

NEW ENGLANDER

Chess Club Update – November 2014

Chairman's Chatter

What's in a name? Both teams in the "Team 550" competition have now chosen to reveal their fearsome nature. Alongside Chris Russell's Patriots, we can welcome Ron Jones's Cavaliers.

For the record, the squads are :

Patriots : C Russell, S Caraway, P Spencer, J & B Sadler, P O'Gorman, J Parker, S Wozniak, P Hanks

Cavaliers : R Jones, M Dunkley, P Turp, D Lane, S Walker, I Garratt, M Tarabad.

Welcome also to Peter Stevens and Nick Foreman who have recently been visiting the club.

Paul Hanks

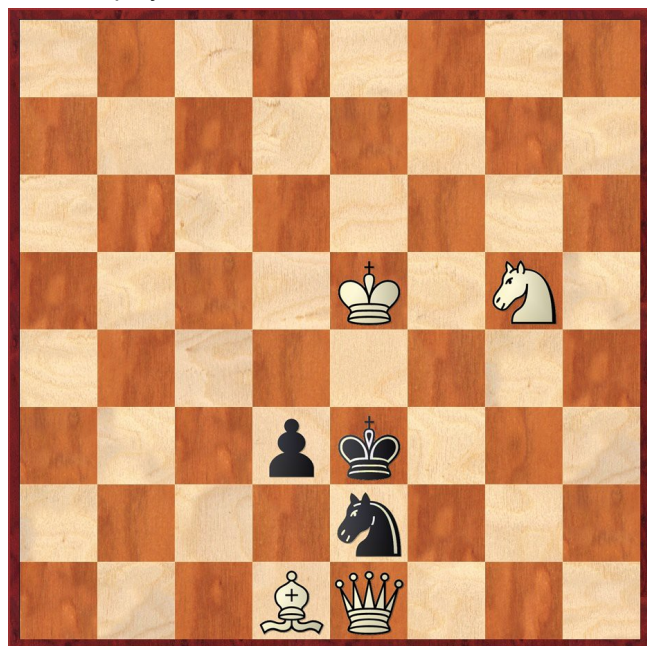
Diary Dates

The month starts with the County Individual Championship on 1st and 2nd November. For a late entry, see www.cambschess.co.uk.

There are two rounds of the Club Championship on 5th and 26th November. Please make every effort to play on schedule – it will enable the draw to be made on the basis of actual rather than notional results. The draw will probably be communicated by 23rd.

Puzzle Problem

White to play and mate in 2



Last Month's solution (Gegelsky, 1958)

Position : 8/8/8/8/4Q2K/8/2n5/qRBk4

1 Qg2 Qh8+ 2 Bh6# [1 ... Qf6+ 2 Bg5#; 1 ... Qd4+/Qc3 2 Bf4#; 1 ... Ke1 2 Bd2#; 1 ... other 2 Qd2#]

Website to Watch

The World Championship re-match between Carlsen and Anand takes place in Sochi from 8th to 27th November. www.sochi2014.fide.com is the official website but it is very uninspiring.

Window on the Web

So, Magnus Carlsen's opponent is Viswanathan Anand who lost the world championship last year and will be seeking to win the title back. I wonder whether Anand, as part of his preparation, will have visited Carlsen's website at www.magnuscarlsen.com.

Here he would see the challenge "Do you dare to play Magnus?" and could take the opportunity to play chess against the "official Magnus Carlsen-tuned chess engine with exclusive Magnus Carlsen training content" by downloading a free app. Although Anand doesn't need them, he could "earn points towards qualifying to play Magnus Carlsen live!"

The site has a biography of Carlsen and details of his career highlights. There is a link to Carlsen's YouTube channel www.youtube.com/magnuscarlsen which has been in operation for eight months. Twenty short videos have been posted, several of which involve the "Play Magnus" app including one in which Carlsen "plays himself" at age 5. He also reviews some tournaments in discussion with his manager, FM Aspen Agdestein.

The game of chess originated in India and possibly that fact will give an added incentive to Anand who has a huge following in the country. Carlsen, however, will not be able to visit Anand's own website. Although he has a twitter account, surprisingly Anand has no personal website. While world champion in 2008, Anand wrote an interesting article for *Time* on the history of chess, which can be found here : http://content.time.com/time/specials/2007/article/0,28804,1815747_1815707_1815674,00.html

Ron Jones

Result Round-up

Fenland Trophy

New England B	4d	Cambs Boffins	0d
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Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

New England A	½	Royston	4½
M Dunklev	½	L Varnam	½
S Caraway	0	A Stewart	1
P Hanks	0	S Doci	1
P Turp	0	K Clark	1
R Jones	0	P Kemp	1

New England A	2½	St Neots	2½
P Turp	0	P Brown	1
M Dunklev	1	A Chapman	0
S Caraway	½	R Gompelman	½
P Hanks	1	P Barkas	0
R Jones	0	C Emerv	1

Peterborough B	3½	New England B	½
A Summers	1	P Spencer	0
M Connolly	½	R Jones	½
N Fisher	1	D Lane	0
P Silman	1	J Sadler	0

New England B	1	Spalding	3
P Hanks	0	R Malczvk	1
P Spencer	0	P Golimouski	1
J Sadler	1	J Smith	0
J Parker	0	F Robinson	1

Team 550 Competition

Spalding	½	NE Cavaliers	3½
R Malczvk	½	P Turp	½
J Smith	0	R Jones	1
R Coats	0	D Lane	1
D Revnolds	0	M Tarabad	1

NE Patriots	3	NE Cavaliers	1
S Caraway	½	M Dunklev	½
P Spencer	½	R Jones	½
J Sadler	1	D Lane	0
P O'Gorman	1	S Walker	0

New England Club Ladder

White		Black	
M Tarabad	1	0	N Wedley
M Tarabad	1	0	I Garratt
J Parker	0	1	M Tarabad
N Foreman	0	1	P O'Gorman

Position	Change		Player	Record 29/10/14
	Month	Overall		
1	-	+1	D Lane	1
2	-	-1	M Tarabad	0,1,1,1
3	-	-	N Wedley	0
4	-	-	I Garratt	0
5	-	-	J Parker	0
6	-	-	P O'Gorman	1
7	-	-	N Foreman	0

Club Championship

Round 1			
C Russell	0	1	P Turp
Round 1.5			
P O'Gorman	0	1	J Parker (1)
Round 2			
D Lane (1)			J Sadler (1)
R Jones (1)			P Spencer (1)
P Hanks (1)	1	0	M Tarabad (0)
I Garratt (0)			S Walker (0)
M Dunkley (0)			N Wedley (0)
P Turp (P)			S Wozniak (0)
S Caraway (1)			C Russell (P)
B Sadler (0)	0	1	P O'Gorman(0)
Match night : 5th November. Deadline : 19th November. Next draw : 20th November			

New England Grand Prix

Player	Champ	Ladder	League	Cup	Team 550	Total	TPR*
M Tarabad	0	3			1	4	110
P Hanks	2		1			3	161
J Sadler	1		1		1	3	144
R Jones	1		½		1½	3	134
D Lane	1	1	0		1	3	108
P O'Gorman	1	1			1	3	99
S Caraway	1		½		½	2	160
M Dunkley	0		1½		½	2	160
J Parker	2	0	0			2	83
P Turp	1		0		½	1½	157
P Spencer	1		0		½	1½	130
C Russell	0					0	102
S Wozniak	0					0	91
N Wedley	0	0				0	85
I Garratt	0	0				0	47
S Walker	0				0	0	44
B Sadler	0					0	25
N Foreman		0				0	20

* approximate & includes Summer Sprint

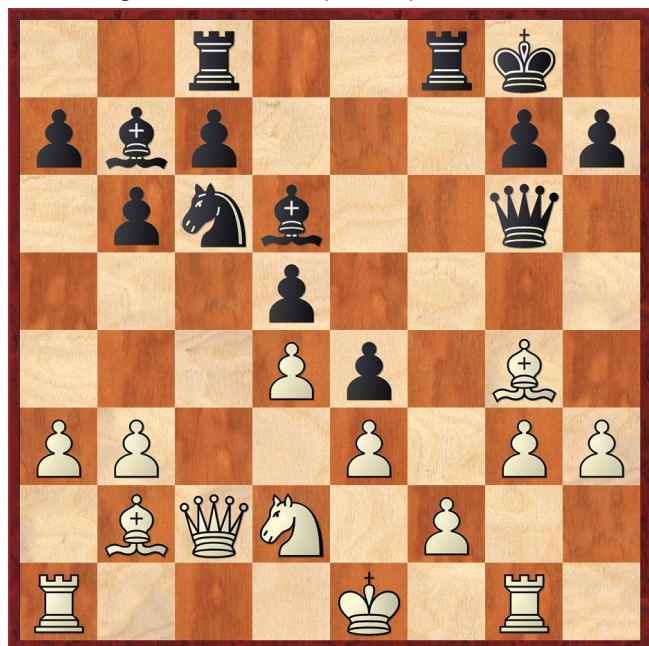
Match of the Month

You must have been told many times to learn from your mistakes. It seems in my case that this excellent

advice has fallen on deaf ears. If we go back three years, I was Black (to move) in the following position :-

S Caraway v P Hanks

New England Club Championship Rd 3, 18.05.2011



At this range, I cannot remember what on earth the rook is doing on c8 but it is under attack and without too much thought, I played

17 ... Rce8

but as I retracted my hand, I noticed

18 Bd7

which forks the pieces on e8 and c6. Evidently, with the urge to go constantly forward, I have a trait of assuming that my rearmost ranks are inviolable and tend to overlook thrusts into the heart of my position. Thankfully, while waiting for my opponent to reply, I saw

18 ... Qf7

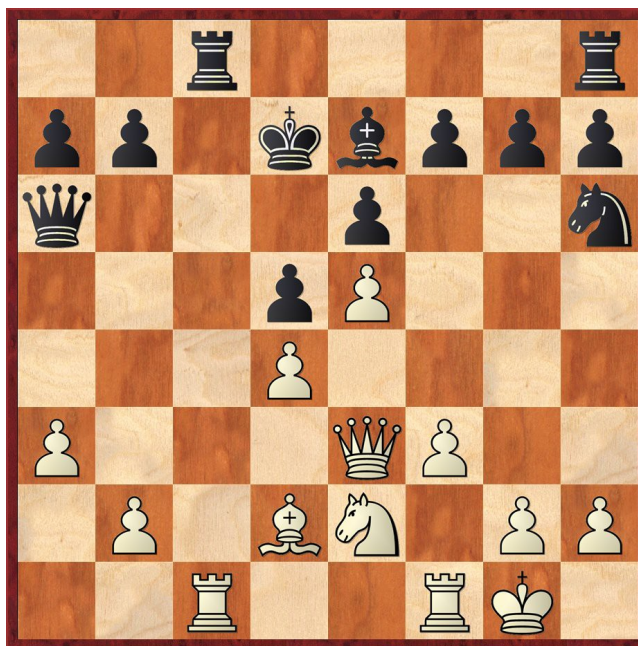
when I escape 19 Bxc6/e8 with 19 ... Qxf2+ mating (20 Kd1 Qxg1 21 Ke2 Rf2# is simplest) and White defending f2 gives me time to remove the intruder with 19 ... Qxd7. On this occasion, my oversight turned into a trap that enabled me to score an undeserved victory. Maybe that was why I failed to take proper heed!

Fast forward to the present. St Neots have propped up the first division of the county league recently but when they visited, their team was substantially stronger and we found ourselves hard-pressed.

After 20 moves, I had reached a comfortable position as White. The enemy king was exposed in the centre and the black kingside rook and knight were only now starting to participate. In fact, I needed to find something to counter 20 ... Nh6-f5 and 20 g4 came to mind. However, I thought I should not yet compromise the safety of my king, allow the knight move and drive it back later with g2-g4.

P Hanks v P Barkas

New England A v St Neots, 08.10.2014



So

20 Nc3

My analysis ran 20 ... Nf5 21 Qf4 when I threatened 22 g4 and 22 Nxd5. As previously, in my opponent's time, I realised my optimism was misplaced.

In the first instance, I did not like the look of Black exploiting a weak point in my position i.e. 20 ... Nf5 21 Qf4 Rc4 when the pawn on d4 is positively anaemic. Did I have a saving resource this time? I spent some effort (but thankfully not my time) springing my trap with 22 Nxd5.

- Straightforward play 22 ... Rhc8 23 Rxc4 Qxc4 24 Nxe7 Kxe7 25 Bc3 is fine for White
- Grasping the nettle with 22 ... Rxd4 looks fun. 23 Rc7+ Ke8 (23 ... Kd8 24 Rfc1) 24 Rxe7+
 - 24 ... Nxe7 25 Qxd4 is adequate but 25 Nc7+ Kd7 26 Qxd4+ Kxc7 is better
 - 24 ... Kf8 25 Rc1 Rxd5 26 Rd7 with material equality but Black's king is under great pressure
 - 24 ... Kd8 25 Qg5 h6 26 Rxe6 leads to an unbalanced position but the computer expects a draw

I had only seen part of this but it seemed promising and is easier to play as White.

20 ... Nf5
21 Qf2

My flights of fancy are made redundant by 21 Qf4 g5 22 Qg4 h5 23 Qh3 Qc4

21 ... Nxd4

Oops! I had not foreseen this but surely it fails to 22 Nxd5 (again) e.g. 22 ... exd5 23 Qxd4 or 22 ... Bc5 23 Rxc5 Rxc5 24 Nc3 with compensation. Alas, I am undone by 22 ... Ne2+ and White loses material.