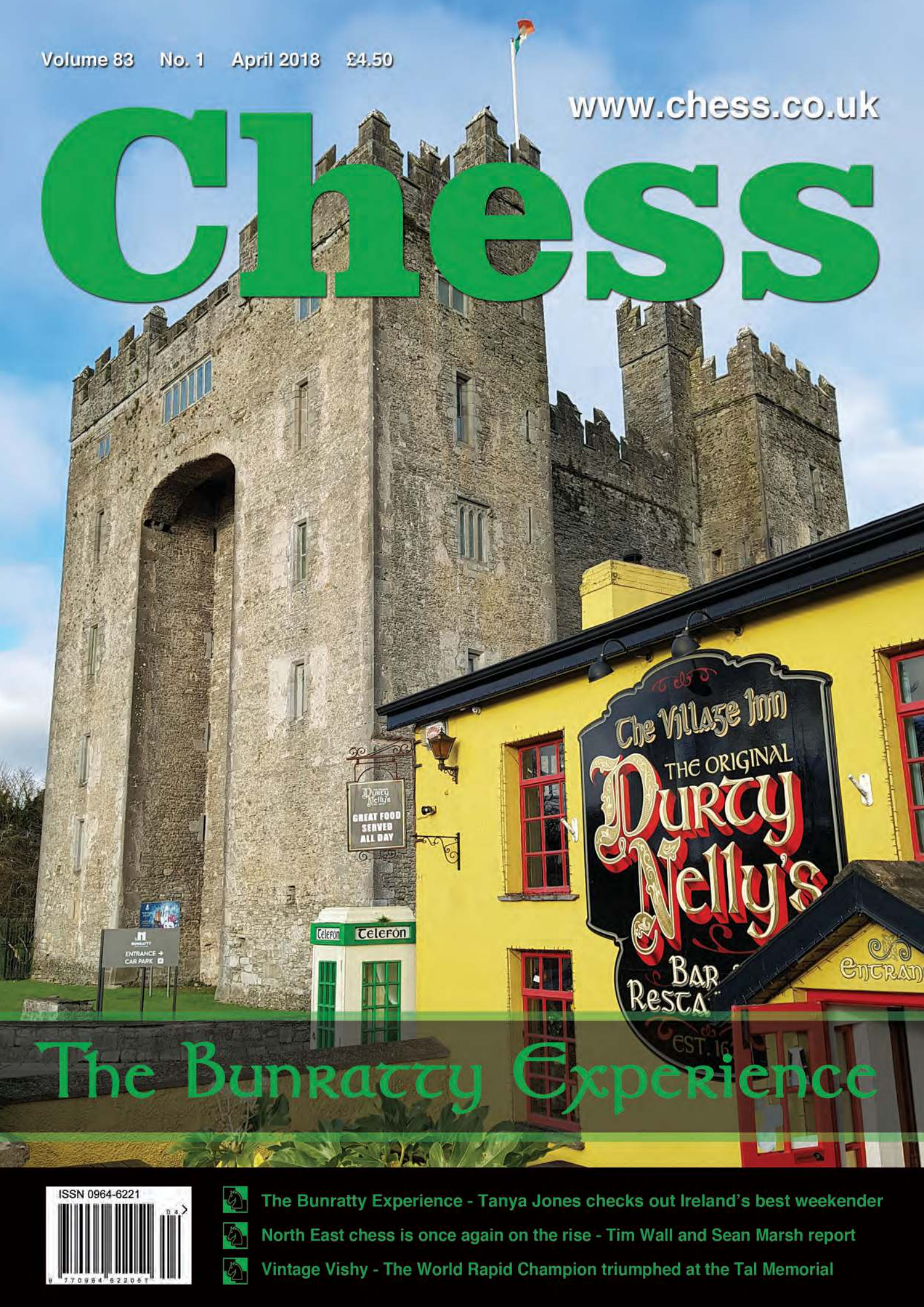


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Chess



The Bunratty Experience

ISSN 0964-6221



The Bunratty Experience - Tanya Jones checks out Ireland's best weekend

North East chess is once again on the rise - Tim Wall and Sean Marsh report

Vintage Vishy - The World Rapid Champion triumphed at the Tal Memorial

Chess

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Photo credits: Alan Burke (p.49), Paul Charlton & Forest Hall Chess Club (pp.10-12), Adrian Gilmore (p.31), Bob Jones (p.48), Eteri Kublashvili (pp.20-23), Lennart Ootes (p.25), John Saunders (p.58), Fiona Steil-Antoni (pp.30, 33-34) Sophie Triay (p.27), WorldChess (pp.4-6).

Brought to Book

Teesside continues to blaze the way for CSC's projects, as Sean Marsh explains

Chess in Schools and Communities ('CSC') has been going strong in schools since 2010. Recently there have been increased efforts to expand on the considerable success of the schools side of the project and to push out into the community at large.

Under the auspices of CSC's National Library Coordinator Dan Staples, there are now chess sessions in libraries all the way from Aldgate to York (if one follows the appropriate alphabetical progression).

In the words of the CSC website:

Libraries – How We Can Help

CSC believe that chess and libraries are an excellent fit. Chess has a huge number of books written about it – a recent search of Amazon produced over 19,000 results. By running a regular chess club at your library you would be providing a great service to your community.

We have helped a number of libraries set up and run chess clubs – and we are keen to help more.

We can provide equipment and help you find someone to run it. We run regular training courses on teaching chess which would equip someone with the skills to run a club. Places on the courses would be free to library staff and volunteers and we would provide support.

We started our Teesside library project during the Summer holiday of 2017 and it has been a great success.

There are four basic parts to establishing chess in libraries.

The first step is to confirm the support of the CSC, who will supply all of the chess equipment and advice required.

The next step is to approach the libraries to see if they interested in the project and able to provide a suitable space, free of charge. The sessions are free to all too.

After that we need to work with local chess clubs to identify suitable volunteers to run the sessions. Once identified, the volunteers will need to go through the Disclosure and Barring Service ('DBS') process (via CSC). If successful, the volunteer will then receive a DBS certificate which is an essential acquisition when working with children. In former times this was known as a Criminal Records Bureau ('CRB') check. It is also recommended that volunteers attend one of the dates on the CSC Training Day Tour, details of which can be found on the CSC website.



David Smith (left) and Sean Marsh (right) flank librarian Ruth Cull at Middlesbrough Library.

Once the staff, volunteers, venue and starting date have all been sorted out, the final prelude to action is all about publicity. Our three libraries all produced excellent posters which are prominently displayed in their own premises and we all contribute to spreading the word via all the usual social media outlets.

The first two libraries I contacted were Stockton Central and Middlesbrough Central. I had already organised a chess tournament at Middlesbrough Central, back in 2012, as part of my series of Mike Closs Memorial events, so I already had good contacts there.

The timings of the sessions were sorted out by the library staff and the volunteers. From my point of view it turned out well, as Middlesbrough chose the Saturday morning (10.00 a.m. – noon) and Stockton favoured the afternoon (1.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.), which meant I could go along to see both sessions in action.

David Smith, former British Senior Champion and Middlesbrough Chess Club stalwart, runs the Middlesbrough sessions, ably assisted by Paul Weightman, and Sean Cassidy of The Buffs Chess Club delivers the sessions at Stockton, with Alan Stockley as his main assistant.

We were not at all sure how many people we would attract to the sessions, despite the extensive publicity campaign and we had to keep all scenarios in mind. In fact the number of people who attended the initial sessions was a very pleasant surprise, especially as it featured both juniors and adults. Some of the

juniors were already known to me through our CSC schools and I was very grateful for their support and for their help in spreading the word.

The numbers grew and a short time ago peaked at 36 at Stockton Central Library, which is an extraordinary amount of people and far beyond our expectations.

There is no set formula for the library sessions and the volunteers are very free to arrange them in any way they want to. Some will deliver a formal lesson followed by a playing session whereas others will feel more comfortable to dispense with the formal structure and base their sessions on creating a suitable playing environment. As always, in any teaching situation, flexibility is the key to success. It will take a number of weeks to determine the best approach for a particular group but a good organiser will always find the best way forward.

With Stockton and Middlesbrough both up and running, it was time to see if we could expand elsewhere. Brian Whitaker, Chairperson of the Cleveland Chess Association and founder member of Thornaby Chess Club, had already attended sessions at both Middlesbrough and Stockton, and expressed an interest in starting something at Thornaby Central Library. Brian has fellow Thornaby chess stars Paul Douglass, Francis Batchelor and Nick Tadd all helping at the sessions.

In addition to providing the very valuable quality of altruism, the volunteers understand

there is a great opportunity to attract new members – of all ages – to their respective chess clubs. Indeed, in these days of plummeting memberships, clubs should jump at the chance to reverse the trend. I am delighted to report that the three clubs closest to the libraries have all benefited by the acquisition of new members. In fact this happened in one case immediately after the very first session.

It wasn't long before we teamed up with the libraries to present some special events. The first of these was the incredible Harry Potter Book Night at Stockton Central Library in February. This very special evening brought more than 500 people to the library to enjoy the many activities on offer, including live animals, archery, a magician and, of course, chess. I, together with Sean Cassidy and Rachel Scott, was on hand with a patio chess set (borrowed from Yarm Preparatory School, who have always been more than willing to help with pushing chess into the community), to teach and play all-comers.

We thought we would be up against it with such competition from the other activities, but heard, on more than a couple of occasions, parents trying to talk their children into going off to see something else and the children stating, in no uncertain terms, that they preferred to stay and play chess for the duration of the evening.

Three hours later, we were trying to wind down as the library was about to close and we were still surrounded by an unfeasibly large amount of Harry Potter and associated lookalikes. Mind you, we were dressed as wizards too. One simply has to enter into the spirit of things on such a magical evening.

Another special event occurred when Stockton Central Library agreed to host my one-man show, '30 Years on 64 Squares', which was part of Project 30 (a year-long series of special events to celebrate my 30 years of teaching chess in schools). Lucy Carlton-Walker and her fabulous library team organised everything for me, right down to producing and printing the promotional posters and flyers. I delivered a talk on my 30 years which was followed by an extraordinary question and answer session lasting a full



Did you recognise our reporter and regular reviewer dressed as a wizard alongside Rachel Scott?

hour (which would have gone on for longer if we hadn't had to start winding down) and, finally, a book-signing session. 38 people booked places for the evening, including the editor of this very magazine. Such was the success of the evening that we are already planning a sequel.

The chess in libraries project has proved to be a very rare case of a win/win/win scenario, as simple as ABC:

- a) Libraries, who provide the facilities, are very keen to get anybody through their doors.
- b) Chess clubs provide the volunteers and they experience the benefits of having new

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All ages are involved at Stockton Library's CSC-organised Chess Club every Saturday afternoon.

members in their clubs.

c) CSC provides the equipment and advice and creates more opportunities for people to play, which is particularly useful for children who have enjoyed their sessions at primary school, but go to a Secondary School that does not have a chess club.

Despite the success we are enjoying on Teesside, it is important to remember that it is not always easy to create and maintain new projects. A lot behind-the-scenes effort is required to set up things in the first place and then the library staff and volunteers have to

be very much on the ball to keep everything running smoothly. We are committed to future expansion of the project, but it is important not to try too much, too soon.

If you would like to become involved in the libraries project then please head for the CSC website – www.chessinschools.co.uk – and click on the 'In the Community' tab to establish contact and to register your interest.

We are all in this together, so let's get more and more people enjoying chess. It is our game and our responsibility to create a stronger platform for future growth and success.

Join Richmond Juniors

The English U11 & U12 Champions

We meet on Saturday afternoons from 2pm to 5pm at Orleans Park School, Twickenham, TW1 3BB.

Spring Term: from January 6 to March 24.

Summer Term: from April 28 to July 14.

For players aged 5 to 18, all standards welcome and catered for

- Beginners, Intermediate & Advanced Classes
- Girls classes with Ljubica Lazarevic on 24 March, 12 May, 16 June, 7 July.
- Time for structured learning and competition
- Teams in the EPSCA, NYCA, SCCU, J4NCL
- Club championship (ECF rapidplay graded)

UPCOMING EVENTS

9 – 13 April	Easter Camp (10am - 4pm) <i>Intense coaching, graded games, plenty of fun!</i>
29 April	117 th Richmond Rapidplay - FIDE Rated (4 sections: Open, U160, U120, U80). <i>Further dates planned in 2018: 10 June, 12 August, 14 October)</i>
19 May	7th Richmond Blitz - FIDE Rated Blitz, one section, open to all. £300 prize fund
2 & 3 June	Mega Final of Delancey UK Chess Challenger
13 - 17 August	Summer Camp (10am - 4pm) <i>Intense coaching, graded games, plenty of fun!</i>

For further information visit: www.rjcc.org.uk or contact Paul McKeown on 020 8756 0474, or email richmond_junior_chess_club@hotmail.com
Twitter: @richjunchess, @rich_rapid



A little bird just told me

A round-up of what the top players and chess personalities have been saying on Twitter

chess24.com - @chess24com

Grischuk: "It's possible to name favourites for the Candidates Tournament: those are Kramnik, Karjakin, Ding Liren, Aronian, Mamedyarov, Caruana and So" :)

Magnus Carlsen - @MagnusCarlsen

So supposedly @anishgiri will be seconding Kramnik during the candidates. Before Tata (an unbeaten +7 with just a few draws for Vlad) this would have been a clear cut case of "if you can't beat em, join em". Now it's rather "if you can't draw em, join em".

Anish Giri - @anishgiri

In wake of the World Championship qualifier, someone appears to be more nervous than all of the 8 candidates put together!?? (Hint: it is not me or MVL).

Magnus Carlsen - @MagnusCarlsen

Come on, that's just weak. Win a tournament for the first time in your life, and maybe people will start taking you seriously.

Hikaru Nakamura - @GMHikaru

Arrive in Moscow at 2AM, play the Pro Chess League at 5AM, and then the Aeroflot Blitz from 10AM till 4:30PM...all in a days work!

Sue Maroroa - @WIM_Maroroa

Made it home after such a fun weekend @bunrattychess1 - I don't drink but I still enjoyed it so much. Looking forward to some sleep, chess work, rugby training in the month of March! #bunratty25 Well done @GMGawain on 1st= and myself on a draw with a GM, IM and FM.

John Saunders - @johnchess

I've just had a lovely chat with two chess-playing Davids: one, @DavidHowellGM, and the other, David Jones, who played in the Varsity chess match of 1942.

Judit Polgar - @GMJuditPolgar

Isn't this funny that my daughter found herself having a quiz related to me in her Oxford Student book;)?

Tania Sachdev - @TaniaSachdev

Hey @vishy64theking it's a challenge! Take the #PowerlessQueen challenge on <http://www.PowerlessQueen.com> and tell us if you can win without the Queen.

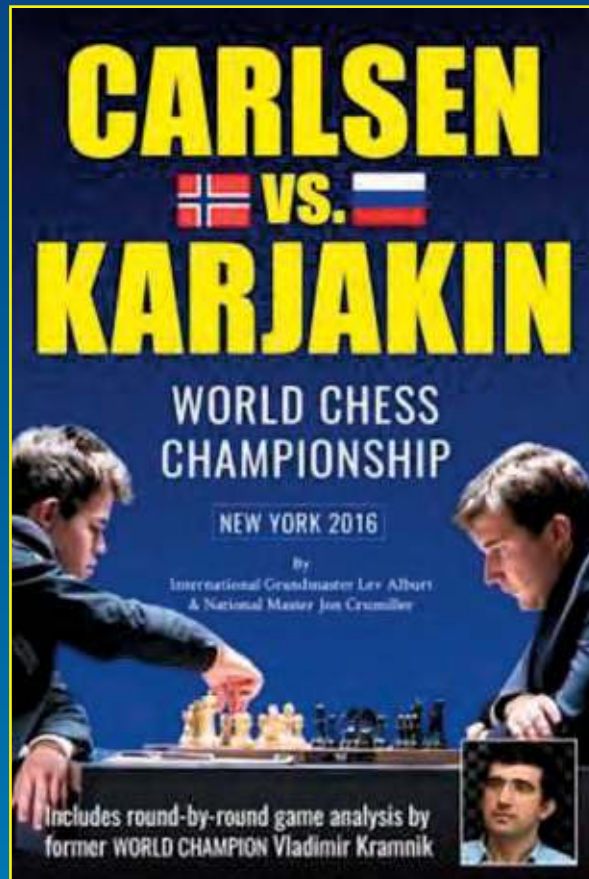
Vishy Anand - @vishy64theking

Amazing insight to connect chess with women empowerment. I agree with a #PowerlessQueen, it's difficult to win. In chess or in society.

The last word on the most exciting world championship match in years...

"Vladimir Kramnik (provides) the most candid analysis of a championship match ever made by a former champ."

GM Andy Soltis,
New York Post



"My heart, for years, has belonged to Tal's match book on his victory over Botvinnik. That has now changed. This is the best match book I've ever seen."

Pete Tamburro,
American Chess Magazine

World Chess Championship

Carlsen vs. Karjakin: New York, 2016

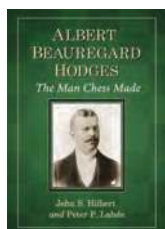
336 pages, 470 diagrams, and 105 full-colour pictures

RRP £22.50 Subscribers' £20.25

Grandmaster Lev Alburt and U.S. Master Jon Crumiller have joined forces with former world champion Vladimir Kramnik to produce an in-depth account of Magnus Carlsen's title defence against Sergey Karjakin. It was a match that stunned the chess world, as Carlsen battled Karjakin to a tie until matters had to be settled in a rapid-play shootout.

You'll learn from the best players in the world, as a top team of writers, including a former world champion, explain not just the reasons behind the moves played but also what should have transpired.

This Month's New Releases



Albert Beauregard Hodges: The Man Chess Made

John S. Hilbert & Peter P. Lahde, 542 pages
McFarland & Co
RRP £24.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.49**

"Albert Beauregard Hodges is a legend among chess aficionados. One of the most well-known American chess players of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, he played an important role in transforming chess from a pleasant pastime into a social institution."

So states part of the publicity material on the back of this hefty volume. I came to it recognising Hodges' name and knowing that he participated in the Anglo-American Cable Matches which took place more than a century ago, but ignorant of anything else concerning his life. Even this was more than my chess playing friends, none of whom recognised his name. Several months later, I appreciate his place in the history of American chess.

Hodges was born on 21st July 1861 in Nashville, Tennessee, the son of a druggist (pharmacist). The third child of six to Samuel and Eveline D. Hodges, his middle name is that of Confederate General Pierre Gustave Touant Beauregard, signalling his parents' sympathies. Sources indicate that he learned to play chess around the age of 19 at local chess rooms and improved rapidly.

By 1884 Hodges was chess editor of the Nashville *Daily American* newspaper and being dubbed 'The Tennessee Morphy'. Moving to St. Louis in the mid-1880s and working as a railroad auditor, he became acquainted with Max Judd, contesting a match with him in the summer of 1887. It was suspended and never completed with Hodges leading 3½-2½. The following January Judd defeated Hodges in another match, winning five games and losing two with no draws.

Around 1889 or 1890 – the exact date is unclear – Hodges took up residency in New York. With Judd's help, he spent time as an operator of the automaton 'Ajeeb'. Hodges subsequently obtained the post of Chief Clerk (Secretary) of the Sailors' Snug Harbor – a home for ageing seamen – where he remained employed for over 20 years.

Sensibly never relying upon chess for a living, he considered such a lifestyle unsustainable for all but a few of the very best players.

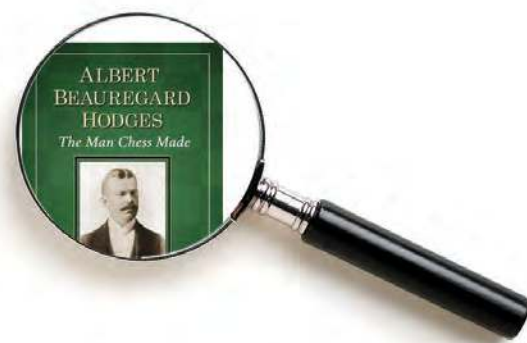
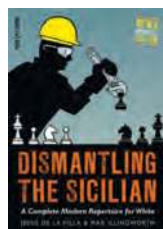
While residing in New York, Hodges was an active member and official of several chess clubs, facing the strongest American players of the era, as well as many European masters who were touring or had taken up residency in the USA. Most memorably, he was the only player on either side to compete in all thirteen of the Anglo-American Cable Matches, remaining unbeaten with 5 wins and 8 draws. (These contests receive extensive coverage, although there is less information about the final few matches in which the American teams did less well.)

It is unfortunate that invitations to participate in international tournaments came Hodges' way when he was no longer at the height of his powers. The results he obtained are not a fair representation of his earlier abilities. During the 1920s he played fewer competitive games and the final encounter quoted here dates from 1930. He died of a heart attack on 3rd February 1944 at his home on Staten Island.

This April 2013 paperback edition is a reprint of the library bound edition first published in 2008. It is split into a biography (pp.5-328), a games collection (pp.331-505), and a section comprising chess problems, several appendices and indices plus three obituaries (pp.507-542). The introductions, annotations and games analysis are taken from contemporary newspaper column sources.

To derive full benefit from this work, it is important to read the extensive footnotes that appear throughout the text. They frequently correct errors that appeared in contemporary sources and give both sequences of moves when alternative explanations are available. I favour this layout, but that may simply be a matter of taste. The lengths to which the authors have gone to research their subject is outstanding. On that basis, and having regard to the quality of production, the purchase price is entirely appropriate. Highly recommended.

David Mills



Dismantling the Sicilian

Jesus de la Villa & Max Illingworth,
368 pages, New in Chess

RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.35**

For as long as I have played chess, I have been proud to be a 'Sicilian Basher', i.e. someone who plays the main lines against all black systems. My original repertoire was based on that 1995 classic *Beating the Sicilian* 3, but since those heady days producing a single-volume white repertoire book has become exponentially more difficult.

This is not surprising given the increasing amount of information that has to be checked, new ideas that have to be analysed, and material that has to be presented. Jesus de la Villa's *Dismantling The Sicilian* was one book that seemed to manage this difficult task reasonably well. Therefore, when I saw that, 8 years on, a 'new and updated edition' had been released, I was eager to take a look.

And that description seems apt indeed because, with the aid of co-author GM Max Illingworth, the original work has been given such a serious overhaul that to merely describe it as 'updated' would be extremely wide of the mark. For starters, in order to present the reader with a repertoire that is still cutting edge, numerous modifications have been made, and the result is a significantly less user-friendly work. This isn't a criticism, but rather due notice to prospective readers that they will need to invest greater time and effort to derive the same level of benefit as from the first edition.

This is because lines with similar ideas and plans, such as the English Attack set-ups against the Dragon, Taimanov and Najdorf, are out. Instead, in comes 9 0-0-0 d5 10 ♖e1 against the Dragon; the Taimanov is now met by 6 ♗e3 and ♖f3; and the primary weapon against the Najdorf is the modern main line 6 h3, with 6 ♗e2 e5 7 ♘f3 being offered as a back-up due to both lines leading to similar structures.

The other major repertoire changes are that the Sveshnikov is now met with 9 ♘d5 ♗e7 10 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 11 c3 instead of 9 ♗xf6, and, in line with the Anti-Dragon recommendation, the Accelerated Dragon is now met with the Maroczy Bind. Furthermore, sidelines have been given their own chapters based on minor second moves, 2...♘c6, 2...e6, and 2...d6, which makes the book a much easier work to navigate than its predecessor.

The chapter format has also undergone some modifications. The short introductions and historical overview of each variation have been removed, and the heavily-annotated

games have been replaced by illustrative games and a theoretical overview. This makes the work accessible to both a wider range of playing abilities and people with less experience of Open Sicilians than the first edition. Playing through the illustrative games alone would arm the prospective reader with the skeleton of the repertoire, and they can then use the theoretical overviews to flesh out their knowledge as little or as much as they wish.

The analysis presented in the theoretical overviews is generally of a very high quality, and novelties abound. Furthermore, despite the amount of material presented, the excellent formatting means the pages in no way seem crowded. However, I did have one serious concern with the Keres Attack analysis.

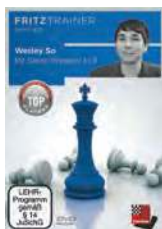


Kotronias and Semkov in *Attacking The Flexible Sicilian* devote 15 pages of analysis to non-6...h6 alternatives. However, De la Villa and Illingworth simply provide one line after 6...e5 and 6...d5 and the comment, "Other moves give White a turbocharged English Attack with g4-g5/♗e2/h2-h4". This seems wholly inadequate for such razor-sharp opposite-side castling positions.

I liked the chapter, 'What others recommend... and why I disagree', where Illingworth looks at lines that have been recommended for white in other works and offers analysis to support his reasons for rejecting them. I found this chapter to be a veritable treasure trove of surprise weapons and new analysis, and Sicilian players of both colours could use it as a starting point for further investigations.

Overall, de la Villa and Illingworth have presented the reader with a high-quality and durable repertoire that has the potential to cause significant theoretical and practical problems to Sicilian players. I was admirably impressed that the authors managed to show that a single-volume Open Sicilian repertoire work is still just about feasible, and I sincerely hope that this book is not the last of a dying breed.

Paul Hopwood



My Secret Weapon: 1 b3

Wesley So; PC-DVD

running time: 2 hours and 50 minutes

ChessBase

RRP £30.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £27.85**

It is unusual to see one the world's elite players delivering DVD presentations on opening theory. This is one of two new ChessBase products featuring Wesley So (the other one features the Italian Game from Black's point of view).

1 b3 – or the Nimzo-Larsen Attack, as it was always called, back in the day – can hardly be called a regular opening choice at any level, but in the current climate where more and more players choosing to steer clear of mainline theory, we may yet see this unassuming opening move infiltrating the repertoires of the masses.

The presentation adopts a different style to the norm, with So in the role of the expert being asked numerous questions by host Oliver Reeh over the course of nine video lectures. The reason for this approach would seem to be So's very self-conscious persona when in front of the camera. He can often be observed staring into the camera and smiling at the viewer. Consequently, the viewing experience is a little disjointed and not as fluid as normal – especially when the duo interrupt each other.

Few can resist name-checking Bobby Fischer when talking about 1 b3 and his famous 1970 victory over Tukmakov is the subject of the very first lecture. The remaining videos cover Black's four main replies to 1 b3, namely 1...e5, 1...♘f6, 1...d5 and 1...c5. A database of 140 games is included too, but it is almost entirely without annotations.

So stresses the scope for creativity due to the comparative paucity of existing theory, which is one of the reasons free spirits Jobava and Rapport are attracted to 1 b3. Indeed, one of the illustrative games shows the former reach an advantageous position against So himself last year, where the latter went astray in unfamiliar territory and came close to be completely outplayed.

B.Jobava-W.So

FIDE World Cup, Tbilisi 2017



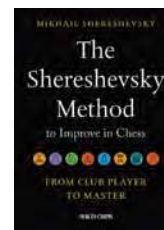
Black's e-pawn has been overextended for

some time and So now lent it some support with **19...f5?!.** However, Jobava was able to increase the pressure with **20 f4!** when the threat of taking a tin-opener to the kingside with 21 g4 led to So's reply **20...exf3**, and after **21 gxf3** White's advantage grew. Black has absolutely no counterplay and must play very well to have a chance of holding this position. Nevertheless, So did exactly that and, assisted by some inaccuracies from his opponent, managed to draw the game after 54 moves.

Having Wesley So on board represents a significant coup for ChessBase, but this particular DVD falls somewhat short of the mark. Oliver Reeh is undoubtedly a strong enough presenter to deliver all of this material himself, although in terms of intended sales So is clearly the intended spearhead.

Summing up, this DVD doesn't quite hit the target. So's expert thoughts are interesting, but the approach taken here would probably work much better on a 'best game' collection of his own chess battles. A presenter such as Daniel King, Andrew Martin or Nigel Davies would have put together a more fluid repertoire for White, whereas here the viewer is given some very interesting ideas, but will have to think carefully on how to put the whole thing together to get the best out of 1 b3.

Sean Marsh



The Shereshevsky Method to Improve in Chess

Mikhail Shereshevsky, 352 pages

New in Chess

RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.35**

The subtitle tells us the method in question is: "To improve in chess from club player to master", and other blurb highlights include that "The Shereshevsky Method offers a unique opportunity to improve your game with one of the supreme examples of Russian chess training excellence."

This is not merely the publisher's hyperbole, as anyone familiar with Shereshevsky's previous works will no doubt confirm. Anyone searching for a copy of *The Soviet Chess Conveyor* (Semko, 1994) will need to be prepared to part with a three-figure sum according to an Internet search, although *Endgame Strategy* (Pergamon Press, 1992 and Everyman Chess, 1994) is much more easily obtainable.

The good news is that this new volume contains significant segments from its predecessors and has some additional material, too. The older parts have undergone a "Thorough revision and checking with powerful modern engines." The bad news is

that significant amounts have been left out of this compendium.

The material is split into three parts. Part one includes prime cuts from *The Soviet Chess Conveyor* (on constructing an opening repertoire and studying the chess classics), the second part offers revised material from *Endgame Strategy* (including the famously instructive advice 'Do not hurry!'), and the third presents the brand new articles, "Where we discuss the changes in the chess world and chess training over the past 25 years." The new material covers 143 pages, thus instantly answering the question of whether or not readers who own the previous editions need to get this new one.

Being familiar with Shereshevsky's previous books, one can recommend the first two parts of the book without hesitation (keep the older editions, by the way, as there is a lot that has been left out on this occasion).

The main area of interest for this review concerns the third section. There are 10 chapters, covering diverse subjects such as the status of chess players and trainers, chess books and laziness. It is very interesting to read the author's thoughts on these matters. He rates the books of Valery Beim, John Nunn and several others very highly and is happy to quote them several times.

There is a very interesting essay on genius and chess, with a special examination of Karpov's play. Shereshevsky witnessed this game firsthand and the play of the great champion made a lasting impression.

A.Karpov-V.Kupreichik USSR Team Ch., Riga 1975



"Black has an extra pawn, but White has the advantage of two bishops, and his pieces are aimed at the black king. In addition, the motif of a pin by the bishop along the long diagonal, with a collateral attack on the b2-rook, could be decisive. This suggests 36 Bxe5!. Today the computer immediately reports that after 36...dxe5 37 Bxe5 Bxd2 38 Bc4 White wins. The thoughts of all those present were in this direction, but, in time-trouble, Karpov played..." 36 Bc1?! (and 1-0, 42).

"I was amazed at how much Karpov's glance spread over the whole board. The white queen

hangs over the position of the black king, which seems to be about to collapse. And yet suddenly, the queen retreats to c1. And nobody was looking in this direction!"

Shereshevsky is keen to elevate the perception of Karpov's play, which was somehow devalued after he was finally displaced by Kasparov, who inherited the 'genius' tag too: "I never thought that I would have to publicly speak out about a seemingly quite obvious thing: the genius of Anatoly Karpov as a chess player."

This is such a good book it makes me wonder if it would have been better to split it into more than one volume, enabling as much material as possible to be retained from *The Soviet Chess Conveyor* and *Endgame Strategy*. There is certainly enough new material on which to base an entire second volume.

Nevertheless, this book is highly recommended to anyone who would like to learn more about the methods of one of the former Soviet Union's top trainers and to use those methods to help themselves improve at chess. The big bonus is being able to read Shereshevsky's thoughts on a whole range of other chess subjects, offering a refreshing new angle on a diverse set of topics. Well done, New in Chess! Now sign up the author for another book, as soon as possible.

Sean Marsh



A Complete Guide to Queen's Gambit Play
Glenn Flear, Neil McDonald, Alexander Raetsky and Maxim Chetverik, 619 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

This latest compendium volume from Everyman Chess covers three works from their famous *Starting Out* series which were all devoted to play after 1 d4 d5 2 c4: Raetsky and Chetverik's *Queen's Gambit Accepted*, McDonald's *Queen's Gambit Declined* and Glenn Flear's work on the Slav and Semi-Slav.



Attacking 101 Volume #004

Joel Johnson, 372 pages, paperback
RRP £29.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.99**

American Master Johnson once again examines his own games against opponents rated between 1700 and 2100, aiming to instruct the reader while highlighting typical mistakes made by players of that level. Once

again, all the games feature 1 e4 with the vast majority either Alekhines or St. George Defences.



Bc4 against the Open Games

Alexander Delchev, 248 pages, paperback
RRP £18.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.09**

The Giuoco Piano and related lines have been rather topical of late, so it's no surprise to see a Chess Stars work appearing touting them for White. Delchev covers both a 2 Bc4 Qf6 3 d3 and 4 Qf3 move order, as well as 2 Qf3 Qc6 3 Bc4 and 4 d3. The author has apparently been playing such lines off and on for 25 years, racking up the rather impressive score of +30 =7 -3, but the Bulgarian Grandmaster does not merely re-examine old theory. Indeed, he looks in some detail at two topical approaches: an early a2-a4 from White and the rediscovery of the effects of an early Bg5. Overall, those who want to glean the key ideas behind the Giuoco while discovering a repertoire containing some bite and new ideas could do far worse than examine Delchev.

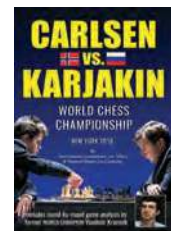


Fighting Chess with Black: Anti-King's Indians and Anti-Sicilians

Yelena Dembo & Richard Palliser,
460 pages, paperback

RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

Another compilation job from Everyman, devoted to works which proved fairly popular, no doubt because they showed how Black should handle and fight back against all those pesky Anti-King's Indians and Anti-Sicilians.

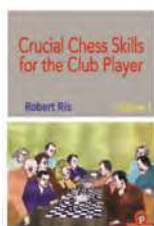


Carlsen vs. Karjakin

Lev Alburt & Jon Crumiller,
336 pages, paperback

SPECIAL PRICE £22.50 **SUBS' £20.25**

Last month Sean Marsh reviewed this modern take on the latest world championship match. See the March issue or page 53 of this one for further details.



Crucial Chess Skills for the Club Player: Volume 1

Robert Ris, 240 pages, paperback
RRP £25.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £23.25**

Leading Dutch chess coach, IM and DVD presenter Robert Ris has turned to Thinkers Publishing for his first book. His target audience is the club player and in this first volume the endgame and middlegame come under his microscope. The majority of the endgame coverage is on rook endings, although there is also a very useful chapter on the transition to a pawn ending. Likewise, plenty of the middlegame chapters will immediately resonate with the reader, not least that on 'Playing against your opponent's pieces'.



First Steps: Caro-Kann Defence

Andrew Martin, 240 pages, paperback
RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

Andrew Martin has been busy of late with all his junior chess teaching and administration, including playing a key role behind the scenes at that large girls' event in Bramley we reported on in last month's *Home News*, as well as with his DVDs, but now picks up his pen once again to cover 1 e4 c6. Coverage is surprisingly thorough, at least in terms of all the lines covered, although at times Martin has had to make a repertoire choice and the majority of coverage on the main line, 2 d4 d5 3 dxc3 dxe4 4 dxe4, is devoted to 4...d5f5. The illustrated games are largely instructive, good use made of the series' special features and the average club player very much the target audience.



Foxy 178: Dominate the Endgames Like 13 World Champions for the Tournament Player Vol. 1

Ron Henley, DVD; running time: 92 minutes
RRP £12.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £11.66**
One tends to associate Foxy Videos with

opening repertoires for the club player, but here American GM and former Karpov helper Ron Henley has elected to examine the endgame, beginning by looking at how one side can dominate the play. As such, viewers get to see the bishop-pair expertly handled by the likes of Steinitz and Carlsen, while there is also a fair amount of instructive material on rook endings.

Also new from Foxy Videos are *Foxy 179: Domination Studies Ghenrikh Kasparyan for the Tournament Player Vol.2*, which is based on some Kasparyan's famous studies and runs to two hours and five minutes, as well as *Foxy 180: Domination Studies Bernhard Horwitz for the Tournament Player Vol. 3*, where Henley turns his attention to Horwitz's work over two hours and 15 minutes.

Foxy 179 and *Foxy 180* are also available to subscribers for £11.66 each, or you can buy *Foxy 178*, *Foxy 179* and *Foxy 180* together for a subscribers only price of £34.96.



Strike like the World Champions

Oliver Reeh, PC-DVD; running time: 9 hours, 30 minutes

RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

The combination of Oliver Reeh and Wesley So might not have worked brilliantly in ChessBase's Hamburg studio, but now we get to see the German IM and experienced presenter in his own right, and there will be no complaints about the length of this DVD. Reeh's choice of subject is the most brilliant attacks and concluding combinations played by the 16 world champions, which are all presented in interactive format, meaning keen viewers can try and work out the solutions for themselves. Some of the games are rather well known, but plenty are not and the club player relatively new to the game, or looking for an inspirational refresher course, should be well educated by the wealth of sacrifices on offer which are largely clearly explained by Reeh.



The Surprising Sicilian – Shock Your Opponent with an early ...b6

Andrew Martin, PC-DVD;
running time: 5 hours, 19 minutes
RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**
Andrew Martin has certainly been busy of

late and here promotes the Kveinys variation as an ideal weapon for the club player, as well as a surprise weapon for even stronger players. And what is the Kveinys? 1 e4 c5 2 dxf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 dxd4 ♖b6 can lead to Scheveningen-type play, but ideally where White is away from the comfortable blanket of his or her knowledge of opening theory. At lower levels there are some pitfalls white players must avoid and even if they know their theory, the main lines are playable for Black, as shown by Peter Svidler and Judit Polgar.

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