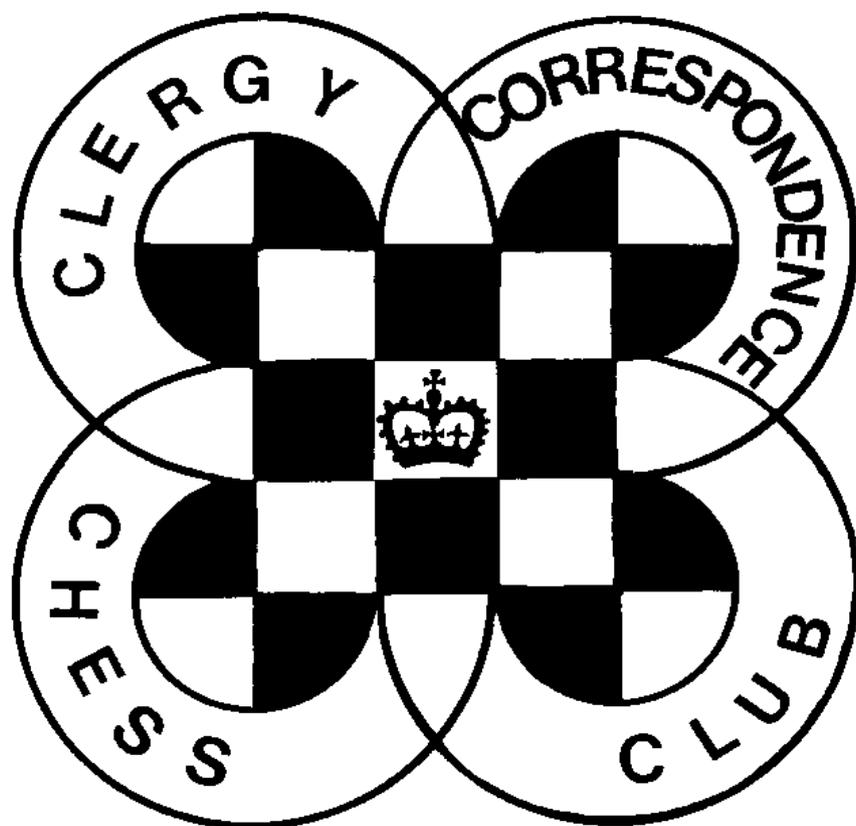


# **CHESS minister !**

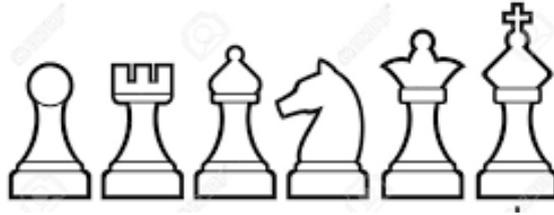
**February 2026**



**CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB**

# **CHESSE Minister!**

## **February 2026**



### **CURRENT SEASON**

Apart from the last round games should be underway in the current season. Please notify the Secretary of results as and when games are finished and I will post results on our Facebook page.

### **MEMBERS**

John Druce has found that membership is becoming too much and has decided to leave the Club. I think he is over 90 years old so it is understandable that he is struggling. We wish him well.

### **CCCC & UNITE the UNION**

I have been a workplace Rep for the Unite Faithworkers branch for about 10 years. We are encouraged to undertake refresher training from time to time and last September I attended a residential few days at the Union's Hotel in Eastbourne. Imagine my surprise when, on arrival, I found in the same room no less than 3 other members of CCCC (out of only 11 participants altogether) who are also Reps for the Branch. Sadly the programme did not allow time for any chess to be played, even if anyone had brought a set, but it was great to meet Andrew Yates & Peter Turnbull for the first time, and to meet Lisa Battye again.

### **POSTAL ADDRESSES**

I decided to leave out postal addresses from the list of members in CHESSE minister! this year. One member has written in to say that he once met another member when he was on holiday close to where the other member lived and enjoyed a game of chess over the board, something that he would not have been able to do had he not had postal addresses available. Many years ago I also called on another member while on holiday near to where he lived, so I wonder if there would be call for printing addresses after all? It takes up another page in the magazine but if members feel it would be useful to have it available I could revert to printing them, or in the current list simply giving the County after the member's name and you could ask for the full address if you were likely to be in the area. Let me know if you have views about this.

### **SCHEMING MIND CHESS LEAGUE**

We finished 5th (of 6) in our Division in the last season of this tournament. We always knew we would struggle in this higher Division, but we stayed up for two seasons before this result sees us relegated back to Division 4. This is much more at our level and is reflected in our results so far in the current season. In our first round we lead Chess Warriors 8-0 with two to finish, and in the second round we lead knightworm78 5-0 with 5 games in play. Our third round match will be starting soon.

## ACCOUNTS

Accounts for the last year are elsewhere in the magazine. Our thanks to Charles for keeping careful control over the Club's finances.

## GAMES

For many years Michael Thistlewood has helped in the production of this magazine by preparing games for publication. Recently he has been having computer problems and wonders if there is anyone else in the Club who might take over this role from him.

Very few members have sent in games recently and Michael has had to draw games from his database, so it might be worth asking if anyone actually reads or plays through the games we publish anyway, or are we simply wasting space and time including games in CHESS minister?

## BELATEDLY CHRISTMAS

A few years ago myself, a couple of friends and our spouses were chatting over dinner and came up with a clerical version of the *Twelve Days*... It was recently printed in the (C of E) Retired Clergy Association magazine when they were running a Christmas theme and Charles, our treasurer, saw it there and thought it might be worth sharing with CCCC members. So, for what it is worth...



On the twelfth day of Christmas,  
My Archdeacon gave to me:

- 12 Preachers Preaching
- 11 People Praying
- 10 Organs playing
- 9 Choirboys singing
- 8 bells a'ringing
- 7 Synods meeting
- 6 servers serving
  
- 5 Rural Deans
  
- 4 Faculties
- 3 PCCs
- 2 Churchwardens

and a Vicar in a Vestry.

## CCCC ACCOUNTS

### Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31.7.25

	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>(2023/24)</u>		<u>2024/25</u>	<u>(2023/24)</u>
<u>Income £</u>			<u>Expenditure £</u>		
Subscriptions	13.00	(13.00)	Secretary's Expenses	15.91	(16.85)
Bank Interest	12.88	(9.86)	Treasurer's Expenses	1.95	(2.45)
Donation		(3.00)	EFCC Affiliation	28.00	(28.00)
Scheming Mind p'ments	21.00	(15.00)	Surplus for year	1.02	
Deficit for year		(6.44)			
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>46.88</b>	<b>(47.30)</b>		<b>46.88</b>	<b>(47.30)</b>

### Balance Sheet as at 31.7.25

	<u>£</u>
Balances brought forward	1525.10
Add: surplus for year	1.02
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<hr/> <b>1526.12</b>
<u>Represented by:</u>	
Santander UK plc Business Account	228.83
NS&I Investment Account (Life Membership)	1297.29
	<hr/> <b>1526.12</b>

### Treasurer's Report on the 2024/25 Accounts

This year's accounts show a tiny surplus of £1.02. The turnaround from last year's deficit of £6.44 has been brought about by higher Scheming Mind payments – thank you to all who support us in this way – an increase of £3 in NS&I interest, which nicely cancels out the absence of a donation this time, and the slightly lower expenses of your Secretary and Treasurer.

Our main item of expenditure, the EFCC affiliation fee, is again unchanged.

I must repeat my expectation that savings interest will be lower next year, even though last time I was happily proved wrong.

Subs are all up to date. As we have so very few non-life members, this is now an easy aspect of the Club finances to keep on top of. Don't get me wrong: I should be delighted to see both classes of membership grow, as I'm sure we all would.

At the end of the financial year 2024/25 the value of the Life Membership Fund stood at £64.86 per Life Member (previous year: £58.38).

**Charles Mason – Hon Treasurer, CCCC**

## CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

### CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION RESULTS 2025 / 2026

	Y		H		T		N		B		C		D		Tot	%
Yates			1*	1					1	1*	1	1*	v	v	6/6	100
Hall	0	0			0	0							v	v	0/4	0
Turner			1*	1									v	v	2/2	100
Nye									0	0			v	v	0/2	0
Battye	0	0					1	1*					v	v	2/4	50
Cleaves	0	0											v	v	0/2	0
Druce	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v			V	

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

Only a few results are in from Championship Division, as might be expected at this stage of the season.

Reigning champion Andrew Yates has got his title defence off to a flying start with 6/6 so far.

John Druce felt his age was catching up with him and has decided to withdraw from the league, and membership of the Club.

Please do send me your results as your games are completed.

### RESULTS FROM SOCIAL DIVISION

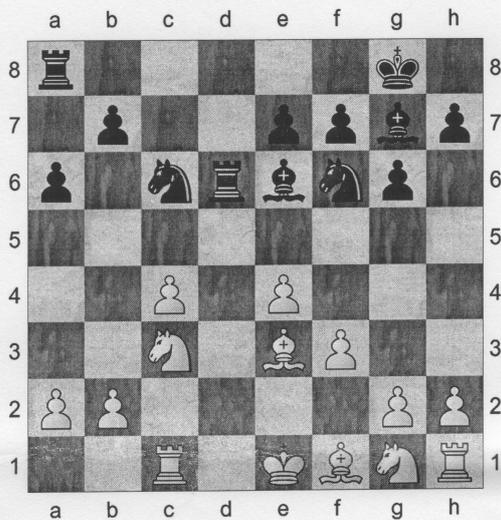
Carlin 1 - 0 Thistlewood  
 Thistlewood 0 - 1 Carlin  
 Boddy 0 - 1 Cleaves  
 Cleaves 1 - 0 Boddy

E81

□ Nikita Vitiugov  
■ MarcAndria Maurizzi  
EEuropean Champions

2025

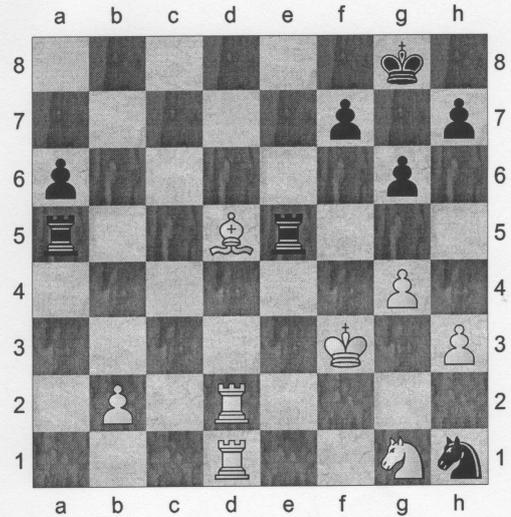
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6  
5.f3 0-0 6.Be3 a6 7.Qd2 c5 8.dxc5  
dxc5 9.Qxd8 Rxd8 10.Bxc5 Nc6  
11.Bb6 Rd6 12.Be3 Be6 13.Rc1  
Diagram



Ne5 14.Nd5 Bxd5 15.cxd5 e6  
16.dxe6 Rxe6 17.Be2 Neg4 18.fxg4  
Rxe4 19.Bd2 Nxg4 20.h3 Nf6 21.Bc3  
Bh6 22.Rd1 Nh5 23.g4 Ng3 24.Rh2  
Ra4 25.Bf3 Re8+ 26.Kf2 Bf4  
27.Bxb7 Rxa2 28.Rg2 Be5 29.Bxe5  
Nh1+ 30.Kf3 Rxe5 31.Bd5 Ra5  
32.Rgd2 Diagram

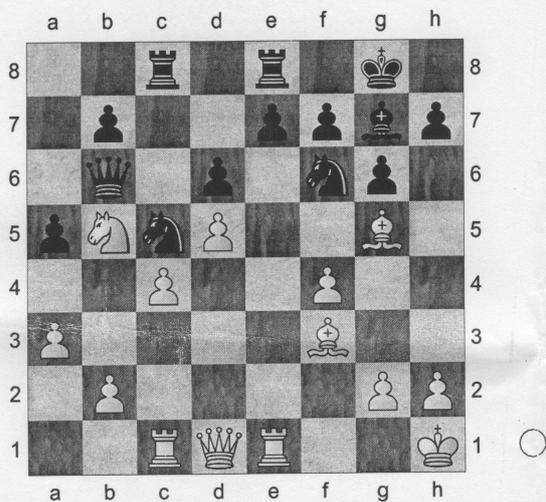
(Diagram)

1-0



□ Herrera, Juan Sebastian 2184  
 ■ Medina, Andres Felipe 1894  
 Latin Cup-A 3rd (5) 06.10.2012

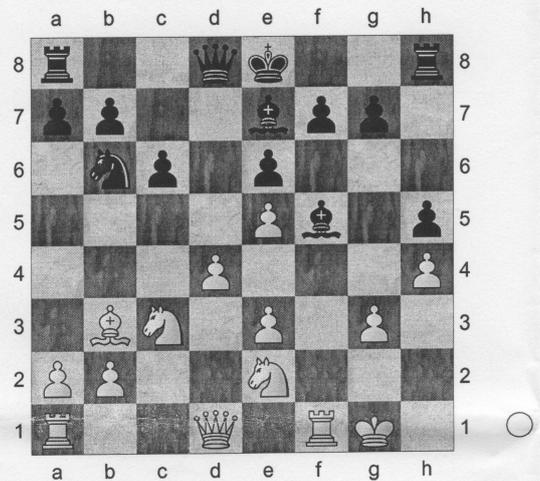
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4  
 Nf6 5.Nc3 g6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0  
 8.Nb3 Nc6 9.Bg5 Be6 10.f4 Rc8  
 11.Kh1 a6 12.Re1 Qc7 13.Bf3 Rfd8  
 14.Nd5 Bxd5 15.exd5 Nb8 16.Rc1  
 Re8 17.c4 Nbd7 18.a3 a5 19.Nd4  
 Nc5 20.Nb5 Qb6 Diagram



21.b4 axb4 22.axb4 Na6 23.Qb3  
 Nc7 24.Nxc7 Rxc7 25.f5 Ra8 26.Be3  
 Qa6 27.c5 Qa3 28.Qxa3 Rxa3  
 29.cxd6 Rxc1 30.Bxc1 Rxf3 31.gxf3  
 exd6 32.Re7 h5 33.fxg6 fxg6 34.Bb2  
 b6 35.Rb7 Kf8 36.Rxb6 Nxd5  
 37.Rb8+  
**1-0**

□ Alina Kashlinskaya  
 ■ Yuliia Osmak  
 EEuropean Champions 2026

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.h4 h5  
 5.c4 e6 6.Nc3 dxc4 7.Bxc4 Nd7  
 8.Nge2 Be7 9.g3 Nh6 10.Bf4 Bg6  
 11.0-0 Nb6 12.Bb3 Nf5 13.Be3 Nxe3  
 14.fxe3 Bf5 Diagram



15.Rxf5 exf5 16.Qd3 Qd7 17.Rf1 f6  
 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Nf4 Bd6 20.Ne6 Qh7  
 21.Rxf5 Ke7 22.Qe4 Kd7 23.Qf3  
 Rae8 24.Rxf6 Kc8 25.Ne4 Be7  
 26.N6g5 Qg7 27.Qf5+ Nd7 28.Rf7  
 Rhf8 29.Nd6+  
**1-0**

# CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

Affiliated to the English Federation for Correspondence Chess  
and the Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation

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



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- Secretary:** The Revd. Bruce Carlin  01924 511066  
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DEWSBURY. WF12 0JJ. Email: [bc7275@icloud.com](mailto:bc7275@icloud.com)

## Life Members

Wilf Alexander	Ruggles Fisher	David Nye	Michael Williamson
Lisa Battye	Jeremy Garton	Tim Partridge	Andrew Yates
David Boddy	Michael Hall	Brian Stevenson	
David Brown	David Hulme	Michael Thistlewood	
Bruce Carlin	Matthew Joy	Peter Turnbull	
Richard Cleaves	Charles Mason	Steve Whitmore	

## Subscriptions

Life membership £ 80.00  
Annual membership £ 6.50

Our current Membership Year is from October 2024 to September 2025

Payments can be made to CCCC by BACS Account Name: Clergy Correspondence Chess Club  
Bank: Virgin Money (Clydesdale Bank) Sort Code: 82-12-08 Account No: 60234571

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.