

# CHESS MOVES

The newsletter of the English Chess Federation - March/April 2011

## 4NCL - 3rd Weekend



Concentration or despair? The 4NCL Third Weekend in full swing

*The third weekend of this season's 4NCL was split between two De Vere venues, with Divisions 1 and 2 taking place at Wokefield Park in Mortimer while Division 3 was played at Sunningdale. The Northern League took place at the Barcelo Majestic Hotel in Harrogate.*

*With just one round to go after the weekend's matches before the leagues split and merge into championship, relegation and promotion pools the destiny of several teams is still unclear. Now read on*

## From the desk of the President

It's been a tough time for me recently as work rather overtook me. However, I was able to devote a few moments to chess and help Nigel Short on his simultaneous tour around the country.



He went though 7 events conceding only 9 draws, so we're doing it all over again in October to give players a further chance to inflict a defeat on the good doctor.

The British Championships in Sheffield is taking shape and will be a spectacular event with the top section being the strongest ever. This tournament is the centrepiece of the domestic chess calendar and I've been working overtime to try and secure financial backing for it - hopefully good news will be forthcoming.

I was also honoured to be invited to the Gibraltar Festival and the Varsity Match, both of which were terrific and humbling events and were clear demonstrations of what can be achieved with chess if the will is there.

However, such joy always seems to be tempered, this time by the sad news that London's bid for the World Championship was unsuccessful. I offer no public opinion on what happened but after what I witnessed at the FIDE General Assembly, I'm afraid I'm not surprised. Malcolm Pein is one of the most hard-working and invaluable servants of chess this country has ever had and I hope he takes solace in his magnificent London Chess Classic.

We have world class players, organisers, facilities and supporters in England and together we can continue to strengthen our position on the world stage. No more 'punching above our weight' - it's time for everyone to follow our lead and take chess to the wonderful heights it deserves!

- CJ de Mooi

## ECF News

### New ECF Manager of ICT

*Andrew Farthing, Chief Executive, writes:*

"I am delighted to announce the appointment of Stephen Ashcroft to the role of Manager of ICT (Information & Communications Technology). Steve is highly qualified for the post, both in terms of his academic background in computer sciences and an

impressive series of roles in the IT field, culminating in his current senior position with Barclays Capital. Steve is a lapsed chess player himself but has found a renewed interest in the game as a very proud "chess parent". I am grateful to Steve for volunteering his services, and I look forward to working with him over the coming months."

### ECF Finance Council Meeting

Andrew Farthing, Chief Executive writes:

"Two important papers have been posted on the Finance Council page, in preparation for the meeting in Birmingham on 16th April. The first is the 2011-12 Business Plan, which sets out the Board's intentions for the coming year. The second is a paper entitled The Funding of the English Chess Federation, which presents two options for the future funding of the ECF in the wake of the ending of its £60,000 Government grant. These proposals will have an impact on every English chess player and are essential to the long-term stability of the Federation. I urge all interested parties to study them carefully.

"The paper contains a lot of information but will undoubtedly raise questions. I have deliberately included minimal detail on some of the practical implementation issues, in order to keep the debate focused as far as possible on the core principles. This notwithstanding, I am happy to invite questions via e-mail on [chief.executive@englishchess.org.uk](mailto:chief.executive@englishchess.org.uk) or via the ECF office. In order to ensure as informed a debate at Council as possible, I shall maintain a Q&A summary on my blog ChEx based on the questions received.

"Along with the 2011-12 Budget, to be posted shortly, the Business Plan and Funding Proposals form what is, I believe, a coherent statement of the path which the ECF needs to take over the coming two years (and beyond). It is important that the Council debate in April should be as informed as possible and based on the views of those whom Council members represent."

**This year's Finance Council Meeting takes place in the IBIS Hotel, 21 Ladywell Walk, Birmingham, West Midlands B5 4ST Tel: 0121 622 6010 on the 16th April 2011 starting at 1.30 p.m.**

#### CONTENTS

4NCL - FC,3	International - 9
Presidential - 2	Results - 9
ECF News - 2	ChEx Bookshelf - 15
JR Grand Prix - 6	Gibraltar - 17
Junior - 6	Book Reviews - 20
Grand Prix - 8	Batsford - 21
	Calendar - 22

## 4NCL - 3rd Weekend (cont)

### Division One Section A

Pride & Prejudice qualified for the Championship Pool after wins against Pandora's Box Grantham and Barbican 1 left them on 12 match points. They did, however, suffer two shock defeats in their match against Pandora's with Michael Adams losing with white against IM Jerzy Slaby and David Howell losing to untitled Marcos Capucci. Gawain Jones also appeared to be in some danger when he agreed to a draw against Martin Burrows. It was left to their other four grandmasters and their Norwegian WIM to secure the necessary wins to steer them to a 5.5-2.5 victory. Their round 6 victory against Barbican 1 was hard fought but with fewer scares. Chris Ward and Sheila Sahl won on boards 6 and 8 resulting in a 5-3 victory.

Barbican 1 qualified after a 4-4 draw on Saturday against Betsson, with the only decisive games being Dave Ledger's win against Simon Knott for Betsson and Kanwal Bhatia's point against Maria Yurenok for Barbican. Betsson confirmed their place with a comfortable 7-1 victory against Pandora's on Sunday.

Cheddleton had a successful weekend, with victories against the ADs and Warwickshire Select to move into fourth place on 6 points although they will need at least a 4-4 draw against Barbican in round 7 to qualify for the Championship Pool if, as expected, Wood Green Hilsmark Kingfisher 2 win their match against Pandora's Box. The ADs also have a mathematical chance of fourth place but will need to win against Betsson and hope the other two results are favourable.

Warwickshire Select and Pandora's Box will both finish the season in the relegation pool after two defeats but they at least had some notable individual results. I have already mentioned Pandora's grandmaster scalps above, but I was pleased to see two of Warwickshire's juniors win against titled players with Brandon Clarke winning against FM Peter Sowray whilst Richard Weaving defeated IM Malcolm Pein.

### Division One Section B

Wood Green Hilsmark Kingfisher 1 powered to two big victories against Oxford and White Rose to qualify for the Championship Pool with 12 match points. I was pleased to see WGHK field an all English top four on Sunday with Luke McShane making his first appear-

ance this season alongside Stephen Gordon, Nick Pert and Jovanka Houska. Jovanka maintained her 100% record whilst Nick is on 5/6 and Stephen on 4.5.

e2e4.org.uk remain the team to most outperform their seeding and two more victories, including their 3rd 4.5-3.5 win of the season against Guildford qualified them for the Championship Pool. One of their heroes is England's number one junior, Yang-Fan Zhou, who has a performance of 2472 after four rounds.

Third and fourth have yet to be decided although White Rose will qualify if they manage 4-4 or better against Sambuca Sharks, and Oxford will almost certainly have to beat Guildford whom they trail on game points to finish in fourth. Cambridge is the only other team with a mathematical chance but will need to beat Barbican 2 and have the other results go in their favour.

Barbican 2 and Sambuca Sharks will play out the season in the relegation pool. Barbican lost both matches 4.5-3.5 despite out-rating Oxford on every board on Sunday.



### Division 2 Section A

Barbican Youth recorded two more victories to win the section and qualify for the Promotion Pool, albeit the only way they can be promoted is if Barbican 2 are relegated. Twelve-year-old Isaac Sanders moved to 5.5/6 with two more wins and Sam Franklin now has 2.5/3 and a 2356 performance for the season. George O'Toole also won both games and it's really positive to see so many of our young players being given opportunities and performing so well.

The remaining three places remain undecided. Five of the six matches not involving Barbican Youth ended 4.5-3.5 and the section is so close that it may come down to the last game of one of the round 7 matches to determine who qualifies in the top four. The pair-

ings will be as follows:

**White Rose 2 (5) vs. Barbican 4NCL Youth (10)**

**Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg (7) vs. Jutes of Kent (7)**

**Anglian Avengers 1 (7) vs. Poisoned Pawns 2 (2)**

**Cambridge University 2 (6) vs. South Wales Dragons (4)**

Rhyfelwyr Essyllwg are on 25.5 game points whilst Anglian Avengers 1 and Jutes of Kent are both on 25 game points. Cambridge University 2 are on 6 match



points and 24 game points whilst White Rose 2 have only a slim chance as they have 5 match points and 22.5 game points.

Both South Wales Dragons and Poisoned Pawns 2 will finish the season in the relegation pool.

### **Division 2 Section B**

Bristol qualified for the Promotion Pool despite losing on the Saturday to Guildford 2. They secured a 6-2 victory on Sunday against rivals Wessex to finish the weekend on 10 match points.

Guildford 2 look favourites to join them although they will need 4-4 or better against 3Cs to be certain. There are three teams on 7 match points, Poisoned Pawns have 26.5 game points, Wessex have 25.5 and AMCA have 24.5. Kings Head have 5 match points and 22.5 game points so need to beat Wessex by at least 5.5-2.5 and hope at least one of the other teams on 7 loses. Eleven-year-old Ravi Haria of Kings Head has had a good season so far, scoring 3 out of 4 and performing at 2145.

Poisoned Pawns face Sambuca whilst AMCA appear to have the trickier round 7 pairing against Bristol but with James Holland on 4.5/6 and performing at 2380+ they are not without match winners. 3Cs and Sambuca Black Sheep will be involved in the relegation pool after round 7.

### **Division 3**

This division remains wide open with Wessex 2, Celtic Tigers and Oxford 2 being separated only by game points with 10 match points whilst Brown Jack are the only team on 9. Seven teams are on 8 points and another 5 teams are on 7.

Prior to the weekend the Braille Chess Association had won all 4 matches and were leading the table. Despite 2/2 from IM Colin Crouch on board 1 they were out-rated in both matches and lost 3.5-2.5 to Celtic Tigers and 4-2 to Brown Jack. Wessex 2 also won both matches to join the leaders.

Amongst the junior performances twelve year old Tarun Malhotra has played on board 1 for AMCA Hippios and is performing at 2175 after four games.

### **Northern League**

The crucial top of the table clash in round 5 between Spirit of Atticus on 8 points and Bradford DCA Knights A on 7 ended in a 3.5-2.5 victory for Bradford with Ben Hague defeating John Carleton with black on board 1. Louis Brijmohun also won for Bradford on



board 5 while David Robertson won on board 4 for Atticus against a much higher rated opponent.

Bradford then won 4-2 against Cheddleton on Sunday with wins for Adam Lang and Louis Brijmohun to finish the weekend on 11 points ahead of Atticus on 10 who won 4-2 against Aigburth. Holmes Chapel had two wins to move to 9 points ahead of Cheddleton on 8. Jorvik defeated Bradford B to move to 6 while Bradford remain on 4 while Manchester Manticores and Aigburth are still looking for their first points and will face each other in round 7.

My thanks to the hotels for accommodating and hosting the third weekend and to all the arbiters and 4NCL officials for the smooth running of the weekend.

The fourth weekend takes place on the 26th & 27th March 2011 with the following venues being used:  
De Vere Venues, Staverton Park – Divisions 1 and 2  
Barcelo Hotel, Daventry- Division 3  
De Vere Wychwood Park (near Crewe) – Northern League

Players are requested to make themselves familiar with the venue addresses and suitable directions beforehand!

- Lawrence Cooper

Links are as follows:

Website: <http://www.4ncl.co.uk/>

Results:

<http://www.4ncl.co.uk/resdiv1.htm>

<http://www.4ncl.co.uk/resdiv2.htm>

<http://www.4ncl.co.uk/resdiv3.htm>

<http://www.4ncl.co.uk/resnorthern.htm>

Games for download:

<http://www.4ncl.co.uk/downloads.htm>



Dates for 2010-11 season:

[http://www.4ncl.co.uk/2010\\_11\\_dates.htm](http://www.4ncl.co.uk/2010_11_dates.htm)

Rounds 9, 10 and 11

30th April to 2nd May 2011

Barcelo Hotel, Hinckley Island

Divisions 1, 2 and 3 & Northern League

Junior 4NCL Weekend 3

9th & 10th April 2011

Barcelo Hotel, Daventry

## The English Chess Federation Certificate of Merit



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

**New!** 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.

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

**New!** The answers now have an explanation included (where appropriate)

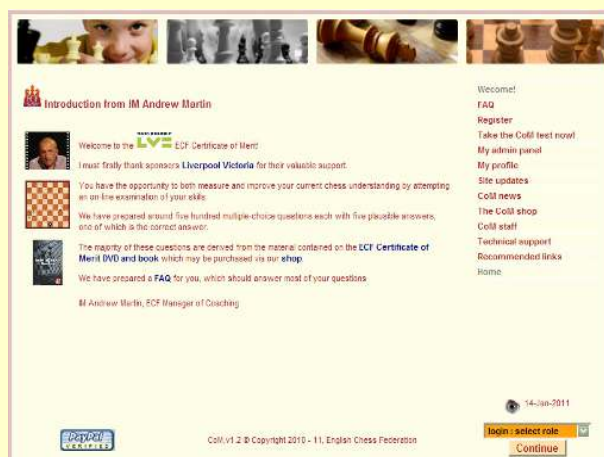
There is also a package available of many goodies -

for details, go to [www.certificateofmerit.org.uk](http://www.certificateofmerit.org.uk)

For further information contact the ECF Office:

01424 775222 / [com@englishchess.org.uk](mailto:com@englishchess.org.uk)

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



# Junior Chess

## The John Robinson Grand Prix

Please note all scores are adjusted to be as if out of 6, only scores of over 50% count and only totals of 7 and above are shown. Any mistakes? Please contact the ECF Junior Director  
(Tables as at 2nd March 2011)

### John Robinson Under 10 Grand Prix 2011 (Born 01 or 02)

Name	British	London	Yateley	Swindon	Squad	Total
Adam Averbukh	3.5	4				7.5
Charles Grayson		3.5		3.5		7
Harry Grieve		4	3.5	4		11.5
Arul Gupta	4.5	5		5.5		15
Gautam Jain		4.5		3.5		8
Akshaya Kalaiyalahan	3.5	3.5		4.5		11.5
Tharshan Kuhendiran		4.5	5.5	4		14
Gorak Rajesh		5	5	3.5		13.5
Luke Remus-Elliott		4		3.5		7.5
Edward Stevenson		3.5		5		8.5
Haotian Wu		4.5	3.5			8
Aditya Yanamandra		4	4.5			8.5
Anthony Zhang	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.5		13.5
Zheming Zhang	4		4.5			8.5

### John Robinson Under 12 Grand Prix 2011 (Born 99 or 00)

Name	British	London	Yateley	Swindon	Squad	Total
Michael Ashworth		3.5	3.5	4.5		11.5
William Claridge-Hansen	4	4.5		4.5		13
Harry Croasdale	4	4	3.5	4.5		12.5
Matthew Fergusson			3.5	4		7.5
Michael Fletcher	3.5	4.5				8
Yasmin Giles	4	3.5	3.5	5		12.5
Coby Graff	4	3.5				7.5
Ravi Haria	5		6			11
Tarun Jina		3.5		4		7.5
Raphael Kalid	4	4.5	3.5			12
Ashwin Kalyana	5			4		9
Cosima Keen		4.5	3.5	4		12
Aloysius Lip	4	3.5	4.5			12
David Liu	4.5	3.5		4		12
Richard Meikle-Briggs		3.5		4		7.5
Daniel Muir		3.5		4		7.5
Conor Murphy	4	4.5				8.5
Akito Oyamu		3.5		5		8.5
Gwilym Price	4	3.5				7.5
Isaac Stables		3.5		4		7.5
Billy Twigge-Molesey	3.5		3.5			7
Matthew Wadsworth	4	4	4.5			12.5
Anna Wang	5	4.5		5		14.5
Ryan Wong		3.5		5		8.5
Richard Zhu		3.5		4		7.5

### John Robinson Under 14 Grand Prix 2011 (Born 97 or 98)

Name	British	London	Yateley	Swindon	Squad	Total
Ananth Balaji	4		5	5		14
Rohan Bansal	3.5			4.5		8
Nishant Bommayya		4	3.5			7.5
Henry Broadley	4		5	5		14
Robert Fitzgerald	4	4.5				8.5
William Foo	4	3.5	5	5		14
Alexander Harris	3.5	3.5				7
Philip Knott	4		3.5	4.5		12
Tarun Malhotra	5		5.5			10.5
Owen Messere	3.5		3.5			7
Roman Mitra	3.5		3.5			7
Katherine Shepherd	3.5	4	3.5	4.5		12
Patrick Smith	3.5	3.5	3.5			10.5
Adam A Taylor	4	3.5	3.5	3.5		11
Adam C Taylor		3.5		3.5		7

### John Robinson Under 16 Grand Prix 2011 (Born 95 or 96)

Name	British	London	Yateley	Swindon	Squad	Total
Peter Batchelor		5	5			10
Brandon Clarke	5		5.5	3.5		14
Oskar Hackner	4	4.5				8.5
Marcus Harvey	5.5	5.5		5.5		16.5
James Holland			4.5	4.5		9
Radha Jain	4	4		4.5		12.5
Maria Wang		4		4.5		8.5

## Young chess champ dedicates win to his late mentor



A young chess champion from Northampton has dedicated his latest accolade to his chess mentor who recently died.

Max Miller, aged seven, from Great Billing and a pupil

at Great Houghton School, has jointly won the South of England Junior Chess Championships for his age group, which took place in Hampshire.

His father, David Miller, paid tribute to Tony Robson, of Chesspoints, who died aged 71 on January 11 this year, for his role in his son's chess success. He said: "Tony Robson was the driving force behind Chesspoints, which took place all over Northampton and from which Max has benefited.

"He was Max's mentor and was the one to first suggest that he entered and we want to dedicate this award to him."

*- from the Northampton Chronicle and Echo*

## Thomas Thorpe – Arbiter

"I started playing chess around 3 years ago when I moved to secondary school. I played for my school for

a year, and then Peter Saunders, who was the main person to get me really into chess, took me on for the Bristol junior club. He also taught me the basic learning points of chess which I've now branched out into bigger and better things. I decided that to become more dedicated to chess, I would train to become an arbiter. I was always intrigued as to how much work arbiters really do, and what their job actually is. So I went to the British Championships in Canterbury to train (whilst also entering the U140 tournament!). I give many of my thanks to Lara Barnes and Alex McFarlane for all the help they gave me whilst I was there. I passed the arbiters exam there and also came away with a reasonable score in the U140 tournament. I then had to get 2 reports filled in before I could become a qualified arbiter. Both these reports came from Kevin Stavelly, who I regularly arbitrate for in Welsh tournaments. I then sent these reports, along with the report from the British Championships, off to the ECF and here I am!"

Thomas is 14



## Grand Prix Leader Boards

Players shown in **BOLD** are counting the maximum number of events. Leader Boards as at March 4th 2011

### Junior Prix

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 <b>Fletcher, Michael JW</b>	Nottingham HS	598
2 <b>Balaji, Ananthanarayanan</b>	Harrow	593
3 <b>Taylor, Adam C</b>	Colchester *	566
4 <b>Zhou, Yang-Fan</b>	Richmond Juniors	561
5 <b>Kuhendiran, Tharshan</b>	New Malden *	550
6 <b>Kalaiyalahan, Akshaya</b>	Richmond Juniors	549
7 <b>Haria, Ravi</b>	Barnet Knights	549
8 <b>Jina, Taran</b>	Herts Juniors	539
9 <b>Zhang, Zheming</b>	Jesmond	537
10 <b>Gupta, Arul</b>	Kent Junior Congresses	537

### Graded Prix (160-179)

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 <b>Bryant, Richard BE</b>	Oswestry	611
2 <b>Jackson, Paul G</b>	Coulsdon CF	565
3 <b>Clegg, Robert</b>	Huddersfield	499
4 <b>Heaton, Paul</b>	Writtle	491
5 <b>Bunn, Matthew</b>	Snodland	484
6 <b>Wells, Jonathan C</b>	North Norfolk	480
7 <b>Cutmore, Martin J</b>	Wood Green	475
8 <b>Hayward, Alan</b>	Streatham	474
9 <b>Patrick, David A</b>	Courier Halifax	464
10 <b>Keogh, Edward</b>	Preston	451

### Graded Prix (140-159)

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 <b>Hartley, Dean M</b>	Amber Valley	619
2 <b>Desmedt, Richard E</b>	Netherton	606
3 <b>O'Gorman, Brendan</b>	DHSS	601
4 <b>Paul, Nathanael</b>	Coddon	505
5 <b>Dean, Robert A</b>	Pudsey	504
6 <b>Clegg, Chris RA</b>	Kingston	498
7 <b>Papier, Alan</b>	Bristol & Clifton	489
8 <b>Wood, Peter C</b>	Hastings *	487
9 <b>Buckell, David J</b>	Pendle	486
10 <b>Robinson, Thomas D</b>	Redditch	486

### Graded Prix (120-139)

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 <b>Foley, Phil T</b>	Upminster	595
2 <b>Horman, Paul A</b>	Morecambe	574
3 <b>Crouch, Timothy J</b>	Kings Head	553
4 <b>Stone, Mark R</b>	Petts Wood & Orpington	527
5 <b>Gardiner, Colin J</b>	Falmouth	516
6 <b>Egan, William J</b>	Scunthorpe	515
7 <b>Allen, Timothy S</b>	Battersea	511
8 <b>Crockett, Stephen J</b>	Birmingham *	506
9 <b>Dunne, David C</b>	West Nottingham	499
10 <b>Howes, David J</b>	Coulsdon CF	495

### Graded Prix (U120)

Name	Club/Area	Pts
1 <b>Fraser, Alan R</b>	Beckenham & Bromley	538
2 <b>Trigg, Matt D</b>	Solihull	515
3 <b>Brent, Derek</b>	Urmston	506
4 <b>Waddington, James</b>	Bolton	490
5 <b>Miles, Barry S</b>	South Norwood	488
6 <b>Wadsworth, James MF</b>	Maidenhead	472
7 <b>Hall, James W</b>	East Grinstead	469
8 <b>Billett, Stephen J</b>	Portsmouth	464
9 <b>Mahony, Jonathan</b>	Leeds	458
10 <b>Coleman, Patrick N</b>	Lytham ex-Servicemen	448

## British Chess Championships 2011

The 98th Championships of the British Isles

Organised by the English Chess Federation

Sunday 24 July to Saturday 6 August,

Ponds Forge, Sheffield, S1 2BP

An English Chess Federation Grand Prix Event



Website -

<http://www.britishchess2011.com/index.htm>

Schedule -

[http://www.britishchess2011.com/schedule\\_2011.htm](http://www.britishchess2011.com/schedule_2011.htm)



## International Round-Up

- *Lawrence Cooper*

### 27th Capelle La Grande International Open 26th February – 5th March 2011

<http://www.cappelle-chess.fr/en2/default.php>

<http://www.ecforum.org.uk/viewtopic.php?f=31&t=2707>

<http://cappelle-chess.fr/fr2/default.php?page=3935>  
Mark Hebden, Sam Franklin, Sarah Hegarty, Lateefah Messam-Sparks and Gerald Parfett all played. Mark finished on 6, Sam 5, Lateefah & Sarah 4.5 & Gerald 3.5

My thanks to Peter Turner for arranging the trip and helping to provide Lateefah, Sam and Sarah with coaching from Mark Hebden.

### World Youth Qualifier Results

Congratulations to the following players who qualified to play in the 2011 World Youth in Brazil in November after this weekend's trial held in Newport Pagnell:

Under 18 Boys: Yang-Fan Zhou & Victor Jones 4/5  
Yang-Fan qualifies (11 players).

Under 16 Boys: Brandon Clarke & James Holland & 3/5 Brandon qualifies (6 players).

Under 14 Boys: William Foo 4/5 (8 players).

Under 12 Boys: Ravi Haria 4.5/5 (11 players).

Under 10 Boys: Gorak Rajesh 4/5 (6 players).

Under 18 Girls: Sheila Dines 1.5/2 (3 players)

Under 16 Girls: Jennifer Ehr (2 players)

Under 10 Girls: Akshaya Kalaiyalahan 2/2 (3 players)

### FSIM March Budapest HUN Sat 5th Mar 2011 – Tue 15th Mar 2011. Ave: (2270)

<http://www.chess-results.com/tnr45634.aspx?lan=1>

<http://www.freeweb.hu/firstsaturday/1103/im.htm>

<http://www.firstsaturday.hu/>

Mark Lyell is playing in the IM Tournament and is on 0.5/2.

### 15th INTERNATIONAL OPEN Guingamp 9th CMB BREIZH MASTERS 5-12 March

[http://www.guingampechecs2011.com ...](http://www.guingampechecs2011.com/inin-3978141.html)

[inin-3978141.html](http://www.guingampechecs2011.com/inin-3978141.html)

Meri Grigoryan is playing in the ten player all-play-all. She is currently on 1/4.

British Championship update from Neville Belinfante  
“The conditions and entry form for the British Championship are now available at

[http://www.britishchess2011.com/conditions\\_entry-form.htm](http://www.britishchess2011.com/conditions_entry-form.htm)

Also the latest list of qualifiers for the British up to the middle of February is at

[http://www.britishchess2011.com/qualifiers/quals\\_2011.htm](http://www.britishchess2011.com/qualifiers/quals_2011.htm)

The latest qualifier, who I have only just been notified about, is Jude Lenier (15) who qualified through his TPR of 2302 at the FIDE Masters A tournament at Brighton.”

In addition to the individual websites the latest international chess news can be found at the following link: <http://www.chesscenter.com/twic/twic852.html>

I encourage players to send me details of events they or others are playing in abroad and I will do my best to include them in my round-up

## Results Round-Up

### 94th Richmond Rapidplay 13/03/11

90 played in the 94th Richmond Rapidplay

#### Open

1st: Alexei Slavin 5.5/6

2nd: Peter Sowray 5/6

3rd=: Amy Hoare, Peter Williams, Peter Lalic, Graeme Buckley, Alan Punnet and James Holland 4/6  
U190 Grading Prize: Amy Hoare 4/6

#### Major (U170)

1st: Matthew Ward 5.5/6

2nd=: Matthew Wilson, Theodore Dias and Kazi Azizur Rahman 4.5/6

U150 Grading Prize: Theodore Dias and Matthew Wilson 4.5/6;

#### Intermediate (U135)

1st: Richard Meikle-Briggs 5.5/6

2nd=: Tom Rixon and Ananth Vijayakumar 4.5/6

U115 Grading Prize: Ananth Vijayakumar 4.5/6;

#### Minor (U100)

1st: Marley Robinson 5.5/6;

2nd: Rustico Pineda 5/6;

3rd: Simon van Someren 4/6;

U80 Grading Prize: Alan Wilson and Stephen Darby 2.5/6;

Full Crosstables will soon be available at  
<http://www.surreyrapidchess.org/results.html>

## EAST DEVON CHESS CONGRESS 2011 PRIZE LIST

Section	Position	Name	Club/Town	Points	Prize (£)
Open	1=	J Rudd (IM)	Barnstaple	4.5	170
Open	1=	M Taylor	Crowthorne	4.5	170
Open	3	D Mackle	Newton Abbot	4	80
Open	Grading 163-176	A Brusey	Teignmouth	3.5	30
Open	Grading <163	A Waters	Rainham	3	30
Major	1	J Morgan	Exeter	4.5	160
Major	2	J Nielsen	Wimborne	4	100
Major	3=	J Gorodi	Teignmouth	3.5	14
Major	3=	R Desmedt	Wombwell	3.5	14
Major	3=	A Waldock	Guildford	3.5	14
Major	3=	G Body	Exeter	3.5	14
Major	3=	T Greenaway	Torquay	3.5	14
Major	Grading 133-144	A Farthing	Worcester	3	15
Major	Grading 133-144	R Wilby	Plymouth	3	15
Major	Grading <133	C Keen	Exeter	3	30
Minor	1	C Constable	Coulsdon	4.5	160
Minor	2	J Wallman	Isle of Wight	4	100
Minor	3=	S Ross	Shifnal	3.5	14
Minor	3=	T Slade	Barnstaple	3.5	14
Minor	3=	M Hiill	Liskeard	3.5	14
Minor	3=	J Carr	Portsmouth	3.5	14
Minor	3=	R Scholes	Exeter	3.5	14
Minor	Grading 102-110	K Sherlock	Yeovil	3.5	30
Minor	Grading <102	G Jenkins	Exeter	3.5	30
	Best Team *		Exeter	11.5	20
				TOTAL	1280

### Manchester Rapidplay

The fourth New East Manchester Rapidplay Chess Tournament was held at the City of Manchester Stadium on Sunday 6 March 2011. The entry fees were again tiered to encourage early entry – £15 before the end of February and £20 in advance. Despite this, a few players turned up to pay £25 on the day.

My thanks go to Fiona Green, Julian Clissold and Rod Middleton in controlling, and to Rod for grading the results.

The event was organised by Sport4life on behalf of the Eagle Chess Club in association with the Manchester Chess Federation (MCF). Local MP Tony Lloyd kindly said a few words at the opening ceremony.

With a number of photographers in attendance, look out for the post event publicity. Some photos will appear at <http://www.manchesterchessfederation.co.uk/>  
The MCF would like to thank the sponsors, New

East Manchester Ltd, Street Games and Equity Solutions; Chess Direct who supplied the bookstall; all the staff of Manchester City FC and the stadium who helped to make us welcome; and especially all the staff from Sport4Life, particularly Adam Smith, John and Gemma Dwan.

We were reasonably pleased with the numbers, with our best ever entry of 87 playing.

#### The Junior (U16) Trophies were won by:

- 1 A Kozlovkis (Blackburn)
- 2 Jason Lau (3Cs)
- 3 Tom Paterson (Bolton)

In the **U120 section** (37 players), the Trophies were won by:

- 1 Joshua Pendlebury (Worsley grade 95) with a score of 5/6 winning £75
  - 2 Dean Madden (Spondon grade 104) who split first prize winning £75
  - 3 Agron Elizi (Eagles ungraded) with a score of 4.5/6 winning £5
- Third place prize money was split with Elliot Fordham (Altrincham ungraded) and Thomas

Robson (Macclesfield ungraded) both winning £5  
The U100 grading prize was won by Jenifer Neil  
(Chorley grade 91) with 4/6 winning £40

In the **U160 section** (31 players), the Trophies were won by:

1 Farshap Ai (Phoenix grade 155) with a score of 5/6 winning £120

2 Kevin Winter (Bingley grade 141) with 4.5/6 winning £40

3 Philip Cattermole (Macclesfield) also with 4.5/6 winning £40

Third place prize money was also split with Mick Connor (Great Lever grade 141) winning £40

The U140 grading prize trophy was won with 4/6 by Oskar Hackner (Rotherham grade 134) winning £20 with the prize shared by Richard Sz wajkun (Newport grade 121) winning £20

In the **Open section** (19 players), the Trophies were won by:

1 Alan Walton (3Cs grade 193) with a score of 5/6 winning £125

2 Alex Longson (3Cs grade 213) also with 5/6 winning £125

3 Mike Surtees (Bolton grade 196) with 4.5/6 winning £125

The U180 grading prize was won with 4/6 by Steven Jones (Padgate) winning £40

We hope to stage the event again next year, subject to stadium availability.

- Mick Norris, MCF Congress Director

## Winton Capital British Chess Solving Championship

The final of the 2010-11 Winton Capital British Chess Solving Championship, generously sponsored by Winton Capital Management, took place on 26th February at Oakham School. A strong field included four Solving Grandmasters, reigning World Champion John Nunn, ex-World Champion Jonathan Mestel, and guest solvers Dolf Wissmann from the Netherlands and Eddy van Beers from Belgium. Nunn has been in superb form over the last year and duly won the event, completely solving 12 out of the 13 problems. This latest victory means that he holds 4 major titles simultaneously (World Champion, European Champion, British Champion and Champion of the International Solving Contest) – the first time this feat has been accomplished. Van Beers finished runner-up, while former British Champion Michael McDowell put in his best performance for many years, coming from behind

in the last round to pip Mestel and Colin McNab for third place. Top scores (30 solvers competed) were:

1 GM John Nunn 60 / 65

2 GM Eddy van Beers 52.5

3 FM Michael McDowell 50.5

4 GM Jonathan Mestel 49.75 (faster on time)

5 IM Colin McNab 49.75

6 GM Dolf Wissmann 45

7 Ian Watson 35

8 Roddy McKay 34

9 John Gemmell 31

10 IM David Friedgood 29.75

Full results can be found at

[http://www.bstephen.me.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=273:the-final-](http://www.bstephen.me.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=273:the-final-results&catid=35:current-year-2008-2009&Itemid=60)

[results&catid=35:current-year-2008-2009&Itemid=60](http://www.bstephen.me.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=273:the-final-results&catid=35:current-year-2008-2009&Itemid=60) and a selection of the problems set for solving can be found at

found at

[http://www.bstephen.me.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=274:the-final-the-pro-](http://www.bstephen.me.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=274:the-final-the-problems&catid=35:current-year-2008-2009&Itemid=60)

[blems&catid=35:current-year-2008-2009&Itemid=60](http://www.bstephen.me.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=274:the-final-the-problems&catid=35:current-year-2008-2009&Itemid=60)

## 25th Wiltshire & West of England Junior Congress

St Joseph's College, Swindon, February 26th & 27th 2011

Best Overall Girl Jasmin Giles (London)

### Major

Controller Tyson Mordue

1st Marcus Harvey (Oxon) 4½ /5

2nd Akash Jain (Mddx) 4/5

3rd= Radha Jain (Glos) 3½ /5

3rd= Maria Wang (Oxon) 3½ /5

3rd= James Holland (Berks) 3½ /5

West of England U18 Champion Radha Jain

West of England U16 Champion Radha Jain

West of England U18 Girls Champoin Radha Jain

West of England U16 Girls Champion Radha Jain

Wiltshire U18 Champion Megan Owens

Wiltshire U16 Champion Megan Owens

Wiltshire U18 Girls Champion Megan Owens

Outstanding Game Prize Marcus Harvey

Original Game Prize Chantelle Foster (Oxon)

Grading Prize Joseph Roshan Daniel (Swansea)

### U14 Championship

Controller Jerry Humphreys

1st= William Foo (Berks) 4/5  
1st= Henry Broadley (Lancs) 4/5  
1st= Ananth Balaji (Mddx) 4/5

West of England U14 Champion Kumar Dixit  
(Hants)  
Grading Prizes Rohan Bansal (London)  
Louise Head (Berks)  
Jake Hung (London)  
Controller's Prize Tim Foster (Surrey)

### Minor

Controller Peter Richmond

1st Adam Burroughs (Wilts)  
2nd Thomas Thorpe (Bristol)  
3rd= George Galliano (Soms)  
3rd= Calum Harris (Bucks)  
3rd= Freddie Keen (E Sussex)

Best Girl Liza Griaznov (Soms)

### U12 Championships

Controller Alec Webster

1st= Akito Oyama (Cambs) 5/6  
1st= Ryan Wong (Berks) 5/6  
1st= Yasmin Giles (London) 5/6  
1st= Anna Wang (Oxon) 5/6

Best U11 Ryan Wong  
Best Girl Yasmin Giles  
Anna Wang  
West of England U12 Champion Michael Ashworth  
(Glos)  
West of England U12 Girls Champion Eleanor  
Hapeshi (Glos)  
Wiltshire U12 Champion Jamie MacDonald  
Wiltshire U11 Champion Pranav Satish

### U12 Challengers

Controller Joshua Hall

1st Rhys Bennett (Gwent) 5/6  
2nd= Owen Bennett (Gwent) 4½ /6  
2nd= Benjamin Lee (Bristol) 4½ /6

Best Girl Jessica Wen (Kent) 4/6  
Zoe Varney (Oxon) 4/6

### U10 Championship

Controller Priscilla Morris

1st Arul Gupta (Kent) 5½ /6

2nd Edward Stevenson (London) 5/6  
3rd= Anthony Zhang (Berks) 4½ /6  
3rd= Akshaya Kalaiyalahan (Surrey) 4½ /6

West of England U10 Champion Harry Grieve  
(Hants)  
West of England U10 Girls Champion Martha  
McCarron (Wilts)  
Wiltshire U10 Champion Samuel Watling  
Best Girl Akshaya Kalaiyalahan (Surrey)  
Controller's Medal Gorak Rajesh (Essex)  
Tharshan Kuhendiran (Surrey)

### U9 Championship

Controller Tim Dickinson



1st= Devansh Marwaha (Middx) 5/6  
1st= Thomas McLaren (Wilts) 5/6  
1st= Charlie McLaren (Wilts) 5/6  
West of England U9 Champion Thomas McLaren  
Charlie McLaren  
Wiltshire U9 Champion Thomas McLaren  
Charlie McLaren  
Best Girl Chloe d'Souza-Eva (Oxon)  
Stephanie du Toit (Wales)  
Controllers Prizes Stephen Banh (Surrey)  
Andrew Fergusson (Birmingham)

### U8 Championship (Sunday)

Controller Neil Hayward

1st Danyal Warsop (Kent) 5½ /6



2nd= Daniel Seymour (Wilts) 5/6  
2nd= Tai Remus Elliot (London) 5/6

West of England U8 Champion Daniel Seymour  
West of England U8 Girls Champion Venetia  
Hobkirk-Caps (Glos)  
Mercedes Hobkirk-Caps (Glos)  
Wiltshire U8 Champion Daniel Seymour  
Wiltshire U7 Champion Rachel Fairfax  
Best Girl Eva Wang  
Venetia Hobkirk-Caps  
Mercedes Hobkirk-Caps  
Best U7 Tai Remus Elliot

### **Beginners (Saturday)**

Controller Neil Hayward

1st Ray Ren (Oxon) 5½ /6  
2nd Thomas Carter (Bristol) 5/6  
3rd Anthony Bracey (Oxon) 4½ /6

Best Girl Eva Wang (Oxon)  
Best U7 Arish Kalyana (Birmingham)  
Eva Wang (Oxon)  
Best U8 Sam Bundy (Wilts)  
Best U10 Dominic Evans (Wilts)

### **Saturday Intermediate**

Controller Neville Belinfante

1st= Jordan Isgin (Wilts) 5/6  
1st= Imogen Stables (Notts) 5/5  
3rd= Luke Burroughs (Wilts) 4½ /6  
3rd= Harry McLaren (Glos) 4½ /6

Best Girl Imogen Stables  
Controller's Medal Michael Harris (Wilts)  
Danyal Warsop (London)

### **Sunday Intermediate**

Controller Neville Belinfante

1st Luke Burroughs (Wilts) 6/6  
2nd= John Lascelles (Mddx) 4½ /6  
2nd= Philip Archer-Lock (Berks) 4½ /6  
3rd Harry McLaren (Glos) 4/6

Best Girl Imogen Stables  
Controllers Medals Kieran Jefferies (Wilts)  
Megan Devereux (Wilts)

### **Hendon/Golders Green**

February's event had 102 players!

**Open** – GM Alex Cherniaev 5.5/6 £60 in a large and

very tough field.

Peter Williams (199) 5/6 £30.

Grading U180 – Alan Merry (176) and Ravi Haria (172) 4/6 £10 each

**Major Under 170** – Helge Hjort (£60) and Thean Jern Yeoh (Ungraded, £30) 5/6  
U155 Grading – Edwin Kalerwa (148) £20.

**Minor Under 145** – Gary P Smith 5/6 £60  
John McDonald, Chris Barnett a creditable 4.5/6 £15 each.  
Grading U130 – Simon Fischer (129) 4.5/6 £15.

**Amateur Under 120** – Edward Stevenson (an outstanding performance) and David Everitt 5/6 £45 each  
The U105 grading prize went to Tim Sanders (94) 3/6 £20.

### **Frodsham Congress report**

There were 100 players, the same as last year, at this year's Frodsham Congress, which took place on 11th-13th February. This year, following Leek, Fischer time control was in use. Mike Surtees (Bolton) improved on his second place in 2010 by winning the Major, conceding just one draw, to Henry Broadley (Chorley). The Minor was very closely contested, with four players sharing first place. The results were:

#### **Major (U210, 29 players)**

1st Mike Surtees (Bolton) 4.5/5  
2nd Steven Jones (Padgate) 4  
3= Claudio Mangione (Lincoln), Noel McLaughlin (Northwich), Liam Rabitte (Heywood), Craig Whitfield (Cheddleton and Leek) 3.5  
Grading prize (U169): Nathan Talbot (Wigan Knights) 3  
Others on 3: Mitchell Burke (3C's), Chris Doran (Chester), Peter Jowett (Preston), Dominic Rabitte (Heywood)

#### **Intermediate (U150, 33 players)**

1st Stephen Lloyd (Chester) 4.5  
2nd Arnolds Kozlovskis (Blackburn) 4  
3= Martin Coles (Runcorn), Graham Hughes (Chorley), Neil Lister (Whitstable), Joe Nemcek (Chester), Ian Stephens (Liverpool) 3.5  
Grading prizes (U140): Marvin Hayes (Penyffordd), Paul Talbot (Wigan Knights), Michael Wood (Pensby) 3  
Others on 3: David Buckell (Pendle), Mark Cromwell (Frodsham), Matthew Fanning (Atherton), Damian McCarthy (Padgate)

### Minor (U125, 38 players)

1= Huw Davies (Bangor), Tim Hilton (3C's), Conrad Jowett (Stockport), John Simmons (Rhyl) 4  
Grading prizes (U110) Angelica Dean (3C's) 3.5  
Others on 3.5: Jeremy Hunt (Prescott and Knotty Ash), Nigel Jowett (Glasgow), David Scorer (Pendle).  
On 3: Patrick Coleman (Lytham ex-Servicemen), Paul Horman (Morecombe), Tom Lawton (Atticus), Celeste McCrann (Wrexham), Asoke Nandi (Pensby), Richard Swajkun (Newport)

The Team Prize (a digital clock) was won by Chester A (11/15) for the third year running ahead of Padgate (10)

The Congress was again expertly controlled by Roger Edwards, Ian Campbell, Robert Milner and Jim McPhillips, and refreshments raised £270 for the Canal Boat Adventure Project

### The Royal Game comes to Middlesex University Real Tennis Club

Two talented juniors from Hendon Chess Club were the heroes of the evening as chess Grandmaster and World Championship candidate Nigel Short took on 47 players at the Middlesex University Real Tennis Club on 15th February. The play took place on the court itself, with spectators watching from the galleries!

The unusual (probably unique) venue for a chess event drew favourable comments from all the participants and spectators. Thanks to the British Chess Educational Trust for a grant which enabled us to be in such a prestigious location.

Juniors Joseph Levene (b. December 1996) and Isaac Sanders (b. May 1998) both scored highly creditable draws, with Nigel beating all the other contenders. Petr Vachtfeidl from London's Metropolitan Chess Club was the first person to enter the event and the last to finish, and Nigel couldn't beat him in an opposite coloured bishop endgame. The player who travelled the furthest to play Nigel was certainly Newcastle's Zheming Zhang (Jesmond Junior Chess Club) the reigning British Under 8 and 9 Champion.

There were two simultaneous displays, one for juniors (20 players) at 4.30pm and a mixed simul (20 players) at 8pm. Between displays Nigel gave a talk, and while he took a well-earned break International Master Lorin d'Costa went through the games for the audience.

The evening was organised by International Organiser

and English Chess Federation Director Adam Raof (adamraoof@gmail.com), who also works at Middlesex University, as part of Nigel's 2011 UK tour. It was covered live on the internet by Tryfon Gavriel ('Kingscrusher') on his ChessBase blog

### Nigel Short vs Joseph Levene

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Bb5 Bb4 5. O-O d6 6. d4 exd4 7. Nxd4 Bd7 8. Bxc6 bxc6 9. Qf3 O-O 10. Bg5 Bxc3 11. bxc3 h6 12. Bxf6 Qxf6 13. Qxf6 gxf6 14. f3 Rab8 15. Rab1 Rb6 16. Rb3 Rfb8 17. c4 Kf8 18. g4 Ke7 19. Kf2 c5 20. Nf5 Bxf5 21. gxf5 Rg8 22. Ra1 Kd7 23. Rab1 Kc6 24. Rb5 Rxb5 25. Rxb5 h5 26. h4 Ra8 27. a4 a6 28. Rb3 Rg8 29. a5 Kd7  
- 1/2-1/2

### Nigel Short vs Petr Vachtfeidl

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. g3 Nc6 4. Bg2 Nf6 5. Qe2 d6 6. O-O Be7 7. c3 e5 8. Na3 O-O 9. Nc2 Bg4 10. Ne3 Bh5 11. d3 Re8 12. h3 d5 13. g4 dxe4 14. dxe4 Bg6 15. Nf5 Bxf5 16. exf5 e4 17. Nd2 Bd6 18. Nxe4 Nxe4 19. Bxe4 Qe7 20. Re1 Qh4 21. Qf1 Ne5 22. Bf4 Nf3 23. Bxf3 Bxf4 24. Bxb7 Rab8 25. Rxe8 Rxe8 26. Re1 Rd8 27. Bg2 h5 28. Qc4 Bb8 29. Qe2 Qg5 30. Rd1 Rxd1 31. Qxd1 hxg4 32. hxg4 Qf4 33. Qd8 Kh7 34. Qh4 Qh6 35. Qxh6 Kxh6 36. Bd5 Kg5 37. f3 f6 38. b4 cxb4 39. cxb4 Bd6 40. b5 Ba3 41. Kf2 Kf4 42. Ke2 Ke5 43. Bc6 Kd4 44. Kd2 Bc5 45. Be4 Kc4 46. Bd3 Kd4 47. Kc2 Bb4 48. Kb3 Be1 49. Be4 Ba5 50. a4 Be1 51. Bc6 Ba5 52. Kc2 Bb4 53. Kd1 Ke3 54. Bb7 Ba5  
- 1/2-1/2

### LAKE DISTRICT CHESS HOLIDAYS

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

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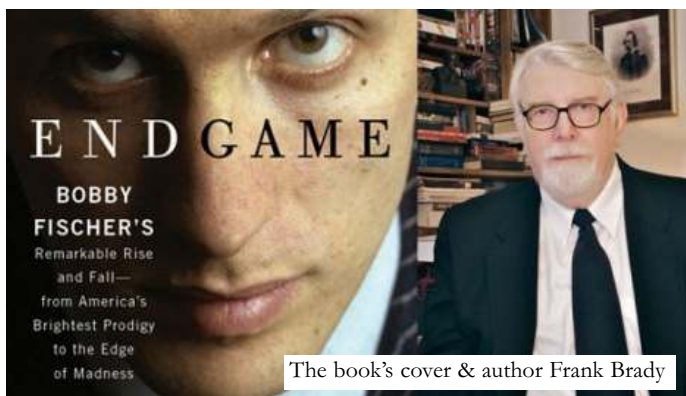


## The ChEx Bookshelf

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

### MAD, BAD, OR SIMPLY SAD?

The photograph on the front cover of Frank Brady's new biography **Endgame – Bobby Fischer's Remarkable Rise and Fall – from America's Brightest Prodigy to the Edge of Madness** (published by Crown; 2011) is a striking close-up of Bobby Fischer's face, taken at his prime. It is easy to believe in the tales of the almost-physical force felt by his opponents when confronted with this laser-like focus over the board.



The book's cover & author Frank Brady

The back cover, on the other hand, shows an unhealthy-looking man with a wild grey beard. Taken, I would guess, around the time of Fischer's release from a Japanese prison in 2005, the eyes suggest a man who has retreated from the world and is lost within himself. It's not a happy picture, and the contrast between the two photographs encapsulates part of the arc of the great player's life.

The book begins, quite literally, with an arresting scene. Bobby Fischer is screaming, "I can't breathe! I can't breathe!" having been wrestled to the ground by two Japanese security guards at Tokyo Narita Airport in July 2004. The scene is presented in a novelistic style, with a direct 'quotation' from Fischer's thoughts ("*So this is how I'll die, he thought. Will anyone ever know the truth about how I was murdered?*") and a vivid if rather questionable image ("*Lilliputians atop the fallen Gulliver*") which made me fear that this would be a biography of at best dubious objectivity.

After the opening three pages, however, the author settles into a more conventional style which largely allayed my initial concerns. What emerges is a portrait of Fischer the man which manages to be sympathetic and understanding without ignoring the more unpleasant

sides to his behaviour.

### A genius revisited

*Endgame* is Frank Brady's third biography of Fischer, starting with *Profile of a Prodigy* in the mid-1960s, followed by a much-expanded revision, which was published by Batsford in 1974 as *Bobby Fischer*. A comparison of the 1974 book with the new biography reveals significant differences. The older book is some 430 pages long, of which about 150 pages consist of annotated games and cross-tables. The new book is slightly shorter (400 pages) and contains no games and no cross-tables. Instead, it has some 45 pages of notes, citing sources for quotations in the main text. Given the difference in text size and line spacing, I should estimate that the biographies are more or less the same length.

The approach, however, is very different. In 1974, Brady understandably focused on Fischer's chess career, and the story was told in detail, with references to other events and personalities in the chess world which helped to flesh out the narrative. In *Endgame*, chess is just part of a broader life story, and the kind of details likely to appeal to chess-players are largely excluded in the interests of writing a biography of appeal to the widest possible audience. With the brief exception of the 1992 match with Spassky, Fischer's chess career was over after 1972, and by page 200 of



A young Bobby Fischer

*Endgame* Fischer is already world champion. Given that this time around Brady also presents a much fuller picture of Bobby as a child, along with his family background, the chess story is considerably shorter.

For my part, I welcome this. The 1974 book did a very effective job, and I am not sure that *Endgame* would be a better book if it took another 150 pages or so to expand on the chess aspects; it would certainly sell less well. Even when the books overlap, there is very little duplication. Brady adopts a strategy of concentrating on certain key snapshots of games and events,

described in detail, rather than a more consistent account of Fischer's playing career. For example, the famous "Game of the Century" – Bobby's 1956 victory over Donald Byrne takes up nearly four pages (pp.61-64) in *Endgame*; in *Bobby Fischer*, it is covered in half a paragraph on p.16. Those lucky enough to own a copy of *Bobby Fischer* need not fear that they will be buying the same work recycled in *Endgame*.

The impact of the two books on the reader is undoubtedly very different as well. In 1974, many may have suspected that Fischer's playing days were over, but shape of the narrative could still be that of a rise to glory, from a poor childhood in Brooklyn to champion of the world. Whatever the reader's views on Fischer's off-board behaviour, there was denying the mythic quality of his ascent. There were stumbles along the way, but in the end it felt like Fischer's 1972 victory was the fulfilment of destiny. Who could fail to be caught up in its majesty?

Reading *Endgame* is a much more sobering experience. The ascent to victory has become a tale of rise and fall, and knowledge of what Fischer was to become seeps back into the telling of the "glory years", overlaying sad ironies and dark foreshadowings through the unforgiving lens of hindsight.

It is inconceivable that Brady could have written so openly back in 1974 of Fischer's life away from the chessboard – his relationship with his mother, sister and many others. Fischer's death has given the author scope to reveal his subject's private life and to comment on his character in a way which adds depth to the book.

### **And the verdict is...**

No one can seriously question Bobby Fischer's greatness as a player. Whether he should be considered the best of all time or "merely" one of the best, his genius is indisputable.

Brady's biography encourages the reader to reflect on Fischer as a person. Most of the time, the author shies away from passing judgement; indeed, the "Author's Note" cautions the reader right from the start concerning the dangers of trying to form too simple a view of a very complex man. My reading of the text led me to conclude that Brady's own view of Fischer remains one of admiration, even if the almost unreserved praise of his earlier books is no longer possible.

My own opinions shifted as the book went on. I

should admit at once that Fischer was never a chess hero of mine. I came to the game in the late 1970s, so he was already largely a figure from the past, and what I learned of his exploits during his playing career did not endear him to me.

Unfortunately, Fischer's behaviour post-1972 made his earlier boorishness pale into insignificance. Even the most tolerant of people is tested by what can only be described as the grotesqueness of Fischer's anti-Semitism, his celebration of the destruction of the World Trade Centre in 2001 and his treatment of those who sought to help and support him. It would be somehow reassuring to dismiss these as mental illness, a great mind unhinged, but Brady goes out of his way to cite authorities who denied that Fischer was in some way mad. I am simply not qualified to judge.

At times, the portrait of Fischer emerges as surprisingly warm and sympathetic. Previous accounts have tended to suggest that he was estranged from his mother and sister. It comes as a shock, therefore, to see a photo dating from 1972 of a relaxed Bobby Fischer, sitting opposite a chessboard from his mother, Regina, who had come to visit him in Iceland and wore a blond wig to avoid provoking distracting press attention. The description of Bobby's childhood allows the reader room to see the pressures that poverty must have caused and to understand perhaps why money matters were always so large a part in Fischer's chess career.



Bobby Fischer late in life

On the other hand, with depressing regularity come the stories of quite despicable behaviour towards friends and supporters.

I was most struck by the account of Fischer's behaviour towards Jack Collins, for many years a mentor, friend and father-figure: "... he hurt Jack Collins deeply when he refused to write the introduction to Jack's book *My Seven Chess Prodigies* (1974). Jack had told him that if he would just write a short introduction, it would mean a sizable advance from the publisher. Collins needed the extra money [...]. His request of Bobby was couched in cordial, nonpleading terms, but Bobby heartlessly never answered him, and Lombardy stepped in to do the job" (p.224). With the best will in the world, it is hard to read this sort of thing and retain the belief that Fischer was anything other than a deeply unpleasant person.



Fischer's apparently uncaring exploitation of the goodwill of others crops up later on the same page. While staying with GM Walter Browne and his family, Fischer asked to use the phone and proceeded to talk long-distance for perhaps four hours. When Browne politely said, "*You know, Bobby, you'll really have to get off the phone. I can't afford this,*" Fischer "*hung up and immediately said he had to leave and couldn't spend the night with the Brownes. They never talked again.*"

The final chapter, *Living and Dying in Iceland*, briefly suggests a man who found a degree of peace. His Icelandic friends and neighbours appear to have been temperamentally ideally suited to existence alongside the troubled ex-champion. They ignored his anti-Semitic or anti-American rants and largely left him to live his life as he wished. Even here, however, Fischer's tendency to alienate himself from those who would help him exerted itself, and he progressively broke off ties with his friends, living in increasing isolation.

Read Frank Brady's book. It is vividly written and authoritative. Whatever your view of Bobby Fischer, there is no denying that he is a central figure in the canvas of chess history, and taking a few hours to reflect on such a complex figure will surely be time well spent.

At the time of Fischer's death, *New in Chess* published a moving piece by Dirk Jan ten Geuzendam, who had spent time talking with many of those who knew Fischer in his final days in Iceland. One comment has stayed with me, by Magnus Skarphedinnsson: "*It's still a mystery in my mind, why such an over-talented man couldn't find a way to deal with the world.*"

Bobby Fischer was a brilliant, sometimes unpleasant man, who in the end could not stop himself from driving others away. My overriding impression at the conclusion of *Endgame* is of someone who was for much of life profoundly lonely. So... mad, bad, or simply sad? I don't know, but I'm left with the words of Boris Spassky from 1972: "*It is a very pity.*" A pity, indeed.

## The Gibraltar Masters

- Stewart Reuben

Monday 24 January to Thursday 3 February 2011

I was first contacted by the General Manager of the Caleta Hotel, Franco Ostuni, in 2001. They were interested in putting on a chess tournament. Who could have believed that the event, which first took place in 2003, would now have grown into the best chess congress of its type in the world? This is substantially due to the amount of effort the proprietor of the hotel,

Brian Callaghan, has put into the event, particularly in finding sponsors. This is the first year for Tradewise as lead sponsors, before that it was Gibtelecom.

Nigel Short in Gibraltar



GM Stuart Conquest has now taken over from me as the Technical Organiser of the event under Brian. This is the first event he has ever organised and he rose magnificently to the challenge. Talk of starting at the top. Capelle le Grand which is also open takes place a couple of weeks later and attracts about 100 GMs, by comparison with our 50, but we attract more superstars of the game. The Aeroflot congress in Moscow is also a tremendous event, but the sections there are not open, you need a minimum rating. The World Open in Philadelphia has more prize money, but with two rounds a day that is little more than a long week-end Swiss. Gibraltar sets out to attract the leading female players and is incomparably better in this respect than any other open event. Only the World and European Women's Championships have higher prizes – and some of the players also cornered open prizes.

One of the biggest problems organising international events used to be getting the Soviet authorities to allow their players exit visas. Now the problem is getting visas from the British authorities for those players who need them. Hastings and the London Chess Classic have also been hard hit in this way. This year the weather was bad in Gibraltar. Some planes were diverted to Malaga. But some of our players did not have the necessary Schengen visa (for the rest of Europe) to get them down the road (well about 130km). Thus some GMs did not arrive in time for the first round. Still

there are 10 games and they took a half point bye so not that much harm was done.

Nigel Short set off like a house on fire, scoring 5/5. But he lost a fiercely contested game against Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine) who thus took over the lead with 5½/6. Nigel drew his next game rather tamely, probably to get his equilibrium back. Vassily also drew another and finished with 9/10 and Nigel with 8½/10. They left the rest of the field far before, nobody else scoring more than 7½. In 2002 Nigel's form was somewhat in the doldrums; winning Gibraltar gave him confidence resulting in a fine series of results. It was much the same story for Michael Adams last year. Let us hope history is going to repeat itself. As Nigel said, before the tournament he would have been content with 7/10.



Viktor Korchnoi

#### Leading scores:

- 1 Vassily Ivanchuk UKR 9/10 TPR 2968 £17,500
- 2 Nigel Short ENG 8½ 2883 £10,000
- 3-4 Kaido Kulaots EST 7½ 2750 £7000  
Michael Roiz ISR 7½ 2743 £7000
- 5-18. Fabiano Caruana ITA 7 2681 £1354  
Nana Dzagnidze GEO 7 2672 £10,000 woman  
+ £3000 Rating prize  
Narayanan Gopal IND 7 2651 £1354  
Francisco Vallejo Pons ESP 7 2648 £1354  
Pentala Harikrishna IND 7 2647 £1354  
Kiril Georgiev BUL 7 2641 £1354  
Pablo Lafuente ARG 7 2637 £1354  
Liviu-Dieter ROU 7 2629 £1354

Salome Melia GEO 7 2610 £5000 woman  
+ £2000 Rating prize  
Giorgi Kacheishvili GEO 7 2608 £1354  
Viktor Erdos HUN 7 2607 £1354  
Vyacheslav Ikonnikov RUS 7 2598 £1354  
Viorel Iordachescu MDA 7 2538 £1354  
Alexandr Fier BRA 7 2538 £1354

There were also many other rating prizes. One of the biggest cheers of the evening went for Viktor Korchnoi who picked up the £1000 Senior prize. In the last round he had an accident and lost what might otherwise have won the £1000 Best Game Prize. The £126,000 prize fund was distributed among a large number of players, including the Challengers, Amateurs and evening events. Nowhere else is there a rating prize for players 2500-2599. That took Nana up to £13,000 – presumably her largest-ever pay cheque. Melia Salome also picked up two prizes and achieved her first GM norm, while Nadezhda Kosintseva (RUS) only (!) scored 6½, but her 2654 rating performance gave her a GM norm and the title. IM norms were achieved by Toomas Valgmae (EST), Espen Forsaa (NOR) and Tom Weber (LUX).



Korchnoi vs Vallejo-Pons

Challengers (U2250) A was won by Ivan Elisha and Johan Henriksson each getting £1500. Challengers B Adeoye Dasaolu securing £2000. Amateur (U1800 or ECF 150) A Vegard Stene £1000 and Amateur B Klaus Kuenitz also £1000.

The event is much more than just people sitting down looking at chess boards. Stuart Conquest used to do the commentaries and he still found time from his more pastoral duties to help Simon Williams dissect the games. Both Ivanchuk and Short were in a good mood throughout the event (I wonder why) and often came to give us their thoughts on the games as did other leading players – sometimes even after losing. There was also a very popular teams of 4 blitz one evening and a pairs blitz another. The event opened with the traditional drawing of lots and also a small

reception. The last night there was a gala dinner, speeches and the prizegiving. This year the weather wasn't good enough for sun bathing. However the warmth of the conviviality in the bar in the Caleta Hotel each evening made up for that. For many people the opportunity to meet their heroes in a social setting is a major attraction.

Later this year there will be an international junior event. Next year will see the 10th in the series starting on Monday 23 January and having much the same format, but with some very special events to commemorate the anniversary. There were 230 entries for the Masters this year and the playing hall can't take many more. Perhaps you should book up now.

For all the games and much, much more visit the website: [www.gibraltarchesscongress.com](http://www.gibraltarchesscongress.com).

- *Stewart Reuben*

The best game prize went to Victor Mikhalevski of Israel for his splendid sixth round win against Varuzhan Akobian of USA.

### Gibraltar Masters, Round 6

**White: Akobian, Varuzhan (2618)**

**Black: Mikhalevski, Victor (2579)**

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. f3 c5 4. d5 Bg7 5. e4 d6 6. Nc3 O-O 7. Bg5 h6 8. Be3 e6 9. Qd2 exd5 10. cxd5 Re8 11. Nge2 Nbd7 12. Ng3 h5 13. Be2 a6 14. O-O b5 15. Bh6 h4 16. Nh1 Nh5 17. Bxg7 Kxg7 18. a4 b4 19. Nd1 f5 20. exf5 Nb6 21. fxe6 Rxe2 22. Qxe2 Nf4 23. Qe4 Qg5 24. g4 Nh3+ 25. Kg2 Nf4+ 26. Kg1 Bd7 27. Ne3 Nh3+ 28. Kg2 Nf4+ 29. Kg1 Re8 30. Nf5+ Kg8 31. Qb1 Nh3+ 32. Kg2 Nf4+ 33. Kg1 Nh3+ 34. Kg2 Nxd5 35. Nf2 Re2 36. Nxd6 Bxg4 0-1

## Chessboxing in London



On the 26th March, 7pm-11pm – International Chessboxing at The Boston Dome, Dartmouth Park Hill, London N19 5QQ

Full line-up confirmed! An explosion of chessboxing firsts! First Japanese chessboxer, first French chessboxer and first home-nations event!

An international melting-pot with, for the first time ever, all the home-nations bar Northern Ireland being represented. The middleweight clash between Clouston and Riley embraces both Japan and France (as well as Scotland) since both men claim dual nationality

## HMCA Private Healthcare, Travel Insurance, Dental, Vehicle Breakdown Recovery and other Benefit Plans

HMCA (Hospital & Medical Care Association) is a specialist provider of services to membership groups and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. HMCA has been working with membership groups for over 30 years and now provides a portfolio of membership benefits to over 600 such groups. These arrangements provide ECF members and their immediate families with a simple means of securing the high quality benefits and services offered by HMCA.



The schemes on offer include the following Plans:-

### PRIVATE HEALTHCARE COVER

- Potential savings of up to 50% for members and their immediate families. This figure is based on savings made by those who have joined HMCA using the transfer facility.
- Over 70% of HMCA new subscribers transfer to HMCA from other healthcare providers!

### TRAVEL INSURANCE PLAN

- Cover can be obtained for unmarried children up to the age 23 in a family plan.
- Annual multi-trip European cover is £77.00 for a family. Annual multi-trip world-wide cover for a family is £115.00.
- Cover may be taken out for certain pre-existing medical conditions for an extra premium after answering a few questions over the 'phone.
- Annual cover available up to the age 70 and single trip cover up to the age 75.

### DENTAL PLAN

- Provides 24 hour world-wide cover and you will not be tied down to one dental practice.
- Monthly subscription for a single person age 18 to 78 is £19.45.

### VEHICLE BREAKDOWN RECOVERY SERVICE

- Represents excellent value for money.
- Fully comprehensive breakdown cover is available for £7.67 a month for one car (any driver), reducing to £4.75 a month (per car) for a total of 4 cars all based at the same address.

### HMCA CASH INCOME CARE, INCOME PROTECTION, PERSONAL ACCIDENT & TERM LIFE PLANS

are also available for members and their immediate families. All plans carry a 30 day money-back guarantee and terms and conditions apply. Quoted subscription rates are correct as at 01/12/2010. To find out more and to apply online about any of the above benefit plans visit HMCA at [www.hmca.co.uk/ecf.htm](http://www.hmca.co.uk/ecf.htm) or ring on 01423 866985

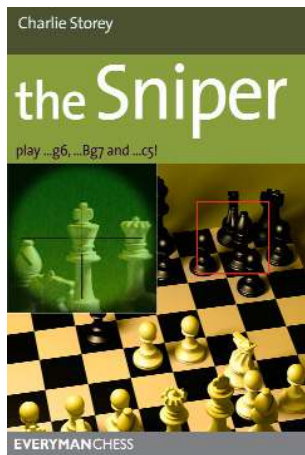
## Book Reviews from Gary Lane

### **The Sniper (play 1...g6,...Bg7 and ...c5!)**

by **Charlie Storey**

Published by **Everyman Chess** £15.99

This system in the opening proposed by the Northumberland player and chess teacher could easily be called The Modern with a Twist but I have to admit the catchy title is a winner. Still, if you are curious how the name was created or just need to answer a chess trivia question then you are in luck because the author reveals all. He writes "...I have called this system "The Sniper" because the f7-g6- and h7-pawns look like the 'V' support for a Sniper gun as used by British and American militaries. Furthermore, the g7 bishop and its influence on the long diagonal represent the gun part, combining with the c5-pawn to attack the d4-point." One has to admire Mr Storey for brimming with enthusiasm as he uses game after game to convince the reader to switch to his pet line. I am not entirely convinced that Anand will be changing his repertoire but it does not pretend to be for superstars but to facilitate players rated above 1400 to try something different. A good idea is to be practical for weekend tournament players or team matches, so for example there are chapters on the Closed Sicilian and the Grand Prix Attack against the Sniper. A delight to read.



### **ChessBase Tutorials Vol 1: The Open Games**

Published by **ChessBase** £25.95

It is a dilemma that has faced all chess fanatics from time to time. You invite four players to pop round your house to discuss some 1 e4 e5 openings when suddenly there is a knock on the door and there are four more German speaking masters also happy to oblige. This DVD-ROM is the answer because you can see what they have to say at the time of your choosing. Englishman Lawrence Trent is amongst the players ready to give advice via five hours on video looking at openings such as the Scotch, King's Gambit, Evans Gambit and Petroff. If you happen to speak German there are also four other players willing to give their views on the openings which would be a bonus five hours of video. Trent gives a polished performance looking at various openings such as Bishop's opening, Centre Game, Ruy Lopez variations and the Two knights enhancing his reputation as a pundit, which

has rocketed since the success of his commentaries at the London Classic. Other speakers are grandmasters Adrian Mikhalchishin, Lars Schandorff and Bulgarian FIDE Master Valeri Livo.

An innovative and welcome way to learn the openings.

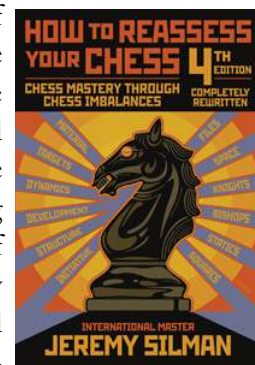
### **How To Reassess Your Chess (4th Edition)**

by **Jeremy Silman**

Published by **Siles Press** £22.95

This new version of the instructional book for improving players has used lots of new examples to bring it up to date. After all, the younger generation expect to see the games of Magnus Carlsen, and many more of the new stars are included. The book is aimed at players rated 1400-2100 who want to improve their positional understanding and skills. I know from plenty of club players that they have really enjoyed this title in the past and readers of this new expanded edition will benefit from more wise words and games. There are a mammoth 658 pages to give the writer time to channel his thoughts on just about every way to improve and he also considers the important element of chess psychology.

An excellent, practical guide for the player who wants to win.

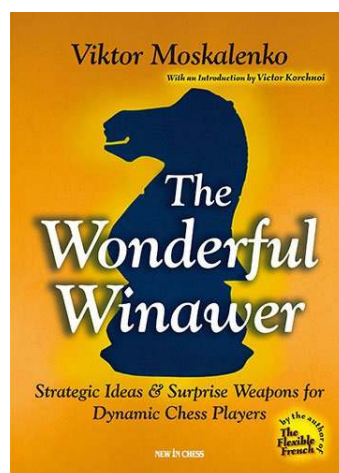


### **The Wonderful Winawer**

by **Viktor Moskalenko**

Published by **New In Chess** £18.99

I once asked an expert on the French why he no longer played the opening and he said sadly "unfortunately not everyone allows the Winawer". Since then I have always noticed how the moves 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Bb4 invite wild complications and it seems you have to play like Shirov with the White pieces to come out on top. Moskalenko is a keen French player and



the book is full of interesting ideas to improve your level. It is aimed at the serious student with plenty of analysis to back up his opening ideas and has 35 richly commented, complete games. The only time I am not sure of the truth of the lines it is not comforting to see the line "Many lines in this game have been analysed in The Flexible French, so it is advisable to use both

books alongside each other.” Well, I might not have the other book so why not update the lines? Maybe it is just a small point but you do wonder why there have been no improvements for either player since the old book was published in 2008. If you want to save some time and money the author records that “...if one day I face the Winawer with the White pieces I will doubtless go on the attack with 7 h4.” A curious statement given that the chapter on the line favours Black but we will have to wait and see. Still, a fine book, certainly helped by New in Chess’s quality publishing especially because they break up the book by printing photos of players, which I think is a classy touch.

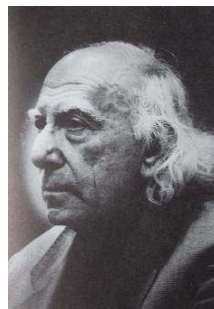
A must for those who play the French Defence.

## Obituary / Centenary

### Harry Golombek centenary

*March 1st 2011 marked 100 years since the birth of Harry Golombek. This (abridged) obituary from William Hartston was in the Independent in 1995 –*

Harry Golombek, chess-player and journalist: born London 1 March 1911; International Grandmaster, three times British Chess Champion; died 7 January 1995.




Harry Golombek was never a truly great chess player, but as one of the finest writers on the game, and a strong proponent of the cultural and educational aspects of chess, he was a leading figure in the growth of chess in Europe.

Indeed, his knowledge of the game and high regard for its traditions earned him a unique respect in the chess world. For 30 years a member of the Rules Commission of the International Chess Federation, Golombek became the voice of reason and integrity in a sport increasingly riven by political in-fighting and sectional interests. From 1954 until 1972, a world championship match without Golombek as one of the arbiters was almost unthinkable.

Harry Golombek was born into a Polish immigrant family (the surname translates as “little dove”) in the East End of London in 1911. His early chess prowess is still recorded on the shield for the London Schools’ Team Championship, where the name of “Wilson’s Grammar School” interrupts those of more illustrious educational establishments in the late 1920s. In 1928, Golombek played in his first London Boys’ Championship, finishing last in his section. The next year, however, he won it, an achievement of which he seemed never to tire of reminding his readers. The British Chess Magazine, reporting his victory wrote: “Golombek . . . showed a much better grasp of the game than he did the previous year.” Two years later, he won the Major – the top section – of the London Congress and the same journal commented: “If he continues to improve at this rate, he will soon be one of our finest players.”

He fulfilled that prediction by winning the British Championship on three occasions, in 1947, 1949 and 1955, and represented England nine times at the Chess Olympics, between 1935 and 1962.

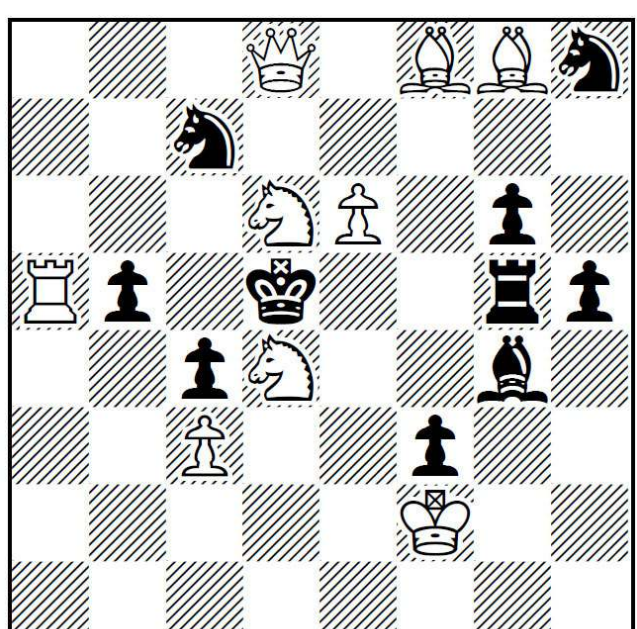


## BATSFORD

### Competition

Congratulations to the January / February competition winner --  
**J R Nicolson of Fallowfield,**  
**Manchester - well done, James!**

The correct answer was - 1.Nd5  
Here’s the next problem ...  
**Edwin J Eddy**



**2nd Comm., BCF 4th Ty., 1930-1931**  
**White to play and mate in 2 ...**

Please send your answer (just the first move is sufficient) on a postcard to the ECF Office, The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YD  
The first correct entry drawn on 10th May 2011 will win a Batsford voucher for any book on their current list! Good luck

# Tournament Calendar

## LEGEND –

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

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

@~#\* **18-20 Mar e2e4 Uxbridge Congress**, De Veres Denham Grove Hotel, Tilehouse Lane, Denham, Buckinghamshire UB9 5DU Contact: Sean Hewitt Email: info@e2e4.org.uk Website: <http://www.e2e4.org.uk/uxbridge/Mar2011/index.htm> - Three Sections: FIDE Rated Open; FIDE Rated Major (Under 2000 / 170 ECF); Minor (Under 140)

**18-20 Mar 1st In-Tournament Women's Training**, De Veres Denham Grove Hotel, Tilehouse Lane, Denham, Buckinghamshire UB9 5DU Contact: Sabrina Chevannes Email: sabrinachevannes@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 07868 028491

**19 Mar 2011 ESPCA Under 11 Zones - 3 zones** Contact: Peter Purland director.juniorchess@englishchess.org.uk  
**19-20 Mar**

**Junior 4NCL Weekend 3**, Barcelo Hotel, Oxford Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645

~\* **19-20 Mar 1st Gillingham Congress**, King Charles Hotel, Gillingham, Kent ME7 5QT Contact: Norman Went Email: spectrumchess@hotmail.com 3 tournament sections - 5 round Swiss system: Premier - Under 205; Major - Under 165; Minor - Under 125 Website: [www.spectrumchess.com](http://www.spectrumchess.com)

**20 Mar Atherton Rapidplay**, Jubilee Hall, St Richards Club, Atherton Contact: Simon Woodcock Email: blitzchess2001@yahoo.co.uk Organiser's address: 8 Donnington Close, Leigh, Lancs WN7 3NY Tel: 01942 682646

**20 Mar 4th Midlands Junior Chess League**, Malvern College, Worcs Contact: Andrew Moore Email: badandy2000@hotmail.co.uk Website: [www.wjca.org.uk](http://www.wjca.org.uk)

**20 Mar Graeme Thomson Memorial Rapidplay**, Polish Ex-Servicemen's Club, 50 St Pauls Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 1LP Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk 6 round x25 mins rapidplay to honour a popular former member of Bristol & Clifton Chess Club, who died last year. Incorporating Bristol League Rapidplay Website: [www.chessit.co.uk](http://www.chessit.co.uk)

~\* **25-27 Mar Huddersfield Congress**, Huddersfield Ukrainian Club Contact: Nigel Hepworth Email: nigel@huddersfieldchessclub.co.uk Website: [www.huddersfieldchessclub.co.uk](http://www.huddersfieldchessclub.co.uk)

**26 Mar 2011 ESPCA Under 11s Girls Final**, Oxford Contact: Peter Purland director.juniorchess@englishchess.org.uk

**26-27 Mar 4NCL Rounds 7 and 8**, De Vere Venues, Staverton Park (Divisions 1 and 2), Barcelo Hotel, Daventry (Division 3) Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645

~\* **26-27 Mar Castle Chess 3rd Hereford**, Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford Contact: Tony Corfe Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Organiser's address: 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA Open , Major U160, Minor U120 Website: <http://www.castlechess.co.uk>

**26-27 Mar 4NCL Northern League**, De Vere Wychwood Park (nr Crewe) Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645

\*~ **26-27 Mar Barnet Chess Congress**, QE Boys School, Queens Road, Barnet, Herts EN5 4DQ Contact: Malcolm Harding Email: barnetchess@yahoo.co.uk Website/entry form: [www.barnetchessclub.com](http://www.barnetchessclub.com) Premier U230 £24; Intermediate U190 £21; Major U150 £21; Minor U115 £21. Five rounds Swiss 36 moves in 90 mins plus 15 mins to finish

~\* **1-3 Apr 1st Bristol Spring Congress**, Filton Sports & Leisure Centre, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol BS34 7PS Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk Website: [www.chessit.co.uk](http://www.chessit.co.uk) | Incorporating the 34th Bristol League Championships; this previously closed congress is now open to all! 3 sections - Open, Major (U165), Minor (U130)

**2 Apr ESPCA Under 9s Final**, Notts Contact: Peter Purland director.juniorchess@englishchess.org.uk

~ **2 Apr CCF Junior Rapidplay ECC Qualifier** (Coulsdon), 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey

CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

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

#~ **2-3 April 36th Nottingham Congress**, Nottingham High School, Waveney Mount, Nottingham NG7 4ED Contact: Robert Richmond Email: robrchmnd@aol.com Organiser's address: 25 Wilford Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QZ Sections - Open, U165 (U160 last year), U135, U110

~\* **3 Apr SCCU U18 Jamboree**, Wilson's School, Wallington, Surrey SM6 9JW Contact: Neill Cooper Email: nsc@cplusc.co.uk Tel: 01833 624051 Website: [www.sccu.ndo.co.uk/junjam.htm](http://www.sccu.ndo.co.uk/junjam.htm)

**9-10 Apr Junior 4NCL Weekend 3**, Barcelo Hotel, Daventry Contact: Mike Truran Tel: 01993 708645

~ **9 Apr Teignmouth Rapidplay**, Trinity School, Teignmouth Contact: Raymond W Chubb Email: ray.chubb@care4free.net Tel: 01626 888255 Organiser's address: 29 West Cliff Park Drive, Dawlish, Devon

\*~ **9 Apr Poplar Rapid-Play Tournament**, Langley Hall, Saint Nicholas' Church Centre, Aberfeldy Street, Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk Website: [www.spanglefish.com/docklandschessclub](http://www.spanglefish.com/docklandschessclub)

\*~ **9-10 Apr South Herts Congress**, St Columba's College, 8 King Harry Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 4AW Contact: Ray Claret Email: ray11@inbox.com Website: [www.stalbanschessclub.org.uk](http://www.stalbanschessclub.org.uk)

\*~# **15-17 Apr 32nd County Durham Open Chess Congress**, Houghton Sports Centre, Station Road, Houghton-le-Spring DH4 5EF Contact: Fred Stobbart Email: fred.stobbart1@gmail.com Entry form: <http://dcca.org.uk/congresses/Forms/2011DurhamCongress.doc> Website: <http://dcca.org.uk/index.html>

~ **16 Apr Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green, London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raof Website: <http://goldersgreenschess.blogspot.com/>

~\* **16-17 Apr 2011 Staffordshire Chess Congress** (plus the Staffordshire Under 21 Championship), Bloxwich Leisure Centre, High St, Bloxwich, Walsall WS3 2DA Contact: Traci Whitfield Tel: 01782 623361 (before 9pm) Premier Under 200; Major Under 160; Minor Under 120

~# **16-17 Apr The Great Yarmouth Chess Congress**, Kier Building, Great Yarmouth College, Suffolk Road, Great Yarmouth Contact: John Wickham Email: j.r.wickham@btinternet.com

~ **17 Apr 37th Bourne End One-Day Chess Congress**, Community Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks. SL8 5SX Contact: David Langford Email: bebchess@yahoo.co.uk Organiser's address: 17 Goddington Road, Bourne End, Bucks. SL8 5TT

~@ **17-21 Apr CCF Easter International**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~ **18-20 Apr IAPS National Championships**, Aldro School, Shackleford, Godalming, Surrey GU8 6AS Contact: David Archer Email: archerd@aldro.org Open to all IAPS prep schools in the country. Championships section for the strongest players and other sections for less experienced players. Boarding and non-boarding places available

~@ **22-23 Apr CCF Easter Longplay Congress** [inc. FIDE Open], 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website: <http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/>

~#@\* **22-24 Apr 34th Surrey County Chess Congress**, Nonsuch High School, Ewell Rd, Sutton SM3 8AB Contact Mike Adams Email: mike@guildfordchess.fsnet.co.uk Tel: 01483 233324 Website: [www.surreychess-congress.co.uk](http://www.surreychess-congress.co.uk)

#~\* **22-24 Apr Bolton Easter & Busy Persons Blitz**, Ukrainian Social Club, 99 Castle Street, Bolton BL2 1JP Contact: Rod Middleton Email: gmccacongress@yahoo.co.uk - Main congress: Friday (2 rounds), Saturday morning, Sunday (2 rounds) Open, Major & Knights sections, Blitz on Saturday afternoon

~ **22-25 Apr The Tom Weston Memorial**, Park Inn, Cardiff North, Circle Way East, Llanedeyrn, Cardiff CF23 9XF Major/Open Championship and The John Bishop Memorial Minor Championship Contact: Glyn Sinnott Email: glynsnidum@aol.com

\*#@~ **22-25 Apr Southend-on-Sea Easter Congress**, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea Contact: Howard Grist Email: howard.grist@talk21.com Website: [www.southendchessclub.co.uk](http://www.southendchessclub.co.uk) Tel: 01702 617976

**\*#~ 22-25 Apr WECU 64th Open Congress**, The Royal Beacon Hotel, Exmouth Contact: Andrew Footner  
 Email: andrew@footner.wanadoo.co.uk Tel: 01935 873610 Organiser's address: Walnut Tree Cottage, Ryme  
 Intrinseca, Sherborne DT9 6JX

**25 Apr Surrey County Chess Rapidplay**, Nonsuch High School, Ewell Road, Sutton SM3 8AB Contact: Mike  
 Adams Email: mike@guildfordchess.fsnet.co.uk Tel: 01483 233324 Website: www.surreychesscongress.co.uk

**25 Apr Surrey County Junior Championships**, Nonsuch High School, Ewell Rd, Sutton SM3 8AB Contact:  
 Mrs Marda Dixon, 19 Waverley Ave, Sutton SM1 3JX Tel: 020 8644 4134 Website:  
 www.surreychesscongress.co.uk

**~ 25 Apr CCF Easter Rapidplay & CCF Easter Blitz 7x10**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey  
 CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax: 020 8645 0412 Website:  
 http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/

**\*~ 28 May Poplar Rapid-Play Tournament**, Langley Hall, Saint Nicholas' Church Centre, Aberfeldy Street,  
 Poplar, London E14 0QD Contact: Norman Went Email: docklandschess@yahoo.co.uk Website: www.spangle-  
 fish.com/docklandschessclub

**~ 29 Apr-1 May 21st Calderdale Chess Congress**, Arden Road Social Club, Arden Road, Halifax HX1 3AG  
 Contact: Noel Boustred Tel: 07903913786 after 6pm Email: boustred@googlemail.com

**30 Apr-2 May 4NCL Rounds 9, 10 and 11**, Barcelo Hotel, Hinckley Island (Divisions 1, 2 and 3) Contact: Mike  
 Truran Tel: 01993 708645

**~\* 30 Apr-1 May Castle Chess 3rd Potters Bar**, Potters Bar United Reformed Church Contact: Tony Corfe  
 Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Organiser's address: 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA Open ,  
 Major U160, Minor U120 Website: http://www.castlechess.co.uk

**~\* 2 May Castle Chess Potters Bar Rapidplay**, Potters Bar United Reformed Church Contact: Tony Corfe  
 Email: tony@tcs-chess.demon.co.uk Organiser's address: 51 Borough Way, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3HA  
 Rapidplay tournament using DGTs (25 minutes) - Open event with grading prizes - Capacity 100 players  
 Website: http://www.castlechess.co.uk

**~ 2 May Champions' League Chess (Primary Schools) - Final & CCF Blitz 12x5**, 84-90 Chipstead Valley  
 Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3BA Contact: Scott Freeman Email: chess@ccfworld.com Tel: 020 8645 0302 Fax:  
 020 8645 0412 Website: http://www.ccfworld.com/Chess/

**~#\* 6-8 May Frome Congress**, Selwood School, Berkley Road, Frome, Somerset BA11 2EF Contact: G. Jepps  
 Tel: 01749 344191 Email: gnjepps@btinternet.com Website: www.somersetchess.org/FromeCongressPages/

**7 May ESPCA Under 11 Final**, Northants Contact: Peter Purland director.juniorchess@englishchess.org.uk

**~ 8 May Cambridgeshire Rapidplay**, PSL Club, 659 Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 3HA Contact: Paul  
 Kemp Email: paulkemp64@gmail.com - Three tournaments: Open; Under 160; Under 120, five rounds Website:  
 www.cambschess.org.uk

**~ 13-15 May Rhyl Congress 2011**, Town Hall, Wellington Road, Rhyl Contact: Stuart Hamilton Tel: 01745  
 350367 Organiser's address: 20 Victoria Avenue, Rhyl, Denbighshire LL18 1ER

**~ 14 May Chipping Sodbury Rapidplay**, Chipping Sodbury Town Hall, Broad St., Chipping Sodbury BS37  
 6AD Contact: Graham Mill-Wilson Email: tugmw@blueyonder.co.uk 3 Sections - Open, Major (U165), Minor  
 (U130) - 6 rounds, 25 mins on the clock per round Organiser's address: 8 Lyndale Road, Yate, Bristol BS37 4DD

**~ 14 May Golders Green Rapidplay**, Golders Green Parish Church Hall, West Heath Drive, Golders Green,  
 London NW11 7QG Contact: Adam Raof Website: http://goldersgreenchess.blogspot.com/