

HERTFORDSHIRE

CHESS

ASSOCIATION

1978-79

## EDITORIAL

The Editor wishes to apologise for the very late arrival of this issue of the magazine. In mitigation he wishes to plead a year's strenuous absence in the Northern wastes, to wit Manchester, and the acquisition of a new home, a new job, a wife, and even a new duty in the Hertfordshire Chess Association. The next issue of the magazine should be produced rather more promptly and appear in September or October of this year.

Several qualifications are necessary concerning this issue. You should note that the list of officers is not the same as for the current 1979-80 season; perhaps the most important changes for the current season are that Mr. K.L. Woodland is Match Captain for both the County Second and Third Teams, and that the Editor is (unfortunately) also the County First Team Captain. We have decided not to print the County match results in full as a result of the wishes of previous A.G.M.'s in considering that this would be an unnecessary expenditure of paper and time; however, the Editor would be quite willing to include these in future issues if enough people feel strongly about their omission and ask for the inclusion.

Also this issue carries a long-overdue section on Postal Chess but has only a brief piece on Junior Chess. It is hoped to make up for this in the next issue of the magazine, in particular by including a report on the 1979 Junior Congress. The Editor would be glad to receive any articles or games for the magazine at his current address: 29 Springfields, Broxbourne, Herts. Finally, he would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Brian Drury for their assistance in producing this, and of course his patient wife for helping with the typing.

A.C. Cooper

### 1978-79 Junior Chess

The Herts. Junior Leagues are organised into local zones during the first school term with the top teams going forward to the County-wide interzone knockout stage which is completed before May. This is because the schools understandably do not like playing chess during the summer months which is invaded by public examinations, so this means cramming all the matches into two terms.

As usual Watford Boys' School and St. Albans School dominated the competitions. Behind them came a whole of teams that are very closely matched, all with some good players. Then there is a further group of fairly weak but very keen school teams. Over 30 schools now take part in the leagues and this has encouraged schools to develop their chess clubs. The local zone stages encourage keen competition amongst schools.

<u>Under-14 competition:</u>	Winners: Watford Boys' School
	Runners up: St. Columbia School
<u>Under-16 competition:</u>	Winners: Watford Boys' School
	Runners up: St. Albans School
<u>Under-19 competition:</u>	Winners: St. Albans School
	Runners up: Mount Grace School
<u>Knockout Cup:</u>	Winners: St. Albans School
	Runners up: Richard Hale School, Hertford.

HERTFORDSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION 1978-79Officers

President: B. A. Fewell ..... 41 Station Road, Harpenden, Herts.  
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Secretary: B. G. Drury ..... 46 Astwick Road, Stotfold, Hitchin,  
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Treasurer & Registration  
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Tel: Hitchin (0462) 33248.

League Secretary: E. S. Judge ..... 34 Cranborne Avenue, Hitchin.  
Tel: Hitchin 33520

Tournament Secretary: B. G. Drury..... 46 Astwick Road, Stotfold, Hitchin.  
Tel: Hitchin 730611

Congress Organiser: J. G. Jones..... 7 Kipling Close, Hitchin.  
Tel: Hitchin 54171

County Grader: R. Talbot ..... 9 Sadleir Road, St. Albans.  
Tel: St. A. 63177

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Magazine Editor: A. C. Cooper ..... Tam O'Shanter Cottage, Coopers End,  
Takeley, Bishops Stortford, Herts.  
Tel: Bishops Stortford 870513

Match Captains:

S.C.C.U. Championship: J. Cook..... 6 Gibbs Close, Cheshunt.  
Tel: Waltham Cross 33837

Montague-Jones Trophy: D. P. Young..... 29 St. David's Drive, Broxbourne.  
Tel: Hoddesdon 62376

Correspondence Chess Conductor:  
E. G. D. Crowden..... 39 Puller Road, Barnet.

Chilterns League: K. L. Woodland..... 22 Birley Road, London N.20.  
Tel: 01-445-5104

Mr. Woodland is also County Fixtures Organiser, Curator of Equipment  
and Team Tournament Organiser.

AFFILIATED CLUBS

<u>Club</u> <u>(Club Night)</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Allen & Hanbury's (Thursday)	Allen & Hanbury's, Ware.	N. F. Hayes, 201, Whitehill Road, Hitchin. Tel: Hitchin 4572
Barnet (Monday)	Harold Fern Room, WRVS Centre, Salisbury Road, Barnet.	N. B. Holland, 76 Ashurst Road, Finchley, N.12. Tel:01-445-0635
Bishop Stortford (Thursday)	British Legion Club, Bishops Stortford.	E. J. Leyns, Great Hallingbury Manor, Bishops Stortford. Tel: Bishops Stortford 54398

British Aerospace Dynamics, Stevenage (Wednesday)	Sports Club, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage.	M. Burton, 25 Park Drive, Little Paxton, Huntingdon.
Hemel Hempstead (Tuesday)	Sports Centre, Park Road, Hemel Hempstead.	S. J. Cooley, 30 Oakdene Road, Hemel Hempstead.
Hertford (Wednesday)	Shire Hall, Hertford.	J. Kitchen, 51 Wellington Street, Hertford.
Hilltop (Tuesday)	Hilltop Centre, 91 Bishops Rise, Hatfield.	
Hoddesdon (Thursday)	"Lowewood", Hight Street, Hoddesdon.	D. P. Young, 29 St. David's Drive, Broxbourne. Tel: Hoddesdon 62376
Letchworth & Baldock (Monday)	Hut 5, Letchworth College of Technology, The Broadway, Letchworth.	A. G. Burrows, 85 Pixmore Way, Letchworth. Tel:Letch. 3104
Lucas Aerospace (Hemel Hempstead)		P. Dunks, 42 New Park Drive, Hemel Hempstead.
P.E.R.M.E. (Wednesday)	The Institute, Powdermill Lane, Waltham Abbey.	R. R. P. Jones, 16 Quendon Drive, Waltham Abbey, Essex. Tel: Lea Valley 711812
Pin Green (Stevenage)		K. N. Mason, 24 Durham Road, Stevenage.
Rothamsted (Monday)	Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden.	P. J. Zemroch, Tel: Harp. 63133
St. Albans (Wednesday)	Goat Inn, Sopwell Lane, St. Albans.	J. Leake, 26 Oakfield Road, Harpenden. Tel: Harp. 3170
Stevenage (Tuesday)	Times Club, London Road, Stevenage.	M. Richards, 4 Brighton Way, Stevenage. Tel: Stevenage 61889
Watford (Wednesday - matches) (Monday - club)	Darby & Joan Club, Exchange Road, Watford.	W. Sanderson, 31 Rudolf Road, Bushey. Tel: 01-950-2807
Welwyn Garden City (Tuesday)	Woodhall Community Centre, Mill Green Lane, Welwyn Garden City.	S. Murphy, 15 Moorlands, Welwyn Garden City. Tel: Welwyn Garden 26026

HERTFORDSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION  
CAPEL CUP 1978-79

Position	Name	Club	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Bye	Total	SOS
1	P. V. Byway	Hilltop	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	C. H. Watson	St. Albans	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	27
3	N. H. S. Lavers	St. Albans	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	26
4	A. C. Jeffries	W.G.C.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	23
5	B. G. Drury	Letchworth	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	24
6	P. J. Gregory	Hemel	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	28
7	B. S. Bowie	Old Es.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	27
8	D. A. Bax	St. Albans	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	24
9	P. W. Newstead	Stevenage	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$
10	Q. A. Latif	Stevenage	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	23
11	M. N. Jones	Old Es.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	23
12	M. Brozicevic	Letchworth	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
13	A. R. G. Horton	Letchworth	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	17
14	M. Richards	Stevenage	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	22
15	M. Burton	Dynamics	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
16	R. W. Aggett	Berkh'sted.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	19

6.5) Individual Match  
6.5) game Latif 1 Jones 0

withdrew

The competition this year saw a round two draw between the two likely front Runners, Paul Byway and Colin Watson. Later rounds proceeded to form until round 5 when Paul Byway unexpectedly drew against a new entrant Philip Gregory of Hemel. This meant that at the end of round six Watson had 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  points and Byway 5. Watson's last round opponent was his own clubmate Norman Lavers (a previous Capel winner) - no quarter spared here, Colin losing a hard fight. The surprises didn't end here, however, because Alan Jeffries of Welwyn managed a fighting draw against Paul Byway which meant that both Byway and Watson finished on 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  points. Sum of opponents' scores however favoured Paul Byway and he becomes County Champion.

Games with White are underlined.  
S.O.S. is Sum of Opponents scored.  
Sonn-Berg is Sonneborn Berger Score.

B. G. Drury  
Tournament Secretary



Hertfordshire Chess Association  
BURN PLATE CUP 1978-79

R. Franks (Pin Green)	)	V. E. Bolton	)
V. E. Bolton (Lucas)	)		)
R. W. Aggett (Berk'sted)	)	K. N. Mason	)
K. N. Mason (Pin Green)	)		)
P. W. Newstead (Stevenage)	)	P. W. Newstead	)
M. Burton (Dynamics)	)		)
C. Hawes (Pin Green) $\frac{1}{2}$	)	D. P. Riches	)
D. P. Riches (Pin Green) $\frac{1}{2}$	)		)
	)	P. W. Newstead	)
	)		)
	)	K. N. Mason	)
	)		)
	)	P. W. Newstead	)
	)		)

This competition for early losers in the Burn Cup was run for the first time this season, in order to give Burn entrants more games for their entry fee. The response was enthusiastic, the tournament being completed by the end of February! Half the entrants were from new clubs, but experience won through in the end with Paul Newstead of Stevenage winning.

B. G. Drury  
 Tournament Secretary

Hertfordshire Chess Association  
 Team Knockout Tournament 1978-79

Rothamsted	2½	Hoddesdon	2	Stevenage	2½
Stevenage	3½	Pin Green	1		
		Dynamics	0		
		Stevenage	6		
St. Albans	2½	PERME	4		Letchworth
PERME	3½			PERME	2½
Lucas	1½	Watford	2		
Watford	4½				
W.G.C.	1	Letchworth	3		Letchworth
Letchworth	5				3½
Hemel H.	3½	Hemel H.	3		
Hilltop	2½				

It was encouraging to see more entries for the Knockout Tournament this year, and particularly good to see some of the newer clubs willing to pit themselves against the giants. Last seasons winner, Rothamsted, had a difficult draw against Stevenage in the first round and went down 2½-3½ after a hard struggle. The hardest fight in the early rounds was between St. Albans and PERME, PERME emerging as victors after an adjudication result was overturned on appeal. The PERME-Letchworth semi-final produced a tight struggle, the match being decided in a top board time scramble. The final thus featured the two big clubs from the north of the county. At the end of the evening the score was 2-2 with two for adjudication, both were adjudicated as draws, giving the match to Stevenage by bottom board elimination. Letchworth, however, successfully appealed on the top board game to win the tournament.

B. G. Drury  
 Tournament Secretary

### LEAGUE COMPETITIONS 1978-79

The League Secretary reported that the League Competition ran reasonably smoothly this year, despite an increased number of adjudications.

The First Division saw St. Albans establish a big lead before Christmas, and then do their best to throw it away afterwards. However, the good pre-Christmas chess proved sufficient to bring them the championship. Second place was a hard struggle between Stevenage and Letchworth and Baldock, Stevenage I winning both encounters against Letchworth I, but losing to relegated Letchworth II and Watford, and failing by one point to be runners up. Letchworth II had two bright patches in beating Stevenage and Hilltop, and narrowly losing one match against their own first team, but were finally just not strong enough to stay in the first division.

In Division 2, the championship was a three-way struggle all season between Rothamsted, Hemel Hempstead and St. Albans I. In the end Rothamsted finished on 18 points as did Hemel Hempstead, Rothamsted were promoted because they had one game point more than Hemel. St. Albans I finished with 16 points. At the bottom end of the division Stevenage II struggled all season, not winning a match and were relegated.

In Division 3, again there was a tight struggle, Bishops Stortford I eventually becoming champions by two points from Hertford I, the championship being won on the results against third placed St. Albans III, Bishops Stortford winning and drawing and Hertford drawing and losing.

Watford, the Division 4 Champion's were run-away winners not losing a match all season, and only drawing one as well! In the battle of lower teams from the big clubs, Stevenage teams finished second and third, Letchworth teams fourth and bottom. Stevenage 4 also finished ahead of Stevenage 3.

HERTS LEAGUE DIVISION 1 1978-79

	St.A.1	L.B.1	STV.1	WAT.1	WTP.1	L.S.2	W	D	L	Match Pts.	Game Pts.
ST. ALBANS 1	X	2-3	3-2	4-1 1-1 1/2	4-1	5-0	6	2	1	15	33
LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK 1	X	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2	4-1					
	2 1/2-2 1/2	X	2-3	3-2	-	5-0	5	2	3	12	26 1/2
STEVENAGE 1	3-2	X	2-3	3 1/2-1 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	3-2	5	1	4	11	25
	2 1/2-2 1/2	3-2	X	2-3	1-4	3 1/2-1 1/2					
WATFORD 1	2-3	3-2	X	3-2	3-2	2-3					
	2-3	1 1/2-3 1/2	2-3	X	4-1	4-1	1	5	9	(etc)	24 1/2
HILLTOP 1	1/2-4 1/2	2-3	3-2	X	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2					
	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	2-3	2-3	X	1 1/2-3 1/2	2	2	5	6	19 1/2
LETCHWORTH AND BALDOCK 2	1-4	-	4-1	1-4	X	3-2					
	1-4	2-3	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2	2-3	X	2	1	7	5	16 1/2
	0-5	0-5	1 1/2-3 1/2	1-4	3 1/2-1 1/2	X					

DIVISION 2

	ROTH.1	H. HEMP.1	ST.A.2	M.G.C.1	L.S.B.3	WTP.2	STV.2	I	D	L	Match Pts.	Game Pts.
ROTHAMSTED 1	X	2 1/2-2 1/2	3 1/2-1 1/2	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	3 1/2-1 1/2	7	4	1	18	35
H. HEMPSTEAD 1	X	4-1	1-4	3-2	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2	4-1					
	1-4	X	2 1/2-2 1/2	1/2-4 1/2	4-1	3-2	4-1	3	2	2	18	34 1/2
ST. ALBANS 2	2 1/2-2 1/2	X	3-2	3 1/2-1 1/2	4-1	3-2	3 1/2-1 1/2	7	2	3	16	37 1/2
	4-1	2-3	X	2 1/2-2 1/2	4-1	2-3	3 1/2-1 1/2					
WELWYN G.C.1	1 1/2-3 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	X	3 1/2-1 1/2	5-0	4-1	3-2					
	2-3	1 1/2-3 1/2	1 1/2-3 1/2	X	1-4	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	3	4	5	10	(etc) 29 1/2
LETCHWORTH 3	2-3	4 1/2-1 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	X	4-1	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2					
	2-3	1-4	0-5	1-4	X	3-2	2 1/2-2 1/2	4	2	6	10	24 1/2
HILLTOP 2	2 1/2-2 1/2	1-4	1-4	4-1	X	3-2	3 1/2-1 1/2					
	2 1/2-2 1/2	2-3	1-4	2-3	2-3	X	3-2	3	2	6	9	27 1/2
STEVENAGE 2	1-4	1 1/2-3 1/2	2-3	2 1/2-2 1/2	1 1/2-3 1/2	2-3	X					
	1 1/2-3 1/2	1-4	1 1/2-3 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	2 1/2-2 1/2	2-3	X	0	2	9	3	21 1/2



HERTFORDSHIRE CHESS CONGRESS 1978 AT HITCHIN

The Premier attracted 44 entrants which was a record for Hitchin. Those lured included the top two in the chase for Cutty Sark points. They drew in the last round after a battle so exciting that neither score sheet is legible after move 25. Therefore, Rumens and Whiteley both went home with cheques for £85 in their pockets. Hertfordshire players did not do well this year; the style with which Peter Brown mislaid his Queen in his opponents time trouble in Round 1 being somehow typical of Hertfordshire players' form and the vulnerability of the seeds. In Round 1 more than half the players seeded to win managed to lose.

Anthony Burrows returned to playing after many years of organising or controlling the event and duly won the cup and a share of the top prize in the Challengers section.

The Major was again too large, with many enthusiasts present and too large a field to be sorted out in a 5 Round Swiss. Possibly next year we will have 2 or 3 smaller majors with separate prize funds of about £50. It seems doubtful that players enter the Major with expectations of playing great chess or winning vast sums of money - and this would enable us to spread the winnings around more.

The new format for the Junior proved welcome, and indeed this may be extended next year, to include an Under 18 section that may be played with the Under 16, and maybe a similar split in the Under 13s with a parallel Under 11.

This year's bookstall was by Tournament Chess Supplies who provided over £20 to the prize fund in the form of vouchers and scorebooks, which was most welcome.

The new caretaker, Mr. Lovell, did us proud with the canteen opening for longer than ever before, and a modest investment in plastic cups reducing both washing up and the noise level. Our thanks to him also. As usual, the team of expert Controllers worked splendidly: J. Wynne Jones, George Gray, John West and David Stapleton in the main hall, while Peter Glass and Mike Burton organised the Junior Tournaments.

<u>Premier</u>	1st =	D. Rumens (Boulogne)	4½/5
		A. Whiteley (London)	
	3rd =	K.C. Arkell (Bednal)	4/5
		N. Bryans (Northampton)	

M.J. Sexton with 3½ won the Hakansson Cup for the highest-placed Herts player.

Challengers (restricted to Under 161 Grade players)

	1st =	A.G. Burrows (Letchworth)	4½/5
		T.C. Dunmore (Woodbridge)	
		M.J. Cohen (Hoddesdon)	
	4th =	B. Blackburn (Streatnam)	4/5
		P. Gill (Bedford)	

P.T.C. Lewis (Charlton) was awarded the Grading Prize.

A.G. Burrows won the Davis Cup for the highest-placed Herts. player.

Major (restricted to Under 131 Grade players)

1st =	A. Adams (Waltham Cross)	5/5
2nd =	M.S. Harding (Old Elizabethans)	4½/5
3rd =	G. Jackson, P. Saunders, G. Valentine, A. Weatherby, T.C. Wright, R. Young.	4/5

H.S. Wilson (Barnet) was awarded the Grading Prize.

M.S. Harding won the Berry Cup for the highest-placed Herts. player.

Intermediate Under 16

1st =	Jonathan Beedle (Chesham)	7/9
2nd =	Simon Roe (Luton) John Potter (Bedford)	6½/9

Junior Under 13 (One-Day event)

1st =	Gerard Meitiner (Royston) Arnall Smith (Harpenden)	5/6
3rd =	Richard Horton (Stevenage) Andrew Harley (Ware)	4½/6

There was a total of 212 competitors in the Congress.

J. Glynne Jones (and the Editor)

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Some of the more illustrious games from the Congress now follow.  
Annotations are by the winners, except those in brackets which are by the Editor.

## H.Murphy v. M.J.Lexton ( Round 2 )

1. P-Q4	N-KB3	
2. P-QB4	P-KN3	
3. N-QB3	B-N2	
4. P-K4	O-O	
5. B-K2	....	(5.P-K5 is more aggressive ; white prefers to shun the terrors of the unknown in favour of the normal line)
5. ....	P-Q3	
6. N-B3	QN-Q2	
7. O-O	P-K4	
8. P-Q5	N-K1	
9. B-N5	P-KB3	
10. B-R4	B-R3	
11. P-QN4	Q-K2	
12. N-Q2	Q-N2	(Black skillfully deploys his pieces for the K-side attack)
13. N-N3	P-KB4	
14. P-B3	P-KN4	
15. B-B2	P-B5	
16. P-B5	N(Q2)-B3	(The best way for Black to defend his Q-side is to leave it alone, as then it takes the White attack longer to reach it ! This follows the modern notion that pieces are, or may be, perfectly well placed on their original squares)
17. R-B1	P-N5	
18. B-K1	....	(18.K-R1 might be more useful)
18. ....	K-R1	
19. Q-B2	Q-N4	
20. PxQP	PxQP	

## (Murphy v. Lexton continued)

21. N-N5 B-Q2  
 22. N-R5 PxP  
 23. RxP R-KN1  
 24. B-B1 BxN  
 25. BxB R-QB1 ! (By now White has a very difficult position - Black also had 25...NxKP)  
 26. R-B3 RxR  
 27. BxR P-B6 (Threatening QxRch)  
 28. R-B1 Q-K6ch  
 29. R-B2 RxPch  
 30. Resigns (As 30. K-B1 RxRch 31. QxR QxB wins easily)

## T.K.Hemingway v. Newberry (Round 4)

1. N-KB3 N-KB3  
 2. P-KN3 P-QN4 (Not a very sound answer to the Reti, although fashionable, because the Black QB will be unprotected)  
 3. B-N2 B-N2  
 4. O-O P-K3  
 5. P-Q3 B-K2  
 6. P-K4 P-Q3  
 7. R-K1 QN-Q2  
 8. QN-Q2 P-B4  
 9. P-Q4 O-O (Probably 9...PxP 10.NxP P-QR3 loses to 11.P-K5 ! BxB 12.PxN BxP 13.N-B5 !, although 10....Q-N3 might suffice)  
 10. P-K5 ! N-Q4 (Or 10...PxP 11.PxP N-Q4 gives White the options of 11.P-B3 or 11.P-B4 or 11.N-K4)  
 11. P-B3 Q-N1  
 12. Q-K2 P-B5  
 13. PxP BxP  
 14. N-K5 NxN  
 15. PxN B-K2  
 16. Q-R5 .... (Starting a formidable K-Side attack)  
 16. .... Q-K1 (Hoping to play.... P-B3 at some stage)  
 17. Q-N4 R-N1 ? (You see the trouble which Black's QB has caused him. Probably better is 17...B-QB3)  
 18. P-QR4 P-N5  
 19. NxP PxP (Better 19...K-R1)  
 20. B-R6 P-N3  
 21. PxP P-B4 (Desperation!)  
 22. Q-Q4 .... (22.PxPe.p. RxP 23.RxP also wins easily - if 23...Q-B1, then 24.QR-K1, or 23...B-QB1 ?, 24.BxN)  
 22. .... Q-B3? (Better 22...R-B2)  
 23. N-R5 Q-B2  
 24. NxB RxN  
 25. BxN PxB  
 26. BxR KxB  
 27. P-K6 K-K1 (...K-N1 might prolong the game, albeit futilely)  
 28. Q-R8ch B-B1  
 29. P-K7 Resigns (A move which should have been played earlier)

And now here is a game from the previous year's Congress in 1977, displayed because of its intrinsic merit rather than because of any relevance to the previous games !

A.M.Simpson v. W.Tabakiernik ( Round 3 )

- |            |         |   |
|------------|---------|---|
| 1. P-K4    | P-K4    |   |
| 2. P-KB4   | ....    | A move too rarely seen nowadays !   |
| 2. ....    | PxP     |   |
| 3. N-KB3   | P-KN4   |   |
| 4. B-B4    | P-Q3    | (One wonders what White intended if 4....P-N5)  |
| 5. O-O     | B-N2    |   |
| 6. P-Q4    | P-KR3   |   |
| 7. P-B3    | B-K3 ?  | Happily playing along the main line of Fischer's 'refutation' and Tabakiernik comes up with this. (Much better is 7...N-KB3, or 7...N-QB3. The Black QB should have aimed at KN5 to stop White's P-KR4 from breaking up the pawns)  |
| 8. BxB     | PxB     | Black now has horrible White square weaknesses.   |
| 9. P-KR4   | Q-K2    |   |
| 10. Q-N3   | N-Q2    | If 10...P-N3 11.PxP PxP 12.Q-N5ch N-Q2 13.QxKNP wins a pawn. (No doubt Black did not play 10...P-QB3 because of 11.PxP PxP 12.NxP !, but it may be his best chance after 12...P-K4 !, as White's K-side is rather open. Not of course 12...QxN 13.QxNP when White is easily winning. If 12...P-K4 13.Q-K6 B-B3 14.Q-B8ch Q-Q1 15.QxNP BxN 16.QxR Q-B2 gives Black good chances ...N-K2, ...N-B1 and ...N-N3 planned with ...Q-KR2 also a possibility) |
| 11. QxNP   | R-N1    |   |
| 12. QxBP   | P-K4    | (This further weakens the position but there is little else for Black to do)  |
| 13. PxKP   | PxKP    |   |
| 14. R-Q1 ! | R-Q1    |   |
| 15. P-QN3  | ....    | The Bishop enters the fray with deadly effect !   |
| 15. ....   | B-B3    |   |
| 16. B-R3   | Q-N2    |   |
| 17. QN-Q2  | P-N5    | (Unfortunately this counter-attack is ineffective)  |
| 18. N-B4 ! | B-K2    | If 18...PxN 19.N-Q6ch K-B1 20.N-B5 dis. ch wins the Q.  |
| 19. BxB    | QxB     | Avoiding 19...NxN 20.N-Q6ch K-B1 21.QxR mate !  |
| 20. N-Q6ch | K-B1    |   |
| 21. N-B5   | Q-K1    | (White's next move cannot be prevented)   |
| 22. NxKP   | ....    | The knight is immune !  |
| 22. ....   | R-R2    |   |
| 23. Q-Q6ch | N-K2    |   |
| 24. NxNch  | RxN     |   |
| 25. QxR    | Resigns | As he is a whole R down.  |

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HERTFORDSHIRE CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RESULTS

Because of the lateness with which correspondence results come in, this issue of the magazine contains the results for two separate seasons, 1977-78 and 1978-79.

1977-78 SEASON

This year the team scored one point less than last year, although there was a reduction in the number of games lost from 13 to 11. The team performed creditably considering the strong opposition on the top ten boards. Stan Milan on Board 1 is one of the strongest British correspondence chess players, and on Board 6 Mrs Clarke is an ex-British Ladies Champion. Thus the team held its own in Division 2. The list of results follows.

E.G.D. Crowden

## Sinclair Trophy ( Division 2 )

<u>Hertfordshire</u>		<u>Opponents</u>	
1. A.P.Primett	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	S.Milan (Greater Manchester)
2. D.Lodge	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	J.Tiplady (Cheshire & North Wales)
3. R.Robinson	0	1	J.Anderson (Dorset)
4. H.M.Lawrance	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	H.Clark (Cumbria)
5. P.Wollin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	G.A.Darby (Wiltshire)
6. E.G.D.Crowden	0	1	Mrs. M.E.E.Clarke (Cornwall)
7. R.A.Lepley	0	1	E.G.Sparke (Devon)
8. J.Sharp	0	1	R.G.Knowles (Durham)
9. G.Davies	1	0	N.High (Surrey 2)
10. A.E.Wright	1	0	F.L.V.Barker (Merseyside)
11. R. Frost	0	1	G.E. Spence (Lancashire)
12. S.R. Capsey	0	1	R. Wagstaff (Essex)
13. F. Van Tilbourg	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	R.W. Clark (Norfolk)
14. D. Pinch	1	0	A.R. Tripp (Suffolk)
15. E.J. Palfrey	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	J.W. Prosser (Northumberland)
16. H.W. Campbell	0	1	S.L. Green (Yorkshire)
17. P. Larby	1	0	P. Jackson (Staffordshire)
18. B. Drury	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	C.E. Hutchinson (Somerset)
19. N.P. Williams	1	0	T.W. Garniss (Bedfordshire)
20. J. Chaney	1	0	E.J. Boxpen (Kent II)
21. R. Talbot	1	0	P. Allen (Somerset II)
22. T.W.Y. Alderton	0	1	A.J. Chambers (Somerset II)
23. G.L. Houpt	0	1	M.F. John (Dorset)
24. R. Frampton	1	0	J. Sanders (Cumbria)
25. S.J. Cooley	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	L.C. Baker (Wiltshire)
26. U.J. Harvey	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	F.W. Bassett (Cornwall)
27. R.A. Hubbard	0	1	G.S. Smith (Devon)
28. C.R. Pope	0	1	D. Patterson (Durham)
29. J.R. Richards	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	J.W. White (Surrey II)
30. L.G. Lepley	1	0	B. Thomas (Merseyside)
TOTALS		14	16

Finally Mr. Primett deserves our congratulations for sharing with his opponent, Mr. Milan, the Boyd Prize for the best game played in Division 2. The game is given later on in the magazine.

.....

### 1978-79 SEASON

In this season the team produced an excellent result. With 13 wins, 7 draws and 10 losses we gained fifth position in the division with  $16\frac{1}{2}/30$ . We look forward to an even better result next year as it anticipated that the team will be stronger.

We congratulate Mr. G. Davis for winning a County Tie for winning three consecutive games for the County Correspondence Team. Also we salute Mr. J. Sharp and Mr. U.J. Harvey, who will next season be playing for the Correspondence Team for the 30th year. May they enjoy many more active years as team members.

Incidentally, the Correspondence team has now been going strong for 53 years since 1926.

E.G.D. Crowden.

Sinclair Trophy - Division 2

<u>Hertfordshire</u>			<u>Opponents</u>	
1. A.P.Primett	0	1	P.H.Clarke	(Cornwall)
2. D.Lodge	0	1	D.W.Anderton	(Staffordshire)
3. H.M.Lawrance	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	G.T.Jones	(Oxfordshire)
4. D.Pinch	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	A.W.R.Thomas	(Gloucs. 2)
5. P. May	1	0	T.J.C. Walsh	(Kent 2)
6. H. Hart	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	Rev. K.S. Proctor	(Devon)
7. G. Davis	1	0	P.J. Bourne	(Cheshire & N.Wales)
8. A.E. Wright	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	A.J. Revell	(Suffolk)
9. R. Frampton	0	1	J. Watson	Yorks 2)
10. E.G.D. Crowden	0	1	R. Keeley	(Yorks 1)
11. J. Sharp	1	0	F. Warnoch	(Durham 1)
12. M. Burton	1	0	C. Cheetham	(Cumbria 2)
13. F. Van Tilbourg	1	0	D.E. Merryfield	(Lancs)
14. E.J. Palfrey	0	1	R. Carr	(Northumberland)
15. P. Larby	1	0	K. Emery	(Somerset 3)
16. L.G.Lepley	1	0	N.G.Thomas	(Norfolk)
17. S.R.Capsey	1	0	T.R.Bates	(Surrey 2)
18. N.P.Williams	0	1	G.C.Walker	(Kent 3)
19. J.Chaney	0	1	W.Forrest	(Somerset 2)
20. B.Brury	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	D.Parry	(Merseyside)
21. R.Talbot	1	0	J.Pickering	(Bedfordshire)
22. R.Forst	1	0	L.Hansford	(Bedfordshire)
23. R.G.O'Connell	1	0	G.C.Rasell	(Oxfordshire)
24. H.S.Campbell	1	0	R.C.J.Cleal	(Gloucs. 2)
25. S.J.Cooley	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	R.C.Fenn	(Kent 2)
26. U.J.Harvey	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	P.H.Fenn	(Devon)
27. J.R.Richards	0	1	J.Lynch	(Cheshire & North Wales)
28. Miss S.Gorton	0	1	G.Shepherd	(Suffolk)
29. C.R.Pope	1	0	E.Walton	(Yorkshire 2)
30. T.W.Y.Alderton	0	1	J.L.Coe	(Yorkshire)
<b>Totals</b>			<b><math>16\frac{1}{2}</math></b>	<b><math>13\frac{1}{2}</math></b>

League table 1978-79

1. Devonshire	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
2. Yorkshire	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
3. Somerset 2	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
4. Cornwall	17
5. Hertfordshire	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
6. Suffolk	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
7. Durham	16
8. Merseyside	16
9. Surrey 2	16
10. Staffordshire	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
11. Wiltshire	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
12. Greater Manchester	15

13. Kent 2	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
14. Somerset 3	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
15. Gloucestershire 2	14
16. Lancashire 2	14
17. Oxfordshire	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
18. Kent 3	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
19. Bedfordshire	12
20. Northumberland	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
21. Cheshire & N.Wales	10
22. Cumbria 2	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
23. Norfolk	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
24. Yorkshire 2	8

League 1977-78 (part)

1. Somerset 2	22
2. Dorset	22
3. Essex	21 $\frac{1}{2}$
4. Gt. Manchester	18 $\frac{1}{2}$
5. Lancashire 2	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
6. Devon	16
7. Staffordshire	16
8. Yorkshire 2	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
9. Cheshire & N.Wls.	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
10. Merseyside	15
11. Surrey 2	15
12. Kent 2	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
13. Cornwall	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
14. Hertfordshire	14
15. Durham	14
16. Northumberland	14
17. Somerset 3	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
18. Wiltshire	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
19. Suffolk	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
20. Bedfordshire	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
21. Norfolk	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
22. Cumbria 2	6

This means that Devonshire and Yorkshire were promoted to Division 1 of the Counties' Correspondence Chess Leagues and that Norfolk and Yorkshire 2 were demoted.

The 1977-78 League table is shown for comparison with the present season's results.

Some Postal Chess games:-

S.Milan v. A.P.Primett		(Board 1, 1977-78)	Petroff's Defence
1. P-K4	P-K4		
2. N-KB3	N-KB3	(still an undervalued defence !)	
3. NxP	P-Q3		
4. N-KB3	NxP		
5. P-Q4	P-Q4		
6. B-Q3	B-Q3	(A little bold; perhaps White's best reply is 7.0-0 followed by R-K1 and P-QB4 to dislodge the N)	
7. QN-Q2	O-O		
8. O-O	B-KB4 !	(8...N-KB3 would leave White with the initiative)	
9. R-K1	R-K1		
10. N-B1	....	(9.P-B4 followed by Q-B2 or Q-N3 is more direct and forceful ; perhaps White feared being left with an isolated QP at some point, as after 9...NxN 10.RxRch QxR 11.QxN BxB 12.QxB PxP 13.QxP)	
10. ....	Q-B3		
11. N-K3	P-B3		
12. P-B4	PxP	(Calculating that 13.NxB is well met by ...PxB)	
13. NxP	N-R3	(Aiming for an amazing attack - now best is 14.NxB)	
14. P-QR3	BxPch !!		
15. K-B1	....	(Not 15.KxB NxP nor 15.NxB NxP 16.KxN BxB dis. ch)	
15. ....	Q-N3	(Threatening ...N-N6ch followed by BxBch mating !)	
16. N(B4)-K5	BxN		
17. NxB	RxN	(Necessary)	
18. PxR	R-Q1	(Better than ...N-N6ch PxN BxBch straight away ?)	
19. Q-B3	N(R3)-B4		
20. B-N1	R-Q7		
21. BxN	NxB		
22. R-Q1	B-N5		
23. QxB	QxQ		
24. BxR	P-KR4	(Stopping any back-rank mate threats)	
25. B-K3	P-R5 (?)	(Perhaps better is ...Q-B4 straight away)	
26. R-Q8ch	K-R2		
27. R-B1	Q-B4		
28. R-Q4	P-KN4	(To counter the threat of R(B1)-B4 and RxPch)	
29. R(B1)-B4	P-B4 !?	(No doubt better than 29...N-N6ch 30. K-K1 N-R4 31.R-KN4 but Black has 30...QxKP ! in this line - if 31.R-B5 ! 31...Q-K3 32.RxNP N-B4 or 31...Q-K2 32.RxNP N-K5)	
30. RxN	P-N4		
31. RxPch	PxR		
32. RxPch	K-N3		
33. P-KN3	QxKP		
34. P-QN4	Q-R8ch		
35. K-N2	P-B5	(The best chance, but White seems to have enough to draw)	
36. R-N4ch	K-B4		
37. R-N5ch	K-K3		
38. RxP	QxP		
39. R-QR5	QxP		
40. RxP	P-B6		
41. R-B7	P-B7		
42. K-R2	Q-K5		
43. K-N1	P-B3		
44. K-R2	K-B4		
45. R-B5ch	K-N5		
46. R-B3	Q-K4	(The game is drawn anyway)	
47. RxP	Draw Agreed		

A very hard fought game. Mr. Milan has been British Correspondence Chess Champion 4 times in the past, which makes Mr. Primett's play even more praiseworthy.

## D.J. Bourne v. G. Davis (Board 7, 1978-79) English Opening

- |                |        |  |
|----------------|--------|--|
| 1. P-QB4       | P-QB4  |  |
| 2. N-QB3       | N-KB3  |  |
| 3. P-KN3       | P-Q4 ! | (The earlier the better!)  |
| 4. PxP         | NxP    |  |
| 5. B-N2        | N-B2   |  |
| 6. P-Q3        | P-K4   |  |
| 7. P-B4        | PxP    |  |
| 8. BxBP        | N-Q2   |  |
| 9. N-B3        | N-K3   |  |
| 10. Q-Q2       | NxB    |  |
| 11. QxN        | N-B3   |  |
| 12. N-K5       | ....   | (White's frenetic attempts to build up an attack are likely to rebound on himself. Better is 12.0-0)   |
| 12. ....       | B-Q3   |  |
| 13. Q-R4ch     | N-Q2 ! | (Obviously better than B-Q2)   |
| 14. N-B4       | B-K2   |  |
| 15. N-Q5       | O-O    |  |
| 16. N(B4)-K3   | ....   | (White now perceives that his attack has achieved nothing. Still better was O-O, or even O-O-O.)   |
| 16. ....       | N-N3   |  |
| 17. NxBch      | QxN    |  |
| 18. N-Q5       | NxN    |  |
| 19. BxN        | B-R6!  | (Black takes advantage of White's vacillation.)  |
| 20. Q-K4       | Q-B3   |  |
| 21. O-O-O      | Q-N4ch |  |
| 22. Resigns(!) |        | (Obviously White has the worst position but this is a little premature - 22.K-N1 QR-K1 23.Q-QB4 gives White some drawing chances - although 23...P-QN4! should be decisive.) |

## L.G. Lepley v. N.G. Thomas (Board 16, 1978-79) Alekhine's Defence

- |              |         |  |
|--------------|---------|--|
| 1. P-K4      | N-KB3   |  |
| 2. P-K5      | N-Q4    |  |
| 3. P-Q4      | P-Q3    |  |
| 4. N-KB3     | P-KN3   |  |
| 5. B-K2      | B-N2    |  |
| 6. O-O       | O-O     |  |
| 7. P-B4      | B-N3    |  |
| 8. PxP       | BPxP    |  |
| 9. N-B3      | B-N5    | (So far a relatively quiet game for an Alekhine's ; Black's plan is perfectly correct.)                                    |
| 10. B-K3     | N-B3    |  |
| 11. P-QN3    | P-Q4    |  |
| 12. PxP      | NxP(Q4) |  |
| 13. NxN      | QxN     |  |
| 14. R-B1     | KR-Q1   | (Better here is 14...P-N3, as 15.P-KR3 B-B4 16.B-QB4 Q-Q3 does not get White very far.)                                    |
| 15. R-B5     | Q-Q3    |  |
| 16. P-Q5     | N-N5    |  |
| 17. R-B4 !   | BxN     |  |
| 18. BxB      | P-N3    |  |
| 19. B-B4     | P-K4    |  |
| 20. PxP e.p. | QxP     | (A makeshift measure - obviously 20...QxQ 21.PxPch KxP 22.BxQ NxP is not too good, but it is better than the move played.) |
| 21. Q-N1     | N-Q4    |  |
| 22. R-K1     | Q-Q2    |  |
| 23. Q-Q1 !   | P-QR4   | (Black is in virtual Zugzwang !)   |
| 24. P-KR3    | R-R2 ?  | (...P-R3 and ...K-R2 were necessary first)   |
| 25. PxN      | Resigns | White wins a piece - ...QxB ?, 26.QxQ RxQ 27.R-KSch mates  |

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY TEAMS1st team Report:  
Southern Counties' Division 1 1978-79

With a number of strong players having moved out of the country in the last year (including the Editor!), the first team was rather weaker than it had been for some time and had to struggle in most of the matches.

The highlight of the first half of the season was a good win at home against Berkshire, but this was followed by a humiliating defeat at the hands of an enormously strong Middlesex team. As they hadn't beaten us since 1975 perhaps we should not complain.

The home match against Cambridgeshire, played during a period of appalling weather, was plagued by cars breaking and failing to start. In the end we were a man short against a team having one of their better seasons and lost decisively.

In the match against Sussex at Haywards Heath our opponent produced Raymond Keene on top board, and as far as is known this was the first time an International Grand Master has played against Hertfordshire. In spite of this and another breakdown that cost us two players we performed creditably and were only just beaten.

The next two matches, away against Surrey and Kent, were decisively lost, but a notable feature of the second of these was a fine win by Keith Mahon against the famous Milner-Barry.

Finally, the remote possibility of finishing bottom was averted when we crushed a weak Oxfordshire side in the last match.

The best individual performance was by Adrian Haberberg of Barnet who deservedly won the Flear trophy with a score of  $4\frac{1}{2}/7$ , remaining unbeaten on a high board throughout the season. A county tie is awarded to Jeremy Hamm of St. Albans who convincingly won his last three games on the trot. On the organisational side many thanks are due to K.L. Woodland, D.P. Young, and B.G. Drury among others, for assistance with venues and transport.

It is with great regret that I have found it necessary to give up the captaincy due to pressure of work. I have always felt it a great honour to be entrusted with the job and have enjoyed carrying it out. My best wishes to Andrew Cooper in the coming season.

John Cook.

S.C.C.U. Division 1 table 1978-79

	<u>Mx.</u>	<u>Kt.</u>	<u>Sx.</u>	<u>Sy.</u>	<u>Ex.</u>	<u>Cs.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Bk.</u>	<u>Ox.</u>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Pts.</u>	<u>Game</u>	<u>Pts.</u>
1. Middlesex	x	9	12	11	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$10\frac{1}{2}$	16	$11\frac{1}{2}$	20(d)	7		$101\frac{1}{2}$	
2. Kent	11	x	14	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$10\frac{1}{2}$	11	$13\frac{1}{2}$	13	13	7		$95\frac{1}{2}$	
3. Sussex	8	6	x	$10\frac{1}{2}$	10	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$13\frac{1}{2}$	12	$5\frac{1}{2}$		83	
4. Surrey	9	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	x	$8\frac{1}{2}$	13	13	10	$16\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$		90	
5. Essex	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	10	$11\frac{1}{2}$	x	9	$12\frac{1}{2}$	11	11	$4\frac{1}{2}$		83	
6. Cambridgeshire	$9\frac{1}{2}$	9	$8\frac{1}{2}$	7	11	x	$13\frac{1}{2}$	12	11	4		$81\frac{1}{2}$	
7. Hertfordshire	4	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$	7	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$6\frac{1}{2}$	x	$13\frac{1}{2}$	14	2		$67\frac{1}{2}$	
8. Berkshire	$8\frac{1}{2}$	7	$6\frac{1}{2}$	10	9	8	$6\frac{1}{2}$	x	13	$1\frac{1}{2}$		$68\frac{1}{2}$	
9. Oxfordshire	0(d)	7	8	$3\frac{1}{2}$	9	9	6	7	x	0		$49\frac{1}{2}$	

HERTS III TEAM RESULTS - CHILTERN LEAGUE 1978-79

Hertfordshire III	9	Berks IIB	11
Hertfordshire III	8½	Cambs II	11½
Hertfordshire III	5½	Berks IIA	14½
Hertfordshire III	9	Norfolk II	11
Hertfordshire III	11	Oxon II	9
Hertfordshire III	10	Suffolk II	10
Hertfordshire III	7	Bucks II	13
Hertfordshire III	7	Bucks II	13
Hertfordshire III	9½	Norfolk II	10½
Hertfordshire III	6½	Oxon II	13½
Hertfordshire III	12	Berks IIB	8
Hertfordshire III	5½	Cambs II	14½
Hertfordshire III	8½	Berks IIB	11½
Hertfordshire III	14	Hunts II	5

Once more the Hertfordshire III Team had to face the opposition of other Counties' second teams, which naturally tended to be stronger. The extra Berkshire team was a junior team composed in part of players who also play regularly for the Berkshire first team. Our team was also weakened sometimes because some of our players were recruited for Hertfordshire second team. Altogether 58 people played for our third team, of whom only 10 played in 9 or more of the 14 matches.

The following players won a County Tie during the course of the season, showing that at least for some the season was not unprofitable.

M. Dyer (Rank Xerox)	with a score of	9½/12
S. Law (Lucas Aerospace)	" "	6½/9
J.A. Leake (St., Albans)	" "	4½/12
M.S. Harding (Old Elizabethans)	" "	4½/8
G.S. Gray (Stevenage)	" "	4½/5
D.J. Gittins (Berkhamsted)	" "	4/7
B.J. Weston (Old Elizabethans)	" "	3½/5
A.J. Bentley (Berkhamsted)	" "	3½/4
J.A. Hamm (St. Albans)	" "	3/4

K.L. Woodland.

County First team (continued)Results

Essex	12½	Hertfordshire	7½	(at Wanstead)
Hertfordshire	13½	Berkshire	6½	(at Welwyn Garden City)
Middlesex	14	Hertfordshire	6	(at Highbury)
Hertfordshire	6½	Cambridgeshire	13½	(at Ashwell)
Sussex	11½	Hertfordshire	8½	(at Haywards Heath)
Surrey	13	Hertfordshire	7	(at Sutton)
Kent	13½	Hertfordshire	6½	(at Charlton)
Hertfordshire	14	Oxfordshire	6	(at Berkhamsted)
Hertfordshire	10½	London University	7½	(at Waltham Abbey)

This last was the traditional match against London University as a 'friendly'.

Some of the best scores were :	A.B. Haberberg	4½/7	
	J. Cook	4/7	
J. Wood	3/6	J. Hamm	3/4
F.B. Ings	2½/5	P.V. Byway	3/7 (on board 1)

## County 2nd Team

### Montague-Jones Trophy - Division 2 of S.C.C.U. - 1978-9 Season

After our productive season last year (winning five matches) I hoped for an equally successful one this year, especially as it was my final year as captain.

Our season started traditionally with the match against Essex. The two teams were at much the same respective strengths as last year, and we managed to improve by half a point, suffering a 6-14 defeat. Again (traditionally?) I found that raising a team for the first match was the most difficult task of the season. A remarkable feature of this match was that we won only one game: a schoolboy, K. Mahon spared our blushes.

A month later we played Surrey at Sutton. Whether it was the long journey or the amazing problems with parking I don't know, but the team played poorly and we lost 5-14. (Both sides defaulted on one board). The two winners were D. Bax and, again, K. Mahon. After our win of 13-7 last year, this result was a shock.

Next we travelled to Highbury (yes, Arsenal were at home!) to face up to the might of Middlesex. They produced a team which outgraded us by 30 points a player, and, more deviously, asked some players to move their vehicles during the match! The resulting loss by 7-13 was, I felt, a sound effort. (In passing, it may be worth noting than an incident in this match demonstrated just how vague the laws of the game are: I must learn the small print). Our winners were three schoolboys, J. Nellist, N. Bradbury, K. Mahon; and myself!

We expected a close match against Bucks at Berkhamsted, and it proved to be close-  $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $11\frac{1}{2}$ . Our winners were J. Nellist, J. Hamm, (schoolboys of course), G. Lawrence, M. Dyer and an 'old stager', C. Lean.

With four matches lost, my hopes of ending the season with a plus seemed unlikely.

However, in the new year, we travelled hopefully to face Norfolk 1 at Ashwell. They had two players graded over 200, and a strong team. Again we lost narrowly by  $8\frac{1}{2}$ - $11\frac{1}{2}$ . Wins here were achieved by T.A. Sinkinson, B. Drury, H. Murphy, G. Lawrence, P. Dunks and the President, B. Fewell; the latter ignored all chivalric principles in beating Mrs K. Hindle.

The next match against Kent gave us our first win. The Kent team was weaker than ever before, and our satisfaction at a win (at last) was tempered by the realisation of this fact. A fine win was scored by the top board, A.G. Burrows and C. Lean, K.L. Woodland, P. Vainker, P. Dunks, and H. Murphy - an improving schoolboy who went on to win the Fairchild Trophy.

We had now hit a winning streak, as we followed with an excellent success against a strong Sussex team. A string of five consecutive wins on boards 7-11 clinched it. Winners were T.A. Sinkinson, P. Larby, D.M. Rutter, B. Drury, B. Fewell and D. Bax.

We continued impressively against Suffolk, winning our closest match ( a real cliff-hanger) by 11-9. This was a fine result, and our winners were J. West, J. Hamm, C. Lean, K.L. Woodland and P.W. Newstead. Many tough draws helped us to consolidate the result.

cont'd...

Well, the last match approached, and we had played 8, won 3 and lost 5. As I was not available for this match (I was voyaging in a narrowboat through the wilds of Shropshire) Phil Newstead took over. Perhaps the journey unsettled our team, but against Beds at Bedford our result of a 5-15 loss was an anti-climax. Successful Herts players were G. Lawrence, K.L. Woodland, M. Sutton and P. Wright. So my 'Swansong' ended in a minor key, but there was a great deal of hope for the future to be found in our run of successes. Certainly, with reliable stalwarts and improving schoolboys, the future of the Herts 2 team seems assured.

In conclusion, I must thank Mr. K.L. Woodland for all his work, and all the players who have so willingly supported me through the recent seasons. I hope they will all carry on and support Mr. K.L. Woodland next season; as I hope to do myself.

Dane Young.

### County Results

Hertfordshire II	6	Essex II	14	at Finchley
Surrey II	14	Hertfordshire II	5	at Sutton
Middlesex II	13	Hertfordshire II	7	at Highbury
Bucks	11½	Hertfordshire II	8½	at Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire II	11½	Norfolk	8½	at Ashwell
Hertfordshire II	13½	Kent II	6½	at Potter's Bar
Hertfordshire II	11½	Sussex II	8½	at Finchley
Hertfordshire II	11	Suffolk	9	at Ashwell
Bedford	15	Hertfordshire II	5	at Bedford

The Fairchild Trophy was won by Hugh Murphy with a score of 4/5. Also County ties were won by G. Lawrence, K.L. Woodland, K. Mahon and H. Murphy for three consecutive wins without intervening loss.

### S.C.C.U. Division 2 - Montague-Jones Trophy - 1978-79

	E	B	N	M	Sx	Sy	K	H	B	Sk	Match Pts.	Game points.
Essex II	X	12	9½	15½	12	12½	10½	14	12	13	8	111
Bucks	8	X	11	11	12½	14½	13½	11½	11½	15½	8	109
Norfolk	10½	9	X	5½	13	10½	15½	11½	12	12	7	99½
Middx II	4½	9	14½	X	8	10½	13	13	8	18½	4	89
Sussex II	8	7½	7	12	X	6½	10	8½	14	20(d)	3½	93½
Surrey II	7½	5½	9½	9½	13½	X	8	14½	10	10½	3½	88½
Kent II	9½	6½	4½	7	10	12	X	6½	14	10½	3½	80½
Herts II	6	8½	8½	7	11½	5½	13½	X	5	11	3	76½
Beds	8	8½	8	12	6	10	6	15	X	6½	2½	80
Suffolk	7	4½	8	11½	0½	9½	9½	9	13½	X	2	72½

Essex II went on to win the Counties' Second Team Championship, beating Devon II 13-3 in the final.

\* \* \* \* \*

The National Counties' Championship was duly won by Middlesex, who beat Lancashire 11½ - 8½ in the final, which shows the strength of S.C.C.U. teams !

GAMES

A.M.Simpson v. R.J.Thompson		(Hilltop I v. Stevenage I, Division I 1977-78)
1. P-K4	N-KB3	
2. N-QB3	P-K4	(White has declined the challenge of Alekhine's Defence, so perhaps Black should avoid the Vienna Game with 2...P-Q4 - if 3.P-K5, P-Q5!)
3. P-KB4	B-N5 !?	Good old King's Gambit again ! (? Really a Vienna Game, although Black's reply is scarcely in the textbooks)
4. N-B3	....	(White also has the simpler 4.PxP BxN 5.QPxB NxP 6.N-B3 P-Q4 7.B-Q3 with a good game; the aim is to play B-KB4, Q-K2 and O-O-O)
4. ....	PxP	
5. P-K5	Q-K2	
6. B-K2	N-N5	
7. P-Q4	P-KK4	(A spirited but somewhat anti-positional move)
8. O-O	BxN	Black cannot afford to allow 9.N-Q5
9. PxP	P-Q4	
10. P-QB4	B-K3	
11. PxP	BxP	
12. P-B4 !	B-K5	
13. Q-N3	P-KR4	(Preferable might be 13...N-R3, so that if 14.B-R3, 14...P-QB4 and if 15.PxP, 15...B-B3 !)
14. P-KR3	N-QB3	Things are hotting up
15. P-Q5 ?!	....	Rush of blood to the head ! 15.B-R3 first was in order.
15. ....	Q-B4ch	
16. K-R1	N-B7ch ?	(Much better is 16...N-R4; if then 17.Q-R3 Black has the choice of ...QxQ or ...N-B7ch. If 17.Q-B3, O-O-O)
17. RxN	QxR	
18. B-R3	....	The only way I can win now is to launch a desperate sacrificial attack - this stops Black's O-O.
18. ....	NxKP ?	(A very difficult choice; Black has seen, or surmised, that 18...QxB loses to 19.QxP BxN 20.QxNch K-Q1 21.QxRch K-Q2 22.P-K6ch! PxP 23.PxPch KxP 24.QxB and White is a piece up. However Black should play 18...O-O-O and if 19.PxN BxP wins - 20.B-KB1 P-N5 21.N-N1 P-B6! is devastating - 22.PxP R-Q7 mates)
19. QxP	....	An annotator's nightmare - I decide to charge on recklessly
19. ....	BxN	If 19...QxB 20.QxRch K-Q2 21.NxN mate.
20. BxB	P-N5	If 20...NxB 21.QxRch K-Q2 22.Q-B6ch K-Q1 23.F-Q6 wins easily - 23...PxP 24.R-Q1 N-Q7 25.QxPch etc.
21. QxBP !	N-Q2	To prevent the mate on K2.
22. B-N4	PxB	Despair !
23. R-K1ch	QxRch	
24. BxQ	R-QN1	
25. QxBP	PxPch	Not 25...R-N8?, 26.Q-K4ch winning the R.
26. KxP	R-N1ch	
27. K-B3	R-QN7	
28. B-R4 !	....	That Bishop again !
28. ....	P-B3	
29. BxP	NxB	(If 29...R-B1 30.Q-K4ch K-B2 31.BxR)
30. Q-K5ch	Resigns	Black's R goes West !

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