

## MIDLAND COUNTIES CHESS UNION

## NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1990

**Editorial Introduction**

This is my first MCCU Newsletter. I have previously been editor of the Manchester and District Chess Association Bulletin, and am currently editor of the Greater Manchester Newsletter. As editor I am hired, and fireable, by Bruce Holland, MCCU Director for Public Relations. I have full freedom to choose what goes into the MCCU Newsletter, libel laws permitting. What goes in will to some extent depend on what is submitted by you the reader. The deadline for the next Newsletter is 17 December 1990. Early submission of material will allow time for proof-reading and mutually agreeable editing.

*Eric Nowell*

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**Midland Counties Chess Union****British Championship Qualifying Tournament**

June 15th - 17th 1990

Great Barr School and Leisure Centre.  
Birmingham

*Report from Bruce Holland*

*MCCU Director for Public Relations*

For the second year running the Midland Counties Chess Union provided a qualifier from the ranks of junior players. Fifteen year old Dharshan Kumaran from Harrow was one of the players to be granted a place at the British Championships, by virtue of coming equal second in the tournament. Lawrence Cooper from Stafford also qualified. Players who had already qualified were able to take part in the Tournament, which was a Leigh Grand Prix event, and the outright winner was Susan Arkell, Britain's leading woman chess player, who recovered from a losing position in the last round to beat J.H. Shepley from Guildford, to win with a score of 5 out of 6. Susan's husband Keith was also taking part, but an early defeat against Ian Dutton

took him out of contention for the lead, although he did finish as one of the players in joint second position. Susan and Keith were already qualified for entry to the British Championship. Craig Dawson gained an entry but declined because he was unable to attend. There was also a Minor (U125) Tournament..

*British Qualifying Tournament*

|      |                  |             |         |
|------|------------------|-------------|---------|
| 1st  | Susan Arkell     | (Breadsall) | 5.0/6 ; |
| 2nd= | Keith Arkell     | (Breadsall, |         |
|      | Lawrence Cooper  | (Stafford), |         |
|      | Craig Dawson     | (Kynoch),   |         |
|      | Dharshan Kumaran | (Harrow)    | 4.5/6 . |

*Birmingham Minor Tournament*

|      |                  |                     |         |
|------|------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 1st  | Warren Archibald | (Olton)             | 5.0/6 ; |
| 2nd= | Robert Carter    | (Birmingham),       |         |
|      | Patrick Finglass | (Olton),            |         |
|      | John Lewis       | (Warley Quinborne), |         |
|      | Tony Russell     | (Kenilworth),       |         |
|      | Roy Tuckey       | (Birmingham),       |         |
|      | Lenston Johnson  | (Birmingham)        | 4.5/6 ; |

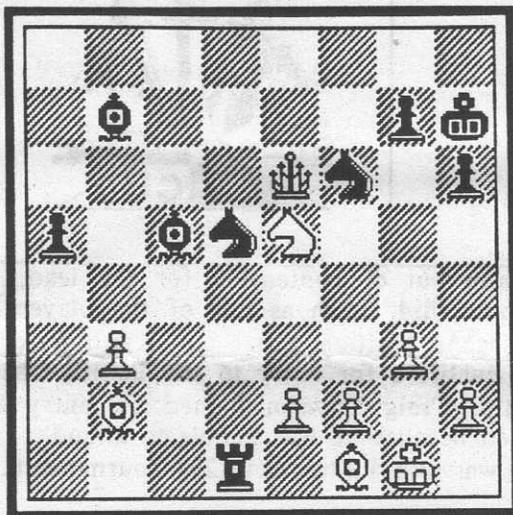
The following game score came from Round 5 where the eventual winner Susan Arkell beat one of the joint leaders at that stage - 15 year old Stephen Cullip of Rushden - who was having a serious crack at qualifying.

White : Susan Arkell

Black : Stephen Cullip

1 e4 c5 2 c3 d5 3 exd5 Qxd5 4 d4 Nc6 5 Nf3 e6 6 Bd3 Nf6 7 0-0 cxd4 8 cxd4 Be7 9 Nc3 Qd6 10 Bg5 0-0 11 Rcl Rd8 12 Nb5 Qd7 13 Ne5 Nxe5 14 Rc7 Nxd3 15 Rxd7 Bxd7 16 Qxd3 Bc6 17 Bf4 Nd5 18 Be5 Rd7 19 a3 a6 20 Nc3 Nxc3 21 Qxc3 Rd5 22 Rel Rc8 23 h3 Bd7 24 Qe3 f6 25 Bf4 Rc4 26 Qb3 b5 27 Be3 Bd6 28 Qd3 f5 29 Rcl f4 30 Rxc4 bxc4 31 Qxc4 fxe3 32 fxe3 Rb5 33 Qc3 Kf7 34 e4 e5 35 d5 a5 36 Kh2 a4 37 Qf3 ch Kg8 38 Qf2 Bc5 39 Qc2 Be3 40 Qc7 Bf4 ch 41 Kgl Be8 42 Qc8 Kf8 43 d6 Rxb2 44 d7 Rbl ch 45 Kf2 Rb2 ch 46 Kf3 Rb3 ch 47 Kg4 h5 ch 48 Kf5 g6 ch 49 Ke6, and Black resigns.

In the final round Susan Arkell played another hopeful for qualifying, J.H.Shepley from Guildford.



J.H.Shepley v S.Arkell  
Position after Black's 33rd move

It was a case of winner takes all, and with the diagrammed position, after Black's 33rd move, Susan Arkell comments that it looks as if White can win material with 34 Qf5 ch Kg8 35 Qc2, but 35 ... Ne3 !! wins for Black. The actual continuation was 34 Ng4 Nxf4 35 Qxg4 Bxf2 ch 36 Kxf2 Rxf1 37 Kxf1 Ne3 ch 38 Kg1 Nxf4, with an easy win for Black.

#### The Harry Baines Memorial British Chess Federation Congress, Eastbourne 1990

*Devonshire Park Exhibition Halls,  
30 July - 11 August.*

The 77th Championships of the British Chess Federation, named in memory of Harry Baines, the late Chief Arbiter of the Federation, attracted 923 entries to 28 tournaments. The Congress received very generous financial support from Mr. Baines' family.

The strength of the British Championship was a record, with ten GMs, sixteen Masters, one WGM and three WMs in the field of seventy-four.

Jim (The Kid) Plaskett was the least favoured of the GMs, but in winning, with 9/11, he met six GMs and had a tournament rating of 2737. The leading scores were :

|    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| 1  | H J Plaskett (Bedford)   | 9/11 |
| 2  | J Hodgson (London)   | 8.5  |
| 3  | J Mestel (Cambridge)   | 8.0  |
| 4= | M Adams (Truro),<br>J Emms (Norwich),<br>D King (Richmond),<br>J Speelman (London)   | 7.5  |
| 8= | A Ledger (Bedford),<br>C McNab (Dundee)<br>A Muir (Scotland)<br>N Murshed (Bangladesh)<br>M Suba (London)<br>W Watson (London)<br>P Wells (Oxford) | 7    |

Michael Adams retained the Under-21 title, which he has now won for four of the past five years. Susan Arkell (Derby) won the British Ladies' title by scoring 6/11 in the Championship Tournament.

Some more scores by Midland players in the Championship : Keith Arkell (Derby) and Glenn Flear (Leicester) 6.5; Mark Hebden (Leicester), Graeme Buckley (Wolverhampton), Chris Ward and Philip Morris (Leicester University) 6; Adam Collinson (Kenilworth), Stephen Cullip (Rushden), Dharshan Kumaran (Qualified at Birmingham), Jonathan Parker (Edinburgh, formerly Nottingham) 5.5; Simon Bibby (Sutton Coldfield), Lawrence Cooper (Stafford) 5; Christine Flear (Leicester), Vic Knox (Cheadle) 4.5; Andrew Bryce (Midland nominee), David Knox (Cheadle) 3.5.

In the U-18 Championship Stephen Calderwood (Coalville) shared first place on 8/11.

In the U-15 Championship Stephen Joseph (Stapleford) shared first place on 5.5/7.

In the U-14 Championship Joe Vere (Draycott) took first place with 6/7.

These three are currently MCCU Junior Champions : Stephen Joseph at U-18, Stephen Calderwood at U-16, and Joe Vere at U-14. Each received support from the MCCU, in the form of free (to the player) entry.

In the Major Open, Jonathan Nelson was first equal, on 8/11, and so qualifies for next year's British Championship.

After an absence of about a decade from chess, Jim Nicolson, a founder member of Greater Manchester County Chess Association, made a return in the Veteran's event, and took second place, behind P.C.Hoad.

## The Formal Structure of the MCCU

The day to day affairs of the Midland Counties Chess Union are run by a Board, which meets formally at least four times a year, and which is answerable to the Annual General Meeting held in June and an Extra-ordinary General Meeting held in November.

At the AGM held in June 1990 the following directors were elected to the Board.

|                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chief Executive  | Neil Graham (Nottinghamshire) |
| Finance          | Les Roberts (Shropshire)      |
| Events           | Robert Milner (Staffordshire) |
| Junior Chess     | Graham Humphries (Staffs.)    |
| Grading          | Roger Edwards (Staffordshire) |
| Public Relations | Bruce Holland (Warks.)        |
| Non-executive    | John Hoddy (Derbys.)          |
|                  | Andrew Leadbetter (Staffs.)   |

All the posts are honorary, and the executive directors are expected to act individually within their terms of reference and delegate tasks to others as necessary. The non-executive directors function as "watch dogs" on behalf of the General Meetings of the Union, to make sure that radical changes from custom and practice or new initiatives are likely to gain the wider acceptance of the member County Associations. The General Meetings of the Union are attended by elected and appointed officials, and delegates from the County Chess Associations. These arrangements are designed to strike a fair balance between the organisation being responsive to opportunities as they arise whilst remaining under democratic control.

## Midland Counties Chess Union

### Correspondence Championship 1989-90

Report from Geoff Kendall

|   |                                 |                                |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Warwickshire                    | 22                             |
| 2 | Leicestershire                  | 21                             |
| 3 | Derbyshire                      | 18 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| 4 | Nottinghamshire                 | 16 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| 5 | Lincolnshire & South Humberside | 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| 6 | Worcestershire                  | 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
|   | Greater Manchester 1st          | 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| 8 | Staffordshire                   | 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| 9 | Greater Manchester 2nd          | 8                              |

### Guaranteed Grading

By Neil Graham

What is the service that most chess players are interested in? No doubt about the answer to this - grading! The Grading Service, administered by the British Chess Federation through their computer at Hastings and fed by a tireless regional and local network of graders, is the jewel in the Federation's crown. A problem is that some events are ungraded. Consequently from January 1991 the MCCU will be

introducing the "Guaranteed Grading" Scheme. The key-stones of this will be as follows:

- (1) The MCCU will guarantee that all events/tournaments subscribing to the scheme will be graded. The Union will initiate a logo to be published on all literature as a guarantee that the event will be graded.
  - (2) The Grading List is copyright the MCCU/BCF - events not covered by the guaranteed scheme will not be allowed to publish grades at their congress/event. Similarly this would mean non scheme events could not offer grading prizes.
  - (3) The MCCU will make a charge for grading events.
- However the Union will offer the following benefits:-
- (a) A national grading list supplied to all events.
  - (b) Check credentials of any ungraded players, with access to full grading services.
  - (c) Advertising of events in MCCU list.
  - (d) Feedback of performances after grading.
  - (e) Future benefits of sponsorship/mailling lists as scheme develops.

## Midland Club Competitions 1989-90

### Championship Round 1

|                 |                               |                               |                    |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Bushbury        | 2                             | 4                             | C.E.T. Whoberley   |
| Mansfield       | 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Sutton in Ashfield |
| Wigston         | 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Northampton        |
| Lichfield       | 1                             | 5                             | Stafford           |
| Warwick Univ'ty | 6                             | 0                             | Worcester          |

### Championship Round 2

|                    |           |   |                    |
|--------------------|-----------|---|--------------------|
| Stafford           | 4         | 2 | Warwick University |
| Sutton in Ashfield | withdrew. |   |                    |

Leicester Academicals entered late and had a bye.

### Championship Semi-Final

Leicester Academicals lost to Wigston

|                  |   |   |          |
|------------------|---|---|----------|
| C.E.T. Whoberley | 5 | 1 | Stafford |
|------------------|---|---|----------|

### Championship Final

C.E.T. Whoberley v Wigston

All the games were drawn. The match is to be replayed.

### Championship Plate

Bushbury defaulted to Northampton. No-one else seemed prepared to play.

### Minor Round 1

|             |   |   |             |
|-------------|---|---|-------------|
| Cheddleton  | 4 | 1 | Mansfield A |
| Stafford    | 2 | 3 | Bushbury    |
| Mansfield B | 3 | 2 | Wigston     |
| Worcester   | 3 | 2 | Lichfield   |

### Minor Semi-Finals

|             |                               |                               |            |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Bushbury    | 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Worcester  |
| Mansfield B | 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Cheddleton |

### Minor Final

|            |   |   |          |
|------------|---|---|----------|
| Cheddleton | 3 | 2 | Bushbury |
|------------|---|---|----------|

### Minor Plate Final

(Wigston and Lichfield withdrew.)

|             |                               |                               |          |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Mansfield A | 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Stafford |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|

**British U-18 Championship, Eastbourne, 1990***From Stephen Calderwood***Round Ten**

White : S Calderwood (174J)

Black : N Jakubovics (180J0)

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6 3 Bf4 Bf5 4 Nbd2 e6  
 5 e3 Be7 6 Be2 Nbd7 7 h3 h6 8 c3 c5 9  
 dxc5 Nxc5 10 Bb5 ch Nfd7 11 Ne5 0-0 12  
 Nxd7 Nxd7 13 0-0 a6 14 Bxd7 Qxd7 15  
 Nf3 Qb5 16 Nd4 Qxb2 17 Nxf5 exf5 18  
 Qxd5 Rfd8 19 Qxf5 Qxc3 20 Rac1 Qf6 21  
 Qe4 Rd7 22 Bc7 Bd6 23 Qxb7 Rad8 24 g3  
 Qe6 25 Rc6 Qxa2 26 Rxd6 Rxd6 27 Bxd6  
 Qe6 28 Bc5, and Black resigns.

**M.C.C.U. Under-18 Team Championships 1990***Open*

Maximum points : 12.

|   |                                |      |
|---|--------------------------------|------|
| 1 | Warwickshire                   | 10.5 |
| 2 | Greater Manchester             | 10.0 |
| 3 | Humberside                     | 7.5  |
| 4 | Staffordshire                  | 7.0  |
| 5 | Nottinghamshire                | 5.5  |
| 6 | Herefordshire & Worcestershire | 4.0  |
| 7 | Lincolnshire                   | 3.0  |
| 8 | Derbyshire                     | 0.5  |

*Girls*

Leicestershire 3.5 2.5 Humberside

**National Youth C A U-16 Team Championship**

*Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall.*  
 10 March 1990.

*Championship (Maximum points : 36)*

|   |                    |      |
|---|--------------------|------|
| 1 | Surrey             | 26.5 |
| 2 | Gloucestershire    | 20.5 |
| 3 | Greater Manchester | 20.0 |
| 4 | Humberside         | 19.5 |
| 5 | Staffordshire      | 15.0 |

*Major*

|   |                       |      |
|---|-----------------------|------|
| 1 | South Buckinghamshire | 26.5 |
| 2 | Glamorgan A           | 21.0 |
| 3 | Hampshire             | 19.0 |
| 4 | Birmingham            | 17.0 |
| 5 | Glamorgan B           | 16.5 |
| 6 | Greater Manchester B  | 14.0 |
| 7 | Berkshire             | 9.0  |
| 8 | Lincolnshire          | 8.5  |

**National Under-18 Championships 1990***Cobden Hotel, Hagley Road, Birmingham.*

Maximum score : 11.

|     |                      |     |
|-----|----------------------|-----|
| 1   | Warwickshire         | 9.5 |
| 2-3 | Hampshire, Middlesex | 7.5 |
| 4   | Durham               | 4.0 |
| 5   | East Glamorgan       | 0.5 |

*Minor*

|   |                |     |
|---|----------------|-----|
| 1 | Suffolk        | 8.0 |
| 2 | Humberside     | 7.0 |
| 3 | Northumberland | 6.0 |

*Girls Championship*

|     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 1   | Middlesex        |
| 2-3 | Hampshire, Gwent |

*Girls Minor*

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1 | Oxfordshire |
| 2 | Humberside  |

**English Counties Championship 1989-90***Quarter-Finals*

|                    |                                |                               |                 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Hertfordshire      | 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Leicestershire  |
| Kent               | 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Lancashire      |
| Northumberland     | 10                             | 6                             | Hampshire       |
| Greater Manchester | 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | Gloucestershire |

*Semi-Finals*

|                 |      |   |                |
|-----------------|------|---|----------------|
| Gtr. Manchester | 11   | 9 | Kent           |
| Hertfordshire   | beat |   | Northumberland |

*Final*

|               |   |   |                 |
|---------------|---|---|-----------------|
| Hertfordshire | 7 | 9 | Gtr. Manchester |
|---------------|---|---|-----------------|

|              |     |     |             |
|--------------|-----|-----|-------------|
| P.Littlewood | 1   | 0   | J.Horner    |
| C.Majer      | 0   | 1   | M.Orr       |
| S.Knott      | 1   | 0   | O.A.Jackson |
| S.Swanson    | 0   | 1   | R.A.Beach   |
| P.Byway      | 1/2 | 1/2 | V.W.Knox    |
| J.Foulger    | 1/2 | 1/2 | M.Surtees   |
| A.Simpson    | 1   | 0   | M.Firth     |
| T.Hemingway  | 1/2 | 1/2 | J.Smith     |
| S.Roe        | 1   | 0   | J.Naylor    |
| P.Macguire   | 1   | 0   | P.Siddall   |
| P.Brown      | 1/2 | 1/2 | D.A.Knox    |
| K.Clark      | 0   | 1   | A.Reeve     |
| J.Denton     | 1/2 | 1/2 | P.Adams     |
| H.Tebbs      | 0   | 1   | H.Lamb      |
| S.Law        | 0   | 1   | G.P.Burton  |
| J.Cook       | 0   | 1   | S.Clarke    |