

# NEW ENGLANDER

## Chess Club Update – June 2016

### Chairman's Chatter

This issue of the newsletter brings down the curtain on another season. It summarises no less than 409 game results – a fact which I hope reflects the enjoyment we have shared throughout the year. Congratulations to Francis Bowers in playing the most and taking the Grand Prix and Club Ladders titles.

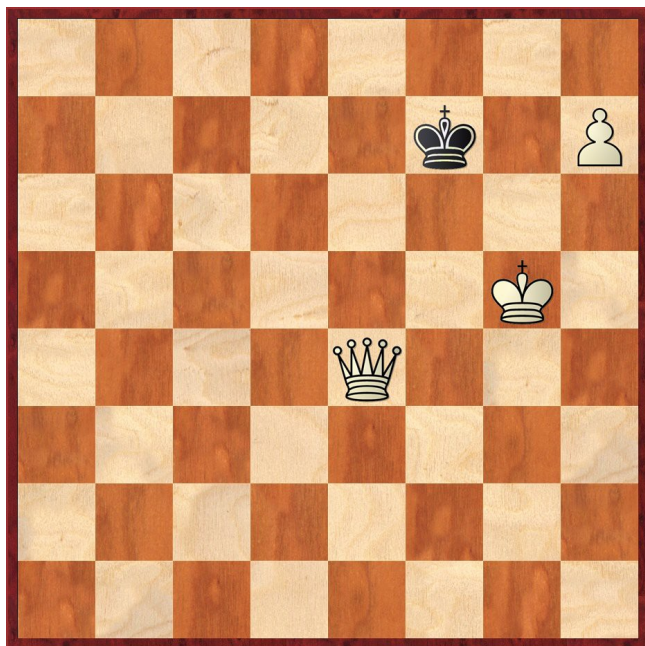
*Paul Hanks*

### Diary Dates

1<sup>st</sup> June Mini-lightning tournament  
8<sup>th</sup> June Chess 960 event by S Caraway  
15<sup>th</sup> June Masterclasses start

### Puzzle Problem

White to play and mate in 2



Last Month's solution (Lindner 1933)

Position : 8/8/8/6K1/8/5pk1/3Q4/5B2

1 Kf5 Kh4 [1 ... f2 2 Qf4#] 2 Qh2#

### Website to Watch

Blitz and Rapidplay dominate the landscape during June. There are two legs of the Grand Chess Tour with the first in Paris from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> June and Leuven in Belgium hosts the second from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. The same eight grandmasters appear in both and Magnus Carlsen only appears thanks to a wildcard entry! There will be further rounds of the tour in St Louis and London later in the year. Details appear on the website [grandchesstour.org](http://grandchesstour.org) where they introduce their commentary team for online spectators.

### Window on the Web

The ECF has made a change to its website at <http://www.englishchess.org.uk/> by closing the chess forum and replacing it with a feature called *Ask the Directors* accessed from a link on the left of the home page. Clicking on the link opens a questionnaire for use by members and non-members alike who wish to ask any of the 7 ECF directors a question. The director will then reply promptly by email. The aim is to publish in due course the most pertinent and interesting questions and answers in FAQ format.

<http://www.4ncl.co.uk/> is the website of the Four Nations Chess League, which is Britain's strongest chess league. Run as a business, it consists of four divisions of top class teams which meet in weekend team tournaments at venues in England throughout the chess season from October to May. Our Honorary Member Chris Ross regularly plays in 4NCL events. Some of the world's top players have taken part, including Peter Svidler.

The website has a timetable of events and details of all the fixtures and results. There are lists of teams for each division and an extensive selection of photographs of players in action. For those who like to view games, there are many games available to play through on the site's viewer. The games can also be downloaded in pgn format.

*Ron Jones*

### Playing County Chess

Having turned my back on county chess for more than 30 years (preferring free week-ends), I decided at the beginning of the season to try once again. Francis, Sam and Phil have also played county chess this season. The team captains often struggle to find enough players to field a full team so if anyone would like to consider representing the County for the first time please read on and I hope what follows will throw some light on what you can expect.

There are three Cambridgeshire teams in the Eastern Counties Chess Union (ECCU) County Championships. The strongest is the first team for players graded from 200+ downwards followed by the under 160, then the under 120 team which typically has players graded from about 50 upwards. The first two have 16 players and the third has 12. Each team plays in a different division and usually, you play someone with a similar grade to your own.

The ECCU under 160 teams are Cambs, Suffolk, Herts and Norfolk. They play each other twice, always at the same venue in Northampton. The fixtures are arranged so that, on three Saturdays several weeks apart, all four teams meet at the venue, each playing

one match in the morning and another in the afternoon. The teams finishing first and second go forward to the national finals.

So, on a match day, 64 players arrive at the venue and the early arrivals set up the tables, chairs, clocks, boards and sets. The league has to pay for refreshments (tea and coffee) and hire of the hall so the captains collect a small fee from each player.

The Cambs 1st team qualified for the finals by winning its division, as has the U160 team which lost the quarter-final in a match at home (luckily) to Essex. The first and U120 teams will not complete their schedule until later in the season and the website <http://www.englishchess.org.uk/competitions-plp/county-championships-2/> will carry the results.

*Ron Jones*

## Result Round-up

### Fenland Plate

Cambridge	4	New England A	0
D Redman	1	F Bowers	0
B Buisman	1	P Walker	0
R McCorry	1	S Caraway	0
P Fallon	1	P Hanks	0

### Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

Cambridge	2½	New England A	2½
B Buisman	1	F Bowers	0
R McCorry	½	P Walker	½
G de Block	½	S Caraway	½
S Pride	½	P Hanks	½
S Bazyk	0	M Dunkley	1

### Cambs Jamboree : 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Pos	Team	Pts	Pos	Team	Pts
1	Linton	9	5	New England A	6½
2	Royston	8½	6	New England B	6
3	St Neots	7½	7	Godmanchester	2
4	Warboys	7	8	Chatteris	1½

### Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

Division 1	P	W	D	L	Points	
					Game	Match
Royston	12	12	0	0	49½	24
Peterborough A	12	9	0	3	37½	18
Warboys A	12	5	2	5	30½	12
Cambridge Scholars	12	5	1	6	29½	11
New England A	12	4	2	6	27½	10
Peterborough B	12	3	0	9	16	6
St Neots	12	1	1	10	18½	3

Division 2	P	W	D	L	Points	
					Game	Match
Spalding	10	6	1	3	23½	13
New England B	10	5	2	3	22½	12
Warboys C	10	3	5	2	22½	11
Warboys B	10	4	1	5	19½	9
Buckden	10	4	1	5	16½	9
Peterborough C	10	3	0	7	15½	6

### Team 550 Competition

North Division	P	W	D	L	Points	
					Game	Match
Spalding	8	7	0	1	24	14
Warboys N	8	5	0	3	18	10
New England Cavaliers	8	4	0	4	16	8
Godmanchester	8	2	0	6	12	4
New England Patriots	8	2	0	6	10	4

### New England Club Ladder

White	Black
I Garratt	0 1 S Walker
N Foreman	1 0 I Garratt
S Walker	½ ½ P O'Gorman
R Jones	1 0 D Lane

Position	Change		Player	Record
	Month	Overall		
1	+1	+2	F Bowers	1,1,1,1,½,1,1,1,1
2	-1	+11	S Caraway	1,1,1
3	+1	+13	S Walker	1,1,1,½
4	-1	+5	P O'Gorman	1,0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1,0,1,½
5	+1	-1	J Parker	0,0,0,1,1,0,0,1,1,1,0
6	-1	+6	P Hanks	1,1,½,1,1
7	-	+8	P Walker	0,1
8	-	+6	R Jones	1,1,1,1
9	-	-8	N Wedley	1,1,1,1,½,0,½,1,0
10	-	+1	M Tarabad	1,0,1,0,½,1,1,0
11	-	-1	D Lane	0,0,½,0,1,1,0
12	-	-4	P Weinberger	0,0,0,1,0,1,0,0,1
13	-	-11	N Foreman	0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,1
14	+1	-9	I Garratt	1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0
15	-1	-8	P Turp	1

## New England Grand Prix

Player	Champ	Ladder	League	Cup	550 Team	Total	TPR*
F Bowers	3½	8½	4	½	1½	18	168
S Caraway	4½	3	6	0	4	17½	171
P Hanks	5	4½	6½	½	½	17	168
R Jones	3½	4	5½		3	16	132
D Lane	3½	2½	6		3½	15½	108
P Turp	3½	1	8		2	14½	155
P O'Gorman	1½	7½			3	12	94
M Tarabad	2	4½	2½		1½	10½	85
N Wedley	3½	6				9½	106
S Walker	3½	3½	1½		1	9½	106
M Dunkley	3½		4	0	1½	9	151
J Parker	2	5			1	8	94
P Walker	4½	1	1	0		6½	165
R Taylor	3		3			6	162
P Weinberger	2	3			1	6	82
C Russell	2½		0	½	1	4	105
S Wozniak	3		½		½	4	108
I Garratt	1	1			1	3	50
N Foreman	½	2			0	2½	48

\* Tournament Performance Rating is approximate & includes Summer Sprint

Problem Night : 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Team	Rd 1	Rd 2	Total
1 P Weinberger & P Walker	20	20	40
2 C Russell, N Wedley, I Garratt	9	19	28
3 P O'Gorman & S Wozniak	9	18	27
4 F Bowers & N Foreman	15	12	27

### Club Championship

Round 5			
R Taylor (3)	0	1	P Hanks (3)
Final Round			
P Walker (4½)	0	1	S Caraway (3½)
P Hanks (4)	1	0	M Dunkley (3½)
F Bowers (3½)	½ <sub>d</sub>	½ <sub>d</sub>	R Taylor (3)
D Lane (3)	½	½	S Walker (3)
P Turp (2½)	1	0	J Parker (2)
C Russell (2½)	0	1	R Jones (2½)
I Garratt (1)	0	1	N Wedley (2½)
N Foreman (½)	0	1	P Weinberger (1)
P O'Gorman (1½)	0	1	S Wozniak (2)

Pos	Player	Pts	Pos	Player	Pts
1	P Hanks	5		N Wedley	3½
2=	P Walker	4½	12	S Wozniak	3
	S Caraway	4½	13	C Russell	2½
4	F Bowers	4		M Tarabad	2
5=	R Taylor	3½	14=	P Weinberger	2
	M Dunkley	3½		J Parker	2
	D Lane	3½	17	P O'Gorman	1½
	P Turp	3½	18	I Garratt	1
	R Jones	3½	19	N Foreman	½
	S Walker	3½			

### Match of the Month

#### Richard Mann v Mike Dunkley

Warboys v NE Cavaliers, Team 550 competition

1 c4 e5  
2 Nc3 Nf6  
3 Nf3 d6

We are heading for a Kings Indian set-up. Strictly, this opening requires d2-d4 by White so it would be more accurate to say Black is choosing the King's Indian in response to the English Opening. In such systems, there is a delay before the players interact in the centre and each can pretty much ignore what the other is doing!

4 g3 g6  
5 Bg2 Bg7  
6 0-0 0-0  
7 d3 Nc6

Sharp-eyed readers of **NEW ENGLANDER** will no doubt recall the June 2010 issue. Apart from move order and Black playing his king's knight to e7 instead of f6, the same position was reached in another of Richard Mann's games. In fact, it must be something of a club speciality because Marcus Misson has also opened in similar fashion.

8 a3 Bg4  
9 h3 Bd7  
10 Rb1 Qc8

By coincidence, the earlier published game also featured this battery with the queen and bishop hitting the h3 square. In that case, Bc8-d7 was played immediately but here, by interposing Bc8-g4 and allowing h2-h3, Black has given White the time and space to defend with his king.

11 Kh2 Re8

Generally, the strategy is fairly simple – Black attacks on the kingside and leaves the queenside to its fate. To get enough compensation for this generosity, Black normally has to enforce the advance f7-f5 and as the text move removes the support and transfers the rook to a closed file, it does not fit well with this intention.

Over the years, I've often played the stereotypical continuation i.e. moving the king's knight followed by the f pawn advance and I expect this is the best strategy. 11 ... Re8 obviously renounces this strategy and is basically just a waiting move. The rook may or may not be useful on the e file depending on later developments. Black is lacking counterplay at the moment but his position is solid and as White presses on the queenside, counter chances should occur.

12	e4	a5
13	Be3	h6
14	Qd2	Kh7
15	Nd5	Nxd5
16	cxd5	Nd8?

There is no need to retreat. 16 ... Nd4 was much better since White cannot exchange 17 Nxd4 exd4 18 Bf4 g5 winning the bishop.

17 Rbc1

17 Rac1 looks better.

17 ... c5

I have to be careful. If I proceed too provocatively e.g. 17 ... f5, White has an unusual escape square for his dark-squared bishop 18 exf5 gxf5 19 Bb6 when the pawns on a5 and c7 are threatened.

18 b4

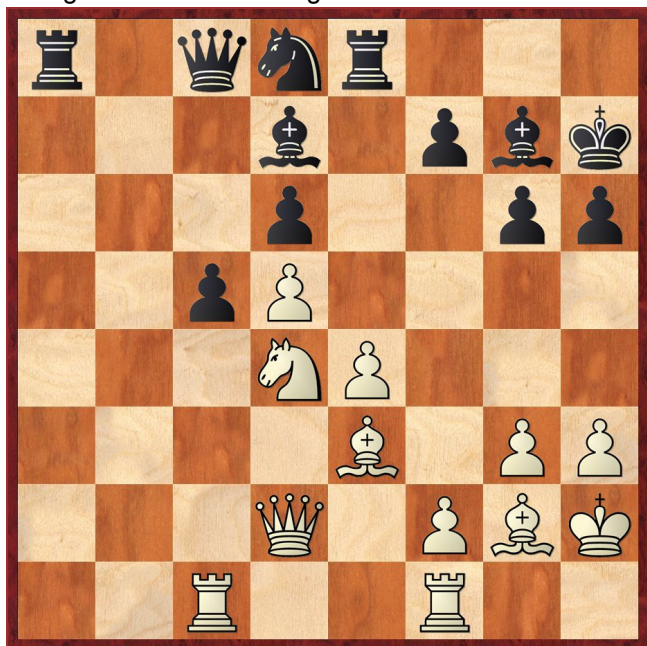
Thanks to Black's 16th move, White now has the initiative on the queenside.

18	...	axb4
19	axb4	b6
20	bxc5	bxc5
21	d4?!	

This looks OK as White is undoubling his d pawns but Fritz suggests 21 Rb1 with advantage to White.

21	...	exd4
22	Nxd4	

Here, Fritz prefers 22 Bxd4 when if 22 ... Rxe4 then 23 Ng5+ wins the exchange.



22 ... cxd4!

This seems to gain material e.g. 23 Rxc8 dxe3 24 Qxe3 Rxc8.

During the game, I dismissed 23 Bxd4 at once because I assumed that I just move my queen away and I've won a piece. However, Fritz demonstrates that White has a draw in all variations after 23 Bxd4 e.g. 23 ... Qb7 24 Bxg7 Kxd7 25 Rb1 Qc7 26 Rfc1 Qa7 27 Ra1 etc. The black queen can't hide from the rooks and 26 ... Qa5 27 Qd4+ Kg8 28 Ra1 gets her majesty into really hot water.

23	Rxc8	dxe3
24	Rxd8?	exd2
25	Rxd7	

White has chosen a losing variation. At first glance, his position looks OK as his rook on d7 attacks two pawns and he is ready to play Rd1 or Bf3 to stop the d pawn. But the tactics work for Black.

25	...	Ra1
26	Rxa1	Bxa1
27	Bf3	Rxe4
28	Rxf7+	Kg8
29	Rd7	Be5 0-1

White resigns as he must give lose the bishop when the d pawn promotes.

*Mike Dunkley*

### Eye Opener

When you play an opening, you need to know the tactical tricks that might ensnare you. Here is an example.

1	e4	e6
2	d4	d5
3	Nc3	Bb4
4	a3	

A rare continuation in the Winawer Variation of the French Defence in place of the usual 4 e5.

4	...	Bxc3+
5	bxc3	dxe4
6	Qg4	Nf6
7	Qxg7	Rg8
8	Qh6	Nbd7
9	Ne2	b6
10	Bg5	Qe7

So far we have followed Fischer v Kovacevic, Rovinj/Zagreb 1970 but now, the great American had to avoid playing casually with

11	Ng3?	Ng4
12	Bxe7	Nxh6

when White's dark-squared bishop is lost because

13	Bh4	Rg4
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or 13 Bb4 a5.

## Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

A Team	Fenland Cup		Cambridgeshire League											Score	Appearances	Grading		
	St Neots 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Cambridge 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Warboys A 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Royston 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Peterborough A 21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	St Neots 27 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Cambridge 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Peterborough B 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Peterborough A 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Warboys A 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Royston 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	St Neots 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Peterborough B 9 <sup>th</sup> Mar			Cambridge 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Opponent Average	Performance
Peter Walker		0												1/2	1/2	2	189	164
Bob Taylor			1/2	0	0	1	0	0	1/2	1/2		0	1/2		3	10	181	161
Francis Bowers	1/2	0	1/2	0	1/2	1/2			1	0	1/2	1/2	0		4 1/2	13	175	164
Paul Hanks	1/2	0	1/2	0	1/2	1d	1/2	1/2	1	1	0	1		1/2	6+d	13	160	165
Sam Caraway		0	1	0	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2			1	1	1/2	6	11	157	164
Ron Jones								1/2			0				1/2	2	153	117
Mike Dunkley	0		0	0			0		1/2	1/2	0	1	1	1	4	10	147	141
Chris Russell	1/2					0				0					1/2	3	147	109
Phil Turp					1/2		1	1/2			0		1		3	5	126	141
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 1/2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2 1/2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3 1/2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>3 1/2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2 1/2</b>	<b>29</b>		-	-
B Team														Score	Appearances	Grading		
			Buckden 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	Spalding 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Warboys C 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Warboys B 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Peterborough C 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Buckden A 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Spalding 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Peterborough C 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Warboys C 9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Warboys B 6 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Opponent Average			Performance		
Paul Hanks				1											1	1	171	221
Peter Walker									1/2				0		1/2	2	168	143
Phil Turp			0		1	1	1/2	1/2	1			1			5	7	144	166
Steve Wozniak			1/2								0				1/2	2	135	110
Ron Jones			0	1	1/2	1/2	0	1/2	1	1	0	1/2			5	10	129	129
Des Lane			1	0	1/2	1	0	0	1/2	1	1	1			6	10	103	113
Mahmoud Tarabad				1	0	0	1/2	0			1				2 1/2	6	85	77
Steve Walker										1/2	1				1 1/2	2	84	109
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1 1/2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2 1/2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3 1/2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2 1/2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22</b>		-	-

## Cambridgeshire Team 550 Competition

<i>NE Patriots</i>	Warboys N 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	NE Cavaliers 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Spalding 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	NE Cavaliers 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Godmanchester 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Warboys N 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Spalding 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Godmanchester 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Score	Appearances	Grading	
	Opponent Average	Performance										
Paul Hanks	½								½	1	164	164
Sam Caraway	1	1	0	½		½		1	4	6	154	171
Chris Russell		½		½	0		0		1	4	131	101
Steve Walker		0		0		½	0	½	1	5	121	91
Steve Wozniak			0		½				½	2	115	90
Peter Weinberger					1	0			1	2	107	107
Jason Parker	0	1	0						1	3	106	89
Ivan Garratt					1	0	0	0	1	4	93	63
Nick Foreman	0		0	0			0	0	0	5	84	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>10</b>		-	-
<i>NE Cavaliers</i>	Spalding 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Godmanchester 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	NE Patriots 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Godmanchester 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	NE Patriots 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Warboys N 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Spalding 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Warboys N 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Score	Appearances	Grading	
	Opponent Average	Performance										
Mike Dunkley					½			1	1½	2	163	188
Phil Turp	0	1					1		2	3	153	169
Ron Jones	½		0	½	½	0	½	1	3	7	139	132
Francis Bowers		1		½		0			1½	3	137	141
Des Lane	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	½	3½	8	110	104
Mahmoud Tarabad	0	1	½			0	0		1½	5	102	82
Peter O'Gorman			0	1	1			1	3	4	72	99
<b>Total</b>	<b>½</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>3½</b>	<b>16</b>		-	-