

# Chess for Schools ... the beginning



The office of Fergus Christie, Sales Director of Holloid Plastics, the sponsor behind the whole Chess for Schools scheme.

The first of the 250,000 chess sets have rolled off of the production line in the Holloid factory and have landed in their sales directors office as pictured above. The ECF Office has logged over 2000 requests from schools for chess sets, with many more yet to be processed.

If your local school has not yet requested their 10 free sets, then please encourage the school to send an email to [office@englishchess.org.uk](mailto:office@englishchess.org.uk)

## Editorial

I am very pleased to announce that the official opening of the National Chess Library will be on the 10th June 2008 (for invitees only). Charles Clarke MP (former Home Secretary and Minister for Education) will formally perform the opening. Sir Richard Clarke the father of Charles donated his personal library to the BCF. It would be wonderful if our library grew to rival the largest Chess Libraries in the world (I am assured space will be provided). To do this we need donations of a single chess book or whole libraries (you may need the room). Gazelle Publications have recently donated 21 of their chess titles for which I am very grateful. So far the donated chess books have been a mere trickle – I am looking forward to the flood. All donations should be sent to the ECF Office at The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD.

*Cynthia Gurney, Editor*

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INSURANCE FOR  
2008 NOW  
AVAILABLE**

**Contact the  
ECF Office for  
further details**

**01424 775222**

### Contents

Chess for Schools.....	FC
Editorial .....	2
ECF News .....	2-3
English Senior Championships.....	4-5
Interview with GM Michael Adams.....	6-7
International News.....	8-9
Junior News.....	9-10
Grand Prix.....	11
Littlewood's Choice .....	12
Obituary.....	13
Book Reviews .....	14
Results Round-Up.....	15
Calendar of Events .....	16

**Copy Deadline  
10th May 2008**

# ECF News

## Monroi Personal Chess Manager

### - Electronic Notation Device

It is my view that the Monroi system is a direct substitution for a scorebook, with the advantage that pages cannot accidentally be turned over during a game to reveal a previous game. The Monroi system is endorsed by FIDE and the Monroi devices are used at many prestigious international tournaments.

It is my recommendation that they should be permitted to be used in any event where scorebooks are allowed or where the controller does not need a paper copy of the game score. I would discourage arbiters from preventing a player using a Monroi device, however, it remains the Arbiter's right to request/insist that the official tournament scoresheets are used.

*David Welch, English Chess Federation Chief Arbiter*

## The ECF Online Chess Club is still rapidly increasing in size

Over 800 members are now signed up. The facilities are improving all the time and a recording studio has now been set up in Engalnd for live broadcasts/lessons/lectures/shows etc. There will be a premium service coming online in the not too distant future for which there will be a charge. Naturally all the basic facilities remain free. Come and join the fun at [ecfclub.chesscube.com](http://ecfclub.chesscube.com). We look forward to meeting you online!

*Andrew Martin*



## British Championship 2008

The 95th British Championship will be held in St George's Hall, Liverpool from Sunday 27th July – Saturday 9th August 2008. The entry form is enclosed with your ChessMoves, we all hope that you will enter this prestigious event. For more details please visit [www.englishchess.org.uk/events/bc2008/](http://www.englishchess.org.uk/events/bc2008/)

## St Mary's Chess Club 10 Year Anniversary

Congratulations to St Mary's chess club in Cannock, founded by Ray Dolan, who on the 25th February 2008 celebrated its 10 year anniversary.



# English Chess Federation Set to Receive Funding From New Lottery Game



## BingoLotto - Real People. Real Winners.

BingoLotto is an exciting new lottery and TV game which will be hitting the airwaves in February 2008 and donating at least 20% from the sale of each £2 Lottery Gamecard to good causes in the UK. English Chess Federation is one of these selected beneficiaries chosen to receive funds through CCPR. The game will have a primetime Friday night slot on Virgin1 (channel 153 on Sky, channel 122 on Virgin and channel 20 on Freeview) and Challenge (Sky channel 124 and channel 152 on Virgin) from 7 to 8pm and will provide interactive challenges for players as well as the chance to win a variety of prizes. The game will be hosted by comedian Joe Pasquale. The Swedish version of BingoLotto has given around £100 million to charity each year in its native country. Gamecards will be available at over 10,000 retail outlets in the UK displaying the BingoLotto sign. So, show us your support and get behind BingoLotto in 2008!

For more information visit [www.bingolotto.tv](http://www.bingolotto.tv)

## BingoLotto Launch in Trafalgar Square



BingoLotto will be a weekly game broadcast on digital television channels Virgin 1 and Challenge. At least 20% from each ticket sold in the UK will be distributed to sport and recreation projects up and down the country, including hopefully the ECF.

They held a photo-shoot with the programme's presenters Suzanne Shaw and Joe Pasquale in Trafalgar Square on Tuesday 26th February. We were asked to come dressed in our sporting kit. How exactly do you dress as a chess player? Black and White had to suffice, with our main prop being a huge chess board, which we carried around with us.

Women's Fide Master Rosalind Kieran and I attended the photo-shoot along with representatives from a myriad of other sports and recreations: American football, handball, rowing, angling, judo, ice-skating, lawn bowls, folk dancing, go, to name but a few.

We were fortunate to meet Anthony Fargas, for those of you too young to remember, he was the star of the 1970s Starsky and Hutch TV show. Anthony was there with the American football squad, who came dressed in full kit.

**Claire Summerscale**

*Photos from top to bottom: Various sporting organisations, Rosalind and Claire far left with Suzanne and other sporting figures. Joe Pasquale with the BingoLotto mascot Anthony and Rosalind*



# 1st English Senior Chess Championships

28 January - 1 February 2008

Over fifty players gathered at the Izaak Walton Hotel, Dovedale for the first English Senior Championships. The Championship itself attracted 37 players (one player withdrawing on the morning of the event) and was by far the strongest individual tournament for Seniors (over 60s) held in the United Kingdom. Past British Champions John Littlewood, Michael Cook, Roelof Westra, Norman Stephenson, George Ellison arrived to battle with current joint champion David Anderton but at the tournament's end new seniors James Simpson, Oliver Jackson and Andrew Whiteley took the major prize money.



Above: Izaak Walton Hotel

Below: Councillor Karen Maryon making the opening move for John Feavour against Andrew Whiteley



International Master and number one seed Andrew Whiteley won his first four games outright and was able to take a quick draw in the final round with James Simpson, his only challenger, to win the first prize of £1,025 outright. This secured Simpson at least joint second place and he was joined by Oliver Jackson who beat John Wheeler. Both Simpson and Jackson scored 4/5 and shared £400.

Andrew who was a regular player in the English teams of the 1970s and competed in three Olympiads pointed out that this was his first national title win since winning the British Under 21 Championship in 1965 – a gap of some 43 years which must surely be a record. The subsidiary Dovedale Open even was won by Robert Taylor (Mansfield) with 4/5.

ECF Chief Executive Martin Regan addressed a celebratory dinner on the closing evening and said he hoped that further individual tournaments for other English Championships could be run. What is not in doubt is that beautiful Dovedale will host a second Senior Championship in 2009. The competitors were overwhelmingly complimentary in their praise of the venue, the surroundings and the organisation of the Championships. "Excellent accommodation", "Excellent playing conditions" and "Without doubt the best congress I've ever played" were just some of the superlatives from the competitors. The event organiser was Neil Graham assisted by Steve Burke.



Nicki Jordan (Guest Relations), Neil Graham (ECF Organiser), Councillor Karen Maryon and Georgi Nikolov (Restaurant Manager)

## Prize Winners

### 1st English Senior Championship

1st	Andrew Whiteley	London	4½/5	£1025.00
2nd =	Oliver Jackson	Cheshire	4/5	£200
	James Simpson	Peterlee	4/5	£200
Grading prize for best score Under 160 grade				William Armstrong
Leek	3/5	£50		Richard Donaghay
Cambridge		3/5	£50	Raymond
Gamble		Derby	3/5	£50
Andrew Walker		Nottingham	3/5	£50



Andrew Whiteley (with trophy) after drawing with James Simpson (left) plus the arbiters

## Dovedale Open

1st	Robert Taylor	Mansfield	4/5	£400
2nd =	Stanley Cranmer	Kirkby-in-Ashfield	3½/5	£66.67
	Stanley Lovell	Redcar	3½/5	£66.67
	Adrian Waldock	Walton-on-Thames	3½/5	£66.67
<i>Grading prize for best score Under 100</i>				David Dickson
	Caergwrle	2/5	£50	Joseph
	Morrison	Sheffield	2/5	£50

All the games from the Championship (including some with annotations) are available here:- [http://www.btinternet.com/~john.saunders14/dgt/2008engsenior/dgt\\_chesstheatre.htm](http://www.btinternet.com/~john.saunders14/dgt/2008engsenior/dgt_chesstheatre.htm)



Paul Habershaon v Keith Richardson (front); James Simpson on his way to a quick draw with Andrew Whiteley (back)

Crosstable	FIDE ref	Surname	Forename	FIDE rating	ECF	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5
<b>Total</b>										
1	400831	WHITELEY	Andrew	2265	211	+13	+6	+16	+18	3= 4½
2	493156	JACKSON	Oliver	2222	186	+27	26=	+11	4=	+22 4
3	408123	SIMPSON	James	2270	180	+12	23=	+25	+7	1= 4
4	409065	HABERSHON	Paul	2094	175	+36	7=	+13	2=	5= 3½
5	410152	RICHARDSON	Keith	2217	187	32=	20=	+12	+26	4= 3½
6	404900	STEPHENSON	Norman	2160	175	+36	-1	+34	17=	+24 3½
7	401668	ANDERTON	David	2251	190	+30	4=	+24	-3	10= 3
8	413712	ARMSTRONG	William	1947	155	-16	+29	+9	22=	11= 3
9		BEACH	Richard	nr	186	19=	34=	-8	+29	+30 3
10	400920	BYWAY	Paul	2159	171	+29	-16	+20	25=	7= 3
11	405140	DODGSON	John	2147	177	+28	14=	-2	+21	8= 3
12	413747	DONAGHY	Richard	1963	144	-3	+31	-5	+36	+25 3
13	405850	FEAVYOUR	John	2094	165	-1	+35	-4	+34	+28 3
14	496066	GAMBLE	Raymond	2026	152	+15	11=	22=	16=	18= 3
15	400904	LITTLEWOOD	John	2191	180	-14	28=	+37	19=	+23 3
16	2400349	MACDONALD-ROSS	Michael	2154	181	+8	+10	-1	14=	17= 3
17	413640	PRIZANT	Michael	2169	178	+21	25=	26=	6=	16= 3
18	408824	SINGLETON	Michael	2184	181	20=	+33	+23	-1	14= 3
19	414417	WALKER	Andrew	nr	158	9=	-22	+33	15=	+26 3
20		COOPER	John	nr	155	18=	5=	-10	30=	+32 2½
21		EGBY	Manfred	nr	141	-17	+FPB	30=	-11	+27 2½
22	408417	WHEELER,	John F	2142	180	34=	+19	14=	8=	-2 2½
23	414093	COOK	Michael	nr	171	+31	3=	-18	28=	-15 2
24	406929	CROMBLEHOLME	Alan	2101	174	33=	+32	-7	27=	-6 2
25	404365	ELLISON	Derek George	2086	165	+40	17=	-3	10=	-12 2
26	411540	HUTCHINSON	Norman	2069	172	+37	2=	17=	-5	-19 2
27	412309	KENDALL	Paul	2069	157	-2	37=	+35	24=	-21 2
28		PRICE	Andrew	nr	141	-12	15=	+32	23=	-13 2
29	405990	SAYER	Raymond	1780	97	-11	-8	+FPB	-9	+33 2
30	412864	WESTRA	Roelaf	2116	162	-7	+36	21=	20=	-9 2
31		DEAN	Michael	nr	u/g	-23	-12	36=	-32	+FPB 1½
32	637335	GIBSON	John	1877	160	5=	-24	-28	+31	-20 1½
33		Van GEMEREN	Jan	nr	125	24=	-18	-19	+37	-29 1½
34	413500	WAGENBACH	Janos	1955	142	22=	9=	-6	-13	35= 1½
35		WALTERS	Keith	nr	130	-6	-13	-27	+fpb	34= 1½
36	415740	GLOVER	John	nr	139	-4	-30	31=	-12	37= 1
37	413771	NICOLSON	James	1964	122	-26	27=	-15	-33	36= 1
	410799	DAY	Thomas	2095	149	-25				(filler)



Above: Prizewinners Dovedale Open including Stan Lovell's guidedog

Below: Andy Price v John Littlewood





# Interview

## GM Michael Adams

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GM Michael 'Mickey' Adams Plays 20 Questions with Chessville – including some surprise contributions from:

- three Grandmasters,
- The English Chess Federation,
- Chessville's own Forum Members, and
- a Cornish Grandmother!

### Questions from Alekhine's Parrot

1. I remember you from Truro School's Chess Team and also your colleague [who looked a bit like Harry Potter, I've forgotten his name, but you were always board 1 and 2 together], and want to know how on earth did you subsequently survive my friends in Falmouth; the wacko-openings and free advice of such as Nick, Anton, Arthur and Roger, in the Cornish Chess League to emerge as one of the top players in the world?

***I am not too sure myself. Perhaps the free advice wasn't that bad and wacko openings are invaluable. :-)***

2. How important to your evolution as a player were those early club-to-club matches, and then County Matches for Cornwall, under the eagle eye[-brows] of P. H. Clarke – did Peter become a mentor to you?

***I had one training session with Peter which was quite useful but mentor might be a bit strong for one week! I was quite impressed by Peter's exploits as an author. One of the first books I have clear memories of was his "Petrosian's Best Games 1946-1963", to give you an idea of the age of the book, it is in descriptive notation.***

3. Your known interests outside chess are boxing, eating curry, Kim Bassinger [still?], shooting pool, beer, Sunday barbies, and a nice cuppa. If you hadn't become a chess player, would you have gone for something else like being a pro pool hustler, a film star, or even like your fellow Scorpio, a 'Ramsey'!

***I am not too sure I am well qualified for too many other careers but I infer from the final part of the question that you have never tasted my cooking!***

4. Has Our Nigel gone too far? The ECF seem to be backing his critique of FIDE, and a natural question is if he actually has gone far enough? Do you have opinions about the continued and more than somewhat fractured nature of chess-at-the-top, or are you apolitical in this respect, not involving yourself in chess politics? If you were ever to become President of Fide, what would be the three big things you would like to achieve during your tenure?

***From my point of view the big problem with FIDE over the last 10 years has been their handling of the World Championship cycle. Far too many changes of system and alterations to rules mid-stream. Hopefully, there will be a more consistent cycle with clear rules that are actually applied in the future. There has also been too much messing around with the time control, and even now different limits are used in different events within the cycle which doesn't make any sense. I don't see any reason not to have a seven hour time limit for classical chess.***

5. When Chessville interviewed Mark Taimanov, we asked him whose musical style he thought his own chess playing matched, and what about other players? He replied: Well, for me the resemblance between Capablanca and Mozart is absolutely evident. I would compare Lasker with Beethoven, and Steinitz with Bach. Alekhine with his wealth of ideas and sense of harmony is akin to Rachmaninoff. Smyslov's harmony is closer to that of Chaikovsky's. Fischer is as monumental as Liszt. Tal reminds me of Paganini – the same self-

abandon and fatalism. Botvinnik is associated for me with Wagner. Karpov's chess is as simple and as complicated as Prokofiev's music. Kasparov with his dynamic play brings to mind Shostakovich and his symphonies..." Of himself he said: "As to my style, by comparison to names of great composers I feel an involuntary certain shyness. But, probably, a parallel with creativity of Frederic Chopin is the closest." So! If Tony Miles was John Lennon [agree?]: Who is Mickey Adams?

***That's a great question – but I feel hopelessly under-qualified to answer. My music teacher told me I was tone-deaf (accurately)! In terms of what I like? Warren Zevon rocks!***

6. What do you think of the recent scoring innovation of Win = 3, Draw = 1, and Lose = 0 points, as practiced in the World Blindfold? Will this have an effect on "draw-death" and maybe even make chess more 'dynamic' for television? Do you have a rare copy of the BBC TV MasterGame series? Can I have it?

***I don't see the logic of 3 points for a win. The current scoring system seems to work quite well. I think introducing a 30 move minimum on draws by agreement would be an interesting experiment, which would counter some of the current problems. The move limit could be extended if practice shows it is required. I don't think it is necessary to completely ban draw offers.***

7. We have both met Yelena Dembo recently (I played her by correspondence, and you and she were board #1s in the 2007 European Team Championship, for England and Greece respectively). You have also been a frequent sparing partner of another Polgar grandmaster, Judit. Do you have an opinion on when women will achieve widespread parity with men in chess, and what depends on it?

***I think the standard of women's chess is clearly improving, with more ambitious and aggressive play becoming commonplace amongst female players. I think parity might be someway off though.***

### Questions from The Chessville Forum

8. I wonder how much time you spend analyzing new lines as opposed to trying to develop new attacking ideas or systems. Have you tried to develop a novel system of your own? If so, what is the theory behind it? – Rob Mitchell

***I spend most of my preparation time working within existing systems trying to find new ideas over the established theory. It is quite difficult, although not impossible to develop completely new systems now, as theory is quite well advanced.***

9. What is the funniest thing that's ever happened to you at a tournament, or during a match? – licenser

***I remember a strange incident during one of the Watson-Farley-Williams tournaments in London: after a lengthy analysis session in the pub in the company of Mike Wilder, we adjourned back to David Goodman's flat.***

***Mike started trying to demonstrate his game but he was unable to reconstruct events. After numerous unsuccessful attempts he located his score sheet under a pile of bar receipts and found that the move he had played in the game Bh3 – was impossible as one of his own pawns was standing there. It transpired that as the sun was inconveniencing the players they had transferred their game to another board and continued with the pawn placed on h2 instead of the correct h3!***

***Mike was particularly embittered about this as it encouraged him to choose the incorrect plan of g2-g3 and Bf1-h3 instead of the correct Bf1-c4.***

10. If you could go back in time and play against any player, who would it be? – ketchuplover

***I was very happy that I got the opportunity to play two games against Mikhail Tal. It was a great honour to meet and analyse with him and watch him play hours of blitz. I would have liked***

*to have played with Petrosian although I think the results might not have been too good.*

11. Mickey, do you think anything is lacking in the current chess literature? Is there a subject matter that is just not being covered that should be given some attention by the chess press? We have how to play chess books, openings books, tactics books, endgame books, biographies, histories, etc. Is there something missing? What would you like to see a book / CD on?  
- Tom Brown

*Judging by the amount of room left on my bookshelves - probably not!*

*Actually I think the quality of current books is overall extremely good. I particularly appreciate books that have a certain amount of text as well as analysis which you can read without getting out your set. I recently enjoyed reading "American Grandmaster" by Joel Benjamin.*

12. What do you consider the strongest and weakest aspects of your play? - Kelly Atkins

*I am afraid I won't be answering that one until I have retired!*

13. How do you prepare emotionally and psychologically for the demands of competitive chess? - licenser

*I think this is difficult for all players. Playing at a good quality after a disastrous setback in the previous day's game is one of the most challenging tasks in chess.*

14. What separates a super-GM from an ordinary one? Is it intelligence, natural ability, effort, or something else? - Kelly Atkins

*All GMs can play at a very high level but the stronger ones are able to do so more consistently. Natural ability and effort are two of the factors but it is not really possible to generalise.*

### **Questions from Chessville's Panel of Celebrity Inquisitors, including GM Susan Polgar, GM András Adorján, GM Raymond Keene, Claire Summerscale - Director of Junior Chess for the ECF, and Mrs. Horace Trebotvinnalik.**

15. Here is a set of questions from World Champion, Grandmaster Susan Polgar:  
(a) What originally attracted Michael Adams to chess?

*My father wanted to teach me draughts but I found the chess pieces more interesting.*

- (b) At what age or how soon after Mickey learned chess was it before he realized that he was good at it and wanted to become a professional.

*I realised I was good, or at least not bad, when I won the first tournament I played in. I am not sure at which exact moment I decided I wanted to be professional. I made the decision at around 16, but as soon as I realised it was a possibility I was very attracted to the idea.*

- (c) What are his goals in chess and life today?

*I would like to travel more for pleasure as well as business. In chess I would just like to carry on playing as well as I can. It would be great if I could get back in the top 10 players.*

- 16 Here is a questions from GM Andras Adorjan: If the top 100 rated players all took part in a tournament such as a 11 round Swiss - do you think the results would reflect their ELOs? Why does this sort of event no longer take place, and are the top 20 players artificially isolated thereby? Do sponsors think chess genius only resides in the top 20?

*I am not convinced the top 20 are isolated as they often play successfully in team competitions and smaller tournaments. The swift rise of young talents in recent times shows it is probably now easier for young players to fulfill their potential. I think it is natural sponsors are most interested in the best players.*

17. A related questions from GM Adorjan: Do you think it is quite right and equitable that the top 50 players seem to earn 95% of chess money? Do you think this reduces creativity among the pool of all grandmasters, rather than enhance it, and does it contribute to "draw-death?" [note: in another recent interview, US GM Larry Evans concludes with GM Adorjan, that the 70's was a more creative period in chess than subsequently - does GM Adams agree?]

*I don't think it makes much difference.*

[Editor's Note: in another recent interview, US GM Larry Evans concludes with GM Adorjan, that the 70's was a more creative period in chess than subsequently - does GM Adams agree?]

*I agree that large databases and strong search engines have started to have a bit of a negative effect. Home preparation now stretches too long into the game for my liking. Unfortunately as far as I can see this problem can only get worse in the future. Computers have been positive in making the game more concrete and encouraging players to consider ideas that would have been rejected on general principles in the past: Topalov's win over Ivanchuk where instead of castling queenside he begins action on that side of the board, and Anand's win over Carlsen in Morelia where Black seems to break every classical rule are two recent examples.*

18. From GM Ray Keene: Who was your most difficult opponent, and why? You seem to have a good score against Kramnik and Karpov, but not Kasparov. Any views?

*Kasparov and Anand were and are difficult opponents for me. Probably because they are quite strong players! I am not really sure why players have good or bad scores against each other, the clash of styles must be a factor but I think the result of early games between two opponents can sometimes have an influence on future ones.*

19. Claire Summerscale asks: "As Director of Junior Chess for the ECF, I would like to ask Mickey; What is his top tip for English juniors? What's the best way for them to improve their chess?"

*My advice to aspiring junior players would be to play a lot of games. I found this very effective when I was a young player and learnt a lot from playing a large number of weekend events alongside legends like Mark Hebden. A bit of study doesn't hurt either.*

20. And "A Question to a Grandmaster from a Cornish Grandmother": Ere! What do youm Mickey make of it when you went over to that Libier and when ee was nigh on world champion 'cept for the last very minute, and did un makee eat they nasty scorpion curries we ear abouts instead of a proper pasty, es-you! which would ave set youms up proper-job my ansome, as many of we still say down ere? Sincerely, (Mrs.) Horace Trebotvinnalik. [Translation for American readers: Do you attribute any strangeness of diet, clime, or other factors of locale or atmospheric circumstance, on coming up just a game or two short of becoming FIDE world champion at chess in Libya?]

*No, I am afraid I just wasn't a strong enough player. Quite close though....*

### **One more thing...**

- A. A traditional next-to-last Chessville question asks: is there a question you would like to be asked, but was not covered above - what is it, and how do you answer yourself?

*Can I buy you a drink? How do you answer it: Yes, please!*

- B. And lastly, what would like to know from chess fans at our own Forum?  
*Which chess newspaper columns do they like? What would they like to see in these columns (I have been writing a column in the Saturday Telegraph for the past year, but haven't received much feedback from readers.)*

# International News

## Four Nations Chess Challenge

Oslo - Norway, 15 - 17 February 2008

Ten of England's top chess players represented the country against teams from Norway, Sweden and Latvia in the Four Nations Chess Challenge in Oslo on 15th to 17th February.

*The Four Nations England Team. Photograph by Brian Smith.*



The matches will take place over ten boards:- five men and five women. The event was organised by the Norwegian Chess Federation as preparation for future international competitions, such as the Olympiad which will be played in Dresden in November.

The event saw six players make their debuts for the full England team. ECF International Director Peter Sowray said "I am delighted that so many of our top players have an opportunity to stake their claims for places in the Olympiad team. I am grateful to the Norwegian Federation for organising such an exciting event."

England came second behind Sweden, following a defeat to the eventual winners on day 1, England recovered with victories against Latvia and Norway to take clear second place.

Congratulations to Kanwal Bhatia, who made the best score on board 8 on her England debut, and also to David Howell, Simon Williams, Stewart Haslinger and Harriet Hunt, who all made plus scores. Full details of the event can be found on the official website: [http://www.bergensjakk.no/four\\_nations\\_2008/](http://www.bergensjakk.no/four_nations_2008/)



*Harriet Hunt v Pia Cramling. Photograph by Brian Smith.*

## The England Team:

### Men:

Gawain Jones	Grandmaster	2562
David Howell	Grandmaster	2528
Peter Wells	Grandmaster	2520
Stephen Gordon	International Master	2501
Stewart Haslinger	Grandmaster	2495

### Women:

Harriet Hunt	Woman Grandmaster	2457
Sabrina Chevannes	Woman FIDE Master	2074
Kanwal Bhatia		2054
Sarah Hegarty		1974
Amisha Parmar		1995

## 10th European Senior Team Championship

11-19 February 2008 Dresden, a 9 round Swiss with 68 teams.

Britain first started sending teams to this event for players over 60 in 2002. It has now expanded vastly with nearly half the teams from other than Germany. This year England sent 18 players in four teams. We have had as many as 23, but that was from all of the British Isles. This year Scotland sent a separate team for the first time. The results are decided first on the number of match points, 2 for a win and 1 for a draw and then the number of game points.

Start Rk	Fin Rk		Win	Draw	Loss	Mt pts	Gm pts
<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>England A</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>
		David Anderton	1	5	1		
		Geoffrey James	4	2	1		
		James Scholes	1	5	2		
		Tim Pelling	4	2	1		
		Stewart Reuben c	1	4	2		
<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>England B</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>
		Bob Wade	3	4	2		
		Mike Prizant	2	4	3		
		Michael MacDonald-Ross c	2	7	0		
		Tony Ashby	4	3	2		
		<b>England C</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>
		Ken Norman c	5	2	0		
		John Feavours	2	2	4		
		Paul Kendall	1	5	1		
		Stephen MacDonald-Ross	2	3	2		
		Clive Pemberton	2	2	3		
		<b>England D</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15½</b>
		Peter Wilson c	2	3	4		
		Alan Crombleholme	3	4	2		
		Dinah Norman	0	6	3		
		Peter Wood	2	4	3		

*c refers to the captain of each team.*

You will note all four English teams came above their seeding position. Geoff James performed exceptionally well on board 2 for the first team, but Ken Norman really excelled himself on board 1 for the third team.

The event has always taken place in Dresden and started out with just 7 entries. Next year it is finally taking a leap into the unknown and going to Velden in Austria. Senior Chess is more highly developed in Germany than any other country. This year Norway sent five teams, they were to determined to go one better than us.

Full details including the games on: [www.schachfestival.de/www\\_festival/5d08eaa434f851f9997ba29bbac590df.php](http://www.schachfestival.de/www_festival/5d08eaa434f851f9997ba29bbac590df.php)

Watch out for Tim Pelling's sparkling last round win.

**Stewart Reuben**



## **Gibtelecom Chess Festival Gibraltar, 22-31 January 2008**

The big English event just passed was the Gibtelecom Chess Festival in Gibraltar 22-31 January. English, well yes, in a certain sense. It is run, like the Monarch Assurance Isle of Man Congress under the umbrella of the ECF. Neither area is part of the UK, nor can they be separately affiliated to FIDE. Full details can be found on [www.gibraltarchesscongress.com](http://www.gibraltarchesscongress.com).

Leading English scores in the 205 player Masters were, all on 6.5/10 21-36=, Maxim Devereaux (2348) with a TPR of 2491; Gary Quillan (2362) TPR 2354; Jon Speelman (2491) TPR 2690!

CONGRATULATIONS to Maxim on achieving his final International Master Norm. He previously exceeded 2400 and thus should receive the title in a few months. Jon Speelman made a most welcome return to form.

6/10 37-55= Robert Bellin (2385) TPR 2570; Mark Hebden (2530) TPR 2530; Gawain Jones (2562) TPR 2398; Mark Lyell (2221) TPR 22296.

CONGRATULATIONS to Robert on achieving his first-ever Grandmaster norm after 9 rounds and, like Jon winning a £2000 Rating Prize. Although Robert won the British Championship in 1979, this is his first-ever GM norm.

Challengers 1 (players rated under 2250) 65 players Mark Lyell 4.5/5 winning £750.

Challengers 2 71 players. There were no outstanding English results but Caspar Bates and Adeoye Dasaolu shared the unrated players prize with 3.5 and 3 points in each section. This netted them each £500.

Amateur 1 50 players 4/5 4-5= Robert France, Peter Horlock £100 each.

Amateur 2 39 players Geoffrey Bishop 5/5 £1000, Chris Booth 4.5 £600.

The first Masters in 2003 had just 60 players. The prize money available to players under certain ratings is the highest in the world, this is the only event where a player rated under 2600 can win a rating prize. A player under 2250 could pick up £6000, but he would have to play 20 games in 10 days - as some do.

Some of you have read my saga of getting a young Azerbaijani to Hastings. History repeated itself in Gibraltar, but this time it only took 3 hours. On the third day, a Serbian Milan Kandic attempted to cross the border without a visa. Gibraltar is very small and it helps to be on speaking terms with the officials. Eventually they confiscated his passport and allowed me to escort him into Gibraltar. Of course he wanted to play his third round game, his first in the event, and, of course, I obliged. This time I drew and managed to gain a couple of rating points.

**Stewart Reuben**

# *Junior News*

## **Leeds Junior Congress 2008**

The Leeds Junior Chess Congress attracted 64 juniors from around the North of England. With a host of titles, county caps and even international honours between them, many of Yorkshire's top juniors were there to battle it out for the £150 first prize and the large number of trophies on offer. It was an intense day of competition.



*Ashley v Evie*



*Playing Hall*

Very pleasing was the number of girls taking part - 21 in total, and it was fantastic to see a girl emerge as the overall winner - Evie Hollingworth achieving 5½/6 to win on the fractional tie break of Sum of Opponents Scores from James Bowler, who also scored 5½. Both played superbly on the day and deserved their shared prize money. Third place went to Robert Bowler with 5/6.

All the top board matches were very close and the competition could have gone to any of at least 5 players going into the last round.

However, it was not just about the top boards. There was rising talent such as 3C's Phoebe Price who stole wins from Yasmin Niksaz and Amanda Hipshon on her way to the best girl trophy with 5/6. The age group trophies were distributed nicely - U16 went to Amanda, U14 to Ashley Littlewood, U12 to Roshan Patel, U11 to Matthew Li, U10 to Lara Buckley, U9 to Lois Coleman, U8 to Adarsh Vani and U7 to Rachel Brown (again the girls doing well).

Awards were also given to Yasmin Niksaz (U14 girl), Hannah Priest (U11 girl) and Abigail Arnold (U9 girl).

Many thanks to all juniors for taking part and playing so well and in such a great spirit and thanks to all who helped.

**John Hipshon**



*Prize Winners*

# Junior Squad U14 Closed S. of England

2 February 2008

Annotated by James Foster

(1) Foster, James (104) - Sathyanandha, Saravanan (139)

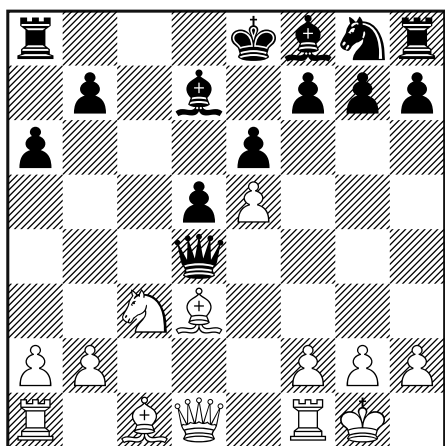
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5

The French Defence Advance Variation

3...c5 4.c3 Qb6 5.Nf3 Nc6 6.Bd3

The most popular moves here are 6. Be2 and 6.a3. The move played introduces a well known gambit.

6...cxd4 7.cxd4 Bd7 8.0-0 Nxd4 9.Nxd4 Qxd4 10.Nc3 a6



Most people would grab the second pawn but a6 is a good move as well 10...Qxe5 11.Re1 Qb8 12.Nxd5 Also gives white attacking chances for the pawn

11.Re1 Ne7 12.Be3

Giving up a second pawn in order to gain time

12...Qxe5 13.Qf3 Bc6 14.Bf4 Qf6 15.Qg4 h6

15...h5 may have been better

16.h4

Probably not a good move, (however in the game it turns out very favourably). 16.Rad1 would have been better. Ng6 and h5 are very good moves compared to the move that was played, and would have left black in a better position. There is no threat of winning the queen because after Be5, Black can play ...h5 and then move his queen to h6. If white plays Bg5 Black can play ...hxg5, and after hxg5 black can play ...Rh1+ and then take the f2 pawn with his queen, to emerge with approximate material equality.

16...g6??

A big mistake, after 17.Be5 h5 the queen retreats and the black queen can no longer go to h6. Therefore white wins the black queen.

17.Be5 h5 18.Qh3

18.Qg3 and 18.Qd4 are not as effective because the black knight can come to f5 probably saving the black queen, however black will still lose his rook on h8

18...Qxe5 19.Rxe5 Bg7 20.Re2 0-0-0 21.Rc1 Kb8 22.Qg3+ e5 23.Rxe5

After the black bishop takes, queen recaptures and then it picks up the black knight leaving white with an easy win. 1-0

## Warwickshire Chess Congress U100

16 February 2008

Annotated by Chantelle Foster

(1) Farquharson, Ian (99) - Foster, Chantelle (42)

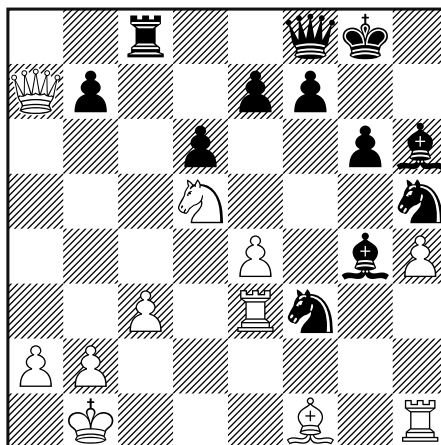
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.f3 Bg7 7.Be3 d6 8.Qd2 0-0 9.0-0-0 Bd7 10.g4 Rc8 11.h4 h5 12.gxh5 Nxh5 13.Bh6?

This is a blunder.

13...Bxd4

Black now has a knight and a bishop for the rook and a clear positional advantage.

14.Bxf8 Qxf8 15.Nd5 Bg7 16.Kb1 Nd4 17.c3 Nxf3 18.Qe3 Ne5 19.Qxa7 Bg4 20.Re1 Nf3 21.Re3? Bh6



[A better move for me was 21...Bd4 winning the exchange because if white plays 22.cxd4 I can give checkmate with 22...Nd2+ 23.Ka1 Rc1#]

22.Qxb7? Re8

I played this move because I thought Nxe7 was a threat although it isn't. [I could have played 22...Bxe3 23.Nxe7+ Kg7 24.Nxc8 Bxc8 because now I would have three minor pieces for a rook and two pawns.]

23.Rd3 Nd2+ 24.Ka1 Nxf1 25.Rxf1 Be2

After this move I'm going to end up a piece for a pawn up. Although white has two connected passed pawns it isn't enough to get counterplay because if he moves them forward it will weaken his king.

26.Rfd1 Nf4!

This gives white even less counterplay as it exchanges white's active knight for my knight which was inactive.

27.Nxf4 Bxf4 28.Qd5 Bxd1 29.Rxd1 e6 30.Qd4 Qh6 31.Qf2 Qh5 32.Rf1 e5 33.b4 Rc8 34.Kb2 Rc7 35.a4 Qh6 36.a5 Bd2 37.Qf6 Bxc3+ 38.Kb3 Qf8 39.h5?

A blunder.

39...d5

[Better was 39...Qb8 winning very quickly due to the threat on the b pawn even if white plays 40.Qxd6 Bxb4 41.Qxb4 Rb7 winning the queen.]

40.Qb6 Rc6! 41.Qb7

[Or if white accepts the sacrifice with 41.Qxc6 I can give checkmate with 41...Qxb4+ 42.Kc2 (42. Ka2 Qb2#) 42...Qb2+ 43.Kd3 or 43.Kd1 43...Qd2#]

41...Rc4 42.Kc2 Bxb4+ 43.Kd1 Rd4+ 44.Ke2 Rxe4+ 45.Kd1 Bxa5 46.hxg6 Rd4+ 47.Ke2 Rd2+ 48.Kf3 Qa3+ 49.Kg4 Rd4+ 50.Kf5 Qd3+ 51.Kxe5 Qe4+ 52.Kd6 Qxg6+ 53.Kc5 Rc4+ 54.Kb5 Rb4+

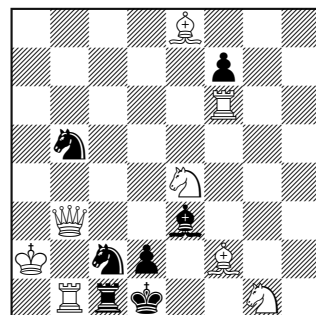
Winning the queen next move. 0-1

## ECF BATSFORD COMPETITION

Due to a miss-print in the January/February edition, there was no correct solution. Thank you to everyone who noticed this, the winner drawn at random who listed 'no solution' is Barry Sandercock from Chalfont St Giles

Louis W Cafferata *The Tablet*, 1940

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN 2



Please send your answer (just the first move is sufficient) on a postcard to the

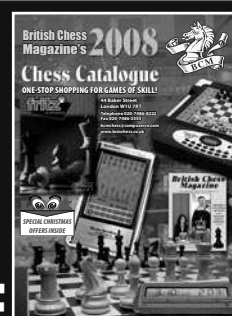
ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD

The first correct entry drawn on 10th May 2008 will win a Batsford voucher for any book on their current list.



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## English Chess Federation Grand Prix 2007/8

Leader Boards 12 March 2008

Bold indicates players who are counting the maximum number of events.

### Junior Prix

1	<b>Jones, Victor GL, Kent Junior Congresses, ...668</b>
2	<b>Jain, Radha, Pinner, .....595</b>
3	<b>Clanchy, Nicholas, Kent Junior Congresses, 594</b>
4	<b>Jones, William EG, Kent Junior Congresses, 574</b>
5	<b>Dines, Sheila J, Surrey Junior, .....570</b>
6	<b>Haria, Ravi, Barnet Knights, .....561</b>
7	<b>Davison, Chris, Cambridge City, .....552</b>
8	<b>Foster, James M, Cowley, .....538</b>
9	<b>Sanders, Isaac B, Highgate School, .....537</b>
10	<b>Sathyanandha, Saravanan, .....535</b>
	<b>Haberdashers Askes Sch Herts, ....535</b>

### Graded Prix (150-174)

1	<b>Hjort, Helge, Hendon, .....535</b>
2	<b>Almond, Richard J, Hastings &amp; St Leonards, 514</b>
3	<b>Cutmore, David A, Wood Green, .....497</b>
4	Bryant, Richard BE, Oswestry, .....470
5	Fallowfield, Nicholas K, Stourbridge, .....435
6	<b>Cutmore, Martin J, Wood Green, .....410</b>
7	<b>Gibbs, Dominic V, Cambridge University, ....390</b>
8	<b>Waterfield, John W, Hereford, .....382</b>
9	<b>Armstrong, Malcolm J, Stafford, .....376</b>
10	Hutchinson, Norman A, Royston, .....374

### Graded Prix (125-149)

1	<b>Goodfellow, Russell R, Tunbridge Wells, ....578</b>
2	<b>O'Gorman, Brendan, DHSS, .....570</b>
3	<b>Desmedt, Richard E, Netherton, .....553</b>
4	<b>Clegg, Robert, Huddersfield, .....534</b>
5	<b>Price, Andrew, Leamington, .....497</b>
6	<b>Chen, Ti, Oxford University, .....475</b>
7	<b>Waldock, Adrian DP, Guildford, .....465</b>
8	<b>Papier, Alan, Bristol &amp; Clifton, .....462</b>
9	<b>Jackson, Paul G, Coulsdon CF, .....462</b>
10	<b>Pride, Stephen C, Cambridge City, .....460</b>

### Graded Prix (100-124)

1	<b>Allen, Timothy S, Battersea, .....522</b>
2	<b>Farthing, Andrew P, Worcester, .....498</b>
3	<b>Barnell, Terry, London E *, .....491</b>
4	<b>Walker, Roger W, Belper, .....477</b>
5	<b>Gartside, Carl, High Peak, .....468</b>
6	<b>Jones, Laurence AG, Lewisham, .....465</b>
7	<b>Constable, John, Coulsdon CF, .....439</b>
8	<b>Hall, James W, East Grinstead, .....416</b>
9	Sutcliffe, John, Chester, .....409
10	<b>Collins, Alan, Cowley, .....385</b>

### Graded Prix (U100)

1	<b>Foley, Phil T, Upminster, .....542</b>
2	<b>Fraser, Alan R, Beckenham &amp; Bromley, .....532</b>
3	<b>Miles, Barry S, Middlesex CCA, .....485</b>
4	<b>Stone, Mark R, Petts Wood &amp; Orpington, ....461</b>
5	<b>Everitt, David, Haywards Heath, .....444</b>
6	<b>Robson, Caroline J, Barnet Elizabeth, .....420</b>
7	Jain, Dinesh, Pinner, .....416
8	<b>Billett, Stephen J, Portsmouth, .....370</b>
9	<b>Kernot, Adrian C, East Grinstead, .....358</b>
10	Constable, Christine F, Coulsdon CF, .....354

# BWCA National Girls' Championships & Women's Rapidplay 2008

Nine new champions emerged at this year's National Girls' Championships held by the British Women's Chess Association in the unique Art Nouveau surroundings of the Elmbank Hotel in York on the 9th and 10th February.



Opened by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Irene Waudby, the championships were hard-fought. The atmosphere was concentrated yet sociable, many girls making new friends and gaining from the coaching provided by WGM Jovanka Houska and WFM Sabrina Chevannes. The BWCA Women's Rapidplay proved a challenging tournament on Sunday, 10th and on Saturday a more relaxed Friendly Tournament was held for parents and brothers or sisters of championship

competitors. The whole event ran smoothly thanks to the professionalism of International Arbiters Lara Barnes and Alex MacFarlane. Others contributing to the success of the weekend were Christine Emms, Arne Hagesaether, and Peter and Claire Cloudsdale.

Prizes were presented by BWCA President Jovanka Houska for the younger age-groups and by ECF Manager for Finance and Management Services, Cynthia Gurney, for the older age-groups and women. ECF President, Gerry Walsh, said a few words at both prize-givings.



Photographs by Arne Hagesaether

The BWCA would like to thank all those whose help and generosity made this event possible, including York Junior Chess Club, the English Chess Federation, Chess Scotland, the John Robinson Trust, Bettys and Taylors Group Ltd., Chess Direct, Fulprint Ltd and the Elmbank Hotel.

Preparations are already under way for next year when we look forward to welcoming new and returning players. Congratulations to all those who did so well this year, especially the winners and Champions.

Susan McFarland, BWCA Chief Executive

## Winners & Champions

Women's Rapidplay:

1st = Sarah Hegarty and Amy Officer

Under 21 Champion:

Sarah Hegarty

Under 16 Champion:

Amy Officer

Under 14 Champions:

Evie Hollingworth and Abigail Pritchard

Under 12 Champion:

Jennifer Ehr

Under 11 Champion:

Phoebe Price

Under 10 Champion:

Katherine Shepherd

Under 9 Champion:

Fiona Howard

Under 8 Champion:

Rebecca Swestun

Friendly Tournament

1st: Gordon Stables





# Littlewood's Choice

Long overdue in this column is a game by a woman player! When I was young, only a few ladies played a decent game of chess but now the situation has changed dramatically. Ever since the advent of the magnificent Judit Polgar, a sizeable number of women are quite happy to challenge the men, so it gives me great pleasure to annotate the following fine game played aggressively and dynamically by Antoaneta Stefanova.

Gibtelecom Masters 2008

□ Antoaneta Stefanova

■ Mikhail Gurevich

A81

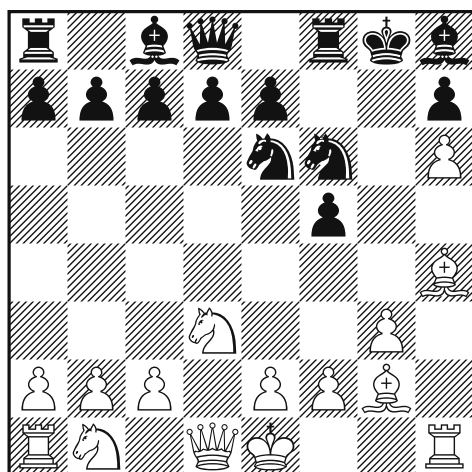
**1 d4 f5 2 g3 Nf6 3 Nh3!**

Already White prepares to play her knight to f4 followed by the advance of her 'h'pawn.

**3...g6 4 Nf4 Bg7 5 Bg2 0-0 6 h4! Nc6 7 h5!**

This is the right way to play against an opponent graded 143 points higher than you! The sheer humiliation of it all gives you a head start but of course we have here far more than a psychological ploy. It is the start of a vicious unladylike attack on the male of the species!

**7...g5 8 h6! Bh8 9 Nd3 Nxd4 10 Bxg5 Ne6 11 Bh4**



**11...d5**

Setting up a barrier against White's KB and planning to occupy the e4 square with his knight, following the age old theory that a wing attack is best answered by striking in the centre. The next ten moves will prove crucial ...

**12 Nd2 c6 13 c4!?**

White takes a risk in leaving her king in the centre whilst preparing a startling tactical idea which wins the game for her. However, during this difficult preparatory phase she gives Gurevich a chance which he doesn't take.

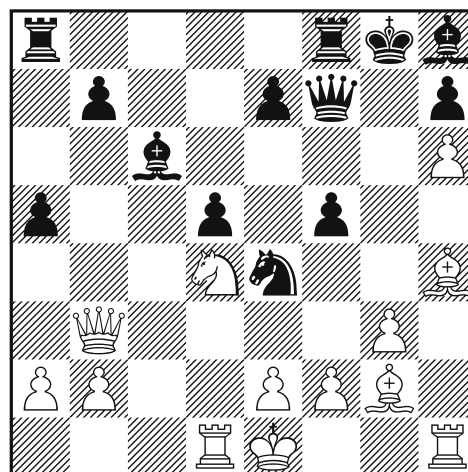
**13...Ne4 14 cxd5 cxd5 15 Nf3 Qd6 16 Qb3 Bd7 17 Nf4?! Bc6?**

Black has defended well up to here but now misses the excellent drawing attempt. 17...Nxf4 18 gx4 Qb6! when both 19 Qxd5+ Be6! and 19 Qxb6 axb6 20 Bxe7 Bxb2 save him. Perhaps Gurevich was banking on a win or missed the fact that the immediate 19 Ne5?? fails to 19...Qa5+ winning, but only he can tell us what he was thinking. In my opinion White still had reasonable chances after 19 Qxb6 axb6 20 Ne5! with a slightly uncomfortable position for Black in view of pressure down the g'file. For example, 20...Bxe5 21 fxe5 e6? loses to 22 Bxe4 fxe4 23 Rg1+ but Black can defend by 21...Kf7.

**18 Nxe6!**

Black was threatening the very strong 18...N6c5 followed by 19...e5 with complete central domination.

**18...Qxe6 19 Rd1 a5 20 Nd4 Qf7**



**21 g4!!**

A tremendous move that reveals Stefanova's tactical ability. Basically, Black's king position is far more vulnerable than White's.

**21...Bxd4**

Giving up his excellent bishop to create an escape square for the king but it turns out to be the beginning of the end as the 'g' file pressure combined with the fatal weakness of Black's dark squares proves too much for the defence.

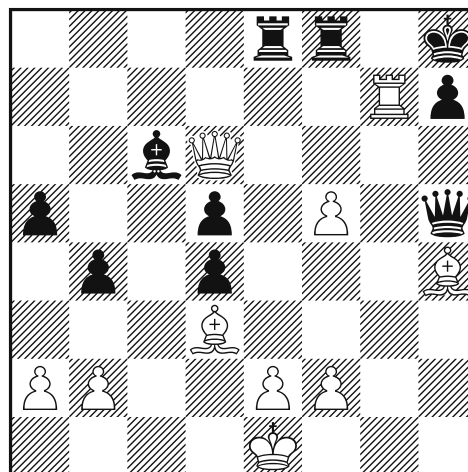
**22 Rxd4 e5 23 gxf5! exd4 24 Bxe4 Rae8**

Or 24...dxe4 25 Qg3+ Kh8 26 Qe5+ Kg8 27 Rg1+ forcing mate.

**25 Qg3+ Kh8 26 Bd3 b5**

Or 26...Rg8 27 Qd6! winning at once.

**27 Qf4 Qa7 28 Qd6 Qf7 29 Rg1 b4 30 Rg7 Qh5**



**31 Rg8+! 1-0**

And Adam falls to his own ribs he is mated after 31...Kxg8 32 Qg3+ Kf7 33 Qg7! Ladies, I don't mean to sound patronising: I'm just programmed that way ...

# Winton Capital British Chess Solving Championship 2007-08

The Final of the 2007-2008 Winton Capital British Chess Solving Championship took place at Oakham School on 16th February. 33 solvers took part, including for the first time all six titled British solvers, and two guests from overseas, Dutch GM Dolf Wissmann and ex-World Champion Piotr Murdzia, from Poland. The British title was expected to be a duel between the defending champion and current World Champion John Nunn and Jonathan Mestel, himself a former World Champion.

The event consists of six timed rounds, each involving a different type of problem, and saw a return to form for Piotr Murdzia, who had a poor 2007 by his elevated standards. Murdzia led throughout, and won the event by a big margin. Nunn had a disastrous second round, dropping 6 of the 10 points on the mates in 3, which left him in 7th place overall, 6 points behind Mestel. A determined fightback fell just short, and Mestel took the title by a ½ point, the fifteenth time he has won the British title. Wissmann pulled ahead of Nunn in the last round to tie with Mestel on points, though with a slower time.

## The top scores:

1. GM Piotr Murdzia ..... 59/65
2. GM Jonathan Mestel ..... 51½
3. GM Dolf Wissmann ..... 51½
4. GM John Nunn ..... 51
5. FM Michael McDowell ..... 45½
6. IM Colin McNab ..... 45½
7. GM Graham Lee ..... 38½
8. IM David Friedgood ..... 31½

The full table can be found at [http://www.bstephen.me.uk/the\\_final\\_-\\_results0708.html](http://www.bstephen.me.uk/the_final_-_results0708.html)

A tough set of problems had been selected, necessary to separate such a strong field. The Reilly two-mover has a generous key that abandons the rook and allows a check. The Sabinin was the easier of the two studies for solving, but claimed notable victims in Mestel, Wissmann and Lee, all of whom dropped 3½ of the 5 points by failing to find the suicidal looking 3.Kb3. The 5-mover by Vetter, where the black queen is decoyed in front of the bishop, proved straightforward for most of the leading solvers, but was enjoyed for its artistry.

The problems and solutions can be found at [www.bstephen.me.uk/the\\_final\\_-\\_problems0708.html](http://www.bstephen.me.uk/the_final_-_problems0708.html)

*Brian Stephenson*

# Obituary Bobby Fischer

I was in Madrid, on my way to Gibraltar, deciding whether to buy an English newspaper. Then I noticed the Guardian headline, 'Bobby Fischer Obituary'. It had been known for some time that he was gravely ill, so it came as no surprise. But I was surprised at the big effect it had on me. By now there will have been obituaries and many stories in the chess and international chess and on TV. But he remains the person I have known personally who is best known to the general public. Thus, herewith some personal comments.

I lived in New York 1963-5 and first met Bobby at Manhattan Chess Club. Spotting my English accent, he promptly showed us a game where he had beaten that English fish, Bob Wade. Much later Bob was to draw with him and later still helped with his preparation for the 1972 match against Spassky. That was before the days of ChessBase and finding all of Boris's games was no mean feat.

It is normal to play blitz for money in New York and later I played Bobby at five minutes each. Thus I could say we played on even terms. But he gave me 10/1 money odds. That is, for each game he won, he collected \$1 and each game I won, I got \$10. This irritated me a little. He held me in high regard because he admired a suit I used to wear. But he gave Asa Hoffman, a better player than me, 20/1. You can find two of the games we played on ChessBase, one of which he won and one I drew (I mucked up a won king and pawn endgame). He won all the other seven. It makes me a rather sad case that, even more than 40 years later, my best-known game is a blitz one. The first session I managed to equalise from the opening with the white pieces; it was never any contest when I had black. The second session he slaughtered me right from the opening, even when I had white. He had learnt more from the first session than me!

We were all young men in New York then and often used to eat in Jewish delicatessens together. That was hardly surprising, most of us would have been Jewish and it was never an issue. Thus his later utterly rebarbative utterances about Jews came as a huge disappointment to me. We often also used to analyse together. But Bobby was very careful never to offer his opinions. That was somewhat flattering; possibly he thought we were good enough to be serious threats. We next met up in Belgrade in 1970 at the USSR v Rest of the World Match, when Bobby astonished me by ceding Board 1 to Bent Larsen. Davis Levy and he analysed the Marshall together in their heads. I kept on saying, "Wouldn't it be better with a board", but to no avail. Bobby adjourned his second game against Petrosian and sat analysing it by himself at the dinner table. I warded off anybody who wanted to interrupt him, after all what are friends for? After he had satisfied himself, he joined us at the table and went over the game up to move 40. Later Larry Evans asked whether he wanted to discuss the adjourned position. "No," Bobby said vehemently. "Then people will say Evans won the game, not me." We looked at each other, shrugged our shoulders and went to the casino, leaving Bobby to it.

The only other time I met him was in Reykjavik during the great match. But he had no time for more than a brief greeting. Instead I had to make do with playing blitz with Bill Lombardy, his second.

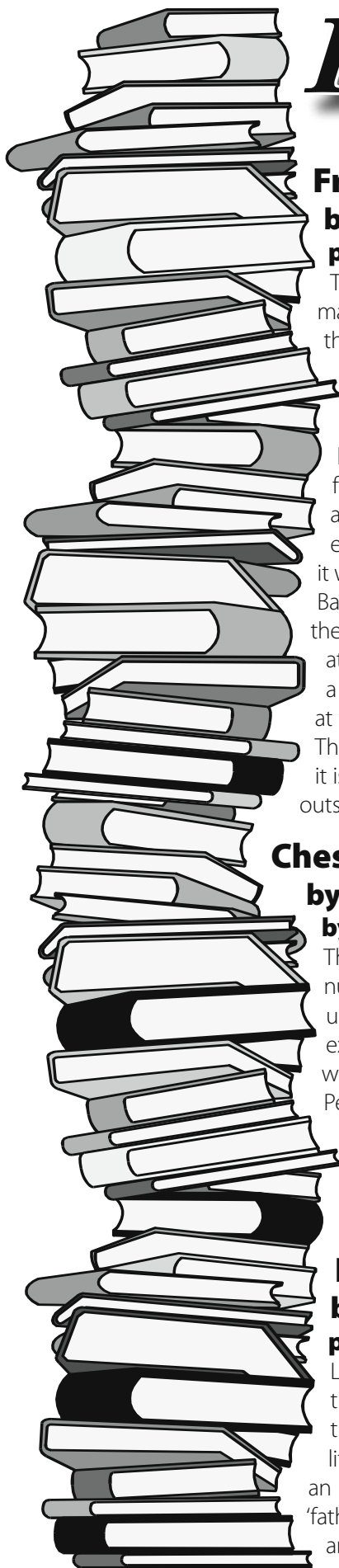
After his poisonous diatribes, I would not have wanted to renew our acquaintanceship, although I realised he was never 'normal' and was prepared to make concessions. I am sure he was not 'mad' in the time I knew him and cannot comment about his later life. I am no expert, but I suspect he had Asperger's Syndrome, a mild form of autism of which I had never even heard until 2002.

Unless you were a chessplayer in 1972, you cannot really appreciate the effect the publicity surrounding the match had. There is a recent phenomenon in my life, the boom in the interest in poker, which may similarly now be past its peak. To give you an idea, when I started the Islington Open in 1965, the first in Europe, there were 24 entries. By 1971 this had risen to nearly 500. The Evening Standard sponsored the event in 1972. "How many entrants do you think we'll get?" Leonard Barden asked me. 800 was my prediction. A week before the event I instructed Leonard not to continue to mention that it was not too late to enter. "Why not?" he enquired. "Because I don't know whether we have room for more players." In the end 1204 took part and the following year 1508. That was the peak and eventually the event, now no longer sponsored, dwindled down and became financially unsustainable below 100 players.

It is clear that England benefited at the top more from the boom in chess than any other chess federation. We advanced to being the second strongest team in the world after the USSR in the 1980s. Our juniors in this period became the envy of the world. If we knew what the magic was, we could seek to repeat the effect.

I doubt any of us would have been connected with chess in quite the same way had it not been for Bobby Fischer. He lives on in my memory and his games will live on for all time. Yes, it is sad that he somewhat wasted his prodigious talent and probably wasn't happy for most of his life. But let us instead reflect on the glory days.

*Stewart Reuben 21.1.2008*



# *Book Reviews*

## **From London to Elista**

**by Evgeny Bareev and Ilya Levitov**

**published by New in Chess £21.95**

This is the first book Anand will read while preparing for his forthcoming World Championship match against Kramnik. It contains a behind the scenes look at Kramnik's three matches for the world title by his second Bareev who provides comments to journalist Levitov. It is still a mystery to some how Kasparov came to lose and especially against someone who hadn't even qualified to play for the title. Kramnik himself explains it away by dismissing Shirov's anger to be his own fault for trying to wait for big sponsorship and conveniently paying little attention to the fact that he lost the match against him. The chapter is entitled 'A Gift from the Gods' and Kramnik certainly held on to his lucky break. It is packed with interesting anecdotes from a variety of players as well as annotated games from all the matches. The Leko encounter has been forgotten by a lot of people and you deserve a gold star if you remember it was held in Brissago. The real interest lies in the controversial match against Topalov although Bareev is no longer a second, he relies on his friendship with Kramnik for details. He says that the key problem over 'Toiletgate' was that they could not contact the FIDE President who was at a meeting with Putin. Still, after Bareev's sharp comments he really should avoid Bulgaria as a holiday destination. The numerous black and white photos are a delight that show Kramnik at work and play. I think there have been a few dodgy translations recently but this one is fine. There is a temptation to translate the Russian literally when it ends up being daft in English, so it is a tribute to the British pair Sarah Hurst and Jimmy Adams that this book flows so easily. An outstanding behind the scenes insight to Kramnik's world of chess.

## **Chess Success: planning after the opening**

**by Neil McDonald published**

**by Batsford £14.99**

The problem with modern openings according to many people is that you have to remember numerous variations. McDonald tries to provide a shortcut by promoting the role of understanding the strategic demands of the position. The style of the book is based on lots of explanation after almost every move. This makes it very approachable for the club player who wants to be entertained but whether it will improve your opening repertoire is open to debate. Perhaps it will require considerable study to adapt the style of Karpov or Kramnik but there are plenty of tips to pick up. The author adds some interest by including quotes from obvious sources such as grandmasters Alexander Kotov and Rudolf Spielmann but he also manages to raise a smile by including lyrics from the rock band 'The Clash'. McDonald clearly shows how to improve your strategy.

## **Hooked on Chess: A memoir**

**by Bill Hook**

**published by New in Chess £14.50**

Lizette Hodgson is married to English Grandmaster Julian but which team did she captain at the 1992 Olympiad? The answer is the British Virgin Islands and this book is really the story of their involvement at sixteen Olympiads by Bill Hook, along with other fond memories from his life. I actually played Mr Hook at the 2002 Olympiad and my preparation consisted of finding an improvement in Bobby Fischer's play against him. England's Jon Speelman called him the 'father of the Olympiad' and his tales are a pleasure to read. By the way Lizette "...did a fine job, and her smiles were infectious". This fascinating memoir is sure to please any chess fan.

# **ECF YEARBOOK 2008 NOW AVAILABLE**

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# Results Round-Up

## KJCA Gravesend Junior

### Rapidplay

9 February 2008

**Under 18:** Sheila Dines, Sanderstead, 138, 5; Eugene Daley, Dulwich, 86, 3½; Siddhu Reddiar, Orpington, 81, 3

**Under 14:** Nicholas Clanchy, Lewisham CC, 78, 4; Jasdeep Gahir, Lewisham CC, 95, 3½; John Holden, Bromley, 89, 3½; Duncan Bell, Beckenham & Bromley CC, 88, 3½; Baven Balendran, Beckenham & Bromley CC, 83, 3½; Nikhil Sanghani, Chingford CC, 52, 3; Rohan Shiatis, Crawley Down, 28, 3

**Under 11:** Gautham Reddiar, Orpington, 63, 5½; Raunak Rao, Beckenham, 42, 4½; Raphael Kalid, Anerley, 36, 4½; Orlando Devoy, Clapham, 28, 3½; James Selway, Bromley, 24, 3½

**Under 10:** Alexei Davis, Mottingham, 42, 5; Rohan Bansal, Dulwich, 28, 5; Patrick Smith, Chipstead, 10, 5; Jonathan O'Connell, Gravesend, 22, 4; Mano Sathyamurthy, Herne Bay CC, 20, 4; James Wagstaff-Hall, Sidcup, 0, 4; Sophie Wahts, Maidstone, 0, 4; Simon Leung, Dulwich, 0, 4

**Under 9:** Yasmin Giles, Brockley, 14, 5; Conor Murphy, Bexley, 0, 5; Daniel Heraghty, Dulwich, 0, 4½; Hector Huser, Balham, 4, 4; Owen Messere, Bickley, 4; Chris Button, Weald of Kent CC, 4; Rohan Jain, Lee, 4; Rohan Rao, Orpington, 4

**Under 8:** Alexander Selway, Bromley, 0, 5; James Meredith, Dulwich, 4; Zara Hussain, Riverhead, 0, 3½

## 16th Doncaster Congress

22-24 February 2008

**Open:** Richard Palliser, York RI, 4; Jonathan Hawkins, Leam Lane, 4; Bret Addison, Hartlepool, 4; Jeremy Hamm, Sheffield Nomads, 3½; Roger Jennings, Rose Forgrove, Leeds, 2; Henry Brockbank, Olton, 2; Raymond Ilett, Peterborough, 2; David Stephenson, St Andrews, Hull, 2; David Patrick, Courier, Halifax, 2

**Major:** J N Hawkins, Liverpool, 4; Kevin McCarthy, Pandora's Box, Lincoln, 4; Patrick Senior, Wakefield, 3½; Richard J Webster, Ahsfield, Notts, 3½; Peter Jaszkiwskyj, Kettering, 3½; Ron Plater, Kings, Newcastle, 3½; Tim Turner, Lady Anne Middleton, York, 3½; M J Cawston, Lady Anne Middleton, York, 3

**Intermediate:** Michael Ian Connor, Great Lever/ Widnes, 4½; Richard Desmedt, Wombwell, 4½; Samuel Milson (J), Louth, 4; David Adam, Ilkley, 4; M A Fox, Dewsbury, 4; M Clark, Worksop, 3½

**Minor:** Nigel Baxendale, Worksop, 4½; Andrew Coe, Appleby Frodingham, 4½; David Smart, Doncaster, 4½; Keith Pottage, Wakefield, 4; John H T Eddershaw, Dormer, Sheffield, 4

## Wiltshire & West of England

### Junior Open Congress

23-24 February 2008

**Best Overall Girl** Maria Wang (Oxford)

**Major:** Peter Poobalasingam, Somerset, 5/5; Lewis Martin, Wiltshire, 4/5; James Jackson, Oxon, 4/5; West of England U18 Champion, Peter Poobalasingam; West of England U16 Champion, Lewis Martin; West of England U14 Champion, Rhys Cumming; West of England Girls' U18, U16 & U14 Champion, Megan Owens; Wiltshire U18 & U16 Champion, Lewis Martin; Wiltshire U14 Champion, Megan Owens; Wiltshire U18 Girls' Champion, Megan Owens

**Minor:** Ben Jackson, Oxon, 5/6; Roger Baxter, Hants, 4½/6; Matthew Turner, Somerset, 4½/6; Alex Carter, Glos, 4½/6; Luke Burroughs, Wilts, 3½/6; Best Girl, Ruby Marsden, Oxon, 3/6

**U12 Championship:** Peter Batchelor, London, 5/6; Marcus Harvey, Oxon, 5/6; Maria Wang, Oxon, 5/6; Roy Zhang, Berks, 5/6; Best U11, Peter Batchelor & Roy Zhang, Best Girl, Maria Wang, West of England U12 Champion, Adam Burroughs, Wilts, 4½/6; West of England U12 Girls' Champion, Megan Cleaves, Wilts, 3½/6; Wiltshire U12 Champion, Adam Burroughs, Wiltshire U11 Champion & Wiltshire U11 Girls' Champion, Megan Cleaves

**U12 Challengers:** William Claridge-Hansen, Bucks, 5½/6; Matthew Wilson, N Somerset, 4½/6; Max Papachristos, Berks, 4½/6

**U10 Championships:** Tom Haxby, Sussex, 6/7; Joris Gerlagh, 6/7; Janinder Morgan, Bath, 5½/7; West of England U10 Champion, Janinder Morgan; West of England U10 Girls' Champion, Zoe Strong, Bristol, 4/7; Wiltshire U10 Champion, Simon Garnett, Wilts, 4/7; Best Girl, Zoe Strong; Louise Head, Berks; Cosima Keen, East Sussex

**U9 Championships:** Daniel D'Souza-Eva, 7/7; Joseph Gabriel, 5/7; Irene Mathias, 5/7; Wiltshire U9 Champion, Arthur Copping, Wilts, 4/7; Best Girl, Irene Mathias

**U8 Championships:** James Colebourn, Herts, 5½/6; Rebecca Swestun, Essex, 5/6; Aloysius Lip, Birmingham, 4½/6; West of England U8 Champion, Pranav Satish, Wilts, 3½/6; Megan Scott, Wilts, 3½/6; West of England U8 Girls' Champion, Megan Scott; Wiltshire U8 Champion, Pranav Satish; Megan Scott; Wiltshire U7 Champion, Will Cleaves, 2/6; Best U7, Joseph Yianni, Herts, 3/6; Best Girl, Rebecca Swestun

**Beginners:** Adam Busby, Wilts; Daniel Key; Alessandro Ruggiero, Bristol; Best Girl, Emma Smart, Hants; Best Game Prize; George Grimmer, Wilts

**Saturday Intermediate:** Bradley White, Wilts; Aloysius Lip, Warks; Pranav Satish, Wilts; Zoe Matthias, Oxon; James Colebourn, Herts; Best Girl, Zoe Matthias

**Sunday Intermediate:** Mark Garnett, Wilts; Jordan Isgin, Wilts; Jack Swestun, Essex; Oliver Taylor; Best Girl Prizes, Helen Mazagon, Surrey; Katy Jackson, Oxon

## 33rd East Devon Congress

29 February - 2 March 2008

**Premier:** D Mackle, Newton Abbot, 4½; I Ward, Salisbury, 4; S Dilleigh, Horfield, 3½; P Helbig, Keynsham, 3½; G Jepps, Frome, 3½; J Wheeler, Cosham, 3½

**Major:** M Page, Insurance, 4½; R Thompson, Newton Abbot, 4; S Dean, Sidmouth, 3½; J Morgan, Penwith, 3½; D Norman, Wessex, 3½

**Intermediate:** H Mann, St Marychurch, 5; J Bashall, Telepost, 4½; M Steevens, Bridport, 4

**Minor:** P Saunders, Bristol, 5; P Broderick, Shifnal & Telford, 4½; R Chubb, Teignmouth, 4; V Litvin, N/A, 4; Best Senior = A Fraser, Beckenham, 3½; P Szabo, Metropolitan, 3½; Best Team, Newton Abbot, 16

## Chess and the City - Manchester

### Rapidplay

2 March 2008

The first New East Manchester Rapidplay Chess Tournament was held at the City of Manchester Stadium on Sunday 2 March 2008. A total of 56 players competed at what is believed to be the first chess event held at a premiership football stadium. The excellent surroundings of the Boardroom Suite were certainly an improvement on the usual venues for chess tournaments, although it did cost £5 for a prawn sandwich and a cup of tea!

The event was organised by Sport4life on behalf of the Eagle Chess Club in association with the Manchester Chess Federation. We would like to thank the sponsors, New East Manchester Ltd and Equity Solutions, plus all the staff of Manchester City FC and the stadium who helped to make us welcome.

**Junior (U16):** Robert Bowler, Copperworks; Ravi Patel, Checkmate; James Bowler, Copperworks

**U120:** Farshad Ai, Sheffield; Alan Sime, Macclesfield; Bashkim Caka, Eagle

**U160:** M Zahir Aryan, Phoenix Yorks; Nick Barnaby, Widnes/Bolton; Phil Olbison, Chorlton

We hope to stage the event again next year, subject to stadium availability, and maybe we can see more competitors if we avoid a clash with Mothering Sunday.

Mick Norris

## 31st Cottesmore Congress

4 March 2008

Eleven schools took part in this annual event expertly organised by Jonathan Tuck and Trevor Norton. The standard this year was higher than ever with no less than 5 England players in the entry. The tournament took the form of a 6 round swiss and all the players seemed to enjoy playing in the unique surroundings at Cottesmore.

The team tournament was won by Windlesham with Aldro 2nd and Dorset House 3rd. The individual competition winner was Zi Yuan Qu 5.5/6 (Windlesham) 2nd= Ramsay Pyper (Windlesham), Felix Haxby (Lancing Prep) and Barnaby Paul (Windlesham) 5/6 5th Joseph Quinn 4.5/6 (Dorset House) Congratulations to all the players who made it a most enjoyable day and thanks to Cottesmore for hosting the event again.

D J Archer IAPS Chess Co-ordinator

# Calendar of Events

(For a more comprehensive list of events visit our website at [www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk))

\* denotes English Chess Federation Grand Prix @ denotes FIDE Rated Event # denotes British Championship Qualifying Tournament ~ denotes ECF Graded Event

~ 5 Apr

## CCF ENGLISH CHESS CHALLENGE QUALIFICATION EVENT,

Langley Park School for Boys.  
H Curtis & S Freeman (Tel: 020 8645 0302 (day), Email: [chess@ccfworld.com](mailto:chess@ccfworld.com))

~ 5 Apr

## 32nd KINGS HEAD RAPIDPLAY,

The Porchester Hall, Bayswater W2 5HS.  
C Mackenzie (Tel: 020 8992 1849, Email: [colin.mackenzie@atosorigin.com](mailto:colin.mackenzie@atosorigin.com))

~\* 6 Apr

## KJCA UKCC MEGAFINAL QUALIFIER,

Walthamstow Hall, Sevenoaks.  
Sue Maguire (Tel: 020 8656 6420, Email: [sue.maguire@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.maguire@btinternet.com))

~\* 6 Apr

## 24th LETCHWORTH & HITCHIN ONE-DAY CONGRESS,

St. Francis' College, Broadway.  
M Pateman (Tel: 01462 639029, Email: [congress@letchworthchess.com](mailto:congress@letchworthchess.com))

6 Apr

## MAURICE BROWN MEMORIAL RAPIDPLAY,

University of Hull.  
M Ieronimo (Tel: 01482 501816, Email: [secretary@hullchess.com](mailto:secretary@hullchess.com))

~\* 6 Apr

## SKELMERSDALE RAPIDPLAY,

Skelmersdale United Football Club.  
J Reid (Tel: 01257 462822, Email: [johnrchess@hotmail.com](mailto:johnrchess@hotmail.com))

~ 7-8 Apr

## 34th MAIDENHEAD JUNIOR CONGRESS

Ridgeway School, Cannon Lane.  
Nigel Dennis (Tel/Fax: 01491 576052, Email: [nigelwdennis@btinternet.com](mailto:nigelwdennis@btinternet.com))

~@ 7-11 Apr

## CCF EASTER INTERNATIONAL

Coulsdon.  
H Curtis & S Freeman (Tel: 020 8645 0302 (day), Email: [chess@ccfworld.com](mailto:chess@ccfworld.com))

~\* 12 Apr

## GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY

St Alban's Church Hall, NW11 7QG.  
Adam Raoof (Tel: 07855 036537, Email: [adamraoof@yahoo.com](mailto:adamraoof@yahoo.com))

12 Apr

## 3rd GREAT YARMOUTH JUNIOR CONGRESS

Woodlands Middle School.  
S Kassell (Tel: 01493 731863, Email: [sskk@talktalk.net](mailto:sskk@talktalk.net))

~\* 12 Apr

## KJCA TONBRIDGE JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY

The Schools at Somerhill.  
Sue Maguire (Tel: 020 8656 6420, Email: [sue.maguire@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.maguire@btinternet.com))

~@ 12 Apr

**SALISBURY RAPIDPLAY - CANCELLED**

~ 12 Apr

## TEIGNMOUTH RAPIDPLAY CONGRESS

Trinity School.  
R Chubb (Tel: 01626 888255, Email: [chubb@care4free.net](mailto:chubb@care4free.net))

~\* 12-13 Apr

## STAFFORDSHIRE CONGRESS

Bloxwich Leisure Centre.  
Traci Whitfield (Tel: 01782 623361 Email: [whitfielduk@aol.com](mailto:whitfielduk@aol.com))

~ 13 Apr

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE RAPIDPLAY

New England Club, Peterborough.  
P Kemp (Tel: 01223 872081, Email: [paulkemp64@gmail.com](mailto:paulkemp64@gmail.com))

13 Apr

## SJC TRAINING DAY,

Windlesham House School, Washington.  
Margaret Burch (Tel: 01483 534061, Email: [ammjburch@hotmail.com](mailto:ammjburch@hotmail.com))

13 Apr

## YORK U18 CHAMPIONSHIPS & TRAINING WITH ECF COACH NICK NIXON,

National Railway Museum.  
P Cloudsdale (Tel: 01904 767177, Email: [cloudsdale\\_c@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cloudsdale_c@hotmail.co.uk))

18-20 Apr

## 2nd ANNUAL ENNIS OPEN

Auburn Lodge Hotel, Co Clare, Ireland.  
R Quinn (Email: [ennischessclub@hotmail.com](mailto:ennischessclub@hotmail.com))

19 Apr

## CHIPPING SODBURY RAPIDPLAY

Stanshawe Court Hotel, Yate.  
G Mill-Wilson (Tel: 0776 5139540, Email: [tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk))

~# 19-20 Apr

## 33rd NOTTINGHAM CONGRESS

Nottingham High School, Waverley Mount.  
R Richmond (Tel: 0115 945 5908, Email: [Robrchmnd@aol.com](mailto:Robrchmnd@aol.com))

~ 20 Apr

## NATIONAL CLUB RAPIDPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP,

Magdalen College School, Oxford.  
Chris Majer (Tel: 01438 812781, Email: [manager.gradingandrating@englishchess.org.uk](mailto:manager.gradingandrating@englishchess.org.uk))

~\*# 25-27 Apr

## 29th DURHAM CONGRESS,

Durham Masonic Hall.  
Graham Marshall (Tel: 01429 426374, Email: [grahammarshall2000@hotmail.com](mailto:grahammarshall2000@hotmail.com))

26 Apr

## EPSCA INTER ASSOCIATION U9 FINAL,

Peter W Purland (Tel: 0151 639 1797, Email: [petepurland@btopenworld.com](mailto:petepurland@btopenworld.com))

~# 26-27 Apr

## GREAT YARMOUTH CONGRESS,

Great Yarmouth College.  
J Wickham (Tel: 01603 861140, Email: [j.r.wickham@btinternet.com](mailto:j.r.wickham@btinternet.com))

~\* 26-27 Apr

## SPECTRUM CHESS - 1st HEREFORD CONGRESS,

The Green Dragon Hotel.  
Norman Went (Tel: 01708 551617, Email: [spectrumchess@hotmail.com](mailto:spectrumchess@hotmail.com))

~\* 27 Apr

## EAST ACTON U175 RAPIDPLAY,

The Gold Smith Arms, W3 7ER.  
S Tserendorj (Tel: 07887 790934, Email: [londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk))

~ 3 May

## SJC MEGAFINAL,

Warden Park School, Cuckfield.  
Margaret Burch (Tel: 01483 534061, Email: [ammjburch@hotmail.com](mailto:ammjburch@hotmail.com))

~@ 3-5 May

## 4NCL, Divisions 1, 2 & 3, De Vere Venues, Sunningdale.

Mike Truran (Tel: 01993 708645, Email: [mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk))

~@ 3-5 May

## 4NCL, Division 4,

De Vere Venues, Wokefield Park.  
Mike Truran (Tel: 01993 708645, Email: [mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk))

5 May

## CCF OPEN BLITZ,

Coulsdon.  
H Curtis & S Freeman (Tel: 020 8645 0302 (day), Email: [chess@ccfworld.com](mailto:chess@ccfworld.com))

~\*# 9-11 May

## 19th FROME CONGRESS,

Selwood Middle School.  
G Jepps (Tel/Fax: 01749 344191, Email: [gn.jepps@virgin.net](mailto:gn.jepps@virgin.net))

10 May

## EPSCA INTER ASSOCIATION U11 FINAL,

Liverpool.  
Peter W Purland (Tel: 0151 639 1797, Email: [petepurland@btopenworld.com](mailto:petepurland@btopenworld.com))

~\* 10 May

## GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY,

St Alban's Church Hall, NW11 7QG.  
Adam Raoof (Tel: 07855 036537, Email: [adamraoof@yahoo.com](mailto:adamraoof@yahoo.com))

~ 11 May

## 3rd SHIRLEY & WYTHALL RAPIDPLAY,

Wythall House, Silver Street.  
G Christie (Tel: 01564 826354, Email: [gsgc@shirleychess.co.uk](mailto:gsgc@shirleychess.co.uk))

11 May

## SUFFOLK JUNIOR MEGAFINAL,

Woodbridge School, Suffolk.  
A Hunt (Tel: 01394615000, Email: [ahunt@woodbridge.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:ahunt@woodbridge.suffolk.sch.uk))

~\* 16-18 May

## RHYL CONGRESS,

Rhyl Town Hall.  
D Harvey (Tel: 01745 330727, Email: [rhylichess@aol.com](mailto:rhylichess@aol.com))

17 May

## KJCA UKCC KENT CASTLES MEGAFINAL,

Kemnal College, St. Paul's Cray.  
Sue Maguire (Tel: 020 8656 6420, Email: [sue.maguire@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.maguire@btinternet.com))

*Entry by qualification only.*

18 May

## KJCA UKCC KENT BISHOPS MEGAFINAL,

Kemnal College, St. Paul's Cray.  
Sue Maguire (Tel: 020 8656 6420, Email: [sue.maguire@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.maguire@btinternet.com))

*Entry by qualification only.*

~\* 17 May

## SJC WORTHING JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY,

Thomas A' Becket Middle School.  
Margaret Burch (Tel: 01483 534061, Email: [ammjburch@hotmail.com](mailto:ammjburch@hotmail.com))

~\* 18 May

## 77th RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY,

White House Community Association,  
The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RN (see 26)

18 May

## YORK & DISTRICT U14 JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS,

Bootham Junior School.  
P Cloudsdale (Tel: 01904 767177, Email: [cloudsdale\\_c@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cloudsdale_c@hotmail.co.uk))

~ 24-26 May

## 41st COTSWOLD CONGRESS,

St. Edward's School, Cirencester Rd.  
R Powis (Tel: 01453 762518, Email: [mike.powis@which.net](mailto:mike.powis@which.net))

~\*# 24-26 May

## 58th ILFORD CONGRESS,

Redbridge Institute, Gaysham Avenue.  
J Rosenberg (Tel: 020 8554 2232 before 10pm)

~\* 25 May

## EAST ACTON U175 RAPIDPLAY,

The Gold Smith Arms W3 7ER.  
S Tserendorj (Tel: 07887 790934, Email: [londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk))

26 May

## CCF OPEN BLITZ,

Coulsdon.  
H Curtis & S Freeman (Tel: 020 8645 0302 (day), Email: [chess@ccfworld.com](mailto:chess@ccfworld.com))

~\*# 30 May - 1 Jun

## HARTLEPOOL FESTIVAL WEEKEND CONGRESS,

Hillcarter Hotel.  
Graham Marshall (Tel: 01429 426374, Email: [grahammarshall2000@hotmail.com](mailto:grahammarshall2000@hotmail.com))

~\* 31 May - Jun

## OXFORD UNIVERSITY CONGRESS,

Lincoln College, Turl Street.  
M Zhang (Tel: 0796 0625 860, Email: [marco.zhang@gmail.com](mailto:marco.zhang@gmail.com))

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