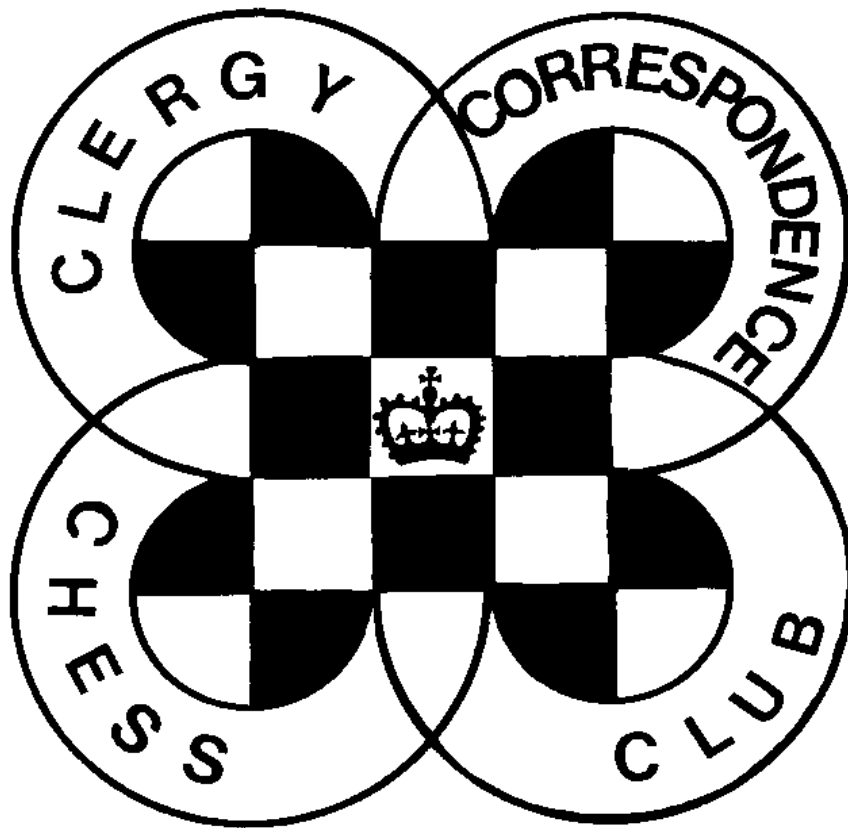
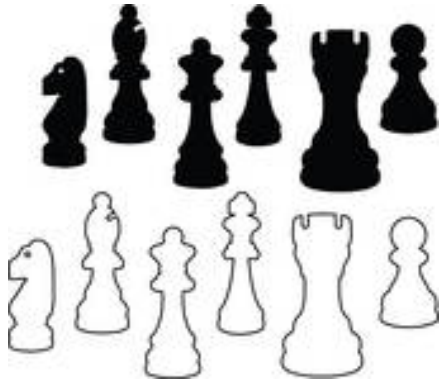


CHESS minister !

June 2021



CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB



CHESS Minister!

June 2021

END OF SEASON

The current season finishes on 31st July. Please ensure that all results are notified by that date. Failure to do this may result in games being scored as a loss to both players. Unfinished games can be submitted for adjudication – details of how to do this are available from the Secretary.

ENTERING FOR NEXT SEASON

If you are presently a League Member and have completed your games this year you will automatically be entered into next season's contest unless you inform the Secretary by 31st July.

If you are a non-League Member, or if you failed to complete your games this season then you must tell the Secretary by 31st July if you wish to play next season.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Just as I was preparing this magazine I received the sad news that **Mike Smith** has died. An obituary will be in the next issue.

We welcome three new members: **Michael Dubbs** lives in the USA, but can be contacted by email at dubb_z@yahoo.com. (Scheming Mind alias DubbsM). **Richard Sherratt**, The Vicarage, 186 Brooklands Road, SALE. M33 3PB. 0161 973 5220. vicarbrooklands@gmail.com. **Michael Hall**, The Vicarage, 111 Church Street, GREAT BURSTEAD. CM11 2TR. 01277 632060 (SM alias Michael76). Welcomed in the last issue, **John Druce's** SM alias is Jogle.

Paul Waterfield (NLM) has moved into residential care. His address is now MHA Stones Place, Skellingthorpe Road, LINCOLN. LN6 0PA

BROTHERHOOD. THE INNER LIFE OF MONKS

was a programme on BBC4 on Palm Sunday which featured our late member, Hilary Costello. He was one of the members of the Community to be interviewed, and the programme more or less ended with his funeral. If you missed it, it is on BBC iPlayer at least until the end of the year.

RESULTS OF THIS SEASON

I have never known a season with so many withdrawals, which along with three deaths leaves us rather depleted. Nearly all results are now in and we can confirm that **David Hulme** is once again Champion – congratulations to him.

GAMES FOR THE MAGAZINE

Our thanks to those who have sent in games for publication, and to Michael Thistlewood for preparing them for the magazine. Please continue sending in your games, with analysis where possible. Any game score sent will be considered for publication unless you state that you do not want this, as will any game played on the Scheming Mind web server.

SCHEMING MIND STANDARD CHESS LEAGUE

The last season ended with a defeat to Team Great Britain (4-6) and we finished the season 4th in our Division. We have entered a Team for the current season, but it is weaker than we have had in recent years. The first round has just begun (1-2 as I write) and will see how we get on and make a decision for the future after this year.



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 Reverend Ivor Davies (1923-2005) was a priest of the Church in Wales. He served as Vicar of Hay-on-Wye for nearly 20 years, and was a Canon of Brecon Cathedral.

His interest in both chess and Lewis Carroll led him to research the articles that begin this booklet, and later to complete the work in the form it appears here.

He founded the Clergy Correspondence Chess Club in 1967, to enable clergy to continue to play chess despite their irregular working hours making it difficult to join a conventional chess club. We are publishing this booklet as part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations.


In the photo he is shown (furthest left) taking part in an all-night charity chess match, which took place in a shop window in his parish!

Published by the Clergy Correspondence Chess Club
www.efcchess.org.uk/cccc




E4

**THE
CHESS PLAYER'S
ALICE**



IVOR DAVIES

SPECIAL OFFER

Last few copies

**£3 each post free
(cover price £4)**

Pay the Club by
 BACS (see back
 cover) and email the
 Secretary who will
 send you copy.

How can White make thirteen moves to Black's (Red's) three?
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**This year marks the 150th anniversary of the publication of
*Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found there.***

As a result we have sold a few copies through Lewis Carroll Societies, both here and in the USA. We also acknowledge a generous donation from the University of Southern California who also bought a copy for their Lewis Carroll archive.

We have few copies left and will not be re-printing, so order now or miss it for ever!

*** *** ***

Continuing our profiles of members, **Antony Foster** has sent this photo together with a few words about himself. He writes, I was born in St. Albans in 1939 and educated there and at Cambridge, where I read Natural Sciences & Theology. I became a CMS missionary teacher in Western Nigeria, where I also ran a chess club, having originally been taught the game by my father. I married Juliet in 1965, and trained for Ministry at Ridley Hall, being ordained in Wakefield Cathedral and serving as curate of Sandal Magna, before moving to Uganda where I was Chaplain and head of Chemistry as a College in Soroti. In 1974 we returned to the UK for the education of our 3 children and I became Vicar of Christ Church, Mount Pellon in Halifax, where we remained after I took early retirement on health grounds. I captained a chess team in the Calderdale League for a few years.



The Chess Player's Alice and that nasty Knight by Richard Cleaves

No chess player worth their salt should let this year pass without celebrating the 150th anniversary of the publication of the quirkiest chess book of them all, *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There*. What better way to celebrate than by reading the Clergy Correspondence Chess Club's sortie into the chess-publishing world with Ivor Davies' *The Chess Player's Alice*?

Bruce's article prompted me to get my copy out and re-read it. *Through the Looking-Glass* begins with a chess problem that seems impossible to solve and is structured around a fully annotated game of chess that to all appearances no self-respecting chess player would ever dream of playing. In the first of ten full-of-fun articles Ivor, the founder of CCCC, set out to solve Lewis Carroll's ultimate chess puzzle and demonstrate that Lewis Carroll was justified in claiming that "the final 'checkmate' of the Red King will be found, by any one who will take the trouble to set the pieces and play the moves as directed, to be strictly in accordance with the rules of the game."

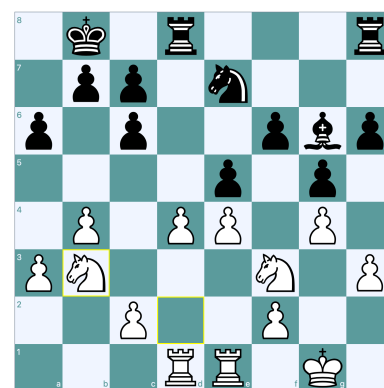
Little did I realise that I had come across Ivor Davies's article before. In the fictional world, I fell in love with Alice when I was in the sixth form. At the same time, in the real world, I fell in love with someone called Felicity and together as husband and wife we are now enjoying retirement in South Wales. For my 21st birthday she gave me a wonderful book edited by John Fisher called *The Magic of Lewis Carroll* (Nelson, 1973). It brings together a large number of the many puzzles, games and magic tricks Lewis Carroll delighted in: under the heading 'Looking-glass Chess' Fisher suggests that the best solution to the problems posed by *Through the Looking-Glass* "is to be found in an article by the Rev Ivor Ll. Davies in The Anglo-Welsh Review for August, 1970". That's the first of the articles reproduced by Ivor in his wonderful little book and it's well worth the read!

The next of the puzzles in *The Magic of Lewis Carroll* is called 'the knight's tour' and introduces a parlour trick whereby a conjuror can call out the moves as a knight visits each square of the chess board but once. It includes a quotation from the opening chapter of *Through the Looking-Glass*. Alice has just finished playing chess and in her own inimitable way is deep in conversation with her kitten, Kitty.

"Kitty, can you play chess? Now, don't smile, my dear, I'm asking it seriously. Because, when we were playing just now, you watched just as if you understood it: and when I said 'Check!' you purred! Well, it *was* a nice check, Kitty, and really I might have won, if it hadn't been for that nasty Knight, that came wiggling down among my pieces."

I now know exactly how Alice felt. Playing black in this year's game against Bruce, I missed my opportunity at move 10: little did I know how horrible the White Queen's knight would become! That was the knight that went on to take my Queen in the exchange at move 22. At the time I did not realise how annoying that Knight would become. It wasn't long before he was on the move: in sixteen of the next twenty-six moves he darted hither and thither and in the end forced me to resign.

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Bxc6 dxc6 5. O-O f6 6. Nc3 Bg4
7. h3 Bh5 8. d3 Bb4 9. Bd2 Qd7 10. a3 Ba5 11. b4 Bb6
12. Qe2 O-O-O 13. Be3 Bxe3 14. Qxe3 Kb8 15. Rad1 Ne7
16. Rfe1 h6 17. g4 Bf7 18. d4 Qe6 19. Nb1 g5 20. Nbd2 Bg6
21. Qb3 Qxb3 22. Nxb3 (diagram) Bf7 23. Nc5 Ng6 24. dxe5 Nxe5
25. Nxe5 fxe5 26. f3 Kc8 27. Nd3 Rhe8 28. Nb2 b5 29. Rxd8+ Rxd8
30. Nd3 Re8 31. Nc5 h5 32. Nxa6 Rd8 33. Nc5 h4 34. Nd3 Re8
35. Nb2 Rd8 36. Rd1 Rf8 37. a4 Be6 38. Kf2 bxa4 39. Nxa4 Kb7
40. Nc5+ Kb6 41. Nxe6 Rg8 42. c4 Rg6 43. Nf8 Rg8 44. Rd8 Rg7
45. Ne6 Rg6 46. Nc5 Rg7 47. Nd3 Re7 48. Rg8 1-0



Position after White's 22nd move

By the end I knew exactly how Alice felt and could say from the bottom of my heart, "really I might have won, if it hadn't been for that nasty Knight, that came wiggling down among my pieces."

If you haven't got it already, make sure you get a copy of Ivor Davies's book before the year is out.

The Perils of a Scheming Mind by **Richard Cleaves**

It was the welcome I received when I first joined CCCC that prompted me to extend a warm welcome to our newest member. Bruce had advised us before Christmas that we had a new recruit who, with our agreement, would be joining us in the New Year as he would be using Scheming Mind.

So it was that in January when I received a challenge to a new game from our latest recruit I greeted him fulsomely. I let him know I was a retired Congregational Minister now living in Wales and expressed my hope that he would receive as warm a welcome to CCCC as I had received. He was gracious in his response, identifying himself as a retired postal worker living in Cardiff. I supposed him to have been in the non-stipendiary ministry and continued to enjoy that spirit of fellowship that is one of the special features of the CCCC.

It was as we reached move 10 that I received another notification from Bruce to inform me that John Druce would be starting his games in the middle of January and asking Michael and me when we would like to start our games against him. Then it was that I realised my mistake. In the event I continued to enjoy the games with my new-found friend in Cardiff and indeed went on to enjoy two very interesting games with John. I very much hope he and any other new recruits feel a warm welcome to the Clergy Correspondence Chess Club. I wonder whether Bruce would be willing to make my retired postal worker an honorary member of the club.

The Secretary's Trophy - A Ratings Prize

Few responded to the article about what we might do with the Secretary's Trophy, but it seems best to award it as a Ratings Prize. The suggestion of linking it to our Scheming Mind Team could well leave it again redundant should we be unable to enter a Team in future years, which is a distinct possibility.

So as a Ratings Prize this is open to any member, as long as they are registered on Scheming Mind as that is the only Rating we have at present. We will take the Ratings at the beginning of June each year and the player who has the greatest percentage increase (or if everyone's Rating falls the lowest percentage decrease!) in their Rating by June the following year will win the prize.

If anyone joins the Club during the year their Rating will begin from the first month they are a member, but to avoid a clearly unfair result you will have to have joined and established a rating before the beginning of January so that any improvement is measured over a minimum of 5 months. Similarly, anyone who has not played a single game over the course of a year will be ineligible to avoid such a player winning if everyone else's Ratings fell.

The table below shows the starting point for this year's competition and will be updated in June 2022.

Name	June 2021	June 2022	Percentage Change
Hulme, D	2005		
Yates, A	1743		
Battye, L	1725		
Dubbs, M.	1684		
Carlin, B	1622		
Nye, D	1604		
Partridge, T	1524		
Cleaves, R	1400		
Thistlewood, M	1305		
Turnbull, P	1288		
Druce, J	1136		
Body, D	1001		
Hall, M.	Not yet rated		

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB RESULTS 2020 / 2021

Division 1	H		Y		N		D		S		Total	%
Hulme			1	1*	1	1*	v	v	v	v	4	100
Yates	0	0			0	1	v	v	v	v	1	25
Nye	0	0	1	0			v	v	v	v	1	25
Dunning	v	v	v	v	v	v			v	v	v	
Smith	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v			v	
Division 2A	W		L		P							
Williamson			v	v								
Loxton	v	v			v	v					v	
Partridge			v	v								
Division 2B	Ca		Cl		T		D					
Carlin			0	1	1*	1	1	1*			5	83
Cleaves	1	0			½	0	1	1*			3 ½	58
Thistlewood	0	0	½*	1			0	1*			2 ½	42
Druce	0	0	0	0	1*	0					1	17

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

David Hulme is once again crowned Champion with a perfect score in a rather depleted Division 1.

Congratulations to him.

Andrew Yates and David Nye tied and were only separated by the 6th tie break criterion, that of Yates having a higher Rating on SM.

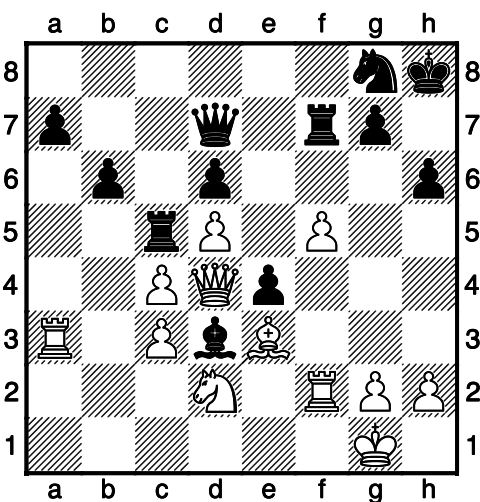
Division 2 became simply a match between Michael Williamson and Tim Partidge, which is ongoing.

We added John Druce to Division 3 when he joined part way through the season and though placed last he picked up a point from Michael Thistlewood, who finished 3rd. Richard Cleaves took second place while Bruce Carlin won this Division with 5/6.

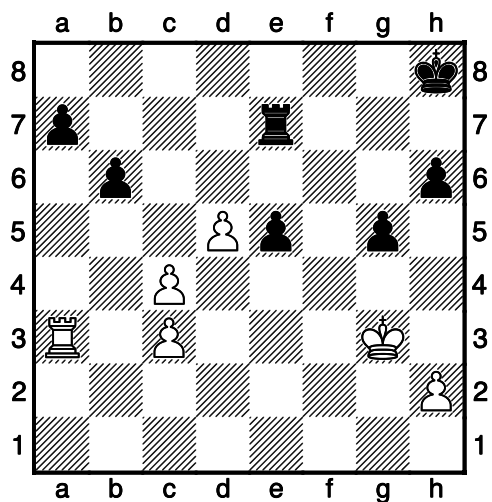
Michael Williamson – David Nye [A40]

Division 1 - 2019–2020

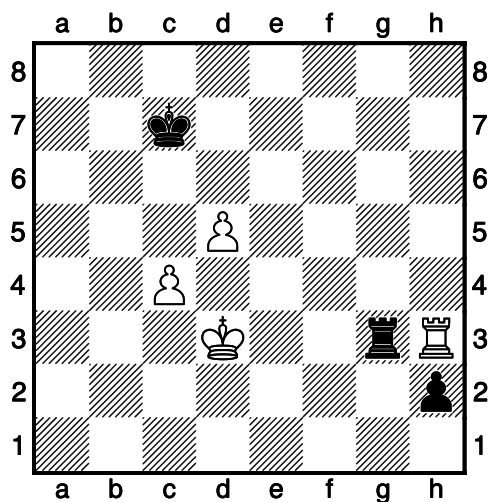
1.d4 e6 2.c4 Bb4+ 3.Nc3 Nf6
 4.Nf3 0-0 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 b6
 7.Bg5 d6 8.d5 e5 9.e4 Nbd7
 10.Bd3 Qe8 11.0-0 Kh8 12.Be3
 Ng8 13.Ng5 Ndf6 14.a4 h6 15.Nf3
 Ng4 16.Bc1 N4f6 17.a5 Nd7
 18.axb6 cxb6 19.Nd2 Nc5 20.Nb3
 Nxd3 21.Qxd3 f5 22.f4 fxe4
 23.Qxe4 Bf5 24.Qe3 Bc2 25.Ra3
 e4 26.Rf2 Bd3 27.Qd4 Rf7 28.Be3
 Rc8 29.Nd2 Rc5 30.f5 Qd7



31.Nxe4 Bxe4 32.Qxe4 Rc8 33.g4
 Re8 34.Qd4 Qe7 35.Rf3 Qe4
 36.Kf2 Qb1 37.Qd2 Nf6 38.Qc1
 Qxc1 39.Bxc1 Nxg4+ 40.Kg3 Ne5
 41.Re3 Ree7 42.Re4 Rxf5 43.Bf4
 g5 44.Bxe5+ Rfxe5 45.Rxe5 dxe5

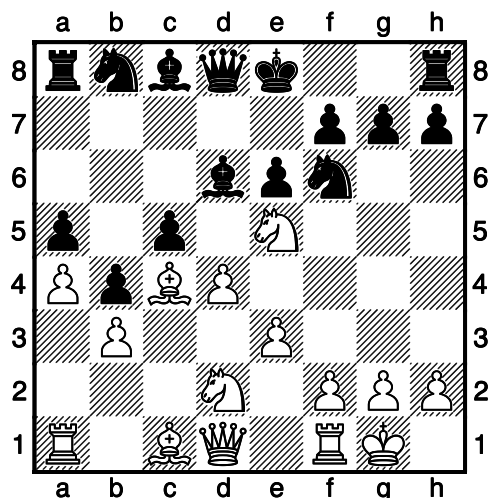


46.Ra1 Kg7 47.Rd1 h5 48.Kf3 e4+
 49.Ke3 Kf8 50.Rf1+ Rf7 51.Re1
 Ke8 52.Kd4 Kd7 53.c5 bxc5+
 54.Kxc5 Re7 55.Re3 Re8 56.c4 g4
 57.Ra3 Kc7 58.Rxa7+ Kb8 59.Ra2
 e3 60.Re2 h4 61.Kd4 g3 62.hxg3
 h3 63.Kd3 Kc7 64.g4 Re5 65.g5
 Rxg5 66.Rxe3 h2 67.Rh3 Rg3+

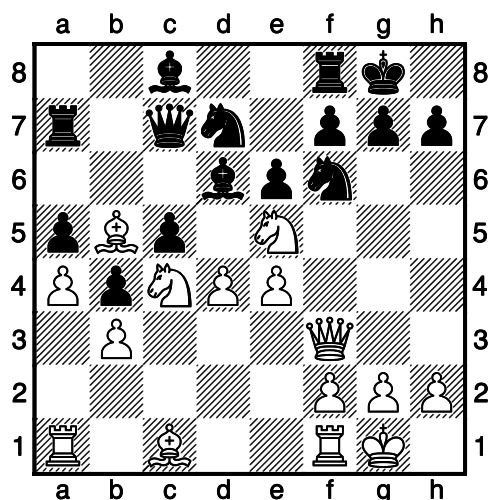


Stephen Dunning – Michael Williamson [D00]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 Nf6 3.Nf3 dxc4 4.e3 b5 5.a4 c6 6.b3 b4 7.Bxc4 e6 8.0-0 a5 9.Ne5 Bd6 10.Nd2 c5



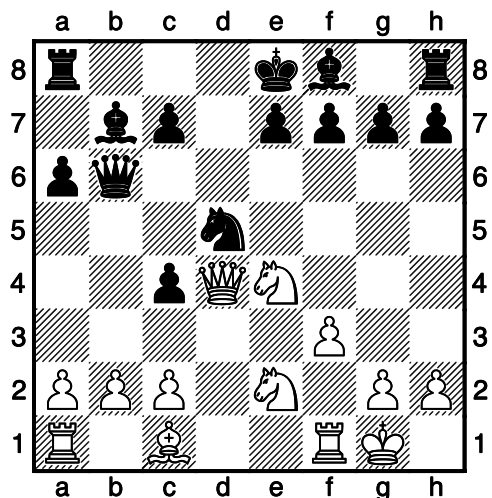
11.Bb5+ Nbd7 12.Ndc4 Qc7
13.Qf3 Ra7 14.e4 0-0



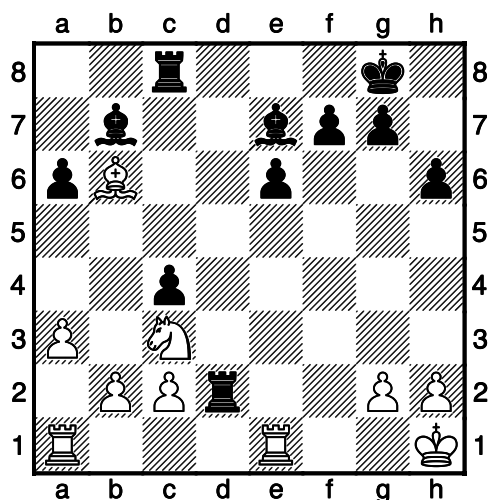
15.Nxd6 Qxd6 16.Nc6 Ra8 17.Bf4 e5 18.dxe5 Qe6 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.e5 Nd7 21.Rfd1 f6 22.Bc4 1-0

Michael Williamson – Stephen Dunning [B00]

1.e4 Nc6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Bb5 a6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.Nxe4 Qd5 7.f3 Nf6 8.Nc3 Qa5 9.Nge2 c5 10.d5 Bb7 11.0-0 c4 12.Ne4 Nxd5 13.Qd4 Qb6



14.Kh1 Qxd4 15.Nxd4 e6 16.Re1 h6 17.a3 Be7 18.Bd2 0-0 19.Nc3 Rfd8 20.f4 Nxf4 21.Bxf4 Rxd4 22.Bxc7 Rc8 23.Bb6 Rd2

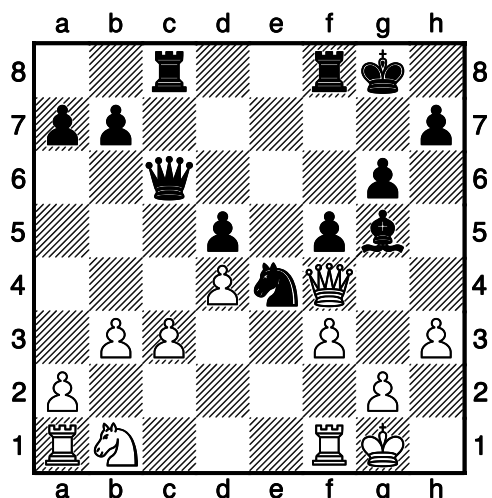


24.Re2 Rxe2 25.Nxe2 Be4 26.c3
Rb8 27.Ng3 Bd5 28.Bf2 Rxb2
29.Kg1 Rc2 30.a4 Rxc3 31.Ne2
Rc2

0-1

David Nye – Stephen
Dunning [A05]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.d4 e6 3.Bg5 d5 4.e3
c5 5.Bb5+ Bd7 6.Bxd7+ Nbx d7
7.0-0 Be7 8.Bf4 0-0 9.h3 Qb6
10.b3 Rac8



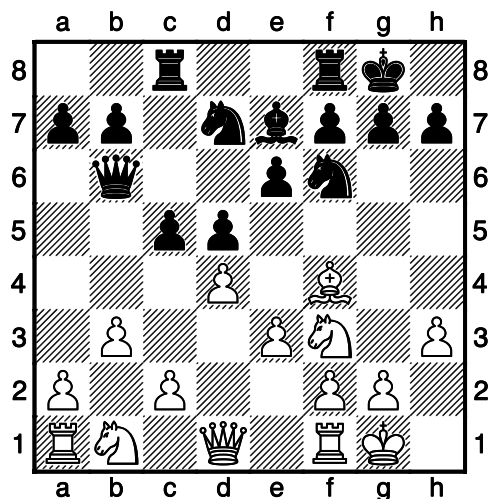
21.Qh2 Qa6 22.f4 Qe2

0-1

Here is a game played by the
challenger to Magnus Carlsen
when he was only 9 years old!

Nepomniachtchi, Ian –
Nguyen, Viet Tiung [B50]

RUS–ch U10 Serpukhov (4), 1999



11.Ne5 cxd4 12.exd4 Nxe5
13.Bxe5 Qc6 14.c3 Ne4 15.Qg4 f6
16.Bf4 e5 17.f3 f5 18.Qh5 g6
19.Qh6 exf4 20.Qxf4 Bg5

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.c3 Nf6 4.Be2
g6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.Qc2 0-0 7.d4 cxd4
8.cxd4 Bg4 9.Nc3 Nc6 10.Be3
Rc8 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Qb6
13.Qd2 Nd7 14.Rfd1 Qd8 15.Rac1
Nb6 16.Qe2 Na5 17.b3 a6 18.g3
Qd7 19.Kg2 e6 20.h4 f5 21.Qd2
Na8 22.Rh1 Qf7 23.exf5 Qxf5
24.Be4 Qh5 25.f3 Nc6 26.Bg5 Bf6
27.g4




1-0

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

Affiliated to the English Federation for Correspondence Chess
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(then select CCCC from Member organisations)



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W.P.B. Carlin	M. Joy	M.J. Thistlewood	
R. Cleaves	J.S. Loxton	P. Turnbull	

Subscriptions

Life membership £ 80.00
Annual membership £ 6.50

Current Membership Year : October 2020 to September 2021

Payments can be made to CCCC by BACS Account Name: Clergy Correspondence Chess Club
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If you make payments by this method, please use your name as a reference so that our Treasurer can identify the payment, and email him to let him 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.

The Secretary holds members' name, address, phone number, and email addresses where provided, their CCCC division, and membership of any team, and the Treasurer holds members' subscription records.