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Chess



GARRY KASPAROV CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD



- Rex tempts Garry back, but Levon wins in St. Louis
- John Emms annotates his award-winning best game
- Robert Page enjoys a weekend on the Kent coast

Chess

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60 Seconds with... Louise Head

the new English Women's Champion



Born: 18th September 1997, London.

Place of residence: Crowthorne in Berkshire, but in university term time I live in Leamington Spa.

Occupation: Student.

Enjoyable? Yes. I completed my first year of physics at Warwick University this summer and I have had a really good year meeting new people, representing the Warwick University Chess Club and going to club nights.

And home life? I live with my parents, my sister and have two cats.

Sports played or followed: Have played a fair amount of tennis and I've been to some Gimsby Town football matches with my boyfriend. I also enjoy canoeing and I did this for my gold DoFE. This summer I canoed from Henley to Windsor with friends.

Piece of music? The album *What Went Down* by Foals. I heard some of their songs at last year's Reading Festival.

Film or TV series? *Game of Thrones*.

What's the best thing about playing chess?

I have really enjoyed playing abroad in tournaments, particularly the World and European Youths. I also enjoy the friendly atmosphere at the Crowthorne and Warwick University clubs.

And the worst? Losing in the last round of a tournament. Even if you are not in contention for a prize, going home having just lost is always difficult.

Your best move? 1 d4!

But less memorable than your worst move? I've had some terrible mouse slips playing on the internet.

And a highly memorable opponent? I once sat down at the wrong board mid-game against one of a pair of identical twins. Typically, the other twin's opponent wasn't at the board at the time and the twins were both sitting at the same side of the table. I realised quickly when the position was completely different from when I had got up from the board!

The best three chess books: I read some good chess books when I was younger which helped me a lot with theory, although I haven't read many or had a favourite of late.

The *Ginger GM* DVD collection is good!

Is FIDE doing a good job? I believe so.

Or your National Federation? All the tournaments I have played in are well organised and they are graded in time.

Any advice for either? Continue to promote women's chess!

Can chess make one happy? I think so. I particularly enjoy playing competitive chess in tournaments and the 4NCL, and I always look forward to these games. In-between, internet chess and club nights are also fun and keep me entertained. I find that having a good tournament keeps me buzzing for a while after.

A tip please for the club player: As there is no time for preparation in league matches, it does help to have a comfortable opening knowledge.

L.Head-K.Bhatia

English Women's Ch., West Brom 2017
Benko Gambit

1 d4 ♖f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 b5 4 cxb5 a6 5 b6 d6 6 ♗c3 ♜bd7 7 e4 g6 8 ♜f3 ♙g7 9 ♙e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♜xb6 11 ♜d2 ♜e8 12 ♜c4 ♜a7 13 ♙g5 ♜e5 14 ♜e3 f5 15 exf5 gxf5 16 ♜c4 ♜g6 17 ♜d2 ♜f6 18 ♜fe1 ♜b8 19 ♜ad1 ♜h8 20 h4 ♜g4 21 ♜a5 ♙d4 22 ♙xg4 fxd4 23 ♙e3 ♙xe3 24 ♙xe3 ♙d7 25 ♜e2 ♜b4 26 g3 ♜e5?



27 ♜xe5! dxe5 28 ♜xe5+ ♙g8 29 ♜g5+ ♙f7 30 ♜h5+ ♙g8 31 ♜g5+ ♙f7 32 ♜e1 ♙e8 33 ♜e5 ♜b6 34 ♜c6 ♙xc6 35 ♜f5+ ♙e8 36 ♜h5+ ♙d7 37 dxc6+ ♙xc6 38 ♜xf8 ♜xb2 39 ♜e8+ ♙d6 40 ♜d8+ ♙c6 41 ♜d5+ ♙c7 42 ♜d8 1-0

You Can Win Something With Kids!



Alan Burke explains what makes one of the country's leading junior chess clubs, Oldham's 3Cs, such a success story

So just what is 3Cs? Yes, a phrase well-known within the chess community throughout Britain – and even further afield – but exactly what is it; what does it mean, and why is it often spoken about in glowing terms when discussing factors that have been influential to chess in this country over recent years, as well as a beacon to which those aiming to take the game forward in the future could, and possibly should, look towards?

3Cs is just the name of a chess club – and, yes, possibly the name itself is one factor why it may be more well-known than many others; no hint of a location, as well as the mystery of just what is meant by it. Therefore let's begin by explaining both, which can be done by revealing the club's actual full name: 'Children's Chess Club of Oldham'.

3Cs is a chess club that was formed in 1979, originally to provide local schoolchildren in the Oldham area with an opportunity to learn the game, but which has since evolved into one of the major production lines for young talent throughout the country and now sees many of those home-grown players regularly competing at the highest level, both nationally and internationally. How many clubs in the country could currently field a team of players who have all progressed through their own junior ranks to challenge a side containing GM Stephen Gordon; FM Adam Ashton; FM Alex Longson; FM Andy Horton; FM Stuart Clarke; FM Daniel Abbas; and CM Alan Walton?

It is also testament to the principles which the club has adhered to since its formation that the name of 3Cs, despite fielding teams mainly consisting of such genuine products from its own club ranks, is currently holding its own amongst the somewhat manufactured sides of titled players which portray to represent 'local' clubs in the 4NCL. Moreover, last season 3Cs qualified to compete for this month's European Club Cup in Turkey – a feat described as like Oldham Athletic largely only using players from its youth academy and yet progressing to take part against the financially superior heavyweights in the UEFA Champions League.

The 3Cs' honours board is also currently filled with the names of 33 players who have gained international recognition along with a



A typical club night at 3Cs where the children both play and receive the right level of coaching.

list of 22 club representatives who have won British Championships at various levels. More locally, 3Cs have won the Manchester League Championship 15 times in the past 17 years – an indication of the strength of its continuing output of talent – whilst with their various teams (they have five operating in the league this season), they have lifted a record 70 trophies in total. That is even more impressive when considering they have all been accumulated within the 38 years of the club's existence, as opposed to their nearest contender with 59 successes, but who were members of the Manchester League at its inauguration in 1891.

Although there had been successful clubs in Oldham in the 1970s and before, none of those were dedicated to encouraging children to play. Chess and children apparently did not mix. It was against this background that in 1979 two young teachers, Stephen Rigby of Christ Church and Roy Williams of Alexandra Park, knowing that children are the future of the game, founded the club specifically for interested juniors.

With help from Arthur Marsden of St. Mary's in Failsworth, an Oldham under-11s chess team was formed, although their first match against Manchester proved to be a disastrous 23-1 defeat. Disappointed but not discouraged, Stephen and Roy worked hard to improve the team's performance level, but it took a friendly

fixture against the 'Wenlock Wizards', coached by Ian Smith (then a young teacher but later to



Based on their success so far, 3Cs will shortly need a new, larger trophy cabinet!



A very impressive honours board and undoubtedly many names will soon be added.

become Director of Education for Tameside) to find the key to 3Cs' future. The Wizards, a primary school team based in Gorton, played against adults! That was the way to improve the children's level of skill and was the blueprint for 3Cs then just as much as it still is today, with players as young as seven often being pitched against more experienced players in competitive fixtures.

The club draws its members mainly from schools competing in the Oldham Primary Schools' League, although every child is welcome at the club. The name 'Children's Chess Club' is a constant reminder of the club's priorities – to encourage greater youth participation in the game irrespective of skill level. The club's members are representative of all Oldham's diverse backgrounds and cultures, with the children happily competing on equal terms, either as a team representing the club or individually in various tournaments.

Stephen Rigby is still the chief organiser of the club and the driving force behind its continued development and success, with his aim to introduce chess into all of Oldham's primary schools, whilst Phil Adams, 3Cs' chief coach, and Dale James head a group of dedicated club enthusiasts who all actively supervise chess coaching in various Oldham schools.

Therein lies the crux of why 3Cs have succeeded where many other clubs have failed in both the recruitment and the success of junior players – the club members don't just wait for youngsters to come to them; existing members go out and offer their services to the local schools by organising and supervising coaching sessions as an extra-curricular activity. Those children from the various schools are then invited to come along to the 3Cs' weekly club nights so they can engage with others who have a similar interest for the game and then as the their skill improves, they are given opportunities to

play for the club in the local 'adult' leagues.

Furthermore, club nights don't simply consist of those in attendance playing a few games against each other, nor just the four or five separate coaching groups taking place into which those with varying levels of skill are organised so as to ensure they receive the correct level of instruction. The club also believes that if these children know more about the history and traditions of the game then it will add even more to their enjoyment and understanding of it.

Photographs of every world champion are on the wall of the 3Cs' club, with details of their personal lives and achievements often relayed to its younger members, whilst a vast library of chess literature is also available whenever required. Such items can be borrowed at will and just returned at any time in the future once any useful information has been gleaned. Yet again 3Cs are convinced that if the children are treated at the club in the same way as the adults then they are more likely to repay the trust and respect being given to them and thus want to continue their association with the club despite the many other attractions which the modern day world might offer.

3Cs have also been successful away from the board, with Stephen Rigby having been presented with the English Chess Federation's President's Award in 2009 for services to the game, whilst the club itself has twice been honoured with the ECF Club of the Year award (2006 and 2014) – the only club throughout the country to have won the trophy on two occasions.

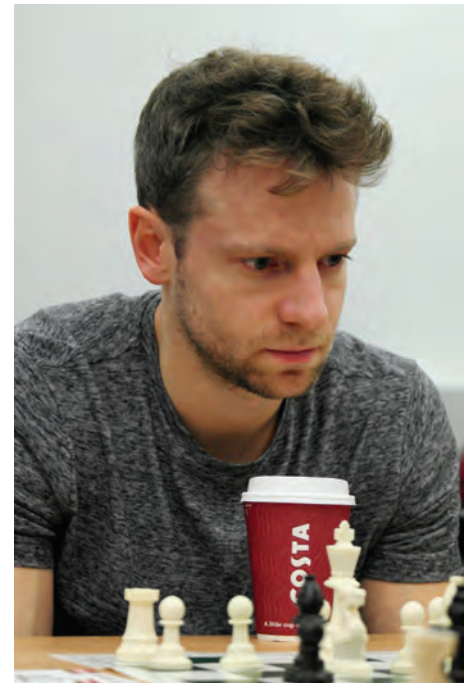
All the hard work involved in organising the various teams, as well as the club's day-to-day business, is done voluntarily, including by many of the parents whom the club actively encourage to assist in a variety of ways, hopefully giving them a feeling that they too are part of the club's success. Of these Tony Ashton, John Walton, Dave Monaghan, your scribe, Tim Horton and Ahmed Abbas all had their first connection with 3Cs as parents just supporting their own children when they joined the club,

but are now regulars 'behind the scenes'.

So, why do it? For the children's sake! Dedicated club members are convinced that playing chess brings great benefits to children, both educationally and socially. They also feel strongly that Oldham youngsters deserve the same opportunities as others and are fully capable of competing, proudly, as Oldhamers, with the very best, whether that be locally, nationally or internationally.

And, yes, club members can be rightly proud to look around their premises at the various trophies and honours that have come their way, but that is not the ultimate aim of 3Cs; a far greater satisfaction is gained by seeing youngsters coming through the door on club nights – there are regularly more than 60 members of school age present – and simply enjoying playing chess.

Yes, you can win something with kids... but first they have to be encouraged to do so.



Grandmaster Stephen Gordon hails from Oldham and is their strongest player to date.



The main chess room at 3Cs. Note both the photos of the world champions which line the walls, as well as the library of books available for all the children to explore and borrow from.

This Month's New Releases

Chess Behind Bars

Carl Portman, 312 pages

Quality Chess

RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

Carl Portman, our columnist and the English Chess Federation's Manager of Chess in Prisons, starts his interesting book with an engaging hook line: "If chess is the answer, what is the question?" quickly followed up by: "I will suggest the following. What is it we can introduce and encourage in prisons that could truly help inmates to make a better life?"

A former hard-liner on his thoughts regarding crime and criminals, the author now believes that "Chess in prisons is good news. Anything that aids the development of better thinking and decision making must be worth embracing. This is no less than redemption for some."

Carl in his very candid chapter 'What Chess Means to Me' explains there is more than one type of prison and an unhappy childhood can represent a barred existence of the psychological kind. He is now a volunteer worker in prisons and ideally placed to provide powerful feedback on the effects of chess, as it is directly "based on feedback from inmates." Some of this feedback is given in the form of letters he has received from inmates with whom he has worked. These three quotes should provide a good indication of the feedback he received:

"All the concerns I have to endure on a daily basis in prison are neutralised when I have a chess board in front of me, and so chess has proved to be a great source of serenity and pleasure."

"It helped me cope during the first few weeks."

"I am indeed a God-fearing man. I believe chess is more than a game and that it teaches you how to plan ahead, look before you leap and also most importantly to learn from your mistakes."

Carl's observations on his initial visit to a prison are illuminating. He admits that "A tsunami of thoughts ran through [his] head" as he prepared for the day, with concern for safety naturally being one of those thoughts. The book doesn't focus fully on chess in prisons, though. After chapters discussing the relevance and impact of chess in the prison environment, there is a section on women's chess ("Lest anyone should forget, there are women behind bars too").

A significant chunk of the book is devoted to an all-purpose guide to the game of chess, from its history and basic moves through to tactics and illustrative games. This material could be used in any teaching situation. There

are exercises for the beginner, intermediate and advanced level (neatly split into groups of 64), and these are all well-chosen positions, covering a whole range of motifs. Here is one of the advanced positions to try.

J. Capablanca-J. Lewis

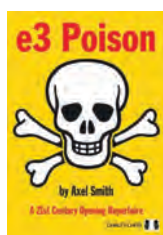
New York (simul) 1941



"Even the legendary Capablanca was beaten occasionally. You are Black to play and find the checkmating sequence."

This is an original work and one that can be read and enjoyed on several different levels. All good books should make the reader think and perhaps even reassess their own take on certain issues and this one raises questions far away from our cosy 64-squared world. Carl is right when he says, "I do dream of better things and I am clear that actually *doing* something is a quantum leap from thinking about it." This ethos can be applied to virtually anything, of course. His work in prisons is definitely making a difference – we just have to read the feedback to understand that – and this worthy book is required reading for anyone interested in the project.

Sean Marsh



e3 Poison:

A 21st Century Opening Repertoire

Axel Smith, 392 pages

Quality Chess

RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**



It is perhaps a shade indelicate to follow a review regarding chess in prisons with one featuring an Agatha Christie-style title and cover to match. Fortunately, we have a strapline to keep us on the straight and narrow road back to the world of chess: 'A 21st Century Opening Repertoire.'

Axel Smith, a Swedish Grandmaster and author of the popular *Pump Up Your Rating* (Quality Chess, 2013), proposes a practical repertoire starting with the moves 1 ♖f3 and 2 e3 with d2-d4 to follow. Yet even here, there is scope to play around with the order of moves, perhaps even playing 1 e3 first.

This may not sound like the makings of an earth-shattering repertoire, as the author is quick to acknowledge: "To my ears, 'a practical opening' and 'a playable position' have both been negative phrases – synonyms for something that doesn't give an advantage. And it's a valid question to ask if this isn't just a second-rate repertoire that only gives an academic advantage. But there's no reason to fear the answer."

However, justification for avoiding the main lines comes from the top. "There's no doubt that Carlsen has changed the general attitude towards openings. Rather than an advantage, he looks for interesting positions." Further endorsement comes from Kramnik, whose deep opening repertoire once filled a multi-volume series of books, but who has changed his style to head away from the theoretical highways.

My initial thought was that this would be another in a long line of books advocating the Colle System (or similar) against virtually all Black's responses, but I was pleasantly surprised to discover a much deeper work, advocating a multifaceted white repertoire replete with fancy footwork designed to trip up unwary opponents.

For example, anyone playing the Queen's Gambit Accepted may encounter hitherto unexpected nuances very early in the game after 1 ♖f3 d5 2 e3 ♖f6 3 c4 dxc4 4 ♗xc4 e6 5 0-0 c5 6 ♗e2 a6 7 ♗d1 b5 8 ♗b3 ♗b7 9 a4 b4 10 d3 when White refuses to play ball. Nevertheless, the normal QGA is covered properly too for those wanting to start with a straight bat after 1 d4.

Indeed, a 1 d4 player will find a lot of refreshing material here and all of Black's standard replies are covered, from the solid Queen's Gambit Declined – with an early e3 and b3 by White – to the more combative defences, such as the Modern Benoni, where White again opts for an early e3, only pushing

on to e4 at a more appropriate moment, the logic being that a lot of Black's early tactical play is against the pawn on e4 (think ...b5; ♖xb5 ♗xe4 for starters.)

Elsewhere, there are methods against the French (the Exchange variation with an early c4), and the Caro-Kann (Panov) with the unifying theme of playing with an Isolated Queen's Pawn in return for attacking chances. Positions featuring an IQP will always be controversial. The lone central pawn grants extra space, free development and attacking chances – but miss the chances and a very poor endgame awaits the disappointed attacker. Timing can be crucial, as this highly pertinent illustrative snippet ably demonstrates.

A.Shariydzanov-V.Petukhov
Sochi 2004



It looks as if White should be able to crash through with the standard double-piece sacrifice on g6, but there is a very important detail waiting in the wings, eager to throw a late and unexpected spanner in the works.

17 a3!

"Instead 17 ♗xg6 hxg6 18 ♗xg6 fxg6 19 ♖b1 would allow Black's knight on b4 to shine with a hara-kiri move: 19...♗c2!! 20 ♖xc2 ♗e4 and defends and wins."

17...♗bd5 18 ♗xg6! hxg6 19 ♗xg6 fxg6 20 ♖d3 1-0

"Without the ...♗e4 resource, there is no defence."

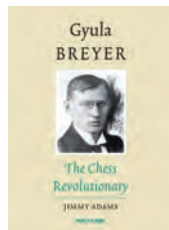
The chapter on 'Move Orders' makes for essential reading as it suggests ways to avoid certain openings readers may find troubling, such as 1 c4 against Slav aficionados, when 1...c6 2 e4 should lead to the recommendation against the Caro-Kann. I also found the sections dealing with the relevant pawn structures particularly helpful. It is always good to know not only what one should be aiming for, but also why.

It will take some time for the reader to absorb all of the little twists and turns, move orders and transpositions present within the first few opening moves. One advantage is being able to utilise the amorphous material to produce tailor-made lines against proponents of particular defences. Will they feel as comfortable as they struggle to avoid

being move-ordered into a variation they would not necessarily be expecting?

Axel Smith has produced a very fine book. Club players will enjoy the prose explanations on the structures and the opportunity to add a few surprise weapons to their arsenals. Experienced tournament players will appreciate the depth of the material and should be able to use the given lines to put together a serious and challenging repertoire with the white pieces and one which should offer substantial flexibility.

Sean Marsh



Gyula Breyer: The Chess Revolutionary

Jimmy Adams, 876 pages

New in Chess

RRP £40.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £36.85**

This magnificent tome is the product of decades of research. It presents a great deal of material that was previously both unknown and inaccessible. It is not only essential reading for chess historians, but will also delight anyone with an interest in the development of chess in the early twentieth century, one of the most exciting periods for our game.

The life of the Hungarian player Gyula Breyer (1893-1921) was dogged by poverty and war, and cut terribly short by the ill health from which he had always suffered. He did not begin playing chess seriously until he joined the Budapest Chess Club aged 17, but he then rose to become one of the world's strongest players. Though he rarely had the strength to win major tournaments, he played some unforgettable games. In the last year of his life he set a world record by playing 25 blindfold games simultaneously: these lively games are annotated here. As Adams's subtitle indicates, Breyer created revolutionary ideas. He was a pioneer of the hypermodern movement. He rebelled against the classical approach of Tarrasch, and he strongly influenced Richard Réti, as shown by some Réti articles gathered in this book.

With the help of several fellow chess historians and translators, FM Jimmy Adams has assembled over 200 of Breyer's games. Most of them are presented with contemporary annotations, sometimes from multiple sources. Breyer himself is among the annotators; others include Georg Marco, whose exuberant commentaries featured in the *Wiener Schachzeitung*. Throughout Adams contributes additions and corrections to these notes in square brackets. This careful method preserves the historical record, while ensuring analytical accuracy. Indeed, many games – especially some complex endgames – are explored in fascinating depth. Just

about every game is a hard fight.

Adams also provides English translations of Breyer's intriguing newspaper articles. What is perhaps most striking about these is the high level of chess knowledge presumed of the ordinary reader around 1920. Breyer's iconoclasm shines through. He swipes at Tarrasch's rules and taunts Lasker and Capablanca for their tedious draws. At times, he can sound as contrarily dogmatic as Tarrasch himself: for instance, he asserts that 1...d5 is an incorrect reply to 1 d4 (as chapter 14 reveals, he pioneered the Budapest Gambit), but the reader gradually gets used to his earnest strain of irony. Breyer considered chess to be an art, and approached it as an imaginative artist, despite his scientific profession of engineer.

Breyer is popularly associated with a deep retreat in the Ruy Lopez: 1 e4 e5 2 ♖f3 ♗c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♗f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 and now 9...♗b8. It is ironic that Breyer, the iconoclast who dismissed 'theory', gave his name to a modern main line. In fact, no games by him with this move survive. As this book shows, he was generally keen to put the black knight on d7 earlier.

Appreciating the compressed energy of cramped positions, he thrived on the Hanham Defence, nowadays known as the Black Lion. A game against his Hungarian rival Zoltán von Balla (Budapest 1916) opened as follows: 1 e4 e5 2 ♗f3 d6 3 ♗c3 ♗f6 4 d4 ♗bd7 5 ♗c4 h6 6 h3 c6 7 0-0 ♖c7 8 ♗e3 ♗e7 9 ♗d3 (White was confused already) 9...g5(!) 10 ♗h2 ♗f8 11 ♖e1 ♗g6 12 ♗f1 ♗f4 13 d5 ♖g8.



Breyer's trademark kingside onslaught was clearly underway (pp.359-60). This is a good example of the practical ideas waiting to be rediscovered in classic games; you'll have to buy the book to see the inspired finish. Breyer liked this formation so much that he claimed 1 e4 e6 2 d3 was White's best counter to the French. When in more of a queen's-pawn mood (he is famously quoted as proclaiming that after the move 1 e4, "White's game is in its last throes"), Breyer favoured Stonewall formations. A further excellent feature of the book is its collection of assorted writings about Breyer and his games. A whole chapter gathers articles on Breyer's 'immortal game'.

G. Breyer-J. Esser

Budapest 1917

Semi-Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 e3 ♟f6 4 ♟c3 e6
5 ♟d3 ♟d6 6 f4 0-0 7 ♟f3 dxc4 8 ♟b1
b5 9 e4 ♟e7 10 ♟g5 h6 11 h4! g6
12 e5! hxg5 13 hxg5 ♟d5 14 ♟f1!?



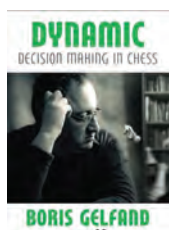
This visionary, quiet king-move following an early piece sacrifice has puzzled generations of annotators; not even Mark Dvoretsky had the last word on it, and I suspect there remains something to discover here. Play concluded:

14...♟xc3 15 bxc3 ♟b7 16 ♟g4 ♟g7 17 ♟h7+! ♟xh7 18 ♟h5+ ♟g8 19 ♟xg6 fxg6 20 ♟xg6+ ♟h8 21 ♟h6+ ♟g8 22 g6 ♟f7 23 gxf7+ ♟xf7 24 ♟h5+ ♟g7 25 f5 exf5 26 ♟h6+ 1-0

A couple of cavils. First, about referencing: the sources of quotations are not always clear (see Edward Winter's critique in his online 'Chess Notes' item 10563). The omission of dates from the bibliography compounds this problem. Second, the author retreats into the modest role of 'compiler', preferring to present translations from others rather than his own words. This results in a lack of connecting narrative over the 876 pages, making it hard to grasp Breyer's life as a whole. But these are minor complaints. A chapter on Breyer's work as a problem composer, beautifully presented tournament tables, photographs (some of them rare), and indices round off a top-quality book.

In compiling the games and writings of this wonderfully inventive player, Adams has performed a great service to chess history. Most of us tend to buy openings books and works of instruction rather than history. This one is worth making an exception for – and difficult to put down.

James Vigus



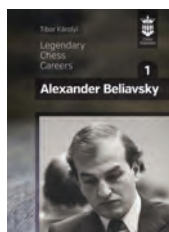
Dynamic Decision Making in Chess

Boris Gelfand, 288 pages, paperback

RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

Written in conjunction with Jacob Aagaard, *Positional Decision Making in Chess* unsurprisingly won a large number of plaudits. Here the same team continue to discuss decision making at the highest level, drawing a large number of useful lessons from Gelfand's games. Sean Marsh reviewed this award-winning work in our November 2016 issue and it is now available too in paperback.

Please note that the hardback edition is still in stock, retailing at £23.99 (Subscribers – £21.59), while both *Positional Decision Making in Chess* and *Dynamic Decision Making in Chess* can be purchased together in paperback format from Chess & Bridge for just £38.00 (Subscribers – £34.20). If you also prefer your copy of the reviewed *e3 Poison* (see above) in hardback, that too is available from Chess & Bridge – £23.99 or £21.59 for Subscribers.



Legendary Chess Careers:

Alexander Beliavsky – Part 1

Tibor Károlyi, 214 pages, paperback

RRP £22.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £20.65**

The Hungarian IM continues to interview the living legends of the game for Chess Evolution. Beliavsky is a four-time Soviet Champion and was one of the very best players in the world during the 1980s. Now readers can enjoy his thoughts on a range of topics while enjoying a selection of his best games annotated by Károlyi.



My First Chess Opening Repertoire for Black

Vincent Moret, 240 pages, paperback

RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

The French chess teacher follows up his earlier *My First Chess Opening Repertoire for White* by presenting a repertoire for Black based on general principles rather than sharp theory. That said, it's not all dullness and solidity, as the mainstays of the repertoire are quite punchy weapons which could be ideal at club level: the Scandinavian and the Albin Counter-Gambit. Along the way the reader becomes acquainted with several games by Moret's pupils, illustrating both how and how not to play the recommended lines.



Reloaded Weapons in the Benoni

Milos Pavlovic, 248 pages, paperback

RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.35**

The Serbian Grandmaster and theoretician has already discovered and written up several new ideas of late for Thinkers Publishing on the Grünfeld and King's Indian, and now turns his attention to an opening which has been slightly unfashionable of late, the Modern Benoni. Pavlovic isn't so concerned though and pretty much maps out a repertoire for Black after 1 d4 ♟f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♟c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6, while also adding some interesting material on 3...g6 4 ♟c3 ♟g7 5 e4 d6 6 h3 0-0 7 ♟d3 e6.



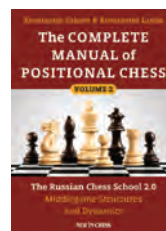
The Complete French Advance

Evgeny Sveshnikov & Vladimir Sveshnikov,

352 pages, paperback

RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

The famous Latvian Grandmaster Evgeny Sveshnikov has long been a leading proponent of 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5. He has now teamed up with his IM son to update his earlier writings on the opening, culminating in this up-to-date and fairly weighty work on the French Advance for New in Chess. Luke McShane made good use of the Advance in the play-off at the British Championship and those well acquainted with it may find many French players not quite as au fait with the resulting lines as their favourite defences to 3 ♟c3 and 3 ♟d2.



The Complete Manual of Positional Chess Volume 2

Konstantin Sakaev & Konstantin Landa,

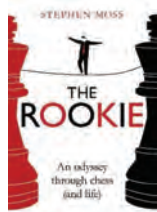
368 pages, paperback

RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.35**

The first volume of this ambitious series was devoted to the opening and middlegame; now readers are instructed in all manner of topics to do with ' Middlegame Structures and Dynamics'. This is essentially an English translation of the

material prepared by two very strong Russian Grandmasters for the chess teachers at DYSS, the special sports school for talented children in Russia. Both coaches and the aspiring player will find plenty of pointers, well-explained examples and exercises, and on such topics as finding defensive resources and handling the key pawn structures.

For those yet to purchase *The Complete Manual of Positional Chess Volume 1*, both volumes can be obtained for the special price of £49.99 (or just £44.99 for Subscribers).



The Rookie

Stephen Moss, 408 pages, paperback
RRP £8.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £8.09**

Stephen Moss's popular work is now available in paperback. If you're yet to read this book subtitled 'An odyssey through chess (and life)', you may wish to add it to the Christmas list. Moss intersperses his own attempts to master the game with a number of fascinating encounters with many colourful figures in the chess world, all in a fast-flowing, entertaining manner. Highly readable.



Fighting the London System

Kiril Georgiev, 196 pages, paperback
RRP £18.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.09**

One of the more surprising theoretical developments of recent times has been the evolution and popularity of 1 d4 followed by 2 ♘f4. That every grandmaster now has to take the London seriously can be seen from the fact that Chess Stars have released this theoretical take on how Black should counter the opening. The former long-term Bulgarian no.1 presents a few different options for Black, including 1 d4 d5 2 ♘f4 ♗f6 3 ♗f3 g6 and 1 d4 d5 2 ♘f4 c5.



Queen's Gambit Declined: Move by Move

Nigel Davies, 304 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**



Together with Morozevich

Alexey Kuzmin, 268 pages, paperback
RRP £28.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.09**

Subtitled 'Calculation Training Tools and Practical Decision Making', the Russian Grandmaster pays tribute to his highly creative colleague and former pupil, while trying to draw lessons from Morozevich's games which even the club player will be able to derive much benefit from. Along the way the reader undoubtedly has a lot of fun, as Morozevich's games are rarely dull, even if they can often lead to plenty of puzzled head scratching. It should be said, though, that this is no standard collection of best games; rather Kuzmin's aim is to develop the reader's calculation and intuition, so along the way there are a great many exercises to solve, with many being fairly challenging.

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* Events are qualifiers for the London Junior Champs. (U8/U10/U12 sections)

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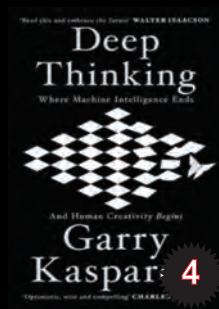
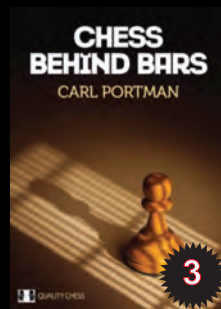
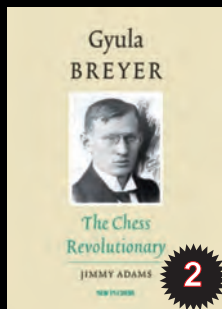
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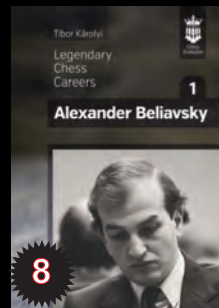
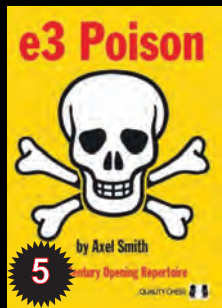


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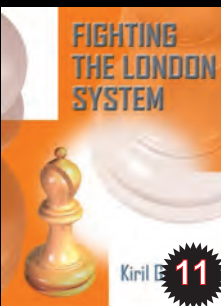
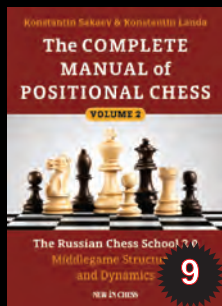
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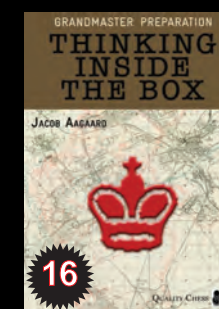
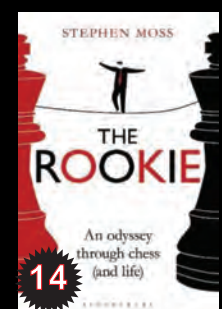


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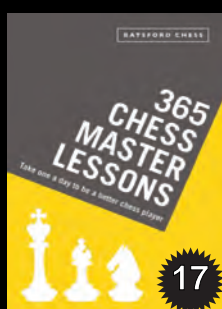


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