

## 94th British Championships 2007

### Aagaard wins the British



*Photo: Prize winners with Jacob Aagaard centre, photograph by Bob Jones*

**The British Chess Championships took place from Sunday 29th of July to Saturday 11th of August at Great Yarmouth College in Norfolk. The main event was won by Danish/Scottish IM Jacob Aagaard who achieved his GM title after the third round by improving his rating to over 2500. The GM norm was also achieved by Stewart Haslinger.**

Jacob led from the start by racing to 6.5/7 which included impressive wins against Nick Pert (this game won the best game prize) and Simon Williams and was only caught after a loss to Stewart Haslinger in the next round. Going into the final game, Jacob and Stephen were tied for the lead on 7.5/10 but both of them were facing tough GMs, Glenn Flear and Tony Kosten respectively. The games lasted about 6 hours with Jacob winning a fluctuating struggle after Glenn's king, castled queen-side, became too exposed when he tried pushing the pawns in front of it up the board. The other game seemed to be a positional battle with

Stephen sacrificing the exchange for a pawn with the idea of advancing his pawns towards Tony's king. Stephen looked to have gained the upper hand but, in mutual time trouble, he missed the continuation which would have given him a winning ending. A few moves later the game reached a level position and was agreed drawn. This left Aagaard on 8.5, half a point ahead of Stephen and the defending champion Jonathan Rowson (who had won the event in the previous three years) in joint second. Stephen, as the highest placed English player, became English Champion and also won the British U-21 Championship.

In joint fourth on 7.5 were David Howell, who won the British U-18 Championship, Stewart Haslinger, Mark Hebden and Tony Kosten. Ketevan Arakhamia-Grant, in the next group on 7 points, retained her British Women's Champion title while Dagne Ciuksyte, half a point behind, won the English Women's Championship.

*continued on page 4*

# Editorial

Despite some disparaging remarks on various websites concerning the British Championships I can report that I personally have received many congratulatory emails and telephone messages, praising the organisation and the venue. A welcome innovation at this years championship was the introduction of coaching provided for juniors and sponsored by the Robinson Trust. This coaching was carried out by Graham 'Nick' Nixon, and once again very favourable reports were received concerning the quality of his coaching and his approachability.

So congratulations to David Welch and his team on such a successful tournament.

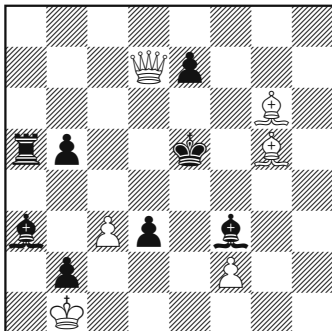
*Cynthia Gurney, Editor*

## ECF BATSFORD COMPETITION

**Congratulations to the July/August Winner  
Francis Bowers from Peterborough  
The Correct Answers is: 1.Nf1**

*Charles Planck 2nd Prize Set, Counties Chess Association, 1887*

### WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN 2



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

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

*The first correct entry drawn on  
10th November 2007 will win a Batsford  
voucher for any book on their current list.*



**B T BATSFORD**

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**Copy Deadline  
10th November 2007**

# ECF News

## Nominations for Election at the ECF AGM 2007

The following candidates have been nominated. Elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting on 20 October in Sheffield.

Post	Nominee	Nominator
President	G F Walsh	himself as incumbent
Chief Executive	M Regan	himself as incumbent
Director of Finance	R Richmond IPFA	himself as incumbent
Director of International Chess	P Sowray	himself as incumbent
Director of Junior Chess & Education	C Summerscale	herself as incumbent
Director of Marketing	P J B Wilson	K B Richardson (Trustee) & F Bowers (Representative Member of a County)
Director of Home Chess	D Welch	C E Majer (Director)
Non-executive Director	M Truran	himself as incumbent
Non-executive Director	J Wickham	himself as incumbent
FIDE Delegate	G F Walsh	himself as incumbent
Chairman of Finance Committee	M Adams	V J Dunleavy (Chairman of Governance Committee)
Finance Committee Members	J A Philpott FCA	M Adams (Chairman of Finance Committee)
Finance Committee Members	A Martin	M Adams (Chairman of Finance Committee)
Chairman of Governance Committee	V J Dunleavy	M Adams (Chairman of Finance Committee)
Governance Committee Members	R Haddrell	V J Dunleavy (Chairman of Governance Committee)
Governance Committee Members	A Leadbetter	V J Dunleavy (Chairman of Governance Committee)
Governance Committee Members	J L Paines	V J Dunleavy (Chairman of Governance Committee)
Governance Committee Members	J A Philpott FCA	V J Dunleavy (Chairman of Governance Committee)

## ECF Awards 2007

### Ivor Smith

Ivor has made a massive contribution to Essex chess over many years in a whole variety of different ways as the following bullet point listing, which barely scratches the surface, indicates. His extensive administrative services have been combined with a successful playing career which have led him to be a long term mainstay of the Open and more recently the U175 teams. He has remained a strong player into his 60s, winning the British Seniors Championship in Scarborough in 1999 and representing England, most recently in the February 2007 European Senior Team Championship in Dresden.

Some of the noteworthy features of Ivor's career as a chess administrator are: Founder of Writtle Chess Club in the early 1970s and its guiding light ever since, currently holding the posts of Secretary and Match Captain.

Extensive involvement in junior chess, running the chess section at Beal Grammar School in Ilford in the early 1960s, organising the Essex Schools League and then succeeding Bob Wade as Essex Junior Organiser until 1974. One of the founding Managing Trustees in 1969 of the David Wood Memorial Trust (which supports junior chess in Essex), a post he retains to this day.

Publicity Officer for the Essex Chess Association, publishing 6 issues a year of Chessex Magazine for 7 years before relinquishing the post in 2003.

Current Congress and Tournament Secretary for the Essex Chess Association, running several successful Ilford Congresses. Long term service on the Essex Chess Association Executive, but with characteristic modesty declining the opportunity to become President.

Acting as the County's unofficial chess historian, and producing much fascinating archive material at the time of the Essex Centenary in 1998.

### Maurice Thevenin

Maurice Thevenin has been coming to our school to teach chess to the children since 1987, twenty years in fact. Maurice is a Frenchman and was a prisoner of war in Poland. After the Second World War he moved to London and worked as a Concierge at the Savoy Hotel in London. After



his retirement he came to live in Broughton where he has lived for the past thirty years. Broughton is approximately two miles away from our school.

Sister Marion was our Head teacher in those days and is still one of our school Governors. Sister Marion instigated the idea of chess for the children and so Maurice was approached. He has turned up religiously every week regardless of the weather. Until the last few years he used to walk the two miles to school, he also sings in the church choir. He is a wonderful gentleman and the children look forward to their game of chess every Wednesday afternoon. Morris is now ninety seven years young and will be ninety eight on the 15th April (and is still coming to school) what an achievement that is!

#### David Welch

David Welch started chess organisation early being captain of the Chesterfield Grammar School team that played both in the school's league and in the local adult league. He joined Liverpool Chess club after leaving university in 1968 and has held various posts with them, he is now their president. He set up the Liverpool chess congress in about 1978. Additionally, he was the director of the Liverpool chess congress. Although now defunct this was in its day the largest junior event in the UK (perhaps even the world) having 2000 entrants at the time of Fisher v Spassky. He has also been involved in the Liverpool city of culture initiative.

He has also had a considerable involvement with the ECF. He is the Merseyside representative to the ECF. He has been helping run the British Championships since 1981; starting as one of the arbiting team he has been Director/Manager of congress chess since 2005. He has been the Chief Arbiter of the Federation since about 1992. He also does the arbiting at a number of congresses and is, in particular, the Chief Arbiter of the 4NCL.

#### Magazine of the Year

From some excellent submissions we selected En Passant, the magazine for Norfolk County Chess Association. The editor is John Charman and he has a dedicated backroom team of Gloria, his wife, and SIM Mike Read. This is the second year that En Passant has won this award.



Photo: John Wickham (left) presenting John Charman with the Magazine of the Year Award at Fakenham Chess Club. In the background are John C's 'backroom staff', his wife Gloria and SIM Mike Read both of whom help him with the magazine.

#### Website of the Year

Once again this award attracted considerable interest and we received nominations of some excellent websites. The quality of all

the websites was good making the Awards Committees job a difficult one in picking a winner. Our selection for 2007 is <http://streathambrixtonchess.blogspot.com> due to its unique features and good links.

#### Club of the Year

Congratulations to West Nottingham Chess Club.



Photo: Members of West Nottingham Chess Club display their ECF Club of the Year award certificate.

The largest Chess club in the Nottinghamshire League with membership at around 80. Recent growth has come from Juniors and the club is now two thirds juniors and one third adults. The club's membership includes members from ethnic minorities, and two members who are blind. All members are encouraged to play in the league teams enabling the club to field ten teams and this has lead to success for several of the teams.

The club has a weekly column in a local newspaper, has a website ([www.westnottinghamchess.org](http://www.westnottinghamchess.org)) and a members newsletter, The passed Pawn, issued quarterly. The active junior aspect of the club can be accredited to the links with primary schools in the area and three members are chess coaches who spend their Saturday mornings throughout the season coaching the Nottinghamshire primary school squads. Several junior members of the club are also members of the England Junior Squad representing England internationally.



Photo: Club Chairman John Crawley (right) receives the ECF Club of the Year award from ECF Director of Finance Robert Richmond.

#### Small Club of the Year

Congratulations to Snodland Chess Club.

Formed in 2003, from half a dozen members the club now has 24, half of whom are juniors. Most players are ungraded but are playing competitive chess to achieve a grade but the main ethos of the club is to be friendly and welcoming to newcomers of all ages.

Having just one team in Kent CCA competitions the plan is to expand to four for next season. The aim is to develop new players and help club members run regular weekly chess clubs at local primary and grammar schools.

The club plays an active part in the local community, using some local events to publicise but also as fundraisers. Support has come from the Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council which has helped to purchase equipment but also to keep membership fees very low.

The club meets every Thursday and has a number of special events. It has recently launched a website <http://snodlandchessclub.blogspot.com>. The Clubs juniors are making progress with one member achieving the Supremo title (scoring 6/6) in the Kent Megafinal of the UK Chess Challenge.

## English Senior Chess Championships

The English Chess Federation is pleased to announce that it will hold the 1st English Senior Chess Championships in Ashbourne, Derbyshire (Derby/Staffs border) in 2008.

The FIDE – rated five round championship scheduled over five days from Monday 28th Jan - Friday 1st Feb will have a format of 40 moves in 2 hrs; all remaining moves in 1 hr. It is restricted to players over 60 years on 1/09/2007.

The winner will be officially crowned as the English Senior Chess Champion and will take home both the trophy and a first prize of over £1,000.

There will also be a subsidiary event for over 50s on 1/09/2007 - for players graded under 140.

Both tournaments will take place at The Izaak Walton Hotel, a 17th Century country house hotel which offers comfort, history and views of outstanding beauty across the Derbyshire Peaks. The Izaak Walton Hotel takes its name from the author of "The Compleat Angler" and is privately owned.

Izaak Walton spokesman Thomas Day said "The hotel has an atmosphere of peace and tranquility and we envisage a fantastic inaugural ECF Senior Championship here in the Derbyshire Peaks. The hotel would like to thank the ECF board and organisers for their help in making this event possible."

Bed & Breakfast accommodation at the hotel will be available at the special rate of £40 per room per night for single occupancy and £30 per person per night for twin occupancy.

ECF Chief Executive Martin Regan said the tournament was a welcome addition to the English chess landscape and showed how the Federation was aware that its role is to promote chess playing across all age groups.

"I am also delighted we have secured such a fine venue. It promises to be a top class event in fantastic surroundings."

#### English Senior Championships – FAQs

**Q - When and where will the event take place?**

**A -** January 28th – February 1st at the Izaak Walton, Hotel, Dovedale.

#### Q - What tournaments are being held?

A - The English Senior Closed Championship plus the Dovedale Under 140 Open.

#### Q - What format will the event take?

A - A five round Swiss starting on Monday and with the final round on Friday

#### Q - What will the playing hours be?

A - The normal playing hours will be 11:00-17:00; however play will commence on Monday 28th at 13:00 and at 10:00 on Friday 1st February - this will give competitors time to travel to the venue on the opening day and leave earlier on the closing day.

#### Q - What are the age limits?

A - Over 60 on 01/09/07 for the former and over 50 on 01/09/07 for the latter.

#### Q - Is ECF Membership required?

A - ECF membership is required for the Championship but not for the Open.

#### Q - When will entry forms be available?

A - In September; however an online form is available now ([www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk)).

#### Q - Will the event be FIDE rated?

A - The Championship will be FIDE rated; the Open won't be.

#### Q - What will the time limits be?

A - 40 moves in two hours followed by all the remaining moves in one hour

#### Q - What is the playing room like?

A - The playing room is roomy, well lit and overlooks beautiful Dovedale.

#### Q - What are the main prizes?

A - In the English Senior Championship £1025 & £400; in the Dovedale Open £400 & £200

#### Q - Will there be grading prizes?

A - Yes provided there are three eligible players in a grading band there will be grading prizes.

#### Q - Do I have to stop at the hotel to play in the event?

A - No, Dovedale is within daily travelling distance of a substantial area of the Midlands. Players are welcome to stop at the hotel but this is not compulsory.

#### Q - If entries aren't sufficient will the prize fund be reduced?

A - No. There will be a full guaranteed prize list for both tournaments.

#### Q - Is the venue accessible by public transport?

A - No, you would normally need a car to get there.

#### Q - This may prove a problem as I haven't got a vehicle. Can I still get to the venue?

A - Yes. We will make arrangements from Derby and Ashbourne.

#### Q - I intend to stop at the Izaak Walton Hotel - are arrangements in place?

A - Yes - contact the hotel (01335 350 555, [www.izaakwaltonhotel.com](http://www.izaakwaltonhotel.com)) quoting the ECF Seniors.

#### Q - Will we have to pay the full hotel rate?

A - No provided you quote the English Seniors Championships

#### Q - Could you advise on the rate for stopping if I quote this?

A - £40 per night bed & breakfast or £30 per night for a shared room.

Contact Neil Graham on 01623 483731

for more details or email at

[neil.graham@englishchess.org.uk](mailto:neil.graham@englishchess.org.uk)

# 94th British Championships 2007

Continued from the front cover



Photo: Jacob Aagaard, photograph by Bob Jones

Successful tournaments were also had by several untitled players. These included Charlie Storey, originally down to play in the Major Open but transferred at the last minute, who obtained an IM norm, the £150 prize for playing attacking chess (no doubt helped by the fact that he didn't draw a single game all tournament) and the £250 rating-improvement prize for the 2150 to 2299 band. He also defeated his first GM and won the rapidplay event of the middle weekend. Chris Briscoe also secured an IM norm, scoring consistently good results against higher rated players with a couple of draws against GMs and a win against IM Graeme Buckley. The rating prize in the under 2150 band was won by Philip Makepeace. It is also worth mentioning the other players who registered +2 or more on the 'expected points' scale because they had the best tournaments in relation to what

they might have expected at the start. Apart from Storey, Briscoe and Makepeace, these performances were achieved by Stephen Barrett, Simon Fowler, Graeme Oswald (all three of whom defeated GM opposition) and by the new champion himself, Jacob Aagaard.

The Major Open was hotly contested and resulted in a three way tie for first place between Oliver Jackson, Dave Ledger and Stephen Orton on 8.5/11.

The internet coverage was better than ever this year, with webcams located in the commentary room, on the top two boards and overlooking some of the games played further down in the British. The venue at the Great Yarmouth College was very good with all of the chess played in a single, large hall together with good catering facilities in the next door room.

David Eggleston.

Photo: Senior Champions David Anderton and Stewart Reuben, photograph by Bob Jones.



## 2nd Round British Championship, Great Yarmouth Aagaard vs Hebden

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 Na5 10 Bc2 c5 11 d4 Qc7 12 Nbd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 Rd8 14 d5 Nb7

This is a rarity and appears only once in the databases. 14 - Bd7 is the usual move

15 Nf1 a5 16 Be3 Nc5 16 Be3 Nc5 17 Rc1 Bd7 18 Ng3 Rdc8

19 Nh4

The position seems a bit better for white as he has obvious attacking ideas on the king-side whereas it is not easy to see what black can do on the queen-side -g6 19 -Ng4 swapping a couple of minor pieces looks a good idea 20 Nh5 ( 20 Bxc5 Qxc5 is good for black ) -Bxf5 21 Nxf5 (21 hxg4 Bg6 22 Nf5 Qd7 looks balanced) -Nxe3 22 Rxe3 (22 Nxe3 Bg5 and black is doing fine) -Bg5! 23 Rg3 Nxe4! (23 -Bxc1 loses to 24 Rxg7; 23 -f6 24 h4 Bxc1 25 Rxg7 Qxg7 26 Nxg7 Kxg7 27 Qxc1 might be a bit better for white with the queen coming into 'g4' via 'd1') 24 Rxg5 Nxg5 25 h4 Nxe4! 26 Qg4 g6 27 Qxe4 ( 27 Nh6 Kg7 28 Nf5 Kf8 29 Qxe4 gxf5 and black's king is further away) -gxf5 28 Qxf5 f6! 29 Qxf6 Rf8 looks slightly better for black

20 f4 Ng4

This doesn't work out but it is hard to suggest anything much better e.g. 20 -Nh5 21 Nxh5 Bxh4 might look OK for black but there follows 22 Rf1! With a dangerous initiative as -gxh5 23 Qxh5 wins for white

21 Nxg6 fxe6 22 hxg6 Bh4 23 Kh2 exf4 24 Bxf4 Rf8

Bf6 was a better defensive try, with the idea of -Qd8 followed by -Qe7 and -Be5 eventually when black would have some compensation for the pawn

25 Bh6 Qd8 26 Qd2 Qe7 27 e5!

White is a lot better -Bxg4

28 Qd4!

And now he is winning -Bxg3

29 Kxg3 Bh5 30 Bxf8 Rxf8 31 exd6 Qg5 32 Kh2 Nd7 33 Rf1?!

33 Re7 is one of several stronger alternatives here -Nf6 -Bf3!! Threatening mate, would keep black in the game longer 34 Rxf3 (34 gxf3 Rf4; 34 Qf2 Nf6 35 Kg1 Ng4 36 Qg3 Qe3 37 Kh1 Qh6 38 Kg1 Qe3 with perpetual check) -Rxf3 35 gxf3 Qxc1 36 Bd3 is better for white but it is not over yet

34 Rxf6

Now white is back on the winning trail again -Rxf6

35 d7 Rd6 36 Bb3 a4 37 Rc8 Kf7 38 d8(Q) Rxd8 39 Rc7 1:0



## Message from David Welch, Manager of Congress Chess

It seems a long time since Roy Hughes and Ken McEwan met me at a County Championship Finals Day and asked me what was needed to run the British Chess Championships. I told them, as I tell anyone



Photo: Mayor Paul Garod presents Sheila Dines (U14 Girl's Champion, photograph by Bob Jones)

else who is interested, that we rely on a free venue, but can cope with all the other expenditure that is needed to run the event. If anyone ever says "Why don't we have the Championships in our neck of the woods?" they would do well to read this paragraph again, and then do something about it!

Roy and Ken then convinced their Principal, Robin Parkinson that, despite enormous upheaval, the event would be a success and a feather in the cap of both the championships team and Great Yarmouth College. Since that time, we have received nothing but the maximum co-operation from the entire staff at GYC, and I am happy to thank them for all that they have done.

There is little need to refer to the excellence of the playing conditions: both space and lighting are first-class and it is usually true that good surroundings produce exciting chess. We have been welcomed warmly by the Mayor, Paul Garod and the Principal of Great Yarmouth College. The scene was set for an event which had the potential to be one of the most exciting British Championships ever. The Newsroom, Live Games, Commentary, Bulletins and Web Cams broadcast the event to the whole world and regional television and newspapers showed great interest.

On the Junior front, Nick Nixon came along to coach the Juniors. He is now recovering from what turned out to be an exciting and stimulating time. I hope that the competitors have enjoyed the whole experience and will come to Liverpool's magnificent St. George's Hall next year for more.

## British Championship Prize Winners 2007

**British Champion:** Jacob Aagaard

**British Lady Champion:** Ketevan Arakhamia-Grant

**English Champion:** Stephen Gordon

**English Lady Champion:** Dagne Ciuksyte

**British Senior Champion:** David Anderton; Stewart Reuben

**Under 175:** Chris Archer-Lock; Caius Turner

**Under 150:** Robert Clegg, Brendan O'Gorman

**Under 125:** Carl Gartside

**Under 100:** Andy Howie

**Under 21:** Stephen Gordon

**Under 18:** David Howell

**Under 18 Girl:** Selina Khoo

**Under 16:** Calum MacQueen

**Under 15:** Connor Woods

**Under 15 Girl:** Lateefah Messam-Sparks

**Under 14:** Akash Jain



Photo Above: Stewart Haslinger v Stephen Gordon, photograph by Bob Jones

Photo Below: Senior Championships, photograph by Bob Jones



**Under 14 Girl:** Sheila Dines

**Under 13:** Akash Jain, Rhys Cumming

**Under 13 Girl:** Megan Owens

**Under 12:** Saravanan Sathyanandha

**Under 12 Girl's:** Megan Owens; Ali Roy

**Under 11:** Henrik Stepanyan

**Under 11 Girl:** Radha Jain

**Under 10:** Robert Fitzgerald; Adam Taylor

**Under 10 Girl's:** Chantelle Foster; Radha Jain

**Under 9:** Isaac Sanders

**Under 9 Girl:** Katherine Shepherd

**Under 8:** Anna Wang

**Under 8 Boy's:** Ravi Haria; Ronan Magee; Otto Pyper; Matthew Wadsworth

**Major Open:** Stephen Orton; Oliver Jackson; Dave Ledger

**5 Day Open Morning (Week 1):** Richard Almond

**5 Day Open Morning (Week 2):** Christopher Howell

**5 Day Open Afternoon (Week 1):** Richard Almond; Richard Bryant; Nic Fallowfield; Mervyn Hughes; Thomas Pym

**5 Day Open Afternoon (Week 2):** Thomas Pym

**5 Day Open Junior (Week 1):** Joshua Hagley; Matthew Thomas

**5 Day Open Junior (Week 2):** Charlotte Childs

**Weekender - Atkins:** Lee Davies

**Weekender - Soanes:** Richard Desmedt; Peter Horlock

**Weekender - Yates:** Nick Slater

**Rapidplay 29th July:** Mike Basman

**Rapidplay 5th August:** Charles Storey

## Letter to the Editor

Cynthia - as the driver of the car that arrived in Leicester at 5pm, I found the article on the County Championships Finals quite painful to read, and not just because of the poor grammar. Perhaps the National Chess Library should acquire a copy of "Eats, Shoots and Leaves"?

We most certainly did not continue our journey merely for the prospect of the refreshments, welcome though they may have been, and I was not the only one in my car who took exception to this suggestion. For the record, we had not been told to turn back, not that this would have been possible in gridlocked traffic in any case.

I made a point of getting to the venue to express my annoyance at the complete lack of forethought shown by the ECF in organising one of its showcase events in the Midlands on the same weekend as the British Grand Prix at Silverstone, in the hope that this will be avoided in future. I have already written to Martin Regan to this effect.

There have already been complaints over the last couple of years from southern based teams having to travel 300 miles to play neighbouring counties. Although I was happy in principle to make the trip, I am certainly rather more sympathetic to these complaints than hitherto.

**Dan Rosen (Surrey)**

*Dear Mr Rosen*

*I am sorry you did not enjoy the recent ChessMoves article on the Counties Championship Finals. I shall loan the controller my copy of "Eats, Shoots and Leaves".*

*Regards*

**Chris Majer, ECF Director of Home Chess**

## Trainee Arbiters Course, 6-7 October 2007

David Welch (ECF Chief Arbiter) is conducting a two-day course for trainee arbiters, leading to the Arbiters' examination, at Wellington College. Applications to Ken Coates [ken@gemhadar.co.uk](mailto:ken@gemhadar.co.uk). For details on how to become an ECF Arbiter please visit <http://www.englishchess.org.uk/organisation/advice/arbiters.htm> or contact the ECF Office.

## English Women Champion Dagne Ciuksyte

The ECF is delighted to announce that Women Grandmaster Dagne Ciuksyte has become FIDE-registered for England and can represent us in team and individual competitions.

Dagne is originally from Lithuania and has lived in England for two years. She celebrated her new registration by winning the title of English Women's Champion at Great Yarmouth.

We are grateful to Dagne's partner, Mark Weidman, for preparing the following pen portrait.

### Dagne Ciuksyte - English Ladies Champion

*Dagne Ciuksyte moved to England two years ago from Panevezys, Lithuania. She has been a chess player most of her life, starting under the Soviet system at school. Since then her profession has been chess, only ever doing another job after moving to England to support herself.*

*She has recently transferred to the English Chess federation to allow her to play for England in Heraklion, Crete in the European Team Championships in October. In the last European Team Championships she won the Gold Medal, in Gothenburg, playing on board one. She had just completed a year of quasi solitary confinement studying chess eight hours a day for a year in a rented room in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania.*

*Next, she played in Cappelle La Grand and won the First Woman Title, playing at a very high level. She played five Grandmasters, drawing with the first three and defeating the fourth and fifth in the final rounds. (They are currently rated 2618, 2630, 2576, 2544 and 2552.) She earned a GM norm and achieved her IM title to add to her WGM title.*

*Then she played in the Wellington College International, defeating the winner, Simon Williams, in an extremely sharp position, won the First Ladies prize, but narrowly missed winning this pleasant tournament, held in the college founded by the Duke of Wellington, with war spoils from battles with Napoleon!*

*She was then undefeated in the Southend Open and went on to play in the Olympiad in Turin, where she won seven games and drew one. However, Dagne donated a bishop and game to Nadezhda Kosintseva,*



*perhaps partly explained by too much walking in the Italian sun!*

*Dagne plays in 4NCL for Champions A&DC-Guildford, where she plays in the first team, as the designated woman player! In her first season she won seven, drew against David Howell, but lost against Arakhamia-Grant and McShane.*

*Dagne was close to evening the score with McShane in the European Union Championships, in Liverpool, with a technically winning endgame. There was an excellent time control, which added one minute per move, but this wasn't enough to solve the problems Luke made, so they drew.*

*Dagne was awarded the title of European Union Ladies Champion. Ideally, Dagne would have played Nigel Short, who became the European Union Champion. Following this Dagne shared the First Ladies Prize with Jovanka Houska at Hastings.*

*Dagne has just played at the British Championship, at Great Yarmouth, while regularly feeding our three month old baby, Charlotte. Dagne lost the first two rounds, then won the next four. Taking time out to feed Charlotte put Dagne in regular time trouble, thus costing her many rating points. Even so, she managed to get six and a half points to become the first ever English Ladies Champion. This title has been created thanks to an anonymous sponsor, whom Dagne is grateful to for providing a prize, which helps English Chess.*

*Dagne has taken part in the Woman World Championship once, in Moscow 2001 / 2002. Notably, she defeated Harriet Hunt in a play off to qualify. Later, she knocked out Ketevan Arakhamia-Grant! Dagne finally stumbled against the legendary Maia Chiburdanidze, World Champion from 1978 to 1991. She would love to become World Chess Champion one day!*

*Written by Mark Weidman, in Martlesham Heath, August 2007.*

## Chess Clubs and Tax

The vast majority of chess clubs, leagues and associations are unincorporated associations, and as such are liable for **Corporation Tax** on interest, investment income and trading profits to finance other activities.

The only item for most clubs will be bank or building society interest. The default is that banks and building societies will deduct **Income Tax** at 20% on accounts held by clubs. Interest can be paid gross by completing the appropriate form (Don't be fobbed off with form R85 - this is for individuals, not unincorporated associations). Prior to 1st April 2006 the nil band of Corporation Tax meant most clubs paid no Corporation Tax, and the Inland Revenue (now HM Revenue & Customs) would issue an exemption certificate from such tax so there was no annual return to be completed. From April 2006 the nil rate was abolished. However the previous position has been restored. The following notice can be found on the HMRC website ([www.hmrc.gov.uk/cta/small-tax-liabilities.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/cta/small-tax-liabilities.htm)):

### Clubs, unincorporated associations and property management companies:

#### Small tax liabilities

The nil starting rate of corporation tax has been removed. From 1 April 2006 all companies with taxable profits are liable to tax at a rate of at least 19% (Section 26, Finance Act 2006).

There is concern that many small clubs and societies which previously had no tax liability will now have to complete company tax returns, and pay corporation tax on very small amounts of income as a result of the abolition of the nil rate. Such income is often a negligible amount of bank interest.

This issue was discussed during the Finance Bill debate on 2nd May 2006. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury made the following statement:

"For many years, the Inland Revenue and, latterly, HMRC have not sought corporation tax returns from clubs and unincorporated associations with very small tax liabilities. That practice was established before the introduction of the starting rate of corporation tax, and it will not be affected by the changes in clause 26. Any club or society that is unclear about its tax position should ask its local HMRC office for advice".

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) is now putting the practice into the public domain to assist its customers.

In the following text 'club' means 'club and unincorporated association'. Where

- the annual corporation tax liability of a club is not expected to exceed £100, and
- the club is run exclusively for the benefit of its own members, then HMRC will
- prevent the issue of a notices to file returns and
- treat the club as dormant, subject to review at least every 5 years.

Robert Richmond, ECF Finance Director 01/08/2007

## HAMPSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION 2007 CONGRESS

Venue:- Eastleigh College, Eastleigh, Hants.

Friday 2nd November 2007 to Sunday 4th November 2007

Open Tournament with U-160 and U140 Prizes  
U-125 Tournament with U-100 and U-80 Prizes

Details/Entry Forms from

M Clarke, 9, Cherry Tree Court, Leigh Road,  
Eastleigh, Hants, SO50 9SN

Tel 02380 615903

[www.hampshirechess.co.uk](http://www.hampshirechess.co.uk)



# National Club Championships 2006/7

The National Club Finals 2007 once again provided interest from clubs from the north, south and even middle (Earth!) England. All the sections were competed fiercely prior to the finals and nothing was going to let up today either. With the Open and Minor being played in the southern venue and the midlands venue holding the Major and U100 finalists, the stage was set for a great showdown. And nobody was disappointed.

As the matches started at 1:30pm, clubs were poised at one game away from being crowned 2007 champions or 2007 runner-up (doesn't quite have the same ring to it!). Most of the games progressed at a steady pace with no quick wins apparent in the early stages. But as the matches continued, slowly the champions emerged from the mist to claim the glory.

## 2006/7 Winners

**Open Champions:** Wood Green

**Major Champions:** Metropolitan Knights

**Minor Champions:** Milton Keynes

**Minor Plate Winners:** Westcliff

**U100 Champions:** Magdalen College School

**U100 Plate Winners:** Rainham

Both venues were ideal for this sort of well contested final. The refreshments were of a very high standard at both venues but a special thanks should go to John Shaw who not only controlled the midlands venue but also provided the vast majority of the catering (his wife doing the rest (well done to Mrs Shaw also!)).

On the other side of the coin, this year's attendance was lower than in previous increasing speculation of how it may be re-formed for future championships. If you have any ideas on how it may be improved, either write to the ECF Office or add them as appropriate on the ECF forum (<http://forum.bcfservices.org.uk/>).

The 2007 Championships were like so many others, well contested, contained well behaved players and officials and was well controlled from the first round till the end of the final by those who give their time so willingly. A big thanks must go to both Arbiters, John and David, Mike, Julie and John again for their expertise in running their respective sections as well as to Chris for all his assistance during the Final and the stages prior.

Once again, commiserations to the losers, congratulations to the winners, and touch wood (I am touching the table I am typing on!) with more teams next year, the 2008 National Club Championships will be better than any other in recent times.

*Andrew Moore, Chief Controller*



Photo: Metropolitan Knights v Gloucester

## Open Final Ilford v Wood Green

Board	Ref No.	Grade	Player	Result	Player	Ref No.	Grade
1	118158A	219	Jonathan Rogers	0 - 1	Nick Pert (w)	129715G	234
2	182936B	203	Rafe Martyn	0 - 1	John Emms	110255C	233
3	114349K	e199	Andrew P Lewis	½ - ½	Chris Ward	121112C	227
4	114858J	201	Jonathan Manley	0 - 1	Richard Pert	129722D	226
5	118480F	192	David Sands	0 - 1	Neil McDonald	115262C	217
6	112796C	191	John Hodgson	0 - 1	Desmond Tan	153490H	216
		(200.83)		½ - 5/2			(225.5)



Photo: Open Champions Wood Green

## Board 3: C Ward – A Lewis

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 Nc6 7.Qd2 a6 8.Nge2 Re8 9.a3 Bd7 10.b4 Qb8 11.Rb1 Nh5 12.g4 Nf6 13.h3 Qc8 14.Bg2 b5 15.f4 e5 16.fxe5 dxe5 17.d5 Nd4 18.Nxd4 exd4 19.Bxd4 Bxg4 20.hxg4 Qxg4 21.0-0 Nxe4 22.Nxe4 Rxe4 23.Bxg7 Re2 24.Qxe2 Qxe2 25.Rfe1 Qxc4 26.Rbc1 Qd3 27.Bf6 Qf5 28.Ba1 Rf8 29.Rxc7 Qf4 30.Be5 Qd2 31.Rcc1 f6 32.Rcd1 Qg5 33.Ba1 Rc8 34.Bd4 Rc2 35.Bf2 Rc4 36.Be3 Qg3 37.Bf2 Qg5 38.d6 Rg4 39.d7 Rxxg2+ 40.Kf1 Rxf2+ 41.Kxf2 Qf5+ 42.Kg3 Qg5+ 43.Kf3 Qf5+ 44.Ke3 Qe6+ 45.Kf3 Qf5+ 46.Ke3 Qe6+ ½-½

## Major Final Metropolitan Knights v Gloucester

Board	Ref No.	Grade	Player	Result	Player	Ref No.	Grade
1	104412G	181	Nick Noden	1 - 0	Ian Ponter	102653H	170
2	132090H	161	Zafer Djabri	1 - 0	David Buchanan	107578A	167
3	161410B	151	Ian Gallagher	½ - ½	Phil Dodwell	109759D	163
4	142896C	154	Kathy Djabri	0 - 1	Geoffrey Taylor	140995F	151
5	114310E	138	Kevin Lenaghan	1 - 0	Patrick Baker	154463K	124
		(157)		3½ - 1½			(155)

## Board 3: I Gallagher – P Dodwell

1.d4 f5 2.Bg5 h6 3.Bf4 Nf6 4.e4 fxe4 5.Nc3 d5 6.f3 Bf5 7.fxe4 dxe4 8.Bc4 e6 9.Nge2 Bd6 10.0-0 Qd7 11.Qd2 a6 12.Rad1 b5 13.Bb3 c5 14.Bxd6 Qxd6 15.dxc5 Qxd2 16.Rxd2 Nbd7 17.Nd4 Nxc5 18.Nxf5 exf5 19.Rxf5 Nxb3 20.axb3 0-0 21.Re5 Rae8 22.Rxe8 Rxe8 23.Rd6 b4 24.Ne2 a5 25.h3 Re5 26.Nd4 Kf7 27.c4 bxc3 28.bxc3 e3 29.Ne2 Rb5 30.Nd4 Re5 31.Ne2= Ne4 32.Rd7+ Kf6 33.c4 Nc5 34.Rd6+ Kf5 ½-½

## Minor Final Milton Keynes v Maidstone

Board	Ref No.	Grade	Player	Result	Player	Ref No.	Grade
1	138363C	148	Mark Weighell	1 - 0	Barry Beavis	106484J	145
2	127064D	122	Tim Woods	½ - ½	Robert E Lane	114052J	144
3	243929D	110	Jon Billsberry	½ - ½	Ian J Clark	163209H	101
4	119416B	101	Colin Solloway	½ - ½	Michael Turner	253922G	78
		(120)		2½ - 1½			(117)

## Board 1: M Weighell – B Beavis

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7 5.c4 Ngf6 6.Nc3 c5 7.Nf3 Be7 8.g3 b6 9.d5 exd5 10.cxd5 Bb7 11.Bg2 Bd6 12.0-0-0 13.Nh4 Re8 14.Nf5 Bf8 15.Bf4 a6 16.Qc2 b5 17.Nd6 Bxd6 18.Bxd6 Qb6 19.Bf4 Ne5 20.Rfe1 Nc4 21.b3 Nd6 22.Rad1 Rad8 23.Bg5 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 Re8 25.Rxe8+ Nfxe8 26.Qe2 Bc8 27.Ne4 h6 28.Be7 Bd7 29.Qe3 Nxe4 30.Bxe4 Nd6 31.Bc2 Nf5 32.Qxc5 Qxc5 33.Bxc5 g6 34.f4 Ng7 35.b4 Ne8 36.Bb3 Kg7 37.Kf2 Kf6 38.Kf3 h5 39.d6 Be6 40.Bd4+ Kf5 41.Bc2# 1-0

## U100 Final Buckley Mold v Magdalen College School

Board	Ref No.	Grade	Player	Result	Player	Ref No.	Grade
1	129445D	121	G Sommerville	1 - 0	J Place	145309K	123
2	256451J	119	A Hisley	0 - 1	M Daggitt	233991C	106
3	112055E	71	J Hanson	0 - 1	D Sayers	118560D	117
4	252982J	87	L Allix	1 - 0	J Lau	246193G	50
		(99.5)		2 - 2*			(99)

Magdalen win on the bottom board elimination rule.

## Board 4: J Allix – J Lau

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 d6 3.d3 Nc6 4.Nc3 Nd4 5.h3 Be6 6.Nf3 Bxc4 7.dxc4 Nxf3+ 8.Qxf3 h6 9.Bd2 Nf6 10.Qg3 Nh5 11.Qg4 Nf6 12.Qg3 g5 13.0-0-0 Qd7 14.Qf3 Bg7 15.Nd5 Nxd5 16.cxd5 Rf8 17.g4 c6 18.Qd3 Rc8 19.Be3 c5 20.Qb3 b5 21.c4 bxc4 22.Qxc4 Rb8 23.Rd3 Qb5 24.Qxb5+ Rxb5 25.Ra3 a5 26.Bd2 Ke7 27.Bxa5 Ra8 28.Bc3 Rxa3 29.bxa3 Rb6 30.Kc2 Ra6 31.Kb3 Rb6+ 32.Ka4 Kd7 33.Rc1 Bf6 34.Rc2 Bd8 35.Rb2 Ra6+ 36.Kb3 c4+ 37.Kxc4 Rxa3 38.Kb4 Ra5 39.a4 Rc5 40.Bd2 Ba5+ 41.Kb3 Bxd2 42.Rxd2 Kc7 43.Rc2 Kb6 44.Rxc5 dxc5 45.Kc4 f6 46.f3 Kc7 47.Kxc5 Kd7 48.a5 Kc7 49.a6 Kb8 50.Kc6 Ka7 51.Kc7 f5 52.exf5 e4 53.fxe4 h5 54.gxh5 g4 55.hxg4 Ka8 56.d6 Ka7 57.d7 Ka8 58.d8Q+ Ka7 59.Qb8+ Kxa6 60.Qb6# 1-0

# International News

## IV IBCA European Individual Chess Championship for Blind & Partially Sighted Players

Organised by the UK Braille Chess Association.

The BCA 75th anniversary celebrations got off to a fine start. To mark this milestone in the charity's history, St. Aidan's College, Durham University was chosen as the venue for, what many believe to have been, the strongest individual event ever held for blind and partially sighted players. 76 leading players from 24 European countries fought for the coveted title: 'European Champion'.

*Photo: Councillor Mrs Edna Hunter with Jaroslav Olsar, photograph by Steve Hughes*



The support of Durham County Council and the Skipton Building Society Charitable Foundation, together with an anonymous donor and over sixty other individuals, companies and charities made the event financially viable. Their generosity supported the large British participation and the coaching which helped our players compete at this demanding level.

Councillor Edna Hunter, Chair of Durham County Council, one of the main sponsors, welcomed the players and their support teams to Durham. She then pushed the first pawn in the nine round tournament which was to last from Tuesday 14 August to Thursday 23 August. She was fascinated with the Digital boards which enabled the top four games to be transmitted to websites as the games were played.

Top Seed, Uri Meshkov [Russia] got off to a flying start winning his first five games but the Czech Republic player, Jaroslav Olsar was also in great form just half a point behind. Reigning European Champion and former World champion Sergey Krylov and reigning World Champion Vladimir Berlinksky, both of Russia, were feeling the pace and had already lost critical games. Round 6 saw the crunch pairing with Meshkov drawn against Olsar. It was Olsar who won this hard fought encounter thus enabling him to take a half point lead into the rest day.

On the rest day, 125 of the guests enjoyed a well organised guided tour of Durham Cathedral with a short recital given by Keith Wright on the magnificent Cathedral organ. This was followed by a short river cruise on the Prince Bishop river cruiser which included a much enjoyed barbecue lunch on board.



With batteries charged in the final round, our British Champion, undefeated Colin Crouch, playing against the tournament leader and heading for a third place medal, made one error which cost him the game. He finished two points behind the winner, Jaroslav Olsar of the Czech Republic. Our second hope, Chris Ross, was ranked 26th in the entries but also reached six points and shared fifth place with Colin Crouch and nine others.

*Photo: Ross (left) v Crouch, photograph by Oliver Leonard*

Of our remaining five entries, only Les Whittle improved on his ranking in the tournament and, although Graham Lilley, Steve Hilton, Bill Armstrong and Colin Chambers battled hard for every point, they were below their best form and finished only with four or three and a half points each. They achieved creditable scores but all would have hoped for more successful outcomes playing in their home country and conscious of the tremendous backing of their individual sponsors.

*Photo: Lilley (left) v Baloha, photograph by Oliver Leonard*



A few hours later, in the prize-giving and closing ceremony Jaroslav Olsar was presented with the Gold medal and 300 Euros. His final score was a magnificent 8 points from 9 games. Uri Meshkov [Russia] with 7.5 took the Silver medal and Sergej Grigorchuk [Ukraine] with 7 points took the Bronze medal. The four players from Ukraine had a good tournament with Sergey Wassin in 4th place with 6.5, Lubuv Zsiltzova winning the women's prize and Mikhailo Baloha the junior prize for players under 21. UK players scored as follows: Chris Ross and Colin Crouch 6; Graham Lilley, Stephen Hilton and Les Whittle 4; Colin Chambers and Bill Armstrong 3.5.

The success of such an event depends on many things: the right venue, good playing conditions, a good team of helpers and, most of all, having sufficient money to pay for the services and facilities required. We are sincerely grateful to our many sponsors and supporters who enabled us to make this tournament such a great success.



*Photo: the playing hall at the start of round 5, photograph by David Clayton.*

This magnificent event was a great team effort. It's success was due to a wonderful band of willing helpers whose generous gift to us was their time and effort. We believe our guests returned to their countries with good memories of the UK and the Braille Chess Association. For Stan and Jan Lovell, the tournament organisers, our abiding memory will be two Turkish brothers, the Croatian coach and a German, who put away their chess boards and took up musical instruments to accompany dancing around the tables and friends from 20 or more countries in community singing around midnight of the last day. A British success would have been a worthy tribute to those who have supported the BCA to its 75th anniversary but, apart from this, we have no regrets. We gained many new friends and cemented ties with old ones through the friendly rivalry of chess competition.

*Stan and Jan Lovell (Tournament Organisers) and Bill Armstrong (Publicity Officer)*

## NOW AVAILABLE THE 2007 CHESS CATALOGUE

Contact the BCM Chess Shop for  
your copy on 020 7486 8222  
or email [bcmchess@compuserve.com](mailto:bcmchess@compuserve.com)





## European Team Championships 2007

The English Chess Federation is pleased to announce that the following teams have been selected for the forthcoming European Team Championships.

### Men's Team:

1. Michael Adams
  2. Nick Pert
  3. Gawain Jones
  4. Mark Hebden
  5. Stuart Conquest
- Captain – Peter Wells

### Women's Team:

1. Jovanka Houska
  2. Dagne Ciuksyte
  3. Ingrid Lauterbach
  4. Sabrina Chevannes
  5. Meri Grigoryan-Lyell
- Captain – John Emms

The European Team Championships will take place in Heraklion, Crete from October 27 to November 7. Our men's team is headed by England's number 1, and world ranked number 15, Michael Adams. Gawain Jones, who became a grandmaster earlier this year, will be making his debut in England's senior team. Another debutant is woman grandmaster Dagne Ciuksyte, who recently transferred her allegiance from Lithuania to England.

According to Peter Sowray, the ECF's International Director, "The European Teams is the most important team competition this year. Despite the absence of a few of our top players, I am confident that both teams will perform admirably. The ECF is determined to support our promising younger generation of players, some of whom were not available for this event due to other playing commitments."

The men's competition was first held in 1955, with England winning the event in 1997 and thus breaking the domination of Russia and the former Soviet Union. The women's competition was inaugurated in 1992.

## MonRoi International Women's Chess Grand-Prix

Statistics: Read about the championship, web stats, women in chess, comments, and other international chess programs. A short video with answers on frequently asked questions is posted at the following page [www.monroi.com/GP](http://www.monroi.com/GP)

# Junior News

## 5th European Union Youth Chess Championships Mureck, Austria 1st – 9th August 2007

By An Anonymous RAP

This was the 5th running of the EU Youth Championships, and the 5th time England have organised a party of juniors to compete – and boy! did they compete, with numerous excellent performances from experienced hands and first timers, and with Daniel Hunt ultimately and deservedly winning the U12 section to become EU U12 Champion! But read on to find out more...

Over 120 boys and girls (under 10, under 12 and under 14) from over 15 countries in Europe congregated at the delightful venue of the Rathaus in Mureck, Austria to play 9 rounds of chess over 9 days, starting Wednesday 1st August and ending with the final round at 08:30 am (local time) on Thursday 9th August. The England party was managed superbly (as ever!) by the Turners (Peter "Mr Chips" Turner and Gill) and comprised 14 players supported by 3 coaches as an extra event to the 'normal' junior funded schedule. As well as to the Turners and the ECF, our sincere thanks go to Winton Capital Management for financial assistance.

Having made the trip to Mureck in rural south east Austria for several years now, as organisers the Turners decided to leave the main party to fend for themselves at Standsted whilst they drove on ahead to arrive a comfortable 24 hours early at Guest House Fabiani, the England accommodation for the tournament as it had been for the previous 3 years. They were followed at a steady 70mph across Europe by the Stevens family, with their Player Patrick and his bicycle "deficient in the wheel department to the tune of one". The remaining Players and their Responsible Accompanying Adults (RAP) were left in the as-it-turned-out incapable hands of our intrepid website blog-artist – a never-to-be-repeated lapse of judgement on the Turners' part, so they were more than grateful to find when the England party eventually arrived that all the Players were accounted for!



Photo: The England Team and coaches

The team quickly settled into the routine at Guest House Fabiani: the first RAP hires a bike and heads off into the 34C heat in search of an internet connection. Mr Chips and Mr Stevens obviously both have transport, so end up ferrying groups of RAPs to the local Spar supermarket for purchase of water and fruit to augment the Players' natural diet of chips. In between there is much sitting in the shade, watching the unicyclist (Player Patrick "One Wheel" Stevens) perform. And then of course there is the tennis, badminton, table tennis and darts...



Photo: Is that a unicyclist I see before me?

It is not long however before the real work begins: chess! Our base at the Fabiani has a cool verandah where the Players quickly set up base camp, and spontaneous games break out all over the place! Coaching schedules are drawn up and our three enthusiastic coaches start the hard work of preparing their Players for each opponent. The coaches are Neil McDonald (GM), Adam Hunt (IM) and Tom Eckersley-Waites and at this stage little do they know how successful they are going to be, but as an interested on-looker it seems to me that at this tournament, amongst all those that I have been on, the preparation of Players has paid off directly at the board the most times per round I have ever seen!

Now if you have got this far you are perhaps thinking, "What about the chess ...?" I have a very important message. Go to [www.englishchess.org.uk/events/](http://www.englishchess.org.uk/events/) and follow the links to the 'The 5th EU Youth Chess Championships'. You may not enjoy reading Matt Hunt's 'unique' reports, but on the up side they are his last ones, and there are lots of photographs, all the chess results,

game highlights and links to the official tournament site to make it worthwhile! In the meantime, here are the chess highlights:

*Photo: Chess on the Verandah*

The tournament was split by age into U10, U12 and U14 sections, boys and girls playing together. England had 2 players in the U10s, 7 in the U12s and 5 in the U14s. The competition was strong, with eastern as well as western European countries well represented. It would be a real test of the England players' mettle, and a good opportunity to score some FIDE points!



As ever with the Swiss pairing system, the draw was always going to be a bit of a lottery until the later rounds. Thankfully there were relatively few Eng vs Eng pairings although Polly got her fair share, playing two team mates in rounds 1 and 2. In the U14s Alex Galliano showed real calm against tough opposition, only losing two games to end on 5½ as top England U14 on tie-break. George O'Toole, after an uncharacteristic loss in Round 1, showed his ability and experience to storm up to the top 3 boards and had some thrilling games – contenders for matches of the tournament. Turning around weaker positions has become a speciality for him: but for two minor lapses in each of the last two rounds, both after having "turned the tables" on his top class opposition, he'd have ended in the top 3. David Grant attracted the label of "draw man" of the team, ending up with 5 draws in his 50% total of 4½ from 9! Charlie Hierons was by his own standards disappointed not to have converted more draws into wins but playing long games he had to accept the ½ point due to time trouble on more than one occasion. Patrick Stevens, in stark contrast, either won or lost – no messing around with draws for him!

In the U12s, aside from Daniel, Polly benefited handsomely from some serious end game revision and practice after a disappointing loss in round 2 to end up as the second England U12 on tie break. Level on points but behind on tie break was Megan Cleeves: in her first international Megan held her nerve and showed real guts after losing all her first four games to storm back with 4½ out of the last 5. All the remainder of the U12s ended up on 4 out of 9:

- Brandon Clarke on his first international trip played very well but the tough draws towards the end took their toll;
- Joe started one game with only 7 pawns but was able to rectify the situation before too much damage was done (other than to his RAPs blood pressure);
- George Galliano had a good first international showing some fine chess in an "up and down" performance;
- Robert Bowler showed real determination and tenacity, he loved the coaching and exhibited real joy at each of his hard fought wins!



*Photo: Postmatch analysis with coaches*

In the U10s the two new faces representing England showed real moments of class and hope for the future. James Bowler challenged the leaders all the

way to the last two rounds where he was challenging for a top 3 finish, but it wasn't to be this time. As regards Peter Andreev, who was playing in the U10s whilst still an U9, after a comfortable start he took some losses well and matured through the tournament learning to take on the top seeds over 3 hours rather than 30 minutes! I have a feeling that both these players are ones to watch for the future.

So let's go back to Daniel in the U12s. What a display, if somewhat nerve-racking for his RAP! Ending up unbeaten, with a record 111 move game in round 7 and then a thrilling double-sac to win round 8 and set up the tournament win, Daniel showed real dedication to the coaching and preparation for each round, and demonstrated how hard work at the board pays off. A hard earned but much deserved championship title: his name call at the prize giving received the largest cheer of all showing also how the England party bonds and backs each other up at events like these.

To conclude: most of you may well know this but I commend to you all the players for the sheer effort and concentration that they apply over the course of a tournament like this. In total, 9 matches of typically 3-4 hours in length over 9 days, with up to an hour of coaching and at least the same again of individual preparation – trust me, it's no cakewalk! The coaches also deserve every credit: 4 hours of preparation with individual players in the mornings, 2-3 hours reviewing games once the matches are over and then research on opponents once the next round draw comes out. Just to watch is all so exhausting for us mere mortals!

### The Players' final set of results and standings:

Section	The Player	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Rd 6	Rd 7	Rd 8	Rd 9	Total	Position
U14	Alex Galliano	1	½	1	0	½	1	0	1	½	5½	7 <sup>th</sup> =
	George O'Toole	0	1	1	1	1	½	1	0	0	5½	7 <sup>th</sup> =
	David Grant	1	0	1	½	½	½	½	0	½	4½	18 <sup>th</sup> =
	Charlie Hierons	½	0	0	½	½	1	½	0	½	3½	31 <sup>st</sup> =
	Patrick Stevens	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	35 <sup>th</sup> =
U12	Danny Hunt	1	1	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	7	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Polly Lambert	½	0	1	0	½	1	0	1	½	4½	18 <sup>th</sup> =
	Megan Cleeves	0	0	0	0	1	½	1	1	1	4½	18 <sup>th</sup> =
	Brandon Clarke	½	1	½	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	24 <sup>th</sup> =
	Joseph Quinn	0	1	½	1	0	1	0	½	0	4	24 <sup>th</sup> =
	George Galliano	½	0	½	0	1	½	1	0	½	4	24 <sup>th</sup> =
	Robert Bowler	0	0	½	1	0	1	0	½	1	4	24 <sup>th</sup> =
U10	James Bowler	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	5	14 <sup>th</sup>
	Peter Andreev	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	½	0	4½	20 <sup>th</sup>
	TOTAL	7	5½	9	5½	7½	12	6½	5½	5	63½	

The total points achieved exceeded the 50% target across the board – well done to everyone! Aside from Daniel, special mention must be made of some of the individuals for whom this was a first England international: Alex Galliano 7<sup>th</sup> = in the U14s; Megan Cleeves 18<sup>th</sup> = in the U12s and 7<sup>th</sup> in the girls category; and both James Bowler and Peter Andreev in the U10s coming 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> respectively. There were many great performances, and many heart stopping moments, almost too much to bear at times. Many thanks to all the competitors, parents, coaches, organisers and ECF Office (Sophie) for processing reports so quickly, together this was made a most successful and enjoyable occasion.



*Photo: Daniel Hunt (centre) receives the U12 Trophy*

*An Anonymous RAP on behalf of Peter 'Mr Chips' Turner, ECF Honorary Life Vice-President & Head of Delegation*

### Footnote from Peter Turner

Fans of Matt Hunt's 'wacky' reports over the last few years will be sad to learn that his pen has finally run dry. After diligent and extensive searches we have failed to source a replacement. I would like to put

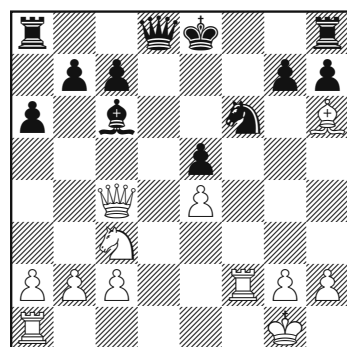


on record my appreciation of his contribution to making our trips that extra bit special and for enabling us to share our joys & tribulations with a worldwide audience.

I'm also delighted to let you know that Shelly is well but not dashing around as he used to do. He's moved to the West Country and living in Shelltered Accommodation near Mr Chips.

**O'Toole, George (1974) [ENG] - Tomazini, Zan (2050) [SLO]**  
European Union Youth Championships – Mureck, Austria 2007 Under 14 Rd 7  
[Annotated by IM Adam Hunt]

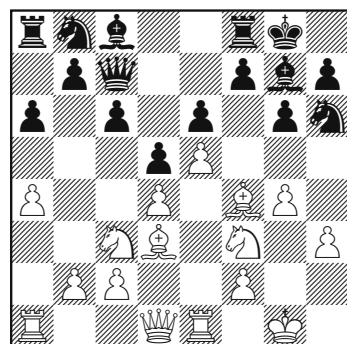
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f5 4.d3 fxe4 5.dxe4 Nf6 6.0-0 Bc5 [6...Nxe4 is well met by 7.Qe2 Nf6 8.Bxc6 dxc6 9.Nxe5 with advantage to White; 6...d6 is also possible] 7.Qd3!? d6 8.Qc4 Bd7 9.Nc3 a6? [9...Qe7 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Nd4 12.Nxd4 Bxd4 13.Bxd7+ Qxd7 14.c3 with a small advantage to White] 10.Bxc6 Bxc6 11.Nxe5! Bxf2+ 12.Rxf2 dxe5 13.Bh6!



I must admit that we had this position on the board during our preparation! Nearby games came to a stop as players gathered round to examine what George had done. Note that after 13 moves George has so far gained 2 minutes on the clock! 13...Rg8? [13...gxh6 14.Qe6+ Qe7 15.Rxf6 is pretty grotty but the only way for black to survive] 14.Rd1 Qxd1+ [14...Qe7 15.Rxf6! wins a piece] 15.Nxd1 0-0-0 16.Nc3 Nxe4 17.Nxe4 gxh6 18.Rd2 Rdf8 19.Nf6 Rg6 20.Qe6+ Kb8 21.Nd7+ Bxd7 22.Qxd7 Rgf6 23.g3 e4 24.Qe7 1-0

**Galliano, Alex [ENG] - Kantor, Reka [SVK]**  
European Union Youth Championships – Mureck, Austria 2007 Under 14 Rd 1, Board 5  
[Annotated by GM Neil McDonald]

1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.Bc4 c6?! [Black could break up the white centre with the so-called Fork Trick 5...Nxe4 6.Nxe4 (better to disrupt the black king with 6.Bxf7+ Kxf7 7.Nxe4 though Black is also OK here after 7...Rf8 and Kg8 as the structural weakness on e6 is off set by the bishop pair.) 6...d5 7.Bd3 dxe4 8.Bxe4 0-0 with a comfortable game.] 6.a4 [More precise was 6.Bb3 ] 6...a6?! again an attack on the white centre was required: [6...d5! with good chances to equalise.] 7.0-0 0-0 8.Re1 Qc7? [If Black tries for the Fork Trick here he runs into 8...Nxe4 9.Rxe4! d5 10.Rh4 dxc4 11.Bh6 intending 12.Qd2 with a winning attack for White.; By now it was imperative to assert himself in the centre with 8...d5! ] 9.e5! White seizes the chance to gain a large space advantage. 9...Ng4? Now the poor horse will be harassed for the rest of the game. [He had to try 9...dxe5 10.Nxe5 intending 11.Bf4 with a strong initiative for White.(Instead 10.dxe5! allows 10...Rd8 11.Qe2 Nd5 and the black knight stays in the centre.) ] 10.h3 d5 [Or 10...Nh6 11.Bf4 with the threat of 12.Qd2 Nf5 13.g4 trapping the knight.] 11.Bd3 Nh6 12.Bf4 with the same threat as in the previous note. 12...e6 13.g4?!



After the game it was discovered that the correct move to prosecute the attack was [13.Qd2 Nf5 14.Bxf5! gxf5 (or 14...exf5 15.e6! discovering an attack on the queen and so gaining a strong passed pawn.) 15.Bh6 as if 15...f6 16.exf6 Rxf6 17.Bf4! Qd7 (Black loses the exchange after both 17...Qf7 18.Bg5 Rg6 19.Nh4 and; 17...Qd8 18.Bg5) 18.Ne5 Qe8 19.Bg5 Rf8 20.Bh6 with a decisive attack for example 20...Qe7 21.Bxg7 Qxg7 22.Ra3! Nd7 23.Nxd5! cxd5 24.Rg3 winning the black queen.] 13...Kh8? [Black misses the defensive chance 13...f5! freeing the f7 square for his knight and blocking the onrush of the kingside pawns as if 14.exf6? (or 14.Qd2 fxe4) 14...Qxf4] 14.Qd2 Ng8 15.h4! The forward advance of the white kingside pawns is very instructive. 15...Ne7 16.Kg2 Nd7 17.h5 Kg8 18.Rh1 Re8 19.Rh3 [More vigorous was 19.hxg6 fxe6 20.Bh6 Bh8 21.Ng5 intending 22.Qf4 and then mate on f7.] 19...Nf8 20.Rah1 Rd8 21.Bh6 White has built up his attack in methodical style, co-ordinating every piece for the final assault. 21...f5 22.exf6 Bxf6 23.Bf4 Qb6 24.a5 White wants to clear the way to bring his queen to f4 by freeing the c7 square for his bishop. 24...Qb4 [Or 24...Qxa5 25.Be5 etc.]

25.Bc7 Rd7 26.Qf4! Bg7 27.Ne5 Bxe5 [Black will be mated after 27...Rxc7 28.Qf7+ Kh8 29.hxg6 h6 30.Rxh6+] 28.Bxe5 c5 29.Qf6 Nc6 To stop mate on g7. 30.Rf3! there is no defence against the double threat of mate on h8 or f8. A good positional build up and well handled final attack from Alex Galliano. 1-0

## ECF Grand Prix 2006/2007

### Final Leader Boards 12 July 2007

Since going to print in July the U125 and U100 Grand Prix tables have been corrected. The correct tables are published below. Bold indicates players who are counting the maximum number of events.

*The various sections winners were as follows:*

Section		Name	Club	Pts
150-174	1st	Hjort, Helge	Hendon	596
	2nd	Cutmore, Martin J	Wood Green	548
125-149	1st	Gamble, Raymond J	Spondon	595
	2nd	O'Gorman, Brendan	DHSS	587
100-124	1st	Desmedt, Richard E	Netherton	647
	2nd	Barnell, Terry	London E*	589
U100	1st	Foley, Phil T	Upminster	649
	2nd	Barnell, Terry	London E *	589
Junior	1st	Jain, Radha	Pinner	623
	2nd	Gahir, Jasdeep	Kent Junior	613

#### Graded Prix (100-124)

1	<b>Desmedt, Richard E, Netherton</b> .....	<b>647</b>
2	<b>Barnell, Terry, London E*</b> .....	<b>589</b>
3	<b>Allen, Timothy S, Battersea</b> .....	<b>575</b>
4	<b>Walker, Roger W, Belper</b> .....	<b>549</b>
5	<b>Breed, Greg, Eastcote</b> .....	<b>546</b>
6	<b>Gilbert, David J, DHSS</b> .....	<b>526</b>
7	Gartside, Carl, High Peak .....	525
8	<b>Fleischer, Jeff H, Coulsdon CF</b> .....	<b>518</b>
9	<b>Rixon, Tom J, Hemel Hempstead</b> .....	<b>504</b>
10	<b>Sutcliffe, John, Chester</b> .....	<b>493</b>

#### Graded Prix (U100)

1	Foley, Phil T, Upminster .....	649
2	<b>Fraser, Alan R, Beckenham &amp; Bromley</b> .....	<b>544</b>
3	<b>Stone, Mark R, Petts Wood &amp; Orpington</b> .....	<b>540</b>
4	<b>Constable, Christine F, Coulsdon CF</b> .....	<b>536</b>
5	Constable, John, Coulsdon CF .....	521
6	<b>Everitt, David, Haywards Heath</b> .....	<b>476</b>
7	Coats, Jon R, Swindon .....	472
8	<b>Saunders, Peter, Bristol &amp; Clifton</b> .....	<b>459</b>
9	<b>Johnson, Stanley, South Shields</b> .....	<b>448</b>
10	<b>Billett, Stephen J, Portsmouth</b> .....	<b>442</b>

## ECF EMAIL ALERT

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# Littlewood's Choice

## Hastings 1969/70

□ Martyn Corden

■ John Littlewood

*Philidor's Defence / Scotch C50*

Surrounded as I am by all these talented young players such as Howell, Haslinger, Gordon, Jones and many others, may I introduce a touch of nostalgia in this month's article as I remember one of my own exciting games from thirty-eight years ago!? In it, I commit myself to my longest combination ever ...

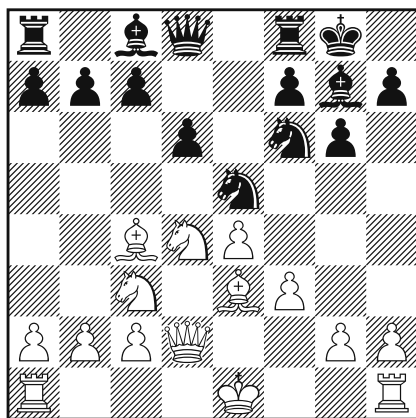
**1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 exd4 4 Bc4 d6 5 Nxd4**

Martyn had already beaten Smyslov in this line, so I switch to my favourite version of Philidor's Defence instead of entering the Antoshin variation involving ...Be7 which Smyslov had tried.

**5...g6**

Now that White has committed himself to Bc4, this fianchetto development is less dangerous for Black.

**6 Nc3 Bg7 7 Be3 Nf6 8 f3 0-0 9 Qd2 Ne5!?**



A bit of bluffing is involved here, as I force White to choose where to play his bishop. If he wishes to castle long, he is worried about placing it on b3 when it is exposed to a pawn advance by ...a6 and ...c5, but of course he could instead castle short, when he gives up the idea of an immediate attack on my king.

**10 Be2?! d5!**

Perfectly logical and equalising at once.

**11 f4?**

This reckless advance is a sign that Martyn is unwilling to accept he no longer has an advantage.

**11...Neg4 12 e5 Nxe3 13 Qxe3 c5!**

The point, as in a number of similar situations.

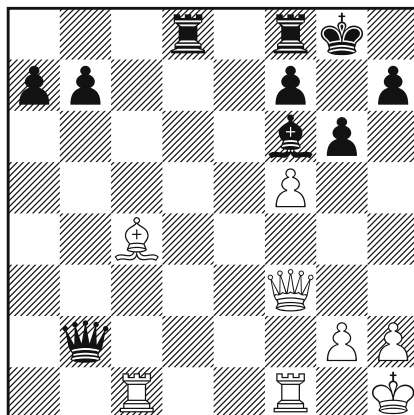
**14 exf6 cxd4 15 Qxd4 Bxf6 16 Qd2**

Not of course 16 Qxd5?? Bxc3+ winning the queen.

**16...Be6 17 0-0 Qb6+ 18Kh1 Qxb2 19 Nxd5 Bxd5 20 Qxd5 Rad8 21 Qf3 Qxc2 22 Rac1 Qxa2**

Strategically, the game is already decided but this is the time when I should play as simply as possible to consolidate my advantage. Instead, I relax a little over the next few moves and allow Martyn counter-chances which in turn lead to a hammer-and-tongs contest I didn't particularly want!?

**23 Bc4 Qb2 24 f5!**



**24...g5?!**

Simpler was 24...Kh8! 25 Rb1 Qd4 with few worries, since 26 Rb4? would then fail to 26...b5! winning a piece.

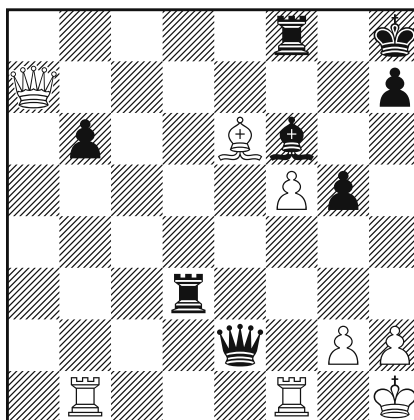
**25 Rb1 Qd4 26 Rb4! Kg7 27 Qb3!**

It is now White who is attacking and I have to play with great circumspection.

**27...b6 28 Bxf7 Qd2 29 Be6 Rd3**

It is well known that bishops of opposite colour favour the attacker, so I decide to go into an extremely sharp but risky line in which I momentarily displace White's major pieces to launch an unusual attack.

**30 Qa4 Qe2 31 Qxa7+ Kh8 32 Rbb1**



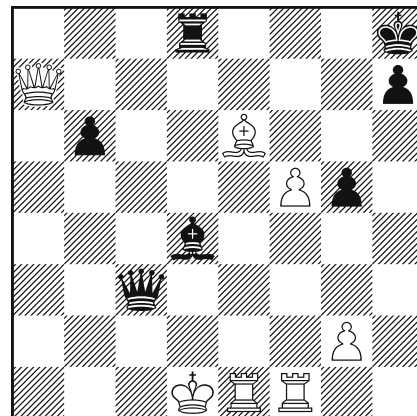
**32...Rh3!!**

At first sight this move looks ridiculous because White is in no way going to play 33 gxf3?? Qe4+ 34 Kg1 Bd4+ 35 Rf2 Qxb1+ 36 Kg2 Qe4+ mating quickly. However, he not only has to find a defence against 33...Rh2+! as in the game but must also deal with the immediate threat of 33...Be5! winning at once.

**33 Rbe1**

At first sight, it seems that 33 Qa2 saves White but it cuts out his later defence of Bd7 against a rook invasion down the 'd' file, e.g. 33...Rh2+! 34 Kxh2 Be5+ 35 Kg1 Bd4+ 36 Kh2 Qh5+ 37 Kg3 Qh4+ 38 Kf3 Qf4+ 39 Ke2 Qe4+ 40 Kd1 (or 40 Kd2 Qe3+ 41 Kc2 Qe2+ 42 Kb3 Qd3+ mating) 40...Rd8! 41 Bd5 Qd3+ 42 Ke1 Bc3+ 43 Kf2 Qd4+ 44 Kf3 Rxd5 winning.

**33...Rhx2+ 34 Kxh2 Be5+ 35 Kg1 Bd4+ 36 Kh2 Qh5+ 37 Kg3 Qh4+ 38 Kf3 Qf4+ 39 Ke2 Qe3+ 40 Kd1 Qd3+ 41 Kc1 Qc3+ 42 Kd1 Rd8!**



**43 Bd7!**

The last clever defence, involving his rook on e1, but I can just foil his plan.

**43...Qb3+ 44 Ke2 Qe3+ 45 Kd1 Qd3+ 46 Kc1 Be3+!**

So that, if 47 Rxe3 Qxe3+ 48 Kd1 Qd4+! 49 Ke2 Rxd7 50 Qa1 Re7+ 51 Kf3 Re3+ 52 Kf2 Rc3+ winning.

**47 Kb2!**

So that after 47...Rxd7 he has 48 Qb8+ and 49 Qe5+. This forces me to guard the long black diagonal before capturing on d7, but I actually win another way.

**47...Qd4+! 48 Ka3 Qc3+ 49 Ka4**

Avoiding 49 Ka2 Qc2+ followed by mate but allowing ...

**49...b5+ 0-1**

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I am sure many would be very pleased to hear of the ALCS!

*James Plaskett*

## ECF GRADING LIST 2007

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[www.englishchess.org.uk](http://www.englishchess.org.uk)

The printed list is now  
available from the ECF  
Office priced at £22.50



# York RI Chess Club

Photos below show the BBQ held by York RI Chess Club on 25th May 2007.



The Club has won the Premier Division of the Yorkshire Chess Association for the last 4 years, known as the Woodhouse Cup. York RI meet at the Railway Institute and games are played every day of the week, the club has a membership of 100 including 35 Junior members. 2 Junior members have played for England, Jean - Luc and Pierre Weller. The Woodhouse Team comprises of; IM Richard Palliser, David Adams, Paul Townsend, Jos Woolley, Paul Hopwood, Martin Carpenter, Jim Nicholson, Tony Slinger, Tuan Le, and Detlef Plump. The York RI are very active in arranging 2 major Junior Events, and various training days including one at the National Railway Museum. They also assist the BWCA in holding its annual event at the Elmbank Hotel, York. A former member of the Club is GM Gawain Jones who was born in Skipton and appears in the photos above.

*Peter Cloudsdale*

## Obituaries

### Peter Clifford Burnett

I am sad to report the death of Peter Clifford Burnett at the age of 75. Peter had served as President of Norfolk County Chess Association for over ten years and also as President of East Anglian Chess Union for several years in its formative period. Whilst holding these posts he was also the NCCA grader and EACU grader, positions which came with working with the BCF. But that was not all as he was President and Treasurer of Norfolk & Norwich Chess Club, organiser of the Norfolk Rapidplay, and controller of the Norfolk Schools Tournament. He even found time to run the County teams and he was thus one of those rare people who will willingly help out at a time of need.

Chess was not Peter's sole interest as he was an active member of the R.A.O.B. and the Philatelic Society. He spent some time in the RAF and on leaving worked for a large Insurance Broker in Norwich. After taking early retirement Peter was occupied full time with his many interests but ill health in the last few years did unfortunately curtail this.

In recognition of his achievements in the chess world Peter was honoured with a Presidents Award for Services to Chess in 2002.

Donations to R.A.O.B. Outside Project (Chatterbox) may be made in Peter's memory c/o Nicholas E Potts Funeral Services, Angel House, 20 Angel Road, Norwich, NR3 3HP.

*John Wickham*

### Michael James O'Hara

With sadness we report that Michael James O'Hara, aged 57, died suddenly at home on 4th September 2007. Mike O'Hara was quite a strong chessplayer, being about 200 strength, but he never had a burning ambition to fulfil his potential at the game. He was an actuary by profession and lectured on this subject.

He preferred in chess administration not to be involved with being a treasurer, feeling that would be too much of a good thing, and held other offices. He was one of a group of people who made Bolton such a power-house of chess in the 1970s-90s.

He was a long-standing member of the British Chess Federation Management Board as an NCCU Delegate. His interests and advice though were valuable throughout all aspects of chess administration. Unusually, he was Treasurer of the British Chess Championships for many years when I ran the congress and his help and trenchant views were very valuable. Our condolences to his family.

If you wish to make a donation please make cheques payable to Mind, c/o Shaw & Son Funeral Directors, The Old Parsonage, 20 Park Street, Bolton BL1 4BD Tel: 01204 526 218.

*Stewart Reuben*

### Jan Richmond

Jan Richmond died at the end of July 2007 aged 91. He has been in Hospital for some time.

He was a member of Chichester Chess club for over 50 years and had been President for some years. He played regularly in the MacArthur Cup, South West Sussex League and Portsmouth League teams for all that time. During the 1970s and 80s he played regularly in the Sussex County Second team and was a frequent last minute reserve for the First team. He was the answer to a County Captain's prayer. He would turn out on a Saturday when someone backed out the evening before, sometimes cancelling his Golf appointment to do so. He hated having to write the score down. The juniors in the county team used to look forward eagerly to, win or lose, his ritual tearing up of the score sheet. In 1996 he won the Ruth Rose Cup in the Portsmouth league with a score of 84%. This is for the veteran, over 60, who had the highest % score in league matches over the season. About that time he appeared in the top 20 of his age group in the BCF grading list. Also he did two holes-in-one at Goodwood golf club in a month.

He played regularly in the Portsmouth congress, while his health allowed and also in BCF tournaments when they were in Portsmouth or Brighton. His proudest boast was that it took ex World Champion Max Euwe 4 hours to beat him in a wartime European tournament, but I have no record of where or when. He was a very tenacious player, particularly with his knights. His opening strategy used to be to exchange his bishops for his opponent's knights at the first opportunity. There was never a need to play pawn to rook 3 to make him play bishop takes knight on bishop 3, as he would do it next move anyway. We did eventually persuade him that bishops had some uses.

He came to England in 1940 on a plank of wood, after the vessel which took him off the beach at Dunkirk was sunk. This was balanced all night with, at the other end, an Englishman (Stan) who did not speak Polish. They met some years later at a reunion and it took them some time before they placed where they had met before. Apparently he had reached Dunkirk having walked across Europe from a Russian POW camp in Siberia, where he had been sent as prisoner in the Polish/Russian conflicts before the German Invasion of Poland in 1939.

He served with the Royal Air Force at Chichester and married an English girl, who predeceased him. They lived at Fishbourne, where he had a successful business repairing sewing and like machines.

*Ray Williams*



# *Book Reviews* by Gary Lane

## **Play the Caro-Kann**

*by Jovanka Houska published by Everyman £14.99*

The idea is to play the Caro-Kann and win. This is the motivation behind England's number one Olympiad player presenting a repertoire for Black that is playable at weekend tournaments. This type of book can be tricky with many authors trying to impress their highly rated friends with a twist on move 25 but for practical purposes it is hopeless. Houska has the knack of knowing her audience because in the popular Advance Variation she manages to impose her variation after just 3 moves. The line with 3...c5 is perfect for club players and in England has been championed successfully by grandmaster Keith Arkell at numerous events. The Caro-Kann has a reputation for being dull so the author has to find ways to get Black into the game. This is a delicate balancing act that she succeeds with because none of the lines have an obvious refutation and she has experience of playing many of the variations. The main-line with 3...Bf5 is the starting point of a lot of tournament games and the tip here is to castle kingside which is bound to catch people out. There is a lot to enjoy and plenty to learn. Houska's debut book indicates she is a first rate writer.

## **Improve Your Chess in 7 Days**

*by Gary Lane published by Batsford £12.99*

This is my first book that has led to a deluge of e-mails about it, so for once I will mention a few more details of my own work. I wanted to present something for casual players who think that chess is fun but more fun when you win. I had enjoyed books with chess illustrations when I was younger and managed to track down a cartoonist. His name is missing from the book so Scottish chess player Gerrard Oswald is the man who deserves the credit for the illustrations which have attracted a lot of positive comment. The book is broken up into '7 Days' which are presented by chapters and the theme is on practical tips on how to play better. The predict-a-move idea has attracted considerable attention and already some people have sent victories where the process seems to have worked well. I am still waiting to hear from someone who has taken my advice of ignoring their opponent's time-trouble by ordering Cappuccino. Perhaps I should leave the final words to Geoff Chandler whose own review of the book ended with some practical advice: "It's a nice price too. 4 pints of beer."

## **Perfect Your Chess**

*by Andrei Volokitin and Vladimir Grabinsky published by Gambit £15.99*

It is never clear with chess books that are co-authored as to who does all the work. A general rule is that the famous name is there to sell the product and the other one does the majority of the job. In this case Volokitin is a top class grandmaster from Ukraine who is constantly playing tournaments while Grabinsky is a chess coach, so it is possible to make an educated guess. The title sounds like a tough read with deep meaningful insights but in fact it is a puzzle book. The only difference is that the answers are longer than usual with a bit of explanation. I think puzzles can be a very important way to improve tactics so it gets my seal of approval. The only thing is it is sometimes difficult to think of something original with so many answers but the authors come up trumps. It is not often you read lines like "a spoiled pawn structure is like a bad haircut. Using his knights instead of scissors, Michael Krasenkov performs an idea makeover." Still, they also offer a unique angle on a famous name: "Ulf Andersson is well-known as a brilliant positional player.

But what is a pie without cherries?" A delightful selection of puzzles.

## **The Life and Games of Akiva Rubinstein Volume 1 Uncrowned King**

*by John Donalson and Nikolay Minev published by Russell Enterprises £19.99*

This book deals with the first part of Rubinstein's life from 1882-1920 when he developed into one of the leading players in the world. In this second edition the authors have strived to include as many games as possible by becoming chess detectives to find 'lost' games. There are the usual tournament records, match record and even a simultaneous record. It is clearly a labour of love and will appeal to anyone interested in chess history. A great tribute to a chess legend.

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# Results Round-Up

## KJCA Kent Junior Grand Prix 2006-7

**U18 Winner:** Lyall Bayliss, Caterham School & Crowborough CC

**U14 Winner:** Victor Jones, Beths Grammar School, Bexley & Lewisham CC

**U11 Winner:** Jasdeep Gahir, Whitgift School, Croydon & Lewisham CC

**U9 Winner:** Alexei Davis, Eltham College Junior School

**Winning Secondary School:** Beths Grammar School, Bexley

**Winning Primary School:** Dulwich College Prep School, Dulwich

## KJCA Grand Prix Final

### 1 July 2007

**Under 18:** Constantine Philippou, West Wickham, 100, 4½; Lyall Bayliss, Crowborough CC, 142, 4; Tim Weaver, Maidstone CC, 100, 3

**Under 14:** William Jones, Lewisham CC, 127, 4; Victor Jones, Lewisham CC, 119, 4; Sheila Dines, Sanderstead, 130, 3½; Robert Maguire, Beckenham & Bromley CC, 101, 3½; Dunstan Rodrigues, Lewisham CC, 102, 3½; Duncan Bell, Beckenham, 76, 3½; Dominic Heslin-Rees, Charlton CC, 65, 3; Sheila Subbiah, Chislehurst, 50, 3; Abigail Sathyamurthy, Herne Bay CC, 3

**Under 11:** Jasdeep Gahir, Lewisham CC, 81, 6; Eugene Daley, Dulwich, 72, 5; Nicholas Clanchy, Balham, 54, 4; Gautham Reddiar, Orpington, 43, 4; Raunak Rao, Beckenham, 25, 4; Justin Brown, Beckenham & Bromley CC, 17, 4; Nick Nicheperovich, Dulwich, 0, 4; James Selway, Bromley, 0, 4

**Under 9:** Oliver Black, Dulwich, 10, 5; Mano Sathyamurthy, Herne Bay CC, 10, 5; Raphael Kalid, Anerley, 8, 5; Patrick Smith, Chipstead, 0, 5; Alexei Davis, Mottingham, 23, 4½; Simon Leung, Dulwich, 0, 4½; Rohan Bansal, Dulwich, 0, 4; Oliver Petrick, Sevenoaks, 4; Sophie Wahts, Maidstone, 4; Elizabeth Elgar, Sevenoaks, 4; Yasmin Giles, Brockley, 4; Daniel Heraghty, Dulwich, 4

## 38th Thanet Congress

### 17-19 August 2007

**Open:** Gavin Lock, Horsham, 4/5; John Anderson, Shell (Essex), 3½/5; Ary Senior, Hendon, 3½/5; Peter Ackley, Hayes (Middx), 3½/5; Martin Taylor, Rainham (Kent), 3½/5; Philip Bonafont, Hemel Hempstead, 3½/5; Martin Taylor, Rainham (Kent), 3½/5

**Major (U160):** David Horton, Broadstairs, 4½/5; Nigel Holroyd, Peterborough, 4/5; Paul Jackson, Coulsdon, 4/5; Derek Hadley, Greater London, 4/5; David Horton, Broadstairs, 4/5

**Intermediate (U125):** Gavin Josephs, Dartford, 4½/5; Terry Barnell, Unattached, 4½/5; Keith Findley, Birchington, 4/5; T S

Allen, Battersea, 4/5; Roger Walker, Belper, 4/5; Gavin Josephs, Whitstable, 4/5  
**Minor (U100):** Matthew Cussens, Folkestone, 4½/5; David Hobden, Bishops Stortford, 4½/5; Mark Stone, Petts Wood, 4/5; Tim Russell, Ashby, 4/5; Baven Balendran, Beckenham, 4/5; Matthew Cussens, Folkestone, 4/5

## 43rd Berks & Bucks Congress

### 25-27 August 2007

**Championship:** Ken Coates, Crowthorne, 4½; Colin Purdon, Crowthorne, 4; Liam Varnam, Maidenhead, 4; Richard Webb, Crowthorne, 4

**Challengers:** Sheila Dines, Surrey Junior, 5; David White, Hounslow, 4; Edward Tandil, West London, 3½; John Shakespeare, Bangor (Gwynedd), 3½; Peter Williams, Coulsdon & Sandhurst, 3½; Stephen Cairns, Reading, 3½  
**Reserves 'A':** Thomas McFaul, Maidenhead, 5; Adrian Archer-Lock, Maidenhead, 4½; Mark Wallace, Crowthorne, 4½

**Reserves 'B':** Roy Zhang, Crowthorne, 5; Timothy Allen, Battersea, 4½; Tony Heslop, Oxford, 4

**Reserves 'C':** Anna Wang, Cowley, 5; Gordon Ironside, Crowthorne, 5; Mark Stone, Petts Wood & Orpington, 4½

**Lightning Tournament:** Richard Webb, Crowthorne, 4½; Ian Duvall, Camberley, 4; Graham Alcock, Ashted, 3½; Julian Shepley, Guildford, 3½; Liam Varnam, Maidenhead, 3½

## Herefordshire Congress

### 25-27 August 2007

**Open:** M Burrows, Wigston, 4½; N Beveridge, Hereford, 4; P Holt, Olton, 4; P Kitson, Droitwich, 4; I Ponter, Downend & Fishponds, 4; A Rawlinson, 4NCL Oxon, 4; J Glover, Loughborough, 3½

**Major:** P Smith, Hove, 5; T Chen, Oxford University, 4½; R Desmedt, Wombwell, 4; L Wood, Tewksbury, 4; K Jewsbury, St Georges, 4; B O'Gorman, DHSS, 4; S Pride, Cambridge, 4; J Blackburn, Holmes Chapel, 3½; G Herbert, Malvern, 3½; J Wilson, Stourbridge, 3½

**Minor:** M Owens, Downend, 5; R Brookes, Stourbridge, 5; I Blencowe, Gloucester, 4½; T Barnell, Walthamstow, 4½; T Berkeley, Hereford, 3½

## Godalming Chess Club Open

### Tournament

#### 1 September 2007

About sixty players from as all over the south travelled to Aldro School in Shackleford to play in this annual tournament.

There were 4 sections with adults and juniors playing in the Open section and 3 age group sections. Godalming club members were on hand to supervise the games and parents from Aldro School provided some delicious refreshments. Many thanks to Mr David Malam headmaster at Twickenham Prep for presenting the prizes. Godalming will be fielding 5 teams in the Borders League this year and any adults or

juniors wishing to play for one of the teams or join the club, should contact David Archer at [archerd@aldro.org](mailto:archerd@aldro.org)

D.J. Archer

**Open:** Edward Down, Magdalen College School Oxford, 5½; Phillip Knott, Whyteleafe, 4½; Ewan Bowlby, MCS, 4½; Ravi Haria, Habadashers, 4½

**Under 11:** Harvey Kandhola, Twickenham Prep, 5½; Adam Bagley, Aldro, 4½; Amy Hoare, Farlington, 3½½

**Under 10:** Edward Smart, Yateley Manor, 4½½; Elliott Ghent, Aldro, 4½; Robert Hewett, Aldro, 4½; James Whitton, Aldro, 4½

**Under 9:** Alex Anderton, Magdalen, 4½½; Henry Philips, MCS, 4½; Lydia Malam, Twickenham, 4½

## Lincoln Rapidplay

### 2 September 2007

**Open:** Andrew Ledger, 5½/6; Peter Merces, 4½/6; Mike Basman, 4½/6; Terry Bean, 3½/6; Nigel Birtwistle, 3½/6; David Coates, 3½/6  
**Under 140:** Ross Blake, 5½/6; T Chen, 5/6; J Wagenbach, 5/6; K Noons, 4½/6; D Morgan, 4/6; D Lin, 4/6; J Bowler, 3½/6; J Hipshon, 2½/6; C Cumbers, 2½/6

## Leamington Rapidplay

### 9 September 2007

Venue - Royal Spa Centre, Leamington Spa.

**U200:** Nick Rutter, Newport, 5/6; Peter Ackley, Leamington, 4½/6; Martin Burrows, Wigston, 4½/6; Paul Lam, Kenilworth, 3½/6; Phil Pelton, Kenilworth, 3½/6; Ray Starkie, Cowley, 3½/6; Kishan Lakhani, Nottingham High School, 3½/6

**U160:** Kaiser Malik, South Birmingham, 5½/6; Colin Green, Nuneaton, 5/6; Tristan Cox, Sutton Coldfield, 5/6; Andrew Brocklehurst, 5/6; Pavel Ondrejka, Rugby, 4/6; Murray David, Solihull Checkmates, 4/6

**U120:** Gary Jackson, Banbury, 5½/6; Russell Goodfellow, Tunbridge Wells, 5/6; Gary Evans, Mutual Circle, 4½/6; Frank Jimenez, Shirley & Lucas, 4½/6; Mike Groombridge, Walsall Kipping, 4½/6; John Clark, Droitwich, 4½/6

**U90:** George Galliano, Millfield School, 5½/6; Deborah Jarvis, Solihull Checkmates, 5/6; Alex Raison, Kenilworth, 5/6; Astghik Stepanyan, Sutton Coldfield, 5/6; Russell Edwards, SASCA, 4/6; Chantelle Foster, Cowley, 3/6; John Gibbs, 3/6; Towan Kosted, Stourbridge, 3/6;

## 74th Richmond Rapidplay

### 9 September 2007

**Open:** G Buckley, 5½/6; M Basman, 4; C Crouch, 4; I Snape, 4; P Taylor, 4

**Major (U160):** A Hayler, 5; C Clegg, 4½; R Haldane, 4½; S Dines, 4; M Mutale, 4; S Sathyanandha, 4

**Intermediate (U120):** N Fordham, 5½; T Villiers, 5; A Wills, 5; N Inglis, 4½; M Periasamymanjula, 4½

**Minor (U80):** R Haria, 5; L Thurtell, 5; D Buckley, 4½; W Claridge-Hansen, 4½; E Ko, 4½

# Calendar of Events

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

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

~\* 6-7 Oct

## METROPOLITAN CHESS CLUB CONGRESS

City of London School,  
Queen Victoria Street.  
R Hamilton (Tel: 020 7608 1545,  
Email: rayhamilton@lineone.net)

8 Oct

## WILTSHIRE QUICKPLAY TOURNAMENT

Brown Jack Public House, Wroughton. T  
Ransom (Tel: 01225 774538,  
Email: chesssalsa@aol.com)

9 Oct

## THE STRAND BLITZ

The Cheshire Cheese, 5 Little Essex Street.  
S Tserendorj (Tel: 07887 790934,  
Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk)

12-14 Oct

## WEST WALES CONGRESS

The Dophin Hotel, Swansea.  
L Philpin (Tel: 01792 418711,  
Email: Newsilure@hotmail.com)

~ 13 Oct

## CHILLINGHAM RAPIDPLAY

Chillingham Pub, Newcastle upon Tyne. N  
Boustred (Tel: 07903 913786,  
Email: noelboustred@yahoo.co.uk)

~\* 13 Oct

## GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY

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

~ 14 Oct

## BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT CHESS LEAGUE 11th RAPIDPLAY TOURNAMENT

Four Dwellings School, Dwellings Lane.  
K Langston (Tel: 0121 585 9663 [9:30-20:30],  
Email: kenneth.langston@btopenworld.com)

14 Oct

## KJCA ECF CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE COACHING DAY

Amherst School, Sevenoaks.  
Sue Maguire (Tel: 020 8656 6420,  
Email: sue.maguire@btinternet.com)

~ 14 Oct

## RICHMOND JUNIOR CONGRESS

St. James's Primary School, Twickenham. G  
Buckley (Tel: 0208 642 5239,  
Email: surreyrapidchess@aol.com)  
*LJCC Qualifier*

15 Oct 07 - 31 Jul 08

## BRITISH LADIES CORRESPONDENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries by 30/9/07.  
K Escott (Tel: 07831 563536,  
Email: birproof@eversheds.com)

19-21 Oct

## DUNDEE & ANGUS CONGRESS

Next Generation Club, Monifieth by Dundee.  
K Rose (Tel: 01382 534863,  
Email: director@dundee-congress.co.uk)

~\* @ 19-21 Oct

## KJCA CATERHAM CONGRESS

Caterham School, Harestone Valley Rd.  
Sue Maguire (Tel: 020 8656 6420,  
Email: sue.maguire@btinternet.com)

~\* # 19-21 Oct

## SCARBOROUGH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

The Ocean Room, Spa Complex.  
Abi Adams (Tel: 0191 296 1078,  
Email: relaxxx1232002@yahoo.com)

~\* 20 Oct

## SJC CHICHESTER JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY

Bishop Luffa School, Bishop Luffa Close.  
Margaret Burch (Tel: 01483 534061,  
Email: ammjiburch@hotmail.com)  
*LJCC Qualifier*

~\* 21 Oct

## EAST ACTON JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY

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

@ 21-27 Oct

## 33rd FORTIS GUERNSEY INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

Peninsula Hotel.  
F Hamperl (Tel: 01481 239088,  
Email: hamperlfred@hotmail.com)

23 Oct

## THE STRAND BLITZ

The Cheshire Cheese, 5 Little Essex Street. S  
Tserendorj (Tel: 07887 790934,  
Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk)

~ @ 27-28 Oct

## 4NCL

Division 4, Paragon Hotel, Birmingham.  
Mike Truran (Tel: 01993 708645,  
Email: mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk)

~\* # 27-28 Oct

## BURY ST EDMUNDS CONGRESS

The Corn Exchange.  
Bob Jones (Tel: 01284 811555,  
Email: bobjoneschess@btinternet.com)

~\* 28 Oct

## EAST ACTON ADULT RAPIDPLAY

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

~ 28 Oct

## ORMSKIRK RAPIDPLAY

Ormskirk Civic Hall, Southport Rd.  
S Jacquest (Tel: 0151 242 7321 (day),  
Email: ormskirkrapidplay@btinternet.com)

~ 28 Oct

## 11th PINNER JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

University of Westminster, Harrow Campus.  
G Snow (Tel: 020 7736 5693,  
Email: grahamsnow@supanet.com)  
*LJCC Qualifier*

~ 28 Oct

## 4th PINNER RAPIDPLAY

University of Westminster, Harrow Campus. G  
Snow (Tel: 020 7736 5693,  
Email: grahamsnow@supanet.com)

~ 2-4 Nov

## HAMPSHIRE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eastleigh College.  
J Wheeler (Tel: 023 9237 9905,  
Email: john.wheeler@care4free.net)

2-4 Nov

## 44th HULL CONGRESS

Student Union, University of Hull.  
M Ieronimo (Tel: 01482 501816,  
Email: congress@h-d-c-a.org.uk)

3 Nov

## CHIPPING SODBURY RAPIDPLAY

Stanshawe Court Hotel, Yate.  
G Mill-Wilson (Tel: 07765 139540,  
Email: Tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk)

~ 3 Nov

## ENGLISH JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY

International Students House, W1W 5PN.  
M Read (Tel: 020 7388 2404,  
Email: info@chess.co.uk)

3 Nov

## SJC TRAINING DAY

Aldington School, Hove.  
Margaret Burch (Tel: 01483 534061,  
Email: ammjiburch@hotmail.com)

~ 3-4 Nov

## GUILDFORD JUNIOR CONGRESS

Royal Grammar School.  
A Thorn (Tel: 01483 577623,  
Email: alan.thorn@which.net)

~\* 3-4 Nov

## SPECTRUM CHESS - 1st COBHAM CONGRESS

The Hilton Cobham Hotel.  
Norman Went (Tel: 01708 551617,  
Email: spectrumchess@hotmail.com)

4 Nov

## BOLTON RAPIDPLAY

Bolton Excel Centre.  
R Middleton (Tel: 01204 383634)

~\* 4 Nov

## 74th RICHMOND RAPIDPLAY

White House Community Association,  
Hampton.  
Paul Dupré (Tel: 020 8676 1564,  
Email: rapidplay@aol.com)

5 Nov

## THE STRAND BLITZ

The Cheshire Cheese, 5 Little Essex Street.  
S Tserendorj (Tel: 07887 790934,  
Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk)

9-11 Nov

## BRAILLE CHESS ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL 75th ANNIVERSARY TOURNAMENT

Moat House Hotel, Solihull.  
Stan Lovell (Tel: 01642 775 668,  
Email: stan.lovell@tiscali.co.uk)

~\* 10 Nov

## GOLDERS GREEN RAPIDPLAY

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

~ @ 10-11 Nov

## 4NCL

Divisions 1, 2 & 3, Paragon Hotel,  
Birmingham.  
Mike Truran (Tel: 01993 708645,  
Email: mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk)

~\* 10-11 Nov

## SPECTRUM CHESS 8th SHEFFIELD CONGRESS

The Sitwell Arms Hotel, Renishaw.  
Norman Went (Tel: 01708 551617,  
Email: spectrumchess@hotmail.com)

~\* 11 Nov

## KJCA WEST KENT JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY

Kemnal College, St. Paul's Cray.  
(see 11)  
*LJCC Qualifier*

~ 17 Nov

## CCF CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE CHESS - KENT

Coulsdon.  
Howard Curtis & Scott Freeman  
(Tel: 020 8645 0302,  
Email: chess@ccfworld.com)

~\* 17-18 Nov

## BRITISH RAPIDPLAY

North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax.  
S Burton (Tel: 0113 256 8157)

~ 18 Nov

## BEDFORD OPEN JUNIOR CONGRESS

Bedford Modern School.  
S Pike (Tel: 01234 823795, 07900 502307,  
Email: steve.pike6@btopenworld.com)  
*LJCC Qualifier*

~ 18 Nov

## BERKSHIRE JUNIOR CONGRESS

The Downs School, Compton.  
Nigel Dennis (Tel: 01491 576052,  
Email: nigelwdennis@btinternet.com)

~\* 18 Nov

## EAST ACTON JUNIOR RAPIDPLAY

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

~\* 19-23 Nov

## 8th ROYAL BEACON SENIORS CONGRESS

The Royal Beacon Hotel, Exmouth.  
W A Frost (Tel: 01626 821519)

19 Nov

## THE STRAND BLITZ

The Cheshire Cheese, 5 Little Essex Street.  
S Tserendorj (Tel: 07887 790934,  
Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk)

~\* 23-25 Nov

## PRESTON CONGRESS

County Council Offices, Pitt Street.  
M Peacock (Tel: 01772 740882,  
Email: malcolm@mpeacock.demon.co.uk)

~\* # 23-25 Nov

## TORBAY CONGRESS

The Belgrave Hotel.  
R Chubb (Tel: 01626 888255,  
Email: ray.chubb@care4free.net)

~ 23-25 Nov

## WHITBY WEEKEND TOURNAMENT

New Angel Hotel.  
N Boustred (Tel: 07903 913786,  
Email: noelboustred@yahoo.co.uk)

~ 24 Nov

## CCF CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE CHESS - SURREY EAST

Coulsdon.  
Howard Curtis & Scott Freeman  
(Tel: 020 8645 0302,  
Email: chess@ccfworld.com)

24 Nov

## 3rd "CHESS KINGS" TOURNAMENT

Highlands School, Reading.  
N Pert (Tel: 07786 986489,  
Email: chesskings@hotmail.co.uk)

~ @ 24-25 Nov

## 4NCL

Division 4, De Vere Venues, Wokefield Park.  
Mike Truran (Tel: 01993 708645,  
Email: mike@mtruran.fsnet.co.uk)

~ 25 Nov

## CCF CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE CHESS - SURREY WEST/MIDDLESEX

Coulsdon.  
Howard Curtis & Scott Freeman  
(Tel: 020 8645 0302,  
Email: chess@ccfworld.com)

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