

CHESS minister !



February 1993

As I write this Nigel Short has just won his match against Jan Timman and thus goes ahead to challenge Gary Kasparov for the World Championship. Whilst this is a big step forward for British chess over-the-board, Nigel is less enthusiastic about the future for the postal game. He feels that now the best computers are so good at playing chess adjournments will soon be a thing of the past, perhaps requiring the kind of clock and time limit devised and used recently by Bobby Fischer in his return match against Spassky. He also feels that they sound the death knell for postal chess, a form of the game that he has no time for ("...a game more suitable for cheating at would be hard to devise" was one recent comment in his Daily Telegraph Saturday column). Presumably most clergy can't afford the best chess computers, and I am sure we would be too honest to use them against our opponents even if we could (!), so I hope that whatever happens elsewhere the CCC can play on for years to come.

It is clear that we haven't been using our computers in matches against other clubs in any case... in the 1991/2 BPCF Club championship we placed 5th (out of 7) - full results elsewhere; while in our 'friendly' against the BCCS we currently stand 4-11 down with just 5 results outstanding, so defeat is assured. Nevertheless, we fight on - we have another team in this year's BPCF championship and I have received a challenge from the National Correspondence Chess Club for a friendly (over as many boards as we can raise) hopefully to start in March/April. If you wish to play in this (it only involves two further games against one opponent) please let me know by the end of February.

Some news of members: since the address list published in October's issue, two members have moved: Leslie Clifton Joy now lives at 31 Emmbrook Court, Reading, Berks. RG6 2TZ (0734 873855); while Arnold Hurt has retired (again!) and is now living at 41 St. Augustine's Avenue, Grimsby, S. Humberside. DN32 0LD. (0472 752349). John Wright has told me that he will be leaving the club at the end of the current season as he will also be leaving the ordained ministry and the Church of England as a result of Synod's vote to ordain women to the priesthood. John has for the last few years represented us on the BPCF executive committee, and whilst it is not essential for us to have someone at every meeting it would be nice if someone could at least get to an occasional one. You would need to live around the midlands, or be willing to travel, and have an odd Saturday free - offers to the Secretary please. Finally, Michael Thistlewood has kindly agreed to help me in production of this magazine by typing up the games that you send in (those in this issue are his first) - feel free to send games in future direct to him, or of course I can send them on. Michael may well experiment with different formats for typing up games, so let us know what you think of them as they appear.

The games in this issue are the last I have in stock, so please can I have some more, with or without annotations. There is one member's biography in this issue - again I would like these from members who have not yet sent one in. Also, of course your results as they come in. This year's record goes to John Wright who had two results to me by the end of October - some going! You have of course until 31st July, but if games are not progressing quickly consider moving up to 1st class post or using phone. The remaining results from the friendly against BCCS should be in by 31st March.

Some of you will receive with this a copy of a more or less recent BPCF Information Circular - roughly one per division. When you have read it, perhaps you would pass it on to one of your current opponents. I do not need them back.

Best wishes for 1993.

Bruce Corbin

THE VOTE

No, not that one of General Synod, but ours!

34 replies were received to the questionnaire with the October issue, though not everyone expressed an opinion on every issue raised. That is a good response, so changes resulting from this should meet with fairly general approval. The basic figures were:

	YES	NO	DON'T MIND
New tie break procedures	22	0	12
Ending single game for double points	26	2	6
Enlarging Division 1 to 7 players	15	0	17
Enlarging all divisions to 7 players	11	14	9

The first three have thus achieved clear majorities, the last fails though with hindsight I wish I had asked separately about enlarging Division 2 as on the whole it seems that our higher rated players were more in favour of larger divisions than our lower ones. Perhaps in another year or two when we have seen how it works in Division 1 we may raise the question again. As a result of these figures, it is my intention to do the following:

The new tie break procedures will apply from the current season. That is to say ties will initially be broken by the games between the two tied players, then by progressively disregarding their results against the lowest placed members in the division. Only if that fails to resolve a tie will we then go on to most wins, most black wins, most black draws as at present, and finally drawing lots. International O.T.B. matches seem to be moving towards using speed games to resolve ties, but I am not clear how we could adopt this in postal chess, unless two players had to complete a game in one evening by repeated phone calls!

From the 1993/4 season it will no longer be permissible to play a single game for double points (except that in Division 1 players will only play each other once anyway).

From the 1993/4 season Division 1 will comprise 7 players, each of whom will play each other just one single game. Two players will continue to be relegated, to be replaced by the winners of the two second divisions. Promotion and relegation in other divisions will continue as at present, with a 4th division existing if membership numbers require it. Apart from Division 1, other divisions will continue to contain 5 players, each of whom plays each other twice (sometimes 3rd and 4th divisions may contain fewer players depending on total members).

For this season only, in order to enlarge Division 1, promotion and relegation will have to be modified. Thus only one player will be relegated from Division 1 this year. The winners of both second Divisions will be promoted, and the higher scoring runner up from Division 2 will also be promoted. Only one player will be relegated from each Division 2, to be replaced by the winners of each of the 3rd Divisions.

Finally, most people who expressed an opinion favoured holding a congress every 3 years. I shall see what can be done, but in fact only 14 members answered this question at all, 10 of whom wanted a congress every 3 years. We were lucky to get sole use of Ecton House last year with the small number we had, and if much less than 10 people want a congress at all, I wonder if it would be viable, unless someone has a large Vicarage...

Janicker v. Lewis

1. e4 e6
 2. d4 d5
 3. e5 c5
 4. b3 cd
 5. Qxd4 Nc6
 6. Bb5 Bd7
 7. Bxc6 Bxc6
 8. Nf3 Ne7
 9. 0-0 Nf5
 10. Qd1 d4
 11. Bb2 Bc5
 12. Qd3 0-0
 13. Nbd2 a6
 14. Rad1 f6
 15. Ne4 Bb5
 16. Qd2 Bxf1
 17. Nxc5 Qd5
 18. Nxe6 Qxe6
 19. Kxf1 fe
 20. Re1 e4
 21. Nxd4 Nxd4
 22. Qxd4 Qf7
 23. Rxe4 Rad8
 24. Qc3 Qxf2 mate

Lewis v. Janicker

1. Nf3 e6
 2. d4 d5
 3. Nbd2 Bb4
 4. c3 Bd6
 5. e4 de
 6. Nxe4 h6
 7. Bd3 Nf6
 8. 0-0 0-0
 9. Re1 Nxe4
 10. Bxe4 c6
 11. Qd3 Nd7
 12. a3 Nf6
 13. Ne5 Bxe5
 14. dxe5 Qxd3
 15. Bxd3 Nd5
 16. c4 Nb6
 17. Be3 Nd7
 18. Bc2 Nxe5
 19. Bc5 Nf3+
 20. gxf3 Rd8
 21. Rad1 Bd7
 22. Be7 Resigns

Lewis v. Carlin

1. Nf3 d5
 2. d4 Nc6
 3. c4 dc
 4. Nc3 Bg4
 5. e4 Bxf3
 6. gxf3 Qxd4
 7. Qa4 a6
 8. Bxc4 b5
 9. Nxb5 Qb6
 10. Be3 Qb7
 11. Nd4 0-0-0
 12. Bxa6 Resigns

Lewis v. Gowing

1. Nf3 Nf6
 2. d4 d5
 3. c4 e6
 4. e3 Be7
 5. Nc3 0-0
 6. Be2 h6
 7. Bd2 b6
 8. Ne5 Bb7
 9. 0-0 Nbd7
 10. Nxd7 Qxd7
 11. f4 c5
 12. Be1 cd
 13. ed Bd6
 14. Nb5 Bc6
 15. Nxd6 Qxd6
 16. a3 a5
 17. b4 a4
 18. c5 Qc7
 19. b5 Be8
 20. c6 Nh5
 21. Bxh5 f5
 22. Bxe8 Rfxe8
 23. Rf3 Re7
 24. Rg3 g6
 25. Rxc6+ Rg7
 26. Rxe6 Qxf4
 27. Bg3 Qg5
 28. Qf3 Kf7
 29. Re5 Resigns

Gowing v. Lewis

1. e4 e5
 2. Nf3 Nc6
 3. Bb5 Nf6
 4. Nc3 Bc5
 5. 0-0 0-0
 6. d3 a6
 7. Bxc6 dxc6
 8. Nxe5 Bd4
 9. Bf4 Bxe5
 10. Bxe5 Ng4
 11. d4 Nxe5
 12. dxe5 Qe7
 13. Qe2 Qxe5
 14. Rad1 b5
 15. a3 Be6
 16. Qe3 Bc4
 17. Rfe1 Qe8
 18. b4 a5
 19. ba Qe7
 20. Ra1 Rxa5
 21. Qc1 Rfa8
 22. Nbl b4
 23. a4 Rxa4
 24. Rxa4 Rxa4
 25. Nd2 Qc5
 26. Nxc4 Qxc4
 27. Qd1 g6
 28. e5 Qd5
 29. Qxd5 cxd5
 30. f4 b3
 31. cb Rxf4
 32. g3 Rb4
 33. Rb1 c5
 34. Rc1 c4
 35. bc dc
 36. Kf1 Kf8
 37. Ke2 Rb2+
 38. Kf1 Rxh2
 39. Kg1 Re2
 40. Rxc4 Rxe5
 41. Rf4 g5
 42. Rf2 Kg7
 43. Kg2 g4
 44. Rf4 h5
 45. Rf2 f5
 Resigns

PUBLICITY

The question of publicity and how we might increase our membership was aired at our Silver Jubilee Congress last year. Having some spare space in this issue I thought I would take up this point.

In recent years our membership hasn't really risen at all. We have had a smattering of new members that has done little more than keep pace with members leaving.

Part of this problem has been caused by the fact that we don't seem to be getting the coverage in the church press that we once did. Although I send copies of this magazine to all church newspapers that I know of (Church Times, Church of England Newspaper, Methodist Recorder, Tablet, Catholic Herald, Universe, Baptist Times, Life and Work - let me know if there are any others you think I should include) they do not seem to give us a mention very often. Under the previous regime we could more or less expect a mention in Church Times, but the current regime at that newspaper does not seem to think our activities worth reporting very often (even our Silver Jubilee congress went un-noticed). I cannot speak of other church newspapers that I do not take, though I know we have had an occasional mention in some of them, but judging by the lack of enquiries I receive not recently. Sending copies of Chess minister! to the church press costs us about £10 a year which has to be met out of our subs. Is it worth it, or are there better ways of publicising ourselves? Should I stop sending press copies out, or reduce it to once a year, but if so which? The October issue has results etc. but is not the best time for recruiting new members just as the season has begun.

We could take paid for adverts in the church press, but to achieve full coverage of all denominations would be prohibitively expensive. At least paying for an advert does guarantee that we would get it in! But do people read adverts? Perhaps if it was included in the 'Clergy' classification, and more so if it were a display rather than lineage advert, but they cost even more. We could not fund a comprehensive advertising campaign out of existing subs., but I wonder if one or more members of each denomination would be prepared to sponsor a single advert in the church newspaper they read (let me know first so that we don't end up with several ads. in the same paper!). Around May/June before the peak summer holiday season would seem a good time to do this, and then any new recruits would be ready to start in the new season in October.

Another possibility would be inclusion in clergy mailings. I cannot speak for other denominations, but most C.of.E. dioceses have some kind of monthly clergy mailing in which small items can be included on request (and hopefully without cost). A few sentences describing what the Club is, with the Secretary's name and address might produce some result. Members of other Anglican Provinces (Wales & Scotland) and other denominations can perhaps advise me what similar mailings they have. Again this costs money in postage and copying if it is all done from the centre, so would members be willing to do it themselves by writing to their own diocesan office (and perhaps one or two neighbouring ones where we are not represented), circuit superintendents, or whatever equivalent in other churches? This wouldn't give us complete national coverage as we don't have members in even every C.of.E. diocese (which denomination has the bulk of our present membership) still less every area of other churches, but if a member of each church could be responsible for trying to get maximum coverage in their church that would be great. Again, let me know what you are doing so that we don't overlap.

Of course we don't have to increase our membership at all. The decade of evangelism does not necessarily apply to clergy chess! Since subs. basically cover the cost of printing and posting your three issues of Chess minister! with only a little extra to cover central admin., our finances are not necessarily dependant on extra members either. Nonetheless, I feel certain that there are chess playing clergy out there who know nothing of us at all and who might like to join, particularly in non-Anglican churches where our membership is numerically much weaker (albeit in playing strength apparently stronger!).

Below I give some suggestions of types of advert or notice we might place, but am open to better suggestions. Cut out or copy these, or write your own copy if you are prepared to place an advert yourself.

For a diocesan / circuit mailing something like this might be an idea:

The Clergy Correspondence Chess Club enables clergy to play chess with each other by post or phone without requiring the kind of time commitment required for normal chess which many clergy cannot afford. For details contact the Secretary: The Rev'd Bruce Carlin, St Chad's Vicarage, Ragpath Lane, Roseworth, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland. TS19 9JN.

A paid for advert would need to be rather shorter, and my rather long address can be abbreviated. The following includes about the shortest form of my address that should still ensure letters reach me!

CLERGY CHESS PLAYER BUT SHORT OF TIME? Play by post or phone in 5 minutes a day. Details: Carlin, Vicarage, Ragpath Lane, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 9JN.

Adverts displayed in a box are more eye-catching but obviously more expensive. Try perhaps:

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB

For busy clergy without time to play chess. Play by phone or post in a few minutes a day. Details Carlin, Vicarage, Ragpath Lane, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 9JN

Although I have used my own name and address in samples given above, you may like to give your own instead as a local contact. This may especially be a good idea in a diocesan mailing or similar where people might actually know you personally. I would be happy to provide you with a sheet giving fuller details for you to copy and send out if you wish to advertise in this way.

If money and / or space permit, you could even include our logo as reproduced below to make your advert even more eye catching! Let me know what you think, and what you are prepared to do.



D. Hulme v. D. Pearce (Civil Service)

- | | | | |
|---------|------|-----------|---|
| 1. c4 | Nf6 | 21. Kg1 | Be6 |
| 2. Nc3 | e5 | 22. Rd6!? | My only hopes lie with the a12-h8 diagonal. If only he would take the Rook, I might drum up an attack...? |
| 3. g3 | g6 | | Ne4 But he calls my bluff. |
| 4. Bg2 | Bg7 | 23. bc | bc |
| 5. d3 | d6 | 24. c5 | Rab3 |
| 6. b4 | 0-0 | 25. Nd4 | Bd5 |
| 7. Bb2 | Nbd7 | 26. Bxe4 | Bxe4 |
| 8. Nf3 | c6 | 27. Rd1 | Bd5 (Diagram) still keeping all lines closed |
| 9. 0-0 | Qc7 | 28. Ne2 | Bg7 |
| 10. e3 | Re8 | | Couldn't he ever have taken the Rook? |
| 11. Qb3 | Nf6 | | |
| 12. d4 | Ng4 | | |
| 13. b5 | Ne6 | | |

(Diagram)



a b c d e f g h

After moves 13



a b c d e f g h

After moves 27

14. Rfd1 Bb6!
After an indifferently played opening, suddenly Black is threatening Nxe3!!
15. Ne4 f5
16. Nxd6!?
- Seemed little alternative to this temporary sacrifice.
- Qxd6
17. de Qc7
18. h3
- This wins the piece back, but my position...?
- Ne5
19. Qa3 Kxf2
20. Kxf2 Bf6 (Threat - Ne4+)

29. e4 Rxb2!! So that if Qxb2 Bxe5
30. exd5 Bxe2
- Seems decisive but I am still seeking that elusive attacking chance
31. e6 cd
32. R1xd5 Rb8
33. Qd3 Bbb2 Threat mate but leaving back door open
34. Rd8+ Bf8 35. Rxf8+ Kxf8
36. Rd8+ Qxd8 - Kg7e7 no better
37. Qxd8+ Kg7 Draw agreed

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

MIKE DALES (Division 3B) writes:

It's a bit hard to say where my roots are as I've moved around most of my life! Born in Canada where I lived my first four years, four years in Belfast, eight years in Los Angeles, five more years in Northern Ireland, followed by the last eighteen years in the beautiful but somewhat sleepy West Country - if you add all that up you can work out that I'm 39 years old!

Happily married to a Bristol girl with four children who keep me on my toes, I came to ministry via careers as an industrial chemist and as a computer instructor. I've been at my present church (Bridgwater Baptist) for nearly three years - it's my first pastorate having trained in Bristol just a few miles up the road.

My time (apart from being over-worked!) is spent in family pursuits, reading trashy novels, and talking about how I'm going to take up golf one of these days!

This is my second season in the C.C.C.C. - like a lot of people I played at school and revived my interest due to the Fischer-Spassky match in 1972. My chess ambition is to work out how to spell 'Giucco Piano'.

MATCH NEWS

BPCF Club Championship : 1991/2

Overall results:

1. British Correspondence Chess Society	16
2. Postal Chess Club	13
3. British Correspondence Chess Association	11.5
4. Civil Service Chess Association	9
5. Clergy Correspondence Chess Club	8
6. Northern Ireland Postal Chess Association	8
7. Social Correspondence Chess Association	4.5

Our team's individual results were as follows:

T.R.Fisher	W L
J.R.Morris	W W
F.M.Hodgess Roper	L D
D.S.H.Hulme	W D
J.Caldwell	W D
G.Harper	L L
I.Ll.Davies	L L
M.Smith	L L
E.A.Bailey	D D
A.J.Foster	L D

So we finished 5th out of 7, beating N.Ireland on tie break. BCCS achieved a record score of 16/20, and are currently on their way to annihilating us in our 'friendly' match against them, leading 11-4 with 5 results to come in (due by 31st March please). Ipswich, who won last year, had withdrawn, and the PCC (the first winners) failed to go out in a blaze of glory. The PCC has now ceased to exist following the upheavals within Chess magazine since B.H.Wood sold out. A new Championship is underway with 8 teams involved, including one from our club, and we hope for better fortune this year.

As already mentioned we have challenged to a match against National Correspondence Chess Club. They say they can more or less field as many boards as we can, so there is no limit as to who can play for this team - anyone who volunteers will get a place, however lowly placed you are in our Club! Please let me know by the end of February.

THREE GAMES FROM
CALDWELL

Justin Caldwell has sent in 3 games without notation (apart from a brief introduction) from the last 3 seasons.

CALDWELL v HARPER
Division 2B 89/90.
This decided the winner of 2B.

1	e4	e6
2	d4	d5
3	e5	c5
4	c3	Nc6
5	Nf3	Bd7
6	Be2	f6
7	0-0	fxe5
8	Nxe5	Nxe5
9	dxe5	Qc7
10	c4	Qxe5
11	Bh5+	g6
12	Bf3	0-0-0
13	Re1	Qf5
14	Nc3	d4
15	Qb3	b6
16	Nb5	Bxb5
17	Qxb5	Rd7
18	a4	Bd6
19	a5	Bc7
20	axb6	Bxb6
21	Qc6+	Kd8
22	Rxe6	Ne7
23	Qa8+	Nc8
24	Qe4	Qxe4
25	Bg5+	Kc7
26	Bxe4	Rf8
27	b4	Nd6
28	Be7	Rf7
29	bxg5	Bxc5
30	Bxd6	Rxd6
31	Re5	Rc6
32	Rxc5	resigns

for, ... Rxc5
if ... Rxa7+

5	Be3	e5
6	d5	Nce7
7	g4	Nf6
8	h3	h5
9	g5	Nh7
10	Qd2	f6
11	gxf6	Nxf6
12	0-0-0	a5
13	Nf3	a4
14	c5	Bd7
15	cxd6	cxd6
16	Kb1	a3
17	b3	Qa5
18	Rc1	b5
19	Bd3	b4
20	Ne2	Nh7
21	Ng5	Nxg5
22	Bxg5	Rc8
23	Rxc8+	Nxc8
24	f4	Rf8
25	fxe5	Bxe5
26	Nf4	Qc5
27	Ne6	Bxe6
28	dxe6	Rf2
29	Bb5+	Kf8
30	Qxf2+	Qxf2
31	Rf1	Qxf1+
32	Bxf1	Bd4
33	Kc2	Ne7
34	Bb5	Ng8
35	Kd3	Bb2
36	Bd2	Nf6
37	Bxb4	Ke7
38	Bc4	g5
39	e5	Bxe5
40	Bxa3	g4
41	hxg4	hxg4
42	Ke3	Nh7
43	Bc1	Nf6
44	Ba3	Nh7
45	Bb4	Ng5
46	a4	Nxe6
47	a5	g3
48	Bxe6	Kxe6
49	Kf3	Kd7
50	a6	Kc6
51	Ba5	Bd4
52	Kxg3	Kb5
53	Bc3	Bc5
54	Kf4	

draw agreed

MORRIS v CALDWELL

Division 1 91/92.
I thought I had done well in the opening. It transposes into a variation of the Vienna Game which seems to equalize for Black, who then exchanged his active pieces

imagining this will equalize still further, only to find that development of his remaining forces is hopelessly behind hand.

1	e4	e5
2	Ne2	Nf6
3	Nbc3	Nc6
4	g3	d5
5	exd5	Nxd5
6	Bg2	Be6
7	0-0	Be7
8	d4	Nxc3
9	bxg3	Bd5
10	dxe5	Bxg2
11	Kxg2	Qxd1
12	Rxd1	Nxe5
13	Bf4	Bd6
14	Nd4	Nc4
15	Nb5	0-0-0
16	Nxa7+	Kb8
17	Rd4	Bxf4
18	Rxf4	Ne5
19	Nb5	Rd2
20	Re4	f6
21	Rc1	Kc8
22	Nd4	Kd7
23	Kf1	Re8
24	Nb3	Rd5
25	c4	f5
26	Rh4	Rd6
27	Rxh7	Nxc4
28	Rxg7+	Kc6
29	Rf7	Rd5
30	c3	Kd6
31	Nd4	Ra5
32	Rd1	Rxa2
33	Nxf5+	Kc6
34	Ne7+	resigns

Editor's note: this perhaps answers Geoff Harper's question (October 1991 issue), "Does anyone send in a game that they lose?" Thank you Justin! Perhaps it is Benedictine humility...

CALDWELL v MORRIS

Division 1. 90/91.
White considered his best move of the game was 27 Ne6.

1	e4	d6
2	d4	g6
3	c4	Bg7
4	Nc3	Nc6

CHESS minister !

the magazine of the



C LERGY C O R R E S P O N D E N C E C H E S S C L U B

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Life Membership	£26.00
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(Membership Year: October to September)