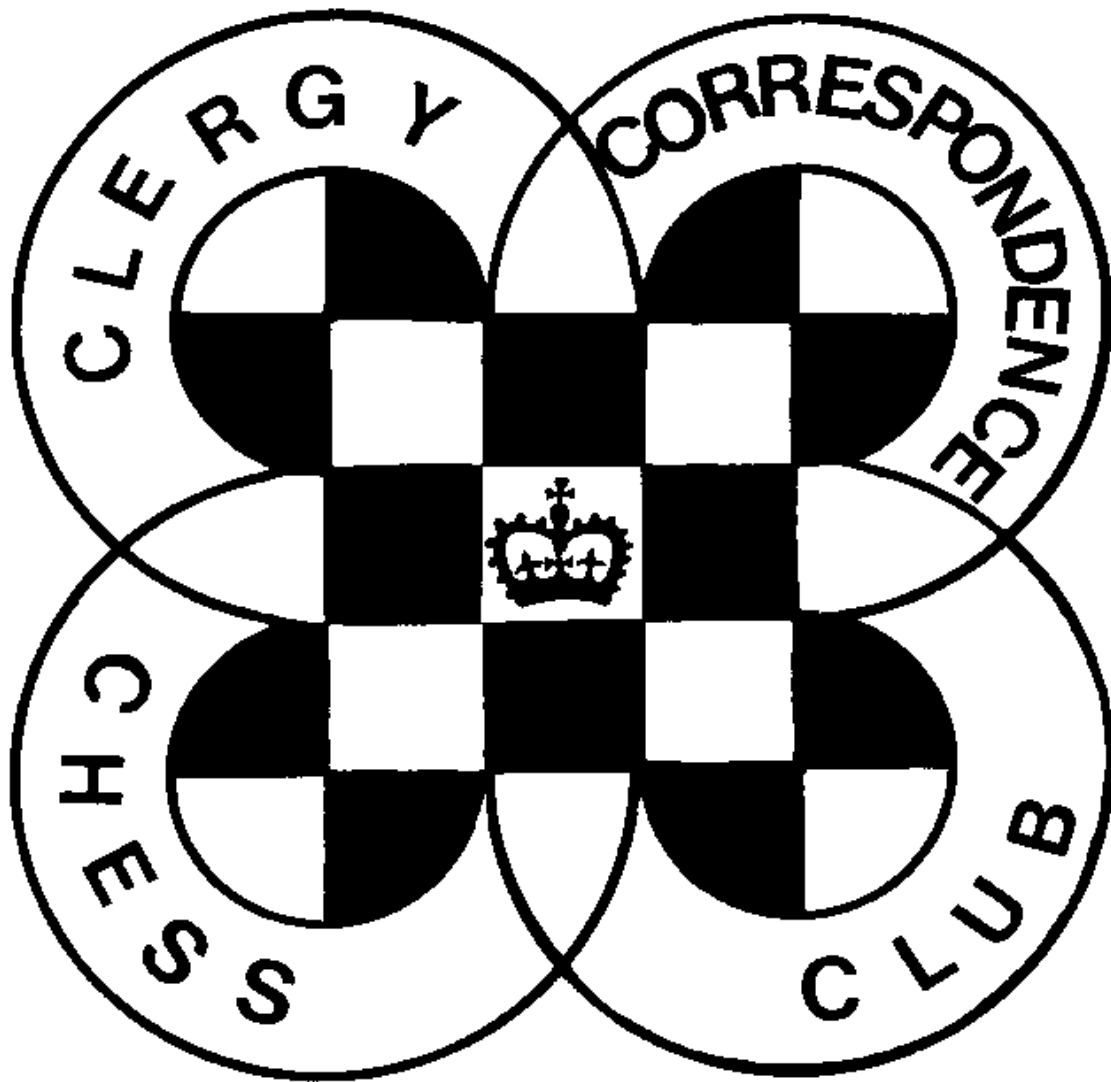
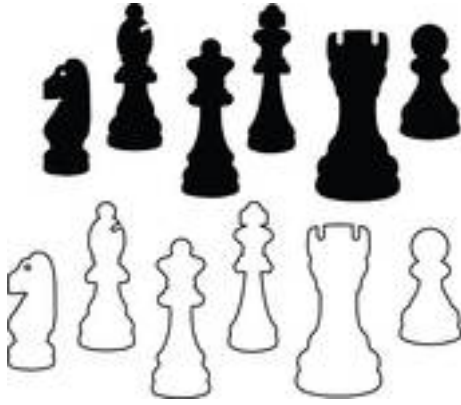


# **CHESS minister !**



**February 2018**



# **CHESS Minister!**

## **February 2018**

### **CURRENT SEASON**

All games should now be underway in the current season even if you are taking advantage of the staggered starting dates allowed to electronic players. If there are any games not yet underway please do get them started now.

### **GAMES**

We are very short of games for the magazine, especially annotated ones which are much more interesting to our readers. Please, if anyone can spend a few minutes annotating a game that they have played, please do so and submit it for the magazine. As always, my thanks to Michael Thistlewood who edits and prepares the games for the magazine. He does an excellent job but can only work with the material you send in.

### **EFCC AND OUR WEB SITE**

We are enormously indebted to Robert Moneagle, the webmaster for the EFCC. Over the last few months he has scanned and digitised our entire archive and is adding it to our website which they host for us. He is getting close to the end of this project and soon every copy of CHESS minister! since the magazine appeared in that format will be available to read online, along with a lot of other material from our archive that has only ever been seen by a few people.

### **SCHEMING MIND STANDARD CHESS LEAGUE**

We are close to the end of the current season in the Scheming Mind Chess League. We began the season with a convincing win over SCCA D Team by 9-1. Of course it was never going to continue like that and we lost the next match narrowly ( $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $5\frac{1}{2}$ ) to Scheming Knights before drawing the 3<sup>rd</sup> one 5-5 with Northern Trappers B. We then beat Dreadnoughts D 6-4 before losing to The Chess Warriors C  $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $6\frac{1}{2}$  (there is one game still in play). Another emphatic 9-1 win over knightworm 78 leaves us with one round in play where we are currently leading Team Wales 4-2. Congratulations to our Team in this League.

### **NEWS OF MEMBERS**

Lisa Battye has moved to a new ministry. Her address is 453 Parris Wood Road, MANCHESTER. M20 5NE. 0161 434 9886. [lisabattye@stjamesandemmanuel.org](mailto:lisabattye@stjamesandemmanuel.org).

Matthew Joy has also moved to Flat 22, Stuart Court, High Street, Kibworth Beauchamp. LEICESTER. LE8 0LR. I don't have a phone number.

## **MISSING MOVE**

I am sure we have all had moves go missing in the post, at least in the days when we used to play by post, despite the famous 'Heygates' envelope completing 78 journeys without mishap. Recently I was sent this link to an article in a Welsh newspaper concerning a move that appears to have gone astray for no less than 46 years (I hope the link is still active)! The recipient is a Fr. Seamus Cunnane, a (now retired) RC priest. Through the Cardigan Chess Club I made contact with Fr. Cunnane to see if he knew about CCCC, and I received this reply "I was last asked to join your club in 1965 (*clearly not correct as we were only founded in 1967, Ed.*) when I was too busy. Now, at 88, I'm decrepit. And with the game as it is now, I never know whether I'm playing an opponent or the latest computer. Thank you, anyway." You can hopefully read the article at: [http://www.tivysideadvertiser.co.uk/news/15579109.Letter\\_finally\\_arrives\\_in\\_Cardigan\\_46\\_years\\_after\\_it\\_was\\_posted/](http://www.tivysideadvertiser.co.uk/news/15579109.Letter_finally_arrives_in_Cardigan_46_years_after_it_was_posted/)

## **WILL CHESS EVER BE RECOGNISED AS A SPORT?**

Hopes that chess (usually considered together with bridge) can be recognised as a sport have been raised by a recent European Court of Justice judgement that bridge is a sport and should be granted the same official status as football, rugby and tennis. The ruling stated that sport was an activity requiring a certain effort to overcome a challenge or an obstacle and which trains certain physical or mental skills. To be a sport, they said, it is not necessary that the activity has a certain physical element. It is sufficient that it has a significant mental element which is material to its outcome.

The judgement is significant for both the English Chess Federation and the English Bridge Union in their battle to have Sport England recognise these activities as sports. So far this authority has resisted this, claiming that sport must entail physical exertion.

Of course we are not talking about social chess, which is no more going to be recognised as a sport than kicking a ball in the back garden will be. It has to have a structure with formally recognised competitions and rankings, but since the World Championship has been recognised since 1886 it should qualify on that count. It isn't only a matter of whether chess might one day appear at the Olympics, but even at a local level grants and tax breaks that are available to recognised sports are not available to chess & bridge clubs.

## **OUR BANK ACCOUNT IS NOW ONLINE**

Charles Mason, email: [revdcom@btinternet.com](mailto:revdcom@btinternet.com), writes:

Our Santander Business Account is now registered for online banking, so I am able to receive and make payments electronically. The details are:

Bank	Santander plc
Sort Code	09-01-56
Account No.	12314006
Account Name	Clergy Correspondence Chess Club

If you make payments by this method, please use your name as a reference so that I can identify the payment, and I would be very grateful if you could also email me to let me know it's coming and what it's for (eg subs, Scheming Mind, book purchase, etc). Alternatively you could include the purpose of the payment in the reference. Please use common sense.

Of course I am still happy to receive and make payments by cheque if that is what you prefer.



## **CHESS SELFIES**

Many of us have never met, and since email has largely taken over from phone as a means of communication some of us may not even have spoken. So it was suggested that we might include photos of members, either playing chess or poring over a correspondence game. If you have someone who can take it for you that is great, but otherwise take a 'selfie'.

### **David Nye writes:**

I have been a member of the CCCC since the mid-1970s, having read about it in the Church Times linked with the name of Tim Partridge; we had been fellow curates in Cheltenham some 10 years previously. I have nearly always worked in parishes in Gloucester Diocese, but also for five years was DDO and ran the Gloucester training scheme for NSM's as well as being a Minor Canon at the Cathedral. During a second stint in Cheltenham in the 80s and 90s I became Rural Dean and got to know local clergy of other denominations, including Richard Cleaves. It was while we were coming away from watching Cheltenham Town FC that we were talking, probably bemoaning yet another defeat, and for some reason I mentioned the CCCC and he subsequently joined.

## **THE CHESS PLAYER'S ALICE**

In going through our archive I came across this booklet by our Founder and late President Ivor Davies. I have re-typed it and enhanced the presentation by using technology that he did not have available at the time he wrote it and we have decided to publish it as part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations. The booklet is A5 size and runs to 24 pages and examines the conundrum of the chess game that underpins 'Alice through the Looking-Glass.' Questions that Ivor looks into are:

**How can White make thirteen moves to Black's (Red's) three?**

**Can White simply ignore a check on his King?**

**What is meant by Queens Castling?**

**Who is the invisible Bishop?**

These are just some of the questions posed by the chess game that provides the framework of Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There*. Questions with which Ivor Davies grapples in this booklet.

Can the game be reconciled with the rules of chess at all, or is it just a nonsense-fantasy of the author?

The book has a cover price of £4 (plus postage if bought on Amazon), but is offered to CCCC members for just £3 inclusive of postage. Simply send a cheque for £3 (payable CCCC) to our treasurer, or pay online (see information earlier in this magazine) and email or phone the Secretary and a copy will be on its way to you (except during February when I am away!)

## **THE CHESS PLAYER'S ALICE**



**IVOR DAVIES**

## **CCCC ACCOUNTS**

### **Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31.7.17**

	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>(2015/16)</u>		<u>2016/17</u>	<u>(2015/16)</u>
<u>Income £</u>			<u>Expenditure £</u>		
Subscriptions	24.00	(24.00)	Secretary's Expenses	23.67	(13.10)
Bank Interest	6.72	(8.33)	Treasurer's Expenses	1.68	(1.64)
Scheming Mind payments	8.00	(3.00)	EFCC Affiliation	15.00	(15.00)
Deficit for year	1.63		Surplus for year		(5.59)
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>40.35</b>	<b>(35.33)</b>		<b>40.35</b>	<b>(35.33)</b>

### **Balance Sheet as at 31.7.17**

	<u>£</u>
Balances brought forward	1131.01
Less: deficit for year	1.63
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<hr/> <b>1129.38</b>
<u>Represented by:</u>	
Santander UK plc Business Account	4.12
NS&I Investment Account (Life Membership)	1125.26
	<hr/> <b>1129.38</b>

### **Treasurer's Report on the 2016/17 Accounts**

As you will see, there is a very small deficit this year (£1.63). Secretary's Expenses are up because Bruce very properly used some colour printing in Chess Minister! to mark our Golden Jubilee; and National Savings cut their interest rate yet again – perhaps the recent rise in the Bank of England Base Rate will at last reverse this trend. The other figures do not call for comment.

The sharp-eyed among you may be wondering what happened to the Santander Deposit Account. I decided to close it, because the tiny balance earned no interest at all, and it simply generated extra paper. The balance has been transferred to the Business Account. The Club's finances continue to be very sound: our total assets represent a very comfortable reserve in terms of typical annual expenditure, thanks in part to the high proportion of members accepting electronic delivery, which keeps communication costs low. I did not think there was any need to increase our subscription rates for 2017/18, so this is their fourth year at the current level.

At the end of the financial year 2016/17 the value of the Life Membership Fund stood at £46.89 per Life Member (previous year: £44.74). No withdrawals were required.

Just to prepare you: next year the accounts may show a sizable deficit with the upfront costs of publishing the book *The Chess Player's Alice*. We hope that these costs will soon be recouped in sales, but I can assure you that the build-up in our reserves over the last 20 years, even taking into account inflation, means that we can afford this outlay without risk.

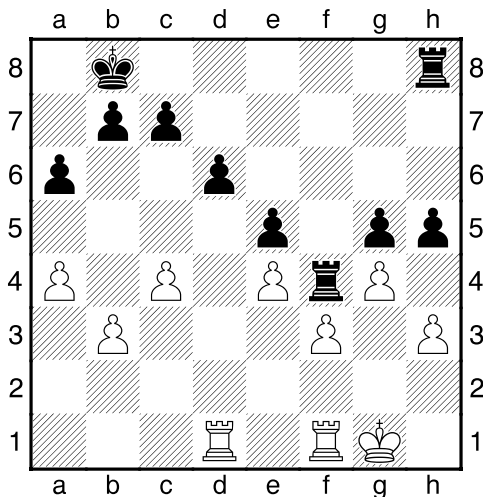
At the time of writing (November 2017) subs of £12 are outstanding. As a bishop whom I once knew was in the habit of saying: 'They know who they are'!

**Charles Mason – Hon Treasurer, CCCC**

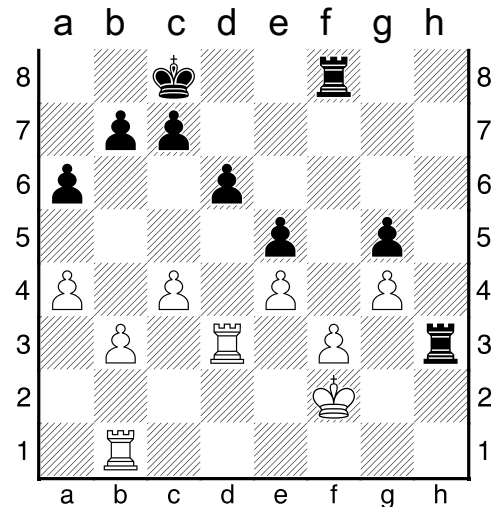
## Breninda (Richard Cleaves) (1493) – JPT (1691) [C66]

Standard Chess League – Season  
Ten SchemingMind.com

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6  
4.Nc3 d6 5.0-0 Bd7 6.d4 exd4  
7.Nxd4 Nxd4 8.Qxd4 a6 9.Bxd7+  
Nxd7 10.h3 Qe7 11.Nd5 Qd8  
12.Bf4 f6 13.Rfe1 Ne5 14.Bxe5  
fxe5 15.Qd3 Be7 16.Nxe7 Qxe7  
17.Rad1 0-0-0 18.Qe3 Kb8 19.b3  
g5 20.g4 h5 21.f3 Rdf8 22.Rf1 Qf6  
23.c4 Qf4 24.Qxf4 Rxf4 25.a4



Breninda: Very even. A draw?  
25...hxg4 26.hxg4 Rf7 27.Kf2  
Rfh7 28.Ke3 Breninda: Had been  
thinking it was looking level. Now  
looks a bit ominous! Rooks can  
break through. Should I have  
moved a rook forward!  
28...Rh2 29.Rd2 Kc8 30.Rb1  
R2h3 31.Kf2 Rf8 32.Rd3



Breninda: Offer of draw declined!  
Is this an impasse? Or will he  
break through?

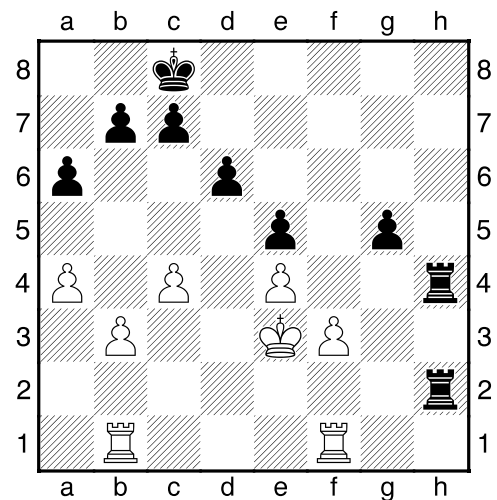
32...Rh2+ 33.Ke3 Rfh8 34.Rd2  
R2h3

35.Rd3 Rg3 JPT: lets play on for a  
bit

36.Rd2 Breninda: Great]

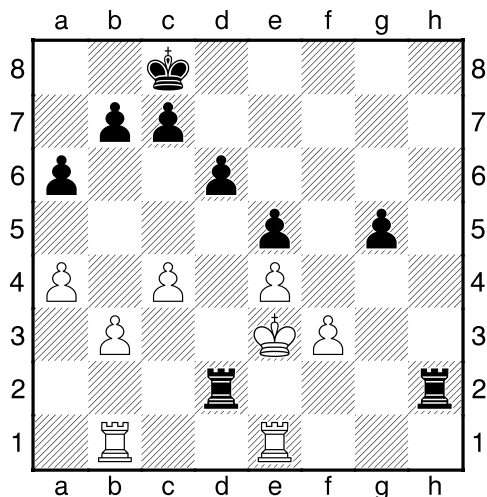
36...Rhh3 37.Rf2 Rxc4 Breninda:  
Loss of a pawn not good

38.Ke2 Rgh4 39.Ke3 Rh2 40.Rff1



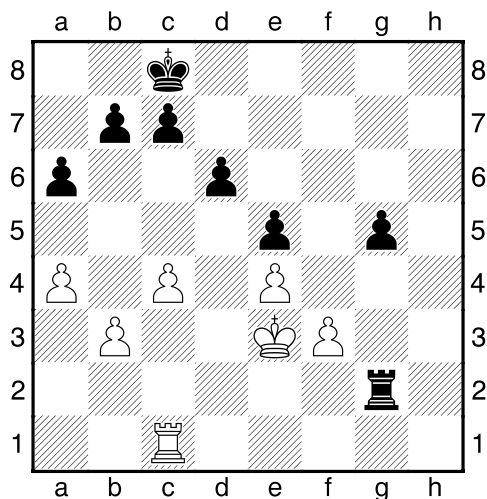
Breninda: Exchange would leave black rook free to go on rampage

**40...Rg2 41.Rg1** Breninda: Too long a gap! Fearful this lets him in!  
**41...Rhh2 42.Rgf1 Rd2 43.Rfe1**



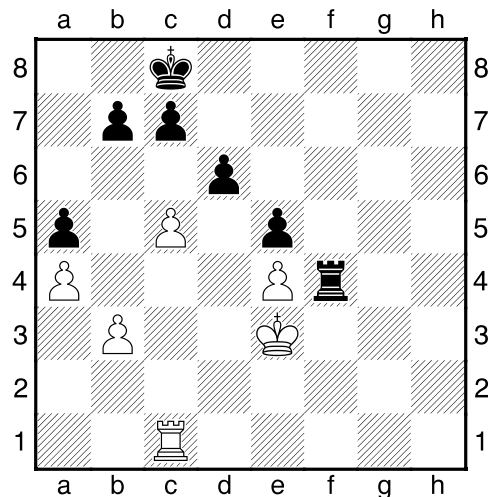
Breninda: Anything else would have been mate. **Rhe2 43.Rhg2**

**44.Rbc1** Breninda: One false move from mate! **44...Rb2**  
**45.Rb1 Rbc2 46.Rbc1 Rxc1 47.Rxc1**



**47...g4** Breninda: The skirmishing ends but I fear he has the advantage

**48.fxg4 Rxc4 49.Kf3 Rf4+ 50.Ke3 a5 51.c5**



**51...Kd7 52.c6+ bxc6 53.Rc4**  
**52.c6+ bxc6 53.Rc4** Breninda: 2 pawns down. Not looking good  
**53...Rh4 54.b4 d5 55.Rc5**

**55...Rxe4+** Breninda: I have enjoyed our game. Until about 10 moves ago I felt it was about level. But since about move 47 I fear you have had the upper hand. Thanks for a good game! JPT: I think you needed to be patient around move 51 and wait for my attack rather than pushing that c pawn which seemed just on a suicide mission (it was a free pawn for me). Best would have been to try to trade the rooks and block the game up. Anyway it could have gone either way until the later part. Well played. cheers JJ **0-1**

**CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB  
INTERIM RESULTS 2017 / 2018**

<b>Division 1</b>	Hu		Sm		St		Ya		Wi		Points	%
Hulme			V	V								
Smith	V	V			V	V	V	V	V	V	VOID	
Stevenson			V	V								
Yates			V	V								
Williamson			V	V								
<b>Division 2A</b>	Lw		Lx		Ny		Cl		Pa		Points	%
Lowe					1		1*	1	1*			
Loxton												
Nye	0								½*	1		
Cleaves	0	0										
Partridge					½	0	0					
<b>Division 2B</b>	Ca		Ha		Jy		Th		Tu		Points	%
Carlin							1	1*	1	1*		
Hall							1	1*				
Joy												
Thistlewood	0	0	0	0					0			
Turnbull	0	0					1*					

\* indicates a game won or drawn with the Black pieces.

I don't expect there to be too many results in at this stage of the season, but I do hope that everyone is underway with their games.

Do please keep me informed about your results and I will post them on our Facebook page as I receive them so that we can all keep up to date with progress.

I will also email results tables from time to time.



# CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

(Affiliated to the English Federation for Correspondence Chess)

[www.efcchess.org.uk/cccc](http://www.efcchess.org.uk/cccc)



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## Life Members

W. Alexander	T.R. Fisher	D.C. Nye	S. Whitmore
L. Battye	A.J. Foster	T.R. Partridge	M.J. Williamson
D. Boddy	J. Garton	B.E. Shephard	A. Yates
D. Brown	S. Hall	M. Smith	
W.P.B. Carlin	D.S.H. Hulme	B. Stevenson	
R. Cleaves	M. Joy	M.J. Thistlewood	
H. Costello	J.S. Loxton	P.T. Waterfield	

## Subscriptions

Life membership £ 75.50  
Annual membership £ 6.00

Current Membership Year : October 2017 to September 2018

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act we are exempt from registering providing members are aware of, and do not object to, the use of computers in the keeping of membership records. The Secretary holds members' name, address, phone number, fax and email addresses where provided, their CCCC division, and membership of any team, and the Treasurer holds members' subscription records.