

# New Englander

## Chess Club Update – May 2018

### Chairman's Chatter

Phew! It has seemed like a long season and with matches at an end, it is time to start filling the spaces on the club Honours Boards. Our collective achievements are catalogued in the tables contained in this newsletter but individually, there are still several internal events yet to be decided. Please support them as the formal season draws to a close.

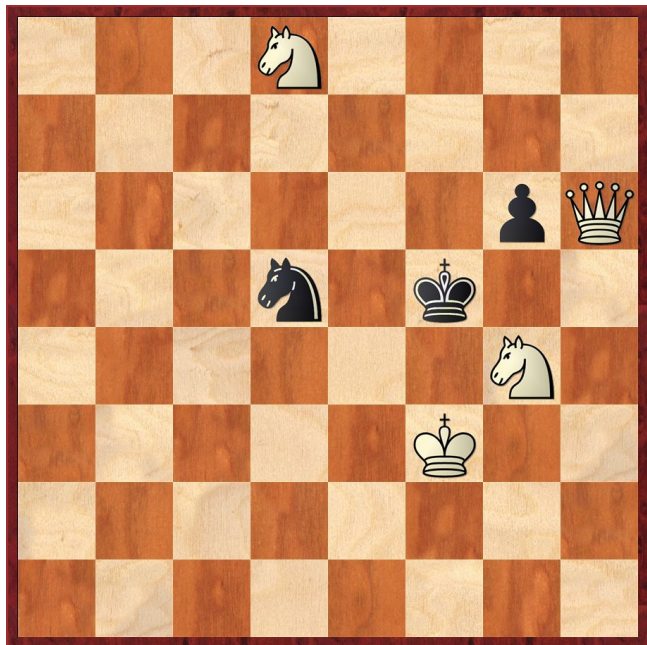
*Paul Hanks*

### Diary Dates

2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Club Rapidplay
9 <sup>th</sup> May	Club Championship Round 8
15 <sup>th</sup> May	CCCA Jamboree at Warboys
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Club Championship postponements
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Club Problem night
30 <sup>th</sup> May	Club AGM

### Puzzle Problem

White to play and mate in 2



Last Month's solution (B Barnes)

Position : K6B/p5rB/N5n1/8/P1k5/5R2/8/3R4

1 Rfd3 Rg8+ 2 Bxg8# [1 ... Rxh7 2 Rc3#; 1 ... Nxh8 2 Rc1#]

### Website to Watch

You probably know I am not a fan of Russian websites so it may be an idea to miss their Team Championship from 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May on [ruchess.ru](http://ruchess.ru). Instead, you can wait for the big guns to get into

action at the Altibox Norway Chess event with play from 28<sup>th</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> June. You can follow Carlsen and nine other elite grandmasters on [norwaychess.no/en](http://norwaychess.no/en).

### Result Round-up

#### Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

Warboys A	2	New England A	3
M Misson	½	R Ilett	½
B Duff	½	R Taylor	½
J Beck	0	P Walker	1
N Greenwood	½	P Hanks	½
P Baddeley	½	E Serban	½

Spalding	3	New England B	1
P Cusick	½	P Turp	½
T Nottingham	½	R Jones	½
P Szutkowski	1	D Lane	0
J Smith	1	M Tarabad	0

New England B	1½	Warboys C	2½
P Spencer	½	J Beck	½
R Jones	½	P Wells	½
D Lane	0	M Onyons	1
S Walker	½	D Bently	½

Division 1	P	W	D	L	Points	
					Game	Match
Royston	10	8	0	2	35½	16
Cambridge Scholars	10	7	0	3	31	14
New England A	10	5	1	4	26½	11
Warboys A	10	3	2	5	20½	8
Peterborough A	10	2	2	6	19½	6
St Neots	10	2	1	7	17	5

Division 2	P	W	D	L	Points	
					Game	Match
Spalding	10	7	2	1	28	16
Peterborough B	10	7	2	1	26½	16
Warboys C	10	3	3	4	20	9
Warboys B	10	3	2	5	18	8
New England B	10	3	1	6	18½	7
St Neots B	10	1	2	7	9	4

### Team 550 Competition

NE Cavaliers	1	Warboys N	3
P Hanks	½	C Watkins	½
R Jones	0	B Duff	1
D Lane	½	P Baddeley	½
M Ingram	0	M Onyons	1

North Division	P	W	D	L	Points	
					Game	Match
Warboys White Capes	8	8	0	0	25½	16
New England Patriots	8	3	2	3	16½	8
Spalding	8	2	2	4	15	6
New England Cavaliers	8	1	2	5	13	4
Godmanchester	8	2	2	4	10	6

### Fenland Plate : Final

NE Patriots	2	Peterborough	2
R Ilett	0	G Tandy	1
P Hanks	½	M Connolly	½
C Russell	½	N Fisher	½
P Weinberger	1	C Benson	0

### Club Championship

Round 3			
R Ilett (2)	1	0	E Serban (2)

Round 5			
P Spencer (3+P)	P	P	E Serban (3+P)

Round 6			
R Ilett (5)	1	0	P Spencer (3+P)

Round 7			
P Spencer (4+P)	0	1	P Walker (5)
E Serban (3+P)	1d	0d	F Bowers (4)
N Foreman (0+3P)	0	1	M Tarabad (2)
S Wozniak (2½)	1	0	S Walker (3)
N Foreman (0+4P)	½	½	P O'Gorman (3)
P Hanks (4½)	P	P	R Ilett (6)
T Ingram (2½)	P	P	R Jones (3)
D Lane (2)	P	P	M Williams (2)
J Parker (2)	P	P	J Sutherland (2)

### Round 8

P Weinb'r (4½)		R Ilett (6+P)
P Walker (6)		P Hanks (4½+P)
P O'Gorman (3½)		P Spencer (4+P)
C Russell (3)		E Serban (4+P)
R Jones (3+P)		S Wozniak (3½)
S Walker (3)		M Tarabad (3)
N Wedley (3)		D Lane (2+P)
J Sutherland (2+P)		T Ingram (2½+P)
M Williams (2+P)		M Ingram (2)
J Parker (2+P)		N Foreman (½+3P)

Match night : 9<sup>th</sup> May    Deadline : 24<sup>th</sup> May

### New England Club Ladder

White		Black	
P Weinberger	0	1	P Spencer
M Tarabad	0	1	P Weinberger
M Williams	1	0	P O'Gorman
P Walker	1	0	J Parker
T Ingram	0	1	M Tarabad
N Wedley	0	1	M Ingram

Position	Change		Player	Record @ 25/04/18
	Month	Overall		
1	-	+6	P Spencer	1,1,1
2	-	+17	J Sutherland	1
3	+1	-2	F Bowers	1,1,½,½,½,½,1,1
4	-1	-	P Hanks	1,1
5	+9	+6	P Weinberger	0,1,0,0,1
6	-	-	P Walker	0,½,1,1,1,1
7	-2	+5	M Tarabad	0,½,1,1,1,1,0,0,1
8	+3	+1	M Ingram	0,1,½,0,0,0,0,0,1
9	-2	-6	N Wedley	½,0,1,1,1,½,0,0,1,0,1,0
10	-2	-2	R Ilett	1,1,½,0,½,1
11	-1	-9	J Parker	0,½,1,0,0,1,½,1,0
12	-3	-7	S Walker	0,1,0
13	+6	+5	M Williams	0,1
14	-1	-	T Ingram	1,0,1,0,0,0,0
15	-3	-5	P O'Gorman	0,0,0,1,0,0
16	+1	-1	D Lane	0,0,1
17	_2	-1	I Garratt	0,0
18	-2	-5	R Jones	1
19	-1	-2	N Foreman	0,0

## New England Grand Prix

Player	Champ	Ladder	League	Cup	550 Team	Total	TPR*
F Bowers	4	5½	5½	1½	1½	18	168
P Hanks	4½	2	8½	2	1	18	162
R Ilett	6	4	3	2	2	17	171
P Walker	6	4½	5	1	1	17½	172
P Weinberger	4½	2	1	2	3½	13	115
P Spencer	4	3	3½		1½	12	139
M Tarabad	3	5½	1	½	2	12	86
N Wedley	3	6				9	107
J Parker	2	4	0	0	2½	8½	94
S Walker	3	1	½		4½	9	109
D Lane	2	1	4		1½	8½	96
R Jones	3	1	2½		1½	8	124
M Ingram	2	2½	1		2	7½	91
P O'Gorman	3½	1		½	1	6	75
C Russell	3			1	1½	5½	105
T Ingram	2½	2				4½	83
E Serban	3		1½			4½	139
S Wozniak	3½			½	½	4½	107
J Sutherland	2	1				3	76
M Williams	2	1				3	70
P Turp			0		1½	1½	146
R Taylor			½			½	158
N Foreman	½	0				½	41
I Garratt	0	0			0	0	27

\* Tournament Performance Rating is approximate and excludes Summer League

## Match of the Month

I did not fancy my chances in the following game. On the basis of grading, Steve is the sort of opponent I should beat but our only previous meeting ended in a draw. Furthermore, if any attempt to be aggressive misfires, he is good enough to take advantage. A real potential banana skin!

### S Wozniak v P Hanks

New England Club Championship (5), 14.03.2018

1 e4 e6  
2 d4 d5  
3 e5

I have some experience with the Advance Variation of the French Defence (see New Englander, August 2008 for an example).

3 ... c5  
4 c3 Nc6

In many games, Black plays a slight transposition 4 ... Qb6 but with the extra option 5 Nf3 Bd7 6 Be2 Bb5 to exchange White's dangerous light-squared bishop. 7 c4, however, leads to sharp play generally in White's favour.

5 Nf3 Bd7

5 ... Qb6 is the normal continuation which can lead to the gambit played in the earlier article. The text move is more flexible on a number of levels.

- it sidesteps any preparation of the main line
- it is a useful waiting move to see if White will develop with the cramping Nb1-d2 or Bf1-d3 which allows c5-c4 with tempo
- it gives Black a range of plans including Ra8-c8 with play down the c file or eventually supporting b7-b5 and a queenside pawn advance
- one normal try might be 6 Bg5 Be7 7 Bxe7 Ngxe7 8 dxc5 but Black's lead in development regains the pawn with 8 ... Qc7 9 Qe2 Ng6 when White's central presence has evaporated.

6 a3

The strategic landscape is now set. Black has fixed the pawn on d4 and intends to attack it. White sees that this will involve c5xd4 and then, the c5 square can become an outpost for a white knight buttressed by b2-b4.

6 ... Qb6

6 ... c4 (Haba v Jurek, Lazne Bohdanec 1999) is the recommended move. One reason is that it leaves the b6 square vacant for Black's king's knight in preparation for occupying a4 with the light-squared bishop. Long term thinking indeed!

7 Be2 Nge7  
8 b4 cxd4  
9 cxd4 Nf5  
10 Be3

So far both sides are consistent but Black has to decide how to continue. The d4 pawn is adequately protected though I should have considered 10 ... g5. Superficially, Black gives up a flank pawn for the central strategic target i.e. 11 N/Bxg5 Ncxd4 but it is not that simple tactically.

In the first instance, 10 ... g5 11 Nxg5 Nfxd4 fails to 12 Bh5 and 11 ... Ncxd4 12 Bh5 needs analysis of 12 ... Nxe3 13 fxe3 Nc2+ 14 Qxc2 Qxe3+ 15 Qe2 Qxg5 and 13 Bxf7+ Ke7 14 fxe3 Nf5 15 Qf3 Bh6 when White struggles to hold on to all his pieces. Sadly, 10 ... g5 just provokes 11 h3 leaving me with a potential weakness.

I did think about 10 ... a5 but White can play 11 b5. Without my pawn thrust, I can respond to b4-b5 with Nc6-a5 e.g. 10 ... Rc8 11 b5 Na5 12 a4 (the only way to defend b5 due to 12 Qd3 Nxe3 13 fxe3 Rc1+) 12 ... Bb4+ 13 Nbd2 Rc3 with a lot of pressure.

10 ... Rc8  
11 0-0 Be7

## 12 Nbd2

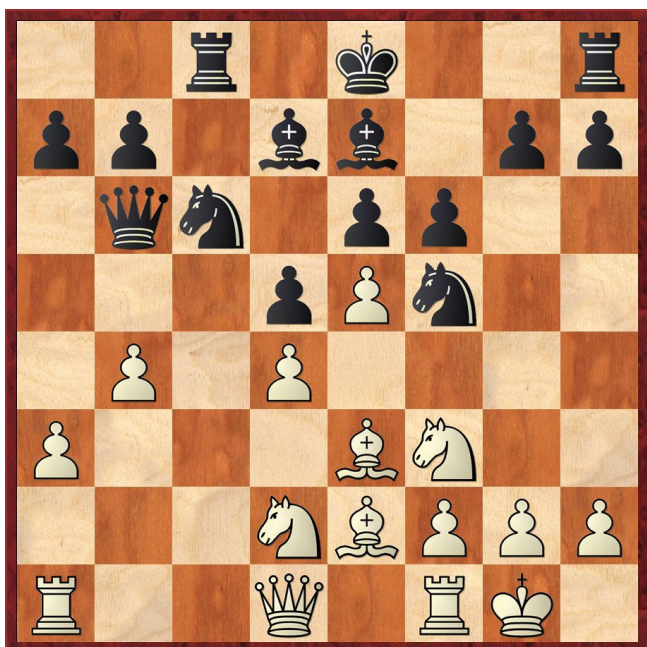
Is it a bluff? Obviously not 12 ... Nfxd4 13 b5 but 12 ... Ncxd4 13 Nxd4 Nxd4? After 14 Bd3 to prevent 14 ... Nxe2+, White threatens 15 Nb3 and 15 Qg4. Black can maintain equality by finding 14 ... f5 15 Nb3 Ba4 16 Bc2 with the sort of complications that are a nightmare over the board.

- 16 ... Qc7 17 Qxd4 Qxc2 18 Rfc1
- 16 ... Nxc2 17 Bxb6 Nxa1 18 Qxa1 axb6
- 16 ... Rxc2 17 Nxd4 f4

I could not thread my way this far through the labyrinth but it was easy to see sufficient compensation.

I did not want to play 12 ... Nxe3 despite obtaining the bishop pair because White would rid himself of the doubled pawns by e3-e4 in due course and start an onslaught with the centre pawns. I contemplated the routine 12 ... 0-0 but thought I may need my king defending the bishop on d7 when White's knight arrives at c5. I decided on the most forceful variation.

12 ... f6



## 13 Nb3

I expected, and was only concerned by, 13 exf6 Bxf6 14 Nb3 0-0 15 Nc5 when White is closer to achieving his strategic aims.

13 ... fxe5

Instead, Black's dream has come true (14 dxe5 Nxe3 15 fxe3 Qxe3+ etc.)

## 14 b5

Black now comes out a pawn ahead in all variations viz. 14 Nc5 e4 15 Nxd7 Kxd7

- 16 b5 exf3 17 bxc6+ Qxc6 18 Bxf3
- 16 Ne5+ Nxe5 17 dxe5 Nxe3 18 fxe3 Qxe3+
- 16 Ne1 Ncxd4 17 Bg4 Nxe3 18 fxe3 h5 19 Bh3 g5 20 Qxd4 Qxd4 21 exd4 g4 22 Bxg4 hxg4.

14 ... Ncxd4

## 15 Bxd4

15 Nbx4 exd4 16 Nxd4 Nxe3 17 fxe3 e5 18 Nc2 when Black has an edge if he can consolidate enough to shield his uncastled king. Thus 18 ... Be6 is more prudent than 18 ... Bxb5 19 Bxb5+ Qxb5 20 Nb4.

15 ... Nxd4

After 15 ... exd4, captures would transpose and 16 Bd3 0-0 leaves Black with a solid material advantage.

## 16 Nbx4

16 Nxe5 Nxe2+ 17 Qxe2 Bxb5 looked depressing for White but I needed to look deeper at 18 Qh5+ g6 19 Nxc6 hxg6 20 Qxh8+ Kd7 21 Qh3 Bxf1 22 Rxf1 Rc2 or 22 ... Bxa3 until being sure of a pleasant position.

16 ... exd4

17 Nxd4

White has alternatives e.g. 17 Ne5 Bf6 18 Nxd7 Kxd7 but it is really too late.

17 ... Bf6

18 Nb3 Bxa1

19 Qxa1 0-0

Open files, central pawns, extra material. What more does Black want? It should now be a matter of mopping up.

20 a4 Qd6

21 Nd4 Rf6

I was tempted by the superior 21 ... e5 22 Nf3 Bg4 23 h3 Bxf3 24 Bxf3 but thought I could clinch the game with a kingside assault.

22 Nf3 Rf5

23 Bd3 Rh5

24 Qb1

24 Re1 would avoid immediate collapse.

24 ... Rf8

25 g4

To avoid 25 ... Rxf3, I expected 25 h3 but Fritz tells me I should still continue with 25 ... Rxf3 because Black has a massive attack. Most likely, I should have preferred 26 gxf3 (26 Be2 is an interesting sideline) 26 ... Rxh3 27 Rd1 Qh2+ 28 Kf1 Qe5 (or 28 ... Rxf3) 29 Kg1 Qh5 30 Kf1 Qxf3 31 Ke1 e5 32 Be2 Qc3+ 33 Rd2 (33 Kf1 Rh1+ mating) Rh1+ 34 Bf1 Bh3 etc.

Much of this analysis also applies to 25 h4 Rxf3.

25 ... Rh3

26 Ne5 Qxe5 0-1

Afterwards, Steve felt frustrated by not making any headway in the game. On the contrary, I felt fortunate. Both players started logically and except for White's move 13, I was being slowly outplayed in the opening.

*Paul Hanks*



### Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

A Team	Cup	Cambridgeshire League										Score	Appearances	Grading	
	Peterborough 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Royston 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Cambridge 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Peterborough A 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Warboys A 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Peterborough A 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Royston 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Cambridge 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	St Neots 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar	St Neots 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Warboys A 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr			Opponent Average	Performance
Ray Ilett	½	½	½	0	0	0	1	0	½	1d	½	3½+1d	11	184	169
Peter Walker	0	0	½	0	1	1	0	½	1	1d	1	5+1d	11	172	172
Francis Bowers		0	1	1	½	½	0	0	1			4	8	168	168
Bob Taylor									½	1d	½	1+1d	3	158	158
Paul Hanks	½	½	1	1	½	½	½		1	1d	½	6+1d	10	158	175
Emil Serban		1	0		0		0			1d	½	1½+1d	6	155	135
Ron Jones								0				0	1	154	104
Paul Spencer				½		1		0				1½	3	146	145
Jason Parker	0											0	1	127	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5d</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27½</b>		-	-
<b>Sum of opponents' grades</b>	650	942	874	830	789	749	942	879	759	-	727	based on grades at start of the season			
<b>Sum of New England grades</b>	596	795	795	781	795	781	795	744	823	803	803				
B Team											Score	Appearances	Grading		
	Warboys C 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Warboys B 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Spalding 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	St Neots B 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Warboys B 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	St Neots B 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Peterborough B 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Peterborough B 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Spalding 17 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Warboys C 25 <sup>th</sup> Apr			Opponent Average	Performance	
Francis Bowers	½	1										1½	2	158	183
Paul Hanks			½	1		1	½					3	4	153	178
Phil Turp								0	½			½	2	164	139
Paul Spencer			½		0	0	½	½		½		2	6	145	128
Ron Jones	0	0	½	1d	½	1d	½	½	½	½	½	3+2d	10	135	122
Des Lane	0	0	0		0	1	1	1	0	0		3	9	108	98
Mahmoud Tarabad	0			1					0			1	3	107	90
Steve Walker										½		½	1	88	88
Peter Weinberger					1							1	1	66	116
Jason Parker		0										0	1	117	67
Mike Ingram				1								1	1	100	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>½</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1½</b>		<b>18½</b>		-	-
<b>Sum of opponents' grades</b>	507	552	531	462	437	513	576	565	552	461	based on grades at start of the season				
<b>Sum of New England grades</b>	487	502	522	466	463	522	522	501	462	468					

## Cambridgeshire Team 550 Competition

NE Patriots	Plate			Team 550								Score	Appearances	Grading	
	St Neots 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Warboys Y 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Peterborough 25 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Spalding 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Godmanchester 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	NE Cavaliers 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Godmanchester 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	NE Cavaliers 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Spalding 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Warboys N 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Warboys N 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar			Opponent Average	Performance
Ray Ilett	1	½	0	½					1	0	½	3½	7	158	158
Paul Hanks	½	½	½		½							2	4	142	142
Paul Spencer							1	½			0	1½	3	133	133
Chris Russell	0	½	½	½	0	½			½	0		2½	8	123	104
Steve Walker				1		1	1	1			½	4½	5	111	151
Peter Weinberger		1	1				1	1	1	½		5½	6	93	135
Jason Parker					1		1	0	0		½	2½	5	102	102
Steve Wozniak	½			0		½						1	3	101	84
Ivan Garratt					0	0						0	2	69	18
Peter O'Gorman										0		0	1	115	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>2½</b>	<b>½</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>23</b>		-	-
<b>Sum of opponents' grades</b>	474	531	540	474	366	427	366	427	531	550	550	based on grades at start of the season without 100 as fixed minimum			
<b>Sum of Patriots grades</b>	549	542	541	495	421	370	431	431	487	464	505				

NE Cavaliers	Plate		Team 550								Score	Appearances	Grading	
	Royston 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Peterborough 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Godmanchester 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	NE Patriots 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Spalding 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Godmanchester 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	NE Patriots 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Spalding 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Warboys N 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Warboys N 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr			Opponent Average	Performance
Peter Walker	½	½							1		2	3	160	176
Francis Bowers	1	½			1					½	3	4	146	171
Paul Hanks										½	½	1	164	164
Phil Turp					1	½					1½	2	129	154
Ron Jones				½			½	½	0		1½	4	134	114
Des Lane			0	½	1		0	0	0		1½	6	113	92
Mike Ingram		0	0	0		1	1	0			2	7	110	89
Mahmoud Tarabad	0	½	1	1	0	0	0		0		2½	8	85	67
Peter O'Gorman	½		1			0					1½	3	71	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>1½</b>	<b>½</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>		-	-
<b>Sum of opponents' grades</b>	528	516	366	370	475	366	431	477	535	550	based on grades at start of the season without 100 as fixed minimum			
<b>Sum of Cavaliers grades</b>	493	514	387	427	503	405	427	503	487	496				