

## ECF Under 18 and Under 13 County Championships



The 2011 ECF Under 18 and Under 13 County Championships were hosted by outgoing 2010 Under 18 winners Berkshire at Eton College, which kindly provided a venue excellently suited for this prestigious junior competition. The event attracted 192 players, many travelling far from north, south, east and west, with 9 teams of 12 participating in the Under 18 event, and 14 teams of 6 in the Under 13 event.

The younger event was split between an Open section and a Minor with an average grade ceiling of 80, which broadened participation even further, encouraging inclusion of a number of plucky contestants years below the age limit. The different age groups were, as in previous years, faced with different event formats. The seniors did battle over a measured two rounds with 75 minutes per player on the clock, whilst the younger sections engaged in four rounds of 30 minute-a-side rapidplay. In each case, the available time was valued, and there were more exciting finishes than early exits ...

## From the Director's desk

The annual British Championships this month in Sheffield will be the strongest Championships ever held, with (as I write) 12 Grandmasters and 14 International Masters. This feat was not a coincidence - it took sponsorship (thank you to Darwin Strategic and to CJ) to achieve that.



Yet we often seem to have a strange and contradictory relationship with our titled players. On the one hand we gather around their boards at weekend tournaments to watch their games, we follow their progress at international events such as the Big Slick (congratulations Simon Williams!), the Commonwealth Championships (congratulations Gawain Jones!) and the London Classic (congratulations Luke, Simon and Gawain!). We buy their books and videos, go to their simultaneous displays, we are proud when they join our chess clubs and we look to them to teach the game to our children.

On the other hand we organise more and more events which actively exclude them, criticise league teams that have sponsorship and that pay titled players to make appearances, resist efforts by the ECF to raise money to fund their participation in FIDE Championships - and then we wonder why talented players leave the game for more traditional careers.

This simply wouldn't happen in any other profession.

The ECF has modest and finite resources, and we thank you for your continued membership of the Federation, which provides the means necessary to support chess in England. But we also need as much help from new sponsors as we can get to develop the next generation of players.

Let's support our best players if they want to make chess their career. We will be reviving the ECF Grand Prix Open this season (as well as the Women's Prix), and we are looking for a sponsor to make it a special event - £2000 would be a modest start.

If you are interested in sponsoring chess, please con-

tact the ECF in confidence. I can also recommend that you join The Friends of Chess, a subscription-based organisation that supports British participation in international chess - to find out more visit <http://friendsofchess.wordpress.com/> or ring John Philpott on 020 8527 4063

*- Adam Raoof, Director of Home Chess*

## ECF News

### British Championships Preview

*- Adam Raoof, Director of Home Chess*

The annual British Championships is a great chess holiday for the chess amateur. Not only can you play chess in the best surroundings and a festival atmosphere, you can also watch the strongest players in the country and live commentary!

Besides the British Championship itself, there are many other events over the fortnight catering for players of all ages and ability. Hundreds of club players like to enjoy a week's or fortnight's chess holiday. Some like to get in as many games as possible, competing in a graded championship in the morning and an open event in the afternoon. Others like to play a relaxed game of chess in the morning and then listen to IM Andrew Martin's informative and entertaining commentary on the championship games in the afternoon. Those with less time available can play in one of the three events laid on over the weekend in the middle of the championships.

This event is the highlight of the chess year for hundreds of club players at all levels of playing strength, many of whom return year after year. Sheffield is one of our great cities and is providing a top-class venue at Ponds Forge. It's an area of contrast - from the hustle and bustle of the city centre, you're never more than a short bus or train ride from some of the most wonderful countryside Britain has to offer. It also has a place in our chess history - Tony Miles, Britain's first Chess Grandmaster, was a student at Sheffield University when he won the World Junior Chess Championships in the Philippines back in 1974. It is a great chance to meet old friends as well as making new ones. Sheffield is easy to get to, with bags of local accommodation in the county's third city.

Things to do in Sheffield

- explore the Ponds Forge centre - it's right in the heart of the city, an incredible leisure centre and is

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great for kids with its swimming pools

- grab a coffee on the River Don at one of the river-side cafes
- visit the Botanical Gardens
- take a short drive into the beautiful Peak District
- get a Stagecoach Supertram ticket - <http://www.supertram.com/> - and explore the city!

Thanks to support from Darwin Strategic, this is easily the strongest British ever held. As I write, we have entries from 12 GMs & 14 IMs including Nigel Short, Mickey Adams, David Howell, Gawain Jones and many more. As usual we will be having commentary every day, and relaying that commentary and all the moves from the top boards live over the internet. The feed will be carried by all the usual chess websites, including the Internet Chess Club etc. etc.

## The Joys of Working Together

*- Andrew Farthing, Chief Executive*

In June, I issued a consultation paper concerning the latest version of the proposals for an ECF membership scheme. As well as being published on the Federation's website, this was circulated to all of the organisations which constitute the ECF.

The number of responses has been gratifying. To date, about 40 people have e-mailed me directly with their comments, and dozens more have been forwarded or copied to me from various sources. There has also been an active debate on the independent English Chess Forum.

I am grateful to everyone who has taken the time and trouble to comment on the latest proposals. I have endeavoured to respond to each e-mail, and this has in turn sometimes resulted in a helpful dialogue and exchange of ideas.

On balance, the feedback has been encouragingly constructive and frequently positive. All of it will help in the formulation of the final proposals, which will be circulated in good time for the ECF Annual General Meeting in mid-October.

### **“What does the ECF want?”**

This article is not intended to dwell on the membership scheme proposals. Readers of Chess Moves have patiently endured lengthy papers and articles on the current funding debate, and I should like to spare them

further suffering. Instead, I want to elaborate on a broader point which arose explicitly in one of the responses received and implicitly in several others.

I was particularly struck by a reference to “what the ECF wants” in developing its membership scheme proposals. This genuinely surprised me, and I'd like to explain why.

The English Chess Federation, while legally a “company limited by guarantee”, is an organisation comprising a large number of members – both individuals and groups, such as county associations, leagues, congresses and regional chess unions. What the ECF therefore “wants” is – or certainly should be – defined as the collective will of its membership.

If the ECF acts as if it is independent of the wishes of the organisations and individuals which comprise it, it is clearly missing the point. For example, the success of any membership scheme will undeniably depend to a large extent upon the cooperation of local organisations and congresses in helping to explain and persuade. This is why I have approached this whole issue as much as possible via a process of open communication and consultation. Come next year, when we may be in the process of implementing membership scheme proposals, they will be doomed to fail if the level of awareness of what the ECF is about and why it's worth supporting is as low as it is now. They will similarly fail if the organisations which make up the ECF do not involve themselves.

Speaking for myself, I want to achieve a sound and sustainable foundation for the future financing of the ECF's activities, based on as broad a consensus as I can practically manage. If a 75% majority for the final proposals isn't achievable in October, the “broad consensus” criterion will not have been met, so I shall accept the result and do the best I can to resolve the financial situation within whatever constraints Council's decisions impose.

### **Shared goals**

The ECF's Long-Term Strategic Plan sets out a statement of what the Federation is trying to achieve. I hope that the goals described are something that the vast majority of English chess players would consider worthwhile and would want to support and I make no apology for repeating them here:

#### **1. International success:**

- a. Strength in depth sufficient to achieve top 10 finish-



- es consistently in international team competition;
- b. Well-sponsored international men's and women's teams;
- c. At least one major star, i.e. top 10 player in the world ranking list;
- d. At least two successful, strong international events in England (Hastings plus one other);
- e. An increase in the number of FIDE-rated events in England.

## **2. Professional chess:**

- a. Chess should be a viable full-time profession for at least the top 10 English players;
- b. A thriving British Championship, which consistently attracts more than half of the top 30 English players.

## **3. Junior chess:**

- a. A chess club in every school;
- b. A suitable coach available to every school and to each strong junior who requires one;
- c. A year-on-year increase in the number of junior players continuing with the game into adulthood;
- d. Recognition of the educational benefits of chess for young people;
- e. An enhanced image of the game that attracts and retains the interest of the young;
- f. A year-on-year increase in the number and quality of juniors playing in international events.

## **4. Women's chess:**

- a. Year-on-year increase in the number of female chess players, including a narrowing of the gap between the proportion of male and female players;
- b. Chess clubs and events consistently seen as attractive to players of both sexes;
- c. Increased female participation in all chess events;
- d. International women's team success to match that of the men's team.

## **5. Amateur chess:**

- a. A year-on-year increase in the number of active, graded players;
- b. A choice of congresses across the country (including an improved London congress schedule) on every weekend of the year;
- c. A consistent level of chess organisation which delivers events attractive to every age group;
- d. A year-on-year increase in the number of games played in local league competitions;
- e. Year-on-year growth in internet, e-mail and correspondence chess;
- f. Chess recognised as a health benefit for older people;

- g. A well-sponsored Grand Prix which encourages participation in congresses at every level;
- h. A successful, multi-level County competition.

## **6. Chess in general:**

- a. Some form of chess TV programming, accessible to strong and weak players alike;
- b. Maintenance of a respected, successful chess publishing industry in the UK;
- c. Lottery funding;
- d. Consistent use of the benefits of charitable status;
- e. An image of chess which is true to the traditions of the game and which does not suggest barriers in terms of intelligence, gender, age, class or ethnicity.

In addition, the ECF itself should be an organisation which:

- Communicates openly with its members and is trusted by them;
- Is clear about its objectives and how it spends the money it raises;
- Provides value for money to members through a combination of tangible benefits, services and investment in ensuring that chess prospers in the future;
- Is built upon a solid financial platform derived from a broad membership base and chess activity;
- Does not rely on Government funding or sponsorship for its ongoing services but attracts and applies these in the wider development of the game;
- Follows policies reflective of the democratic wishes of the membership;
- Is structured to allow its directors and officers sufficient independence to act effectively throughout the year;
- Attracts high-quality individuals to serve as directors and officials, backed by robust succession planning;
- Operates a robust Grading system for all English players;
- Supports chess organisers and organisations throughout England in a constructive way which facilitates consistency of standards without stifling creativity and independence.

## **The Federation spirit**

I have deliberately restated the long-term vision in the previous section, because it is vital for the ECF to be clear about what it is trying to achieve. It is also vital that this should be in line with what its members want it to achieve. If this is NOT the case, members need to use the democratic process of Council meetings to redefine the vision.

In the end, the ECF is a federation, and this means

serving as an expression of the will of its members. The Federation exists because it is believed that more can be achieved by working together than as separate individuals or local organisations.

Being a federation also means acting in partnership. It's a two-way street. The ECF has to represent the wishes of the majority of those who make up the federation. The federation members in turn need to recognise the commonality of interest with the federation as a whole, i.e. the wish to support and develop chess at every level and in its various forms. If the ECF acts as if the wishes of its constituent members are different from and secondary to its own desires, it is failing to see that the ECF is the summation of its members' desires. I feel just as strongly, however, that local organisations need to recognise that they and the ECF are partners in the same endeavour, not opponents.

Regrettably, the reality does not always match the ideal. During my relatively brief experience of chess organisations, I have sometimes been saddened by comments which reflect an “us vs. them” mentality, as if ultimately we were fighting to achieve different aims, rather than working together to improve the state of English chess. It sometimes feels like a power struggle, a battle for supremacy, diverting energy all too often into negative channels, when what is needed is a focus on constructive progress.

I believe passionately that it does not have to be like this. In a different part of my life, I work with one of the hundreds of local Age Concern/Age UK charities, which forms part of the national Age Concern/Age UK Federation. Despite similarities in its make-up with the ECF, namely a large number of independent member organisations with a vote in how the Federation operates, the Age Concern/Age UK Federation always feels very different to me. Whatever differences of opinion there may be, there remains a sense of shared purpose – improving the lives of older people – which ensures that members work constructively together.

The Board of the ECF must play its part in achieving this. We have to understand and take seriously what it means to be a federation. I am sure that we do not always get this right and we shall strive to improve.

If we can all keep reminding ourselves of what we are trying to achieve and behave in the true federal spirit, I believe that the results may be astounding.

## Finally... some chess!

In case you needed further persuasion of the value of working together and as a reward for sticking with me this far, let me share the following remarkable game. I am grateful to Andrew Soltis's entertaining book, *Karl Marx Plays Chess*, for bringing it to my attention. The occasion was a training session organised by the Soviet Union in preparation for the 1952 Helsinki Olympiad. At a “rest home” near Moscow, the cream of Soviet chess – which, to be honest, in 1952 was practically the same as saying the cream of world chess – had gathered.

One evening, a number of the assembled grandmasters decided to play a consultation game, with the teams in separate moves and communicated effected by a neutral go-between. White consisted initially of future world champion Tigran Petrosian, plus super-GMs Efim Geller, Yuri Averbakh and Mark Taimanov. Black was the equally impressive team of Paul Keres, Alexander Kotov and Alexander Tolush. As the game progressed, Isaac Boleslavsky turned up and joined the Black team, while then-world champion Mikhail Botvinnik and his future successor, Vassily Smyslov, finished a training game and joined White.

So, on the one side, we have three world champions plus three other super-GMs; on the other, “only” four super-GMs. Guess which side won?

Soltis calls this “The Immortal Consultation Game”, and I wouldn't argue with him. Enjoy!

**Team A (Petrosian, Averbakh, Taimanov, Geller, Botvinnik, Smyslov) – Team B (Keres, Kotov, Tolush, Boleslavsky)**

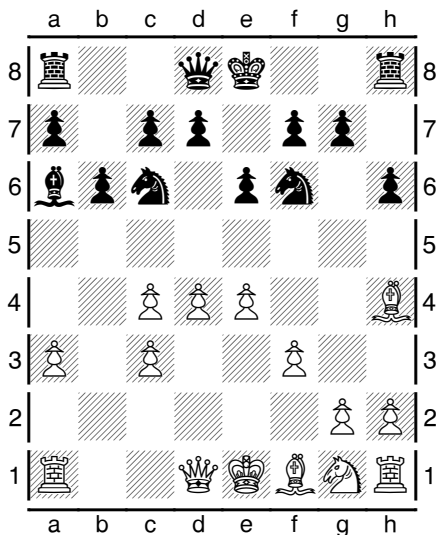
Consultation game, Voronovo rest home 1952

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.a3 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 Nc6**

I am no expert on the Nimzo-Indian, but this looks unusual to me. Having dabbled in the Chigorin Defence to the Queen's Gambit, I have no objections in principle to blocking the c-pawn, but it will need some creative play to make this work. Have faith - the Black team have an extraordinary concept in mind.

**6.f3 b6 7.e4 Ba6 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4**

Can you see Black's next move?



### 9...Qc8!

Remarkable. The Black team is focused on the c4 pawn, a frequent target in this opening. They plan to manoeuvre the queen via b7 to c6, where it will join knight and bishop in piling up on the weak pawn.

### 10.Bd3 Na5 11.Qe2 Qb7 12.f4 Qc6 13.d5 Qa4 14.e5 Qb3!

Necessary. Retreating the knight lets the White central pawns smash open the files around the king: 14...Ng8 15. dxe6 dxe6 16.f5!

**15.Kf2!** Having watched Black's ingenious manoeuvres with their queen, White conceives an equally striking king march. Believe it or not, the position is broadly equal here, but the calculations required continue to be mind-boggling.

### 15...Qxc3 16.Nf3 Nxd5! 17.Rhc1 Qb3 18.Kg3! Nxf4! 19.Kxf4 g5+ 20.Kg4?!

In his notes, Soltis suggests that this may be a step too far for the king. The main alternative is 20.Nxg5 hxg4+ 21.Bxg5. I have no idea who is better in the resulting position, but it looks very breezy around the White king.

### 20...gxh4 21.Nd4 Qa4 22.Qf3 Nc6 23.Nxc6 dxc6 24.Qf6 Kd7

Black needs to get the king to safety, even if it means giving back two pawns (with check!), and heads for b7. In doing so, the rooks are connected and can join the threats on the opposing king. Worked out who's winning yet?

(No, neither have I.)

### 25.Qxf7+ Kc8 26.Qe7?

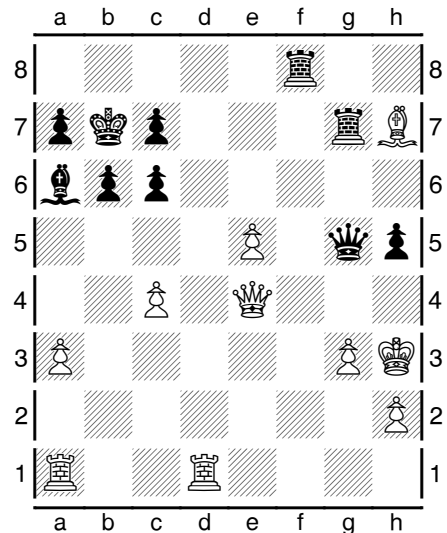
Understandably, the brain-busting complexity of the game finally provokes a serious error. This move gives Black a handy tempo to prepare a decisive penetration

by the queen on d2. Taking the pawn at once with 26.Qxe6+ Kb7 27.Qf5 looks a better try.

### 26...Qa5 27.Qxe6+ Kb7 28.Bg6 Rhg8 29.Kxh4 Qd2! 30.Qg4 Rad8 31.Rd1 Qf2+ 32.Kh3 h5

After all the complications, the teams have reached an ending with equal material. The decisive factors, however, are the king positions - White's is much more vulnerable - and the precarious position of the bishop on g6.

### 33.Qf5 Qe3+ 34.g3 Rdf8 35.Qe4 Qg5 36.Bh7 Rg7



White is lost here, but the collective brains of the assembled grandmasters manage to find one last diabolical idea. Can you spot it?

### 37.Rac1! Rf2 38.Qxc6+!

With both teams very short of time, this is a fiendish little trap. If Black takes the queen, there is a perpetual check: 38...Kxc6 39.Be4+ Kc5 40.Rd5+ Kc6 41.Rd8+ Kc5 42.Rd5+ etc. Fortunately for Black, they don't have to take the queen.

**38...Kb8!** In a hopeless position, White lost on time. 0-1

## British Chess Championships 2011

The 98th Championships of the British Isles

Organised by the English Chess Federation

**Sunday 24 July to Saturday 6 August**

Ponds Forge, Sheffield S1 2BP

An English Chess Federation Grand Prix Event

Visit the website -

<http://www.britishchesschampionships.co.uk>

## ECF Under 18 and Under 13 County Championships (cont)

The playing conditions in the two rooms were excellent and comfortable on a hot day, and there was a short bracing walk from the individual county team rooms and tempting refreshments stall to the playing halls, which took the players past the historic Sevastopol cannon, a landmark which no doubt helped focus the mind on the chess battles ahead.

The chess saw not only familiar county rivalries renewed from the previous year, but also the welcome additional participation of teams from Devon, Herefordshire, Norfolk and Northamptonshire. The Under 18 event saw many a marathon match, whether on the top or lower boards, and at the half way stage was finely poised with only half a point separating front runners Sussex from many times recent champions Kent, and with Surrey and Warwickshire in hot pursuit a further point behind.

The latter two counties continued to keep up the pressure with identical second rounds also of 7.5 points, but the rivalry brought the best out of the top two, with Kent's second round score of 9.5 securing second but surpassed by Sussex's fine final round 10.5 out of 12. This brought Sussex a richly deserved first ever ECF Under 18 championship with 19.5 points out of 24. The following board one game featuring the top two counties was a knife-edge encounter in which the Sussex player seized the eventual opportunity to set his team on the way to this year's Under 18 crown -

**Victor Jones (Kent) vs George Salimbeni (Sussex)**  
**ECF U18 Rd 1 Bd 1 26.06.2011**  
 - with notes by the winner.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 d5 4.g3 Be7 5.Bg2 0-0 6.0-0 Nbd7 7.Nbd2 c5 8.cxd5 Nxd5 9.e4 N5f6 10.e5 Nd5 11.Ne4 b6 12.Bg5 Bxg5 13.Nfxg5 cxd4 14.Qxd4 Nc5 15.h4 h6 16.Nf3 Nxe4 17.Qxe4 Bb7 18.Rfd1 Qe7 19.Nd4 Rab8 20.Qe2 Rfd8 21.Be4 A dangerous idea, aiming to create threats down the b1-h7 diagonal. 21...a6 22.a3 b5 23.Bc2 Nb6 24.Qd3 Qc5? I rather underestimated white's attacking chances. The black king is too vulnerable in the centre. Instead: [24...g6 25.h5 Nc4! 26.hxg6 Nxb2 gives black enough counterplay.] 25.Qh7+ Kf8 26.Qh8+ Ke7 27.Qxg7 Nd7 28.Bb3?! White just needs to develop his last piece! For example: [28.Rac1 Nxe5 29.Nf5+ exf5 30.Re1+-] 28...Nxe5 [28...Qxe5? 29.Nc6+! Bxc6 30.Rxd7+ Rxd7 31.Qxe5] 29.Nxe6?



This move looks nice, but it doesn't achieve anything. Black now gets the initiative – and it is decisive. [29.Re1 Qxd4 30.Rxe5+-] 29...Qc6! 30.Kf1 Qh1+ 31.Ke2 Qf3+ 32.Ke1 Rxd1+ 33.Bxd1 Qe4+ 34.Kd2 Nc4+ 35.Kc1 Qxe6 36.b3 Ne5 37.Ra2 Rc8+ 38.Rc2 Nd3+ 39.Kd2 Qe1+ 40.Kxd3 Rd8+ 0-1

An innovation in the Under 18 event was a schools' prize, for the best combined score by three players from the same school. There were a number of schools whose chess traditions enabled them to enter the fray, and it is telling that the winners, St. Olave's, Kent, achieved a 100% score in this competitive subsidiary contest.

The Under 13 Open provided an even closer spectacle. A strong Kent team established an early lead with returns of 4.5 out of 6 in each of the first two rounds. Surrey, meanwhile, built up a head of steam after a slower start, and in turn finished with 4.5 in each of the last two rounds while Kent's scoring slowed somewhat, leaving the two teams equal at the top of the table on 14.5 points out of 24. Berkshire had also run them close, but remained a point behind in third place. In the end Kent were declared worthy champions, after an agonising board elimination second tie break.

The U13 Minor was also a keenly fought affair, as the grade limit format made likely, with early leaders Berkshire forced to settle for a share of fourth place in an up and down contest, which had five counties in possible contention until late on. When the dust settled, Northamptonshire took the honours by a half point over Norfolk A in second place, with Surrey only a further half point back in third.



The organising committee would like to congratulate all the winners and indeed all the players, with thanks for their participation in excellent spirit; to thank all who helped to prepare for and run the event; and, in particular, to thank Eton College for providing an excellent venue and doing so much to help bring about a most enjoyable day's chess

### Results:

#### U18 Open

1st – Sussex (19.5 pts / 24)  
2nd – Kent (18)  
3rd= Warwickshire (15)  
3rd= Surrey (15)  
5th – Buckinghamshire (11)  
6th – Norfolk (9.5)  
7th – Berkshire (9)  
8th – Manchester (6)  
9th – Devon (5)

#### U13 Open

1st – Kent (14.5 pts / 24) – won on tiebreak  
2nd – Surrey (14.5)  
3rd – Berkshire (13.5)  
4th= Sussex A (12.5)  
4th= Manchester (12.5)  
6th – Sussex B (9.5)  
7th -Warwickshire (7)

#### U13 Minor

1st – Northants (16.5 / 24)  
2nd – Norfolk A (16)  
3rd – Surrey (15.5)  
4th= Berkshire (14)  
4th= Kent (14)  
6th Herefordshire (4.5)  
7th Norfolk B (3.5)

Pictures - Keith Tunstall and Jim Wadsworth





# Junior Chess

## Zukertort vs England

– Peter Purland, Director of Junior Chess

Two groups left England for what we thought was likely to be our last match in Holland against Zukertort. As it transpired we now hope that the Amsterdam Junior Chess Federation will take over the match and Zukertort will continue to be involved.

Ten players, Joshua, Higgs, Akshaya Kalaiyalahan, David Lui, Richard Meikle-Briggs, James Meredith, Gwilym Price, Theo Slade, Billy Twigge-Molecey, Prashast Vir and Aditya Yanamandra met Victor at Stansted whilst Daniel Abbas, Ashwin Kalyana, Aloysius Lip and Stephen Whatley met Peter at Liverpool Airport. The London lot were 30 minutes late but we all arrived at Schipol and were transported to Kaizer Karel College and started the match as soon as the official photographs had been taken.

The team set to their task with a will and soon built up a healthy lead. Although the top boards proved harder we still won 3½ – 2½ over the top six boards and went for our evening meal with a healthy 10-4 lead. The Albina provided their usual meat feast with chips

followed by ice cream and we then adjourned to the College for the evening blitz.

There is a joke “don’t mention the war” well this weekend it was “don’t mention the blitz” as the Dutch took their revenge and also the top 9 places. To add insult to injury one of their players has an English passport and claimed the best score by an Englishman!! I expect the 5 minute tournaments at the British to be well attended.

We then walked (or swam) back to the hotel as half way home we were caught in a tremendous thunderstorm and drenched to the skin. Therefore it was straight to bed and hope for a good night’s sleep. The players did get it although this year it was Victor’s turn to be above the disco!

A good breakfast was followed by lifts to the venue and the second round. The Dutch team was slightly stronger but performed much better and the score this round was 7-7 although 17-11 overall to England. Victor thus had the cup to take back. We had lunch and the prize giving before getting lifts to Schipol and a safe journey home. We now have real hopes that the match will continue and look forward to welcoming the Dutch in Liverpool in 2012.

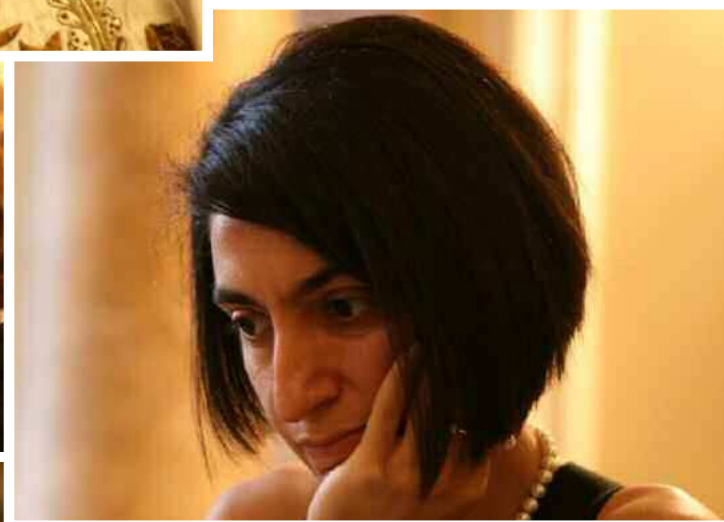
## Zukertort v England

Amstelveen Sat/Sun 18-19 June 2011

| Bd | Zukertort         |             | England               |            | Zukertort         |
|----|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1  | Tjark Vos         | 0.5-0.5     | Billy Twigge-Molecey  | 0.5-0.5    | Roger Mehra       |
| 2  | Roger Mehra       | 1-0         | Aloysius Lip          | 0-1        | Tjark Vos         |
| 3  | Hing Ting Lau     | 1-0         | Akshaya Kalaiyalahan  | 0-1        | Colin Stolwijk    |
| 4  | Colin Stolwijk    | 0-1         | Daniel Abbas          | 0-1        | Hing Ting Lau     |
| 5  | Jean Paul Brookes | 0-1         | Stephen Whatley       | 0-1        | Shotaro de Niet   |
| 6  | Laurens Schilstra | 0-1         | Prashast Vir          | 0.5-0.5    | Jean Paul Brookes |
| 7  | Mateusz Glowacki  | 0.5-0.5     | David Liu             | 0.5-0.5    | Ahnaf Uddin       |
| 8  | Ahnaf Uddin       | 0-1         | Ashwin Kalyana        | 0.5-0.5    | Mateusz Glowacki  |
| 9  | Boaz Cahn         | 0-1         | Gwilym Price          | 0.5-0.5    | Niroel Kanhai     |
| 10 | Niroel Kanhai     | 1-0         | James Meredith        | 0.5-0.5    | Boaz Cahn         |
| 11 | Jesper Roelfwerna | 0-1         | Aditya Yanamandra     | 1-0        | David Kokes       |
| 12 | David Kokes       | 0-1         | Joshua Higgs          | 1-0        | Jesper Roelfwerna |
| 13 | Leon Kuiper       | 0-1         | Richard Meikle-Briggs | 1-0        | Binti Dekker      |
| 14 | Emanuel Godfried  | 0-1         | Theo Slade            | 1-0        | Leon Kuiper       |
|    |                   | <b>4-10</b> |                       | <b>7-7</b> |                   |
|    | <b>Total 11</b>   |             | <b>Zukertort</b>      | <b>17</b>  | <b>England</b>    |

# Darwin Strategic Staunton Memorial Dinner 2010

Clockwise -- Simpson's | Anatoly Karpov, Mike Wiltshire, John Philpott | Nigel Short | Meri Grigoryan | Anatoly Karpov  
Stewart Reuben | Adam Raoof, Mr & Mrs Vujatovic | Garry Kasparov | Tara Adams (centre)





## Grand Prix Final Leader Boards

### Junior Prix

| Name                                    | Club/Area          | Pts |
|---|--------------------|-----|
| 1 Zhou, Yang-Fan<br>(1st on tie break)  | Richmond Juniors   | 634 |
| 2 Clarke, Brandon<br>(2nd on tie break) | Littlethorpe       | 634 |
| 3 Haria, Ravi                           | Barnet Knights     | 601 |
| 4 Fletcher, Michael JW                  | Nottingham HS      | 598 |
| 5 Balaji, Ananthanarayanan              | Harrow             | 593 |
| 6 Oyama, Akito                          | Cambridge City     | 587 |
| 7 Harvey, Marcus R                      | Bicester           | 586 |
| 8 Kuhendiran, Tharshan                  | New Malden*        | 584 |
| 9 Taylor, Adam C                        | Colchester*        | 584 |
| 10 Gupta, Arul                          | Kent Jr Congresses | 581 |

### Graded Prix (160-179)

| Name                 | Club/Area     | Pts |
|----------------------|---------------|-----|
| 1 Jackson, Paul G    | Coulsdon CF   | 626 |
| 2 Bryant, Richard BE | Oswestry      | 617 |
| 3 Hayward, Alan      | Streatham     | 561 |
| 4 Wells, Jonathan C  | North Norfolk | 510 |
| 5 Staples, Daniel J  | Battersea     | 510 |
| 6 Heaton, Paul       | Writtle       | 503 |
| 7 Clegg, Robert      | Huddersfield  | 499 |
| 8 Keogh, Edward      | Preston       | 496 |
| 9 Cutmore, Martin J  | Wood Green    | 487 |
| 10 Bunn, Matthew     | Snodland      | 484 |

### Graded Prix (140-159)

| Name                      | Club/Area             | Pts |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| 1 Hartley, Dean M         | Amber Valley          | 637 |
| 2 Desmedt, Richard E      | Netherton             | 625 |
| 3 O'Gorman, Brendan       | DHSS                  | 601 |
| 4 Paul, Nathanael         | Priorslee Lions       | 568 |
| 5 Dean, Robert A          | Pudsey                | 535 |
| 6 Connor, Michael I       | Great Lever           | 530 |
| 7 Kreuzer, Christopher RL | Richmond & Twickenham | 523 |
| 8 Pride, Stephen C        | Cambridge City        | 520 |
| 9 Papier, Alan            | Bristol & Clifton     | 511 |
| 10 Clegg, Chris RA        | Kingston              | 509 |

### Graded Prix (120-139)

| Name                   | Club/Area              | Pts |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----|
| 1 Foley, Phil T        | Upminster              | 615 |
| 2 Horman, Paul A       | Morecambe              | 577 |
| 3 Watson, Darrell A    | Bourne End             | 563 |
| 4 Crouch, Timothy J    | Kings Head             | 561 |
| 5 Egan, William J      | Scunthorpe             | 561 |
| 6 Stone, Mark R        | Petts Wood & Orpington | 550 |
| 7 Gardiner, Colin J    | Falmouth               | 529 |
| 8 Allen, Timothy S     | Battersea              | 525 |
| 9 Taylor, Jonathan     | Wakefield              | 522 |
| 10 Crockett, Stephen J | Birmingham*            | 512 |

### Graded Prix (U120)

| Name                | Club/Area           | Pts |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----|
| 1 Fraser, Alan R    | Beckenham & Bromley | 548 |
| 2 Trigg, Matt D     | Solihull            | 546 |
| 3 Gibbs, John       | Wombwell            | 532 |
| 4 Miles, Barry S    | South Norwood       | 531 |
| 5 Waddington, James | Bolton              | 525 |
| 6 Brent, Derek      | Urmston             | 521 |
| 7 Mahony, Jonathan  | Leeds               | 518 |
| 8 Hall, James W     | East Grinstead      | 503 |
| 9 Broderick, Paul G | Shifnal & Telford   | 499 |
| 10 Smith, Roger N   | Ipswich             | 497 |

## ECF Grand Prix 2010-11 (1)

- Andrew Farthing

Another season is over. Battle-hardened veterans of the weekend congress circuit are licking their wounds and looking back over one more year of triumphs and disasters.

For the congress regulars – those players for whom the word “stalwart” seems to have been invented – it is also time to check out the final standings in the ECF Grand Prix. This is a year-long individual competition for Direct members only, in which points are scored according to each individual's results in graded congresses. The best 7-9 events are counted, depending on the mix of standard- and rapidplay.

If your mind just reeled at the thought of playing seven congresses in a year, don't worry – you're not alone! For some of us, however, playing 10, 15, 20, even 40 or more congresses in a year is just part of the routine, and it's for players like this that the Grand Prix exists.

At stake are trophies for the winner in each section – generously donated by sponsors CCF Mindgames – and a £50 discount on entry to British Championship events. More important, of course, are the bragging rights for the following year, when next one comes across a fellow devotee.

It may not seem a big deal, but I can remember the time a friend of mine, graded just over 100, told me with genuine delight that he'd made it for the first time into the top ten in his section. In the end, the Grand Prix adds a little spice and fun to congress chess, and I'm very pleased that it exists.

Before I hand over to Brendan O'Gorman – another stalwart, with a mere 204 graded games to his name last year – for his excellent profile of this year's winners, I must express sincere thanks to those who make the Grand Prix what it is:

- CCF Mindgames, for their continuing sponsorship;
- Richard Haddrell, for his sterling work processing the results;
- Colin Gardiner, for helping to ensure that congresses submit their results in time;
- Last but not least, the players themselves!

In 2011-12, we plan to relaunch the Open Grand Prix and revive the Women's competition. Watch this space!



# ECF Grand Prix 2010-11 (2)

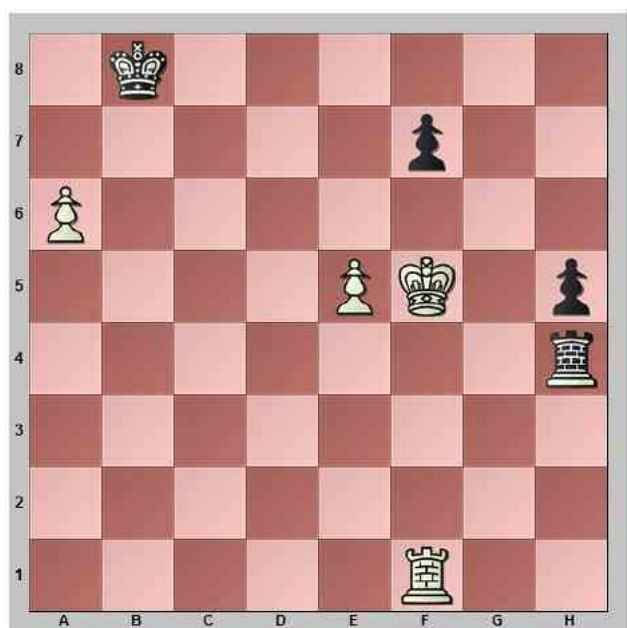
- Brendan O'Gorman

## Junior Prix



Yang-Fan Zhou capped a fine year, during which he secured the IM title, by winning the Junior Prix on tie-break from Brandon Clarke. He achieved one of his IM norms at the Brighton Congress in February where he won all nine games, including two against GM opponents. His first GM scalp was that of Keith Arkell, who was ironically ground down in the ending, an unfamiliar experience for Keith who is usually the grinder rather than the grindee.

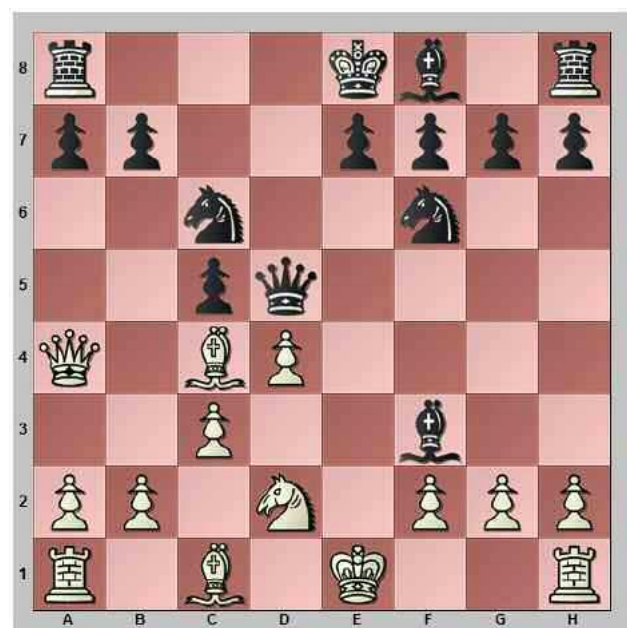
After 47 moves, Keith as Black has achieved a fairly level ending but he needs to be careful. His next move was a blunder and Yang-Fan took full advantage.



**47...Kc8?** 47...Ka7 should draw **48.Kf6 Re4 49.Rf5 h4 50.Kxf7 h3 51.Rh5 h2 52.Rxh2** and Black resigned because of **52..Rxe5 53.Rh8+** (the reason **47...Kc8?** was a mistake) **53...Kc7 54.a7 +- 1-0**

Yang-Fan showed that he could also do the business in the opening when he faced GM Alexander Cherniaev with the black pieces.

**1.e4 c5 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 4.d4 Nf6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Nbd2 Nc6 7.Bc4 Bxf3 8.Qa4?**



An unfortunate novelty, presumably designed to keep the queens on.

Cherniaev had previously played **8.Qb3** and drawn.

**8...Bd1 ! 8... Qd7 9. Nxf3** and

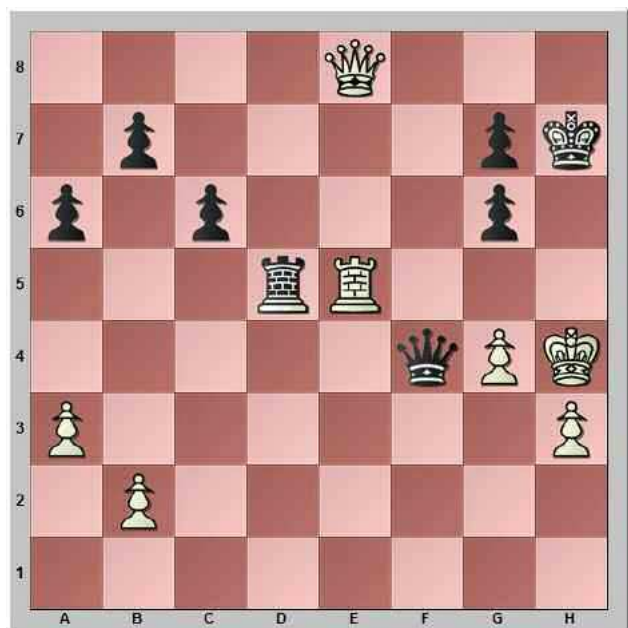
White has a slight advantage **9.Kxd1 ?** White should have tried to struggle on a pawn down after **9.Qxd1 Qxg2 10.Qf3 Qxf3 11.Nxf3 9...Qxg2 10.Re1 e6 11.Be2 Qd5 12.Bf3 Qd7 13.dxc5 ? Bxc5 14.Qh4 Rd8 15.Qg5 Be7 16.Qxg7** White has regained his pawn but his position is hopeless  
**0-1** after 41 moves

## Graded Prix (160-179)



Coming with a late burst of victories, Paul Jackson overtook Richard Bryant to win the 160-179 section. Anyone who has played Paul knows that he never gives up and will play on as long as there is some chance of

his opponent's slipping up. The following position illustrates how this attitude can pay off. Played at the Uxbridge Congress in March, Paul has been harrying his opponent over several moves and has turned down a draw offer.



**42.Rxd5?** expecting the routine 42...cxd5, imagine White's surprise when Paul played **42...Qf2+!** White resigned once he saw 43.Kg5 Qf6# 0-1

#### Graded Prix (140-159)



1 Dean Hartley 637 pts

This year saw a welcome return to form for Dean Hartley. Here he is winning brilliantly against the runner up in this section, Richard Desmedt.

#### **Dean Hartley - Richard Desmedt Cotswold Major 29.05.2011**

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 f5 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bg5 c6 7.Bxf6 Qxf6 8.Ne5 Be7 9.Qb3 0-0 10.f4 Kh8 11.e3 b6? 11...Nd7 12.Nxd7 Bxd7 13.Qxb7 Qe6** and Black would have stood better.



**12.Nxd5! cxd5 13.Qxd5 Qd6 14.Bc4!** defending his queen but also carrying a threat which Black misses **14...Nd7??**



**15.Qg8+!! 1-0**

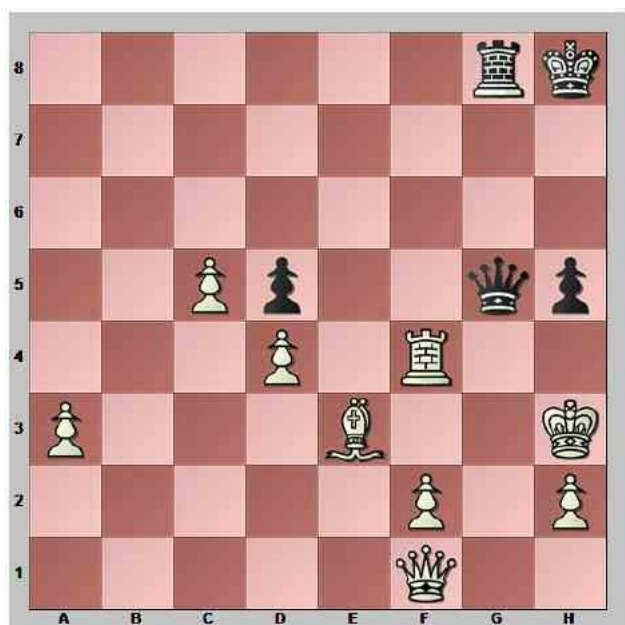
#### Graded Prix (120-139)

The 120-139 section was won by Phil Foley, one of the most improved congress players around. In the last year or so, Phil has done a lot of work on his openings and this pays off in the following game.









50...Qg6 ! Think again, Black is winning! This subtle move threatens 51..Qe6+ 52.Kh4 Rg4+ 53.Rxg4 Qxg4# 51.Qh1 White could have held out longer after 51.Kh4 Qg7 ! (renewing the threat of lateral checks from e7 or d7) 52.f3 Qe7+ 53.Kh3 Qe6+ 54.Kh4 Qxe3 55.Rf5 Qe7+ 56.Kh3 Qe6 57.Qd3 Rg5 -+ 51...Qe6+ 52.Kh4 Rg4+ 53.Kxh5 Qg6# 0-1

## LAKE DISTRICT CHESS HOLIDAYS

A relaxed, informal 5-night holiday at this well-known Country House hotel, including a 7-round Swiss competition and tutorials on chess tactics. Suitable for the inexperienced as well as local club players

Rothay Manor, Ambleside

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E-mail: [hotel@rothaymanor.co.uk](mailto:hotel@rothaymanor.co.uk)

[www.rothaymanor.co.uk/chess](http://www.rothaymanor.co.uk/chess)



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## International Round-Up

### **39th World Open 2011 (Philadelphia USA) 28th June - 4th July**

Michael Adams was joint winner on 7/9 with Gata Kamsky but lost the blitz play-off for the title whilst Steve Barrett finished on 4.  
Alexander Hardwick scored 5/9 in the U1800 section.

### **Irish Championships 2nd-10th July**

Mark Josse and Michael Prizant played in the Seniors which despite its name was the top section, not an event for players over 60! Sean Hewitt was the organiser and arbiter. Mark finished on 5.5 whilst Michael scored 5. FM Stephen Brady finished first with 7.5/9, half a point clear of John Redmond.

### **86th Paris Championship IdF 2nd - 10th July**

Nathan Alfred scored 5/9.

### **FSIM July Budapest HUN Sat 2nd Jul 2011 - Tue 12th Jul**

Mark Lyell finished on 4.5/10 in the IM section which was a six player double round all-play-all. Mark Patrickson scored 7/10 in the FM C Section while Diana Mihajlova finished on 1.

### **XXXIV Open Barbera del Valles Int "A" 4-12 July**

Ian Thompson played in the A section and finished on 4/9.

### **5th Leiden Chess Tournament July 7-17**

David Howell, Julian Farrand, Keith Richardson and Ray Edwards are all playing. After four rounds David is on 4/4, whilst Julian is on 3 and Keith and Ray are on 2.

### **8th South Wales International 9th-14th July**

The English entry includes Grandmasters Peter Wells and Keith Arkell, International Master Jack Rudd as well as FIDE Masters David Eggleston and Rafe Martyn. Congratulations to Martin Brown who defeated grandmaster Marijan Petrov rated 2534 in round 1.

### **118th Scottish Chess Championships 9th-17th July**

Julian Way is on 2/3.

### **Science Park Amsterdam Chess Tournament 9-17 July**

Stewart Haslinger is on 3/4 in Group A whilst Kevin White is on 1 and Ravi Haria, Isaac Sanders and Graham Burton are on 0.5. Mike Haslinger is on 2.5/3 in Group C.

### **Open OBERWART 2011 Turnier A 9-17 July**

Daniel Cotterill is on 1/3.

### **Rethymno International Open 11th-18th July 2011**

Paul Townsend is on 1/1 whilst Tim Adams and Gabrielle Dawson are on 0.

### **3rd International Tournament "Artemis Cup" Leros 12-19 July 2011**

Stephen Gordon, Adam Hunt and Max Devereaux are all playing.

## Results Round-Up

### **South Lakes Congress Winners List**

#### **Stamford Associates OPEN 23 Players**

1st 4.5/5 - Jonathan Hawkins – Leam Lane

Equal 2nd 3.5/5

Gary Quillan – Liverpool

Robert Patla – Penrith

Glen Charleshouse – Morecambe

Oliver Jackson – Cheshire

Mike Surtees – Bolton

Grading Prize - John Jarman – Cockermouth

Cumbria Prize - David Phillips – Windermere

#### **Invesco Perpetual MAJOR U170 37 Players**

Equal 1st 4/5

David Shaw – Kendal

Robert K Taylor – Preston

Equal 3rd 3.5/5

Peter Mulleady – Rawtenstall

Paul Robson – Eldon Square

Michael Parker – Poulton

Farshad Ai – Phoenix

John Milnes – Bradford

Nigel Livesey – High Peak

Grading Prize - Michael Connor – Great Lever

Cumbria Prize - Lewis McAtear – Penrith

#### **Intermediate U150 44 Players**

1st 4.5/5 - Ian Stone – Cockermouth

Equal 2nd 4/5

Philippe Gleizon – Cockermouth

Ernie Lazenby – Middlesbrough

Dean Hartley – Amber Valley

Stephen Murray – Arnside

Grading Prize - David Gillespie – Ardroggan

Cumbria Prize - Andy McAtear – Penrith

#### **Minor 1 U135 39 Players**

1st 4.5/5 - Noel Boustred – Gosforth

Equal 2nd 4/5

David Innes – Crusaders

Andy Ross – Rose Forgrove

Grading Prize - Judd Bennett – Morecambe

Cumbria Prize - Bill Henderson – Cockermouth

#### **Minor 2 U120 44 Players**

1st 4.5/5 - Stuart Ross – Shifnal & Telford

Equal 2nd 4/5

Paul Jackson – Morecambe

James Gardner – Gambit

David Congalton – Irvine

Tristan Pearce – Lancaster

Philip Winstanley – Wigan  
Grading Prize - Richard Farrell – Penrith  
Best Cumbria - Peter Blackmore – Cockermouth

### **Best Overall Junior**

Jordan Lewis – Poulton

### **Best Overall Veteran**

Peter Wood – Hastings

### **Best Game Prize**

Alexander Combie – Newark

## **Golders Green Rapidplay 11th June**

The results for June's event were as follows -

### **OPEN**

Alex Cherniaev 5/6 £60

Jovica Radovanovic and Paul Cooksey 4.5/6 and £15 each

U175: Chris Davison 4/6 £20

### **MAJOR U170**

Shane McCabe (161) 5.5/6 £60

Jonathan Landau (169), James McDonnell (165) and Siddarth Gopakumar 4.5/6 £10 each

U155: Ben Franklin (148) 4/6 £20

### **MINOR U145**

Myroslav Seman (UNG) 6/6 £30 (and promotion to the Open in future events)

Chris Barnett (139) and Tim Shallice (e142) 5/6 £30 each

U130: Peter Smith (120s), Jason Obihara (129) and Tom Rixon (129) 4/6 and £10 each

### **AMATEUR U120**

Gerogi Velez (UNG) 5/6 £30

Walter Thorpe (114) 4.5/6 £60 (highest graded player)

Neil Cossins (114e) 4/6

U105: Haronobu Oyama (103), Ayse Karel (102), David Everitt (101) 4/6 all £10 each

## **2nd Big Slick International**

Congratulations to Grandmasters Simon Williams and Danny Gormally who won the GM norm and IM norm sections respectively at the 2nd Big Slick International, which was held from 25th June to 3rd July.

Fifteen year old Shiven Khosla of India secured his third and final IM norm and Nicolas Croad of New Zealand also made an IM norm. Full report to follow next time.

## **Surrey 9 - Kent 7 – County Open final!**

Surrey were ecstatic about winning the flagship final of the County Chess season in Leicester on 2nd July. This was the first time since 1954 that Surrey had won the Open section and with it the much coveted and quite magnificent Lowenthal Trophy.

Their captain, Owen Phillips said; "I have a great squad of players to choose from, but confidence from winning aside, we were also very conscious that we wanted to make a little piece of chess history. We shall now be pleased to take the Lowenthal back to Michael Franklin, who was Board 2 in our 1954 winning side!"

Owen also noted that, while photographed collecting the trophy with International Master and Surrey Board 3 Graeme Buckley, Graeme should take much of the credit as he had been captain for 7 or so years.

Surrey used 36 players during their resounding 8/8 match wins, and were very pleased to be led in the Final on boards 1 & 2 by Yang Fan Zhou (2444, Whitgift School), England's newest IM, and by Samuel Franklin (219) from Dulwich College. Surrey's three wins in their close fought 9-7 victory over Kent came from Graeme Buckley, Keith Richardson and Roger Emerson.

## **Bedfordshire 9 - Hertfordshire 7 – Minor Counties final!**

*- Kevin Williamson*

With players from Leighton Buzzard, Hemel Hempstead and FCA Solutions appearing for both teams, there was certainly an air of familiarity about this match to go with the friendly rivalry. The exchange of team lists revealed that Herts had increased their strength at the top since the semi-finals (possibly to counter Dave and Gary who they may have expected to play?), but to keep within the average U180 grade restriction had also made some concessions lower down. This gave the interesting situation where Beds held the grading advantage on Boards 1-2 and 9-15, with Herts favourites on Boards 3-8 and 16. In truth on most boards the grades were fairly similar, except for Board 16 where Colin was outgraded by a whopping 30 points – surely Herts were expecting to win that one (but I will return to this later ...)

The match started steadily enough with four draws (we were black in all of these), but I had concerns about some of the other games. Vaughan was desperately trying to avoid being mated, but it did look like if he could survive his long-term prospects were quite good



due to some weaknesses in Chris Majer's position. Adrian looked to be a pawn down for not much compensation, I had wasted the white pieces and was fighting for equality and I had no idea what was happening in Charles' game but he was nominally a pawn down.

Fortunately there was good news elsewhere, Andy and Peter both looked comfortable on the top boards and Steve seemed to have a good Benko position without needing to sacrifice a pawn. Graham scored the first win of the afternoon when he bravely (but correctly) allowed black to take his queen on e5, netting 3 pieces in return. Graham's pieces then swarmed all over black's king and queen forcing mate – a really good (and important) win for Graham. Paul Habershon won soon afterwards – I didn't see the end of that one, but remember thinking it was the sort of position that Paul plays well once he had got f5 in.

Something unpleasant must have happened in Peter Constantinou's game, as he went from apparently winning a pawn to defeat in fairly short order, and my own resignation kept the match in the balance. Fortunately Vaughan had defended his position well, and had got the win to leave us a point up. All the remaining games had been drawn apart from Boards 14 (Adrian) and 16 (Colin) which were still in play.

We needed 1 point from these two games as board count was not in our favour. Andy assured me that we were looking good in both games, but we've all seen many won games thrown away in time pressure. Since the games were in close proximity to each other a large crowd had gathered, almost completely surrounding the four players. Adrian had won his pawn back by then and was attacking; Colin was a piece up but had a pawn on the 7th to contend with. Aware of the large audience, and realising it must be a tight match, Colin held his nerve magnificently to Hoover up his opponent's kingside pawns before queening one of his own to win the match for Bedfordshire. Adrian's game then petered out to a drawn ending, but a win was not necessary. The final result was Bedfordshire 9 Hertfordshire 7.

Graham has kindly sent me his game which I have copied below. If Paul H., Vaughan and Colin would like to send me their wins I can then put them all together for circulation. There were also a large number of pictures taken which hopefully will end up on the ECF and Bedfordshire websites in due course.

Finally, a big thank you to everybody who has played this season (in any of the matches) as our success is a

combined team effort over a whole season.

[pictures below and on the next page]



John Wickham presents the Presidents Award to Julie Johnson

### Brendan O'Gorman - Chess Images

Yeovil -- Mark Stone - before and after ...

See Brendan's work at -

<https://picasaweb.google.com/bpogorman>





Andrew Ledger - not keen on the tea ...



Bedfordshire & MK Minor County winners



Controller Adrian Elwin



Hampshire - U140 winners



Surrey - Open winners



Kent - U160 winners



Nottinghamshire - U180 winners



Warwickshire - U120 winners.jpg



## Other Counties' Finals results

### **Under 180 FINAL**

Devon 7½ – Nottinghamshire 8½

### **Under 160 FINAL**

Lancashire 5½ – Kent 10½

### **Under 140 FINAL**

Kent 7½ – Hampshire 8½

### **Under 120 FINAL**

Warwickshire 6½ – Lancashire 5½

### **Under 100 FINAL**

Essex 8.5 – Warwickshire 3.5

Full results can be found on the County Championships page on the ECF website at [www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk)

## National Club Finals

The results of the National Club Finals played at Golden Lane, London, on 10th July 2011 were as follows:

### **Open**

Wood Green 4 – 2 Mushrooms

| <i>Player</i>      | <i>Result</i> | <i>Player</i> | <i>Grade</i> |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Nick Pert (W)      | 1 - 0         | Ian Snape     | 204          |
| Neil McDonald      | 1 - 0         | Chris Briscoe | 205          |
| John Emms          | 1 - 0         | Ron Harris    | 185          |
| Chris Ward         | 0 - 1         | Rory O'Kelly  | 181          |
| Jonathan Friedland | 0 - 1         | Bill Linton   | 181          |
| Desmond Tan        | 1 - 0         | David Wilson  | 164          |

### **Major**

Metropolitan 2 – 3 Hackney

| <i>Player</i>         | <i>Result</i> | <i>Player</i>   | <i>Grade</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Tony Peterson (W)     | 0 - 1         | Jochen Wittman  | 194          |
| Manuel Perez Carballo | 1 - 0         | Adrian Casillas | 186          |
| Petr Vachfeidl        | 0 - 1         | Nick Walker     | 178          |
| D Ian Calvert         | ½ - ½         | John Reid       | 180          |
| Noel Stewart          | ½ - ½         | Robin Oakley    | 136          |

### **Major Plate**

Farnham 2½\* – 2½ Athenaeum - Farnham won on board count

| <i>Player</i>       | <i>Result</i> | <i>Player</i>     | <i>Grade</i> |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Clive Frostick      | ½ - ½         | Daniel Farkas     | 194          |
| Ian Sharpe          | ½ - ½         | Charles McAleenan | 178          |
| Peter Hasson        | ½ - ½         | Kevin Millward    | 168          |
| Tim Davis           | 1 - 0         | Jonathan Kay      | 159          |
| Christian Montanari | 0 - 1         | Geoff Hermes      | 156          |

## **Intermediate**

Wanstead 1½ – 2½ Bishop's Stortford

| <i>Player</i>    | <i>Result</i> | <i>Player</i> | <i>Grade</i> |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Mark Murrell     | ½ - ½         | Gary Thurston | 168          |
| Philip Staniland | 0 - 1         | Paul Kenning  | 150          |
| Keith Jones      | 0 - 1         | Jon Spencer   | 149          |
| Andy Lu          | 1 - 0         | Adam Hirst    | 104          |

More information can be found at <http://johnu175.wordpress.com/2011/07/06/national-club-finals-2011/>



Grandmaster John Emms, with Arbiter David Sedgwick looking on ...



Mark Murrell versus Gary Thurston



David Sedgwick & John Philpott - Arbiter and Webmaster respectively



## National Club Southern Finals

*- a report and photos from Brian Smith*

The NC Southern Final matches started on time, thanks to David Sedgwick resuming once again as our Arbiter. John Philpott's excellent Chess Blog - <http://johnu175.wordpress.com/2011/07/06/national-club-finals-2011/> - has all the scoresheets from all four matches. You will see that from the results the National Club Finals are fast becoming "an English Sport".

In the Intermediate Final, Wanstead emulated Andy Murray's Wimbledon tennis form and lost to Bishop's Stortford (1.5-2.5), and in the Major Plate, Athenaeum

copied Englands men's and women's Football Teams and lost to Farnham (2.5-2.5) in the usual close penalty shoot-out. Metropolitan replicated David Haye's boxing performance and lost on points to Hackney (2-3) in the Major Championship, while in the Open, GM Chris Ward - Wood Green's very own Jensen Button said that "the wheel came off his board so he has fired his mechanic" after losing to Rory O'Kelly !

However everyone appeared to enjoy themselves, plenty of beer was drunk before, during and after the matches which enabled Adam Raoof to quickly present the NC Trophies to the four section winners. We look forward to seeing you all again at next year finals.



The playing room



The playing room (again)



Major Championship finalists



Major Plate finalists



Open Championship finalists



Intermediate Championship finalists

## The ChEx Bookshelf

*Each issue in this column, Chief Executive Andrew Farthing introduces a noteworthy book of interest to the average player*

### ULF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING



The subject of this month's ChEx Bookshelf article, Swedish super-grandmaster Ulf Andersson, forms a stark contrast with Viktor Korchnoi, whose autobiography and games collection were reviewed last time. Where Korchnoi is fierce, Andersson is quiet, friendly and unassuming. Where Korchnoi gives the impression that he would rather die than stop fighting over the chessboard, Andersson (in)famously proved happy time after time to agree short, bloodless draws.

I was tempted to call this piece, "Ulf Andersson's Feinting Chess", in homage to the Swede's subtle, probing style – quietly manoeuvring and nudging at his opponent's position with admirable patience. The title would have been a nicely ironic nod towards the various Batsford collections called *Kasparov's Fighting Chess*. In the end, I could not resist stealing the wonderfully apt punning title from Ray Keene's excellent anthology, *Learn from the Grandmasters*. It so perfectly encapsulates the impact of Andersson's best games, in which mortal peril hides itself in the most innocuous-seeming positions.

This month's book is **Grandmaster Chess Strategy** by Jurgen Kaufeld and Guido Kern (New in Chess; 2011). Published originally in German, the book is subtitled "What Amateurs Can Learn from Ulf Andersson's Positional Masterpieces", which is a much clearer indication of the contents than the somewhat generic title.

The book is a collection of 80 of Andersson's best wins, divided into fifteen thematic chapters:

1. Playing against two weaknesses
2. An advantage in space
3. Control of the d-file
4. Prophylaxis
5. Playing against the isolated pawn
6. The bishop pair
7. An original exchange of bishop for knight
8. Fighting against the Hedgehog
9. The positional exchange sacrifice
10. The positional queen sacrifice
11. The art of defence
12. The Catalan endgame
13. Rook endings
14. Rook and minor piece
15. Minor-piece endings

As this list shows, both middle game and endgame themes are covered. In the final four chapters, the first half of the game is generally given without notes, to allow the authors space to focus on the endgame.

The emphasis throughout is on strategy – positional themes and technique – namely those aspects of the game for which Andersson is best known. I am conscious in writing this that for many younger readers, Andersson may be an unfamiliar figure. From the 1970s to the 1990s, the Swede was one of the most active grandmasters on the international scene, and for years he was a fixture in the top 10 of the world ranking list. When the Rest of the World took on the USSR in 1984, it was Andersson who was picked to try to hold Karpov on top board.

Part of the reason for Andersson's relatively low profile, I suspect, is that he concentrated on playing rather than writing. I can recall very few annotations by Andersson in the English-language chess magazines of the time, and the only collection of his games in English of which I am aware is V. Ravikumar's 1985 effort, *Ulf Andersson's Decisive Games*, a slim volume of just 80 pages, suffering from rather poor paper quality and a number of misprints. I cannot imagine that there are many of us around with a copy on our

shelves.

More significant, perhaps, is Andersson's image. Although usually described as very likable, Ulf's approach to the game tended to result in a high percentage of draws, many of them quite short, and his wins were frequently achieved only after a lengthy endgame battle. Editors tended to regard such games as less suited for publication than the blood and thunder (thud and blunder?) of more attacking efforts. Top grandmasters clearly admired Andersson's depth of understanding and the subtlety of his play, but one senses that few were gripped by his performances.

Writing about the 1977 tournament in Bad Lauterberg, no less a figure than Anatoly Karpov – himself not always regarded as the most exciting of players – wrote admiringly about the combative approach of Icelandic GM Fridrik Olafsson, before going on to say: *"In complete contrast to Olafsson was Andersson's play. Since our joint appearance in the 1969 Junior World Championship, I have a profound sympathy for the complete change which has come over Ulf in the meantime... He plays the same inevitable type of game, in which, whether he be Black or White, his pieces as a rule proceed no further than the third rank. As before, he rarely loses... but has completely stopped winning. Fourteen draws and one loss (and that from his favourite formation) is certainly a sad total."* (Quoted in Anatoly Karpov's *Games as World Champion 1975-77* by Kevin J. O'Connell and David N.L. Levy)

In the mid-'70s there was some truth in this. Andersson's peak was still to come and first prizes were to follow over the next decade. Nevertheless, Ulf seemed destined never to be a figure who would set the pulse racing through his chess.

Players should be judged, however, by their best games, and Andersson's are a connoisseur's delight. It is no surprise, for instance, that endgame specialist Keith Arkell speaks of him with enormous admiration.

Kaufeld and Kern have done an excellent job in presenting Andersson's games in an accessible way. The annotations are ideally suited to the average player – clear verbal explanations, supplemented by sufficient, but still relatively few, variations. The sequence of chapters seemed designed to begin with the familiar basics of chess strategy (weaknesses; isolated pawns) before moving on to the more challenging motifs which most clearly distinguish the grandmaster's positional play from the amateur's.

The following game will provide a flavour of

Andersson's style and the notes. Not all of the authors' annotations are included, but there are enough to convey their style and depth.

### Ulf Andersson – Zenon Franco

Clarín Buenos Aires, 1979

**1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.e4 Nxc3 6.dxc3 Qxd1+**

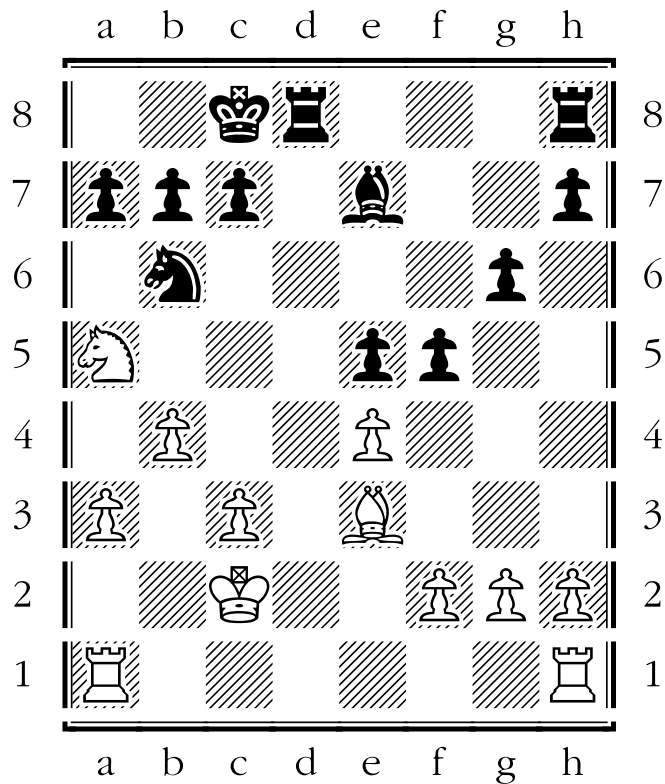
Early queen exchanges are a frequent occurrence in Andersson's games. If you have a low tolerance for queenless middle games, this may not be the book for you.

**7.Kxd1 f6 8.Be3 e5 9.Nd2 Be6 10.Bc4 Bxc4 11.Nxc4 Nd7 12.b4!**

*"A prophylactic move directed against the idea of the relieving move 12...Bc5, after which Black would have completely levelled the game."*

**12...Nb6 13.Na5! 0–0–0+ 14.Kc2 Be7 15.a3! f5?!**

At this point, the authors pause to set the reader a little exercise. *"It will certainly not be difficult for you to find the next move if you have been paying attention to our subject. [The game is the first in a chapter called 'An Original Exchange of Bishop for Knight'.] But try to work out the considerations which lead to that move."*



**16.Bxb6!**

*"This original move shows Andersson's fine positional feel for structures of this sort. It is actually difficult to give up the strong bishop for a badly placed knight. White is here anticipating the manoeuvre ...Nd7-f6 and setting up on a5 a launching pad for*



a future queenside pawn storm."

**16...axb6 17.Nc4 Bf6?**

17...fxe4 is better.

**18.a4 Bg7 19.Rhe1 Rhe8 20.b5!**

"This move is necessary in order to fix the point of attack on b6. Black would meet 20.a5 with 20...b5."

**20...f4?!**

"Locking the pawns like this weakens the bishop even more and deprives it of any activity."

**21.a5 bxa5 22.Rxa5 b6 23.Ra7 Bf6 24.Rea1 Re6 25.R1a6! Rde8 26.Kb3!**

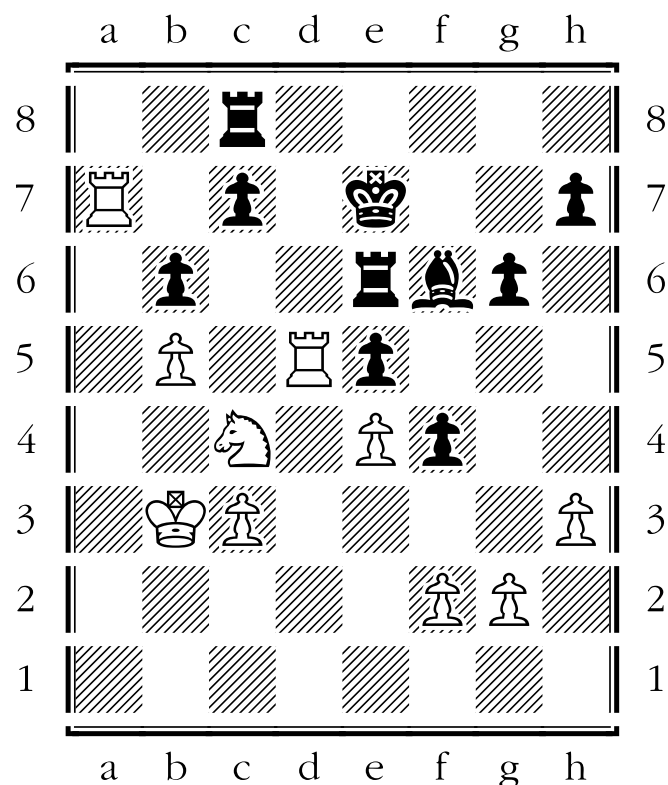
"Ulf Andersson displays here a characteristic typical of all great endgame artists such as Capablanca, Botvinnik or Fischer. He takes to heart the endgame rule 'don't rush things' and before taking any concrete action he first quietly strengthens his position with this sensible king move."

**26...Bd8 27.Ra8+ Kd7 28.Ra2!**

"White is aiming to put his rook on the superb central square d5."

**28...Bf6 29.Rd2+ Ke7 30.Ra7 Rc8 31.Rd5 Ke8 32.h3 Ke7**

Time for the reader to do some more work! The authors ask what White should do now to extend his space advantage.

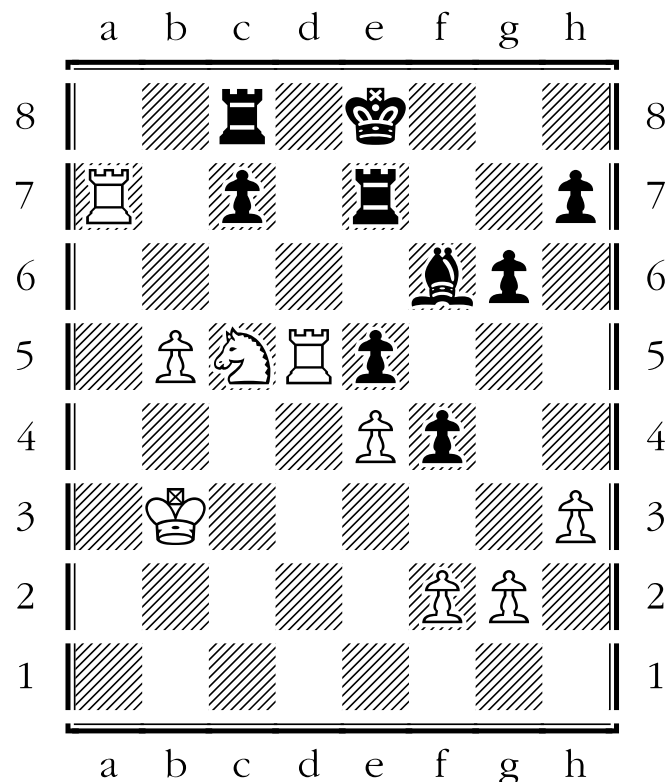


**33.Nb2!**

"The knight's position on c4 is only apparently a good one. So White improves its position by moving it to d3 and prepares the strong thrust c4-c5."

**33...Ke8 34.Nd3 Bg7 35.c4 Bf6 36.c5 bxc5 37.Nxc5 Re7**

One final exercise: "The next move is at the same time prophylactic and yet necessary if he wants to win. What is it?"



**38.Ra6!**

"A many-faceted move, which leads to an immediate win. He seizes the 6th rank, prevents the relieving move 38...c6 and prepares the decisive Ra6-c6."

**38...Bh8 39.Kc4 Bg7 40.f3 Rb8 41.Ne6 Bf6 42.Rc6 1-0**

"42...Rc8 is followed by 43.b6+. The endgame performance which is on show here leaves behind a lasting impression of aesthetic beauty."

There will be those who find a game like this boring. To me, it is the art of chess in one of its highest forms. At his best, Andersson seems to achieve a perfection which hints at a kind of profound truth at the heart of the game.

If, like me, you are an average club player, you will want to know, "Will this book improve my chess?" I believe so, for three reasons:

Firstly, it is a well-structured textbook on positional

chess and endgame play. The fact that it is based on the games of a single player means that there is unified quality to the examples, which helps the themes to emerge. The downside to this is that there is also a certain sameness to the openings. If you are a 1.e4 player, you will have to work harder to make the connection between the typical positions here and those in your own games.

Secondly, the authors have inserted questions throughout the text, indicated by diagrams against a grey background, which ask the reader to think actively about the positions at key moments. This kind of engagement is vital to the learning process and is particularly important here. The smooth flow of Andersson's games could easily lull the reader into rattling through the moves, caught up in the shape of the plans and taking for granted the choices made.

Finally, the book offers a perfect illustration of the value of determination. These games abound with positions which, to the amateur eye, look utterly level, and yet Andersson shows how it is possible to keep playing, accumulating something from (apparently) nothing, until in the end the "equal" position has become a win. My games show a depressing tendency towards ending in draws, and I have been accused of giving up too soon when it was worth pressing for more. If it does nothing else, this collection offers the message that equal is not the same as drawn.

In the end, whether the book will improve your chess may be linked to the other key question, "Will I enjoy this book?" I suspect that the more strategically inclined you are as a player, the more you will enjoy playing through the games. Tactical players may have the most to learn but may have to overcome their own tastes in doing so.

Don't be put off. These games are worth the effort.



For another view of this book, turn to Gary Lane's Book Reviews on the next page ...

## The English Chess Federation Certificate of Merit



The Certificate of Merit (COM) is centred on a number of online tests, which enable chess students to measure their progress and to earn certificates and badges. The tests are taken entirely online, and payments for the credits can be made online or by cheque. Examinees can practice as many times as they wish before they take the CoM test. All questions are multiple-choice, and the result comes through automatically - the certificate is issued by email and the button badge for the particular level is sent out by the ECF Office shortly afterwards. Please see the shop on the ECF website [www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk) for details of purchase of the full package or individual items.

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## Book Reviews from Gary Lane

### Killer Grand Prix

by Gawain Jones

Produced by gingergm.com at £24.95

You have seen the Grand Prix Attack games in the newspaper columns, you have read his book and now you can see him in the comfort of your home. The Commonwealth Champion spends over five hours explaining his favourite weapon against the Sicilian on a DVD that is playable on your computer or television. The opening (1 e5 c5 2 Nc3 and then f4) has seen Jones beat a number of top players such as Van Wely but the best thing about is that it is so good at crushing club players. The opening has a very British back-



ground and was named by Leonard Barden. In the 1970s Dave Rumens stormed around the country winning game after game with the opening which prompted the younger generation to give it a go so Hebden, Hodgson and Watson followed his example. The results of all weekend tournaments

were accumulated to determine the most successful player of the year in a contest known as the Grand Prix. Hence, the reason why Barden acknowledged the success of the line by naming the opening. On the DVD Jones recognises the work of the older players but points out their favourite move 2 f4 has over the years been neglected due to the power of 2...d5. He also mentions Luke McShane's pet line 2 d3 but quickly dismisses it on the basis of Black playing 2...Nc6 and then ...d5. Therefore, he concentrates on 2 Nc3 and explains things in a laid back style.

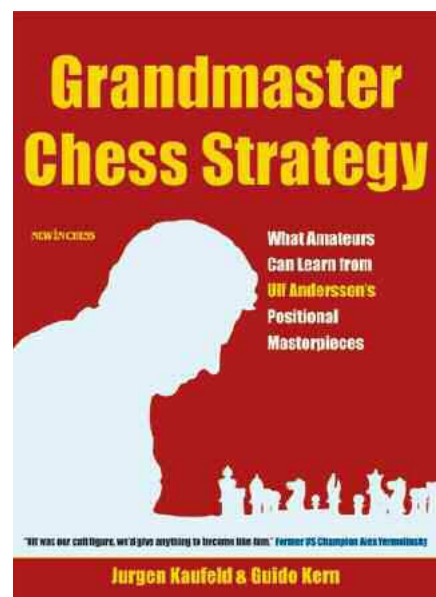
Essential viewing for anyone who plays the Grand Prix Attack.

### Grandmaster Chess Strategy

by Jurgen Kaufeld and Guido Kern

Published by New In Chess at £19.95

The idea is to teach the average player how to play positional chess by using the games of the great Swedish player Ulf Andersson. In the 1980s he reached a peak of being 4th placed on the FIDE list with a solid reputation, excellent endgame technique and an ability to grind out results, while in recent years he has turned to correspondence chess with outstanding results. The authors are



confused why there are not more books about such a great figure without really mentioning that the answer is that people used to think his games were boring. Well, when you expect all out wins by Fischer and Tal the idea of short draws and the ability to extract a small advantage from the Catalan hardly inspires. This dated image of the outstanding player was magnified by the publication of a collector's item in the 1980s the infamous Ulf Andersson's Decisive Games by the popular Indian player Ravikumar. At the time the title seemed a good joke to those who viewed him as a player happy to draw and the literary merits of that particular book have a gone down in chess lore as something quite amazing but not for the right reasons. Kern and Kaufeld have done a good job in covering Anderssen's career to cherry pick exceptional games, which turn out to be very instructive. I noted in the list of players Englishmen, Chris Ward and Raymond Keene. I looked up the games but it turns out they are just mentioned in passing within the notes to the main games which is a bit odd especially as the games are not even against Anderssen. Still, Matthew Sadler and Shaun Talbut turn up in cameo roles where their losses are examined with the former apparently playing the ending poorly while the latter is eventually beaten at Hastings in a game used to demonstrate playing against the isolated pawn and all are informative. There are eighty illustrative games but notes are only given on the part of the game where the authors can get across a positional idea.

The quality of the book is first class although my only quibble would be that there are photos of the authors but none of the star of the book.

A series of useful positional lessons helped by the



games of a Swedish chess legend.

## Kingpin

by Jonathan Manley

Published by Magazine Printing

Company at £5.95

This English chess magazine has now notched up forty-one editions but the summer 2011 version might still be a mystery to some. Basically, Kingpin has a cult following with a long list of star chess players willing to contribute which makes it a good mix of quality chess and waspish articles. If you have read the satirical magazine Private Eye then this is the chess version with added diagrams. In this issue Englishman Luke McShane discusses a trend to carry on games for over 100 moves in an effort to grind out a win thanks to the 30

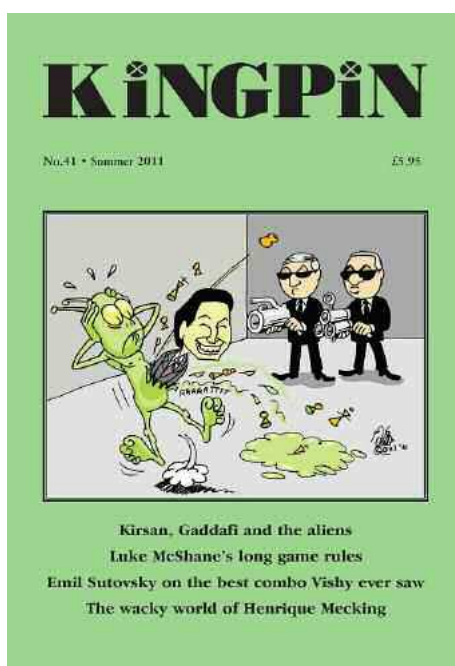
second per move rule. He presents some amusing examples and then adds his own victory against Nigel Short, which merely lasted 163 moves. If there is a theme with this Kingpin then it must be that the FIDE leader is rather strange. Chess historian Olimpiu G.Urcan discusses Kirsan's confessions that he has met aliens, which is illustrated on the front cover by Spanish cartoonist José Diaz. The story is brought up to date with a cartoon by acclaimed Scottish illustrator Gerrard Oswald with his take on our leader playing a chess game against Gaddafi.

On a lighter note I answer readers' letters in the regular feature Gary Lane's Agony Column giving commonsense answers to questions such as how to be president of the English Chess Federation and what chess gift is suitable when you have no money?

In the past Kingpin's book reviews have been lengthy affairs so when Tony Miles dismissed an Eric Schiller product some time ago with two words, it has become a legendary part of the magazine. Justin Horton is a chess player involved in publishing and discusses the

worst books he has ever read. I suspect Everyman author Andres D.Hortilosa won't be sending him a Christmas card after reading "Improve your Chess at Any Age could be improved by throwing it away or feeding it to mice. Above all it could be improved by never having been written."

If you want an enjoyable read that makes you think then Kingpin is the answer.



## BATSFORD Chess Competition

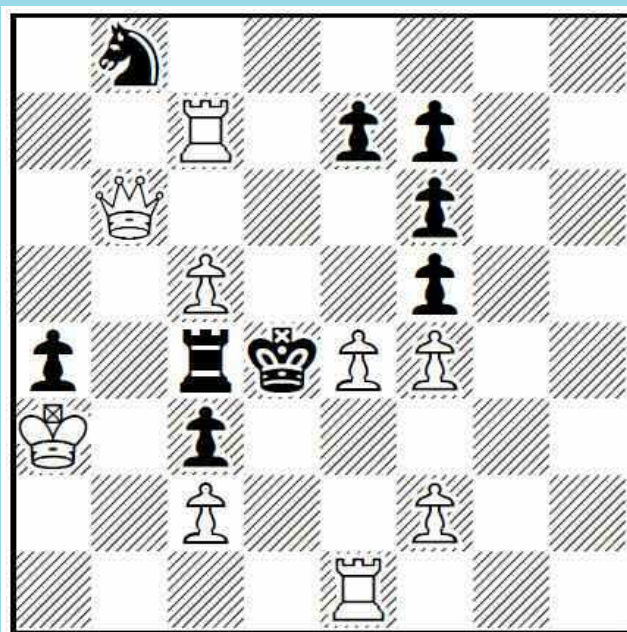
Well done to the May / June  
Batsford competition winner --

**Barry Sandercock of Chalfont St Giles!**

The correct answer was - 1.d4

Here's the next problem ...

**Lionel S Penrose - Reading Observer, 1916**



**White to play and mate in 2 ...**

Please send your answer (just the first move is sufficient) on a postcard to the ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD

The first correct entry drawn on 10th September 2011 will win a Batsford voucher for any book on their current list! Good luck ...

# Tournament Calendar

## LEGEND –

- # British Championships qualifying tournament
- @ FIDE rated
- \* ECF Grand Prix
- ~ ECF graded event

All congresses graded by the ECF are part of the official Grand Prix

~ 16 Jul

**4th Snodland Rapidplay Chess Congress**, The Wolfe Centre, Holmesdale School, Malling Rd, Snodland, Kent ME6 5HS Contact: David Lettington Email: david\_lettington@hotmail.com Website: [www.snodlandcongress.blogspot.com](http://www.snodlandcongress.blogspot.com) - New this year! 3 graded sections instead of 1 Open section - increased prize fund, entry fees held at 2010 level

16-17 Jul

**UK Chess Challenge Northern Gigafinal**, Derby University Email: [ukchesschallenge@aol.com](mailto:ukchesschallenge@aol.com) Website: [www.ukchesschallenge.com](http://www.ukchesschallenge.com)

~\* 16-17 Jul

**The 5th Weald Congress**, The Sports Centre, Copthorne Prep School, Copthorne, Sussex RH10 3HR Contact: Paula Payne Email: [info@wealdchesscongress.org](mailto:info@wealdchesscongress.org) Tel: 01903 209415 Sections: Open, Major (U175), Intermediate (U140), Minor (U110) Website: <http://www.wealdchesscongress.org/>

~\* 17 Jul

**Richmond Rapidplay 96**, The White House, The Avenue, Hampton, TW12 3RN Contact: James Coleman Website: <http://www.surreyrapidchess.org> Email: [rapidplay@aol.com](mailto:rapidplay@aol.com)

~ 17 Jul

**Essex Chess Rapidplay 2011**, Brentwood Chess Club

Contact: Gavin Strachan Email: [Tournament\\_Secretary@essexchess.org.uk](mailto:Tournament_Secretary@essexchess.org.uk) Website:

[www.brentwoodchessclub.org/essexrapid11.html](http://www.brentwoodchessclub.org/essexrapid11.html) Entry form:

[www.brentwoodchessclub.org/EssexChessRapid11.pdf](http://www.brentwoodchessclub.org/EssexChessRapid11.pdf) - Open/U160/U140/U120/U100 sections, Essex, Essex Junior and North Essex Rapidplay chess titles up for grabs. £60 prize for top Essex Junior. Online entry available

\*~ 23 Jul

**Poplar Rapid-Play Tournament**, Langley Hall, Saint Nicholas' Church Centre, Aberfeldy Street, Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: [docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk) Website: [www.spanglefish.com/dockland-schessclub](http://www.spanglefish.com/dockland-schessclub)

\*~ 23-24 Jul

**3rd Worcestershire Open Chess Congress**, University of Worcester, Cotswold Suite, St John's Campus, Henwick Grove, Worcester WR2 6AJ Contact: Andrew Farthing Email: [andrew.farthing@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.farthing@btinternet.com) Website: <http://www.worcestershirechesscongress.org.uk/> Four sections: Open, U160, U135 and U115. Profits from the congress are donated to charity. This year's designated charity is Age Concern Sandwell

\*~ 24 Jul-6 Aug

**98th British Chess Championships**, Ponds Forge, Sheaf Street, Sheffield S1 2BP Contact: Alex McFarlane Email: [ahmcfarlane@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ahmcfarlane@yahoo.co.uk) | Website: <http://www.britishchess2011.com/>

~\* 30-31 Jul

**Castle Chess 4th Potters Bar**, Potters Bar United Reformed Church Contact: Tony Corfe Email: [tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk](mailto:tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk) Organiser's address: 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA Open, Major U160, Minor U120 Website: <http://www.castlechess.co.uk>



~ 6 Aug

**Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raoof Website: <http://goldersgreenschess.blogspot.com/>

\*~# 10-14 Aug

**e2e4 Sunningdale International**, De Veres Sunningdale Hotel, Sunningdale Park, Larch Avenue, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 0QE Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: [info@e2e4.org.uk](mailto:info@e2e4.org.uk) Tel: 0845 463 9798 Website: [www.e2e4.org.uk/international](http://www.e2e4.org.uk/international) - A series of 10 player all-play-all open to all players including IM norm events, Challengers and Major for all strengths of player

\*~ 13 Aug

**Poplar Rapid-Play Tournament**, Langley Hall, Saint Nicholas' Church Centre, Aberfeldy Street, Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: [docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk) Website: [www.spanglefish.com/dockland-schessclub](http://www.spanglefish.com/dockland-schessclub)

\*~ 19-21 Aug

**42nd Thanet Chess Congress**, Canterbury Christ Church Uni, Broadstairs Campus, Northwood Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2WA Contact: Ian Hames Email: [pheasantcroft@btinternet.com](mailto:pheasantcroft@btinternet.com) Tel: 01227 830629 Website: [www.thanetchess.org.uk](http://www.thanetchess.org.uk)

20-21 Aug

**UK Chess Challenge Terafinal** Venue TBA Email: [ukchesschallenge@aol.com](mailto:ukchesschallenge@aol.com) Website: [www.ukchesschallenge.com](http://www.ukchesschallenge.com)

~@ 20-28 Aug

**Jessie Gilbert Celebration International Festival**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: [chess@ccfworld.com](mailto:chess@ccfworld.com) Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

20-28 Aug

**2011 Mind Sports Olympiad**, University of London Union, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HY Enquiries: [mindsportsolympiad@gmail.com](mailto:mindsportsolympiad@gmail.com) Tel: 07939 592820 Website: [www.boardability.com](http://www.boardability.com)

~ 21 Aug

**Lowestoft Summer Rapidplay**, Parkhill Hotel, Lowestoft, Suffolk Contact: Mark Pooley Email: [pooleymv@aol.com](mailto:pooleymv@aol.com) Tel: 01502 580802

\*~ 26-28 Aug

**5th Steve Boniface Memorial Congress**, Filton Sports & Leisure Centre, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol BS34 7PS Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: [tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk) - 5 round Swiss in 3 sections. Open (1st prize £200), Major (U165 - 1st prize £150) & Minor (U130 - 1st prize £100). Minimum 3 prizes per section | Website / entry form: [www.chessit.co.uk](http://www.chessit.co.uk)

~\* 27 Aug

**London Rapid Play**, Cardinal Hinsley Mathematics & Computing College, Harlesden Road, Willesden, London NW10 3RN Contact: Sainbayar Email: [londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk) - Junior ('2Get My First Grade' with 5 sections - U8, U10, U12, U14 & U18 with trophy), U130, U165 & open sections with prizes Website: [www.london-rapidplay.co.uk](http://www.london-rapidplay.co.uk)

~@# 27-29 Aug

**Berks and Bucks Congress**, Polehampton Junior School, Twyford, Berkshire Contact: Nigel Dennis Email: [nigelwdennis@btinternet.com](mailto:nigelwdennis@btinternet.com)

@~#\* 27-29 Aug

**5th Leyland Chess Congress**, Wellfield Business and Enterprise College, Yewlands Drive, Leyland PR25 2TP Contact: David Clayton Email: [dgclayton@btinternet.com](mailto:dgclayton@btinternet.com) Website: <http://www.leylandchess.org.uk/congress/index.htm>

Entry form: <http://www.leylandchess.org.uk/congress/entry%20form%202011.pdf> - Three tournaments - FIDE Open, Major (U170) and Minor (U135)

~ 29 Aug

**CCF Rapidplay & CCF Blitz 7x10**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: [chess@ccfworld.com](mailto:chess@ccfworld.com) Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

29 Aug

**English Chess Challenge Finals 2011**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott



Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website:  
<http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~ 30 Aug-1 Sep

**The Second Jorvik Chess Congress**, Wheatlands Lodge Hotel, 75-85 Scarcroft Road, YORK YO24 1DB  
Contact: Peter Cloudsdale Email: cloudsdale\_c@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01904-767177



~ 2-4 Sep

**Manchester Chess Federation Autumn Congress**, Woolton Hall, Owens Park, Manchester Contact: Harry Lamb Email: gmccacongress@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01204 63374 | Website: [www.manchesterchessfederation.co.uk/](http://www.manchesterchessfederation.co.uk/)

~\* 3 Sep

**Castle Chess 5th Potters Bar**, Potters Bar United Reformed Church Contact: Tony Corfe Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Organiser's address: 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA Open , Major U160, Minor U120 Website: <http://www.castlechess.co.uk>

~ 3 Sep

**Godalming Open Junior Tournament**, Aldro School, Shackleford, Godalming, Surrey GU8 6AS Contact: David Archer Email: archerd@aldro.org Open to juniors aged U18 on 1st Sept 2011. Age group sections down to under 9. 5 round Swiss tournament

~@ 3-4 Sep

**CCF Late Summer LP Congress [inc. FIDE Open]**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~\*#@ 4-10 Sep

**61st DCCA Paignton Congress**, Oldway Mansion, Paignton, Devon Contact: Alan Crickmore Tel: 01752 768206 Email: plymouthchess@btinternet.com

~ 5 Sep

**Wiltshire 5 Minute Championship**, Brown Jack, 1 Prior Hill, Wroughton, Wiltshire SN4 0RT Contact: Tony Ransom Email: chesssalsa@aol.com

\*~#@ 9-11 Sep

**Leek Chess Congress**, Westwood College, Leek ST13 8NP Contact: Roger Edwards Email: rogerjedwards@yahoo.co.uk Congress for players graded under 220. The top section is FIDE rated and a British Championship 2012 qualifier Entry form: <http://www.nstaffsstamps.com/leek2011entry.doc>

~ 10 Sep

**Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raoof Website: <http://goldersgreengreenchess.blogspot.com/>

~\* 11 Sep

**Richmond Rapidplay 97**, The White House, The Avenue, Hampton, TW12 3RN Contact: James Coleman Website: <http://www.surreyrapidchess.org> Email: rapidplay@aol.com

~\* 11 Sep

**25th Leamington Rapidplay**, Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa CV32 4HN Contact: Guy Greenland Email: leamcon2010@me.com Details: 6 Round ECF and MCCU GrandPrix Rapidplay Event - £1250 Prize Fund - 25th Anniversary Website: <http://www.leamingtonchessleague.org.uk/>

\*~# 16-18 Sep

**e2e4 Sunningdale Congress**, De Veres Sunningdale Hotel, Sunningdale Park, Larch Avenue, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 0QE Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: info@e2e4.org.uk Tel: 0845 463 9798 Website: <http://www.e2e4.org.uk/sunningdale/Sept2011/index.htm> - A 5 round swiss including a FIDE rated Open, FIDE rated Major and ECF graded Minor held in the great surroundings of Sunningdale Park

~ 16-18 Sep

**Bradford 2011 Congress**, Latvian Welfare Club, Clifton Villas, Manningham, Bradford BD8 7BY Contact: S

Swire Tel: 01274 411817 Email: bradfordchess@blueyonder.co.uk

**\*~ 17 Sep**

**Poplar Rapid-Play Tournament**, Langley Hall, Saint Nicholas' Church Centre, Aberfeldy Street, Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk Website: [www.spanglefish.com/dockland-schessclub](http://www.spanglefish.com/dockland-schessclub)

**~\* 18 Sep**

**Sussex Junior Crowborough Rapidplay**, Beacon Community College, East Beeches Road, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2AS Contact: Paula Payne Email: [entrymanager@sussexjuniorchess.org](mailto:entrymanager@sussexjuniorchess.org) Website: <http://www.sussexjuniorchess.org/> Entry form: <http://www.sussexjuniorchess.org/Forms/GP1Sep2011.pdf> - 6 rounds in 4 sections: U11 Minor, U11 Major, U18 Minor, U18 Major. Open to all aged under 18 on 31st August 2011

**~ 23-25 Sep**

**5th Whitby Chess Congress**, The Conservative Club, Upgang Lane, Whitby, N. Yorkshire YO21 3DT Contact: Noel Boustred Tel: 07903913786 after 6pm Email: [boustred@googlemail.com](mailto:boustred@googlemail.com)

**~ 23-25 Sep**

**47th Northumberland County Chess Congress**, The Parks Leisure Centre, Howdon Road, Royal Quays, North Shields NE29 6TL Contact: Lara Barnes Email: [larabarnes@btinternet.com](mailto:larabarnes@btinternet.com) Open, Ian Lambie Major, Nora Hunter Minor and all-new Foundation

**~ 24 Sep**

**ECF Counties Rapidplay Championship 2011-12** - details to be announced. Enquiries: David Sedgwick Email: [davidsedgwick3@googlemail.com](mailto:davidsedgwick3@googlemail.com) Tel: 020 8656 7682

**24 Sep**

**NYCA U18 & U14 Tournament**, Telford Contact: Kevin Stavely Email: [info@nyca.org.uk](mailto:info@nyca.org.uk) - 4 Round Jamboree

**24 Sep**

**MCCU Club Rapdiplay Handicap**, Rearsby Village Hall, Rearsby, Leicestershire Contact: Cyril Johnson Email: [cyriljohnson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cyriljohnson@yahoo.co.uk)

**24 Sep**

**Chess Training Day**, Clifton Green Primary School, Kingsway, York YO30 6JA Contact: Peter Cloudsdale Email: [cloudsdale\\_c@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cloudsdale_c@hotmail.co.uk) - Sabrina Chevannes, Woman FIDE Master will provide chess training for young players of any ability

**~\* 24-25 Sep**

**1st Fareham Congress**, The Bugle Hotel, Titchfield Contact: Norman Went Email: [spectrumchess@hotmail.com](mailto:spectrumchess@hotmail.com) Website: <http://www.spectrumchess.com> 5 round Swiss, 3 tournament sections, Premier Under 205, Major Under 165 and Minor Under 125

**@# 30 Sep-2 Oct**

**Leicester Chess Congress (H E Atkins Memorial)**, Regent College, Regent Road, Leicester LE1 7LW Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: [sean@leicesterchess.co.uk](mailto:sean@leicesterchess.co.uk) Website: [www.leicesterchess.co.uk](http://www.leicesterchess.co.uk) Organisers Address: 267 Adswood Road, Stockport, Cheshire SK3 8P 5 round Swiss with three sections, including a FIDE rated open

