

# NEW ENGLANDER

## Chess Club Update – February 2014

### Chairman's Chatter

It has taken some time in coming but it is here at last! Our first win in the Cambridgeshire leagues! Congratulations to the team that overcame Peterborough B. Now, all we need are a few more...

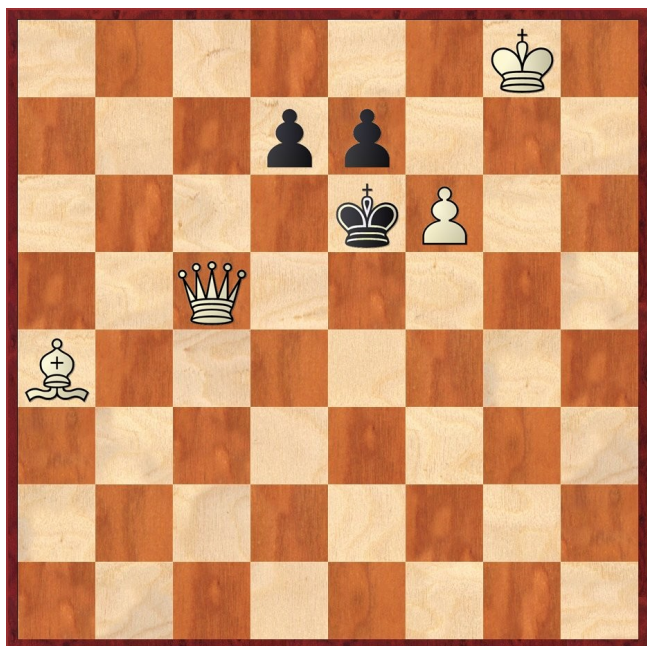
*Paul Hanks*

### Diary Dates

After the next round of the club championship on 5<sup>th</sup> February, we have a full schedule of matches in the league and the internal match in the "Team 550" competition. Remember, though, that if you are not recruited to the playing squads, you should still be issuing challenges and competing in the Club Ladder.

### Puzzle Problem

White to play and mate in 2



Last Month's solution (J Hoole)

Position : 3n4/2N5/1Q6/4knbR/2R5/6pB/6N1/K7

**1 Qg6** [1 Rb4? Nc6] **1 ... Ne7** **2 Re4#** [1 ... Nd4 2 Rc5#; 1 ... Bf6 2 Qxg3#; 1 ... Bf4 2 Rxf5#; 1 ... Nf7 2 Qe6#]

Xmas issue :

Position 1 : rnbq1rk1/pppp1ppp/4p3/b2nP3/3P4/2PB1N2/PP3PPP/RNBQK2R

**1 Bxh7+ Kxh7** [1 ... Kh8 2 Ng5 g6 (Black cannot allow 3 Qh5 g6 4 Bxg6+ Kg7 5 Qh7#) 3 Qf3 Qe7 4 Qh3 f5 5 Bxg6+ Kg8 leaves White with extra material and an attack] **2 Ng5+ Kg6** [2 ... Kg8 3 Qh5 forces Qxg5] **3 h4** and there is no defence to **4 h5+ Kf5** [4 ... Kh6 5 Nxe6+] **5 g4#**

Position 2 : r1bq1rk1/pppn1ppp/2n5/3pP3/1b1P1B2/2NB1N2/PPP3PP/R2Q1RK1

**1 Bxh7+ Kxh7** [Black only gets passive misery from 1 ... Kh8 2 Ng5 g6 3 Qe1 (The route 3 Qf3? is not now available because 3 ... Nxd4 4 Qh3 Nf6) 3 ... f6 4 Qh4 Qe7 (4 ... fxg5 5 Bxg5 Qxg5) 5 Bxg6+ Kg8 6 Nxd5] **2 Ng5+ Kg6** [Again 2 ... Kg8 3 Qh5 Qxg5] **3 Qd3+ f5** [3 ... Kh5 4 Qh7+ Kg4 5 h3#; 3 ... Kh6 4 Qh7#] **4 exf6+ Kxf6** [4 ... Kh5 transposes to the above] **5 Nxd5#**

Position 3 : r1b2rk1/1p2qppp/p3p3/2n5/3N4/3B1R2/PPP1Q1PP/R6K

**1 Bxh7+ Kxh7** [After 1 ... Kh8 2 Rh3, Black cannot defend with 2 ... Qg5 3 Rh5 Qf4 4 Rf1 Qxd4 5 Bg6+ Kg8 6 Rh8+ Kxh8 7 Qh5+ or 2 ... g6 3 Bxg6+ Kg7 (3 ... Kg8 4 Bh7+ Kg7 5 Qg4+ Kf6 6 Rf1+ Ke5 7 Qf4#) 4 Qe5+ with mating threats a) 4 ... Kxg6 5 Qh5+ Kg7 6 Qh6+; b) 4 ... Qf6 5 Rh7+ Kg8 (5 ... Kxg6 6 Qh5#) 6 Qxf6; c) 4 ... f6 5 Rh7 Kg8 6 Qh5] **2 Rh3+ Kg8** [2 ... Kg6 3 Qh5+ Kf6 4 Rf1#] **3 Nf5 Qg5** [3 ... Qf6 4 Qh5 Qh6 5 Nxh6+ gxh6 6 Qxh6] **4 Qh5 Qxh5** **5 Ne7+ Kh7** **6 Rxh5#**

Position 4 : r1bq1rk1/1p1p1ppp/1nnb4/p7/P7/1Q1B1N2/1P3PPP/RNB2RK1

**1 Bxh7+ Kxh7** [White has steady pressure following 1 ... Kh8 2 Ng5 Be7 3 Qg3 Nd5 4 Qh4 Nf6 5 Nc3 with the threat Nc3-e4 e.g. d5 6 Bg6+ Kg8 7 Nxd5 Qxd5 8 Bh7+ Kh8 9 Be4+] **2 Ng5+ Kg8** [2 ... Kg6 3 Qd3+ Kh5 (3 ... Kf6 4 Qxd6+ Kf5 5 f3 Ne5 6 g4+ Nxg4 7 fxg4+ Kxg4 8 Qg3+ Kh5 9 Qh3+ Kg6 10 Qh7#; 3 ... f 5 4 Qxd6+ Qf6 5 Qg3 and to avoid a nasty discovered check 5 ... f4 6 Bxf4 Qxf4 7 Ne6+ Qxg3 8 Nxf8+ Kf7 9 fxg3+) 4 g4+ Kxg4 5 Qh3#] **3 Qh3 Re8** **4 Qh7+ Kf8** **5 Qh8+ Ke7** **6 Re1+ Be5** **7 Qxg7 Rf8** **8 Rxe5+**

Position 5 : m1qrnk1/1b4pp/pp2pb2/2ppN3/3P2N1/1PPB4/P1Q2PPP/R1B1R1K1

**1 Bxh7+ Nxh7** [1 ... Kh8 2 Nf7#] **2 Nh6+ gxh6** [2 ... Kh8 3 Nef7#; 2 ... Kf8 3 Ng6#] **3 Qg6+ Bg7** [3 ... Kf8 4 Qf7#; 3 ... Kh8 4 Nf7#] **4 Qf7+ Kh8** **5 Ng6#**

### Website to Watch

You need to act quickly this month. Top of the list is the tail end of the Zurich Chess Challenge. It is being billed as the strongest tournament to date with an average ELO of 2801. Naturally, this means Carlsen is playing but Anand, Nakamura, Aronian, Caruana and Gelfand are also there from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Website [www.zurich-cc.com](http://www.zurich-cc.com) will carry live games.

For those who dream of some winter sunshine, see [www.gibraltarchesscongress.com](http://www.gibraltarchesscongress.com) for the closing rounds of the Gibraltar Chess Festival which continues until 5<sup>th</sup> February.

## Window on the Web

Since I first reviewed [www.chesslecture.com](http://www.chesslecture.com) over 2 years ago, there have been several changes. The home page has been totally revamped. There is a list of the latest 8 videos available for members to watch, a blog with descriptions of the videos available in the previous few weeks and some members' comments.

Over 2,200 lectures are available and the presentation quality has been maintained. Access extends to iPhone, iPad and Android phones and tablets.

Previously non-members looking for free "taster" lectures had a choice of only a couple of free lectures to view which never changed (and are still available). There is now also a *Free video of the Week*. This is an important change for anyone who doesn't wish to sign up, but will still be able to see one free lecture a week to get a feel of the site.

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCjyaLKxiZ1bQfOPJW2yIXWg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjyaLKxiZ1bQfOPJW2yIXWg) is another new feature posting several chess lectures for anyone to view. These include lessons on attacking chess, pawn endings, blockade in the Nimzo-Indian, positional play and zwischenzugs. A good sample of what the site has to offer.

*Ron Jones*

## Result Round-up

### Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

<b>Warboys A</b>	<b>3½</b>	<b>New England A</b>	<b>1½</b>
R Mann	½	S Caraway	½
M Misson	½	M Dunkley	½
B Duff	½	P Hanks	½
C Watkins	1	D Lane	0
J Beck	1	P Spencer	0
<b>Spalding</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>New England B</b>	<b>1</b>
P Golimouski	1	P Hanks	0
D Carew	0	D Lane	1
J Smith	1	P Spencer	0
F Robinson	1	J Parker	0
<b>New England B</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>Peterborough B</b>	<b>1½</b>
D Lane	½	M Connolly	½
P Spencer	1	M Fisher	0
S Walker	1	D McLennon	0
J Parker	0	D Ockwell	1

### Fenland Trophy

<b>St Neots</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>New England A</b>	<b>1</b>
A Chapman	½	P Turp	½
P Barkas	1	M Dunkley	0
J Dunn	½	P Hanks	½
R Palumbo	1	M Tarabad	0
<b>New England B</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Warboys</b>	<b>4</b>
D Lane	0	R Mann	1
P Spencer	0	M Misson	1
J Sadler	0	B Duff	1
J Parker	0	C Watkins	1

## Team 550 Competition

<b>Warboys</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>New England 2</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>New England 1</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>St Neots</b>	<b>2½</b>
P Hanks	1	P Barkas	0
P Spencer	½	C Emery	½
J Parker	0	S Buttercase	1
I Garrett	0	M Friday	1

### New England Club Ladder

White		Black	
M Tarabad	0	1	N Wedley
S Caraway	1	0	S Wozniak
N Wedley	1	0	I Garrett
S Caraway	½	½	P Hanks
J Parker	0	1	S Walker
S Caraway	1	0	N Wedley

Position	Change		Player	Record <small>29/01/14</small>
	Month	Overall		
1	-	+13	P Spencer	1,1,1,1
2	-	-	S Caraway	1,1,½,1
3	+1	+3	I Garrett	1,0,1,0,1,0,0
4	+2	-	N Wedley	½,½,1,0,1,1,0
5	-	+6	P Hanks	1,1,½
6	-3	+4	M Tarabad	1,1,0,1,0
7	-	-4	D Lane	½,0,1
8	+3	-1	S Walker	1
9	-1	-8	J Parker	0,½,0,0,0
10	-1	-2	H Currie	0,0
11	+1	-2	P O'Gorman	0
12	-2	-7	F Bowers	
13	-	-1	S Wozniak	0,0
14	-	-1	J Sadler	0,0
15	-	-	P Turp	

### Club Championship

Round 2			
S Walker (½)	0	1	P Hanks (1)
J Sadler (0)	1	0	D Lane (0)
Round 3			
M Dunkley (2)			P Turp (2)
P Hanks (2)			S Caraway (2)
R Jones (1)			P Spencer (1)
D Lane (0)			S Walker (½)
C Russell (½)			I Garrett (1)
M Tarabad (1)			J Sadler (1)
N Wedley (0)			J Parker (0)
Match night : 5th February. Deadline : 28th February. Next draw : 1st March			

## New England Grand Prix

Player	Champ	Ladder	League	Cup	Team 550	Total
P Spencer	1	4	2½	0	1½	9
P Hanks	2	2	1	½	3	8½
S Caraway	2	3	1	0	1	7
D Lane	0	1½	2	½	2	6
M Dunkley	2	-	2½	0	1	5½
I Garrett	1	3			1	5
M Tarabad	1	3	1	0	0	5
N Wedley	0	4			2	6
R Jones	1		2	0	1½	4½
P Turp	2		1	½		3½
J Sadler	1	0	1		1	3
S Walker	½	1	1			2½
J Parker	0	½		0	1	1½
C Russell	½	-			0	½
H Currie	-	0				0
B Sadler	-				0	0
S Wozniak	-	0				0
P O'Gorman	-	0				
F Bowers	-					

## Match of the Month

### N Wedley v S Caraway

New England Club Championship Rd 1, 9.10.2013

1	<b>d4</b>	<b>d5</b>
2	<b>Nf3</b>	<b>Nf6</b>
3	<b>e3</b>	<b>e6</b>
4	<b>Bd3</b>	<b>c5</b>
5	<b>c3</b>	<b>Nc6</b>
6	<b>Nbd2</b>	<b>Be7</b>

White's system tends to attract the adjective "well-respected" when it occurs in published games. In fact, we are following Alekhine v Flohr, Berne 1932 as some of you may remember. That game continued 6 ... Qc7 but commenting on "Colle's System", the world champion opined

*"The quiet move 3 e3 - the idea of which is to postpone the fight for the centre until White has brought his king into safety - procured the regretted Belgian champion a long series of brilliant victories. Its objective value has been already put in question by the variation 3 ... Bf5 4 Bd3 e6."*

This remark from 1939 is obviously not the most recent theory but its general thrust must hold good because the opening is rarely seen nowadays at grandmaster level.

## 7 dxc5

Yusupov v Karjakin, Amsterdam 2007 was similar to the current game. Black delayed e7-e6 so as to play Bc8-f5 later and was successful with the exchange c5xd4. The structure after d4xc5, however, was recommended by the winner. One drawback, though, of swapping the d4 pawn is that White no longer has the possible Nf3-e5 when Black does not want to play Nc6xNe5 because d4xNe5 displaces the defensive knight on f6 and unleashes the light-squared battery.

7 ... **Bxc5**  
8 **Qc2**

Now White has to work hard to make tangible threats to h7.

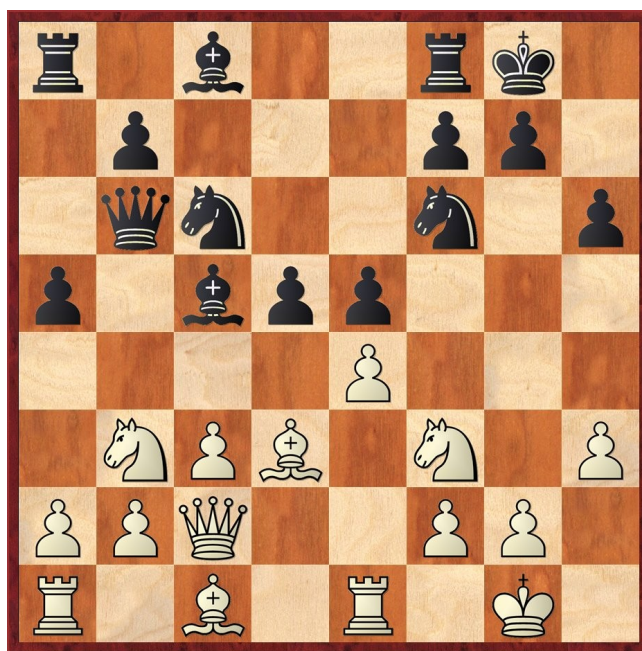
8 ... **a5**  
9 **0-0** **h6**  
10 **e4** **0-0**  
11 **h3** **e5**

Both sides have developed comfortably and trade punches in the centre without gaining an advantage.

12 **Re1**

This leaves f2 as a target. A more aggressive tone could be set by 12 exd5 Nxd5 13 Rd1 which would open a central square for the knight on d2 and start to unravel the problem of White's queenside development.

12 ... **Qb6**  
13 **Nb3**



White should have played 13 Re2 and having now to defend f2 with his queen, could have been punished by 13 ... dxe4 14 Bxe4 Nxe4 15 Rxe4 Bf5.

13 ... **Bd6**  
14 **exd5** **Nxd5**  
15 **g4**

Loosening the pawn position in front of your own king does not look like a good idea. It gives Black several avenues of attack including undermining the pawns with h6-h5 or occupying f4 with a knight. The latter

seemed more immediately tempting because without preparation 15 ... h5 fails to 16 gxh5 Bxh3 17 Ng5 when White has the initiative e.g. 17 ... Bd7 18 Bc4 Nf6 19 Be3 (or 19 h6 g6/gxh6 20 Qg6+) 19 ... Qc7 20 h6 Ne7 21 h7+ Kh8 22 Nxf7+ etc.

White could try 15 Bh7+ Kh8 16 Be4 Be6 17 Qd3 when there are threats to the black minor pieces and exchanging on c6 to win the pawn on e5.

15 ... a4  
16 Nbd2 Nf4

White sadly can initiate exchanges to take the menace out of the outpost.

17 Nc4 Qc7  
18 Bxf4 exf4  
19 Nxd6 Qxd6  
20 Rad1 Qf6  
21 Bh7+

I'm not sure this achieves much. White could keep the upper hand with 21 Re4 (threatening Rxa4) 21 ... a3 22 b4 Be6 23 b5 (trying to pocket the weak pawn by 23 Qd2 is useless at present 23 ... Rad8 24 Rxf4 Rxd3) 23 ... Ne7 (23 ... Na5 24 Ra4) when White enjoys a space advantage.

21 ... Kh8  
22 Be4 Ne7  
23 Qd3

23 Rd4 would be an echo of the previous note.

23 ... Be6  
24 a3

Was 24 Bxb7 viable? After 24 ... Rab8 25 Qe4 a3, it is hard to claim I have sufficient compensation 26 b3 Qxc3 27 Qxf4 Rxb7 28 Rxe6.

24 ... Rab8  
25 Qd4 Qxd4  
26 Rxd4 b5  
27 Red1

It is almost de rigueur to double rooks when the opportunity arises. Here it prevents Black from contesting the open file with Rd8 but its secondary purpose (to penetrate to the seventh rank) is denied by the light-squared bishop. Instead, 27 Bd3 g5 28 Rd6 when Black is short of useful moves 28 ... Kg7 (28 ... Rfd8 29 Rxd8+ Rxd8 30 Bxb5) 29 Nd4 Nc8 30 Rdx6 fxe6 31 Nxe6+.

27 ... f5  
28 Bc2

White's advantage is evaporating and this passive move hastens the process. There is a weakness to exploit on b5 and it gives rise to more consistent play 28 gxf5 Nxf5 29 Rb4 g5 30 Bc6 Ne7 (30 ... Bc4 31 Ne5) 31 Bd7 (31 Bxb5 Nd5) 31 ... Rfd8.

28 ... fxg4  
29 Ne5

Another questionable decision but only if you can fathom the complications after 29 Re1 gxf3 (29 ... Rf6 30 Rd6 is a real mess) 30 Rxe6 leaves the black knight red-faced (if it's possible!) 30 ... Nf5 (30 ... Rf7 31 Rd7; 30 ... Ng8 31 Be4) 31 Rxf4.

29 ... Bf5

The computer prefers 29 ... gxh3 30 Kh2 but although Black enjoys extra material, it acknowledges White is not without hope and actually is only just short of equality. In practice, this probably means White's position is easier to play especially with time pressure looming.

30 Bxf5 Rxf5  
31 Rd8+

31 Nd7 Re8 32 hxg4 Rf7 (32 ... Rg5 33 Rxf4 turns the tables) 33 Re4 and again, it seems to be White with all the pressure but now with level material.

31 ... Rxd8  
32 Rxd8+ Kh7  
33 Nxc4

The fireworks are over and this endgame is probably drawn with best play from both sides.

33 ... h5  
34 Nh2 f3  
35 Rd3 Re5  
36 Rxf3

36 Nxf3 brings the knight back into play and 36 ... Re2 37 Re3 Rxe3 38 fxe3 gives White good chances.

36 ... Re1+  
37 Kg2 Rb1

Not the instinctive 37 ... Re2 38 Re3

38 Re3 Nc6  
39 Re6 Na5  
40 Re5

The computer shows quite a difference between the text move and 40 Rb6 because there is a hidden tactic. After 40 Rb6 Rxb2 41 Nf3, White threatens Ng5+ mating and while Black attends to this, Nf3-d4 eliminates the dangerous queenside pawns.

40 ... Rxb2  
41 Rxh5+ Kg6  
42 Rc5 Nc4  
43 Nf3 Kf6  
44 Nd4 Nxa3  
45 Nc6

White's position was getting difficult but the move played is the final nail in the coffin. Norman could have tried 45 h4 when

- 45 ... Nb1 46 Nxb5 a3 47 Nxa3 Nxa3 and there is still fight in the position
- 45 ... Nc4 46 Nxb5 a3 47 Rxc4 Rxb5
- 45 ... Nc2 46 Nxc2 Rxc2 47 Rxb5 a3 48 Ra5 Rxc3 (or 48 ... a2) would test the endgame technique of both of us!

45 ... Nc4  
46 Nb4 a3  
47 Rxb5

47 Kf3 would drag it out a little longer.

47 ... a2  
48 Nd5+ Kf7

0-1

Sam Caraway