

# Chess Moves



ENGLISH CHESS FEDERATION | MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER | May 2013 EDITION

## In this issue ---

**Forget 2012, it's 'London 2013'!**

Carlsen wins by a whisker

**Adams beats World Champion**

**4NCL 4th Weekend**

**Top juniors in action**

IAPS National Chess

Championships

National Chess Junior Squad

**European Schools Championship**

Meet the team!

## FEATURE ARTICLES:

**The Black Death**

Joseph Henry Blackburne  
remembered

**Michael Basman writes**

**The Master Game on DVD**

Bookshelf takes a trip down  
Memory Lane

**David Howell annotates a fine  
Bundesliga win**

**... and much, much more!**

## CONTENTS

Candidates Tournament	2	The Black Death - JH Blackburne remembered	15
Candidates Tournament - a brief history	3	European Schools - Meet the Team	21
ECF News	4	Annotated Game - David Howell	24
The Master Game	6	Ten Years After - Yearbooks compared	26
Alekhine Memorial	8	Chess Moves Bookshelf	28
4NCL Fourth Weekend	9	Book Reviews	32
Junior Chess	12	Calendar	34
Batsford Competition	13		

## Forget 2012, it's 'London 2013'!

Of all the many wonderful tournaments in chess history, few can rival the triple whammy of importance, strength and excitement achieved by the 2013 FIDE Candidates tournament (15 March - 1 April). That this event took place in London, scene of the very first international chess tournament in 1851 and more recently of the London Chess Classic series, is something to warm the heart of any English chess enthusiast.

Even taking into account inflation, the average rating of the eight players (2787) was impressive. Going into the event, the favourites were clearly Magnus Carlsen (at 2872, the highest rated player of all time), former world champion Vladimir Kramnik (2810) and Levon Aronian (2809). In events of this calibre, however, form and strong nerves count for much, and it was not impossible that one of the remaining five - Teimour Radjabov (2793), Alexander Grischuk (2764), Vassily Ivanchuk (2757), Peter Svidler (2747) and surprise winner of the previous Candidates series, Boris Gelfand (2740) - could emerge on top.

The final results after the 14 rounds were:

1-2	Carlsen, Kramnik	8½ points
3-4	Svidler, Aronian	8
5-6	Grischuk, Gelfand	6½
7	Ivanchuk	6
8	Radjabov	4

These scores convey almost nothing of the excitement of the event, which reached an extraordinary climax in the final round. Carlsen faced Svidler with the twin advantages of the white pieces and the knowledge that he had beaten the Russian with colours reversed earlier in the event. Kramnik, unbeaten to this point, had black against Ivanchuk, not in the best of form in London but a dangerous opponent for anyone at any time. That both Kramnik and Carlsen should lose was an outcome few brave souls would have predicted, but this is precisely what happened.

In the end, Magnus Carlsen qualified to challenge world champion Vishwanathan Anand by virtue of having scored the most wins (5, compared to Kramnik's 4). This was the tie-break stipulated in the rules, but it was very tough on Kramnik, who was considered by many to have played the best chess throughout and who had the superior Sonneborn-Berger score.

No tie-break is ever entirely satisfactory, and chess fans and journalists would doubtless have preferred to have seen the matter settled over the board in a play-off. The first time FIDE organised a Candidates tournament - a 10-player double-round contest held in Budapest 1950 - there was also a two-way tie for first place. On that occasion, the two players, David Bronstein and Isaac Boleslavsky, were required to play a full-blown match of twelve games to determine the challenger, with a further two games to be played if the score was tied at 6-6, and thereafter an open-ended series until one player scored a win (Bronstein won by 7½-6½). All of these games, it should be stressed, were at standard rates of play (40 moves in 2½ hours, with adjournment after five hours). Different times, different commercial realities, but a striking contrast nonetheless.

Whatever the rights and wrongs of the tie-break rules in 2013, they **were** the rules, and we should applaud Magnus Carlsen for his victory. With no disrespect to Vladimir Kramnik, whose dignity in defeat was an example to be admired, Carlsen-Anand is the match that much of the chess world wanted to see, and this correspondent, for one, can hardly wait.

Even if the match is shorter than the **play-off** in 1950.

## Candidates Tournaments - a brief history

Not only was London 2013 a tremendously exciting event in itself, it marked the welcome return of the candidates tournament format to the FIDE World Championship. For a dozen years, these behemoths punctuated chess history every three years, providing a spectacular warm-up in tournament form for the best-of-24 world championship matches which followed each a year later.

For some, the Candidates tournaments are a core thread in the tapestry of chess history. For others, they may be unfamiliar or at best of academic interest.

Here is a brief reminder of London 2013's illustrious precursors:

- **Budapest, 11 April - 18 May 1950:** 10 players / double-round, i.e. 18 rounds. Won by Bronstein and Boleslavsky with 12 points each, ahead of Smyslov and Keres. Noteworthy for the tie for first place (and the subsequent play-off match) and Bronstein's dramatic win against Keres in the final round to draw level at the last moment.

According to Bronstein (in the 1995 games collection, *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*), he and Boleslavsky discussed their respective chances against world champion Botvinnik during(!) the tournament and Boleslavsky, who had a 0-7 score against the champion, did not fancy his chances in a match. Bronstein goes on: *"Isaac Boleslavsky was leading in the Candidates' Tournament but after a talk with Boris Vainstein [Bronstein's friend, second and sometime literary collaborator] he decided to slow down to allow me to tie for first place with him. Vainstein would try to arrange a tournament with Botvinnik, Boleslavsky and myself for the World Championship. Alas, it did not come about and we had to meet in a play-off for the right to challenge Botvinnik."* (The Sorcerer's Apprentice, Cadogan 1995, p.107)

- **Neuhausen-Zürich 28 August - 24 October 1953:** The number of players rose to 15, meaning 28 rounds over nearly two months. Originally, the number of participants was intended to be 12, but a four-way tie for the final qualifying place at the preceding Interzonal tournament resulted in howls of protest when attempts were made to apply the Sonneborn-Berger tie-break system to decide such an important question. (Different times indeed...)

Vassily Smyslov won comfortably with 18 points (only one loss), two points ahead of Bronstein, Keres and Reshevsky. The tournament is famous for the books written about it, most famously by Bronstein (with assistance from Vainstein), but also by Najdorf and Euwe.

- **Amsterdam 27 March - 30 April 1956:** Back to a double-round 10-player event, lasting just over a month. Smyslov again won comfortably, 1½ points ahead of Keres. Of all the Candidates tournaments, this seems to have the lowest profile, perhaps because it lacks a high-quality tournament book in the English language and because the repetition of the 1953 outcome - a clear victory by a player who was self-evidently of immense strength but arguably lacking in 'colour'.

- **Bled-Zagreb-Belgrade 6 September - 31 October 1959:** FIDE, having clearly decided that one month was nowhere near long enough for a Candidates tournament, changed the format again. This time, they reduced the number of players to eight, the same as in London 2013, but transformed the event into a match-tournament in which the players contested four games against each of their rivals.



The result was another 28-round epic, requiring eight weeks.

The new format resulted in a clear victory for Mikhail Tal, riding an unstoppable wave of good form which was to take him from Soviet champion to world champion in one stunning surge from 1957 to 1960. His total of 20 points was nothing short of amazing and owed much to his ruthlessness against the lower half of the table (including a 4-0 drubbing of a very young Bobby Fischer). Paul Keres, in second place with 18½ points, was no fewer than 3 points ahead of third-placed Tigran Petrosian. Three years later, a similar score by Keres would have seen him win the tournament with a point to spare.

• **Curaçao 2 May - 26 June 1962:** Remarkably, the format was unchanged from three years before. The warm weather in the Dutch Antilles meant that the 28 rounds were inevitably going to prove a test of stamina, and energy-saving strategies would make a difference. The top three players - Petrosian, Keres and Geller - agreed short draws in all of their games with each other. It is generally accepted that this was the result of a compact made in advance.

The outcome was a narrow victory by Petrosian with 17½ points, ahead of Keres and Geller on 17. The following pack, including a deeply disappointed Fischer (who felt that the time had come for him to become world champion), were three points further behind.

Fischer's accusations of Soviet cheating after the 1962 event led to a radical change in the format of the Candidates, from a tournament to a series of matches. This remained the case until 1985, when a "Candidates Tournament" was held in Montpellier, France. Since this was used as a means of determining the top four players to contest a short series of Candidates matches, it arguably does not count as a true "Candidates tournament". Certainly, London 2013 was the first round robin tournament since 1962, the winner of which would directly obtain the status of world championship challenger.

- *Andrew Farthing*

## ECF News

### ECF Finance Council Meeting, 13 April 2013

The 2013 Finance Council meeting took place at the Ibis Hotel, Birmingham with President Roger Edwards in the chair in the absence of Mike Gunn.

The accounts for the year ended 30 April 2012, which had not been available in time for the 2012 AGM but which had subsequently been audited and lodged at Companies House, were formally laid before the meeting and approved. There was a loss for the year of £6,539, after considerable work had been performed to investigate the underlying records and clear out old items in order to arrive at a robust closing balance sheet.

The AGM had approved a change in accounting date from 30 April to 31 August to align the financial year with the membership year, and the next accounts presented would be for the 16 month period ending 31 August 2013. The Finance Council was provided with a forecast for the 12 months to 30 April 2013 to compare with the budget approved for that period in April 2012, a budget for the 4 month period from 1 May 2013 to the new financial year end date and a budget for the 12 month period from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014. The forecast and the 4 month budget were both for marginally better than break-even: although there was some doubt as to the ultimate mixture of membership income and Game Fee income, the Board was confident that this could be achieved or bettered. After some minor modifications to the 12 month budget arising from the pre-Council Board meeting, including the removal of the contingency provision, this indicated a small surplus, which would have been a large surplus but for a quirk of the FIDE scheduling of events which led to both the 2013 European Team Championships and the 2014 Olympiad occurring in the same ECF financial

year.

The budgets were approved, as was the Board's proposal to leave membership fees and Game Fee unchanged: a proposal from the floor to increase membership rates by £1 not being supported.

The Game Fee Bye Laws were amended to provide the Board with specific authority to provide membership as well as Game Fee exemptions. This amendment was considered in conjunction with a review of the current exemptions. Council considered each of these in turn and supported their continuance, although the exemption for WCU members playing in cross-border was extended specifically for one year pending talks with the WCU.

The Bye Laws were also amended to provide for a comprehensive event registration scheme. A motion proposed by the International Director that the Federation should aim to have the strongest possible teams competing in the European Team Championships, Olympiads and World Youth under 16 Chess Olympiad was approved.

Council was advised that the Code of Conduct for ECF Officials and the Complaints procedure had proved to be unworkable in their present form, and were being suspended by the Board until a new set of proposals can be formulated.

Despite the meeting being extended by 30 minutes to conclude at 6.30 there was insufficient time to consider County Championship proposals, and these will now be discussed at a Skype call between the Union Controllers and the Director of Home Chess during May.

*- John Philpott, Company Secretary*

## Major grant for Chess in Schools

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF), a charity dedicated to finding the most effective ways to narrow the attainment gap between the poorest pupils and their classmates, has awarded a £689,000 grant to Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC) to test the impact of structured chess instruction in primary schools.

A randomised control trial of chess teaching will compare the progress of pupils who take up chess with that of similar pupils who have not taken up the game. Pupils will spend an hour a week on chess over 30 weeks, learning how to play the game and developing skills of thinking and problem-solving through chess. Chess clubs will also be established in the schools.

This is a major boost to CSC, allowing it to roll out programmes to 6,000 pupils in 100 primary schools in Liverpool, Bristol and Manchester. The charity, founded in 2010 and run by Malcolm Pein, has already established an impressive track record of delivering chess lessons in primary schools, based on the conviction that chess helps children by improving concentration and developing critical thinking, logical reasoning, memory and calculating ability.

If the EEF-funded programme is successful in establishing the benefits of teaching chess to primary school children, it can only be a positive step towards ever-increasing participation in the game across the country.



## 'The Master Game' on DVD and Digital Download

Originally broadcast in the late 1970s and early 1980s, The Master Game is fondly remembered by many who were lucky enough to see the programmes when they first appeared. The news that Odeon Entertainment has signed a seven-year agreement with the BBC to release the chess television series 'The Master Game' on DVD and digital download will therefore be warmly welcomed.

*The Master Game* broke new ground when it established itself as the only international chess tournament played for television. Following its launch by the BBC in 1975, it became a firm favourite amongst chess fans and grandmasters alike.

Now, nearly forty years after it was first broadcast, chess fans will be able to buy the series on DVD and digital downloads for the first time. The list of competitors featured is like a who's who of famous Grandmasters from the 1970s including Anatoly Karpov, Viktor Korchnoi, Tony Miles, Bent Larsen, Nigel Short, John Nunn, Walter Browne, John Speelman and many more.

In the modern age, when computers have taken over the analysis of games, the unique aspect, which made of *The Master Game* so popular around the world, was that the players would voice their inner thoughts and let viewers understand their thinking on the game.

The first releases will comprise Series 6 (1981) and 7 (1982) as these have complete episodes in the BBC archives. Commenting on the releases, Odeon Entertainment's Managing Director, Alan Byron, said: "*The release of The Master Game is long overdue for chess fans as it reached an audience of several million when it was broadcast on BBC television. It was a must-watch weekly viewing for chess players following explosion of popularity in the sport due to the Fischer-Spassky World Championship match in 1972.*"

The DVDs cost £22.99 each and are available for pre-order at <http://www.odeonent.co.uk/product/the-master-game-series-6> and <http://www.odeonent.co.uk/product/the-master-game-series-7>. Orders will be shipped in July. A special discount is available for ECF members: £5 for one DVD or £10 for both. Enter the promotional codes **ECF5** and **ECF10** respectively in the online shopping basket

A game from the 1980 series to whet the appetite, with the players' own comments as broadcast:

**Svetozar Gligoric (2565) - Nigel D Short (2360)**

*London BBC TV-The Master Game London (1), 08.05.1980*

An astonishing game to begin the tournament, in which the experienced Yugoslav grandmaster appeared to be disconcerted by his teenage opponent and uncharacteristically allowed his pieces to drift away from their best squares.

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 c5 5.Nge2 cxd4 6.exd4 0-0 7.a3 Be7 8.d5 exd5 9.cxd5 Bc5**

Short: "Already the third move of my bishop but as the pawn structure has changed, different diagonals have become available."

**10.Nd4 d6 11.Be2 a6 12.0-0 Nbd7 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bh4 Re8 15.Rc1 Nf8 16.b4 Ba7 17.Nb3 Ng6 18.Bg3 Ne7!**

Gligoric: "Well, that's an unpleasant surprise! I didn't see that move. It's not pleasant if he drives away my bishop from its best square. The most ambitious move will probably be h3 because it leaves a retreat square for my very good bishop."

### 19.h3

Short: "Oh, has he blundered? Can I play 19...Nxd5 here? (19) ... Nexd5 (20) Nxd5 Nxd5 (21) Qxd5 Rxe2 and that's good for me. Has he anything better? Oh, I see... he doesn't play (21) Qxd5 but just plays Bf3, then I must retreat my knight and Qxd6 is good for him."

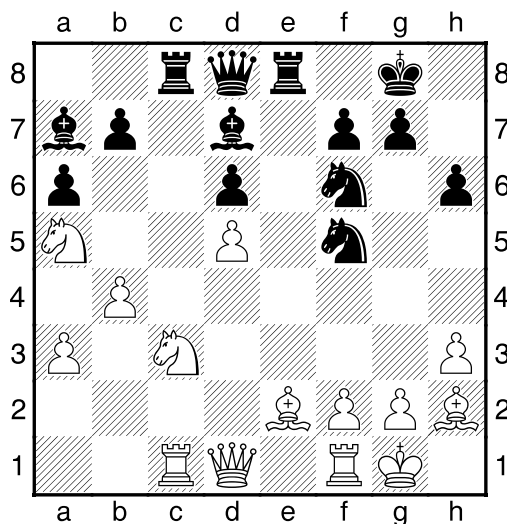
### 19...Nf5

Gligoric: "I expected my opponent to play not as well as he does! Now I have to retreat my bishop, nothing else."

### 20.Bh2 Bd7 21.Na5

Short: "Well that seems a little odd. I don't think he's going to take that pawn on b7. I'll just continue with Rc8. That knight was very useful on b3 because it was guarding the d4 square."

### 21...Rc8



### 22.Kh1?

Gligoric: "Oh, what did I do? I made a move but it is terrible! I'm lost now. He can play Bd4 and I'm lost. I played against all the rules of chess. I decentralised my pieces and now he's coming in!"

### 22...Bd4! 23.Na2

Short: "It's a very good position for me now. I think I'll put his knight even more out of the way. I'll just exchange rooks and then I'll have the choice of taking his d-pawn or playing Ne4."

### 23...Rxc1 24.Nxc1 Ne4 25.g4 Nxf2+ 26.Rxf2 Bxf2 27.gxf5 Bxf5

Gligoric: "I feel a little bit confused in this position. I lost my balance."

### 28.Nd3 Qh4 29.Bf3 Bxd3

Gligoric: "He plays simple moves all the time!"

### 30.Qxd3 Qxh3 31.Be4

Gligoric: "I have no moves. What can I do? Had I better resign here?"

### 31...Qg4 32.Bg2 Re1+ 33.Bf1 Rd1 Gligoric resigns 0-1

For a different perspective on 'The Master Game', turn to this issue's *Bookshelf* article on page 25.



## Adams beats World Champion at Alekhine Memorial

Michael Adams kicked off his campaign at the Alekhine Memorial tournament in Paris and St Petersburg (21 April - 1 May) in stunning fashion with two wins. His first victim was none other than world champion Vishwanathan Anand, who succumbed to a typically impressive technical display by the English no. 1:

### Viswanathan Anand - Michael Adams Alekhine Memorial 2013 (1)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.a4 b4 9.d4 d6 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Nbd2 Bc5 13.Bc4 Ng4 14.Re2 Na5 15.Bd5 Rb8 16.Nb3 Nxb3 17.cxb3 h6 18.h3 Nf6 19.Nxe5 Nxd5 20.exd5 Rxd5 21.Bf4 Be6 22.Rc1 Bd6 23.Bg3 Re8 24.Re3 c5 25.Nd3 Bxg3 26.fxg3 Red8 27.Nf4 Rd1+ 28.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 29.Kh2 Rd2 30.Nxe6 fxe6 31.Rxe6 Rxb2 32.Rxa6 Rxb3 33.Rc6 Rc3 34.a5 Kf7 35.a6 Ke7 36.a7 Ra3 37.Rxc5 Rxa7 38.Rb5 Ra4 39.Rb7+ Kd6 40.Rxg7 Kc5 41.Rc7+ Kd4 42.Rd7+ Kc3 43.Rc7+ Kd3 44.Rb7 Kc3 45.Rc7+ Kb2 46.Rc6 b3 47.Rxh6 Kc3 48.Rb6 b2 49.Rxb2 Kxb2 50.g4 Kc3 51.Kg3 Re4 52.Kh4 Kd4 53.Kg5 Ke5 54.Kg6 Re2 55.g5 Rxg2 56.h4 Kf4 0-1

These initial two wins proved to be the highpoint for Adams, who lost to Boris Gelfand in round 3 and to Vladimir Kramnik in the final round. His final score of 4½ out of 9 was nevertheless a strong performance, leaving him in shared 4th place with four others.

Top scorers: 1-2 Aronian, Gelfand 5½; 3 Anand 5.  
Picture of Michael Adams by John Upham  
[<http://johnupham.smugmug.com/Chess/>]



# 100th British Chess Championships 2013

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ECF website: [www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk)  
Please include a SAE

Congress website:  
[www.britishchesschampionships.co.uk](http://www.britishchesschampionships.co.uk)



## 4NCL 4th Weekend

*- from Lawrence Cooper*

Despite the snow that fell the day before the weekend a total of 55 teams descended on the Hinckley Island Hotel to do battle in rounds seven and eight.

Division Three North and South merged for the final five rounds with four promotion places at stake whilst after round seven Divisions One and Two would be divided into Championship, Relegation and Promotion Pools of eight with the 4NCL title, three European Club Cup places and four relegation and promotion places to be decided at the final weekend.

### Division 1A

The final Championship qualifying place came down to the round seven match between Cambridge University and e2e4.org.uk with e2e4.org.uk needing to win by virtue of being half a game point behind Cambridge. The teams were evenly matched with Cambridge averaging 2235 and e2e4 2238. Ultimately, Cambridge ran out 5½-2½ winners with wins for Eddie Dearing against fellow IM Daniel Fernandez on top board, Daniel Bisby against Peter Sowray on board three, Andrew McClement against Michael Barnes on board seven and Sabrina Chevannes against fellow WFM Rasa Norinkeviciute on board eight whilst there were draws for Karl Mah, Roham Churm and Alexander Makarov, against Raja Panjwani, James Jackson and Rob Willmoth with the solitary victory for Sean Hewitt's side coming on board five with Andrew Bird defeating Carl Spencer.

In the other three matches Wood Green defeated Sambuca Sharks 7-1 with Sam Williams' victory against Jonathan Rowson with black avoiding the whitewash, Cheddleton scored 7½ against BCM Dragons with Maria Yurenok scoring the solitary half for BCM against Fiona Steil-Antoni whilst Barbican 1 suffered a 4½-3½ defeat to Guildford 2 with Yang-Fan Zhou defeating Sam Collins on top board. However, none of the results in these three matches carry forward so they were of little consequence to the remainder of the season.

What was relevant though was that by virtue of e2e4 missing out on a Championship place, Wood Green 1 do not carry forward their 4-4 draw with them meaning that they take forward five points, Barbican four, Cheddleton three and Cambridge zero. Meanwhile, e2e4 and Sambuca Sharks carry forward four points, Guildford 2 three and BCM Dragons one to the relegation pool.

### Division 1B

The final qualifying place in Division 1B was decided by the outcome of the match between Barbican 2 and Wood Green 2. Wood Green trailed by two match points and so a match victory was required, with an average rating of 2375 compared to Barbican's 2269 they appeared to be clear favourites. However, the Barbican club first team has been well known for its performances against higher rated teams and this time it was their second team that pulled off a very impressive 5½-2½ victory against a team of three grandmasters and three international masters. Wins with white on boards one, three and five for Graham Morrison, Ryan Rhys Griffiths and Sam Franklin against GM Neil McDonald, IMs Andrew Greet and Andrew Martin alongside a win for Natasha Regan against Sarah Hegarty and draws with black for Terry Chapman, Neil Berry and David Sands against GMs Chris Ward and John Emms and IM Malcolm Pein saw them home and into the Championship Pool. The result also meant that Wood Green 2's most impressive result, a 4-4 draw with Guildford 1 wouldn't carry forward.

The other three match results won't carry forward but for the record Guildford whitewashed South Wales Dragons, White Rose beat Warwickshire Select 5-3 despite fine wins for Nicholas Thomas and Richard Weaving against GM Colin McNab and WIM Teresa Olsarova whilst Blackthorne Russia beat Jutes of Kent 4½-3½ to register their first match win of the season.

By virtue of Guildford 1's 4-4 draw not carrying forward they took maximum points from their three matches through whilst White Rose, Barbican 2 and Jutes of Kent all carry forward two points. In the relegation pool South Wales Dragons will take forward five points, Wood Green 2 four, Warwickshire Select three and amazingly Blackthorne Russia no points.

### Division 2A

Whilst only Oxford were certain qualifiers for the promotion pool the remaining places five other

teams were in with a chance of claiming a spot. Pandora's Box confirmed theirs by a commanding 6½-1½ victory against Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg 1 thereby ending their hopes, Anglian Avengers triumphed 5½-2½ against e2e4.org.uk 2 whilst Poisoned Pawns being held 4-4 by Spirit of Atticus ensured that Wessex took the final place despite their defeat to Oxford who carry forward five points.

Pandora's carry forward four, Wessex two and Anglian Avengers just one. For the relegation pool; Poisoned Pawns carry forward five, Spirit of Atticus four, Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg three and e2e4.org.uk 2 no points.

### Division 2B

Bristol, The ADs and Barbican Youth all had an opportunity to claim the fourth promotion pool place but Bristol were in pole position as they knew a win would take them through. They duly won 6-2 against KJCA Kings so The ADs' victory against North East England wasn't enough albeit they had the consolation of gaining two points to take into the relegation pool. 3Cs secured an important 5-3 win against White Rose 2 to carry forward thanks to wins for Sophie Milliet, John Bentley and Alan Walton. In the final match, Kings Head maintained their one hundred per cent record by defeating Barbican Youth.

Kings Head carry forward six, 3Cs four, White Rose 2 and Bristol 1 a point each to the promotion pool whilst the ADs will start the relegation pool with six points, Barbican Youth four, KJCA Kings two and the North East England zero.

### Division 1C

Guildford finished the weekend on maximum points courtesy of a 5½-2½ victory against Cambridge University. They scored 4/4 with white but found things tougher in their black games with only Gawain Jones managing a victory. Nigel Short was held to a draw by Karl Mah whilst Roham Churm and Sabrina Chevannes beat opponents rated 340+ points higher; namely Mark Hebden and Marcos Camacho Collados. This was an important win for Sabrina's WIM norm chances. She now has 5½/8 against an average of 2151 and so, by my calculations, needs only to play a titled 2319 to complete her norm.

### Division 1D

Despite the disappointment of missing out on the Championship Pool Wood Green 2 seem to have little to fear in the relegation pool following a 6-2 victory against BCM Dragons which takes them to six points leaving BCM on one and the team most in danger of relegation. Sambuca Sharks joined them on six after seven draws and a win with black for Liam Varnom was sufficient to edge them home against South Wales Dragons who are now a point behind them.

Warwickshire Select had an outstanding result defeating Guildford 2 4½-3½ with wins on boards three, four and five for John Pitcher, Nicholas Thomas and Richard Weaving against IM Gediminas Sarakas, GM Alexander Cherniaev and IM Jesus Garrido Dominguez. Ann-Marie James also had a good result, having the better of a draw against Zivile Sarakas. This leaves Warwickshire level with South Wales on five points and Guildford 2 two points behind but with them likely to strengthen further at the final weekend I would expect them to survive.

Blackthorne Russia managed their first of four must win matches with a 6-2 victory over e2e4.org.uk



Divisions 1 -3 - play in progress

with wins for Danny Gormally, Adam Hunt, Andrew and Dave Ledger and Chris Duncan. E2e4's only win was for Andrew Bird with black against Harriet Hunt. Whilst the final weekend will be decisive, BCM Dragons will need three wins to have any hope whilst Blackthorne and Guildford 2 will also need to score heavily but have the players to do it.

### Division 2C

Kings Head continued their one hundred per cent record with a  $6\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$  demolition of Wessex and need only two more match points to be certain of promotion. Oxford are two points behind after a 4-4 draw with Bristol who saved the match thanks to Chris Beaumont winning the final game.



Ketie Arakhamia-Grant

### Division 2D

Despite missing out on the promotion pool The ADs might be virtually certain that they will be in Division Two with a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$  victory against e2e4.org.uk 2, which leaves the latter on no points and in grave danger of relegation. A similar fate appears to await North East England who lost  $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  to Poisoned Pawns and are also without a match point this season. KJCA Kings' defeat to Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg 1 allowed the latter to open up a three point gap and leave the Kent team on two points and needing to score heavily at the final weekend despite several of their top players likely to be doubtful due to end of term exams. Spirit of Atticus eased their relegation fears with a  $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $3\frac{1}{2}$  victory over Barbican Youth who now occupy the fourth relegation place although they are only a point adrift and with their other teams both being safe in the Division One Championship Pool will have the luxury of being able to strengthen with some creative use of the eighty-point rule.

### Division Three

With the northern and southern divisions now merged the promotion picture becomes slightly clearer but many teams remain in contention. Cambridge University 2, Hackney and Bradford DCA Knights lead the way on fourteen points with The Rookies, Anglian Avengers 2 and Cheddleton 2 two points behind. FCA Solutions 1, Brown Jack and e2e4.org.uk 3 on eleven still have realistic chances but the five teams on ten points probably need maximum points from the final weekend and results to go their way to have any chance of claiming one of the promotion places.



Karl Mah vs Nigel Short

Bradford had carried forward maximum points from the northern section and maintained this with a win in round seven against Anglian Avengers 2 to maintain a two point lead at the top of the league before being defeated by Hackney in round eight. This meant that Hackney, who defeated Cheddleton 2 (also from the Northern League) on Saturday were able to overtake them on game points (nine more!) whilst Cambridge

University 2, courtesy of  $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$  victories against Sussex Smart Controls 1 and Anglian Avengers now top the league, albeit by only one game point.

Despite the two defeats for Anglian Avengers they remain only two points off the lead and have vastly superior game points to Bradford. The Rookies had a successful weekend, scoring  $5\frac{1}{2}$  against Bristol 2 who only had three players and then a 4-2 win against Sussex Smart Controls. Cheddleton 2's 4-2 win against FCA Solutions which included the current ECF President facing Stewart Reuben (in what I suspect may have been the board with one of the highest age aggregate's of the weekend) on bottom board.

My thanks to the Hinckley Island Hotel for hosting all three divisions and for providing comfortable playing conditions for all fifty-five teams. I would also like to thank the organisers and arbiters but most of all the players for ensuring that the snow didn't seriously disrupt the weekend and very few teams defaulted despite, I suspect, several teams losing players on the Friday and Saturday. I would also like to thank Alex Holowczak and the other game inputters for ensuring that the games were on the website very promptly and in some cases, in time to help the players prepare for round eight.



# **IAPS National Chess Championships 2013**

*- D. J. Archer, IAPS Chess Organiser*

The 41st IAPS Chess Championships were held at Aldro School in Surrey from April 15th to 17th. 120 players from 12 different prep schools took part with the ability of the players varying from beginner to some of the best juniors in the country for their age group.

All the teachers, coaches and parents with the teams helped run the tournaments and there were extra activities organised by the Aldro staff. One evening, we ran a five a side football competition won by Windlesham House. On another evening we held pool, table tennis and air hockey competitions for all the boarders and on one of the days, most of the teams spent an afternoon at Chessington World of Adventure.

There were 6 sections for the various levels of ability with the strongest 32 players playing a seven round Swiss tournament over the three days. The other five groups had about 18 players each and they played a preliminary tournament followed by a six round Swiss tournament. There were also coaching sessions for the lower groups and these sessions proved to be good fun and inspirational.

## **Age group winners**

U13/12/11 - Callum Wilcox (Windlesham House)

U10 - Dan Warsop (Dulwich College Prep)

U9A - Anerhan Ahilan (Twickenham Prep) and Freddie Nunn (Dulwich)

U9B - Luke Prisk (Twickenham)

U8 - Oscar Horsfall (Hawthorns) and Mark Kachmar (Twickenham)

## **Championship section (32 players)**

1st Gwilym Price (Aldro) 7/7 points National Prep School Champion 2013

Top U11 player in the Championship Amardip Ahluwalia (Copthorne) 5/7

Top Girls - Madeleine Liu (Copthorne ) and Sophia Martin (Brambletye) 4.5/7

## **Sections A, B, C, D, E**

A 1st Adam Smith-Cerretero (Copthorne) 5/6

B 1st= Zevon Rustom (Copthorne) and George Webster (Dulwich) 5/6

C 1st= Vickram Sengupta (Hawthorns) and Harry Smeed (Millfield School) 5/6

D 1st Michael Stone (Thorpe Hall) 5/6

E 1st Nicholas Crawford (Aldro) 5/6

The team competitions are always closely contested and this year was no exception. The top four players from each school in the Championship section are counted for these titles.

## **Hodgson Cup (Senior team)**

1st Twickenham Prep 17 points (National Champions)

2nd= Aldro 16 points

2nd= Hawthorns 16 points

## **David Bull Cup (U.11 team)**

1st Hallfield 15 points (National Champions)

2nd Hawthorns 13.5 points

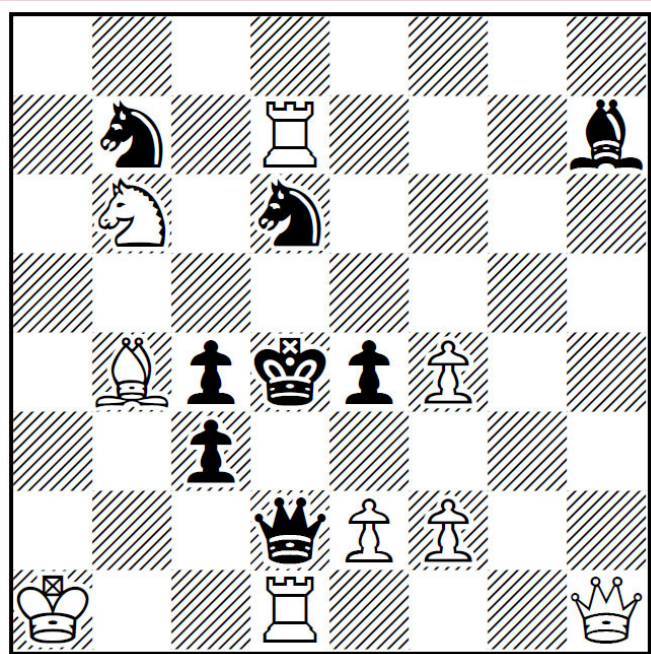
3rd Copthorne 9.5 points



Congratulations to all the players who made the competition such an enjoyable event and many thanks to all the teachers and parents who did a superb job supervising the tournaments and all the other activities. It was a real team effort from all 12 schools and thanks to Grand Master Matthew Turner for presenting the prizes.



## BATSFORD Chess Competition



Well done to the March/April winner -

**James R Nicolson of Manchester**

The correct answer was - 1.Qb3

Here's the next problem ...

**Tony Lewis**

Chess, 1948

White to play and mate in 2 --

Please send your answer (just the first move is sufficient) on a postcard or by email to the ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD ([office@englishchess.org.uk](mailto:office@englishchess.org.uk)). The first correct entry drawn on 10th July 2013 will win a Batsford voucher for any book on their current list!



# National Chess Junior Squad 2013 Championships

- from Dr John Higgs

The 2013 NCJS Championships were held at the Daventry Court Hotel over the weekend of 6th & 7th April. It is the first time the Squad have used a hotel and the reaction from the parents was very positive. We will certainly be looking to return next year so please look out for the 2014 date!

115 players took part in four sections and at the end of Saturday in which three rounds were played, the leader board was as follows:

## Under 10

Anita Somton (2.5) v Benjamin Headlong (3); Jack Yang (2.5) v Oliver Howell (2.5);

## Under 12

James Moreby (3) v Koby Kalavanann (3); Girinath Haridas (3) v Freddie Coleman (2.5) (4 others on 2.5);

## Under 14

Josh Higgs (3) v Akito Oyama (2.5); Jake Liang (2.5) v Harry Croasdale (2) (11 others on 2);

## Under 16

Louise Head (2.5) v Ollie Willson (3)

Sunday welcomed the final two rounds. The final round saw Benjamin Headlong (4) v Oliver Howell (3.5) on top board in the U10s. In the U12s Koby Kalavanan (4) played Girinath Haridas (3.5) with Karam Sangha also on 3.5. In the U14s things were much closer. Joshua Higgs was sole leader on 3.5 and played Jake Liang - one of 6 players on 3. Ollie Willson took a half point lead over Louise Head in to the final round where he played Jake Manton whilst Louise played Kumar Dixit.

The first section to finish was the U10s won by Benjamin Headlong with Abhisek Thakar and Riyaan Yesudian joint second. In fact this time all sections in age order and the U12s saw Girinath Haridas defeat Koby Kalavannan in the final game to take the title on 4.5 points ahead of Koby, Nikolai Hinterreither, George Ivanov, Dominic Klingher and James Moreby all on 4 points.

The U14s was the only title that was shared - by Joshua Higgs and Akito Oyama on 4 points ahead of Joseph Dalton, Taran Jina, Jordan Lewis, Jake Liang and Prashast Vir. Finally the U16s was won by Ollie Willson on 4 points followed jointly by Kumar Dixit and John Fraser on 3.5. It was an excellent weekend which ran very smoothly and was appreciated by parents and players alike.

Finally, congratulations to Thomas Finn (Sussex Junior Chess) on gaining his second norm and is welcomed to the Squad. Thank you for IA Peter Purland and Alec Webster for running a superb event and thanks also goes to the staff at the Daventry Court Hotel for making everybody feel so welcome. For further details on the Squad's activities please visit [www.ncjs.co.uk](http://www.ncjs.co.uk). Full results may be found at Tournament Director online at <http://results.tournamentdirector.co.uk>



The playing hall



Peter Purland with Josh Higgs (U14)



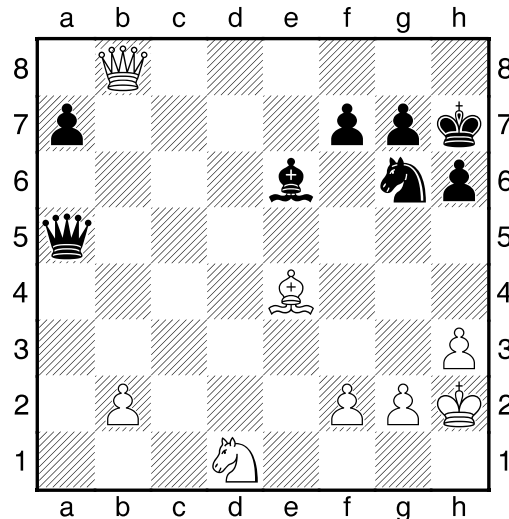
... and Ollie Willson (U16)

# Great British Champions 1 - Joseph Henry Blackburne

- Andrew Farthing

The place: Berlin. The date: 9 September 1881. The occasion: Round 10 of a prestigious international chess tournament. You are Polish master Szymon Winawer and you are sitting across the board from the genial but slightly scary English master, Joseph Henry Blackburne, who is having arguably the tournament of his life.

After 27 moves, the game is more or less equal. Blackburne (White) has just played 28 B(f3)-e4 (not the best move, in fact) to reach the following position:



After some reflection, you decide that the bishop cannot be left unchallenged on the same diagonal as your king and play your move...

**28...Bf5??**

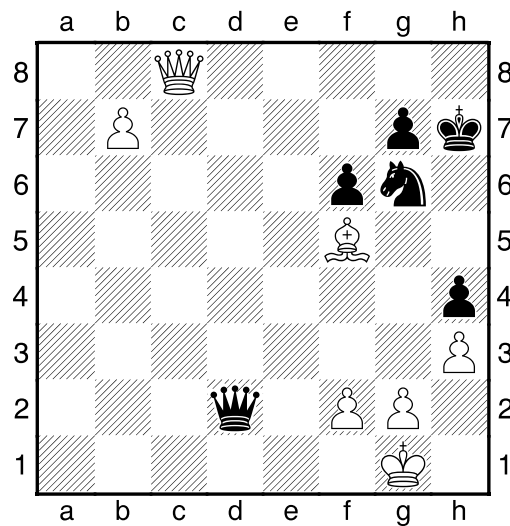
**29.b4!**

Oh dear. The queen is attacked and none of the squares along the 5th rank are available to it. You can no longer protect the bishop on f5 and have to accept the loss of a crucial pawn and allow your opponent a devastatingly strong passed pawn. Your position is lost. Still, where there's life...

**29...Qa1 30.Bxf5 Qxd1 31.Qxa7 Qd8 32.Qc5 Qd2 33.b5 h5 34.b6 h4 35.b7 Qf4+ 36.Kg1 f6 37.Qc8**

Well, that would seem to be that. The b-pawn is going to queen, and White will have an overwhelming material advantage. You have been extremely crafty, however, and have oh-so-quietly been constructing a fiendish trap...

**37...Qd2!**



Your heart begins to pound, driven by the adrenaline of that most treacherous of emotions: hope. If your opponent rushes to place a second white queen on the board with 38 b8(Q)?? you will unleash the devastating reply 38...Qc1+!, after which 39 Qxc1 is stalemate. 39 Kh2 does not help White, since 39...Qf4+ 40 Qxf4 is stalemate again, and 40 g3 allows perpetual check from f2 and f1.

Will your opponent spot the danger? You don't seriously expect a player of his calibre to go wrong, but what's this? Can it really be possible...?

Blackburne takes up the story:

*"It is a remarkable position, and I very well remember the crowd that gathered round to see if I would fall into Winawer's little trap. I kept them on the tiptoe of expectation by holding my hand above the Pawn for some time as if I meant to move it, but with a swing of the arm I suddenly took the Knight instead, there was a loud burst of laughter, in which Winawer, to do him justice, heartily joined."*<sup>1</sup>

### 38.Bxg6+ 1-0

As John Cleese's character says in the 1986 film comedy *Clockwise*, **"It's not the despair, Laura. I can stand the despair. It's the hope!"**

Born on 10 December 1841 in Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, Joseph Henry Blackburne was the second man to hold the title of British Champion, which he acquired by defeating the reigning champion, Cecil De Vere, in a play-off in 1869. He remained in the top rank of British chess for many years. Indeed, in 1914, the septuagenarian Blackburne was still capable of tying for first place with F.D. Yates in the British Championships at Chester. (Yates was awarded the title when Blackburne's health kept him from contesting a play-off match later that year.) In the same year, Blackburne played his final international tournament, in St Petersburg, and scored in a share of 9th and 10th places (out of 11) with 3½ points. For a man of 72, this was no mean achievement.

Becoming British champion marked the moment Blackburne decided to make his living from chess, something he broadly succeeded in doing for the remainder of his days. Only in his old age and during a period of sickness in 1899 did straitened financial circumstances force him to accept the assistance of supporters, who raised funds through testimonials to assist him.

Blackburne's strength as a player is undoubted. He was ranked in the first six players in the world for 20 years according to *The Oxford Companion to Chess*. Tim Harding<sup>2</sup> observes that the latest ret-

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Mr Blackburne's Games at Chess* (edited by P. Anderson Graham; 1899), Game 45.

<sup>2</sup> In his excellent recent book, *Eminent Victorian Chess Players* (McFarland; 2012)



respective rating calculations indicate that this claim is slightly exaggerated (Blackburne was in the top six from 1873 to 1887 inclusive). Nevertheless, for a spell Blackburne was second only to Steinitz; no other English player has ranked so high since.

In tournaments, he was always a dangerous competitor. His best achievements included clear first at Berlin 1881 (three points ahead of second-placed Zukertort) and shared first with Steinitz at Vienna 1873 (Blackburne lost the play-off). It was in the tournament book for Vienna 1873 that Blackburne was nicknamed “der schwarze Tod” (the Black Death), a handily intimidating moniker which stuck with him throughout his career.

Here is a typical attacking effort by Blackburne from Berlin, in which Jacques Schwarz (appropriately, playing Black) succumbs to ‘der schwarze Tod’:

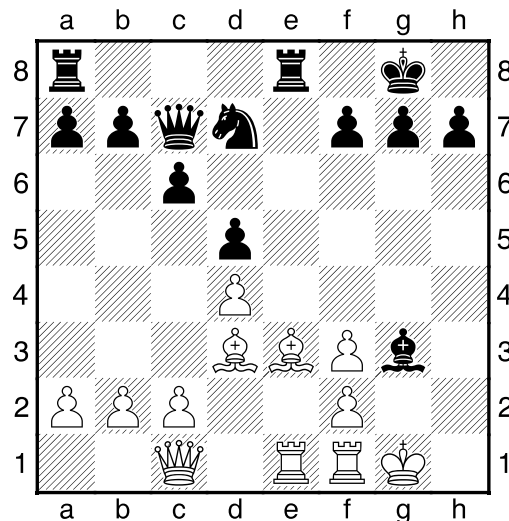
### Blackburne - Schwarz

Berlin (round 16), 16.09.1881

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Bd6 6.Bd3 c6 7.O-O O-O 8.Ne2 Bg4 9.Ng3 Qc7 10.Be3 Nbd7 11.Qd2 Rfe8 12.Rae1 Ne4 13.Qc1 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Nxf3

Blackburne records in his notes to this game that Schwarz offered a draw at this point. Blackburn was already sure of first prize so decided that he might as well play on.

15.hxg3 Bxg3

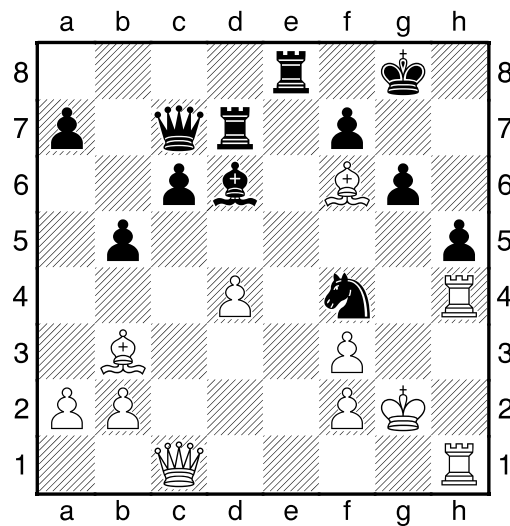


### 16.Kg2

When Schwarz offered the draw after move 14, he (and Blackburn) foresaw that 16.fxg3 Qxg3+ led to perpetual check. In rejecting the offer, Blackburn was accepting that he would have to sacrifice his g-pawn. He is banking on the open h-file, the bishop pair and the fact that all of his pieces will soon be pointing at the black king to provide winning chances.

16...Bd6 17.Rh1 Nf8 18.Rh3 g6 19.Reh1 Rad8 20.Bg5 Rd7 21.c4 dxc4 22.Bxc4 h5 23.Rh4 b5 24.Bb3 Ne6 25.Bf6 Nf4+

Now White has a neat finish.



## 26.Qxf4! Bxf4 27.Rxh5

After 27...gxh5 28.Rxh5, Black's enormously superior forces can only sit helplessly by in the face of Rh8 mate.

1-0

Blackburne's style of play delighted enthusiasts. As Steinitz's precepts of positional play gained a foothold, Blackburne may have been seen by some as unsophisticated in his play - Réti used a victory by Steinitz over Blackburne from London 1876 as one of several examples of how Steinitz surpassed his contemporaries through his depth of understanding - but this was not something to diminish the Englishman's popular appeal.

Blackburne suffered some major reverses in matchplay, including a 7-0 whitewash at the hands of Steinitz, but he sustained his enthusiasm and energy over a career that lasted more than half a century. His popularity stemmed partly from the way he played the game and partly from his extraordinary efforts to popularise chess through a seemingly never-ending series of exhibitions. Blindfold exhibitions, usually against eight players simultaneously, were a particular feature.

The Manchester chess historian Alan Smith<sup>3</sup> estimated that Blackburne played more than 100,000 games during his career. **100,000 games.** Stop and think about that figure for a moment. It amounts to about 2,000 games a year, or an average of more than five games a day, every day, for over fifty years. This speaks of a passion for chess which found echo in the thousands of amateurs he encountered in his travels.

Blackburne's reputation as a larger-than-life character helped. It is a statutory obligation upon anyone writing about Blackburne to refer to his taste for whisky and, in particular, to quote his remark upon spying (and emptying!) a glass by the side of one of his opponents' boards at a simultaneous: "He left it *en prise* and I took it *en passant*." (Job done - you can call off the lawyers now.)

Let us conclude this brief look at one of the great characters of English chess with a further example of his annotations.

The occasion is the London 1883 tournament. Johannes Zukertort, who was to take on Steinitz in the first-ever world championship match three years later, was putting in one of the great tournament performances of all time. He won the double-round, 14-player event with 22 points (draws were replayed and only counted if two further games also ended in draws), three points ahead of Steinitz. (Blackburne came a creditable third with 17½ points.) Zukertort's score was all the more remarkable because his health collapsed towards the end, contributing to his losing his last three games.

<sup>3</sup> In an article on Blackburne in Chess and Manchester (ed. Eric Nowell; 1990)

Blackburne found himself on the receiving end of a brilliancy. This was no disgrace; Zukertort was a man in inspired form. Acceptance and congratulations on a game well played were surely the order of the day.

Not a bit of it! In a prime example of what Bruce Hayden so aptly called “The sour side of chess”<sup>4</sup>, Blackburne wrote a marvellously condescending set of notes to the game, included in *Mr Blackburne’s Games at Chess* (1899).

Such behaviour is utterly reprehensible, of course, but since these are among the funniest notes to a chess game I know, I cannot resist reproducing them here. For a serious analysis of this wonderful game, the reader is directed to *The Mammoth Book of World’s Greatest Chess Games* by Burgess, Emms and Nunn (Robinson, 1998). For now, sit back with a whisky in your hand and enjoy Mr Joseph Henry Blackburne in full flow:

### Zukertort - Blackburne

London, 1883

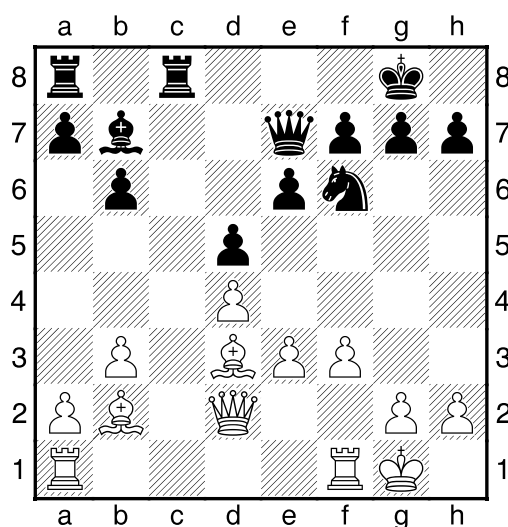
(Notes by Blackburne, edited to convert to algebraic notation)

**1.c4 e6 2.e3 Nf6 3.Nf3 b6 4.Be2 Bb7 5.0-0 d5 6.d4 Bd6 7.Nc3 0-0 8.b3 Nbd7 9.Bb2 Qe7**

Instead of playing the usual move ...c5 I played this with the intention of changing Bishop for Knight and obtaining command of the c-file.

**10.Nb5 Ne4 11.Nxd6 cxd6 12.Nd2 Ndf6 13.f3 Nxd2 14.Qxd2 dxc4 15.Bxc4 d5 16.Bd3 Rfc8**

When I made this move I intended to get to c8 with the Knight via d7 and did not quite realise that it mattered which Rook first took possession of the file as my intention was to double them.



**17.Rae1!<sup>5</sup> Rc7 18.e4 Rac8 19.e5 Ne8**

My original intention of playing ...Nd7 was better than this.

**20.f4 g6**

This assists White to establish his attack. 20...f5 would give Black a fair game.

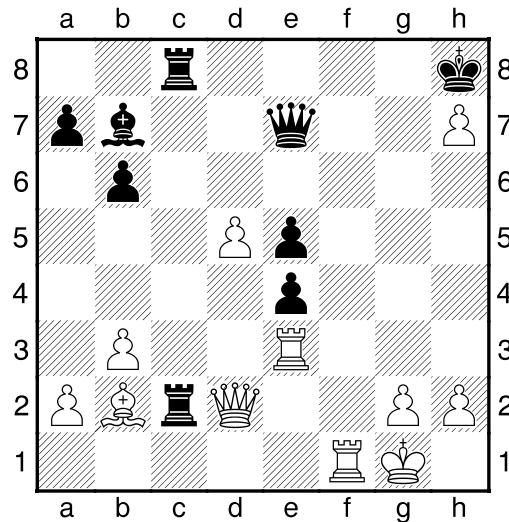
<sup>4</sup> *Cabbage Heads and Chess Kings* (Arco Publications, 1960)

<sup>5</sup> Nicely played. Zukertort sees that the routine challenge on the c-file with 17 Rac1 gives White nothing special after the inevitable exchanges of rooks. More importantly, he realises that possession of the open file flatters to deceive and that it will have no serious bearing on the outcome of the game. The choice of rook is also noteworthy and not at all obvious. The KR is well placed on f1 to support the advance of the f-pawn, so moving the QR to e1 is the correct choice. (AF)

**21.Re3 f5 22.exf6 Nxf6 23.f5 Ne4 24.Bxe4 dxe4 25.fxg6 Rc2**

This loses. 25...Bd5 and there is still fight left in Black.<sup>6</sup>

**26.gxh7+ Kh8 27.d5+ e5**



**28.Qb4!**

An enthusiastic critic who, by-the-by, was not present, says that this literally electrified the lookers-on; whether this be so or not, at all events it was anticipated by me as there was no other move to save him from immediate loss. If the Queen be taken White has a mate in seven moves.

**28...R8c5**

I thought this sufficient, quite overlooking the sacrifice of the Rook.

At this stage, walking round to see how the other games were going, one of the players said to me, "You've got the little man". "I don't know," I replied; "it's tremendously difficult." On returning, Zukertort had not yet made his move, but it dawned on me that the sacrifice of the Rook was fatal and the only question was whether he would find it out. This did not long remain doubtful. Returning to the other boards I presently heard a crash as though a piece were being slapped down with all the emphasis a man's muscles could give it, and presently there came a tap to my shoulder, "Your clock is going, I have made my move," he said, and from the expression of his face and the manner in which he drew himself up to his full height I felt that I might remark as the writer did when the audience damned his play, "he has found it out, has he?"

**29.Rf8+! Kxh7 30.Qxe4+ Kg7 31.Bxe5+ Kxf8 32.Bg7+**

"A worthy finish," says Mr. Steinitz, "to one of the most brilliant games on record."

**32...Kg8 33.Qxe7 1-0**

<sup>6</sup> Hardly. After 26 Rg3 Black is in a desperate state.



# European Schools Championships 2013

## Meet the team!



### U15 Open - Lawrence Lee

I was born in Manchester and started playing chess since I was 6 years old. I enjoy chess very much and am honoured to have the opportunity of representing my school, my county (Hertfordshire) and England in various tournaments in the UK and abroad. I have also played chess in Hong Kong where I won the national title. I would like to thank Tony Niccoli, Sabrina Chevannes and Lorin D'Costa for everything they have done for me.

I attend The Haberdashers' Askes's Boys' School.

### U15 Open - Jonathan Finn

Jonathan started competitive chess in Year 5 and has since gone on to play for Sussex Juniors, Bexhill, Hastings and for the South East of England team. He was in the Sussex team that won the U13 National Championship in 2012. He also enjoys football, playing for Bexhill United, rugby, athletics and playing the violin.

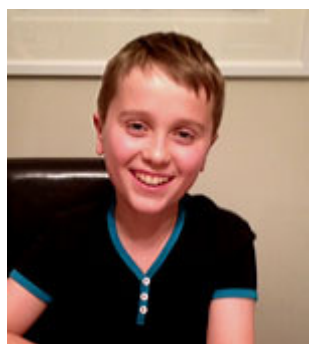


### U13 Open - Vincent Lee

I have loved playing chess since the age of 7. My interest in chess was stimulated from the games played with my dad and brother, and the coaching of Tony Niccoli. I would also want to thank Sabrina Chevannes and Lorin D'Costa, without whom I would not be able to achieve some trophies and opportunities of playing

for my school and Hertfordshire County.

I attend The Haberdashers' Askes's Boys' School.



### U13 Open - Daniel Gallagher

Daniel was introduced to chess at the age of six by his father, and joined his junior school chess club at the age of eight. He became Essex U11 Champion 2012, won the South of England Championship U13 Open Section 2013 and came first in the Intermediate U150 Section at the Southend Congress 2013 at

Easter. Daniel cannot wait to represent England in Serbia, and would like to thank his parents for travelling with him to tournaments all over the country, his wider family and friends for their encouragement, his school for their support, all associated with Essex Junior Chess and Maldon Chess Club, and, last but not least, GM Nick Pert who has helped him develop his chess in leaps and bounds. In addition to chess, Daniel enjoys football and tennis. Daniel attends King Edward VI Grammar School in Chelmsford.

### U13 Open - Thomas Finn

Thomas learned chess at the age of 5 and started competitive chess in Year 3. He was the U9 Supremo in the Sussex Megafinal in 2010. He has gone on to play for the Sussex Junior, Bexhill and Hastings teams. He was in the Sussex team that won the U12 National Championship in 2012. He would like to thank Sussex Junior Chess and his parents. Thomas attends Bishop Bell School, Eastbourne



### U13 Open - Matthew Forster

Since learning chess at school, Matthew has been a regular at both Horsham Chess club and Sussex Junior Chess events, and would like to thank both for the lessons and the fun times as well as the chance to play for their teams and enjoy some very memorable events! As well as chess, Matthew is a regular competitor in

football, basketball, table-tennis, tennis and judo. Matthew attends Heron Way Primary School in West Sussex.



### U11 Open - Samir Samadov

The author and star of his own film "CHECKMATE", was born in Baku, Azerbaijan in 2002. He started playing chess when he was 5 in Baku, then continued his chess career with Atherton chess club in England. He is Ultima, a member of National Chess Junior Team U11 (qualified at age 10), a winner in the

match v Flanders 2012, winner of the EPSCA U9 in 2011, runner-up in the British Chess Championships 2010, winner of the London Rapidplay, was a member of EPSCA U9s and in the U11s representing Lancashire. At the age of 8 he played in the U14 of Lancashire Team, scoring 3/4 and coming 2nd.

Outside of chess, Samir is an accomplished cricket player. Samir's aim is to become a World Chess Champion and continue to help children in need. He is very thankful to GM Nick Pert, WGM Sheila Jackson, IM Ali Mortazavi, Atherton Chess Club, Baku Chess School and Ray Morris-Hill.

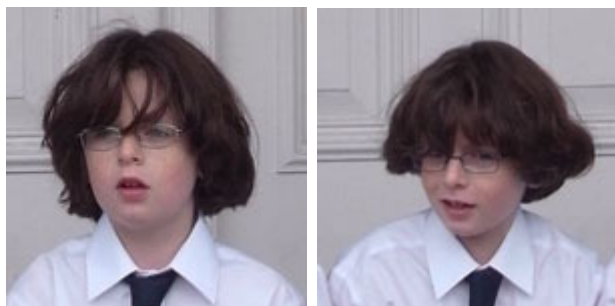
Samir attends St Saviour's C of E Primary School.



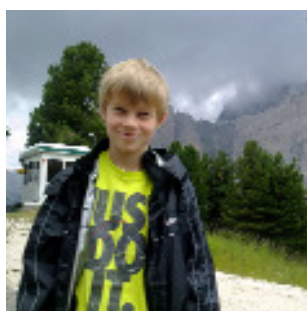
### U11 Open - Freddie Coleman

I am 11 years old. I started learning chess at the age of 7 and joined Sussex Junior Chess. I have been part of the Sussex teams who have won the U9 and U12 National titles. I would like to say thank you to Jonathan Tuck, my coach, Mike Forster and Dave Graham, my Sussex coaches, Mr Hearn, my chess teacher at school and my Grandad Ray. In

my spare time I play football for Hurstpierpoint and cricket for Ditchling.  
I attend St Lawrence CE Primary School in Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex.



**U11 Open - Gabriel and Reuben Balouka-Myers**  
Gabriel and Reuben attend Garden Suburb Junior School



**U11 Open - Jonathan Lee**  
Jonathan started playing chess aged 4 and soon developed an appetite for tournament play. He played board 4 for Somerset U11s aged 7 and helped his school become National Small Schools Champions. In the UK Chess Challenge he won a place in the 2011 Terafinal Challengers followed in 2012 by a place in the Terafinal. When not playing chess he enjoys football and playing the drums. He would like to thank Chris Strong for his great tuition and encouragement and his brother Ben for playing chess with him.

Jonathan attends QEH School, Bristol



**U11 Open - Thomas McLaren**  
Tom starting playing chess when he was 8 and picked up the game very quickly. He is the current Gloucestershire U11 champion and the Wiltshire U11 and U12 champion. He was also a member of the Gloucester Giants team that won this years Junior 4NCL. He plays chess for Wotton Hall chess club in Gloucester.

Tom attends Upton St Leonards School in Gloucester



**U11 Open - Charlie McLaren**  
Charlie is the current British U10 Champion, a member of the EPSCA U11 England team and a member of the National Chess Junior Squad. He started playing chess when he was 8 and now plays for Wotton Hall Chess Club in Gloucester.  
Charlie attends Upton St Leonard's School in Gloucester.



**U11 Open - Ethan Sanitt**  
Ethan's first chess tournament was as a member of his school chess team in Year 3 at the English Primary Schools Chess Championships. It was in Pontins that he caught the chess bug and has never looked back. His proudest chess achievements include winning the rating prize in an adult e2e4 competition and qualifying for the Challengers in the UK Chess Challenge. He has also won numerous local junior tournaments. He would like to thank the school for supporting chess, school coaches Rob Willmoth and Lorin D'Costa as well as Barnet Knights.

Ethan attends Garden Suburb Junior School.

#### **U11 Open - Daniel Finn**

Daniel is 10, learned chess at the age of 5 and played in his first tournament in Year 2. He was the U9 Supremo in the Sussex Megafinal in 2012 and Ultimo in the Southern Gigafinal. He has gone on to play for the Sussex Junior and Bexhill teams. He was in the Sussex teams that won the U9 national title in 2011 and the U12 in 2012. He plays the violin and enjoys Maths and Geography so is looking forward to visiting Serbia. He would like to thank Sussex Junior Chess for the excellent support he's been given.

Daniel attends Little Common Primary School.



**U11 Open - Tim Lewis**  
I am 10 years old. I enjoy chess, football and piano which I've just started. I have played in lots of chess tournaments. I play for the Barnet Chess Team. I would like to thank Angela Eyton, Sheila Jackson and Tony Niccoli.  
I go to UCS Junior Branch.



**U11 Open - Oliver Howell**  
Learnt chess at 2, taught by optimistic older brother despite parents' disbelief! Won first team and individual titles at 4. Won Coulsdon English Chess Challenge National Age Group 4 years in a row. Coulsdon ECC U18 Champion-of-Champions Runner-up 2011 (aged 8). Sussex Under 8 Champion 2010. Sussex Under 9 Champion 2011. Sussex Under 11 Champion 2012

3rd, British Under 9 Championships 2012 (5 other British Championships, all top 10 finishes). West-of-England U18 Intermediate Champion 2013. 6th=, South-of-England U11 2013 (147 performance)

Keen to become the third English GM named Howell (thanks James and David for the inspiration!)  
Attends The Hawthorns School.







**U11 Open - Amardip Ahluwalia**  
Amardip played in his first chess tournament 18 months ago, since then he has been a regular at Sussex Junior Chess events. Amardip is the current Sussex U9 champion. Amardip is a member of both the junior and senior club at Crowborough and has played on a number of occasions for the senior club. As well as chess

Amardip plays cricket, rugby and football outside of school. Amardip would like to thank his mum and big brother, Gurdip, for their unwavering support and his biggest thanks go to his coach, Jonathan Tuck, who not only got Amardip interested in chess but has since been an enormous source of guidance and support. Amardip attends Copthorne Prep School.



**U11 Girls - Mahima Raghavendra**  
I will soon be 10 years old. I love chess, and I started playing chess in school and quickly moved on to competitive chess. I have enjoyed some success in the Mega /Giga finals of the UK Chess Challenge and in the British Chess Championships 2012. I have been helped by Simon Woodcock (Atherton Chess Club), Julian

Clissold (Manchester Junior Chess) and Andrew Wilson (Bolton School) and I want to thank them. I go to Bolton School.



**U11 Girls - Laura Davidson**  
My name is Laura Jean Davidson. I started playing chess just over a year ago. Mrs Kate Hegarty taught me how to play chess at school. My first tournament was the Megafinals in April 2011. Since then I have played in many tournaments across the country, and won lots of trophies and medals. I play for the Wey Valley

chess team and at the Sandhurst chess club. I also play violin, sing, swim in the school team, ice skate and play tennis. I would like to thank Mrs Sweeney, Mrs Hegarty, Sarah Hegarty, Nicholas Pert, Mike Basman, Mrs Pat Armstrong, Jonathan Tuck and Alec Aslett. I have met some great people playing chess and thank you all for giving me the opportunity to play the game. I attend Coworth Flexlands School.



**U9 Open - Jason Covey**  
I started play chess at the age of 6. I first learned how to play from my older sister who was in an after-school chess program. Now I play in many individual tournaments and also team competitions for Barnet Junior Chess and my school. I also like football, tennis, basketball, bike-riding and math puzzles. I would

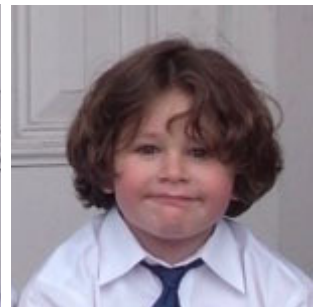
like to thank my sister Sarah, Tony Niccoli and all the

coaches working with Barnet Junior Chess. I attend the American School in London.



**U9 Open - Leo Sanitt**  
Leo finished in the top half of the World Championships in Slovenia last Summer. He returned to England a much stronger player and now enjoys challenging adults as well as children! He would like to thank his school, the school coaches, Rob Willmoth and Lorin D'Costa and Barnet Knights. Apart from chess, Leo enjoys table tennis, football and Harry Potter. Leo attends Garden Suburb Junior School.

**U9 Open - Alexander Jamieson**  
Alexander attends Ecole Jacques Prévert.



**U9 Open - Raphael & Tobias Balouka-Myers**  
Raphael & Tobias attend Garden Suburb Junior School.

## CHESS HOLIDAYS in the Lake District

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



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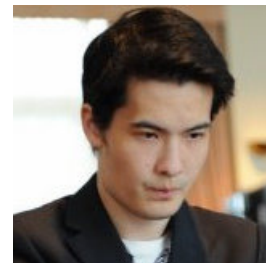
E-mail: [hotel@rothaymanor.co.uk](mailto:hotel@rothaymanor.co.uk)

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



# Annotated Game - Howell vs Buhmann

- annotated by GM David Howell



Bundesliga 2012/13, Round 14

**David Howell vs Rainier Buhmann**

This recent game was played in the German league. My opponent was a solid and well-prepared Grandmaster, so my aim was to initiate a complex and non-theoretical battle as early as possible.

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd5 Na5 6.Bb5+ c6 7.dxc6 bxc6 8.Qf3**

8.Be2 is the old main line, and nowadays 8.Bd3 has become popular. However, I knew my opponent had some experience in these variations, so I wanted to take play down a different track.

**8...Be7**

I have played 8...Rb8 myself as Black, which is an interesting alternative.

**9.Bd3 0-0 10.0-0 h6 11.Ne4 Nxe4?**

Black sacrifices another pawn for dubious rewards. 11...Nd5 seems best, in order to threaten ...f5 next. Play could then continue 12.Ng3 Nb4 13.Re1 Nxd3 14.cxd3 and White remains a pawn up, but Black has good compensation with his bishop pair.

**12.Qxe4 f5 13.Qxe5 Bd6 14.Qe2 c5 15.Nc3 Kh8**

15...Bxh2+!? was suggested by my opponent after the game: 16.Kxh2 Qc7+ 17.Kg1 c4 wins back the piece for Black, but after 18.Bxc4+ Nxc4 19.d3 Nb6 20.Re1 White should be able to convert his material advantage.

**16.Qh5**

The queen is extremely well placed here, preventing any ...Qh4 ideas and potentially creating some threats of her own.

**16...Nc6 17.b3 Ne5 18.Bb2?!**

I was very unhappy with this move afterwards. The simple 18.Re1 would prevent Black from pushing his f-pawn, and would transpose into the game.

**18...Nxd3?!**

Black misses his chance to complicate things. 18...f4! , with the threat of ...Bg4, was essential: 19.f3 (19.h3 might be best) 19...Nxd3 20.cxd3 Rf5 21.Qg6 Rg5 22.Qf7 I had seen up to here and assumed White was in control, but I had missed the strong 22...Be5! (not 22...Bh3 which runs into 23.Ne4! Rxd2+ 24.Kh1 and suddenly the g7 square is fatally weak.)

**19.cxd3 Kh7**

Protecting the h6-square from any tricks along the a1-h8 diagonal. For example, 19...Bb7 20.Ne4! looks good for White: 20...fxe4? 21.Qxh6+

**20.Rfe1 Qd7 21.Re2!**

Normally I would hesitate to give such an innocent-looking move an exclamation mark, but here it is connected with a long tactical sequence, which I had already foreseen.

**21...Bb7**

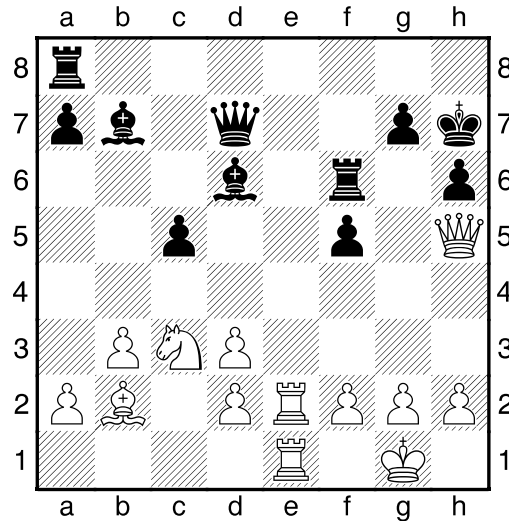
In light of the game continuation, 21...Rf6 was probably the most accurate, but Black is still struggling: 22.Nb5 Rg6 23.Nxd6 Qxd6 24.Qf3 Qd7! (24...Rb8? leads to a losing endgame: 25.Be5 Bb7 26.Bxd6 Bxf3 27.Bxb8 Bxe2 28.Bxa7) 25.Qe3 Bb7 26.f3 when I would have good chances of consolidating my two extra pawns.

**22.Rae1**

Targeting the important e6-square.

**22...Rf6**





### 23.Nb5!

The beginning of the aforementioned combination; White's pieces all co-ordinate perfectly.

### 23...Rg6

23...Qxb5 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.Re7+ leads to checkmate.

### 24.Qxg6+!

The killer blow. The weakness of g7 is the decisive factor.

### 24...Kxg6 25.Nxd6

25.Re6+ would be less accurate: 25...Kh7 (25...Kh5!?) 26.Nxd6 Rg8 and Black is surviving.

### 25...Bd5

25...Qxd6 was probably the final try: 26.Re6+ Qxe6 27.Rxe6+ Kf7 28.Re5 g6 29.Rxc5 Rc8 30.d4 and White's three extra pawns should decide.

### 26.Re7 Qxd6 27.Rxg7+ Kh5 28.Re3

Suddenly Black's king is caught in a mating net, and he will never be able to escape.

### 28...Bxg2 29.Rxg2

29.Kxg2 is less good: 29...Qc6+ 30.Kg1 Kh4

### 29...Kh4 30.Be5 Qc6 31.Rgg3

Renewing the mating threats, and forcing Black to jettison the f-pawn.

### 31...f4 32.Re4 Rf8

32...Qxe4 is met by some nice Zwischenzüge: 33.Bf6+! Kh5 34.Rh3+! Kg4 35.Rh4+ Kf5 36.dxe4+ Kxf6 37.Rxh6+ with a winning endgame.

### 33.Bxf4 Kh5 34.f3

There is no rush. My intention was to slowly take away all escape squares from the Black king. 34.Rh3+ Kg4 35.Rxh6 might have been slightly quicker.

### 34...Qd7 35.Be3 Rf5 36.Kf2 Qxd3

The alternatives would hardly be better: 36...Rg5 37.Bxg5 hxg5 38.Reg4 Qxd3 39.Rxg5+ Kh6 40.Rh3+! Kxg5 41.f4+ and wins.

37.Re6 and Black resigned.

1-0

## Ten Years After

### - Mike Basman compares the 2013 Yearbook with the 2003 version from ten years before ...

Recently I bought the ECF Year Book (a snip at £13.50, and the picture of the Delancey UK Schools Chess Challenge Chessmobile on the back cover is worth the cost price on its own).

I decided to look back 10 years at the Year Book of 2003. How have things changed?

Well, in the first place, the book is bigger and fatter - 170 pages to 120 in 2003. The ECF Office has also changed, but it has got smaller; now there are three staff instead of four but they have added a webmaster. The legendary Sophie Hare was still there in 2003 and produced the front cover.

The 2012 British Champion, as everyone knows, was Gawain Jones, but you would be hard put to guess the name of the Champion in 2002. It was ... Ramachadran Ramesh. Yes, in total there were 8 Indian players in the top 20 that year. Obviously, we had put up with this state of affairs of Commonwealth players entering the British Championship as long as they knew their place, but when they started winning the Championship, it was all too much. The following year, Abhijit Kunte won, after which the Indians were sent back to their reservation and we began an era of Scottish Champions.

In the 2002 event, held in Torquay, there were 98 players in the Championship; the 2012 version was held in North Shields, up near Newcastle-on-Tyne and here there were only 65 players. Possibly this was due to choice of venue. There were only 8 players who took part in both events.

	2002 score	2012
Gawain Jones	5.5	9
David Howell	5.5	8.5
Danny Gormally	7	7.5
Matthew Turner	7	7
Craig Hanley	5	6.5
Dave Ledger	5.5	6.5
Don Mason	5	6
Jack Rudd	5	6

Interestingly, nearly all the players improved their performance.

The most remarkable change in the Year Book is in the amount of junior chess. In 2002 there were less than 40 listed coaches in the country; in 2012 there are over 100! Ten years ago we had 50 junior chess clubs. In 2012 this number had risen to 70, and the number of pages devoted to junior chess had almost doubled.

There has also been a dramatic increase in the number of juniors playing abroad. In 2002, 17 children went to the European Youth Championship, and this was at the time regarded as a great achievement. Nine pupils also went with BCF Junior Director, Peter Turner, to Cappelle- le-Grande. By contrast, in 2012 there were a plethora of events with "World" in the title which our children attended -

World Schools Individual Championship	(24 attended)
World Junior Championships	(12 attended)
World U16 Olympiad	(5 attended)
World Youth Championships	(34 attended)

In all the Year Book records a total of 107 children going abroad in one year.

On the home front, the largest junior tournament in the world, the UK Chess Challenge, was also running in 2002. That year it attracted 56,000 children from 1,670 schools - slightly more than in 2012, although there is no report in the 2013 Year Book to compare it with, as the organiser forgot to send it in.

But whilst the numbers of competitors is similar, the prize money and quality of play at the top has vastly improved. In 2013 the sponsors were Delancey, who had taken over from the British Land Company, and the prize money at the Terafinal stage had risen from £6,000 overall to £15,000. In addition, the grades of the players competing had improved. In 2002 the only player graded over 200 was Lorin D'Costa, whereas in 2012 there were several 200+ players, and the average strength had improved by 30 points.

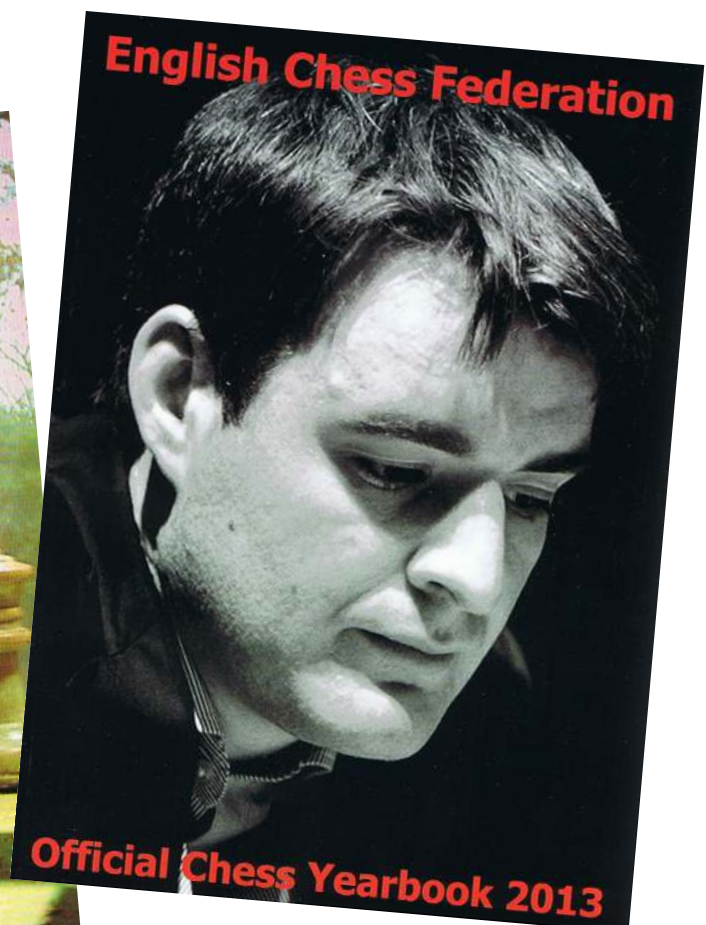
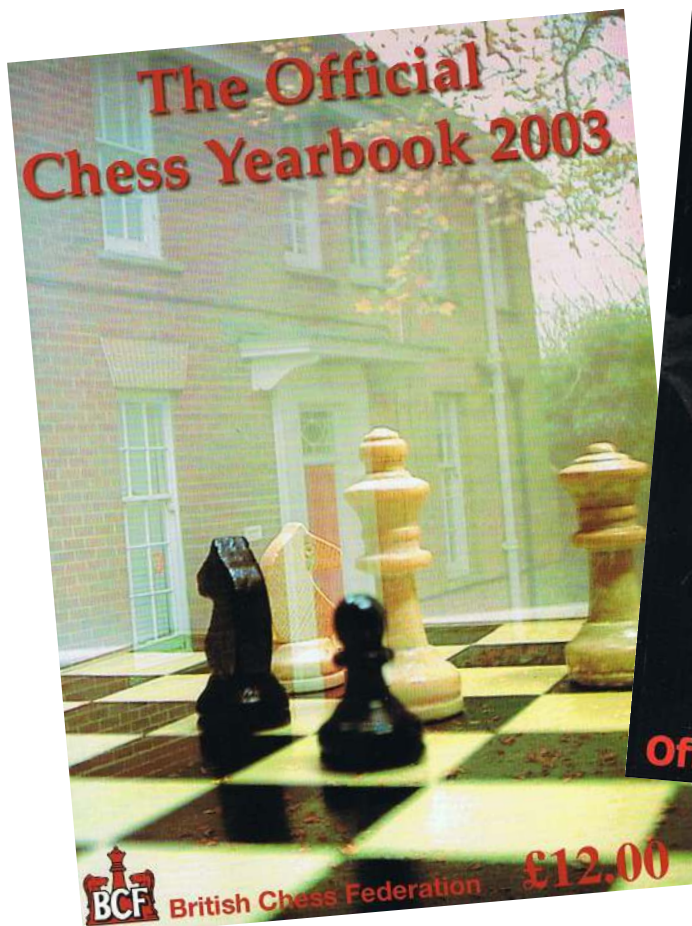
This increase in quality has fed through to the British Championship. In 2002 I could only count 7 players who had played or who were playing in the UK Chess Challenge. In 2012 there were 23 players out of 65 - well over one third.

There were three STRATS (Chess Challenge winners) playing in last year's British Championship - Stephen Gordon, James Hanley and Peter Poobalasingam. One of these players, Stephen Gordon, tied first equal and another recent junior, (David Howell) came third.

Finally the Major Open was won in fine style by a junior, Pierre Weller, who scored 9.5 points out of 11 and much of that tournament was made up of junior players.

It is these amazing statistics which bear true witness to the real nature of the shifting state of British chess.

- Mike Basman, April, 2013



## Chess Moves Bookshelf

### Kipper Ties and Men in Black

- by Andrew Farthing

To celebrate the exciting news that recordings of the BBC TV series 'The Master Game' have become publicly available at last, this month's Bookshelf takes a nostalgic look back at those heady days when chess was regularly broadcast on the BBC.

To tie in with the series, two books were published by the BBC:

- **The Master Game** by Jeremy James and Leonard Barden (1979); and
- **The Master Game Book Two** by Jeremy James and William Hartston (1981).

The first book documented the initial three series of *The Master Game*, broadcast in 1975-77. The second covers the next three series (1979-81). Second hand copies pop up from time to time.

For the depressingly large number of readers who may be too young to remember the programmes from their original broadcast, Jeremy James was the principal presenter. How strong a chess player he may have been was never entirely clear, but he held the programmes together in a clear, enthusiastic manner, and for years he was the face of BBC chess broadcasting, not only in *The Master Game* but also in the BBC's rather good coverage of various world championship matches over the years. Mr James appears on the front cover of Book Two, sporting a grey suit and a tie about half the width of his stomach.

Sharing the spotlight on the cover is Bill Hartston, the winner of the first two series who, by 1979, had graduated to resident expert commentator. His pose is suggestive of long and ultimately unsuccessful discussions with the photographer to find an appropriate way to stand two men in suits behind a chess table too narrow for both to place their hands upon it. The tie, however, is of sufficient narrowness to suggest at least a vestigial awareness of the passing of the 1970s.

The front cover has a vaguely amateurish charm which encapsulates the programme itself. This was not slick television, but it was unfailingly amicable and, for its day, remarkably effective in its presentation of chess on screen.

In the days before easy-to-follow computer graphics became accessible to all, presenting chess on television was not a straightforward task. As the introductions to the two books explain, the solution came from a children's programme:

*"The men who solved the apparently intractable problem of how to present chess on television were the series' producer, Robert Toner, and the set designer, John Bone. What Toner wanted to avoid was magnetic pieces (that slip, fall, turn upside down and generally, apart from looking awful, make the presenter's job a misery). What John Bone came up with was a glass-topped table on which all the moves are made by a cloaked and gloved figure. What you see are the symbols on the bottom of those pieces - reflected, to get them back round the right way. The technicians in Bristol then solved another problem - how to point to squares and show what someone is talking about without moving the pieces - by producing an electronic pointer; a very simple box with a cat's-cradle of wiring that allows the commentators infinite scope to demonstrate the players' thoughts; all done with lights!"* (The Master Game Book Two, pp. 9-10)

From a 21st century perspective, it's easy to mock, but in fact this was quite ingenious. I love the idea of the man in gloves and cloak moving the pieces - it's nice to think that the Phantom Flan Flinger found useful work between episodes of *Tiswas*.

The books themselves are an entertaining record of the first six series, including all of the games, most with a selection of the players' comments as broadcast, alongside a few more conventional annotations. Although, for obvious reasons, the players' comments had to be recorded after the game (and therefore inevitably run the risk of being influenced by hindsight), they come across as honest and convincing. They also offer the occasional insight into the times. For example, the second series game between John Nunn and Jana Hartston (as she then was) seemed like an oh-so-gentle skirmish in the 1970s battle of the sexes:

NUNN (after move 5): *"I've only played a couple of women before and I don't want to lose my hundred per cent record."*

JANA (after move 6): *"John Nunn in round one with Black, that's tough. Not that he's a man, that doesn't matter so much, but he's a strong player."*

JANA (after move 27): *"Women really don't play that badly all the time. Well, I suppose I have to resign now."*

[Incidentally, the use of Jana Hartston's first name and John Nunn's surname is not subtle sexism on my part; this is how the book designates the players. In the authors' defence, William Hartston was also competing, so there was potential for confusion. Unfortunately for my attempt to be understanding, the male Hartston is designated as "HARTSTON", so there is no avoiding the fact that a choice was made.]

The games are the usual mix to be expected from a tournament book: sometimes dull, sometimes interesting; sometimes impressive, sometimes downright awful. The programme makers worked to develop the series over the years:

- Series 1 - a simple knockout format and eight adult British male players;
- Series 2 - still all British, but including two juniors and a woman;
- Series 3 - same knockout format, but with an international line-up including (in a major coup for the BBC) world champion Anatoly Karpov;
- Series 5 - the preliminary stages are switched from a knockout format to two 4-player round-robin groups, with the winner from each group contesting the final.

To give a flavour of the books (and the programmes), here's a miniature from the second series, with a few of the comments from the players:

### **Nigel Short - William Hartston**

Master Game Series 2, 1979

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.Nf3 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e6 5.g3 d5 6.Bg2 e5 7.Nc2**

HARTSTON: "He's playing this opening well - put his knight back on the best square. I'm finding it very difficult settling down to this game, playing against an eleven-year-old. Players are really maturing much earlier these days. I don't know what I was doing at eleven - cleaning chimneys probably. I must take him seriously. I'm sure pawn to d4 is right here. Then he plays pawn to f4, pressure on the centre - still I must advance."

**7...d4 8.f4 exf4 9.Bxf4 Nc6**

SHORT: "That's interesting. Well a pawn up against Hartston isn't bad."

**10.Bxc6+ bxc6 11.Qxd4**

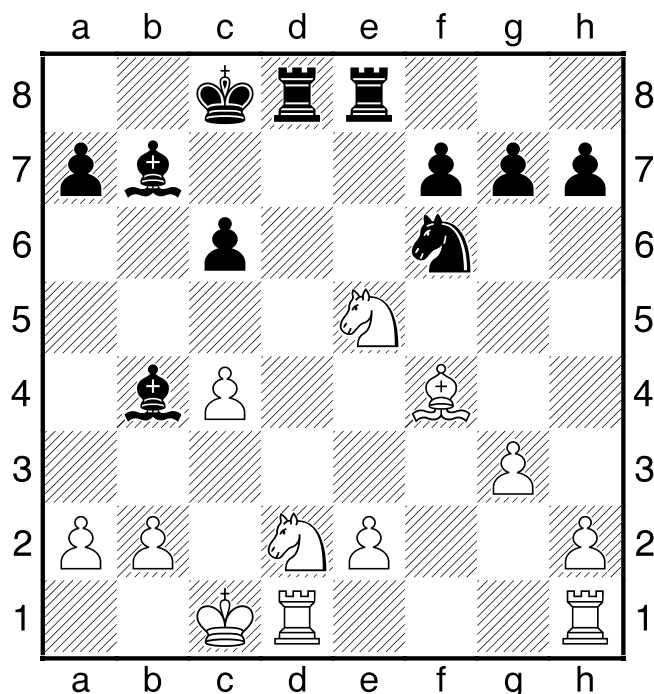
HARTSTON: "He's taken it quite quickly - maybe no one's ever told this boy not to take pawns from strange men. Now I can exchange queens and go into an ending a pawn down when I hope my two bishops are good enough compensation. I don't see any good way to keep queens on. I wish I'd played some other opening, it's not a very complicated position, I'd have preferred something more difficult."



11...Qxd4 12.Nxd4

HARTSTON: "He's not really threatening my c6 pawn because if he takes it I pin his knight to the rook by bishop to b7. But what to do meantime? I'm not sure yet where to develop my black-squared bishop or which side to castle. I really don't like this - be very embarrassing if I lost to this boy - be good television, but I want the prize money. I think I should put the white-squared bishop on the long diagonal, then play c5."

12...Bb7 13.Nd2 0-0-0 14.N4f3 Bb4 15.0-0-0 Rhe8 16.Ne5??



HARTSTON: "Oh, I wasn't worried about that. He didn't think long about that move, but it seems a mistake. Let's see, bishop takes d2, rook takes, rook takes rook, king takes, then knight to e4 check - no, even better, I have g5. I'm winning a piece. Yes, that looks right."

16...Bxd2+

SHORT: "Gosh, I wish I had me peanuts. I must take with the rook."

17.Rxd2 Rxd2 18.Kxd2 g5

SHORT: "Shucks. It's the end now. Well at least I could try knight takes f7 followed by knight d6 check, but he can play knight e4 check. I think I'll do that anyway. Hope he doesn't see it."

19.Nxf7 Ne4+ 0-1

(All comments taken from *The Master Game* [BBC Books, 1979], pp.57-59.)

These two books do a good job of conveying the charm of the TV series and are very enjoyable in their own right. Having seen the programmes when they were broadcast, I can still hear the players' voices when I read their words, so the books bring the games to life to great effect.

For anyone, however, the Master Game presented serious chess in an accessible way, with comments ideally suited to the casual or club player. Its memory has lingered long in the collective English chess consciousness, and the arrival of better technology has not diminished its gentle appeal.



## Chess around the internet

Stephen Jones, founder of ChessCreator.com, with snippets of high-tech chess news ...

♘ In April 2013, speed-chess specialist Hikaru Nakamura won the prestigious ICC Open blitz tournament. GM Nakamura, who is ranked seventh in the world by FIDE (May-2013), and the current US chess champion, pocketed a modest \$4,000 USD for winning.

♘ Almost 40 years on from its launch, classic chess programme The Master Game is finally being released on DVD. In the 1970s, The Master Game broke new ground as the only international chess tournament played for television. ECF members can claim a discount - see the details on page 6.

♘ If you're looking for the easiest way to keep your finger on the pulse of the English Chess Federation, then why not install the FREE Toolbar? Features include: 1-click access to all ECF websites; real-time headlines direct to your PC; instant search of englishchess.org.uk content; and 1-click access to social media pages. Best of all, it's FREE - did I mention that? (<http://bit.ly/MZgO7c>)

♘ The humble London System is one of those annoying d-pawn system openings; it's the chess equivalent of Marmite, you either love it or hate it. For those that are interested, there's a free series of videos for beginners (see: <http://bit.ly/17kJRKE>), and a free 200+ page PDF featuring instructive games (offered as a free download on the Chess Moves page).



**Brendan O'Gorman - Chess Images**

See Brendan's work at - <https://picasaweb.google.com/bpogorman>

Studies in concentration - Barry Sandercock (left, so often a Batsford winner) and Keith Spooner, seen here at Bournemouth, April 2013

## Book Reviews - by Gary Lane

### Silman's Complete Endgame Course: From Beginner to Master

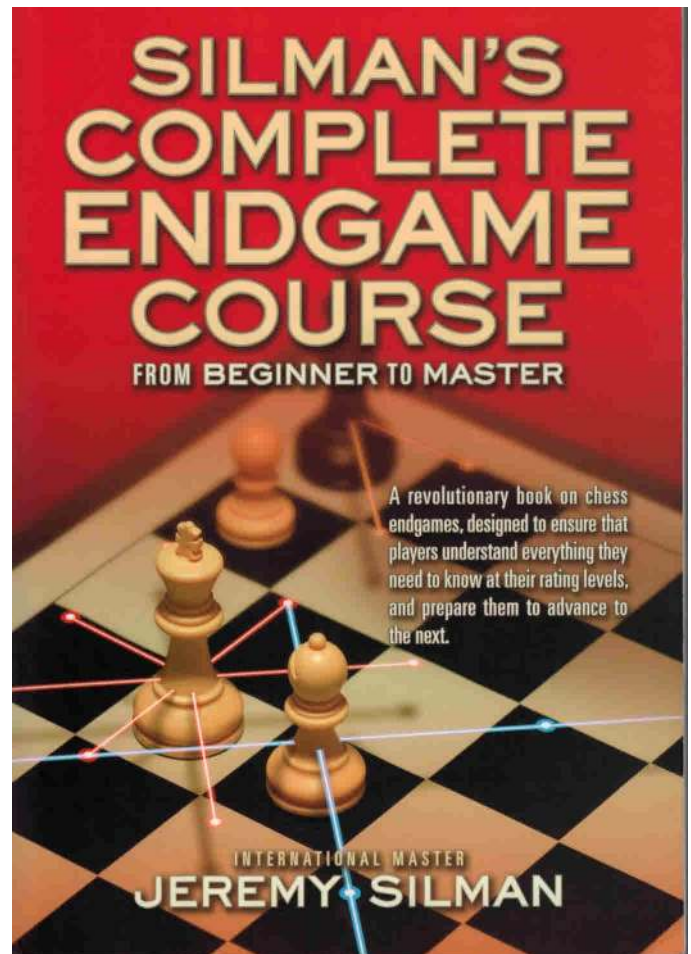
by Jeremy Silman, published by [www.eplusbooks.com](http://www.eplusbooks.com) US\$17.99

I discovered that being in the quiet carriage on a train is not the best place to read this book on the i-Pad, as suddenly an American voice announced to everyone “diagram 55 illustrates the very important concept of distant opposition...” at which point severe staring from other travellers was enough to put away the device. Basically, this is a sort of talking book as there are 87 audio clips to listen to while wading through the rest of the 530 pages. This edition of the 2007 book has been typeset by former Scottish ladies international Helen Milligan and you can buy it after going to the eplus website and downloading their app, which also gives away a free copy of Chess Fundamentals by Capablanca. It can be read on an i-Pad or an i-phone and you just pay once even if you have it on both gadgets.

The benefit of reading this book on a bus, train, tram or on the sofa is that when you hover your finger over a move on the screen it pops up on a board next to the page so you have a chess set at your disposal. Silman is famous in the chess world for his classic book *How to Reassess Your Chess*, which is now in its fourth edition because he has a knack of explaining difficult ideas in simple language to promising players. Although some argue that his fame lies with being the chess consultant for the first Harry Potter film! In this tome he looks at all the classic positions and tries to persuade the reader to have a passion for the ending and also adds a lighter touch by a discussion of the five greatest endgame players of all time.

There are other e-book readers available but I have to admit this one is rather impressive although if other publishers want their books reviewed just e-mail.

A classic book on the endings available at a touch of a button.

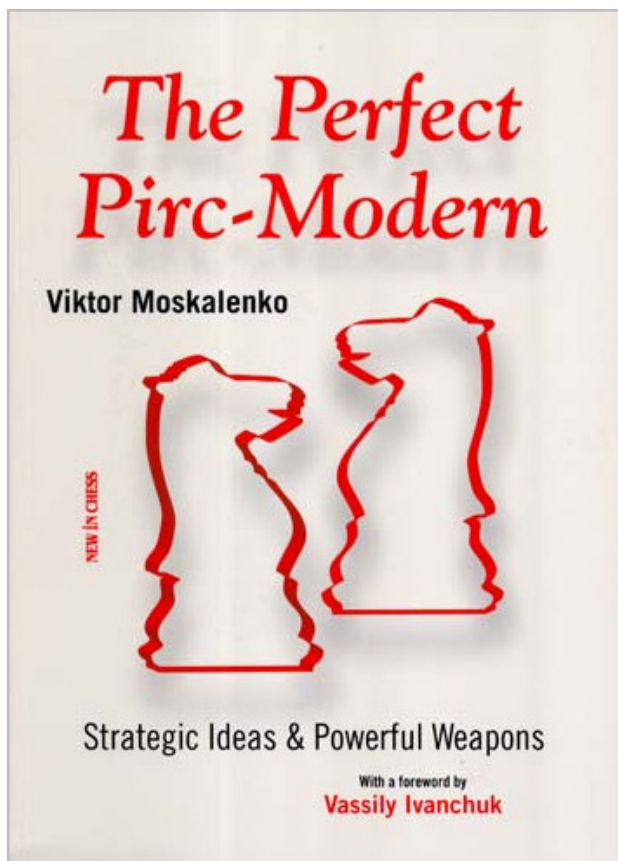


### The Perfect Pirc-Modern

by Viktor Moskalenko, published by New In Chess £21.99

This is a serious examination of the openings from Black's point of view that will appeal to the studious player. It is worth pointing out that the Pirc (also known as Ufimtsev which Ivanchuk points out in his foreword) starts with 1 e4 d6 2 d4 Nf6 and the Modern is 1 e4 g6. It soon becomes clear that the author thinks that the Austrian Attack is the biggest danger to the opening because he devotes half the book to the variation. A few decades ago the immense complications fascinated top players but nowadays computer software has clarified so many lines. If you are wondering whether you should add this tome to others in your library such as *Pirc Alert* by Alburt and Chernin then Moskalenko soon puts you right on which is the best choice because the former has “....made many useful, although sometimes optimistic claims.” Still, don't be too discouraged by the state of your library unless you have *Tiger's Modern* by Tiger Hillarp Persson who promoted a set up with ...a7-a6. The author dismisses the line with “However, I have not found any recent game played by the author!” Well, as a writer myself, I could guess that one reason would be that he gave away all his secrets in the book which is





why he now plays lines with c7-c6 but that is a debate for another time. The author casts doubt on other books but there is not enough time to amuse ourselves with every cutting quip. The 150 Attack is well known as Michael Adams and a host of other British players have played it for around thirty years but the author curiously calls the chapter 'The Flexible move 4 Be3'. He also takes time to start with a description of how White attacks by quoting Wikipedia which seems to be a trend but admittedly is more worrying when used to put forward chess history which has not been checked.

I think that if you are an improving player then stick with works on the opening by James Vigus but if you want to know what the computer engine is suggesting on move 17 then this is the book for you.

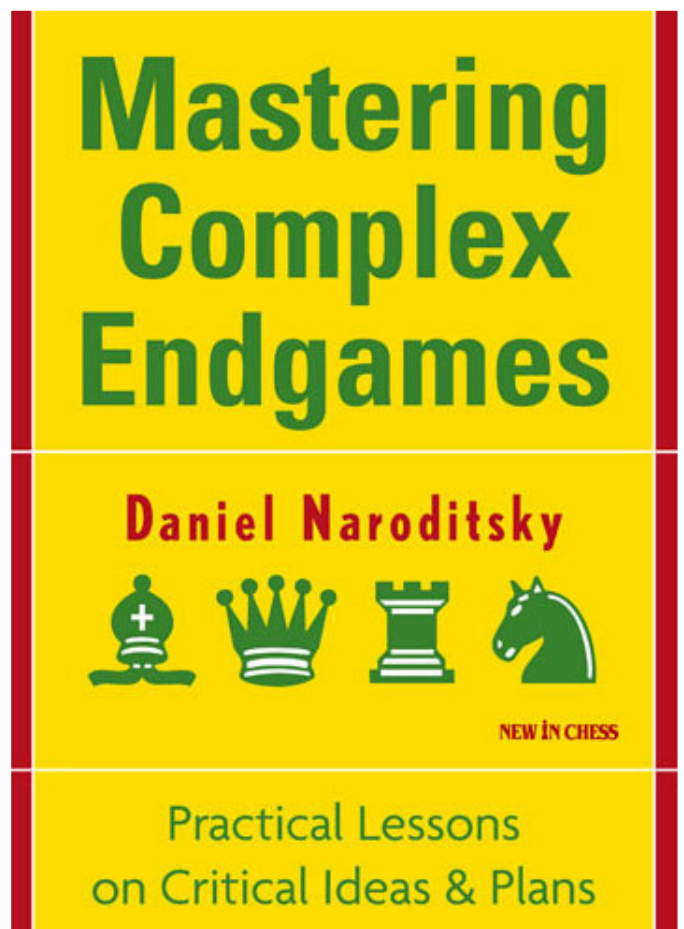
There are numerous small photos to enhance the games by letting us know what the players look like which I think is a great idea by New in Chess.

A deep insight into the opening for the master player.

## Mastering Complex Endgames

by Daniel Naroditsky, published by New in Chess £22.95

The preface by Yasser Seirawan should be enough to convince anyone in this era of Internet blitz games that there is still a need to learn the ending. His tale of defending rook versus rook and bishop at Hastings 1979/80 is amusing, along with other tales of tournament games and late night analysis. Although maybe he should of explained to a younger audience exactly what he means when constantly referring to "an adjournment". Naroditsky is one of America's exciting players and he has an ability to share his enthusiasm for the ending with frequent reminders not to give up when defending a tricky position. His last book Mastering Positional Chess was published when he was just 15 and came under some harsh scrutiny from chess forums where his obscure examples were soon located in other books leading some to suggest to a certain extent, a cut and paste method of writing. I thought this was a bit mean because if you remember a particular thought provoking example then it makes sense to share it with a wider audience. He seems to have learned his lesson up to a point but the inclusion for instance of the game Adorjan-Orso from 1977 is curious. He quotes all the time what Dvoretsky says about it in his Endgame Manual and tries to improve on the analysis making the variations stretch out but then again it is not named complex endgames for no reason. I do feel he did miss a piece of good publicity by not including a single game by the next World Champion, Magnus Carlsen. An entertaining guide to winning chess endings.





# ECF English Tournament Calendar

## ~ 15 May CCF Daytime FIDE Club - Summer Event Round 2

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccf-world.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

## ~ 17-19 May Rhyl Chess Congress 2013

Rhyl Town Hall, Wellington Road LL18 1AB Contact: S Hamilton Email: shamilton2462@hotmail.com - a five round Swiss style tournament, 40 moves in 1 hour 40 minutes, after black's 40th move the clocks are put back 20 minutes for completion of the game

## ~ 17-19 May Middlesbrough Chess Congress

Thistle Hotel, Fry Street, Middlesbrough TS1 1JH Contact: Brian Whitaker Email: whitaker.brian@sky.com - Four sections

## ~\* 18 May Sussex Junior Worthing Rapidplay

Thomas A Becket Middle School, Glebeside Avenue, Worthing, West Sussex BN14 7PR Contact: Paula Payne Email: entrymanager@sussexjuniorchess.org Website: [www.sussexjuniorchess.org](http://www.sussexjuniorchess.org) - 6 rounds rapidplay in 4 sections; U11 Major and Minor, U18 Major and Minor. Open to all aged under 18 on 31st August 2012

## 18 May Bristol Chessfest - 'My First Chess Competition'

Bristol City Hall (formerly the Council House), College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR Contact: Robert Chandler Email: robert@chessfest.co.uk Website: [www.chessfest.co.uk](http://www.chessfest.co.uk) - starts 10:15 ends 15:30. This competition is for children who have been learning chess in schools over the last 2 years, that have a good understanding of chess, but have never entered a chess competition. Run over 6 rounds, each game will last 25 minutes and then unfinished games will be adjudicated

## ~\*@ 18-19 May Hampstead Under 2200 Weekend Congress

Henderson Court Resource Centre, 102 Fitzjohns Avenue (junction with Prince Arthur Road), London NW3 6NS (use NW3 6NS in your satnav) Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.hampsteadchess.blogspot.co.uk/> - five rounds, games are FIDE rated and graded by the ECF for the national grading database. Maximum 60 players, limited to players rated Under 2200. Unrated players should be Under 190 ECF, or the national equivalent. Swiss format tournaments. PRIZES - 1st £200, 2nd £100 plus a minimum of two rating prizes of £80.00. Rating bands to be announced before round two.

## 19 May Bristol Chessfest - Junior Chess Championships

Bristol City Hall (formerly the Council House), College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR Contact: Robert Chandler Email: robert@chessfest.co.uk Website: [www.chessfest.co.uk](http://www.chessfest.co.uk) - starts 09:45 ends 16:45. Prize/trophy fund of £900. 6 round Swiss, 25mins each on the clock. Sections: U8, U10, U12, U14, U18 with prizes for both girls and boys.

## ~\*@ 19 May 107th Richmond Rapidplay

White House Community Association, The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RN Contact: Sabrina Chevannes Email: richmondrapidplay@chevanneschessacademy.com Website: <http://www.chevanneschessacademy.com/chevannes-chess-academy/richmond-rapidplay/> - popular one-day rapidplay event in Hampton. Four sections and a guaranteed prize fund of £720

## ~ 19 May Huddersfield Grosvenor Rapidplay

Grosvenor Casino, St. Thomas Road, Huddersfield HD1 3LT Contact: Nigel Hepworth Email: nigel@huddersfieldchessclub.co.uk Website: [www.huddersfieldchessclub.co.uk](http://www.huddersfieldchessclub.co.uk) - starts 09:30 ends 06:00. Three section tournament; 1st place prizes - Open £350, Major £150, Minor £150. Over 18 year olds only

## @ 22 May Highgate FIDE Blitz

Forks & Corks Cafe, 7a-9 Swains Lane, Highgate N6 6QX Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.highgatechess.blogspot.co.uk/> - starts 19:30 ends 22:00. Six round Swiss format tournament (all players will get six games, this is not a knockout). Time control 10 minutes each for the whole game. Entry fee £10.00, prizes 1st place £30.00, 2nd place £20.00

**~\* 24-26 May 23rd Calderdale Chess Congress**

Lee Mount Social Club, Lee Mount Road, Halifax HX3 5EQ Contact: Noel Boustred Email: noelboustred@yahoo.co.uk - 5 rounds, rate of play - all moves in 105 minutes. 4 sections - Minor Under 119, Intermediate Under 149, Major Under 169 and Open

**~\*@# 24-27 May Sunningdale Chess Congress**

De Veres Sunningdale Hotel, Sunningdale Park, Larch Avenue, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 0QE Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: [www.e2e4.org.uk/sunningdale/May2013/index.htm](http://www.e2e4.org.uk/sunningdale/May2013/index.htm)

**~\* 25-27 May Castle Chess: 7th Potters Bar Congress**

Potters Bar United Reformed Church, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1BZ Contact: Tony Corfe Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Website: [www.castlechess.co.uk](http://www.castlechess.co.uk) - Open (including Premier U180), Major U160 (including Intermediate U140), Minor U120

**~\* 25-27 May 45th Cotswold Chess Congress**

St. Edward's School, Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham GL53 8EY Contact: Mike Powis Email: mike.powis@which.net - starts 10:00. 3 sections: Open; Major (U160) and Minor (U120). Six rounds over three days. Entry fees: Open £30 / Major £27 / Minor £24 (discounts apply for Juniors and ECF members at Silver level or above). Venue includes ample free parking. Light refreshments available throughout the congress. Bookstall and equipment provided by CCF Mindgames. Telephone enquiries to Mike Powis 077 4801 4988 or John Harris 077 4558 0341

**26 May Simultaneous with GM Daniel King at Harrogate Chess Club**

Harrogate Conservative Club, 61B East Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 5LQ Contact: Richard White Email: richardwhite484@hotmail.com Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/harrogatechess-club/home> - starts 1.30pm ends 6.30pm. We are expecting around 25 entries. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis and the entry fee is £10. To reserve a place or for further details please email richardwhite484@hotmail.com or call 07858 939941

**~# 26 May Letchworth One Day Congress**

St Francis College, Broadway, Letchworth, Herts. SG6 3PJ Contact: Mark Harris Email: leitchworth.congress@leitchworthchess.com - starts 10:00 ends 18:30

**~ 26-28 May Sutton Valence Senior Kent Junior Chess Association (KJCA) GP 7**

Sutton Valence Senior School, North Street, Sutton Valence, Kent ME17 3HL Contact: Sue Maguire Email: sue.maguire@btinternet.com - starts 9.00am. A junior rapidplay set in the heart of the Kent countryside - all juniors are welcome!

**~ 29 May CCF Open FIDE Blitz**

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccf-world.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

**~ 30 May-27 Jun 3rd Pimlico Summer Chess Tournament**

The Church Hall, St Saviour's Church, St George's Square, Lupus Street, London SW1 Contact: James Toon Website: <http://pcc1.net/3psct.html> - starts 18:30. This event will run on five successive Thursday evenings over the summer from Thursday, 30 May 2013 starting at 6.30pm. There are three sections: Open, Major (Under-150), and a Minor (Under-120). The tournament is open to all, but incorporates the Barstow Cup, Star Trophy and the James Curtis Trophy

**~\*# 1-2 Jun The East Anglian Chess Union Congress**

The Turner Hall, Church Lane, Newmarket CB8 0HL Contact: Richard Freeman Email: richard@fcasolutions.co.uk - starts 09:30. 5-round Swiss with 3 sections - Open, U170, U130

**4 Jun 14th Sam Black Memorial Blitz**

Wanstead House, 21 The Green, London E11 2NT Contact: Gary Cook Email: ncclsecretary@yahoo.co.uk Website: [www.northcircularchess.co.uk](http://www.northcircularchess.co.uk) - starts 19.30. Open and U151 tournaments, both 6 double rounds (12 5-minute games)

**~ 5 Jun CCF Daytime FIDE Club - Summer Event Round 3**

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccf-world.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

### **@ 5 Jun Highgate FIDE Blitz**

Forks & Corks Cafe, 7a-9 Swains Lane, Highgate N6 6QX Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.highgatechess.blogspot.co.uk/> - starts 19:30 ends 22:00. Six round Swiss format tournament (all players will get six games, this is not a knockout). Time control 10 minutes each for the whole game. Entry fee £10.00, prizes 1st place £30.00, 2nd place £20.00

### **~\*# 7-9 Jun 7th Steve Boniface Memorial Congress**

Holiday Inn Academy, Bond Street, Bristol BS1 3LE Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk Website: [www.chessit.co.uk](http://www.chessit.co.uk) - city centre venue for this event, brought forward from August because of the British Champs Qualifying place for Torquay 2013. 3 sections - Open, Major (U155), Minor (U125) Special rate at the hotel. Entry form available soon.

### **~\* 7-9 Jun 17th South Lakes Chess Congress**

The Grand Hotel, Grange-over-Sands Contact: Trevor Blower Email: [trevor.blower@talktalk.net](mailto:trevor.blower@talktalk.net)

### **~\*@ 8 Jun Golders Green FIDE Rapidplay Congress**

Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.goldersgreenchess.blogspot.com>

### **~ 15 Jun English Chess Challenge 2013 - Surrey Semi-Final**

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: [chess@ccf-world.com](mailto:chess@ccf-world.com) Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

### **@ 15 Jun Scottish Blitz Open Championship**

Surgeons' Hall, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9DW Contact: Jonathan Edwards Email: [scottishblitz@gmail.com](mailto:scottishblitz@gmail.com) Website: [www.scottishblitz.com](http://www.scottishblitz.com) - starts 09:00 ends 17:00. One day international Blitz open tournament held in Edinburgh. Prize fund of £1,500. Entry fees: Adult - £15, Junior/Student - £10, GM/IM - Free. There will be 13 rounds with a time control of 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment. Further details and entry available on the website.

### **~\*@ 15 Jun Kings Place Chess Festival**

90 York Way, London, N1 9AG Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.kingsplace.co.uk/> - £1000 1st prize in the Open, plus three other sections for players graded Under 170, Under 145 and Under 120 (£20 to enter any section, free to GMs and IMs), and a simultaneous display by Grandmaster Julian Hodgson (£30 a head). Live boards with commentary from Julian Hodgson, living chess, free coaching plus much more!

### **~\* 16 Jun Leek Rapidplay Congress**

St. Edward's CE(A) Junior High School, Westwood Road, Leek, Staffs ST13 8DN Contact: Roger Edwards Email: [rogerjedwards@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rogerjedwards@yahoo.co.uk) - Rapidplay event, 2 sections Under 200 and Under 140, using Fischer timings 20mins + 10sec per move

### **~ 16 Jun Suffolk Junior Chess Open**

Woodbridge School, Burkitt Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4JH Contact: Adam Hunt Email: [ahunt@woodbridge.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:ahunt@woodbridge.suffolk.sch.uk) Website: [www.woodbridgechess.com](http://www.woodbridgechess.com) - starts 09:15 ends 17:30. Suffolk Junior Championships, but open to all, including an open section for adults and a fun 'parents' section

### **~@ 22 Jun FIDE London Rapidplay**

Isleworth & Syon School, Ridgeway Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5LJ Contact: Sainbayar Tserendorj Email: [londonrapidplay@gmail.com](mailto:londonrapidplay@gmail.com) Website: [www.londonrapidplay.co.uk](http://www.londonrapidplay.co.uk)

### **~ 22 Jun Junior London Rapidplay, Isleworth & Syon School**

Ridgeway Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5LJ Contact: Sainbayar Tserendorj Email: [londonrapidplay@gmail.com](mailto:londonrapidplay@gmail.com) Website: [www.londonrapidplay.co.uk](http://www.londonrapidplay.co.uk) - designed for beginners and juniors graded U80. Sections: U8, U10, U12 and U14. Each section winner will win a trophy and in each section there is a Best Girl prize!

### **~ 22 Jun Peterborough Rapidplay**

Iqra Academy, Enterprise Way (off Bretton Way), Peterborough PE3 8YQ Contact: Admin Team Email: [peterboroughrapidplay@hotmail.com](mailto:peterboroughrapidplay@hotmail.com) Website: [peterboroughrapidplay.moonfruit.com](http://peterboroughrapidplay.moonfruit.com) - starts 09:45 ends 18:00. Three sections: U130, U170, Open. Cash prizes in all sections: 1st £90, 2nd £55, 3rd £30, Grading £15. Entry Fee £15 (£12 Junior/OAP) for ECF Silver Members or above. Non-ECF Members (including Bronze Members) must pay extra £6 (£4 Juniors). For full details, online entry, online payment, gallery & previous results, visit our website

**~ 22 Jun Peterborough Junior Rapidplay**

Iqra Academy, Enterprise Way (off Bretton Way), Peterborough PE3 8YQ Contact: Admin Team Email: peterboroughrapidplay@hotmail.com Website: peterboroughrapidplay.moonfruit.com - starts 09:45 ends 18:00. For under 16s as at 1st September 2012, whose grade or estimated grade is under 85 ECF. Trophies for 1st, 2nd & 3rd. Discretionary cash prizes may be awarded subject to sufficient entry numbers. £9 entry fee for ECF Silver Members. Non-ECF Members (including Bronze Members) must pay an extra £1.50 game fee. For full details, online entry, online payment, gallery & previous results, visit our website.

**~\*# 22-23 Jun Heywood Congress (including the Van Leeuwen Open)**

Heywood Civic Centre, Heywood, Lancashire OL10 1LW Contact: Bill O'Rourke Email: worchess@ntl-world Website: <http://www.heywoodcongress.org.uk/> (online entry available) - Open, U180, U160, U140 and U120 sections. Free car parking, less than 5 minutes from motorway, £2300 prize fund

**22 Jun The 2nd United Kingdom and Ireland Girls Chess Championships 2013**

Hinchley Wood Secondary School, Claygate Lane, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey KT10 0AQ Contact: M. Gledhill Email: marie.gledhill@tesco.net - starts 09:45 ends 16:30. Open to all girls, this is an individual event and a girls school team event. All girls of all standards are welcome to play. There is also an event for adults (male and female under 150 ECF grade)

**~\* 22 Jun Chipping Sodbury Rapidplay**

The Old Grammar School, Broad St., Chipping Sodbury BS37 6AD Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk - starts 10:30 ends 17:50. 6 Round rapidplay in 3 sections, Open, Under 155, Under 125. 25 mins. on the clock per round

**~@ 22-30 Jun 3rd Big Slick International**

Big Slick, Unit 10 Royal Oak Centre, Brighton Road, Purley, Surrey CR8 2BG Contact: Lawrence Cooper Email: lozcooper@hotmail.com - Nine rounds, games are FIDE rated and ECF graded. Maximum 40 players, at least 1 GM norm all-play-all section

**~\*# 23 Jun 24th Nottingham Rapidplay**

Nottingham High School, Waverley Mount, Nottingham NG7 4ED Contact: Robert Richmond Email: robrchmnd@aol.com Website: [www.nottschess.org](http://www.nottschess.org) - starts 10:00 ends 18:30

**~ 23 Jun English Chess Challenge 2013 - Kent Semi-Final**

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccf-world.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

**~ 26 Jun CCF Daytime FIDE Club - Summer Event Round 4**

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccf-world.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

**~ 28-30 Jun Sheffield Chess Congress 2013**

King Edward VII Upper School, Glossop Road, Sheffield S10 2PW Contact: Brian Stephenson Email: sheffieldcongress@rocketmail.com Website: [www.sheffieldchesscongress.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldchesscongress.org.uk) - starts 18:45 ends 18:45. Open , Major U170, Intermediate U146, Minor U121, grading prizes, best game prizes

**~ 29 Jun CCF Open FIDE Rapid Play**

84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccf-world.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

**~\* 29-30 Jun Castle Chess: 8th Potters Bar Congress**

Potters Bar United Reformed Church, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1BZ Contact: Tony Corfe Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Website: [www.castlechess.co.uk](http://www.castlechess.co.uk) - Open (including Premier U180), Major U160 (including Intermediate U140), Minor U120 (including Challengers U100)

**~\*@ 29-30 Jun Hampstead Under 2200 Weekend Congress**

Henderson Court Resource Centre, 102 Fitzjohns Avenue (junction with Prince Arthur Road), London NW3 6NS (use NW3 6NS in your satnav) Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.hampsteadchess.blogspot.co.uk/> - five rounds, games are FIDE rated and graded by the ECF for the national grading database. Maximum 60 players, limited to players rated Under 2200. Unrated players should be Under 190 ECF, or the national equivalent. Swiss format tournaments. PRIZES - 1st £200, 2nd £100 plus a minimum of two rating prizes of £80.00. Rating bands to be announced before round two.



**~ 30 Jun ECF U18 / U13 County Championships 2013**

The Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, Butterfly Lane, Elstree, Herts. WD6 3AF Contact: Yogesh Jina  
Email: [hsca@live.co.uk](mailto:hsca@live.co.uk) - starts 11:00, ends 17:30. The annual ECF U18/U13 County Championships

**~ 30 Jun 7th Chess Coaching Services Tournament and Training Day**

John Keble Church Hall, Church Close, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9NS Contact: Rob Willmoth Email: [robwillmoth@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robwillmoth@hotmail.co.uk) - coaching by International master Lorin D'Costa and British master Rob Willmoth plus other recognised coaches. The only event of its kind in the UK

**~\*@# 5-7 Jul High Wycombe Chess Congress**

De Veres Uplands House, Four Ashes Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP15 6LB Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: [sean@e2e4.org.uk](mailto:sean@e2e4.org.uk) Website: [www.e2e4.org.uk/high\\_wycombe/Jul2013/index.htm](http://www.e2e4.org.uk/high_wycombe/Jul2013/index.htm)

**~\* 7 Jul 108th Richmond Rapidplay**

White House Community Association, The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RN Contact: Sabrina Chevannes Email: [richmondrapidplay@chevanneschessacademy.com](mailto:richmondrapidplay@chevanneschessacademy.com) Website: <http://www.chevanneschessacademy.com/chevannes-chess-academy/richmond-rapidplay/> - popular one-day rapidplay event in Hampton. Four sections and a guaranteed prize fund of £720

**~ 7 Jul Sevenoaks School Kent Junior Chess Association (KJCA) Grand Prix 8 - Final**

Sevenoaks School, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1HU Contact: Sue Maguire Email: [sue.maguire@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.maguire@btinternet.com) Website: <http://www.kjca.org/event/52> - starts 9.00am. Set in the amazing grounds of Sevenoaks School - this is the electrifying and exciting finale to the KJCA season. All juniors from anywhere in the world are welcome to this rapidplay to pit their wits against the finest chess playing juniors from Kent!

**7 Jul CCF Junior Rapid Play: CCF Junior Championships 2013 (closed event)**

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

**~\* 12-14 Jul July Whitby Chess Congress**

The Conservative Club, Upgang Lane, Whitby, North Yorkshire YO21 3DT Contact: Noel Boustred Email: [noelboustred@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:noelboustred@yahoo.co.uk) - Starts 19.00, two sections: Minor limit is ECF Grade 149 and Major limit is 178, with a highest ever single prize of £230 (£30 to enter, ECF Silver members £24, details please by 9/7/2013)

**~\* 13 Jul Golders Green FIDE Rapidplay Congress**

Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raoof Email: [adamraoof@gmail.com](mailto:adamraoof@gmail.com) Website: <http://www.goldersgreenschess.blogspot.com>

**~\*# 13-14 Jul Weald Chess Congress**

The Sports Centre, Copthorne Prep School, Effingham Lane, Copthorne, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 3HR Contact: Mrs Paula Payne Email: [entrymanager@wealdchesscongress.org](mailto:entrymanager@wealdchesscongress.org) Website: [www.wealdchesscongress.org](http://www.wealdchesscongress.org) - starts 09:45. 5 round swiss with 4 sections: Open, Major (U175), Intermediate (U140), Minor (U110). British Championship 2014 qualifier. £1500 prize fund

**# 14-19 Jul South Wales International Open**

Penarth Conservative Club, Penarth near Cardiff Contact: Kevin Staveley Email: [kevin.staveley@btinternet.com](mailto:kevin.staveley@btinternet.com) Website: [www.southwaleschess.co.uk/SWI/](http://www.southwaleschess.co.uk/SWI/) - 9 round Swiss Open

