

CHESS MOVES

THE NEWSLETTER of the ENGLISH CHESS FEDERATION | Sep/Oct 2012

2012 Olympiad, Istanbul



Top to bottom, left then right - Gawain Jones, Nigel Short, David Howell and Nick Pert | David, Kanwal Bhatia, Sarah Hegarty, Stephen Gordon, Maria Yurenok & Sabrina Chevannes | Gawain, Kanwal & Stephen with Stephen's birthday cake | Kanwal, Sarah, Maria & Anya Corke | Maria & Anya | Maria, Sarah, Sabrina & Kanwal | Michael Adams, Sabrina & Lawrence Cooper
Maria, Sarah & David

The England open team of Michael Adams, Gawain Jones, Nigel Short, David Howell and Nicholas Pert captained by Peter Wells finished equal ninth (seventeenth on tie-break) after victories in rounds ten and eleven against Uruguay and the Czech Republic left them with six match wins, three draws and losses in rounds eight and nine. There were one hundred and fifty-seven teams in total and Armenia took the gold medals ahead of Russia on tie-break. Both scored nineteen match points whilst Ukraine took bronze on eighteen after defeating China, to overtake them, in the last round.

The women's team of Anya Corke, Maria Yurenok, Sarah Hegarty, Sabrina Chevannes and Kanwal Bhatia captained by Stephen Gordon finished equal fortieth (forty-sixth on tie-break) out of one hundred and twenty-seven teams with twelve match points, four wins, four draws and three losses. Russia took the gold-medal on tie-break from China with Ukraine taking the bronze a point behind on eighteen points.

Chess Association team and scored 5.5/8. My thanks to all the England players and captains for their efforts over the last fortnight. It's been a pleasure to work with them and I wish the teams every success under my successor, whoever it may be.

- Lawrence Cooper

For comprehensive results for the England team, visit this web address -
<http://results.chessolympiadistanbul.com/tnr77681.aspx?art=20&fed=ENG&lan=1&flag=30>

40th Olympiad Istanbul 2012 Open tournament

Final Ranking after 11 Rounds - Open, Top 20

Rk.	SNo	Team	Games	+	=	-	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	3	Armenia	11	9	1	1	19	397.0	29.0	155.00
2	1	Russia	11	9	1	1	19	388.5	28.5	157.00
3	2	Ukraine	11	9	0	2	18	363.0	29.5	147.00
4	6	China	11	8	1	2	17	390.5	29.5	157.00
5	5	USA	11	7	3	1	17	361.0	30.0	142.00
6	9	Netherlands	11	8	0	3	16	329.0	29.0	133.00
7	27	Vietnam	11	6	4	1	16	313.5	29.0	126.00
8	25	Romania	11	8	0	3	16	310.0	29.0	128.00
9	4	Hungary	11	7	1	3	15	368.0	28.0	151.00
10	7	Azerbaijan	11	6	3	2	15	344.0	29.0	144.00
11	15	Cuba	11	7	1	3	15	338.5	30.5	130.00
12	14	Germany	11	6	3	2	15	334.5	26.0	148.00
13	16	Poland	11	7	1	3	15	313.5	27.5	138.00
14	20	Serbia	11	6	3	2	15	307.0	28.5	126.00
15	22	Italy	11	7	1	3	15	306.0	28.0	134.00
16	34	Sweden	11	7	1	3	15	303.5	28.0	125.00
17	11	England	11	6	3	2	15	300.5	26.0	137.00
18	39	Denmark	11	7	1	3	15	270.5	27.0	121.00
19	23	Moldova	11	6	2	3	14	348.5	29.5	129.00
20	10	Bulgaria	11	7	0	4	14	321.5	28.0	134.00

ECF News

ECF Awards

ECF President's Awards 2012

Two awards were made this year -

Ihor Lewyk from the Bradford Chess Club

For many years he has organised chess for adults and juniors. He is the President of Yorkshire Chess Association and has introduced a new website. Ihor is a county captain of the Open team and Captain of Bradford. On a wider front he competes in Congresses and has introduced juniors to the 4NCL. He is captain of White Rose teams and assists with both. He is always conscientious and very hard working. An active member of the ECF, he believes in fair dealing and is knowledgeable on many topics.

Tony Paish

Tony Paish joined the Insurance Chess Club in 1955/56 while with the Prudential ("Ibis") and played for Ibis until he joined the British Insurance Association ("BIA") in 1966. He became one of the Club's Assistant Secretaries in 1967/68, running the Tournaments, and was elected Secretary in 1983/84.

He was elected a Vice-President in 1985 when the BIA merged with five other insurance company trade associations to become the Association of British Insurers ("ABI"). Tony then became the Office Representative for the ABI which subsequently combined forces with Zurich to form the "Combined Team", ABI/Zurich.

Following the decline of the Inter-Office Competition and the subsequent merger with the London Banks Chess League to form the Combined Banks & Insurance Chess League, Tony became the Secretary of the Combined League. He holds that position to this day. [full text available at www.englishchess.org.uk]

ECF Club of the Year 2012

Witney Chess Club

During the 1990s Witney Chess Club was without doubt the strongest club in Oxfordshire, running four teams in the Oxfordshire League and repeatedly fending off challenges from the powerful Oxford University, Oxford City and Cowley teams to secure a number of league and cup titles. By 2005 we were down to one team playing in the third division, with falling membership and usually no more than one or two people turning up on non-match nights. The club was on its way to extinction as general apathy took its toll.

What has happened since those dark days is nothing less than the renaissance of the club, and shows what can be done if just a handful of committed and enthusiastic club members decide to turn round a club's fortunes. We now have a thriving club again which last season saw its first team win Division 1 of the Oxfordshire League, its second team come third in Division 2 and its third team top Division 4. This season we have increased our number of teams in the Oxfordshire League to four, with the first team winning both the Division 1 title and the Frank Wood Shield (the Oxfordshire Chess Association's knock-out competition) and our second team missing promotion to Division 1 by a hair's breadth. We currently have 28 adult members and a small but thriving junior section of 8 boys and girls. [full text available at www.englishchess.org.uk]

ECF Small Club of the Year 2012

Trowbridge Chess Club, Wiltshire

We have some 12 members and meet every Thursday from the beginning of September until the end of May. We also get together once a month in the summer. It is a very friendly club where everyone receives the warmest welcome. Grades vary from 155 to 67. We make sure that all members, of whatever ability, get plenty of opportunities to play competitive chess. Annual fees are kept to an absolute minimum, so that no-one is debarred for financial reasons

Being located in Wiltshire but close to the Somerset border we play in no fewer than five competitions across the two counties: Wiltshire 4-a-side (for higher graded players), Wiltshire Minor (also four a side, for lower graded players), Somerset Division 2 (six a side), Division 3 (four a side) and the Somerset Knock-Out Cup (eight a side). For the Wiltshire competitions we have two squads and in the Minor squad players are rotated so that each one plays the same number of games. In this way weaker players 'get a fair crack of the whip'; they are encouraged to keep playing and they have the opportunity to improve.

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We are a highly inclusive club. We have one player with a disability - profound deafness - who plays an entirely full part in the life of the Club, which includes playing in league and cup matches. All members of clubs in Wiltshire and Somerset were invited to a training weekend, with IM Andrew Martin, at the Trowbridge club last summer. [full text available at www.englishchess.org.uk]

ECF Website of the Year 2012

Once again this was a very popular category and the standard was again high.

We selected the St Albans Chess Club website at <http://www.stalbanschessclub.org.uk/>

The webmaster is Phil McConnell

ECF Chess Congress of the Year 2012

A new event for 2012 was the Bournemouth Grand Chess Congress held 20-22 April. We were impressed by the number of entrants to a new Congress and to the facilities provided plus the level of administration involved which included a website with live updates. We also received several very positive unsolicited endorsements of the Congress and are pleased to make this award.

ECF Book of the Year 2012 - shortlist

The judges this year had a wide range of differing volumes to choose from. Two of the books selected offer an interesting comparison of the early years of two chess giants, whilst a third caused a lively discussion amongst the judges.

Advanced Chess Tactics

Lev Psakhis Quality Chess pp 365
£24.99 hardback, £20.99 softback

This volume would be better described with the word “chess” replaced by “attacking” as it consists of attacking games against various game formations, eg Benoni, isolated Queen’s pawn and so on. The value lies in the deep annotations of the selected games. Instructively, the attack by no means always runs faultlessly. The author was twice Soviet Champion and is now an experienced Israeli trainer. His writing combines erudition with wise observations on practical chess playing

Fighting Chess with Magnus Carlsen

Adrian Mikhalchisin & Oleg Stetsko Edition Olms
pp 280
£19.99 softback

This book is lifted from the conventional by the two authors being experienced Russian trainers, who are fascinated by Carlsen’s chess talent.

They give examples of the weaknesses in his early games, now eliminated by the World’s number one, as well as some of his current triumphs. There is a 40 year time gap between the young Kasparov and Carlsen, but the similarities and differences are fascinating

Gary Kasparov on Garry Kasparov Part 1:1973-1985

Everyman pp 520 £30 hardback

This is the first of a three volume work devoted to the author’s chess career and deals with the early part of it up to his first match with Karpov. He describes in detail the astonishing progression of how a boy from Baku reached a world title match with Karpov in the short space of 12 years. Even though the story is well known, it remains an enthralling read. In addition, the book is beautifully produced and printed by Everyman.

Move First, Think Later

Willy Hendriks

New in Chess pp254 £18.99 softback

One of the most unusual chess books published in recent times. The author approaches his subject from a perspective of philosophy, psychology and modern learning theory.

His central thesis is an attack on how chess is taught in conventional text books. The judges disagreed about the validity of some of his arguments, but unanimously agreed that this original book is worthy of the Short List. If the above sounds too serious, Hendriks writes in a humorous style and there is plenty of good chess to enjoy!

- Ray Edwards Julian Farrand David Friedgood 5th
September 2012



International Round-Up

- from Lawrence Cooper

62nd Annual Congress Paignton 2nd-8th September 2012

For the eighteenth time Keith Arkell won the top section with 6/7 ahead of Richard Bates, Dave Ledger and Dominic Mackle on 5.

First Saturday Budapest 1-10 September 2012

Mark Lyell is on 2.5/8 in the IM section and Diana Mihajlova 2/7 in FM B.

Results Round-Up

South Bristol Summer Rapidplay

One of the strongest tournaments held in Bristol for years took place yesterday (11/08) at the South Bristol Chess Club. There were no less than six 200+ Master strength players taking part, and the tournament attracted 40 players from various parts of South West and Midlands, as well as Bulgaria - three Bulgarian players took part and shared the prize money.

1st Stojan Ivanov 203 (£90); 2nd/3rd Illian Mladanov 204 (£20) & Flamen Mladanov 220 IM (£20) Grading Prize

U190 Grading Prize - Neville Senior 162 (Street, £20)

Open Section

F.Mladenov IM 2407 (BUL); Henry Duncason 213; I. Mladenov 204 (BUL); Stojan Ivanov 202 (BUL); Tyson Mordue FM 201; James Sherwin 200 IM; Martin Lewis 187; Richard Garrett 182; Paul Harris 182; Brian Turner 180; Simon Greely 177; Stephen Meek 176; Robert Thompson 164; Neville Senior 162; Ian Ponter 161; Tony Harvey 156; Adrian Champion 156; Robert Radford 152; Duncan MacArthur 146

The Major was jointly won by Alan Papier 129 (Clifton, £65) and John Burrow 114 (Bath, £65)

U100 Grading Prize - Jonathan CM Lee 85 (Bristol Juniors, £20)

Minor Section

J.Boyce 135; W.Robinson 135; H.Millbank 133; A.Papier 129; A. Sage 113; P.Sartain 113; P.Plumley 94; E.Swann 67; S.Gazdar; D.Wheeler; J. Lee 85; D.Geeney 107; J.Fisher 129; M. Erturk 113; J.Burrows

Graham Mill-Wilson and Steve Wolgar did an excellent job controlling the event, and we hope to make this an annual fixture on the Bristol Grand Prix circuit. The vision of South Bristol Chess Club is to hold tournaments of this calibre and recruit many more players of any playing strength, as we continue to expand and become one of the largest

and most popular clubs in Bristol and Somerset
[<http://freewebs.com/southbristolchess/>]

14th IBCA World Chess Olympiad for the Blind & Visually Impaired

Chennai, India 10-19 Aug 2012

Congratulations to Colin Crouch (7.5/9) and Chris Ross (6.5/9) who won silver medals on boards one and two respectively for the United Kingdom team. The team also comprised Stephen Hilton 1.5/7, David Hodgkins 3.5/6 and John Gallagher 0.5/5. The team finished on 10 match points from nine rounds. Each team was allowed a squad of five and four play in each match.

John Littlewood U18 Best Game Prize 2012

Congratulations to Craig Whitfield on winning the 'John Littlewood U18 Best Game Prize' at this year's British Chess Championships in North Shields. His win against Edward Dodds in the 10th round was the game chosen.

It is well worth noting that this is an annual prize, and will be running every year until further notice.

3rd Jorvik Chess Congress

The above event was held at the Holiday Inn York from 28th to 30th August with 43 entries. A good spread of players of different abilities were in 2 sections, 6 round Swiss. This year event was held at a different location which proved popular with adequate parking. Pictures (by Brendan O'Gorman) may be found here

Results were as follows:-

Section A

1st= Jonathan Nelson and Daniel Sullivan Sheffield 5/6

3rd= Patrick Twomey Ireland and Gary Hinchcliffe Barnsley 4/6

5th= Stephen Mitchell Slough, Richard Cowan York, Steve Clare Wallasey, Derek Sheppard Hull, Paul Johnson York and Peter Lovatt Malpass 3.5/6

Section B

1st= Alec Grice Beverley, Bill Ward Sheffield and Jonathan Martin Kettering 4,5/6

4th= Gordon Pearce Alwoodley, Cameron Blair and Ewan Miller York

7th Norman Andrews York 3.5/6

8th= Steve Thacker Nottingham, Ralph Hewes York, Eric Mc Kenna Sheffield, Ranyl Hughes Selby, Richard Harrington Hampton, Paul Brooks York, Shane Frith Sheffield, Alice Tang Gloucester and Athol MacGilchrist Maybole 3/6

British Championships 2012 - prizewinners' list

Competition	Annual Trophy	Cash amount	Name	Club	Points
British Championship 1st	British	£3,825.00	Gawain Jones	4NCL NACCPO	9/11
1st=		£3,675.00	Stephen Gordon	Wd Gr, H'mark K/fisher	9/12
3rd		£1,500.00	David Howell	4NCL Pride & Prejudice	8.5
4th=		£750.00	Keith Arkell	4NCL Cheddleton	7.5
4th=		£750.00	Daniel Gormally	4NCL Cheddleton	7.5
4th=		£750.00	Jonathan Hawkins	Consett/Leam Lane	7.5
7th=		£83.34	Stuart Conquest	4NCL Guildford	7
7th=		£83.34	Richard Palliser	4NCL White Rose	7
7th=		£83.34	Matthew Turner	4NCL Barbican	7
Rating under 2200		£250.00	William Foo	Reading	(+4.23)
Rating 2200-2349		£250.00	James Holland	Berkshire Junior	(+3.42)
British Woman Champion	British Ladies	£500.00	Jovanka Houska	Wd Gr, H'mark K/fisher	6.5
English Champion=	Tony Miles	£750.00	Gawain Jones	4NCL NACCPO	9
English Champion=		£750.00	Stephen Gordon	Wd Gr, H'mark K/fisher	9
English Woman Champion		£500.00	Jovanka Houska	Wd Gr, H'mark K/fisher	6.5
Under 21 Champion		£250.00	James Adair	Reading	6.5
Under 21 Girls Champion			Sue Maroroa-Jones	4NCL NACCPO	5.5
Under 18 Champion=	Ginner Cup	£125.00	William Foo	Reading	6.5
Under 18 Champion=		£125.00	Marcus Harvey	Bicester	6.5
Under 18 Champion girl			Radha Jain	Pinner	4
British Senior Champion	A. Stammwitz	£400.00	Norman Hutchinson	Linton	6/7
2nd		£200.00	Roger Emerson	Guildford	5.5
3rd=		£25.00	Paul Habershon	Bedford	5
		£25.00	Alastair White	Edinburgh	5
		£25.00	Ivan Myall	Writtle	5
		£25.00	John Feavyour	Saxmundham	5
British Under 16 Champion		£133.33	Oskar Hackner	SASCA	5
British Under 16 Champion Girl			Chantelle Foster	Cowley	4.5
British Under 15 Champion Boy=		£133.33	Henry Broadley	Chorley	5
		£133.33	Adam C. Taylor	Colchester	5
British Under 15 Champion Girl			Louise Head	Crowthorne	3
British Under 14 Champion Boy		£200.00	Tarun Malhotra	Northwood	6
British Under 14 Champion Girl=			Akshaya Kalaiyalahan	Wey Valley	3.5
			Cosima Keen	Sussex	3.5
			Jessica Wen	Orpington	3.5
2nd=		£100.00	Andrew Horton	3Cs	5.5
		£100.00	Adam C. Taylor	Colchester	5.5
British Under 13 Champion Boy		£200.00	Akito Oyama	Cambridge City	6/7
British Under 13 Champion Girl=2nd		£100.00	Anna Wang	Cowley	5/7
2nd=		£100.00	William Claridge-Hansen	Aylesbury	5/7
British Under 12 Champion Boy		£200.00	Anthony Zhang	Crowthorne	6.5/7
British Under 12 Champion Girl=			Monica Espinosa	Ayr	4/6
British Under 12 Champion Girl=			Eva Ressel	Checkmates	4/6
2nd		£120.00	Joshua Higgs	Worth Abbey	5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Callum Brewer	Brighton and Hove	4.5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Jake Liang	Surbiton	4.5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Matthew McLachlan	RGS Guildford	4.5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Kai Pannwitz	Inverness	4.5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Yang-Jian Zhou	Whitgift	4.5/7
British Under 11 Champion Boy		£200.00	Arul Gupta	Kent	6/7
British Under 11 Champion Girl		£16.00	Akshaya Kalaiyalahan	Wey Valley	5/7
2nd		£120.00	Girinath Haridas	Mitcham	5.5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Jacob Connor Boswell	Cheddleton&Leek	5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Gautam Jain	Heathside	5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Akshaya Kalaiyalahan	Wey Valley	5/7
3rd=		£16.00	Taylor Pearson	Nottingham	5/7

3rd=	£16.00	Zheming Zhang	Jesmond	5/7
British Under 10 Champion Boy	£200.00	Charlie McLaren	Musketeers	6/7
British Under 10 Champion Girl		Stephanie Du Toit	Monmouth	4.5/7
2nd=	£100.00	Adam Averbukh	Wey Valley	5.5/6
2nd=	£100.00	Gabriel Balouka-Myers	Garden Suburb	5.5/7
British Under 9 Champion Boy	£100.00	Sacha Brozel	Barnet Knights	6.5/7
British Under 9 Champion Girl		Mahima Raghavedra		5/7
2nd	£60.00	Joshua Altman	Barnet Knights	6/7
3rd=	£20.00	Oliver Howell	Redhill	5.5/7
3rd=	£20.00	Boris Pastukov	Amersham	5.5/7
British Under 8 Champion Boy	£80.00	Aditya Verma	Ilford	5.5/6
British Under 8 Champion Girl		Arushi Ramaiya	Wimbledon	4.5/6
2nd=	£40.00	Joshua Altman	Barnet Knights	5/6
	£40.00	Leo Sanitt	NW London	5/6
British Under 180 Champion=	£160.00	David Openshaw	Cavendish	4
	£160.00	Michael Riding	Tynemouth	4
3rd=	£27.00	Paul Evans	Lytham	3.5
	£27.00	Ron Plater	Newcastle	3.5
	£27.00	Mark Szymanski	Ely	3.5
British Under 160 Champion	£200.00	Harry Li	Alwoodley	4.5
2nd=	£66.66	Martin Bush	Wantage	4
2nd=	£66.66	Neil Jones	Cockermouth	4
2nd=	£66.66	Daniel O'Dowd	Carlisle	4
British Under 140 Champion=	£80.00	Syringa Camp	Colwyn Bay	4
British Under 140 Champion=	£80.00	Daniel Jazdzewski	Chessmates	4
British Under 140 Champion=	£80.00	Clive Pemberton	S. Birmingham	4
British Under 140 Champion=	£80.00	Owen Robson	Minster Inn	4
British Under 140 Champion=	£80.00	David Walshaw	Jesmond	4
British Under 120 Champion=	£100.00	Stephen Crockett		4
British Under 120 Champion=	£100.00	Gordon Glover	Crusaders	4
British Under 120 Champion=	£100.00	Peter Harrington	Blackburn	4
British Under 120 Champion=	£100.00	Gwilym Price	Aldro	4
Major Open	Dundee Trophy £1,000.00	Pierre Weller	York RI	9.5/11
2nd=	£375.00	David Henderson	Tynemouth	7.5
2nd=	£375.00	Simon McCullough	Sandhurst	7.5
4th	£150.00	Stephen A. Jones	Grappenhall	7
5th=	£16.66	William G. Armstrong	Cheddleton	6.5
5th=	£16.66	John Garnett	Elmwood	6.5
5th=	£16.66	Arne Hagesaether	Norway	6.5
5th=	£16.66	Martin Sheard	Barnsley	6.5
5th=	£16.66	Mike Waddington	Grappenhall	6.5
5th=	£16.66	Richard Webster	West Bridgeford	6.5
Rating Prize 1	£150.00	Nicholas Mahoney	Barnby Dun	0.39
Rating Prize 2	£100.00	Raymond Wynarczyk	Ashington	0.35
5 Day Morning - week 1				
	£112.50	Christopher Howell	Redhill	4
1=	£112.50	James J McDonnell	Streatham	4
3rd	£40.00	Ilya Iyengar	Wycombe	3.5
5 Day Afternoon - week 1				
1st	£150.00	Samuel Walker	Wycombe	4.5
2=	£57.50	Richard Bryant	Chester	4
2=	£57.50	Mark Szymanski	Leeds	4
5 Day Morning - week 2				
1st	£150.00	David Graham	Worthing	4.5
2=	£57.50	Ioan Rees	Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg	4
2=	£57.50	Michael Grove	Dundee Victoria	4
5 Day Afternoon - week 2				
1st	£150.00	Jamie Hookham	Kinross	4.5
2nd =	£38.33	Peter Hempson	Ecclesall	4
3rd =	£38.33	Jamie Horton	3Cs	4
4th =	£38.33	Ken Neat	Durham	4
Week 1 Rapidplay Open 1st	£140.00	Danny Gormally	Cheddltton	6

2nd	£70.00	James Adair	York	5
Week 1 Rapidplay U160 1st	£140.00	Stephen Whatley	Gibraltar	5.5
2=	£35.00	Akshaya Kalaiyalahan	Richmond Jnr	4.5
2=	£35.00	Ian McKay	Austin Friars	4.5
Week 2 Rapidplay Open 1st	£140.00	Mike Surtees	Bolton	5
2nd=	£35.00	Martin Brown	Grappenhall	4.5
2nd=	£35.00	Chris Archer-Lock	Berkshire	4.5
Week 2 Rapidplay U160 1st	£105.00	Tim Wrigley	Tynedale	5
2nd=	£105.00	Andrew Robinson	Newcastle	5

Weekenders

Atkins				
1st=	£105.00	John Carleton	Chester	4.5
1=	£105.00	Peter Mercs	Gambit	4.5
3rd=	£25.00	Paul Dargan	Tynemouth	4
3=	£25.00	Marco Campini	Italy	4
Grading	£6.66	Somton Ukken	Bury St Edmonds	2.5
Grading	£6.66	Jim Friar	Kidderminster	2.5
Grading	£6.66	Miguel Espinosa	Carrick	2.5
Grading	£6.66	Simon Edwards	Cheddleton	2.5
Grading	£6.66	Michael Ridge	Edinburgh	2.5
Grading	£6.66	Michael Hubbard	Tynemouth	2.5
Soanes				
1st	£140.00	Ian Mackay	Austin Friars	4.5
2=	£60.00	James Friar	Kidderminster	4
2=	£60.00	David Gilbert	DHSS	4
Grading	£13.33	Daniel O'Dowd	Carlisle	3
Grading	£13.33	Greg Tebble	Norwich	3
Grading	£13.33	Ananth Vijayikumar	Wey Valley	3
Yates				
1st	£140.00	Andrew Clark	London	4.5
2=	£60.00	Iain Hope	Musselburgh	4
2=	£60.00	Leszek Rewak	Musselburgh	4
Grading	£40.00	Dick Heathwood	Pentland Hills	3
Other prizes				
Best Welsh Performance	Roy Clues	Stephanie Du Toit		
Services to the congress	Boxall Salver	Lara Barnes, Congress Manager		

Cash awards

	Title		
Best Game in the British	Alexander BGP	£100.00	Gawain Jones v Jonathan Hawkins
Best Junior Game Week 1	Sussex Juniors award	£50.00	Akito Oyama v Michael Ashworth
Best Junior Game Week 2	Sussex Juniors award	£50.00	James Holland v James Jackson
Most Meritous Performance by a Junior	Ernie Lazenby Award	£100.00	James Holland (British Championship)
Best Improvement in Grade/Rating Junior =	Tim & Abi Adams Award	£50.00	Laura Davidson
Best Improvement in Grade/Rating Junior =	Tim & Abi Adams Award	£50.00	Nugith Jayawarna
Problem Solving			
1st Mate in 2		Book, £10.00	Mike Waddington, Grappenhall
1st Proof Game		Book, £10.00	Mike Waddington, Grappenhall
2nd Mate in 2		Book	Alan Fraser, Beckenham & Bromley
3rd Mate in 2 + 2nd PG		Books	Ilya Iyengar, Buckinghamshire
3rd in PG		Book	Clive Waters, Tynemouth

UK finish 7th and take two Silver Medals in the 14th Chess Olympiad for Blind and Partially-Sighted Players

The UK team finished in a very creditable 7th place after being seeded 11th in the 14th IBCA Chess Olympiad held in Chennai, India from 9th to 20th August. Much of this success was due to the Silver Medal performances of International Master Colin Crouch with 7.5 from 9 on the top board and Candidate Master Chris Ross with 6.5 on the second board.

With several of the other BCA's leading players being unavailable, the other three members of the team - Steve Hilton, David Hodgkins and John Gallagher - found themselves battling with players of much higher ratings. It is to their credit they performed well with David Hodgkins, in particular, achieving results well in excess of his rating with his score of 3.5 from 6.

Another significant feature of the team's performance was that, of the nine rounds played, eight rounds were against teams seeded in the top ten and six were against the teams finishing in the top six places. With this performance, the UK comfortably qualified to play in the next IBCA World Team Cup for the top ten teams, due to be played in Spain during 2013.

Team Captain, Chris Ross, was particularly keen to acknowledge the outstanding support given to the team by its two coaches, Grand Master Neil McDonald and International Master Chris Beaumont, and by the two tireless guides, Sally Kenealy and Geoff Ward.

The Braille Chess Association is extremely grateful to its generous sponsors, who enabled it to send a squad well-prepared, and with the excellent support of high quality coaches and guides.

Chris Ross selected for IBCA team in FIDE Olympiad

Just a week after his Silver Medal performance in the International Braille Chess Association Olympiad in India, Chris Ross was on his travels again - this time heading for Turkey, as part of the IBCA team in the FIDE Olympiad.

For some years, IBCA has been invited to enter a men's team and a women's team in the FIDE Olympiad. One of the aims is to encourage and

support the playing of chess by visually impaired people throughout the world.

The IBCA mens team started as 87th seed and finished in 47th place. This fine achievement earned them a Gold Medal in their category. Chris was selected as reserve, but after a cracking start with four straight wins he was selected to play eight times in the eleven round event, finishing with a score of 5.5 from 8 - another fine performance following his Silver Medal in India.

Chris, who was born in the Stockton-on-Tees area, has a Degree in Modern Languages from Sheffield University. He has recently taken up a post as disability officer at Northampton University.

English Chess Federation National Club Championships 2012/13

A message from Julie Johnson ...

It's that time of year again. If your club hasn't entered this event, please think about doing so. It is a chance to play opponents you wouldn't otherwise meet. You are likely to have a match every 6 - 8 weeks, with a round before Christmas and up to 4 matches between Jan and early July.

The rules in summary are on the entry form, available from the ECF website or upon request from the ECF Office.

The full rules may be found online at www.englishchess.org.uk/?page_id=40

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me -

Email: juliedjohnson@yahoo.com
105 Central Avenue, Syston,
Leics LE7 2EG
Tel: 0116 260 9012

Junior Chess

12th Godalming Open Junior Tournament

On the 1st Sept just over 90 competitors took part in this tournament held at Aldro School. The standard of play was excellent with a majority of the players having ECF grades. Many of the players have already played in the British Championships or the Terafinals this summer.

The U18 section (8 players) was a particularly high standard and there was a three way tie for first place Gwilym Price(Aldro), Peter Finn (RGS High Wycombe) and Alex Golding(Downsend) the youngest of the players scored 3.5\ 5 and shared the money prize.

Under 13 section (21 players)

1st Zoe Varney 4.5\5, 2nd Anshu Ramaiya 4\5 3rd= Alex Darby, Joel Malam, Liam McNight and Daniel Varney 3.5\5

Under 11 section (14 players)

1st= Elizaveta Sheremetyeva and Gabriel Balouka -Myers 4.5\5, 3rd= James Golding and Reuben Balouks -Myers 3.5\5

Under 10 section (17 players)

1st= Omeet Atara and Madeleine Liu 4.5\5, 3rd Boris Pastukhov 4\5

Under 9 section (32 players)

1st Benjamin Headlong 5\5, 2nd= Henry Dorman, William Golding , Matthew Gray , Darshan Kumaresan and Tobias Balouka -Myers 4\5

The players deserve great credit in the way they competed and also for their excellent behaviour throughout the day. My thanks go to all the Godalming chess club members who helped with the smooth running of the tournament, particularly David Tuddenham and to the Aldro parents who organised the refreshments.

Godalming Chess Club takes place on Thursday evenings at the Community Rooms next to Godalming Swimming pool in Farncombe. Any potential junior or adult members can contact me for further information.

- David Archer Tournament Controller (archerd@aldro.org)



Mureck Diaries - the European Youth Chess Championships

Tuesday July 31st

Most of the England team arrived late yesterday afternoon (Monday 30th July). The main party group were pleased to be greeted at the Gasthof Fabiani - by Peter and Gill Turner, which was a very happy surprise! Students of the English junior chess scene will recognise Peter and Gill as squad leaders for this and sundry other events over many years. While on a caravan holiday around Europe, they somehow found themselves in Mureck to say hello to their old friends, Rosemarie and Marino Fabiani, at the right time to make sure the head of delegation, new signing Dave Regis, successfully picked up the baton they were passing on.

The sun has put in a fairly constant appearance, rather like our WiFi connection. We've had quite a gentle start to our visit, although, in the short time since arriving, the Slades have researched cycle hire, mapped the valley, ridden around the town, peered at neighbouring Slovenia and tested the waters of the lake. Meanwhile, others in the party have accomplished several major shopping expeditions to the supermarket, an important series of table-tennis and badminton events have been started and the Weavers have survived being delivered to the wrong place from the airport without undue discomposure. We have also learnt how to distinguish male from female spiders.

Oh, and the chess? The coaching and playing timetable begins in earnest tomorrow, while today was spent in an unstructured but productive way. There have been many games of chess played, a variety of openings discussed, several studies studied, and a few master games dissected. We were also able to cheer on Peter's son Matthew as we watched him convert a two-pawn advantage at the British Championships.

We share our accommodation with teams from Switzerland and Latvia. Our day was rounded off by late-night contests between Theo Slade and Stanislav, one of the Latvian coaches, and between Latvian U10 Daniel and Dave. Two magnificently diplomatic draws were agreed. We then enjoyed a brief post-mortem of Theo's game with hardly a single mutually understood word between us, which was hampered only slightly by Dave's inability to recognise names like Pirc and Ufimtsev when they are pronounced correctly.

Roll call - U8 Ileysa bin-Suhayl, U10 Tess Weaver, U12 Theo Slade, U12 Ibraheem bin-Suhayl, U14 Yousuf bin-Suhayl, U14 Lauren Weaver, U14 Stephen Whatley; Coach - Tom Rendle; Head of Delegation - David Regis

Day 3

We have a guaranteed point today as Ibraheem and Theo have been drawn to play each other. Rosanna took the opportunity yesterday evening to explore the 'stuff to do box' and this morning has played a game of chess with Sally, 50 minutes long! The result was a draw.

We have said farewell to Peter and Gill Turner who have headed for home today. We understand that while fine in the Olympic venue, the weather in Somerset has been rain - 1 inch last night. Here in Mureck, we had a short shower this afternoon which has caused us to shelter under the steps at the venue rather than on our rose bench. We are still on half marks, our total today - 3.5, 3 draws, 2 wins

Day 4

It may be the weekend but there is no rest, as another morning of preparation for our earnest young chess players gets underway straight after our hearty breakfast. Whilst those waiting their turn fill in the time eating huge ice creams, playing badminton, table tennis, walks around the lake and cycling in the glorious sunshine (are you all jealous yet?).

An uneventful and relaxing morning for the parents in the rather chilly 35 degrees (it was 38 yesterday) leads up to a somewhat familiar lunch menu. So it's 14.30 and we are off to the venue where it transpired that it was not the best day for Team England in terms of scores with only 2/7 on Saturday, but there were some very close games where the score did not tell the whole story!

However, morale is high and our young Gladiators live to fight another day and continue to astound us with their resolute determination to achieve their best for themselves and their country.

Day 6

This entry is part 4 of 6 in the series Mureck 2012

Mureck is on the river Mur, which forms part of the border with Slovenia. Some of the team have taken the opportunity to make a short visit over the bridge to this relatively young country. The

proximity probably explains the relatively large Slovenian chess contingent at this tournament.

Mureck website -

http://www.chess.at/specials/2011/1108_mureck.htm

About 3km east of the Fabiani guesthouse, past the lake, in the opposite direction from the town centre, we found a metal tower structure, 'Murturm'. This tower was built after the cold war as a peaceful way of viewing the surrounding countryside; after climbing 168 steps in the baking heat one is rewarded with views above the treetops, of the Mur and a Slovenian town.

On the chess front, day 6 was the best so far for the England team, with wins for Stephen, Tess and Ileysaa and draws for Lauren and Yousuf, so 4/7. Points so far are Ileysaa 5, Stephen and Theo 3.5, Lauren, Yousuf and Tess 2 and Ibraheem 1.5.

It is only by being here that one can really appreciate how full-on the coaches' schedules are, with back-to-back training all morning and analysis and preparation from late afternoon until past dusk (with a short dinner break allowed). They must love chess (or schach, as the locals say)! Dave, as head of delegation, has additional responsibilities which have required him to put to extensive use all the psychological and diplomatic expertise he has accumulated to try to keep the peace. He keeps going in his optimistic and affable manner; one wonders where he finds the time to sleep!

Rosemary, who runs the Fabiani, has been very accommodating of our numerous requests, for example on the food front, where the serious nut allergies of two of our delegation have been dealt with very well.

The Olympics is frequently on our agenda, with some TV access with German commentary and many of the adults here accessing BBC for web updates during the day; this is particularly the case during afternoons.

More ...

Today we visited the beautiful city of Graz, Austria's second largest city. We headed for the Schlossberg (a mountain in the middle of the city which has an ancient fortress). We reached the top via the funicular railway. After our journey we were ready for a coffee. We found a café at the top with the most spectacular views of the city.

We made our descent down many steps to the streets below to discover the vibrant cafes and shops.

If you are into architecture this is the place to come, the old historic buildings are exquisite and the modern contemporary buildings are truly inspiring. The Kunsthaus Graz is one of the city's new landmarks which houses temporary exhibitions and a restaurant. We made our second pit stop at the Murinsel which is the most amazing structure that sits in the middle of the river Mur. It is accessed via the bridge and the glass building takes the form of a floating shell. It houses a café and an amphitheatre. It has to be seen to be believed.

Once we had finished our refreshments we headed for the very stylish department store in the middle of Graz as recommended by the ladies in the tourist information office in Mureck. We were told we must go to the top of the building to the roof terrace and see the amazing views of this stunning city

I would definitely recommend to anyone to visit this stylish city. The chess results today were 3.5 out of 7, three wins and a draw.

England takes Bronze!

Young Ileysaa bin-Suhayl won a Bronze Medal in the Under-8 section of the European Union Youth Chess Championships in Mureck, Austria!

Yousuf bin-Suhayl - 4.5 EU 14

Stephen Whatley - 4.5 EU 14

Lauren Weaver - 3.0 EU 14

Theodore Slade - 4.5 EU 12

Ibraheem bin-Suhayl - 3.0 EU 12

Tess Weaver - 3.0 EU 10

Ileysaa bin-Suhayl - 7.0 EU 08 - BRONZE MEDAL!

World Junior Chess Championship 2012

- from Sonal Haria

The World Junior Chess Championship 2012 took place between 2nd to 15th August, in Athens, Greece. Further tournament information is at www.athens2012.com

This international trip was organised and made possible by Lawrence Cooper with both Lawrence and Mark Hebden coaching some of the players (Lawrence coached William, Henrik, Lateefah and Megan and Mark coached Yang-Fan, Callum and

Ravi). Accompanying parent: Sonal (Ravi's mum) with a surprise visit from Ping (Yang-Fan's mum) It was really impressive to see players from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland celebrating successes and helping each other through the tough 13 round tournament, which was attended by many full time junior chess professionals from countries whose leaders prioritise chess above many other pursuits including school. The top under 20 Girl is from China and the top under 20 Boy from Turkey. Our group all played close to or just below their rating, but this is too strong a tournament to expect to gain much in the way of rating points!

The hotel and playing venue, Titania Hotel, in the centre of Athens (very close to the Acropolis), proved to be an excellent venue and the whole event was very well organised by the Greek Chess Federation.

Federation	Player Name	Rating	Total score
ENGLAND	IM Yang-Fan Zhou	2430	7
ENGLAND	FM Callum Kilpatrick	2326	7
ENGLAND	William Jones	2127	4.5
ENGLAND	Ravi Haria	2054	5.5
ENGLAND	Henrik Stepanyan	2022	4.5
ENGLAND	Lateefah Messam-Sparkes	1947	5
ENGLAND	Anna York-Anderson	1828	5.5
WALES	Ashley Davis	1929	4
WALES	Megan Owens	1816	5.5
SCOTLAND	Clement Sreeves	2191	6
SCOTLAND	Jonathan Edwards	2170	5.5
IRELAND	Ryan Rhys Griffiths	2362	7

World U-16 Olympiad Istanbul 2012 - from Glenn Flear

This is the first time that the youth Olympiad has been run concurrently with the mainstream Olympiad. So the experience gained by playing in a competitive team event abroad, is enhanced by the chance to watch and rub shoulders with many of the leading players in the world.

England's team of five, Marcus Harvey, Oskar Hackner, Roy Zhang, Amy Hoare, and Daniel Noel, is being coached by yours truly, GM Glenn Flear.

The venue is the Istanbul Trade centre, an enormous complex of exhibition halls, so playing conditions are modern, spacious, air-conditioned, and generally ideal for large chess events.

We are staying in a student dormitory, a short bus journey away, where the players are also eating their meals. The food is Turkish, so relatively new to most visitors. It's edible but, to put it mildly, it's not exactly the favourite type of food of our five English teenagers! The rooms are hot and a little noisy, as we are next to a busy road, but the organizers have been helpful to make the stay enjoyable. Electric fans have appeared, and each person has their own locker and desk. Indeed, despite the multi-person rooms, they are not cramped. We have also been supplied with a 3G dongle, to ease our earlier problems with the Internet.



As for the chess, the infamous five are using their preparation time by looking at all aspects of chess intensely. The preparation doesn't always crop up, as the names of the actual opponents are revealed very late, but the work they are putting into their game should pay dividends in the future.

So far the England team has won two matches out of three, but lost heavily to the third seeds:

Round 1: Lebanon 0.5-3.5 England

Round 2: England 0-4 India (ouch!)

Round 3: Sweden 1-3 England

A fourth round pairing against Greece, who are very slightly higher-rated than England, will be a real test.

England U-16 Team at the halfway stage in Istanbul.

After five rounds, 19th seeded England is in 17th place in the Youth Olympiad.

A disappointing end to the Greek match was followed up with a comfortable victory over a useful Slovakian team. Complicated struggles in Roy Zhang's and Oskar Hackner's games, yesterday in the Greek match, could have gone either way, but Roy was only able to draw and Oskar lost.

4th round - England 1.5-2.5 Greece

5th round - Slovakia-B 1-3 England

Against Slovakia, top board Marcus Harvey won his third win in a row, while Oskar Hackner kept up his 100% record with the white pieces. Roy and Daniel drew their games to complete a fine victory over the younger of the two Slovakian teams.

Scores so far: England has a total of 11/20 (3 matches won, 2 lost).

Marcus 3.5/5, Oskar 3/5, Roy 2/4, Amy 1/3, Daniel 1.5/3

An unfortunate problem with picking four players, from a squad of five, is that it is very hard to even out the colours. So for example, from the first six rounds Amy Hoare has had four Blacks with no Whites, while Daniel Noel has only played with White!

Round 6

In the sixth round England lost a hotly-contested match against South Africa.

On board one Marcus Harvey held a dubious looking position, due largely to his opponent's time trouble. On board two, Oskar Hackner was pressing to win, but went astray and eventually lost, again with time playing a part. Amy Hoare went down in complications on third board, as the bishop and two pawns proved to be stronger than



Amy's rook. Daniel Noël was England's only winner, when his neat combination netted a pawn, which was duly converted in the endgame.

Round 6: South Africa 2.5-1.5 England

England is in 20th place right in the middle of the table. The team visited the central part of Istanbul on the rest day, as can be seen in the photo taken by the famous Blue Mosque.

England Youth Team in action

The Under-16 Olympiad is drawing to a close in Istanbul. The English team is now just below halfway going into the last round.

Round 7: England 0.5-3.5 Turkey Turquoise

Round 8: England 3-1 Moldova

Round 9: Turkey White 2.5-1.5 England

The seventh round turned out badly, as Daniel Noel blundered a piece and Marcus Harvey got his rook trapped as he pressed for a win. Most unfortunate of all was Amy Hoare, who lost on time when closing in for the kill in the technical endgame of queen against rook.

In the eighth round, Marcus sacrificed a rook unsoundly and was punished by his opponent's cool defensive play. However Oskar, Roy and Daniel proved to be too good for their opponents, in a good bounce-back on a long double-round day. Oskar's sacrificial attack was particularly noteworthy.

In the ninth round, three draws and a loss on time (by Oskar in a perfectly defensible position) led to a narrow defeat in a tight match. A number of the teams seem to have distinctly under-rated youngsters, particularly those from Turkey, a country very much on the rise chess-wise.

In the final round we are playing Turkmenistan, a former Soviet Republic in central Asia.

Our players are not that accustomed to this type of time control (90', +30" per move) and have had difficulty coping with time shortage here (especially Amy and Oskar). I would recommend

that English junior events switch to a continental-style incremental time control, in order to give our juniors the required experience in advance.

It's noticeable that in the Youth Olympiad, the level of play has been quite high in the early stages, but deteriorates when time gets short. Juniors need to improve their endgame play, especially these days when there is so little time available on the clock.

... and finally

In the final round England narrowly lost out to a tough Turkmenistan team. Daniel Noel defended solidly, whereas Roy had to find a route to safety after his opponent sacrificed a piece. Amy had a complicated game where her opponent obtained good play at first with a combination. The young English star then found a resourceful defence, involving a temporary piece sacrifice, to steer the dangerous complications into safer territory. A repetition at the end sealed the draw. Oskar was the only loser after his opponent played a fine game in the King's Indian.

Round Ten: England 1.5-2.5 Turkmenistan

The team finished on 19/40 which put them towards the top of the second-half of the table. The preparation sessions involved the players helping each other and sharing their ideas and own analyses. It was a pleasure to be part of such a constructive atmosphere. The team spirit remained excellent throughout and the five players deserve credit for their 'esprit de corps'. I was also impressed at the way the players took adversity on the chin, and rebounded with the desire to fight back.

Here are the final scores of the team members:
Marcus Harvey 4.5/9 (a passionate self-confident chess-oholic full of original ideas)

Oskar Hackner 4/9 (strong with the initiative)

Roy Zhang 4/7 (positionally sound and tough to beat)

Amy Hoare 2/7 (took lots of awkward Blacks, finished with two gritty draws)

Daniel Noel 4.5/8 (cautious, but gained greatly in confidence as the event progressed)

The experience gained should see these youngsters in good stead in future, and I anticipate them all being stronger for the experience. If they are to be your future opponents, be warned!

Girl Power at the European Youth Championships in Prague 2012

- by WFM Sarah Hegarty

Seven of England's strongest female chess players have just returned from a successful trip to Prague. They were competing in the prestigious European Youth Chess Championships where they challenged leading players from all over Europe.

The girls were enthusiastic and must be commended on how much effort they put into doing well. They are all top of their respective age groups in England but the standard of chess in this international event is extremely high with no easy games! The most notable performance was by Akshaya who scored 6/9 and finished in 14th place; an outstanding performance where she only lost one game.

Laura, Beatrice and Eva made their international debuts! Beatrice was delighted to have the opportunity to compete against a Women Grand Master and was proud of an excellent 4.5/9. Eva played some fantastic chess and had nice wins against Luxembourg, Moldova and Macedonia. Laura played some brilliant attacking games and scored 4 points against a very tough field including players from Italy, Estonia and Poland. This was an excellent performance especially since Laura was a year younger than most of the other girls in her section!



This was Meytal's second international event having already represented England in the World Schools Chess Championships earlier this year. She thoroughly enjoyed it and played some great chess. The hardest part was having to play an Israeli girl as Meytal was born in Israel and lived the first two years of her life there. However, there are no friends over the chessboard; Meytal played a lovely game and won!

Amy is experienced as an international player and had a successful tournament including an excellent game against the top seed from Hungary. Chantelle and Katherine also did well in the U16 section against a tough field.

It was pleasing to see that the girls all enjoyed themselves and supported each other; their spirits always stayed high regardless of the results. My coaching group consisted of Laura, Eva and Meytal who were all great students and a pleasure to work with!

Laura Davidson who was competing in the U10 Girls has written a short piece on her experiences in Prague:

"The EYCC in Prague was great fun. I met some interesting 'chess' friends from other European countries. Some of us swapped email addresses, so hopefully we can stay in touch and play chess online.

The coaches were brilliant! I was coached by Sarah Hegarty. She spent lots of time coaching me in the morning before my games and analysing them afterwards, in the evening. Sarah was also coaching my friends, Meytal and Eva. Sometimes we would sit together in the afternoons and play chess.

Sarah and my mum kept telling me to drink lots of water during my games because it was so hot in the playing hall. Also all my opponents swapped small gifts with me before the start of each game. It was exciting in the evenings, waiting to see which country and opponent you would be playing the next day. I would do it all the time if I could. I wish all competitions were such fun!"



The English Chess Federation Certificate of Merit

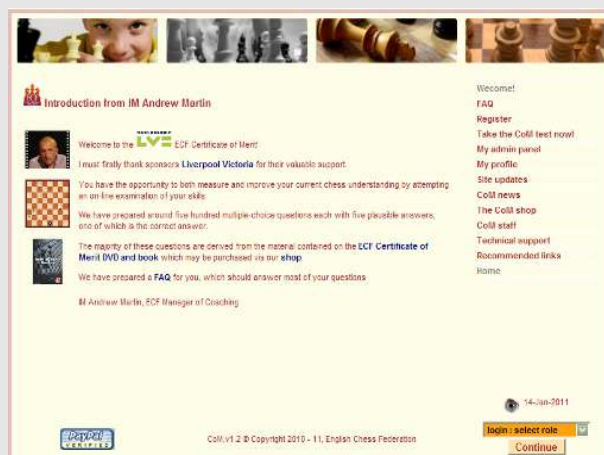
The Certificate of Merit (COM) is centred on a number of online tests, which enable chess students to measure their progress and to earn certificates and badges. The tests are taken entirely online, and payments for the credits can be made online or by cheque. Examinees can practice as many times as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

Each credit costs £6 or £150 for 30. Once a student has paid for a credit, he or she can then take the test as many times as necessary until a pass is achieved.

Students can track each question answered wrongly and find out the correct answer.

The answers now have an explanation included (where appropriate)

There is also a package available of many goodies - for details, go to www.certificateofmerit.org.uk
For further information contact the ECF Office:
01424 775222 / com@englishchess.org.uk
www.certificateofmerit.org.uk



NATIONAL SCHOOLS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012/13

NEW GIRLS' AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS NATIONAL EVENTS - FREE ENTRY OFFER EXTENDED!

The National Schools Chess Championships date back to 1957. For 2012/13 the format has been extended to include for the first time both girls' and primary school sections. Thanks to the generosity of our new sponsors Heathside Preparatory School, Winchester College and St Catherine's Bramley, the English Chess Federation is delighted to advise that entry to the competition is currently FREE!

The Championships is the leading school team competition welcoming schools across the United Kingdom, and over the years they have been graced by many children who have gone on to become some of the nation's greatest-ever players. Grandmaster Nigel Short said "I really enjoyed representing my school, Bolton, in the National Schools. I competed in it a number of times and it was always a great event."

To celebrate the addition of the girls' events, high profile chess-playing MP Rachel Reeves recently hosted a number of players from new sponsors St. Catherine's Bramley at the Houses of Parliament.

Representatives from the ECF's organising team also attended the meeting.

Provided that entries are made by 30th September 2012 ('open' sections - i.e. open to boys and girls) or 31st October 2012 (girls' sections), all schools in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are able to enter the 2012/13 event for FREE!¹

This means that all your school needs to qualify for the National Schools Finals is six talented players (or just three for girls' sections), six chess sets, transport for (on average) two away matches at the local zonal stage - and one more if your team qualifies for the national stages - plus some squash and biscuits to give your opponents at home matches. So there has never been a better year to enter your school into the National Schools Chess Championships! Full details and online entry form at www.nationalschoolschess.org.uk

The Championships feature:

- ♦ Four national titles: U19, U19 Girls, U11 and U11 Girls
- ♦ FREE ENTRY for schools applying before 30th September 2012 ('open' sections) or 31st October 2012 (girls' sections).
- ♦ A commemorative pin badge for every U11 player who takes part (funds permitting)
- ♦ A variety of first round 'zonal' formats: for open sections local zones aiming for matches within 30 minutes' travel (in most areas) or knockouts; and for girls' sections four regional semi-finals
- ♦ An inscribed National Schools Chess Championships trophy or digital chess clock prize for every zone-winning school
- ♦ Finals for all sections to be held at a central venue on two days in early July 2013.²

Organised by the English Chess Federation, and sponsored by Winchester College, St Catherine's Bramley and Heathside Preparatory School.



To celebrate the addition of the girls' events, high profile chess-playing MP Rachel Reeves recently hosted a number of players from new sponsors St. Catherine's Bramley at the Houses of Parliament. Representatives from the ECF's organising team also attended the meeting.

¹ Note that the ECF reserves the right to withdraw the free entry offer at any time in advance of these dates, should demand exceed expectations. As such early entry is strongly recommended.

² Note that there will be a small charge per person to cover the cost of board and lodgings at the finals. More details on the website.

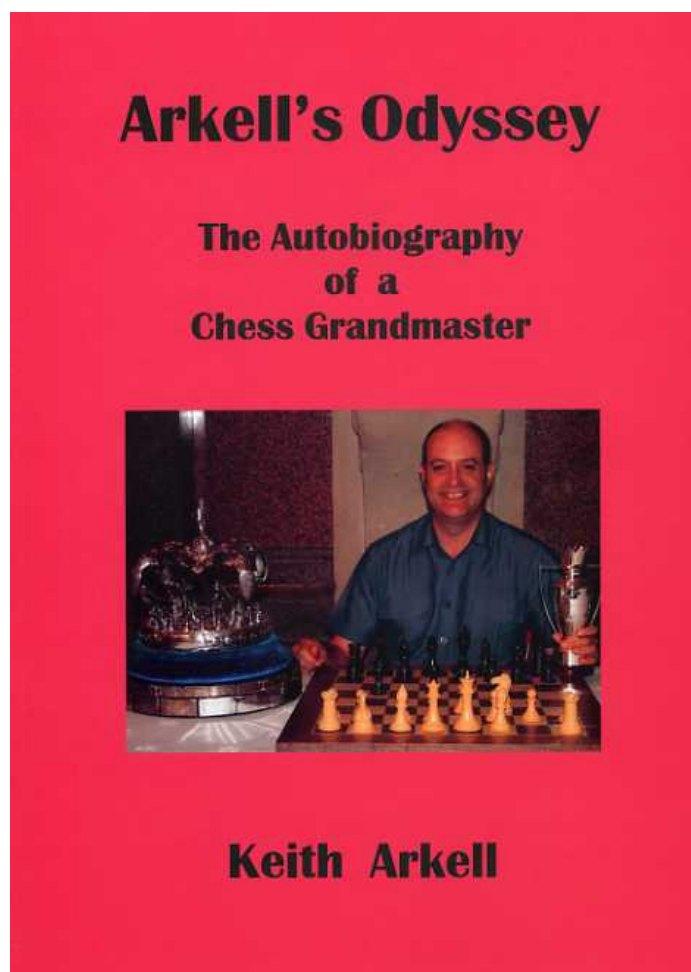
The ChEx Bookshelf

WEEKEND WIZARD by Andrew Farthing

“The Best Laid Plans...”

It had been my intention this time to write an article on Garry Kasparov’s formidable (read: daunting) contribution to chess literature. Sadly, I came to realise that this was going to be a task demanding considerable time and energy, and as the deadline approached, these were in woefully short supply. *ChessMoves* readers will have to wait until the next time to chuckle sympathetically at the efforts of a middling club player to come to grips with the weighty output of the strongest player of all time and his silicon chums.

There could hardly be a greater contrast between my intended subject and the actual topic of this month’s column, GM Keith Arkell’s newly published autobiography and games collection, *Arkell’s Odyssey* (Keverel Chess Books; £15.99):



- Where Kasparov’s *modus operandi* is to use computers extensively in a complex iterative process of analysis and verification, Keith Arkell happily confesses that he eschewed computer assistance throughout;

- Where Kasparov made a career of terrifyingly deep opening preparation and an aggressive drive to seize the initiative from the start of his games, Keith admits in the notes to the very first game in the book, “*I have always had an aversion to learning reams of theory.*”

- Where Kasparov is quite capable of filling 15 pages or more with analysis of a particularly interesting game, packed with many, many concrete variations, Keith’s annotations are predominantly verbal, explaining a key idea or what was going through his mind at the time.

Since my target readership for these articles is average players like their author, I suspect that many of you will be warming to Keith Arkell’s book already...

“One of us! One of us!”

Players at the 62nd Annual Paignton Congress were doubly fortunate this year. Not only did they have the opportunity to combine a week’s chess in opulent surroundings with the traditional Paignton sunshine, but they were able to be among the very first buyers of *Arkell’s Odyssey*. The competing distractions of winning the Premier yet again notwithstanding, the author was on hand throughout the week to sign copies for the steady stream of purchasers.

It came as no surprise to me that copies were flying off the shelves; to congress stalwarts, this was a book not by some distant titan of the game but by someone who was ‘one of us’ - more successful, of course, but in spirit a regular weekend chess player. Keith’s life story in a sense is a fantasy-made-real for the congress competitor. Few would seriously aspire to be world chess champion or even a top 10 super-grandmaster, but the nature of the events in which Keith plays and his presence at the same venues as the rest of us ordinary Joes allows us to put ourselves in his shoes. Of course, Grandmaster Arkell is still a significantly stronger player than almost all of us can aspire to be, but there is something about his lifestyle and chess career which allows us to think that it lies on the threshold of possibility for the amateur player (*‘Had we but skill enough, and time...’*).

Keith is of course a very familiar figure on the English weekend congress circuit, scooping up

first prizes with metronomic regularity in his trademark ‘grinding’ style. His reputation as an endgame wizard is thoroughly deserved, and watchers of his games are used to seeing him nurse the tiniest of edges through to victory, happy just to keep playing and trying until every last possibility is exhausted. One of the sections of his book is entitled ‘Another grinder emerges’, and it’s evident that Keith is more than happy to place himself in the company of two maestros of exploiting the microscopic advantage, Ulf Andersson and Anatoly Karpov.

Homer nods

The ‘Odyssey’ in the title of the book refers not just to a chess career, from earliest beginnings along his similarly talented brother Nick to the triumphant attainment of the title of joint English Champion in 2008, but to a personal journey full of ups and downs. My personal contacts with Keith have been few and far between, but my impression has been of a quiet, relatively shy individual who is nevertheless very comfortable in his chosen way of life.

The intimate nature of the autobiographical sections of the book came, therefore, as a surprise. Keith is very open about his anxieties - until relatively recently he was subject to panic attacks, sometimes forcing him to get up from the board and walk outside for ten minutes to master the urge to scream out loud - and his relationships. The picture that emerges is profoundly human and very sympathetic, not something which can be said of many chess books.

The back-cover blurb speaks of a book *“in which he [Keith Arkell] details his personal odyssey with a disarming candour and honesty, recounting many of his highs and lows, fears and phobias, triumphs and tragedies, as well as recalling some of his memorable games, each a landmark along the way.”* This is a very fair description of the contents and gives some indication of what makes this relatively unusual in the genre of chess (auto)biography.

In his Introduction, publisher Bob Jones comments, *“If there has been a chess book quite like this one, with its particular combination of perceptive personal insights and game collection, then I don’t recall it. It could be unique.”* When I first read this, I was sceptical. Games collections interspersed with an autobiographical narra-

tive are far from unknown (e.g. John Nunn’s various volumes and a rather interesting book called **The Story of a Chess Player** by Jaan Ehvest), but I have to admit that they are scarcer than I first thought.

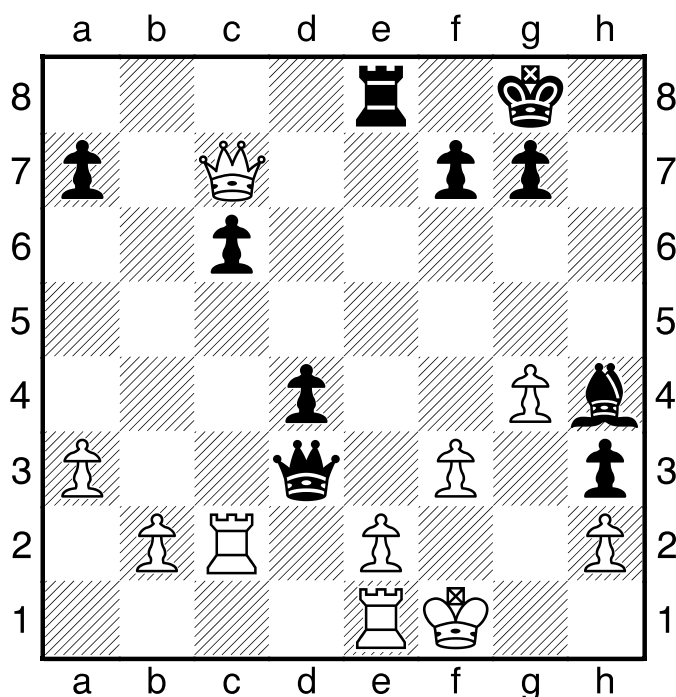
Authors should not be held accountable for what appears on the outside of their books (and I do not speak here of the rather startling choice of colour for the cover), but I should note that the book’s blurb promises “70 lightly annotated, easy-to-follow, instructive games.” This is a slight exaggeration, in that 5 of the “games” are positions and final moves only, and about a dozen of the complete games are unannotated. I very much doubt that this will detract from the book’s attractiveness to the average player.

Club players tend to want to read books with plenty of verbal explanations, so the approach to the games in this collection is likely to prove popular. I would put myself in this camp too, although I could not help wishing that the book had been perhaps 30 pages longer, to allow room for slightly fuller notes. However, it is the author’s prerogative to choose the approach that suits him, and who am I to argue?

In presentation and format, the book is similar to the earlier Keverel Chess Books history of the Paignton congress, **60 Years in the Same Room** (also recommended). There are photographs galore, helping to bring the text alive. The production quality is generally good, although I noticed that the page numbers in the Games Index have gone slightly awry from Game 59 on.

I warmly recommend *Arkell’s Odyssey* to club players of all strengths. Seize the opportunity to spend some time in the company of an interesting personality and gain an insight into how one person managed to achieve the dream of making a living from the English congress circuit.

To whet your appetite, here is the final position in the book. It is Keith Arkell (White) to play his 29th move against James Holland in Round 3 of the 2012 e2e4 High Wycombe Open:



Although White is the exchange up, Black has a devastating mating threat (29...Qe3), and White seems to be in all sorts of trouble. Fortunately, Grandmaster Arkell has spotted a way to do what he does best, namely simplify into a favourable endgame. Can you find it?

Solution:

Keith came up with the stunning 29. Qd8!

He explains, "[...] *this move serves three necessary purposes. If I weren't attacking his rook then 29...Qe3(*) would win; if I weren't attacking his bishop, then 29...Qe3 would win, and if I weren't pinning his rook then 29...Qxf3+ would win! The text leads to an advantageous rook endgame or a won king & pawn ending, depending on how my opponent reacts.*" [Arkell's Odyssey, page 121]

If Black plays 29...Qxc2 30. Qxe8+ Kh7 31. Ra1 d3 32. Qe4+ wins. (Arkell)

In the game, Black tried 29...Rxd8, and after 30. exd3 Bxe1 31. Kxe1 Re8+ 32. Re2 Rxe2+ 33. Kxe2 f5 34. f4! fxg4 35. Kf2 White went on to win in 57 moves.

(*) Keith has pointed out to me that a gremlin in the works introduced a typo here: it should read 29...Qxc2.



BATSFORD

Chess Competition

Well done to the July/August winner

Mr James R Nicolson from Manchester

The correct answer was - 1.f6

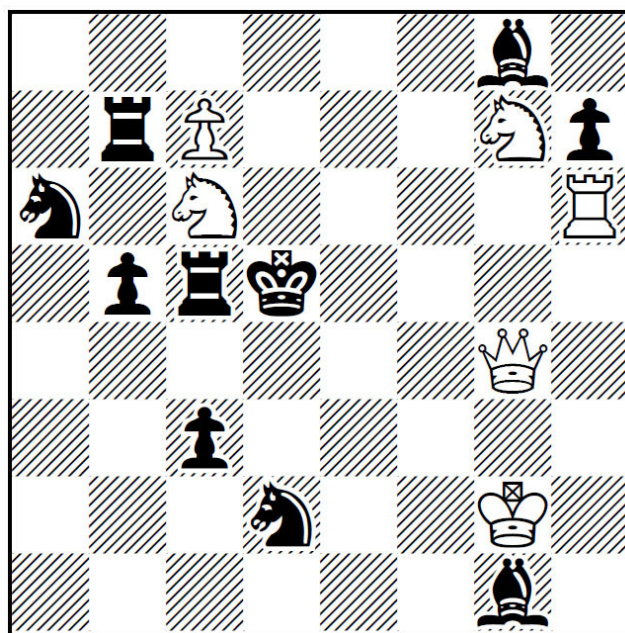
Here's the next problem ...

Alfred C Challenger

1st Prize, Hampstead & Highgate Express, 1898

Please send your answer (just the first move is sufficient) on a postcard or by email to the ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD (office@englishchess.org.uk).

The first correct entry drawn on 10th November 2012 will win a Batsford voucher for any book on their current list!



CHESS HOLIDAYS in the Lake District

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

local club players

Rothay Manor, Ambleside

Tel: 015394 33605

E-mail: hotel@rothaymanor.co.uk

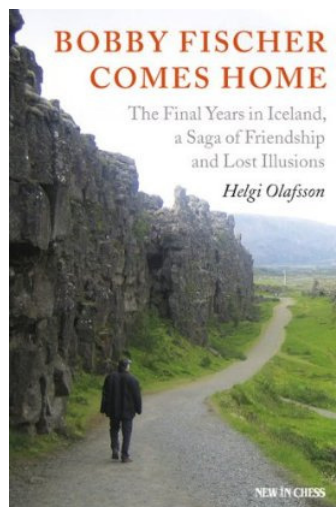
Website: www.rothaymanor.co.uk/chess



Book Reviews - Gary Lane

Bobby Fischer Comes Home, The Final Years by Helgi Olafsson

Published by New in Chess £14.99



The grandmaster Helgi Olafsson had unique access to the life of the legendary World Champion Bobby Fischer after he moved to Iceland in 2005. There are many that scorned the country giving asylum to someone who ranted hateful things about so many people but the author makes a point in explaining such a decision. Indeed, he was part

of a committee who helped to organise the residence permit and he feels that the broken genius being mentally ill, deserved better to languish in a US jail for ten years having flouted work restrictions to play Spassky in 1992, while in war torn Yugoslavia. This explains why Iceland offered Fischer a way out after he was arrested at a Japanese airport. Still, he understandably feels the need to explain his position to a wider audience and for example after receiving criticism from English grandmaster James Plaskett he writes to him in an e-mail and part of it he publishes in the book.

There might be some of you who have had the opportunity to read Frank Brady's wonderful works Bobby Fischer: Profile of a Prodigy and more recently Endgame: The Spectacular Rise and Fall of Bobby Fischer to understand that Fischer was dragged up by his mum and his salvation was chess. However, Brady was always an outsider being an arbiter and organiser rather than a close friend. It is to his great credit that the amiable author relates the sort of comments and simple activities that chess fans want to hear. He reveals which movies Fischer watched, how he caught a large salmon on a fishing expedition and how despite publicly declaring his hatred of chess he still took an interest in the game. I am sure that Helgi could have doubled the size of the book but after starting with tales of how he saw the Fischer-Spassky match in 1972 he does tend to be sparse on some anecdotes. He mentions that he met the rock star Patti Smith along with Bobby and the famous pair talked at length but he does

not recall the conversation. He also relates how he and Bobby played six Fischer-Random chess games but later did not write the moves down in order not to "...somehow betray him by doing so." I wish he had and one gets the impression that he still feels a need to keep some things private even though more chat might lead to him selling the movie rights. Boris Spassky was impressed enough by Helgi to write a letter stating "It was funny for me to see how you deal with Bobby. He can torture everybody". A highlight is how the author arranged a meeting with Vishy Anand. They analyse on Fischer's pocket set and Anand shows him some improvements and then some of his recent games. The Indian is renowned for his respectful tone and excellent manners so after posing for a photo before saying goodbye to each other, Fischer returns to the car and poignantly said to Helgi "Yes, I think Anand got a better upbringing than I did". Bobby inevitably fell out with Helgi shortly before he died in 2008.

An entertaining insight into the real world of a flawed World Champion.

The Sicilian Scheveningen: Move by Move by Lorin D'Costa

Published by Everyman £17.99

The popular series of books called move by move is an attempt to make things easier to follow for improving players. This basically means there are lots more words than normal opening books in order to try and explain the ideas behind the openings. I tend to applaud such action because the vast majority of readers



will not have the time to remember endless lines of analysis but need a broad idea of what to aim for in the middlegame. The Englishman does a good job as an author to explain things in a friendly manner and adds his own games to give it a personal twist. I should explain the opening to those who can barely pronounce it. The history section is rather short and not a lot bigger than Wikipedia's entry but basically it received plaudits after Max Euwe played it in 1923 at a small town in the Netherlands called Scheveningen. The actual moves of the opening are 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 and then White can

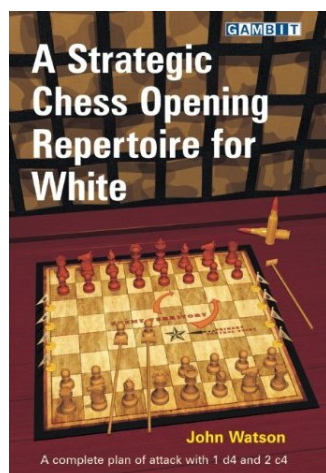
choose a variety of replies. I have to say you need good nerves to play this line because in lots of examples Black seems to be on the brink of defeat only to survive the attack and win comfortably. It had the seal of approval for years from Garry Kasparov and nowadays lots of top players embrace it.

The Sicilian Scheveningen is well presented in a manner that is understandable to anyone who wants to play better.

A Strategic Opening Repertoire for White

by John Watson

Published by Gambit £16.99



The idea of a repertoire book is to present a player with recommended lines against lots of openings to save you time and energy. It can take ages to work out what to play against the King's Indian as White so why not get Watson to give you a shortcut and take up his suggestion of 5 h3. In this book the author is proposing openings for

White that start with 1 d4 and usually 2 c4. I think it is aimed at players with a good understanding of d4-openings and he adds quite a lot of variations that will get you through an open section at a weekend tournament. However, there are limitations with this approach so if Gelfand could not guarantee an advantage against the Semi-Slav in his World Championship match against Anand, it is unlikely to happen after reading 15 pages about the opening. The positive spin is that John Watson is a reliable writer who strives to do his best for the reader and there is plenty of evidence he has done a good job with thoughtful reasons given for certain lines. Indeed, he makes a point of avoiding super sharp lines because theory changes so rapidly that it is difficult to keep up unless you are professional. I would say it is aimed at players rated 1800+ who are willing to do some study. An easy way to improve your chess openings.

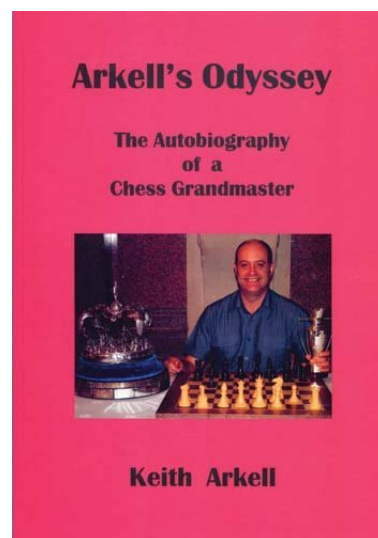
Arkell's Odyssey - The Autobiography of a Chess Grandmaster

by Keith Arkell

Published by Keverel Chess Books £15.99

In the past thirty years a pair of kings have gen-

erally dominated the British weekend tournament circuit and their names are Mark Hebden and Keith Arkell. For years they have both resisted offers to write but finally it is Keith Arkell who has decided to reveal what it is like to be a chess professional. I had assumed the book would be packed with games and laced with just a few personal comments. In fact, it is the other way round because the games while entertaining are sparsely annotated and there are lots of details about his social life. Keith reveals his first job was a junior wages clerk but found it difficult to adapt to the office routine and turned to chess. He was not a highly rated junior but seems to have progressed through a determined passion for the game, which helped to reveal his natural talent. There are lots of photos to give a real insight into his life and not just snaps of chessboards. He gives lots of detail about his failed marriage to fellow chess player Susan Walker, there is a poignant mention of a girl with long black hair who resides in the USA and the list goes on. It is an open approach, which comes across as romantic rather than gossipy. The book is a thoughtful tome concerning his family life, charting the highs and lows of a top chess player who in 2008



came equal first in the British Championship. I wonder if his loss in the play off the next day against Stuart Conquest was connected to celebrating until 5am in the morning? The most recent game amongst the collection of seventy was played in 2012 and the production values by Keverel are good with the publisher well

known for the other best sellers *The English Morphy* and *60 Years In the Same Room*.

A fascinating account of the British chess scene which is highly recommended.



Grand Prix Leader Boards

- Top 10s as at 11th September 2012. Players in red have counted the maximum number of events.

Open Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Bryant, Richard BE	Chester	448
2 Surtees, Mike J	Bolton	416
3 Taylor, Adam C	Colchester	313
4 Horton, Andrew P	3Cs	304
5 Burnett, Jim	Workshop	303
6 Bonafont, Philip R	Hemel Hempstead	301
7 Abbas, Daniel	Didsbury Dynamos	278
8 Jaunooby, Ali Reza	3Cs	266
9 Newton, Robert A	Heywood	260
10 Arkell, Keith CC	4NCL Cheddleton	256

Graded Prix: 160-179

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Desmedt, Richard E	Wombwell	470
2 Olbison, Philip J	Chorlton-cum-Hardy	349
3 Jones, Steven A	Grappenhall	304
4 O'Gorman, Brendan	DHSS	291
5 Burke, Mitchell R	3Cs	282
6 Davison, Chris	Cambridge City	243
7 Whitehead, Mark A	Rochdale	241
8 Stephens, Ian Paul	Liverpool	239
9 Mulleady, Peter J	Atherton	217
10 Cutmore, Martin J	Wood Green	215

Graded Prix: 140-159

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Pride, Stephen C	Cambridge City	452
2 Gartside, Carl	Buxton	325
3 Wilson, Matthew R	Wigston	288
4 Hartley, Dean M	Amber Valley	275
5 Bovtramovics, Vladimirs	Russia	260
6 Papier, Alan	Bristol & Clifton	244
7 Price, Andrew	Leamington	233
8 Kane, Robert (Bob)	West London	225
9 Jones, Neil T	Cockermouth	215
10 Connor, Michael I	Great Lever	209

Graded Prix: 120-139

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Crockett, Stephen J	Redditch	558
2 Crouch, Timothy J	Kings Head	350
3 O'Dowd, Daniel	Carlisle	306
4 Gilbert, David J	DHSS	293
5 Foley, Phil T	Upminster	273
6 Allen, Timothy S	Battersea	257
7 Egan, William J	Scunthorpe	220
8 Smith, Peter K	Northampton	216
9 Woodward, Tim F	Trowbridge	184
10 Camp, Syringa Lyn	Colwyn Bay	179

Graded Prix: U120

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Bullock, Lee	London *	509
2 Gardiner, Colin J	Falmouth	382
3 Fraser, Alan R	Beckenham & Bromley	304
4 Everitt, David	St Francis & H/Heath	269
5 Watson, Roy G	Kenilworth	268
6 Richardson, Paul	Coulsdon CF	266
7 Goldsmith, Jennifer	Harrow	240
8 Archer, David J	Godalming	231
9 Glover, Gordon L	Crusaders	229
10 Billett, Stephen J	Portsmouth	222

Women's Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Goldsmith, Jennifer	Harrow	240
2 Keen, Cosima C	Sussex Juniors	238
3 Sit, Victoria	Coulsdon CF	217
4 Kalaiyalahan, Akshaya	Richmond Juniors	210
5 Milson, Amy F	Louth	205
6 Giles, Yasmin	Kent Junior Congresses	196
7 Wang, X Anna	Oxford High School	192
8 Camp, Syringa Lyn	Colwyn Bay	179
9 Wang, Maria	Cowley	178
10 Somton, Anita	Bury St Edmunds	167

Junior Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 Taylor, Adam C	Colchester	313
2 Horton, Andrew P	3Cs	304
3 Balouka-Myers, Gabriel	Garden Suburb S	289
4 Zhou, Yang-Jian	Coulsdon CF	288
5 Golding, Alex	Coulsdon CF	279
6 Abbas, Daniel	Didsbury Dynamos	278
7 Murphy, Conor E	Charlton	276
8 Anilkumar, Anantha P	Coulsdon CF	270
9 Howell, Oliver W	Coulsdon CF	261
10 Zhang, Anthony Y	Berkshire Junior	250
10 Balouka-Myers, Reuben	Garden Suburb S	250

Brendan O'Gorman - Chess Images

See Brendan's work at - <https://picasaweb.google.com/bpogorman>
Ihor Lewyk, one of the 2012 ECF President's Award-winners, at Paignton Congress



Tournament Calendar

LEGEND -

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

All congresses graded by the ECF are part of the official Grand Prix. For a more comprehensive calendar updated constantly, visit the ECF website - www.englishchess.org.uk

~* 28-30 Sep Whitby Chess Congress, The Conservative Club, Uppang Lane, Whitby, North Yorkshire YO21 3DT Contact: Noel Boustred Email: noelboustred@yahoo.co.uk - 3 Sections: Minor Limit is 145, Major Limit is 165 and Open has no limit

@# 28-30 Sep Leicester Chess Congress (H E Atkins Memorial), Regent College, Regent Road, Leicester LE1 7LW Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@leicesterchess.co.uk Website: www.leicesterchess.co.uk Tel 07883 495758 : 5 round swiss with three sections. The Open is FIDE rated and a British Championship Qualifier

29 Sep CCF Open FIDE Rapid Play English Chess Challenge 2012 - Champion of Champions' Event, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~ 29 Sep Chelmsford Junior Chess Tournament, Kings Road Primary School, Kings Road, Chelmsford CM1 2BB Contact: James Simpson Email: james.simpson@selexelsag.com - Essex Junior Grand Prix 2012-13 Round 1. LJCC Qualifying Event

~ 29 Sep 4th West London Junior Rapid Championship (U12), Committee Room, Chiswick Town Hall, Heathfield Terrace, Chiswick, London W4 Contact: Meri Grigoryan Email: wljcc2001@gmail.com Website: <http://www.westlondonchess.com/juniors> - Rounds: 5 Nobody is knocked out. Clocks to be used on all boards: 10 min each on the clock, 20 min for a game

~@ 29-30 Sep 4NCL Team and Individual Rapidplay Championships, De Vere Harben House Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645

~ 30 Sep Herts Schools Chess Association - London Junior Qualifier, Skyswood Primary School, Chandlers Road, St Albans, AL4 9RS Contact: Yogesh Jina Email: hscs@live.co.uk - 6 round Rapidplay Swiss tournament with U8, U10, U12 and U18 sections - a qualifier for the London Junior Chess Championships

30 Sep ROSNEFT Special Training Day, Isleworth and Syon School, Ridgeway Road, Middlesex TW7 5LJ Contact: The UK Chess Academy Email: ukchessacademy@gmail.com Website: www.ukchessacademy.com - starts 10.00am finishes 4.00pm - please enter online. Places are limited to 200

@ 3 Oct 1st Laboratory Spa FIDE Blitz Tournament, The Laboratory Spa & Health Club, 1A Hall Lane London, Hendon NW4 4TJ Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://global.tornelo.com/tournaments/1st-laboratory-spa-health-club-blitz> - one section, swiss system tournament organised by International Tournament Organiser and Arbiter Adam Raoof. 1st prize is a trophy, plus a trophy for the highest scoring Lab Spa member.

~ 3 Oct-4 Mar 2012/13 Wiltshire Open Chess Championship, Village Hall, Manor Farm Lane, Langley Burrell, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 4LL Contact: Tony Ransom Email: chesssalsa@aol.com - There will be 6 rounds, played on the first Monday of the month, the first one being 1st October 2012

@ 4 Oct 'First Thursday' Hendon Blitz Chess Tournaments, Hendon Chess Club, Golders Green Unitarians Church, 31½ Hoop Lane, Golders Green, London NW11 8BS Contact: Adam Raoof Email: adamraoof@gmail.com Website: <http://www.hendonchessclub.com/blitz/> - one section, Swiss system tournament. FIDE rated. 1st prize £20, 2nd Prize £10 and £10 prize for the highest Hendon Chess Club member. Please supply a Date of Birth OR a FIDE ID with your entry

6 Oct CCF Junior Rapid Play - LJCC Qualifier, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

5-7 Oct 49th Hull Chess Congress, Endsleigh Centre, Beverley Road, Hull Contact: Steve King Email: president@hullchess.com Website: www.hullchess.com

~ **5-7 Oct Isle of Man Chess Congress**, Cherry Orchard, Bridson Street, Port Erin, Isle of Man Contact: Alan Bruce Robertson Email: alanbruce@manx.net - Major, Minor 5 Rounds Swiss - Major for players graded below 185 and Minor graded below 145

~* **6-7 Oct Castle Chess: 2nd Dudley Congress**, The Quality Hotel Dudley, Birmingham Rd, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 4RN Contact: Tony Corfe Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Website: www.castlechess.co.uk - OPEN (including Premier U180), Major U160 (including Intermediate U140), Minor U120 (including Challengers U100)

6-7 Oct 4th Wellington College Training Weekend GRANDMASTER TRAINING in groups for juniors of all levels and adults over 110 grade, Wellington College, Crowthorne, Berkshire RG45 7PU Contact: Nick Pert Email: nickpert@hotmail.com - 10am-5pm both days with lunch (included) 12.30-1.30

*~@ **7 Oct 17th Birmingham & District Chess League Rapidplay**, Quinborne Community Centre, Ridgacre Rd, Birmingham B32 2TW Contact: Alex Holowczak Email: alexholowczak@gmail.com - FIDE-rated Open, graded sections for max. grade 170, 140, 110. Prize fund £1,000

10 Oct CCF Daytime FIDE Club - Autumn Event Round 2, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

*~@# **12-14 Oct e2e4 High Wycombe Chess Congress**, De Veres Uplands House, Four Ashes Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP15 6LB Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: www.e2e4.org.uk/high_wycombe - A 5 round FIDE rated weekend congress with sections for players of all standards

12-14 Oct 45th West Wales Chess Congress, The Glamorgan Arms Function Suite, Pontlliw, Swansea SA4 9DY Contact: Les Philpin Email: newsilure@hotmail.com - Open, Major and Minor sections

~* **12-14 Oct 47th Dorset Open Congress (BOURNEMOUTH)**, The Bournemouth International Hotel, Priory Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5DL Contact: Norman Mackie Email: dorset@bournemouthchess-congress.org.uk Website: www.bournemouthchesscongress.org.uk - 4 sections; Open, Major, Intermediate and Minor

~ **13 Oct Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raoof Website: <http://goldersgreengreenchess.blogspot.com/>

~ * **13 Oct Chipping Sodbury Rapidplay**, The Old Grammar School, Broad Street, Chipping Sodbury BS37 6AD Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk Website: www.chessit.co.uk - slight change of venue and sections from before. Just across the road from the Town Hall. Open, Major (U155), Minor (U125)

~*# **13-14 Oct 30th Bury St Edmunds Congress**, The Apex, Charter Square, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3FD Contact: Bob Jones Email: bobjoneschess@btinternet.com - Open, U170, U145 and U120. Website and entry form to follow soon.

~ **13-14 Oct English U11s Closed Championship**, Nottingham Boys Junior High School, Waverley Mount (off Waverley Street), Nottingham NG74ED Contact: David Levens Email: davidl64@chess-coach.co.uk Website: <http://www.epscs.org.uk/> - a 5 round long play tournament for juniors under 11 on September 1st 2012 (Year 6 pupils); the first event towards gaining the necessary qualification to compete in the England Under 11 team trial to be held in Liverpool April 2013

~* **14 Oct Barnet Junior Chess Autumn Championships**, Woodhouse College, Woodhouse Road, London N12 9EY Contact: Tony Niccoli Email: tony1n@yahoo.com Website: www.barnetjuniorchess.com - Junior rapidplay tournament ranging from Under 8 all the way up to Under 18. An LJCC qualifier

~ **14 Oct York Junior Chess Congress**, Cundall Manor School, Helperby, York YO61 2RW Contact: John Hipshon Email: jr.hipshon@ntlworld.com Website: <http://www.leedsjuniorchess.org.uk/events.html> - Four sections - Major, Intermediate, Minor, Novice

14 Oct Simultaneous with FM David Eggleston, Harrogate Conservative Club, East Parade, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 5LQ Contact: Richard White Email: richardwhite484@hotmail.com Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/harrogatechessclub/home> - Harrogate Chess Club are hosting a simultaneous exhibition with FM David Eggleston on Sunday 14th October 2012 starting at 1pm. Maximum 25 entries. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis and the entry fee is

£10

14 Oct The Spectator Chess Festival, Royal Geographical Society, London Contact: The Spectator Email: events@spectator.co.uk Website: chess.spectator.co.uk - The Spectator Chess Festival is an afternoon of fabulous stimulation and entertainment. Throughout the event there will be a range of activities to take part in from lectures to hands-on coaching, to playing for fun.

~ **19-21 Oct 36th Scarborough Chess Congress**, The Ocean Room Spa Complex, South Bay, Scarborough Contact: Maggie Butterworth Telephone: 01226 211501 (before 9pm) Email: scarboroughchess@gmail.com Website: www.scarboroughchesscongress.co.uk

20 Oct Docklands (Poplar) Rapid-Play, Langley Hall, St.Nicholas' Church Centre, Ettrick Street, Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: DocklandsChess@yahoo.co.uk Website: www.spanglefish.com/docklandschessclub - 6 round Swiss Rapidplay tournament, below 205 rating only

20 Oct 1st Birmingham International Blitz, Quinborne Community Centre, Ridgacre Rd, Birmingham B32 2TW Contact: Alex Holowczak Email: alexholowczak@gmail.com - a series of 10-player All-Play-Alls held over a single afternoon designed to earn players a FIDE Blitz Rating

~ **20 Oct 5th West London Junior Rapid Championship (U12)**, Committee Room, Chiswick Town Hall, Heathfield Terrace, Chiswick, London W4 Contact: Meri Grigoryan Email: wljcc2001@gmail.com Website: <http://www.westlondonchess.com/juniors> - Rounds: 5 Nobody is knocked out. Clocks to be used on all boards: 10 min each on the clock, 20 min for a game

20 Oct Berkshire Junior Championship, Downs School, Manor Crescent, Compton, Berkshire RG20 6NU Contact: Lucy Head Email: championship@bjca.org.uk Website: www.bjca.org.uk - Beginners, U10, U12, U14 and U18. U10 and U12 are qualifying events for the London Junior Chess Championship. An open junior tournament suitable for those of all abilities. Cash prizes in the U14 and U18 sections with trophies to keep in all sections for 1st, 2nd and 3rd

~ **20-21 Oct Metropolitan Chess Club Congress**, City Of London School For Boys, London EC4 Contact: John Kitchen Email: carolyn.kitchen@btopenworld.com - standardplay Congress (5 rounds) three graded sections

21 Oct Barnet Junior Chess Training Day #2, St Pauls C of E School, The Ridgeway, London NW7 1QU Contact: Angela Eyton/Tony Niccoli Email: teams@barnetjuniorchess.com Website: www.barnetjuniorchess.com - Barnet Junior Chess training with special guest coaches. Training will take place in small similar ability groups with short breaks between lessons. Fully supervised. Open to all juniors

~ **21 Oct 3rd Chess Coaching Services Tournament and Training Day**, John Keble Church Hall, Church Close, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 9NS Contact: Rob Willmoth Email: robwillmoth@hotmail.co.uk - coaching by International master Lorin D'Costa and British master Rob Willmoth plus other recognised coaches. The only event of its kind in the UK

~@# **21-27 Oct 38th Guernsey International Chess Festival**, Peninsula Hotel, Guernsey Contact: Fred Hamperl Email: hamperlfred@hotmail.com Website: <http://www.guernseychessclub.org.gg/festival/festival.htm> - there are 2 tournaments: the Holiday for players graded below ECF 150 (Elo 1800) and the Open tournament Entry form: <http://www.guernseychessclub.org.gg/festival/leaflet.pdf>

*~@# **27-31 Oct e2e4 Basingstoke International**, Basingstoke Country Hotel, Scures Hill, Nately Scures, Nr. Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9JS : Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: www.e2e4.org.uk/basingstoke - A 9 round FIDE rated International with four sections for players of all strengths. GM norms available in the Masters

*~@# **27-31 Oct e2e4 Basingstoke Seniors**, Basingstoke Country Hotel, Scures Hill, Nately Scures, Nr. Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9JS : Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: www.e2e4.org.uk/basingstoke - A 5 round FIDE rated tournament for players aged 60 and over, played at one game per day set in a beautiful county setting

~@ **27 Oct London FIDE Rapid Play**, Newman Catholic College, Harlesden Road, Willesden NW10 3RN Contact: Sainbayar Tserendorj Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk - sections U1700, U2000 and Open Website: www.londonrapidplay.co.uk

~* **27 Oct Sussex Junior Rapidplay**, Worth School, Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill, West Sussex RH10 4SD Contact: Paula Payne Email: entrymanager@sussexjuniorchess.org Website: www.sussexjuniorchess.org - 6 rounds in 4 sections: U8, U10, U12, U18. LJCC qualifier. Open to all aged under 18

on 31st August 2012

~@ **27 Oct London Junior FIDE Rapid Play**, Newman Catholic College, Harlesden Road, Willesden NW10 3RN Contact: Sainbayar Tserendorj Email: londonrapidplay@yahoo.co.uk - sections U8, U10, U12, U14 and U18 Website: www.londonrapidplay.co.uk

~ **28 Oct Cambridgeshire Rapidplay**, Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford, Cambridge CB22 4NE Contact: Paul Kemp Email: paulkemp64@gmail.com - five round rapidplay Swiss tournament with three sections: Open, Major (Under 160) and Challengers (Under 120) - £600 in prize money

31 Oct CCF Daytime FIDE Club - Autumn Event Round 3, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~@ **3-4 Nov 4NCL Rounds 1 and 2 (Divisions 1 and 2)**, De Vere Venues, Sunningdale Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645 Contact address: The Old Farmhouse, 7 Church Street, Ducklington, Witney OX29 7UA

~@ **3-4 Nov 4NCL Rounds 1 and 2 (Division 3 South)**, De Vere Venues, Wokefield Park Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645 Contact address: The Old Farmhouse, 7 Church Street, Ducklington, Witney OX29 7UA

4 Nov Barnet Junior Chess Training Day #3, St Pauls C of E School, The Ridgeway, London NW7 1QU Contact: Angela Eyton/Tony Niccoli Email: teams@barnetjuniorchess.com Website: www.barnetjuniorchess.com - Barnet Junior Chess training with special guest coaches. Training will take place in small similar ability groups with short breaks between lessons. Fully supervised. Open to all juniors

~***@ 9-11 Nov 1st Birmingham International All-Play-Alls (Rounds 1-5)**, Hill & Cakemore Liberal Club, 87 Nimmings Road, Halesowen B62 9JG Contact: Alex Holowczak Email: alexholowczak@gmail.com - a series of all-play-alls designed in order for people to get initial FIDE-ratings. Free entry to FIDE rated players. £30 entry to unrated players. E-mail Alex Holowczak if you are interested in playing.

*~# **9-11 Nov 45th Torbay Chess Congress**, Riviera International Conference Centre, Torbay, Devon Contact: Raymond W Chubb Email: ray.chubb@care4free.net Website: www.chessdevon.co.uk

*~@#**9-11 Nov e2e4 Brighton Chess Congress**, Barceló Brighton Old Ship Hotel, Kings Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 1NR Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: sean@e2e4.org.uk Website: www.e2e4.org.uk/brighton - A 5 round FIDE rated weekend congress by the seas with sections for players of all standards

~ **10 Nov Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raoof Website: <http://goldersgreengreenchess.blogspot.com/>
10 Nov National Youth Chess Association Under 16 / Under 12 Championships, Abraham Darby Academy, Telford, Shropshire Contact: Kevin Staveley Email: kevin.staveley@btinternet.com - Team Championship. Under 16 Teams of 8, Under 12 Teams of 12

~ **10 Nov 6th West London Junior Rapid Championship (U12)**, Committee Room, Chiswick Town Hall, Heathfield Terrace, Chiswick, London W4 Contact: Meri Grigoryan Email: wljcc2001@gmail.com Website: <http://www.westlondonchess.com/juniors> - Rounds: 5 Nobody is knocked out. Clocks to be used on all boards: 10 min each on the clock, 20 min for a game

~* **11 Nov Bolton Rapidplay 2012**, Ukrainian Social Club, 99 Castle Street, Bolton BL2 1JP Contact: Rod Middleton Email: gmccacongress@yahoo.co.uk - 3 sections: Open, Major & Minor. Entry form available nearer the event

~ **16-18 Nov Hampshire Individual Championships**, Eastleigh College, Eastleigh SO50 5FS Contact: John Wheeler Email: john.wheeler@care4free.net Website: www.hampshirechess.co.uk - 6 rounds, Open, Major & Minor

~* **16-18 Nov Preston Chess Congress**, Harrington Refectory, University of Central Lancashire Contact: Malcolm Peacock Email: malcolm@mpeacock.demon.co.uk Website: <http://chess.pop-malc.org.uk/congress>