

CHESS minister !



October 1993

* 4 GAMES FROM STEVE WHITMORE'S TRIUMPHANT SEASON IN DIVISION 3B

Game 1			Game 2			Game 1			Game 2		
SAW	Dales		Dales	SAW		Nye	SAW		SAW	Nye	
1.	d4		c5		g6		b4	e6		d4	Nf6
2.	d5		Nf6		Bg7		Bb2	Nf6		Nf3	e6
3.	c4		Ne4?		d6		b5	d5		e3	c5
4.	Qc2		Qa5+		Nd7		Nf3	Bd6		Bd3	Nc6
5.	Nc3		Nc3		e5		e3	O-O		O-O	Bd6
6.	Bd2		e5		Ne7		Bd3	Nbd7		c4	Qc7
7.	de		de		O-O		Nc3	e5		Nc3	a6
8.	Bc3		Qc7		Bc3		Bf5	c5		d5	Ne5
9.	Nf3		Nc6		de		a4	d4		Ne5	Be5
10.	e3		e5		Qd6		Ne2	Qe7		f4	Bc3
11.	a3		g6		Bc5		c4	e4		bc	ed
12.	Be2		Bg7		Bd6		Nfg1	d3		ed	Nd5
13.	b4		cb		Ne5		Ng3	g6		Bh7	Nc3
14.	ab		f6		Ne4		Bh3	Be4		Be3	Rh7
15.	Nd2		O-O		f4		Ra2	Bb2		Qd3	Rh6
16.	c5		Bf5		Rae1		Rb2	Ne8		Qd5	d6
17.	Qb3+		Kh8		Be5		f3	f5		Rae1	Kf8
18.	O-O		Ne7		Re5		a5	Nd6		f5	Rh5
19.	Bf3		Bd3		Kg7		Qb3	Ne5		Bf4	Kg8
20.	Rfd1		f5		Ne3		Rb1	f4		Bd6	Qd8
21.	e4		fe		Kg8		Ne4	Ne4		Re7	Be6
22.	Be4		Be4		Be6		fe	fe		Qe5	f6
23.	Ne4		Nf5							Qe6+	
24.	Ra2		Nd4								
25.	Bd4		ed								
26.	Qe4		Qf7								
27.	Qf7		Re7								
28.	Ng5		Rd7								
29.	Nf3		Bf6								
30.	Kf1		a6								
31.	Ke1		Rd5								
32.	Kd1		a5								
33.	Rda3		h6								
34.	Ra5		Ra5								
35.	Ra5		Rd7								
36.	Ra8+										

1-0

0-1

1-0

Notes: (v. Nye)

- The last two moves prevent the c and d pawn from moving.
- Probably too hasty.
- I was expecting 13. ... Nc3.

Notes: (Dales v SAW)

- I thought this looked like a good idea at the time. However ...
- ... I must lose a pawn. Despite trying to complicate matters, Mike played very accurately, and I never recovered.

SITUATION VACANT

CLUB TREASURER

The Clergy Correspondence Chess Club needs a new TREASURER.

Job description : Keeping club accounts in order and paying bills.
Chasing late payers of subscriptions.

Qualifications required : Basical numeracy and a bit of time!

Rewards : Expenses of Office re-imbursed.
Knowledge that you are helping your own club.

Applications : To the Club Secretary please.

The turmoil of moving house is over, we are reasonably settled in our new home, and I am duly instituted in my new parish, so now it is time to complete the arrangements for the new CCCC season, which at the time of writing should just about get underway on time for 1st October. All the information for the new season is contained in this magazine and you should get started as soon as you receive it.

Our advert in Church Times sponsored by our President Ivor Davies produced a few inquiries, but in the end only one new member. Other publicity has produced nothing, so with the enlargement of Division 1 to 7 players, a 4th division is not required this year (no doubt to the relief of those who would have been in it!). Welcome to Mark Northcott, our one new member, and to Brian Shephard who returns to the leagues after an absence. John Gowing, Charles Mason, Steve Warnes, all become non-league members for this season at least, the last named being abroad for a while during the season. Farewell to John Wright who leaves the club as well as the active ministry. At least temporary farewell to P.R. Smith - does anyone know where he is? - his last copy of CHESS minister! was returned by the Post Office marked 'gone away'.

Division 1 this year is enlarged to seven players, who play each other only once. There is of course nothing to stop Div. 1 players using the other column on the card to play a friendly, but please note that it is the game in the left hand column that will count towards the results. Non-league members will also each receive a blank scorecard in case they wish to organize a friendly, and further cards are available on request.

My remarks about computers in a recent issue has caused consternation to at least one member, and I would like to clarify that reference to chess computers is not against B.P.C.F. rules, partly because such a rule would be unenforceable, partly because reference to books is allowed so why not computers, but mainly because unless you have a very good and very expensive machine or program you refer to it at your own risk! Most budget priced home computers are still fired mainly by material greed, and their knowledge of strategy, especially in the end game, is often a good deal weaker than your own. Nigel Short's strictures on the subject is largely with reference to the top flight machines that most clergy would be unable to afford!

As part of their coverage and sponsorship of the Short/Kasparov match *The Times* set out to obtain an article by a chess playing Bishop, and I was contacted by them to see if we knew of one. As I have occasionally lamented, a Bishop is one thing our club has always lacked. In over 25 years not one of our members has joined the episcopal bench and no existing Bishop has ever joined. Does this say something about the way our pastime is regarded by our hierarchy I wonder? The good side of this is that at least there should have been an article about us in the said newspaper, though not being a reader I haven't seen it.

I have been asked to clarify the position with regard to Sunday collections (postal ones that is!). Until these become national and at more reasonable times (clergy can rarely get to the post by noon on a Sunday) Sunday remains a day that does not count in your playing time.

I might have had this season started before now, but I could not use a quiet week in August before I moved as I was awaiting the outcome of 4 adjudications. Players must obviously be entitled to have games adjudicated, and there is no suggestion that this be stopped, but I think we may need to modify how we do it. Until now we have done these internally, but this is a burden on the selected member, and I am hoping that the newly formed B.P.C.F. adjudication panel may become open to affiliated clubs in time for the end of this season. This will of course involve charging a fee for adjudications in future (and they will have to be submitted properly), but we have perhaps been protected from 'real life' in this respect for too long. In any case, the successful claimant gets his fee returned, so it should not deter genuine adjudications, but may just make less sound claimants think twice before submitting games for adjudication.

Finally, Gordon Geddes feels he would like to relinquish the post of Treasurer of the Club. Gordon has been treasurer from the beginning as far as I can tell, and after more than 25 years in the post it is not unreasonable that he take a break. Is there any reasonably numerate member who would feel able to take on this post and keep our accounts in order. Gordon has promised to assist whoever does take over in the early stages.

THE NEW SEASON : 1993 / 94

Our season runs as usual from October to July. You may start as soon as you receive this magazine, but time does not count until 1st October even if you start before then. Results should be in, or games sent for adjudication, by July 31st 1994. I am getting increasingly strict about this as late results can delay the start of the new season.

Opposite are the Divisions for this season. In Division 1 only, each player plays just one game against each opponent. In other divisions each person plays two games against each other player in his division, one each as white and black. The option to play single games for double points is no longer available, though of course in accordance with the rules of chess any result can be agreed at any time by both players. Algebraic notation must be used unless BOTH PLAYERS clearly agree to use another. At the end of the season players are promoted, relegated, or moved sideways to ensure fresh opposition. Ties are decided firstly by the results between the tied players, then by progressively eliminating the results against the lowest placed players in the division. If that fails to break the tie then the number of wins, black wins (so let me know this), black draws, and games won by actually playing chess are progressively considered, and in final desperation by the Biblical(?) precedent of drawing lots!

If you receive the game card with this magazine then you are responsible for starting the game, otherwise you should expect to hear from your opponent within a few days. It is always possible that letters go astray in the post, so if you haven't heard from anyone in your Division within fourteen days of the start of the season, please contact the Secretary.

New players have a copy of the full playing rules enclosed, but as always a reminder of the basics: 20 days are allowed for each 10 moves. Time saved is carried forward. Same day reply and days on which there is no national postal collection do not count. Each player can have 14 days off during a game after notifying his opponent. If your opponent exceeds the time allowed you can claim the game by default, but you must do this as soon as the time control is broken or you lose the right to claim unless he breaks a later time control. If you choose to be generous and let him off that is fine, but you cannot then claim the game if it is unfinished at the end of the season.

Although not strictly allowed by the BPCF, we do allow the use of telephone or fax to transmit moves. If you are efficient it is both quicker and cheaper. The following guidelines can help:

- i. Number the games 1 & 2 to avoid confusion, and read back your opponent's last move for confirmation before giving your new one.
- ii. Arrange mutually convenient times to phone during cheap rate, and if out try to ensure that someone else in the house can take down a move - or get an answering machine!
- iii. Always have pen and paper by EVERY phone in the house.
- iv. If using algebraic the phonetic alphabet can avoid confusion.
- v. Exchange scorecard by post every 10 moves or so (possibly with a diagram of the position) as a check that no one has gone wrong.

I would like to stress (iii) above. Phone is only cheaper than mail if you put across your moves in around two units (80 seconds in cheap rate costs about 10p). Sometimes there may be a problem to clear up, and occasionally we all like a bit of a chat, but as a rule it should be possible to transmit a move in one unit (40 secs.) IF you are organised. Remember if YOU are not organised it is the OTHER person's phone bill that rises while you find pen or paper.

Whilst second class post is normally acceptable, it can be dreadfully slow these days. If it looks as if your game is not going to finish please consider changing to 1st class post or telephone from March or April. We do not mind adjudicating genuinely unfinished games, but some that come in don't look as though any serious effort has been made to finish them at all.

CCCC DIVISIONS : 1993 / 1994

DIVISION 1 (Avg. Grade = 76.19)

- Rev. J.Caldwell, The Priory, Banklands, Workington, Cumbria. CA14 3EP.
Rev. Cn. J.R.Morris, Archbishop Holgate Hospital, Robin Lane, Hemsworth, W.Yorks. WF9 4PP. 0977 610434
Rev. T.R.Fisher, 12 The Dell, Oakham, Leics. LE15 6LY. 0572 757630
Rev. M.Smith, 9 Eskbank, Tanhouse, Skelmersdale, Lancs. WN8 6EQ. 0695 20123
Rev. E.A.Bailey, Hill End, Sapiston, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. IP31 1RR
Rev. P.R.Kings, 113 Gaywood Road, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 2PU. 0553 772404
Rev. P.T.Waterfield, 12 Riversway, Gargrave, Skipton, N.Yorks. BD23 3NR. 0756 749366

DIVISION 2A (Avg. Grade = 47.34)

- Rev. D.S.H.Hulme, 8 Park Avenue, St. Ives, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. PE17 4JW. 0480 62293
Rev. W.Nicholl, 4 Downhill Park, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, BT36 6TX. 0232 849951
Rev. S.Whitmore, 10 Braumfels Walk, Newbury, Berks. RG14 5NQ
Rev. N.E. Davies, St. Mark's Vicarage, 11 Old Mill Rd., Plumstead, London. SE18 1QE. 081 854 2973
Rev. A.J.Foster, 32 Savile Drive, Halifax, W. Yorks. HX1 2EU. 0422 344152

DIVISION 2B (Avg. Grade = 48.50)

- Rev. G.Harper, The Vicarage, Paul, Penzance, Cornwall. TR19 6UA. 0736 731261
Rev. Dr. B.Stevenson, The Vicarage, 138 High Street, West Malling, Kent. ME19 6NE. 0732 842245
Rev. Cn. I.L.Davies, Holly Cottage, 5 The Cwm, Knighton, Powys. LD7 1HF. 0547 520253
Rev. A.Norris, 18 Marywell Brae, Kirriemuir, Angus
Rev. M.Dales, 115 Wembdon Road, Bridgwater, Somerset. TA6 7PJ. 0278 424906

DIVISION 3A (Avg. Grade = 20.40)

- Rev. M.J.Williamson, St. Mary's Rectory, Dunkirk Street, Droydsden, Manchester. M35 7FB. 061 370 1569
Rev. W.P.B.Carlin, St. Nicholas' Vicarage, Hedworth Lane, Boldon Colliery, Tyne & Wear. NE35 9JA. 091 536 7552
Rev. J.S.Loxton, The Vicarage, Turners Hill, Crawley, W.Sussex. RH10 4PB. 0342 715278
Rev. N.McKinnon, William Temple Vicarage, 5 Finchale Rd., Abbey Wood, London. SE2 9PG. 081 310 5614
Rev. B.Shepherd, Lezayre Vicarage, Ramsey, I.O.M. 0624 812500

DIVISION 3B (Avg. Grade = 20.17)

- Rev. Cn. T.R.Partridge, Bugbrooke Rectory, Northampton, NN7 3PD. 0604 830373
Rev. L.N.Janicker, Lockington Rectory, Drifffield, E. Yorks. YO25 9SU. 0430 810604
Rev. D.C.Nye, Ss.Philip & James Vicarage, 80 Painswick Road, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 2EU. 0242 525460
Rev. J.McIntyre, The Rectory, 24 Cedar Ave. Stirling, FK8 2PQ. 0786 74380
Rev. J.Hutchison, The Vicarage, Viney Hill, Lydney, Glos. GL15 4NA. 0594 516162

DIVISION 3C (Avg. Grade = 20.00)

- Rev. G.D.Goddes, The Vicarage, Minshull Vernon, Crewe, CW1 4RD. 0270 71213
Rev. D.Sutcliffe, The Vicarage, Towngate, Calverley, Pudsey, W. Yorks. LS28 5NF. 0532 577968
Rev. M.Thistlewood, 9 Lightburn Rd., Ulverston, Cumbria, LA12 0AU. 0229 584687
Rev. W.M.Northcott, 17 Kilngate, Walton Park, Preston, Lancs. PR5 5UW

DIVISION 3D (Avg. Grade = 20.67)

- Rev. Cn. L.J.Clifton Joy, 31 Emmbrook Court, Reading, Berks. RG6 2TZ. 0734 873855
Rev. W.H.Lewis, 34 Albany Rd. Blackwood, Gwent, NP2 1DZ. 0495 228236
Rev. Cn. A.F.Mackenzie OBE, Flat 3, 70 Richmond Road, Worthing, W. Sussex. BN11 4AF. 0903 239780
Rev. A.H.Hurt, 41 St. Augustine's Ave., Grimsby, S. Humberside. DN32 0LD. 0472 752349
Rev. P.Couch, 17 Mayfield Rd., Northampton. NN3 2RE. 0604 643243

NON-LEAGUE MEMBERS

- Rev. J.Bickerstaff, Victoria Nursing Home, The Drive, Hove, Sussex
Rev. R.H.Conway, 50 Knights Croft, New Ash Green, Dartford, Kent, DA3 8HT. 0474 873783
Rev. J.Gowing, 7 Thayne Close, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. MK16 9DY. 0908 611500
Rev. A.R.Harcus, Fernhurst Vicarage, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 3EA
Rev. F.M.Hodgess Roper, 22 Scholars Court, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick. CV37 6PN. 0789 296603
Rev. G.Johnson, Launde Abbey, East Norton, Leicestershire, LE7 9XB. 057 286 254
Rev. M.Joy, The Vicarage, 256 Kimberworth Rd., Rotherham, S. Yorks. S61 1HG. 0709 557810
Rev. W.E.A.Lockett, The Croft, Ruff Lane, Ormskirk, Merseyside, L39 4QZ. 0695 72119
Rev. C.O.Mason, 13 Kingscroft Rd., London. NW2 3QE. 081 452 1913
Rev. Dr. W.M.Rumball, The Vicarage, S.Wingfield, Derby, DE5 7LJ. 0773 832484
Rev. P.Townsend, The Vicarage, Greetham, Oakham, Leics. LE15 7NF
Rev. S.Warnes, The Vicarage, 24 Tyler Hill Rd., Blean, Canterbury, Kent. CT2 9HT. 0227 471261

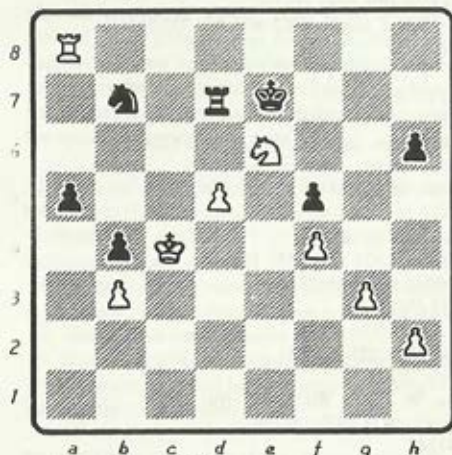
PROBLEM PAGE

I offer these two examples taken from two games in Division 3 season 1992/3 in the hope that others will feel inspired to send other examples.

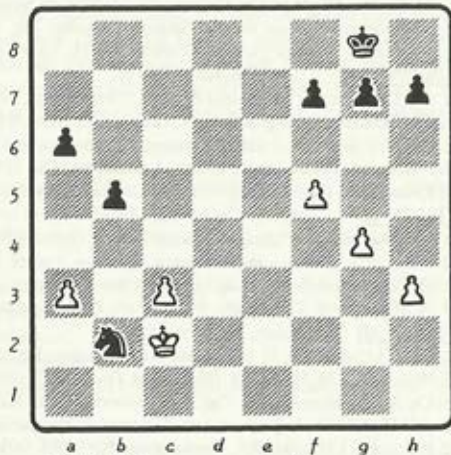
Among many others there are two ways of improving our game. The first is to study set pieces from games and see whether we can spot a combination. This can benefit players of all abilities - the more advanced could set themselves a time limit. The second is the study of end games - although many games don't get as far, in correspondence chess we are more likely to make it to an end game.

In Problem 1 White had the bright idea of Nc5 which forks the Black Knight and Rook - completely overlooking Black's reply Rc7 which pins the Knight against the King! White looks to lose a piece and the game. However he found a combination which got him out of the mess. What was it?

In Problem 2 White had moved Kc2 and offered a draw on the grounds that if the pawns were swapped off there was no win possible. Black refused the draw as he felt there was a win. Who was correct? You might like to play this over with an otb friend.



After Black move f4. Problem 1



After White move 30. Problem 2

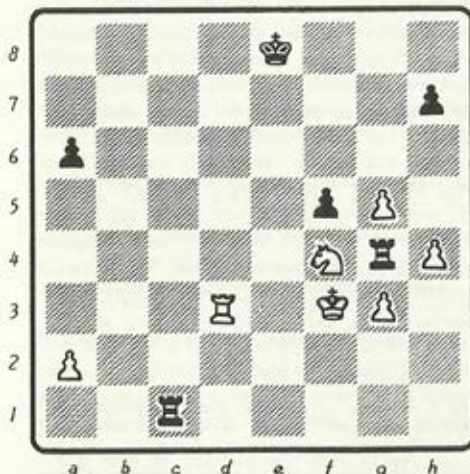
Problem 1 solution: d6+ Kxd6: Ra6+ Ke7: Re6+ Kf7: Re5...

Problem 2 solution: Black won by ...Nc4:Kb3 f6:a4 Kf7:ab ab:Kb4 Nd6:Kc5 Ne4+:Kd4 Nf2:Kc5 Nd1:Kb4 Ke7:c4 bc:Kxc4 Nf2:Kd4 Nxb3:Ke4 Ng5+:Kf4 Nf7:Kg3 Kd6:Kf4 Kd5:Kg3. Ke5:Kh4 Nd6:Kh5 Sxf5:gxf5 Kx15:etc - the only danger for Black now is stalemate.

Michael Tittlewood

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. d4 | d5 | 31. fg | Rg4 ^h | a out of book(M) |
| 2. c4 | e6 | 32. Nf4 | Rd8 ^h | b Nd2 would preserve castle option(M) |
| 3. Nc3 | Nf6 | 33. Kf2 | Kf7 | c Otherwise 12 Ne5 threatens 13 Nc6 M |
| 4. Bg5 | Nbd7 | 34. h4 ^m | d3 | d Mammoth blunder! From now on it |
| 5. e4 ^a | de | 35. Kf3 | a6 | was going to be all uphill(D) |
| 6. Kxe4 | Bb4+ | 36. Nd5 ⁿ | b5 | e White avoids dc as ...Rd2 would be |
| 7. Ke2 ^b | 0-0 | 37. Nf4 | bc | disastrous for him(M) |
| 8. g3 | b6 | 38. bc | Rd4 | f to deal with threat of Kc6(M) |
| 9. Nxf6+ | Nxf6 | 39. c5 | Rc4 | g White's Queen is so well placed |
| 10. Bg2 | Rb8 | 40. Rxd3 | Rxc5 | that I offer the exchange(M) |
| 11. Nf3 | Bb7 ^c | 41. Rd7+ | Ke8 | h I think hxg6 would have been better |
| 12. Re1 ^d | Bxe1 | 42. Rd3 ^p | Rc1 | I wanted to avoid doubled pawns |
| 13. Kxe1 | Re8 | 43. Re3+ ^q | Kd7 | but have not only returned my extra |
| 14. Bxb7 | Rxb7 | 44. a3 | Kc6 | one but isolated my passed one(M) |
| 15. Kf1 | c6 | 45. Re6+ | Kb7 | Was loss of the e pawn inevitable? |
| 16. Kc2 | Rd7 | 46. Re7+ | Rc7 ^r | fxg6 would open the f file strongly |
| 17. Bxf6 | Qxf6 | 47. Re3 | Rc5 ^s | after Rf8(D) |
| 18. Qg4 | c5 | 48. h5 | Rc4 ^t | i perhaps a move too late(D) |
| 19. Rd1 ^e | Re8 | 49. g6 | hg | j gf better - attempt to get my R |
| 20. b3 | cd | 50. hg | Kc6 ^v | into attacking position turns out |
| 21. Nb4 | Rd6 | 51. Nd3 ^w | Kd5 | to be very unsound(M) |
| 22. Qe4 | e5 ^x | 52. Ne5 | Rcd4 ^w | k Now white builds cage round R(M) |
| 23. Nd3 | Re6 | 53. Nxx4 | Rxx4 | l Not too late for Rxx5, but after |
| 24. Kg2 | Qg6 ^y | 54. g7 | Rxx7 | text move I can't because of Ne6(M) |
| 25. Qxx6 | Rxx6 ^a | 55. Kf4 | Kd4 ^x | m Encirclement strategy as with |
| 26. Kxe5 | Re6 | 56. Re6 ^y | Rg4+ | Hannibal at Trasimene!(D) |
| 27. Nd3 | g5 | 57. Kf3 | Kd5 | n should have given up b pawn and |
| 28. Rd2 | Rde8 ⁱ | 58. Rxa6 | Ke5 ^x | extricated the g4 R(M) |
| 29. Kf1 | f5 | | | o White offered a draw here |
| 30. f4 | Re4 ^j | | | p Rxx7 loses after Rc3+ Kf2:Rxxg3(D) |

Draw agreed



After Black move 42

- a out of book(M)
 b Nd2 would preserve castle option(M)
 c Otherwise 12 Ne5 threatens 13 Nc6 M
 d Mammoth blunder! From now on it
 was going to be all uphill(D)
 e White avoids dc as ...Rd2 would be
 disastrous for him(M)
 f to deal with threat of Kc6(M)
 g White's Queen is so well placed
 that I offer the exchange(M)
 h I think hxg6 would have been better
 I wanted to avoid doubled pawns
 but have not only returned my extra
 one but isolated my passed one(M)
 Was loss of the e pawn inevitable?
 fxg6 would open the f file strongly
 after Rf8(D)
 i perhaps a move too late(D)
 j gf better - attempt to get my R
 into attacking position turns out
 to be very unsound(M)
 k Now white builds cage round R(M)
 l Not too late for Rxx5, but after
 text move I can't because of Ne6(M)
 m Encirclement strategy as with
 Hannibal at Trasimene!(D)
 n should have given up b pawn and
 extricated the g4 R(M)
 o White offered a draw here
 p Rxx7 loses after Rc3+ Kf2:Rxxg3(D)
 q only sound move - plenty of
 disasters available!(D)
 r hoping W would swap R - but no. (M)
 s planning to advance K but prevent
 Re5+ which allows Rxf5 and loss of
 g4 R(M) Allowing me an initiative
 and risking a fork(D)
 t I can't play Rxx5 as then Ne6(M)
 u I thought this opened the gate
 because of eventuality of Ne5(D)
 v I hadn't seen it - 3 way fork
 threatened by Ne5(M)
 w Now on defensive. Must keep R on
 g file. This the only move(M)
 x If can't defend p attack R(M)
 y Not Re5 because ...Rxx3!(D)
 z R and p impregnable fortress
 against W K. As long as K in touch
 with p nothing W can do(M)
 Because after Ra5+ B K could move
 to and fro f6/e5. V a pawn vuln.
 as soon as R moved from a file(D)

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB : RESULTS 1992 / 1993

DIVISION 1

	C	F	M	S	H	
Caldwell	xx	1½	½	½	0	11
Fisher	0½	xx	0	1	½	11
Morris	½	½	10	xx	0	1½
Smith	½	1	½	0	xx	½
Hulme	00	00	0½	½	½	xx

DIVISION 2A

	B	S	Ns	N1	W	
Bailey	xx	11	½	11	11	7½
Stevenson	00	xx	0	1½	11	4½
Norris	½	0	10	xx	10	11
Nicholl	00	0½	0	1	xx	11
Williamson	00	00	00	00	xx	0

DIVISION 3A

	W	J	S	L	H	
Wright	xx	11	11	11	½	1
Janicker	00	xx	1½	11	½	1
Sutcliffe	00	0½	xx	10	½	1
Loxton	00	00	0	1	xx	11
Hutchison	½	½	½	0	00	xx

DIVISION 3C

	D	M	T	C	J	
Davies	xx	½	½	½	11	11
Mason	½	xx	½	½	1½	11
Thistlewood	½	0	½	xx	11	½
Carlin	½	0	½	00	xx	11
Joy	00	00	½	½	00	xx

DIVISION 4

	Mn	Me	G	
McKinnon	xx	½	11	11
McIntyre	½	0	xx	1½
Gowing	00	0½	xx	½

NOTES

This was the first season using seeded divisions. The only division to come out exactly as seeded was 3A, but nevertheless I hope members feel it was a fairer way of forming divisions and it will continue.

New tie break rules are in force for the first time this season, and result in the following:
 1: current rules say there is no tie break at the top of Division 1 so Fisher & Caldwell share the title.

2A: By removing the lowest finisher we achieve nothing, by removing the next lowest (Nicholl) this gives Stevenson the verdict over Norris for 2nd place.

3A: By removing the last placed Hutchison Sutcliffe gains 3rd place ahead of Loxton.

3B: Absolutely no tie break system ever invented will separate Whitmore and Dales. Reduced to drawing lots Whitmore is declared the winner of the division! A 3-way tie for 3rd place fails to be broken by new procedures (after all who is bottom to be removed?), so moving on to former methods Nye gets 3rd by virtue of a Black win and draw, Mackenzie 4th by a Black win, and Geddes 5th.

Promotion and Relegation:

For this season only, in order to enlarge Division 1 to 7 players, promotion and relegation is modified. One goes down from Div. 1 (Hulme), to be replaced by the winners of 2A & 2B and the best runner up which is Waterfield with 5½ to Stevenson's 4½.

One goes down from each 2nd Division to be replaced notionally with the winners of each 3rd Division. However the winner of Division 3A (Wright) has left the club, and the winner of 3D (Warnes) is taking a year as a non-league member, so I have decided to promote the joint winners of 3B as they were only separated by drawing lots, together with the winner of 3C and fill the remaining place with the highest scoring runner-up which is Foster from 3D. I hope no one feels hard done by this, but it seems the fairest system.

DIVISION 2B

	K	W	D	H	P	
Kings	xx	1½	½	½	1½	11
Waterfld	0½	xx	½	1	½	11
I.Davies	½	½	½	0	xx	½
Harper	0½	0½	½	½	xx	10
Partridge	00	00	00	0	1	xx

DIVISION 3B

	W	D	N	M	G	
Whitmore	xx	0	11	11	11	7
Dales	10	xx	11	11	11	7
Nye	00	00	xx	½	1½	2
Mackenzie	00	00	½	1	xx	0½
Geddes	00	00	0½	1½	xx	2

DIVISION 3D

	W	F	L	H	C	
Warnes	xx	11	11	11	11	8
Foster	00	xx	11	11	11	6
Lewis	00	00	xx	11	11	4
Hurt	00	00	00	xx	11	2
Couch	00	00	00	00	xx	0

HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN !

1992/1993 SEASONAL REVIEW

The first season of seeded divisions, and the last before Division 1 is extended to 7 players produced one or two upsets, most remarkably perhaps in **DIVISION 1** where reigning champion David Hulme not only failed to retain his title, but finds himself the only player in the Division relegated, having finished 5th and last in the division. In fairness I understand David suffered some ill-health during the season which undoubtedly affected his play, but nevertheless it has produced one of the biggest upsets in form for some time. The rest of the Division went right to the wire, with an adjudication required before third place was resolved, it in the end going to former 3-times champion John Morris ahead of Mike Smith who nevertheless survives in the enlarged top division. But at the top we hail this year's joint winners, Justin Caldwell, a winner in 1991, and Ruggles Fisher who completes his return to active play by taking a record 4th title (having previously won in '85/6/7).

Eric Bailey returns to the top division next season having comfortably won **DIVISION 2A**. Brian Stevenson took 2nd on tie-break from Bert Norris by virtue of better scores against higher players, while Nicholl and Williamson complete the order.

Peter Kings continues his rise through the divisions by taking **DIVISION 2B** and now gets his chance to pitch for the title next season, as does Paul Waterfield by being best runner up from the two second divisions. President Ivor Davies finished third with another useful crop of draws, while another player fallen from previous glory is Geoff Harper (several times a Division 1 runner-up) who only survives in Division 2 at all by virtue of there being fewer relegations this year. Tim Partridge completes this division and returns to Division 3.

In his last season with us John Wright won **DIVISION 3A** according to seeding, Laurie Janicker finishing second ahead of a tie resolved in favour of David Sutcliffe over John Loxton. Returnee John Hutchison completed that division. A return to parish ministry appears to have done little for Gordon Geddes' chess, the former Division 1 player finishing bottom of **DIVISION 3B** and spared a season in Division 4 only by virtue of such a division not being required next season! In fairness he tied on points with Nye & Mackenzie, losing out on eventual tie-break rules, while no tie-break ever invented could separate Steve Whitmore and Mike Dales at the top of this division, they dropping just one point each against the other. A bit of flexibility in promotion this year allows both to go up to try their hand in Division 2. **DIVISION 3C** was closely fought, Norman Davies ultimately winning promotion by just half a point from Charles Mason, while Mike Thistlewood showed that last year's Ecton congress was perhaps unfair to him by finishing third ahead of Bruce Carlin and Leslie Clifton Joy. Leslie was preoccupied for much of the season by his wife's serious illness and ultimate death, and from previous encounters with him I know that this year's results reflect this rather than his ability at chess. The nearest division of all was **DIVISION 3D** with a straightforward 8-6-4-2-0 scoreline, Steve Warnes gaining 100% score from Foster, Lewis, Hurt, and Couch. **DIVISION 4** contained a mere three players this year, and for the time being ceases to exist, with victory going to Neil McKinnon, from Jim McIntyre and John Gowing.

And so to 1993/4, with an enlarged first division of seven players, playing only a single game against each other. Though this may ease the pressure at the bottom with only 2 from 7 to be relegated, the battle at the top promises to be as fierce as ever. While Ruggles Fisher fights for a fifth title to break his own record of four, John Morris will doubtless be trying to equal him on four instead. Justin Caldwell will want to retain his title and join the select group on three, as well as maintain his top overall seeding. Eric Bailey too has another chance to have his name engraved a third time on the shield that bears his name, while Mike Smith, Peter Kings, and Paul Waterfield all have the chance to add a completely new name to the roll of clergy chess champions. In other divisions there are a few players who are going to want to erase recent memories and return to positions that more closely reflect past form - it should be an interesting year!

CLERGY CORRESPONDENCE CHESS CLUB : PERCENTAGE GRADING 1993

Below is the internal percentage grading list for members. It should be noted that this has no connection with any formal grading but is simply a means of assessing overall standing within the club. The grading is achieved by taking into account the results of our last three internal seasons, though the scores are weighted in favour of the most recent seasons. Inevitably there are one or two anomalies, newer members may take a few years before they achieve their correct grading, and players recently promoted or relegated may find that past scores inflate or reduce their overall grading. An example is that joint winner Ruggles Fisher is only 4th in this table as 2 years ago he was in Division 2 and this is still a part of his grade, albeit a small one. 100% can only be achieved by three consecutive championships, thus our top grade this year is 92.51. Where two or more players have the same grade, the one with the best recent score is placed higher.

The table shows last year's position in parentheses, this year's position, the name and then the percentage grade. An * after the grade indicates that one or two of the scores required have been interpolated as the player has not played in the leagues in all of the last three seasons. After three seasons out of the leagues a player is removed from the list altogether.

(3)	1	J. Caldwell	92.51
(2)	2	J.R. Morris	89.17
(1)	3	D.S.H. Hulme	85.00
(8)	4	T.R. Fisher	83.34
(6)	5	M. Smith	75.00
(4)	6	E.A. Bailey	73.34
(5)	7	F.M. Hodgess Roper	60.34 *
(14)	8	P.R. Kings	60.00
(9)	9	P. Waterfield	60.00
(7)	10	G. Harper	60.00
(13)	11	B. Stevenson	55.00
(10)	12	W. Nicholl	50.84
(12)	13	I. Ll. Davies	49.17
(17)	14	A. Norris	45.84
(11)	15	J.G. Wright	42.50
(16)	16	M. Williamson	40.00
(—)	17	S. Whitmore	40.00 *
(20)	18	T.R. Partridge	36.67
(21)	19	S. Warnes	35.00 *
(24)	20	M. Dales	32.50 *
(30)	21	N.E. Davies	30.84
(23)	22	C.O. Mason	30.00
(18)	23	A.J. Foster	30.00
(15)	24	G.D. Geddes	28.34
(25)	25	L. Janicker	26.67
(19)	26	L.J. Clifton Joy	25.00
(29)	27	W.H. Lewis	24.17
(25)	28	D. Sutcliffe	24.17
(22)	29	A.F. Mackenzie	24.17
(28)	30	W.P.B. Carlin	23.34
(35)	31=	D.C. Nye	17.50
(34)	31=	M. Thistlewood	17.50
(32)	33	A. Hurt	15.00
(35)	34	J.S. Loxton	15.00 *
(31)	35	P. Couch	15.00
(27)	36	N. McKinnon	15.00
(35)	37	J.E. Gowing	10.00
(35)	38	J. McIntyre	10.00
(—)	39	J. Hutchison	10.00 *
(35)	40	W.M. Rumball	9.50 *
(33)	41	B. Shephard	8.67 *

One of our better results - a draw between Ilford & the Clergy.

Results of this championship in the next issue of CHESS minister!

E. Sims (ILFORD) v. H. A. Bailey (C.C.C.) - notes by H. Sims

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|---|
| 1. Nf3 | f5 | a. The rarely played Lisitsin Gambit |
| 2. e4 (a) | fe | b. BCO 13 doesn't consider this move. BCO 2 |
| 3. Ng5 | e5 (b) | does consider this as a main line in opening |
| 4. Nxe4 (c) | Nc6 | c. Better is 4.d3 after which Black has ...e3; |
| 5. Bb5 | Nf6 | Bxe3 Nc6; g3 Nf6; Bg2 d5; c4 dc; Qa4 Bd7 with |
| 6. Nbc3 | Nd4 (d) | unclear position according to BCO 2. |
| 7. Bd3? | c6 | However BCO also has 4.Nxe4 Nc6 (or Nf6); |
| 8. Nxf6+ | Qxf6 | Bb5 Nf6; Nbc3 Be7; Nxf6 Bxf6; Bc4 Na5 - Dorfman |
| 9. Ne4 | Qf4 | -Menzieue (Genzuegos 1977) |
| 10. c3 | d5 | d. 6...Nd4 is not considered anywhere - the |
| 11. Ng3 (e) | Bg4 | idea (a good one too) is to get B v N and a |
| 12. Be2 (f) | Nxe2 | Q side majority esp. after V's 7th move. |
| 13. Nxe2 | Qf6 | 7.Bc4 may be better than Black...Be7 (NOT d4 |
| 14. d4 | ed | 8.Nxf6 gf (or Qxf6) when V wins a pawn and a |
| 15. Qxd4 | Qxd4 | plus position) After ...Be7 Black is fine |
| 16. Nxd4 (g) | Bd6 | However 7...c6 may be better with the |
| 17. h3 | Bd7 | threat of 8...d5 |
| 18. Be3 | 0-0 | e. NOT cd ed; Be2 ed and Black wins pawn |
| 19. Rd1 | Rac6 | f. The only move to keep White afloat. NOT Ne2 |
| 20. Nb3 (h) | Rce6 | because of ...Nf3+; Kf1 (NOT gxf3 Qxf3 after |
| 21. 0-0 | Bf5 | which White is a pawn up and can regain his |
| 22. c4 (i) | dc | piece since the R and B are under threat and |
| 23. Rxd6 | cxb3 | White cannot play 14.Rg1 as...Bc4 is a |
| 24. ab | a6 | killer)...Nxh2+; Kgl Nf3+; gxf3 Qxf3 with |
| 25. Rfd1 | Re5 | strong attack. |
| 26. Rld4 | Rfe6 | g. After the text Black has the advantage with |
| 27. Kh2 | h6 | the Bishop pair and Q side majority. |
| 28. Kg3 | Kh7 | h. Nf3 was considered, but the idea was to get |
| 29. h4 | Be6 | an opposite Bishop ending even with Rooks on |
| 30. Rb4 (j) | Re7 | to swap my Knights for Black's black square |
| 31. Bd4 | Re2 | Bishop even at the expense of doubling |
| 32. Rd6 | Rd2 | Q side pawns. |
| 33. f3 | Bd5 | i. The start of the combination as stated in h. |
| 34. Bc3 | Re2 | I also didn't like the idea of the Bishop |
| 35. Rb6 (k) | Rc2 | coming into c2 and so doubling my Q side |
| 36. Rf6 | R7e2 | pawns anyway with one slight difference - it |
| 37. Rxb7 (l) | Draw agreed | would not be an opposite coloured Bishop |
- ending, making it easier for Black's winning prospects.
- j. The only move that really protects the forward b pawn - it also attacks Black's b pawn.
- k. This prevents the Black b pawn advancing.
- l. The draw was agreed here since although Black has ...Rxb2+ he always has to watch out for the R and B hitting him with Rxb7+.

On reflection White was fortunate to get out with a Draw after misplaying the opening.

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