 b5



With White's kingside pawn storm already taking shape, it's important that Black acts likewise against White's castled position, not to the exclusion of castling himself, though. 11.a3 Bb7 12.g5 Nh5 13.f4 Nb6 14.Nb3 Nd7 15.Bh3 a5 16.e5 d5 17.Ne4 Bc8 18.Bd4 dxe4 19.e6 Bd6 20.exd7+ Bxd7 21.Bxd7+ Black chooses not to take the bishop in order to keep pressure on f4, but it fails to the text. 21...Kf8 22.Bc5 Bxc5 23.Nxc5 Rd8 24.Rhf1

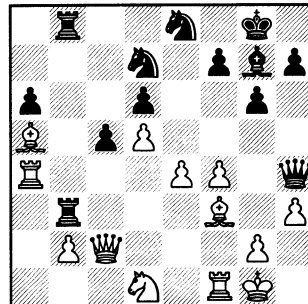


Final position

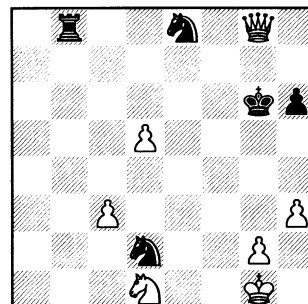
White: G. Buckley.

Black: A. P. Smith (Rd. 5)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.f4 0-0 7.Nf3 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.cxd5 Bg4 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Re8 13.Qc2 a6 14.a4 Rb8 15.a5 b5 16.axb6 Rxb6 17.Bd2 Qe7 18.Rfe1 Reb8 19.Nd1 Ne8 20.Ba5 Qh4 21.Ra4 Rb3 22.Rf1



22...Ndf6?? Allowing a central pawn storm. Black could have exercised his bishop on the long diagonal with a check or capturing the b-pawn. Not, of course, [22...Qxf4 23.Bg4] 23.e5 dxe5 24.Be1 Qh6 25.fxe5 Nd7 26.e6 Ne5 27.exf7+ Kxf7 28.Bg4+ Kg8 29.Be6+ Kh8 30.Bd2 Qh5 31.Qxc5 h6 32.Bc3 Nf6 33.Qe3 Rxc3 34.bxc3 Ne8 35.Rxa6 Nc4 36.Qc5 Nd2 37.Rf8+ Kh7 38.Bg8+ Kh8 39.Bf7+ Kh7 40.Bxg6+ Qxg6 41.Rxg6 Bxf8 42.Qxf8 Kxg6 43.Qg8+



Final position

The rook must fall. 43...Kf6 [43...Kf5 44.Qe6+ Kg5 45.Qe5+] 44.Qe6+ Kg7 45.Qe5+

Exeter's Peter Lane did well in this company to share the Under 180 Grading Prize, in no small measure due to the following fine win against Cornwall's Andrew Greet, in Round 4, annotated by himself.

White: Peter Lane (171)

Black: Andrew Greet (208)

King's Indian Defence.

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6

3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6
5. Nf3 0-0 6. Be2 e5

7. d5 This move introduces the Petrosian Variation against the King's Indian Defence. The theme is to play Bg5, pinning the knight on f6, and making it harder for Black to develop.

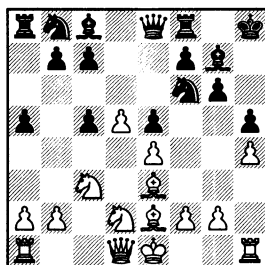
7.a5 8. Bg5 Qe8 Correct here is 8....h6 9. Bh4 with two plans- (a) the chase of the bishop 9...g5 10.Bg3 Nh5 11. h4 g4 12. Nd2 Nxf3 13. fxf3 with a position I'd had the previous weekend at the Bristol Spectrum Congress against D. M. Cooper.

(b) The second plan is 9....Na6 10. Nd2 Qe8 11. 0-0 Nh7 when Black achieves f5.

9. Nd2 Kh8 The difference with 8....Qe8 is that after 9. Nd2 h6 10. Be3 is possible, followed by 11. h4, because the g4 square is defended, preventing 10....Ng4. A better move here was 9...Na6, keeping control over c5. White is now attracted by the position of the king on the h-file. 10. h4 h6

11. Be3 White already has some advantage, for if now 11....Na6 12. h5 when 12... g5 locks the king-side formation, allowing White free play on the queen-side, and otherwise the h-file is opened.

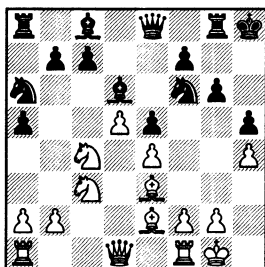
11.h5 12. c5! dxc5



White takes over c5, leaving Black little choice of reply. If 12...Na6 13. cxd6 cxd6 14. Bb6; or 12....Nbd7 13. Nb5. The move played has the unfortunate effect of undermining e5, and so White conceives the plan of castling king-side and playing for f4.

13. Bxc5 Rg8 14. 0-0 Na6 or 14....Nbd7 15. Be3 b6 16. Nb5 Qd8 17. Rc1 Ne8 18. Qc2 and White wins the c-pawn. If 14...Bh6, to try to hold up f4, then 15. f4! Bxf4 (exf4 is similar) 16. Rxf4 exf4 17. Bd4 Nbd7 18. e5 Nh7 19. Ne4 with e6+ is very strong.

15. Be3 Bf8 16. Nc4 Bd6



A further passive move. Better options were:

- (a) 16....Nc5 17. f4 Nfxe4 18. fxe5 or
(b) 16....Bc5 17. f4 Bxe3+ 18. Nxe3 though in each case, White's central preponderance and the open f-file give him the advantage.

17. f4 17. Nxa5? Nc5 would let Black out.

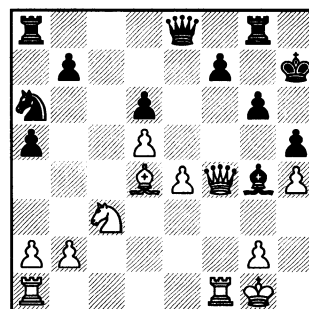
17....Ng4 as 17....exf4 loses to 18. Bd4 and e5 Black chases the dark-squared bishop. More stubborn is 17....Nd7 [e.g. 17...Nd7 18.fxe5 Bxe5 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.Bd4 with threats of Bxh5 and Bxe5 Rxf7 in the air, along with the doubling of rooks on the f-file].

18. Bxg4 Bxg4

19. Qd2 Establishes contact with the key dark squares, d4, f4 and h6. 20. fxe5 is now threatened, and if 19.exf4 [19...f6 20.Nxd6 cxd6 21.fxe5 fxe5 22.Rf6 Rd8 23.Bb6 Rd7 24.Rxd6! etc.]

20. Bd4+ Kh7

21. Nxd6 cxd6 22. Qxf4

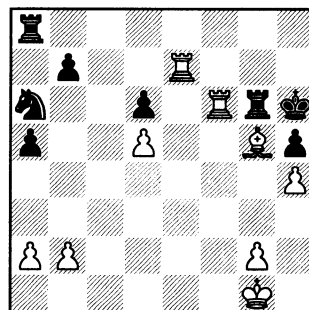


The last moves, with the removal of Black's dark-square bishop, have left White with an overwhelming positional advantage. Black's two remaining minor pieces play no part in either defending the king or preventing White's central advance.

22.f5

23. Rae1 "Never forget your Queen's rook". A central advance is imminent.

23.Qf8 24. e5 [A red-herring was 24.exf5 Bxf5 25.Ne4 Bxe4 26.Qxe4 Qe8 27.Qe7+ Qxe7 28.Rxe7+ Kh6 29.Be3+ g5 30.Rf6+ Rg6 31.Bxg5# see next diagram.]



Instead, 24.....dxe5 with Bh3 looked less clear. White must not be diverted from his thematic central advance.

24.dxe5

25. Rxe5 Re8 26. Rfe1 Rxe5

27. Qxe5 g5 Black has no better move. The sequel is forced.

28. Qe7+ Qxe7

29. Rxe7+ Kg6 30. d6 f4

31. d7 Rd8 32. Rg7+ Kf5 [32...Kh6

33.hxg5#]

33. Bb6 Kf6 34. Bxd8+ Kxg7

35. Bf6+ resigns

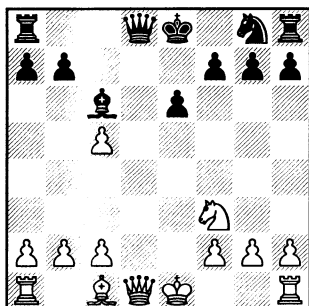
The bishop, around which White's whole game has revolved, selflessly sacrifices itself at the end for the sake of the new queen.



Readers may recall, in our previous issue, Steve Boniface's cautionary tale of the dangers of trying to speed up a postal game. The inclusion in the window envelope of a message to the effect (after 1. d4) "1.... g6 and then whatever you play 2... Bg7", as in Rowena Bruce vs I. B. Nameless, is liable to be seized on with 2. Bh6 and 3. Bxg6 and "Thank you very much!"

Reader Paul Roberts of Tiverton has sent in the following similar example that happened to him in a key postal game.

P. J. Roberts (Devon) F. S. Rushworth (Lancs)
County Postal Championship 1985



His opponent sent the move 9.....Qa5+ with the continuation "After any move Black plays 10.....Qxc5" which of course invites 10. b4!

Nice one, Paul!

The Mystery of Sir George Thomas and the Devon Connection.

Sir George Thomas (Bt) was a major player on the British chess scene throughout the first four decades of this century. In fact, he was multi-talented, not only having the scalps of all but two of the world's top players under his belt, but also being effectively World Badminton Champion and a Wimbledon Semi-Finalist.

Writer Stephen Jackson is currently researching a book on GAT, as he used to sign himself, and while his work has answered some questions about Thomas' life, others remain.

For example, why was Thomas involved in Devon chess during the early part of his career? Thomas was born in Hampshire, and made his early reputation there. He was Portsmouth Club Champion for three consecutive years (1900- 02) and only lost it then to Dr. R. C. McDonald, the Scottish Champion, who happened to be working at Portsea Hospital. From 1903 - 07 he had many contacts with the Devon chess scene, and it is the reasons for this that are far from clear.

He first appeared in Devon submitting the solution to a chess problem set in C. T. Blanshard's column in the Plymouth-based Western Daily Mercury, and before long he was a regular contributor, annotating many games. He played top board for the Devon Postal Team from 1904 - 07. Later, he put on simultaneous displays at the Teignmouth and Exeter Clubs.

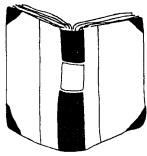
Soon after 1907, he was to return fully to the Hampshire fold, but the reasons for his affinity with Devon at this time are unclear.

There are theories, of course. For example, Thomas had two sisters, one of whom lived in Devon. He also played tennis at various venues in the county. But these do not necessarily fully explain the connection.

Any reader who can throw light on this mystery should contact the Editor, who will forward all ideas to the author.

In any account, keep an eye out for the first full biography of this greatly talented player.





Bookshelf

Our guest reviewer this issue is Philip Trussler, a Somerset player born and bred, who, after an absence of 10 years from OTB chess, is currently returning to active play at the Exmouth Club. Philip's forte in recent times has been postal chess, but the recent reissue of Tal's autobiography has stirred some memories of earlier times.

The Life & Games of Mikhail Tal by Mikhail Tal Cadogan 496pp £17.99

This treasure of a book must surely find its way onto every player's "Desert Island". Indeed, if I was to be cast away with but one book, then this would be the one, rather than my favourite of many years, Fischer's "My 60 Memorable Games", which incidentally was the book choice of Desert Island Discs's castaway, the late Professor Jacob Bronowski of "The Ascent of Man" fame.

The book was first published in 1976 by the long-gone publishing house RHM. (This publisher's demise probably explains why I only had one of their books in my library, a worthy tome on the French Defence.) Cadogan are to be congratulated for ensuring this superb book is retained in print. John Nunn has done an excellent job of transcribing from descriptive to algebraic notation. Nunn has also corrected misprints, "tidied up", in his words, some variations and some of the analysis.

Tal annotated all the games himself, save for a few done jointly with his trainer, Koblents, and three undertaken jointly with Kirov. The original edition covered Tal's career up to 1975, the last game being Tal's victory against Bohm from Moscow 1975. For this edition, Ken Neat has fully updated Tal's tournament and match record and retranslated two games.

Certainly, part of the value of this edition lies in its overcoming the book's scarcity, following the collapse of RHM. This is the first opportunity to view either edition and it is simply a marvellous publication; a book to pick up and read or browse through, for whilst it has nearly as many positions analysed as the one hundred games, the book is anecdoted and has amusing and informative, self-parodying interviews. If there has to be one small criticism of the book, I found this self-interviewer format a little irksome. That aside, this is a book to enjoy, to study and to inspire for a lifetime. For me it is the chess publication of the year.

Mikhael Tal was born in Riga on 9th November 1936, and died on 28th June 1992 after years of kidney problems, brought on, no doubt, by his lifestyle of smoking and drinking. The chess world lost not only its eighth World Champion but also one of the finest attacking players of all time. In my mid-teens I was given as a Christmas present a copy of Peter Clarke's fine book "Tal's Best Games of Chess". Playing through the games at the time, a number of which are to be found in this edition, I still recall being dumbfounded, not just by the sheer ferocity of Tal's attacking prowess but also by his understanding and exploitation of time and space. It was not without reason he was known as the "Magician from Riga".

Tal's game against Smyslov in the 1959 Candidates has been reprinted many times. Nevertheless, I repeat it here without apology. Now, as when I first came to know this game more than thirty years ago, I am thrilled by the furies that Tal unleashes on another of the all-time greats. It is worthwhile recalling that Smyslov himself had been World Champion just a few years before this encounter.

**White: Tal
Black: Smyslov**

Candidates Tournament Bled 1958

Caro-Kann Defence

1. e4 c6 **2. d3** I chose this move, not thinking of gaining any advantage for White, but to avoid the usual variations.

2.d5

3. Nd2 e5 A small inaccuracy; perhaps better was the more elastic 3....g6

4. Ngf3 Nd7

5. d4! The opening of the centre secures an advantage in development for White.

5...dxe4

6. Nxe4 exd4

7. Qxd4 This move gives White a slight but significant advantage. I was also considering 7. Qe2 but after 7...Bb4+ 8. c3 dxc3 9. bxc3 Be7 10. Nd6+ Kf8 it is not clear if White has enough compensation for the pawn, because his queen is blocking the f1 bishop's path and stops the development of his kingside. An interesting line would be, instead of 7...Bb4+ 7...Be7 8. Bg5 Bxg5 9. Nd6+ Kf8 10. Nxc5 Nh6 11. Nxf7 but this would be followed by 11....Qa5+ and Black gains material.

7. Bc4 Nb6 8. Bxf7+ Kxf7 9. Ne5+ Ke8 10. Qh5+ g6 11. Nxc6 hxc6 12. Qxc6+ Kd7 13. Qf5+ leads to only a draw.

7.Ngf6

8. Bg5 Be7

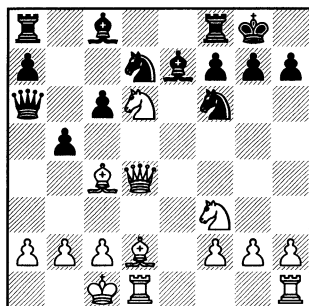
9. 0-0-0 0-0

10. Nd6 Qa5 A very tempting beginning to Black's counter-attack. After 10....Nd5 White would have the choice between continuing with 11. h4 or being satisfied with a slightly better position after 11. Bxe7 Qxe7 12. Nxc8 Rfxc8 13. Bc4 followed by Rhe1.

11. Bc4! White achieves nothing after the normal 11. Kbl Bxd6 12. Qxd6 because of 12....Ne4.

11. ...b5!? Accepting White's kind invitation to the 'dance of death'. Better was 11....Nb6 though after 12. Bxf7+ Rxf7 13. Nxf7 Kxf7 14. Rhe1 Nbd5 15. Qe5 White's attack is very dangerous.

12. Bd2! A very important intermediate move, the main aim of which is to free the square g5 for the knight, or, as we shall see later, to activate the queen. **12...Qa6**



Black decides to keep up the counter-attack against White's weakest square a2. White would only have a slightly better position after 12....Qa4 13. Nxc8 Raxc8 14. Bb3 Qxd4 15. Nxd4.

Complicated problems would arise after 12....Qc7: there could follow 13. Bxf7+ Rxf7 14. Nxf7 Kxf7 15. Ng5+ Kg8 16. Rhe1 Nf8 17. Bf4 Qb7 18. Bd6! and White's pressure in the centre is far too strong.

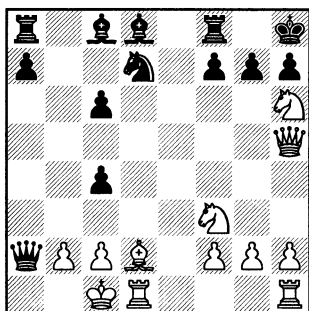
13. Nf5 Bd8 The only continuation to maintain the balance. After 13....Bc5 there could follow the pretty variation: 14. Qh4 bxc4 15. Bc3+ Wxa2 16. Rxd7 Bxd7 17. Nh6+ Kh8 18. Qxf6!

14. Qh4 bxc4 Rapid defeat would follow after 14....Ne5 15. Nh6+ gxh6 16. Bxh6 Ng6 17. Rxd8!

15. Qg5 Nh5 Also after 15...g6 16. Nh6+ Kg7 17. Bc3 Qxa2 18. Rhe1 Black would be squeezed in a vice-like grip. After 15....Ne8 the simplest would be 16. Qxd8 Nef6 17. Qa5, or if in this variation 16....Qxa2 then 17. Bc3 Nef6 18. Rxd7 Bxd7 19. Nh6+ Kh8 20. Qxf6!

16. Nh6+ Kh8

17. Qxh5 Qxa2



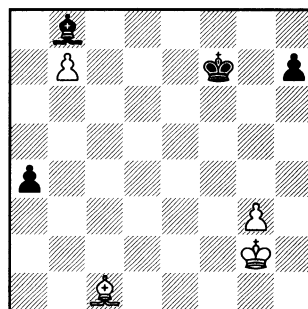
Obviously Black was not aware of the coming queen sacrifice. More resistance would be offered by 17....Bf6 18. Bc3 Bxc3 19. Ng5 g6 20. Nhx7+ Rxf7 21. Nxf7+ Kg7 22. Qf3 Bf6 23. Nd6 and Black still would not be able to complete his queenside development!

Also, after 17....Nf6 18. Qc5 Nd7 19. Qd6, the sun would not shine for Black. **18. Bc3 Nf6**

19. Qxf7! After this the fate of the fight is immediately decided.

19.Qa1+ **20. Kd2 Rxf7**
21. Nxf7+ Kg8 **22. Rxa1 Kxf7**
23. Ne5+ Ke6 **24. Nxc6 Ne4+**
25. Ke3 Bb6+ **26. Bd4 resigns**

Smyslov's failure to find the correct defence, commented on in his notes to Black's nineteenth move, illustrates Tal's sobriquet "lucky". Tal himself discusses this on pages 37-38 of the book, attributing his luck to his unquenched optimism, or perhaps, put another way, it is always easier in chess to attack than defend. Like all great players, Tal was a master of defence. This is how he succeeded in saving a very difficult bishop endgame.

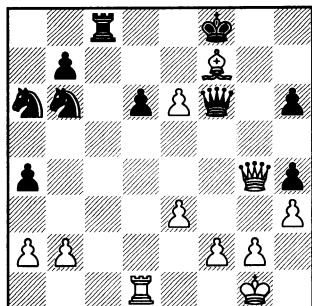


Lipnitsky - Tal USSR Team Ch. Voroshilovgrad 1955

41. Bf4 Ba7 **42. Be3 Bb8**
43. Bf4 Ba7 **44. Bc1 [4.b8Q Bxb8**
5.Bxb8 a3 6.Be5 Ke6 7.Bc3 Kf5 8.Kh3 h5!! an analogous position to that in the game arises: Black does not get into zugzwang! **44.Ke6**
45. Kf3 Kd7 **46. Bf4 a3**
47. b8Q Bxb8 **48. Bxb8 Ke6**
49. Kf4 Kf6 **50. Be5+ Kg6**
51. Ba1 a2 **52. Bb2 h5**
53. Ba1 Kh6 draw

Unsurprisingly, the majority of games in this collection begin 1. e4, but there is a wide range of openings, including Tal essaying the English Opening (game 97) against Miagmasuren at the 1974 Nice Olympiad. Interestingly, the earliest example found here of Tal opening with the Queen's Pawn is his game against Aronin (page 64) from the 1957 USSR Championship. Perhaps a little oddly, there are no games against Stein or Karpov, and only two against Bronstein and Petrosian. There are, however, nine against Botvinnik

and five against Fischer. (Perhaps evidence supporting the old adage that a good strategist will beat a good tactician.) A number of the games are against, frankly, lesser opponents or players of whom I have never heard, for example the Italian Ferrantes (game 15) or Szymczak (try pronouncing that name!) whom Tal split asunder in the following manner.

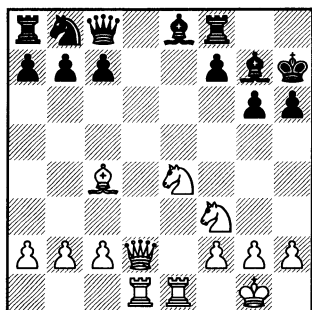


Tal - Szymczak Lublin 1974

32. Rxd6! Rc1+ 33. Kh2 Qe5+ 34. f4 Qxd6
35. Qg8+ Ke7 36. Qe8+ Kf6 37. Bh5!! Qxe6
38. Qf8+ resigns.

The inclusion of positions and games against such relatively minor opponents illustrates Tal's tactical genius "As flies to wanton boys are we to the Gods; they kill us for their sport".

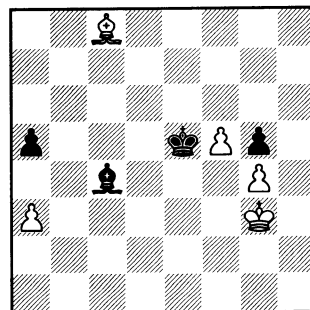
This possible criticism is tempered by such examples of Tal's attacking genius against the giants of the game, including this bloody end against one of the greatest defensive players, Petrosian.



Tal - Petrosian USSR Club Championship. 1974

19. Neg5+ hxg5 20. Nxc5+ Kg8 21. Qf4 Nd7
22. Rxd7 Bxd7 23. Bxf7+ resigns.

Finally, to inspire all our juniors, here is a lovely endgame played by Tal when he was just 15.



Tal - Giterman USSR Junior Team Champ. 1951
44. Kf3 Bf7 45. Bb7 Bg8 46. Ke3 Bf7 47. Bf3 Bg8
48. Kd3 Ba2 49. Be2 Bd5 50. Bd1 Bg8 51. Kc3 Bf7
52. Bb3 Be8 53. Bd1 Bf7 54. Bf3 Ba2 55. Bc6 Bg8
56. Bb5 Bd5 57. Be2 Zugzwang! 57...Bf7 58. Bc4 Be8
59. Kb3 Bc6 60. Be2 The bishop finishes its dance.
60...a4+ 61. Kb4 Kf6 62. Kc5 Be8 63. Bb5 resigns.

A wonderful book for all lovers of chess.

P.K.T.

Finally, two very different chess books for children have come onto the market in the run up to Christmas.

Disney's Chess Guide by Anatoly Karpov
Batsford 120pp Hardback £7.99
ISBN 0-7134-8335-0

Ten Ways To Succeed in the Endgame
by Tim Onions & Dave Regis 53pp Paperback £3.50
ISBN 0-9531624-0-0

The Karpov book receives the full Disney treatment and represents one aspect of a major initiative by the Disney organisation to children's chess world-wide. With the falling away of Soviet patronage, it seems as if Karpov is finally jumping on the commercial bandwagon in the wake of his arch-rival Kasparov.

The book tries to do everything for the young beginner. Its production oozes quality, from the thickness of the card covers (to withstand rough treatment from sticky fingers) to the quality of the paper used and the dazzling colours throughout - it's almost blinding, an assault on the visual senses. Every page is full of cartoon figures bending over backwards to demonstrate this move and that, historical facts about the game in nicely-delineated panels and famous games from the distant and recent past. Amongst the games; one from Kasparov (the recent fiasco against Deeper Blue - Game 6 - his most abject game ever) and one from Karpov himself, when the Soviet team had to beat Poland 4 - 0 in the final round of the 1986 Dubai Olympiad to deny England. They did, of course, (Karpov as Hero) but the political implications of this are not touched on for the younger reader! Nice touch there from Karpov on both counts, though.

The wave of the Disney magic wand makes the book unique. Obviously, they wouldn't lend their name to anything that was in any way the slightest bit under-par, and the result is a book that will sell many thousands of copies. The anticipated volume of sales helps to keep the price down to £7.99 which is excellent value, given the all-round quality.

The only reservation one might have is wondering to what extent the visual richness and variety of content might get in the way of the actual chess. A 16 page cartoon story called "Goofy in Chessland" stands alongside thumbnail biographies of, for example, Vera Menchik and Maya Chiburdanize and cartoons showing in great detail how a knight can jump over pawns. Is it perhaps something of an over-rich Christmas pudding, leaving one yearning for simpler fare? If so, then the second book will be an excellent antidote. The Regis & Onions book on the endgame represents a somewhat different approach, although there are similarities.

In the introduction they remind us that "Openings teach you openings; Endgames teach you chess!" And to this end they outline ten general principals to guide the young improving player. The text is large, lines double-spaced, there are lots of diagrams and cartoons, key words in the text are either italicised or made bold. In fact, everything is done to get the messages across to young readers. Both are extremely well-qualified to know how this can best be done, as Tim is a qualified teacher, has been Manager of the Devon Under-11 Team for a number of years and regularly organises residential courses for junior players. Dave is also deeply involved in education at Exeter University and coaches Exeter Juniors and at the senior club. As far as the book is concerned they have done everything themselves, apart from actually printing it; the cartoons are Dave's own work, and far from being a Disney protegee he's not afraid to confess he once came bottom of the class at Art. Nevertheless, the simplicity of the drawing allows their message to come through all the more clearly.

The book is based on their own grass-roots, chalk-face experience, and succeeds in its aims admirably. Quite apart from juniors, it wouldn't harm many adult players to be reminded so well of the fundamentals of the endgame. After all, all of us can, from time to time, give a much better player a good game, but if it's eventually lost, it will be in the endgame that it goes. The stronger players generally have the better endgame knowledge and technique; that's what makes them better and what makes this a valuable book for anyone wishing to get to grips with the very foundations of the game. Paradoxically, the endgame is where it all starts. Both books, therefore, are excellent in their own way and deserve a place in any embryonic chess library.

R. H. J.

Other recent books from Cadogan include:-

Creative Chess by Amatzia Avni 155pp

This is an expanded edition of a book first published by Pergamon in 1991 and concentrates on encouraging players of all levels to look for original and creative moves. The author looks at, for example, unusual positioning and functioning of pieces and the proper evaluation of apparently absurd moves. The book is well set-out and provides many examples selected to shake us out of the rut of routine thought patterns.

More Basic Chess Openings by Gabor Kallai 158pp £12.99

Its companion volume, *Basic Chess Openings*, dealt with opening starting with 1. e4 while this one covers the closed games that start with 1. d4 or c4. The book aims to be comprehensive without overwhelming the reader with masses of opening lines, the author concentrating on understanding the basic principals involved rather than memorising strings of variations.

The Art of Chess Analysis by Jan Timman 205pp £14.99

Another book originally published by RHM in 1980, but their collapse meant that its availability in English translations was severely limited. It was revised by Timman in 1994, using his greater experience to re-evaluate his earlier judgements, and incorporating minor corrections, but only now has it been made available in this country. Timman is renowned as a superb commentator not only on his own games, but also on those of his fellow superGMs. This book comprises 24 games from the 1970s in chronological order from Portisch - Smyslov 1971 to Karpov - Hort 1979, each of which Timman analyses in depth, devoting, on average, 6 or 7 pages to each.

The Two-Move Problems of Godfrey Quack.

Keveler Press £3.00

A simple collection of 77 problems by a noted composer now living in Devon. All have been previously published in a variety of newspapers and magazines, mostly in *The Problemist*, but never before collected in one book. There are four positions to a page with the solutions on the facing page, and the comb-bound format enables readers to fold the book back so that solutions may be out of sight yet readily accessible. Each solution comprises not only the key move, but all variations and brief evaluative comments. Barry Barnes, FIDE IM of Chess Composition, has contributed an appreciation of the quality of Godfrey Quack's work.



Postal Chess

Although absent from the board for the past decade, our guest book reviewer, Philip Trussler, has kept his hand in through postal chess, and has taken a few scalps in that time. Here is one example, annotated by himself.

White: Alan Borwell I.M. (York)

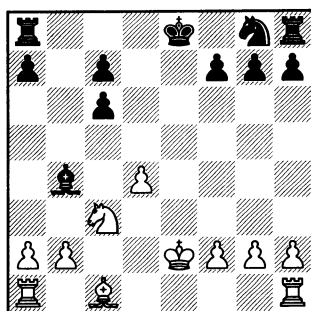
Black: Philip Trussler (Civil Service A) Bd 1 BCCL

Scotch Opening

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6

3. d4 Over the years I have met the Scotch Opening several times at CC and to date my only loss was with the pawn grab 3...exd4. Nxd4 Qh4 where, despite being a pawn up for most of a long game, White's initiative lasted long into the end game.

3...exd4 4. Nxd4 More enterprising is the Goring Gambit 4. c3, but then Black does have the classic central riposte 4...d5 which leads to dull equalisation after 5. exd5 Qxd5 6.cxd4 Bg4 7.Be2 Bb4+ 8.Nc3 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Qc4 10.Bxc6+ bxc6 11.Qe2+ Qxe2+ 12.Kxe2.



4...Bc5

5. Nb3 Bb6

6. a4 a6

7. Nc3 d6

8. Nd5 Ba7

9. Be2 Nf6

10. 0-0 Nxd5

11. exd5 Ne5

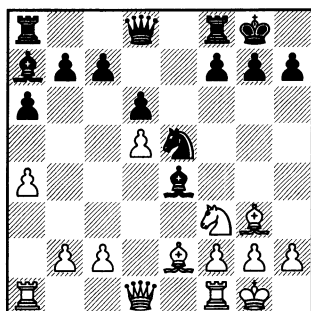
12. Bf4 0-0

13. Bg3 Bf5

14. Nd4 Be4

Now if 15. c4 Qf6! and Black has an X-ray attack on the d4 knight. Black's more vigorous opening play contrasts with White's rather routine development.

15. Nf3



15...Bxf3! Much better than 15...Nxf3+ as now, after Black's next move, White is forced into exchanging on e5. Black then has a mobile Kingside pawn majority which enables him to develop a strong attack.

16. Bxf3 f5!

17. Bxe5 dxe5

18. g3 e4

19. Bg2 Qd6

20. Ra3 Black's last move was

to answer 20. c4 with 20...Qb4 21. b3 Rcd8 with some advantage to Black who is operating on the black squares. 22. Qc2 c6 23. Rad1 The plan initiated by White with 20. Ra3 is meritless. Attacking the hot b-pawn only results in White losing the exchange. So the solid 20. c4 was relatively best and left White with some defensive possibilities.

20....Rae8

21. Rb3 f4

22. Rxb7 fxg3

23. Rxa7 gxf2+

24. Kh1 Qb6

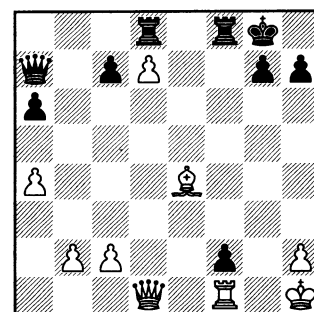
25. d6 [25.Rxc7 Qxc7 26.d6 Qd7 27.Qd5+ Kh8

28.Bxe4 Re6 and Black has a won game.]

25.Qxa7

26. d7 Rd8

27. Bxe4



27....Qe3!

28. Qd5+ Kh8

29. Bg2 [29.Qd3 Qxd3 30.Bxd3 Rxd7 was no better.]

29....Qe2

30. c4 Rf6

31. c5 c6 The point of Black's defensive rook manouvre.

32. Qb3 h6

33. Qb7 Qd3

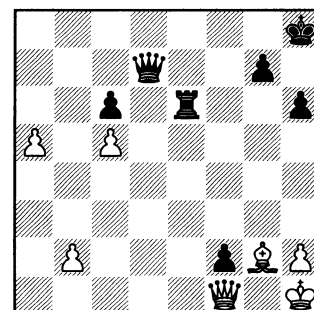
34. Qc8 Qxd7

35. Qxa6 Re8

36. Qc4 Re1

37. a5 Rxf1+

38. Qxf1 Re6



final position.

Re1 is threatened. 39.Qxf2 Qd1+ 40.Bf1 Rf6 wins, or 39. Bh3 Qd4 40.Kg2 Qe4+ 41.Kxf2 Rf6+ wins.

4NCL

Division I :: Round 1

Wood Green

1. J. Emms	2530	½ - ½	S. Ansell	2390
2. C. Ward	2485	1 - 0	K. Mah	2365
3. M. Pein	2430	1 - 0	C. Beaumont	2345
4. P. Littlewood	2435	½ - ½	C. Baker	2295
5. J. Poulton	2365	1 - 0	G. Burgess	2315
6. A. Sowray	2350	½ - ½	C. Cobb	2290
7. A. Law	2230	0 - 1	D. Collier	2235
8. A. Shah	162	½ - ½	M. Buckley	2025

Bristol I

5 - 3

White: James Poulton (Wood Green) Bd 5

Black: Graeme Burgess (Bristol I)

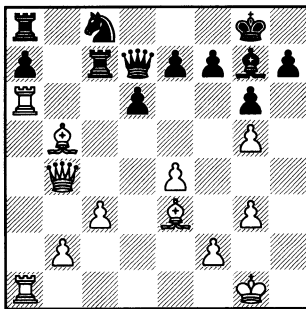
1. d4 Nf6
2. Nf3 g6
3. g3 Bg7
4. Bg2 0-0
5. 0-0 d6
6. Nc3 Nc6

7. d5 White starts to ask questions of Black's queenside defences. 7...Na5 8. e4 c6

9. Qe2 Bg4
10. Rd1 b5
11. dxc6 b4
12. Nd5 Nxc6
13. h3 Nxd5
14. hxg4 Nb6
15. a3 bxa3
16. Rxa3 Qc8
17. g5 Qe6
18. Bf1 Rfc8
19. c3 Ne5
20. Nxe5 Qxe5
21. Bf4 Qe6
22. Rda1 Rc7

23. Be3 All White's five pieces are bearing down on an ill-co-ordinated queenside which Black can do little about. 23...Nc8 24. Qb5 Qe5

25. Qb4 Qe6
26. Ra6 Qd7
27. Bb5



final position.

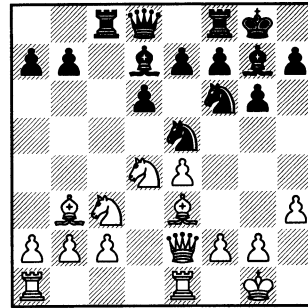
Black's cramped rooks are fatally vulnerable. After 27...Qd8 28.Bc6 Nb6 29.Bxa8 Qxa8 [29...Nxa8 30.Rxa7 Rc8] 30.Bxb6

White: Malcolm Pein (Wood Green) Bd 3

Black: Chris Beaumont (Bristol I)

1. e4 c5
2. Nc3 g6
3. Nf3 Bg7
4. d4 cxd4
5. Nxd4 Nc6
6. Be3 Nf6
7. Bc4 0-0
8. Bb3 d6

9. h3 Bd7
10. 0-0 Rc8
11. Re1 Ne5
12. Qe2

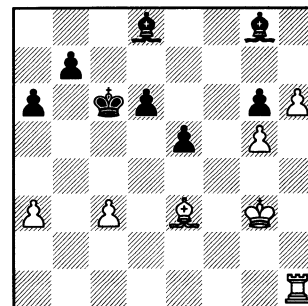


This begins a mass slaughter at the end of which Black is still down by the exchange offered here. 12...Rxc3

13. bxc3 Nxe4
14. f4 Nc6
15. Qd3 Nc5
16. Nxc6 Nxd3
17. Nxd8 Nxe1
18. Nxf7 Rxf7
19. Bxf7+ Kxf7
20. Rxe1 Bxc3
21. Rd1 a6
22. Bd4 Ba5
23. c3 Bc7
24. Kf2 Bc6
25. Re1 Bd5
26. a3 e6
27. g4 Bc4
28. Kg3 Bd5
29. g5 Bc4
30. Re3 Bb3
31. h4 Ke7
32. Re1 Kd7

33. h5 Offering a pawn to force open a file for the rook. 33...Kc6 34. f5 e5

35. fxg6 hxg6
36. h6 Bg8
37. Be3 Bd8
38. Rh1 Resigns



Final position

After 38...Bh7 39.Rf1 and the rook can finally force the issue.

The West is well-represented in the new 4NCL Division 2. With the first round having been postponed, after Round 4 positions stood as follows:-

	P	MP	GP
White Rose	3	6	16½
Gwent Dragons	3	5	14
Simpsons	3	4	12½
Wessex	3	4	11½
Bristol 2	2	3	13½
Barbican 2	2	3	12½
Nidum Knights	3	3	9½
Coulsdon/Purley	3	2	12½
Invicta Knights 2	2	3	11½

Guildford 2	2	3	10½
Witney/Swindon 3	2	2	10½
Kings Head	3	0	8

Bristol 2

1. J. Rudd 2170	0 - 1	R. Granat 2260
2. A. Easton 187	½ - ½	R. James 2110
3. P. Helbig 2180	1 - 0	K. Norman 198
4. S. Dilleigh 175	0 - 1	M. Singleton 185
5. D. Grossett 164	½ - ½	A. Punnett 2100
6. J. Richards	0 - 1	J. Shepley 2180
7. F. Appleton 164	1 - 0	M. Morgan 170
8. Joanne Alston 148	1 - 0	C. Lusher 148

4 - 4

Guildford 2

Witney & Swindon

1. P. Cooksey 2185	1 - 0	A. Lewis 2320
2. A. Hunt 208	0 - 1	A. Plueg 2375
3. M. Rose 197	½ - ½	M. Twyble 2205
4. R. Haydon 2180	½ - ½	D. Sands 2255
5. D. Hackwett 186	½ - ½	S. Reuben 2230
6. T. Dickenson 2155	0 - 1	P. Williamson 2170
7. N. Jones 160	0 - 1	M. Bautista 2115
8. Lucy Smith 131	½ - ½	Heather Lang 2060

3 - 5

Barbican 2

Wessex

1. P. Rossiter 2370	1 - 0	C. Oshaughnessy 2205
2. A. Corkett 2295	0 - 1	R. McMichael 2200
3. M. Yeo 2210	½ - ½	C. McKenzie 182
4. D. Neill 2260	½ - ½	R. Thomas 187
5. R. Noyce 2180	½ - ½	R. Pearce 184
6. M. Simons 184	0 - 1	A. Gilfillan 187
7. A. Brameld 188	1 - 0	B. Osborne (Ineligible)
8. E. Howard 163	1 - 0	Selena Chalk 123

4½ 3½

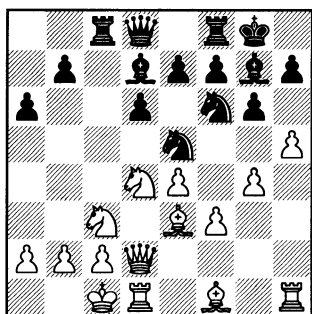
Kings Head

Two sharp games from the above match.

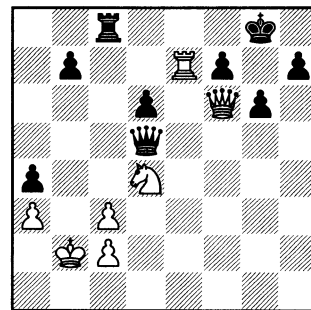
White: Philip Rossiter (Wessex)

Black: Connor O'Shaughnessy (Kings Head)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.h3 g6 7.Be3 Bg7 8.Qd2 Nc6 9.0-0-0 Signalling quick attacks against the castled positions on each wing. In order to get in the first blow, White often starts to attack before actually castling. 9...Bd7 10.g4 Rc8 11.f3 0-0 12.h4 Ne5 13.h5



Black has to take some sort of initiative or face a withering attack after lines have been opened. 13...Nxf3 14.Nxf3 Bxg4 15.Be2 Bxh5 Claiming a third pawn for the knight. 16.Nd4 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 Rxc3 18.bxc3 A common sac to disrupt White's castled position and create weaknesses to attack. However, combined with Black's earlier sac, it leaves Black a rook down. 18...Qa5 19.Bh6 Nxe4 Luring the White queen from defense of d2 and setting up some recovery of material with a fork. 20.Qxe4 Bxh6+ 21.Rxh6 Qg5+ 22.Kb2 Qxh6 23.Qxe7 Qh5 24.Re1 Qd5 25.Qf6 a5 26.Re7 a4 27.a3 Rc1

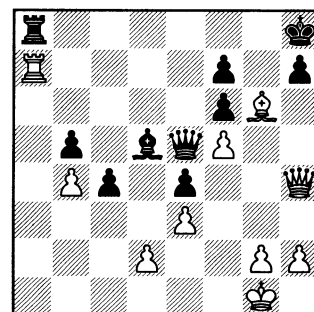


Black resigns in view of 28.Ne6 Qxe6 29.Rxe6 fxe6 30.Qxe6+.

White: R. McMichael (King's Head)

Black: A. Corkett (Wessex)

1.b3 d5 2.e3 e5 3.Bb2 Nd7 4.c4 c6 5.Nf3 e4 6.Nd4 Ngf6 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.Nc3 N7f6 9.Qb1 Nxc3 10.Bxc3 Be7 11.f4 0-0 12.Bc4 c5 13.Ne2 Qd7 14.a4 Qg4 15.0-0 b6 16.Qe1 a6 17.Rc1 Rd8 18.Ng3 Bb7 19.Be5 Qd7 20.Rc2 b5 21.axb5 axb5 22.Be2 Rdc8 23.Bxf6 Bxf6 24.Nh5 Bd5 25.Nxf6+ gxf6 26.Qh4 Qc6 27.b4 c4 28.Bg4 Be6 29.f5 Bd5 30.Rcc1 Kh8 31.Ra1 Qd6 32.Bh5 Rxa1 33.Rxa1 Qe5 34.Ra7 Ra8 35.Bg6! resigns.



final position

From the Archives

The two games in the last issue from earlier WECU Congresses evoked sufficient interest to repeat the exercise.

Here we reprint two further key games from WECU Championships. The first was played 30 years ago, when the competition was held in Penzance. Even then, Andrew Thomas had been a doyen of West Country chess for many years, while Peter Waters was a 14 yr old schoolboy from North Devon who seemed to appear from nowhere, and disappeared from the chess scene just as quickly. All of which made this a classic encounter between youth and experience.

Notes by Ernie Walker based on those by Peter Clarke and Andrew Thomas from BCM (May 1968).

White: **A. R. B. Thomas (Tiverton)**

Black: **P. Waters (Barnstaple)**

WECU Congress 1968

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6

3. d4 exd4 4. c3 The Goring Gambit,

played not infrequently by Penrose. 4...dxc3 More conservative defences are 4...d4 or 4...d6, but is Black is confident in his defensive technique there is no reason why he should not accept the gambit.

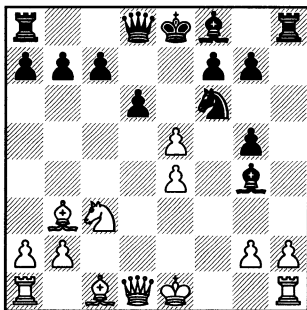
5. Bc4 Penrose introduced this move to stop the Bishop pin after 5. Nxc3 Bb4. 5...d6 Other alternatives are 5...Bc5 5...Nf6 or even cxb2 (Danish Gambit style).

6. Nxc3 Nf6

7. Ng5 Thomas did not like 7. Qb3 due to Na5, but admitted that the move chosen was something of a speculation and probably inferior.

7...Ne5 8. Bb3 h6

9. f4 hxg5 10. fxg5 Bg4



Thomas criticised this natural move (Black had presumably overlooked White's reply) and recommended 10... Nd7. White's best then seems 11. e6 fxe6 12. Bxe6 Ne5 - hardly enough for the pawn.

11. Ba4+ c6 12. Qb3 b5

13. exf6 bxa4 14. Qxa4 Bd7

15. Bxg5 gxf6 16. Be3 Though Waters fights well, his broken position is a fatal handicap.

16.Bh6

17. Bxh6 Rxh6 18. 0-0-0 f5

19. exf5 Qg5+ 20. Kb1 Qxf5+

21. Ka1 c5 22. Qa6 Qg6

23. Qb7 Rd8 24. Nb5 Bxb5

25. Rhe1+ Kf8 26. Qe7+ Kg7

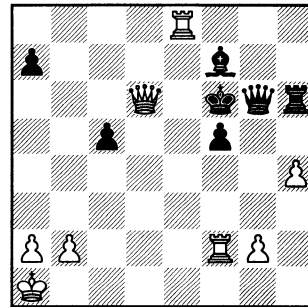
27. Qxd8 Kh7 28. h4 Ba4

29. Rd2 Bc6 30. Rf2 Kg7

31. Re7 Bd5 32. Re8 f5

33. Qe7+ Bf7 34. Qf8+ Kf6

35. Qxd6+ resigns



final position

The second game was played 20 years ago when the WECU Congress was back in Cornwall, this time at the Great Western Hotel, Newquay. Alan Ashby became champion, but not before losing the following game to his Bristol colleague, David Le Moir. As a result of this win, Le Moir was able to tie for the runner-up position with Peter Clarke, D. A. Hick of Exeter University and A. S. Hollis.

White: **Alan Ashby.**

Black: **David Le Moir.**

WECU Championship 1978

Notes by Ernie Walker of Weston-Super-Mare, Congress Secretary for many years, and his son Philip.

1. e4 b6 2. d4 Bb7

3. f3 e6 4. Nh3 Nf6

5. Be3 c5 6. c3 Nc6

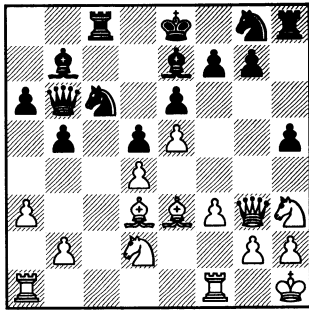
7. Nd2 cxd4 8. cxd4 Rc8

9. a3 To prevent Nb4 which would prove uncomfortable. 9...Be7 10. Bd3 a6

11. Qe2 b5 12. 0-0 Qb6

13. Qf2 d5 14. e5 Ng8

15. Kh1 h5 16. Qg3



The point of the previous move is now made. The d pawn is not to be taken for if Nxd5 16...g6 [16...Nxd4 17.Qf2 Bc5 18.b4 wins a piece.]

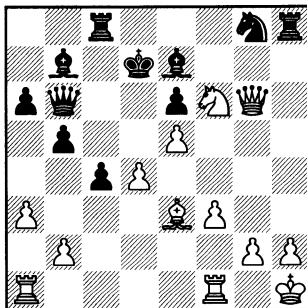
17. Bxg6 Sadly too early although it should win. Really, it was an unnecessary move as by Nf4 he could hold all the threats of the sacrifice. [17.Nf4 Nh6 18.Bxg6 h4 19.Qh3 fxc6 20.Qxe6 and Black is lost for a playable move. The d-pawn will fall and play such as Ne4 - d6 is in the air. Black is indeed in a sorry way here.] 17. ...fxg6 18. Qxg6+ Kd7

19. Nf4 I suspect Ashby had intended to play Qg7 now when he planned the sacrifice, but as he now realised, this does not win [19.Qg7 Nh6! 20.Bxh6 Rcg8 21.Qf7 Nd8 22.Qf4 Rg6 and the White bishop falls.]

19. ...Na5 20. Nxf5 Nc4

21. Nxc4 dxc4 Opening up the long diagonal for the bishop. This piece is destined for glory, having looked most wretched for several moves.

22. Nf6+



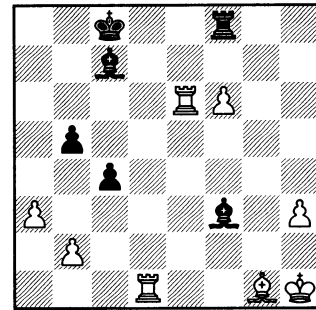
This must be bad; up to here Black cannot be said in any way to be winning, but this move changes the whole complexion of the game. With almost any other move denying the defender the relief of exchanges, White is still winning. I like Rael (threat of d5) and answering Bd5 with N-B4. It is very difficult for Black to get his King-side working. g4 threatening Qg7 is another strong plan. It is only fair to point out that Ashby had only 20 minutes left to play 21 moves.

22.Nxf6
 23. exf6 Qd6 24. h3 Bd8
 25. Bg1 Bc7 26. Qf7+ Kc6
 27. Rael Rcf8 28. Qxe6 Qxe6
 29. Rxe6+ Kd7 30. d5 Bxd5

31. Rxa6 Bb7? I must question this move technically as Black misses a clear cut win. I invite the reader to find the sequence which actually occurs in 3 moves time.

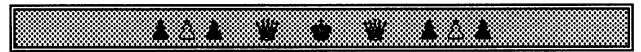
32. Rd1+ Kc8

33. Re6 Rxh3+ 34. gxh3 Bxf3#



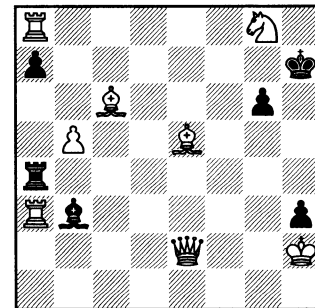
Final position.

A pretty finish. Solid defence coupled with vigorous counter-attack gave Le Moir a good win against the new Champion.



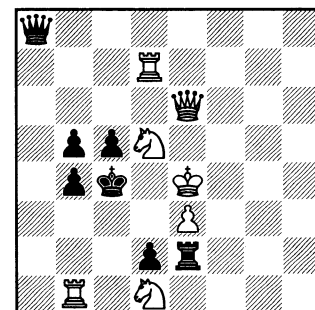
Problems

No. 1



These are from the recent book on Godfrey Quack's problems. As with almost all Godfrey's positions, it is White to move and mate in two against any Black defence.

No. 2



1998 Calendar.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
County Matches	Sat Jan 10		
County Matches	Sat Jan 31		
WECU Junior event	Sun Feb 08		Camberley
BCF Mgt. Board	Sat Feb 14		London
Portsmouth Congress	F-S Feb 20-22		Portsmouth
WECU Junior event	Sun Feb 22		Thamesdown
23rd East Devon Congress	F-S Feb 27-Mar 01		St George's Hall, Exeter
County Matches	Sat Mar 07		
17th Teignmouth Rapidplay	F-Sat Mar 27-28		Trinity School, Teignmouth
U-18 Team National Finals	Sat Apr 4		(?)
WECU Easter Congress	F-M Apr 10-13		Weymouth
WECU Spring Executive	Sat Apr 18		Ilminster
BCF Mgt. Board & Fin. Council	Sat Apr 25	1100	Leeds
National Counties Prelim Rnd	Sat Apr 25 (?)		
9th Frome Congress	F-S May 8-10		Frome
National Counties QF	Sat May 16 (?)		
31st Cotswold Congress	Sa-Mo May 23-25		Stroud
National Counties SF	Sat Jun 06 (?)		
BCF Mgt. Board	Sat Jun 20	1100	London
WECU AGM	Sat Jun 20		Ilminster
National Counties Finals	Sat Jun 27		Birmingham (? Jul 4)
National Club Finals	Sun Jun 28		Birmingham (? Jul 5)
Smith & Williamson	Sun Jul 26		
British Championships	- Sat Aug 8		Riviera Centre Torquay
48th Paignton Congress	Su-Sa Sep 6-12		Oldway Mansion
BCF Mgt. Board & Council	Sat Sep 26		London
34th Dorset Congress	F-S Oct 16-18		Weymouth
11th Hanham Congress	F-S Nov 6-8		Hanham, Bristol
33rd Torbay Congress	F-S Nov 13-15		Riviera Centre Torquay
BCF Mgt. Board	Sat Nov 21		London

Compiled by John Dunleavy

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Index

Page	
1	WECU Officers
2	Editorial
3	Around the counties
4	County match results
6	WECU Jamboree results
8	Frome Congress results & games
10	Torbay Congress Results & games
13	Sir George Thomas
14	Bookshelf
18	Postal game
19	4NCL
21	From the Archives
23	Calendar



Solutions to problems on page 22

No. 1

1. Qc4! Waiting

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1...Rxc4 | 2. R3xa7 |
| 1...R on file | 2. Qh4 |
| 1...Bxc4 | 2. Rxh3 |
| 1...Bd1 | 2. Qf7 |
| 1...a6, a5 | 2. Ra7 |
| 1...g5 | 2. Be4 (set 2. Qh5) |

" Composed with B.P. Barnes. Definitely a fine surprise that the thematic double Queen sacrifice is a deferred Novotny in unusual Block form ".

No. 2

1. Ke5! threat 2. Sb6

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1...Kd3 | 2. Sxb4 |
| 1...Qa1+ | 2. S5c3 |
| 1...Qh8+ | 2. Sf6 |
| 1...Qb8+ | 2. Sc7 |
| 1...Qxd5+ | 2. Qxd5 |
| 1...Rxe3+ | 2. S5xe3 |
- (set 2. S1xe3)
- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 1...b3 | 2. Sb2 |
|--------|--------|

Cross-checks beautifully presented, with a flight-giving key and changed mate after 1...Rxe3+. " Godfrey - always something special - has not lost the master touch " (J.K. Hetherington).

Thanks

Thanks to all who contributed to this edition, particularly:-
Neville Belinfante - proofreading most of the proofs.
Gerry Jepps - Frome Congress details.
John Dunleavy - Torbay Congress details & calendar.
Philip Trussler & Peter Lane - annotated games.

And finally, just space enough to squeeze in a few games from the WECU Jamboree.....

White: C. Cobb (210) Wilts Bd. 1
Black: R. C. Noyce (195) Dorset Bd. 1

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.Nc3 0-0 5.e4 d6 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Ne8 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.Bf2 Rf7 13.a4 g5 14.a5 Ng6 15.b4 Bf8 16.c5 h5 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.Rc1 Rg7 19.Nb5 Bd7 20.Nxa7 Nh4 21.Bb5 Bxb5 22.Nxb5 g4 23.fxc4 hxc4 24.g3 fxc3 25.Bxc3 Qg5 26.Rc3 Rd8 27.Qe2 Ng6 28.Rf5 Qh6 29.Ng2 Ne7 30.Rf1 Nf6 31.Rc4 Nh5 32.Qf2 Ng6 33.Rc7 Rdd7 34.Rxd7 Rxd7 35.Qf5 Rg7 36.Qe6+ Kh7 37.Nc3 Qg5 38.Qf5 Qh6 39.b5 Black lost on time

White: J. Rudd (197) Somerset Bd. 2
Black: P. Richmond (197) Wilts Bd. 2

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 e6 4.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bb4 6.e3 b5 7.Bd2 Bb7 8.axb5 Bxc3 9.Bxc3 cxb5 10.b3 a5 11.bxc4 b4 12.Bb2 These two connected passed pawns now spend the whole game waiting for their moment. 12...Nf6 13.Bd3 Nbd7 14.Qc2 0-0 15.e4 g6 16.0-0 Qc7 17.Rfe1 e5 18.Qd2 exd4 19.Qh6 Ng4 20.Qh4 Nde5 21.Be2 Nxf3+ 22.gxf3 Ne5 23.Bxd4 f6 24.f4 Nd7 25.c5 Ba6 26.Bg4 Rae8 27.Qh3 Bc8 28.Be6+ Kg7 29.e5 fxe5 30.Rxe5 Nxe5 31.Bxe5+ Qxe5 32.fxe5 Bxe6 33.Qe3 b3 34.Qc3 Rb8 35.Qb2 Rb4 36.Rd1 a4 37.c6 Rg4+ 38.Kh1 Rc4 39.Rd6 Rc2 40.Qb1 Rxf2 41.Rxe6 b2 42.Rd6 Rc1+ 43.Rd1 Rxb1 44.Rxb1 a3 45. Resigns

White: S. T. Buckley (182) Somerset Bd. 3
Black: A. J. Pleasants (191) Dorset Bd. 4

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bb5 a6 6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.0-0 g6 8.c4 Nb6 9.Qe2 Bg7 10.exd6 cxd6 11.Re1 0-0 12.Bg5 f6 13.Bh4 Re8 14.h3 Qc7 15.Bg3 e5 16.c5 Nd5 17.cxd6 Qxd6 18.dxe5 Qb4 19.Qd2 fxe5 20.Bxe5 Bxe5 21.Rxe5 Rxe5 22.Nxe5 Qe4 23.Nd3 Bf5 24.Ne1 Rb8 25.Na3 Nf4 26.Rd1 Re8 27.Nac2 Ne2+ 28.Kh2 Qh4 29.Nd4 Qxf2 30.Nxe2 Rxe2 31.Qb4 Be4 32.Qb8+ Kg7 33.Qc7+ Kh6 34.Rd7 g5 35.Rf7 Qxe1 36.Qd6+ Kh5 37.Rxh7+ Bxh7 38.Qd7 Rxc2+ resigns due to Kxc2 Be4 mate.

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ISSN 1364-4998



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