

Chessfile

GUTSY GUKESH!

Indian teenager becomes youngest ever challenger for world chess title



Menchik Memorial - Harriet Hunt triumphed at a hard-fought tournament



Memory Lane - John Henderson recalls the career of Lisa Lane (1933 - 2024)



Offer a Draw? - Ben Graff talks draws with Maurice Ashley and Keith Arkell

Chess

Founding Editor: B.H. Wood, OBE. M.Sc †
Executive Editor: Malcolm Pein
Editors: Richard Palliser, Matt Read
Associate Editor: John Saunders
Advertising: Tao Bhokanandh

Chess Magazine (ISSN 0964-6221) is published by:
Chess & Bridge Ltd, 44 Baker St, London, W1U 7RT
Tel: 020 7486 7015 (9:30am - 5pm Monday to Friday)
Email: info@chess.co.uk, Website: www.chess.co.uk

Twitter: @CHESS_Magazine
Twitter: @TelegraphChess - Malcolm Pein
Twitter: @chessandbridge

Subscription Rates:

United Kingdom

1 year (12 issues)	£50
2 year (24 issues)	£90
3 year (36 issues)	£125

Europe

1 year (12 issues)	£60
2 year (24 issues)	£115
3 year (36 issues)	£165

Rest of World (Airmail)

1 year (12 issues)	£75
2 year (24 issues)	£145
3 year (36 issues)	£210

Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors. Contributions to the magazine will be published at the Editors' discretion and may be shortened if space is limited.

No parts of this publication may be reproduced without the prior express permission of the publishers.

All rights reserved. © 2024

FRONT COVER:

Cover Design: Matt Read
Cover image: Stev Bonhage

US & Canadian Readers – You can contact us via our American branch – Chess4Less based in West Palm Beach, FL. Call toll-free on 1-877 89CHESS (24377). You can even order Subscriber Special Offers online via www.chess4less.com

Printed in the UK by The Magazine Printing Company using only paper from FSC/PEFC suppliers www.magprint.co.uk

Contents

Editorial	4
Malcolm Pein on the latest developments in the game	
Hunting Down Menchik Glory	8
Harriet Hunt triumphed at a hard-fought Menchik Memorial	
The Big Easter Hunt	14
A round-up of an action-packed chess week(end) around the UK	
Early Drama	19
The Toronto Candidates lived up to its billing early on	
How Good is Your Chess?	22
Daniel King has been enjoying two books by Paul van der Sterren	
60 Seconds With... Andreea-Marioara Cosman	25
We learn a little about the Romanian WFM after her success in London	
Find the Winning Moves	26
Can you do as well as the players in London, Shenzhen and Wijk?	
A Trip Down Memory Lane	30
John Henderson recalls the career of Lisa Lane	
Would You Like a Draw?	32
Ben Graff discusses draws with Maurice Ashley and Keith Arkell	
Exposing the Exchange French	36
Bernie Hare reveals how to play against this annoying variation	
If Rambo Played Chess	37
How Steve Firth learned to stop worrying and love The Grob	
The Curse of CHESS Magazine	40
Geoff Chandler recalls the chess badges of the BH Wood era	
How to Beat a Grandmaster	41
Paul Littlewood presents a fine win by a young Nigel Short	
Never Mind the Grandmasters...	42
Carl enjoyed learning about Vladimirs Petrovs and pays tribute	
Rocket Man	44
Julian Way on learning from the attacking flair of P. S. Milner-Barry	
Overseas News	46
Magnus Carlsen and Hans Niemann impressed in Karlsruhe	
Home News	50
All the latest results, as well as games from Bourne End and Telford	
Solutions	53
This Month's New Releases	54
Our reviewers enjoyed new works by Bauer, Sher and Sokolov	
Forthcoming Events	57
A typically packed UK tournament calendar for May	
Saunders on Chess	58
John takes us back to Hastings 1965/66 and corrects the record	

Photo credits: Tao Bhokanandh (pp.8-12, 15, 25), Stev Bonhage (p.1), CHESS Magazine Archive (pp.41, 43-44), Dave Pickoff/Associated Press (p.7), FIDE/Maria Emelianova (pp.5-6, 21), FIDE/Michal Walusza (p.19), Crystal Fuller (p.49), GCT/Austin Fuller (p.33), GRENKE Chess (pp. 47-48), noord-hollandsarchief.nl (p.22), Brendan O'Gorman (pp.17-18, 34).

Hunting Down Menchik Glory

Harriet Hunt triumphed in a hard-fought Menchik Memorial at the MindSports Centre

The 8th Menchik Memorial only took place thanks to the support for elite chess from the DCMS, but the UK chess world could definitely be grateful that it did. Indeed, it was full of fighting chess while showcasing some of the UK's leading female players, as well as rising stars.

The tournament took place in the second half of March at the London MindSports Centre, being superbly organised by ECF Director of Women's Chess Aga Milewska and ably controlled by Matt Carr. If you've ever wondered what happens on the morning of the first day of a tournament, we'll hand over to Matt:

"It was a cloudy day for the start of the Menchik Memorial. The chief arbiter was up bright and early, which makes a nice change for him, wheeling the heavy chess equipment down from the hotel to the venue, trying desperately not to let any of it slip off or his trousers fall down.

"We get in the playing room at 7.30am and have to turn a bridge room into a room fit for the Menchik Memorial, and get all the admin done ready for 10am. It wasn't easy, but we managed it with a little time to spare. Trouble is all this effort would have been for naught if the players didn't turn up. With railway delays posted that morning, things looked bad, but we kept hope. Even when we got to half an hour before the start time with a grand total of one player present, at least between the two arbiters and the player we had a crowd. Thankfully with about five minutes to go, a lot more started to come in and get themselves settled."

Now aged 9, Bodhana Sivanandan arrived slightly late for the opening round, having had to hotfoot it from the Reykjavik Open. While she must have been quite tired and wasn't quite at her best, six draws and a 2059 performance was far from a shabby return and Sivanandan will have learnt plenty from crossing swords with the tournament's stronger players. So too will have 14-year-old Maidenhead star Anusha Subramanian, who finished on a pretty impressive 3½/9 on her international tournament debut.

H.Hunt-B.Sivanandan Round 3 Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 ♟f5 4 ♟e3 e6
5 ♞d2 ♞d7 6 c3 c5

This looks natural, but it may be that borrowing an idea from the French with 6...f6!? 7 ♞gf3 ♞c7 8 ♟f4 0-0-0!? could be the critical line.

7 ♞gf3 ♞c8

One problem for Black is that 7...cxd4 can be met by 8 ♞xd4! ♟g6 (8...♞xe5? 9 ♞xf5 exf5 10 ♞b3 would be structurally horrific) 9 ♞b3 ♞b8 10 c4 when White seizes the initiative in a not totally dissimilar way to the game.

8 ♟e2 a6 9 0-0 ♞e7 10 c4!?

Beginning to put White's superior development to good use, although it may be that 10 dxc5!? ♞xc5 11 ♞d4 ♟g6 12 b4 (Pein) is an even better way of doing so.

10...dxc4?!

Freeing d5 for the knight, but also drifting into trouble. Black needed to be bold and go 10...cxd4 11 ♞xd4!? ♞xe5 when 12 ♞b3 g6! 13 ♞ad1 ♟g7 seems fully playable after 14 cxd5 exd5 15 ♞xb7 0-0.

11 ♞xc4 ♞d5 12 ♟g5!



Increasing the pressure and now 12...♟e7? 13 ♞d6+ would, of course, have been very bad news for Black.



IM and five-time British Women's Champion Harriet Hunt played some of her best chess in recent years as she triumphed with 7/9.

12...♞c7 13 ♞c1

Natural, but again there was something even stronger: 13 dxc5! ♟xc5 14 ♞c1 followed by ♞d6 with a clear advantage.

13...♞b8?!

There's no time for this, whereas the fearless 13...b5! 14 ♞e3 ♞xe3 15 fxe3 c4 would have restricted White to an edge after, say, 16 ♞d2 ♟b4 17 a3.

14 ♞e3

Another good move, but taking on c5 or even going 14 ♞h4! ♟e4 15 f3! ♟g6 16 f4 would have been even stronger: for instance, 16...b5 17 f5! bxc4 (or 17...exf5 18 ♟f3!) 18 ♟xc4 ♞7b6 19 ♞f3 would have left Black's entire position teetering on the brink.

14...♞xe3 15 fxe3 h6

15...cxd4 would have been less weakening, and if 16 ♞xc8+ ♞xc8 17 ♞xd4 ♟e4 18 ♟h5 ♟g6.

16 ♟h4 g5?! 17 ♟g3 ♟g7 18 h4!



Ensuring that the black king won't be especially safe even on the kingside.

18...g4 19 ♖d2 h5?

19...0-0 20 ♗xg4 cxd4 21 ♖xc8 ♜xc8 22 exd4 was grim for Black, but seemingly also essential.

20 ♖c4 ♗f8

Not the move she would have wanted to play, but 20...0-0 21 ♖d6 ♖cd8 22 ♖xf5 exf5 23 ♖xf5 would have been crushing.

21 ♗d3

Simple chess, although it appears that the vigorous 21 ♖xf5! exf5 22 ♗d3 would have been even more devastating.

21...b5 22 ♖d6+ ♗xd6 23 exd6 ♗xd3

24 ♜xd3 0-0 25 dxc5!

Not the only good move, but a simple and logical one, opening up the position to favour White's far superior coordination and to drag the black knight away from the kingside.

25...♖xc5 26 ♖xc5 ♖xc5 27 ♗d4 ♖d7

28 ♖c1



White's position almost plays itself and if now 28...♖c8 there's 29 ♖c7.

28...b4 29 ♗c7 ♗b5 30 b3 ♖d8 31 ♖h2

♖f8? 32 ♖c5

One of two ways to force a win, the other being 32 ♗f6! ♖d7 33 ♖c8.

32...♗f1 33 ♖xh5 ♖g6 34 ♗xg4 ♖f8

35 ♖c5 ♗d3 36 ♗g5 1-0

Former long-time UK women's no.1 and five-time British Women's Champion, IM Harriet Hunt returned to something like her best during the tournament. She only lost once and that was to Andreea-Marioara Cosman, who belied her relatively low rating as she remained undefeated to finish second equal and so claim a WIM norm.



26-year-old Romanian WFM Andreea-Marioara Cosman was the surprise package of the tournament, defeating Harriet Hunt and finishing second equal without losing a game.

H.Hunt-A.Cosman

Round 6

Sicilian Kopec

1 e4 c5 2 ♖f3 d6 3 c3 ♖f6 4 h3 g6

5 ♗d3 ♗g7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♗c2 e5 8 d3

♖c6 9 a3 b6 10 ♗e3 ♗a6 11 ♜c1? d5

Thematic and strong, as would have been 11...♖h5. White's opening has not been a success.

12 ♖d1 ♜c7 13 ♖e1?! dxe4?

White is almost OK after this, whereas 13...♗xd3! 14 ♗xd3 dxe4 would have netted a clear pawn.

14 dxe4 c4 15 a4! ♖a5 16 ♖bd2 ♖d7

17 ♖d1 ♖ad8 18 ♖f1 ♖fe8 19 ♖3h2

♖c5 20 ♗xc5!

Correctly giving up the bishop-pair to untangle, activate and even develop some play on the kingside.

20...♗xc5 21 ♗g5 ♗f8 22 ♖e3 ♗b7

23 ♗h4 f6 24 ♖d5?!

Having fought her way back into the game, it's understandable that White thought the trend was in her favour, but this is still too ambitious, whereas something like 24 ♖f3 would have maintained the rough balance.

24...♗xd5 25 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 26 exd5 f5!



27 ♖d1?

An instructive moment. Black quickly takes over after this, whereas the bold 27 g4! would have made sense of White's pieces and only left her fractionally worse after 27...♖b7 (27...♗f6?! 28 ♗g3 is nothing to fear and neither is 27...e4 28 gxf5 gxf5 29 f3!) 28 gxf5 gxf5 29 ♖f3 ♗f6 30 ♗h5 e4 31 ♖h4 ♗xh4 32 ♗xh4 ♖h8.

27...♗f6 28 ♗g3 e4! 29 ♖f1

Cutting out the bishop on c2 and now 29 f3? ♗e5! 30 f4 ♗c5+ 31 ♖h1 ♗c7 would just leave White too vulnerable on the dark squares.

29...♖b7!? 30 ♗c7 ♖d6! 31 ♗xa7 f4



Black's mobile, Sveshnikov-esque pawn duo supplies more than enough compensation for the a-pawn.

32 ♖e1?

32 ♖d2! e3 (or 32...f3! 33 ♖e3 ♗g5 34 ♗xb6 when White is worse but fighting) 33 fxe3 fxe3 34 ♖e2 ♗h4 35 ♗xb6 is how the engines calmly want to defend, and if 35...♗f2+!? 36 ♖xf2 ♗xf2+ 37 ♖h2 e2 38 ♗xf2 e1 ♗ 39 ♗xe1 ♖xe1, which is just a pretty unclear endgame.

32...e3! 33 fxe3 ♗h4 34 ♖e2 f3!

The second part of the thematic breakthrough begun on move 32. White's

king is just far too weak.

35 gxf3 ♖xf3 36 ♖g2 ♖f8



37 ♗xg6!?

A last-ditch try.

37...♖xf1+ 38 ♖h2 ♗g3+! 39 ♖xg3 hxg6 40 ♖d7 ♖f6

40...♗e4+!? 41 ♖h2 ♗g5 was also good.

41 ♖h2 ♖e5+ 42 ♖g1 ♖xe3+ 43 ♖h2 ♖e5+ 44 ♖g1 ♖f6 45 ♖d8+ ♖g7 46 ♖xb6 ♗f5 47 ♖a7+ ♖f7 48 ♖f2 ♗e3 49 ♖e2 ♖f1+

The pesky engines prefer 49...♖f4!, winning though the text also is and even with both sides long down to playing largely solely on the 30-second increment.

50 ♖xf1 ♗xf1 51 ♖xf1 ♖xd5 52 ♖f2 ♖a5 53 ♖g4 ♖xa4 54 ♖g3 ♖c2 55 h4 ♖h6 56 ♗d4 ♖c1 57 ♖f3 ♖h5 58 ♖g3 ♖e3+ 59 ♖g2 ♖e2+ 60 ♖g3 ♖xb2 61 ♖xc4 ♖b8+ 62 ♖f3 ♖b5 63 ♗d4 ♖c6+ 0-1

Such a defeat would have demoralised many players, but not Hunt who returned to W6 the next day to win a pivotal battle, against the top seed no less.

M.Garcia Martin-H.Hunt

Round 7

Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♗f3 d6 3 c3 ♗f6 4 ♗e2 g6 5 0-0 ♗g7 6 ♗b5+ ♗bd7 7 ♖e1 a6 8 ♗f1 e5!?



23-year-old Spanish IM Marta Garcia Martin lost key games to Hunt and Arakhamia-Grant.

Again, the Sicilian transforms into a Lopez structure, although this is a much better version for White than Hunt-Cosman, since she can easily and immediately advance in the centre.

9 d4 ♖c7 10 a4 0-0 11 d5

One of two good approaches, the other being 11 dxe5 ♗xe5! (11...dxe5 12 ♗bd2 and ♗c4 is very pleasant for White) 12 ♗xe5 dxe5 13 c4! followed by ♗c3 and ♗g5.

11...h6 12 ♗a3 ♗e8 13 b4 ♖h7 14 ♗c4 f5!?



King's Indian style counterplay, although now 15 exf5! gxf5 16 ♗h4! would have seen Black coming under serious pressure on the kingside with ♖h5 and ♗e3 imminent.

15 ♗fd2?! b6 16 ♗d3 f4!

Shutting down the b1-h7 diagonal. The engines still slightly prefer White, but a natural attacking player like Hunt must have been quite happy with the black position.

17 ♗e2 ♗ef6 18 ♖b1 ♖b8! 19 g3?

Weakening the kingside and underestimating Black's designs on the other flank. Instead, 19 ♗a3! b5 20 ♗xd6! c4! (20...♖xd6 21 c4! gives White a lot of play for the piece) 21 ♗xc8 ♖bxc8 22 ♗g4! would have attempted to avoid being overrun on the kingside. Black still has her trumps here though and in practice the chances would likely be about level.

19...b5 20 axb5 axb5 21 ♗a5 c4!



Closing lines as Black begins to dominate the future action on the queenside, as well as the kingside.

22 ♗f1 ♗b6 23 ♗c6 fxc3

23...♖a8! 24 gxf4 exf4 25 ♗d4 ♗a4 26 ♗b2 ♗g4! would also have left Black doing extremely well.

24 hxg3 ♖a8 25 ♗g2 ♗d7 26 ♗a5 ♗a4!

27 ♖c2 ♗g4

Black's knights are monsters and the pressure against f2 already close to decisive.

28 ♗f3 ♖b6

28...♖f7! might have been even better, and if 29 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 30 ♗dxc4 ♖d7 31 ♗e3 ♗f3, looking to go ...♖af8 then ...♖f4.

29 ♖f1 ♖f7 30 ♗dxc4!?

The Spanish IM finds pretty much the only chance to break free and complicate the struggle, to an extent.

30...bxc4 31 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 32 ♖xa4



32...♖f3

Rerouting the queen to the light squares with 32...♖b8! and 33...♖c8 would have been more clinical, but already time-trouble (the control was a brisk 90 minutes for all the moves with a 30-second increment) was a definite factor.

33 ♖g2 ♖xc3?

After 33...♖f7! 34 ♗xc4 ♖d8 35 ♖c2 ♖c8 36 ♗d2 h5! Black's attack would still have been worth somewhat more than White's two extra pawns.

34 ♗e3!

Keeping Black out of f3 and the only real try for White. Hunt had no doubt planned the upcoming exchange sacrifice in advance. It looks pretty scary for White, although typically the silicon isn't too worried.

34...♖xe3! 35 fxe3 ♖xe3 36 ♖c2 ♗e2 37 ♗xc4?

37 ♖be1! ♗xf1+ 38 ♖xf1 c3 39 ♖f3 ♖d4 40 ♗c6 ♖d2+ 41 ♖f2 leads to that assessment beloved of the engines, '0.00'.

37...♗xc4 38 ♖xc4 ♖a3!

Black's attack is once again the dominant feature of the position.

39 ♖h1 ♖xg3 40 ♖b2 ♖c3!



A powerful discombobulation to win e4...



University of Hull student Kamila Hryshchenko was the sole player to defeat the only GM in the field and had many very-hard fought games. Kamila is also now eligible to play for England.

41 ♖a2 ♗h4+?

...except that 41...♗h3+ 42 ♔g1 ♖e3+ 43 ♜bf2 ♗xe4 was the way to do things, with a big advantage for Black, and if 44 b5 ♗d4! 45 ♖h1 e4.

42 ♗h2! ♗xe4+ 43 ♗g2 ♗d3 44 ♗g1 ♜b3 45 ♗h4?

With more time, Garcia Martin would surely have found 45 ♗g4!, facilitating ♗hg2 and seemingly leaving Black with nothing better than perpetual check, such as with 45...♜xb4!? 46 ♗xb4 ♗f3+ 47 ♗gg2 ♗f1+ 48 ♗g1 ♗f3+ 49 ♗hg2 ♗h3+.

45...♙f6! 46 ♗c4? h5!

Creating luft for Black's king, which is again about to be by far the safer of the two monarchs.

47 ♗c7+ ♙h6 48 ♗c2 ♜xb4 49 ♗d2+

Black's task is easy after this, but how else to deal with the threat of 49...♗h4?

49...♗xd2 50 ♗xd2 e4 51 ♗dg2 g5 52 ♗e1 ♗d4 53 ♗ge2 ♗xd5 54 ♗xe4 ♙e5 55 ♗4e2 ♙g6 56 ♗f1 ♗d4 57 ♗f8 h4 58 ♗g2 ♙f4 0-1

As Matt Carr remarked: "That was an amazing game to watch, for me the best game of the tournament. Thank you both players for a lot of fun in that one. Commiserations Marta, well done Harriet!"

Bar losing a wild encounter to Kamila Hryshchenko, Ketevan Arakhamia-Grant largely impressed and would grind down Brighton-based Garcia Martin in the final round to tie for second. Keti was also awarded the brilliancy prize for this devastating display.

**K.Arakhamia-Grant-
A.Navrotescu**
Round 2
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 ♙f5 4 h4 h5 5 ♙d3

♙xd3 6 ♗xd3 ♗a5+ 7 b4!?

White's main move is 7 ♗d2, but this gambit approach has been popular with a number of young grandmasters in recent years.

7...♗xb4+ 8 ♗d2 ♗b5?

This only allows White to accelerate her initiative. Instead, 8...e6 is the critical line, with 9 ♜b1 ♖e7 10 ♗e2 ♗h6 (10...b5!? 11 a4 a6 12 ♗f3 ♗c7 and ...♗e7 might be critical) 11 ♗f3 b5 12 a4! a6 (Martinez Alcantara-Firouzja, Titled Tuesday Blitz 2024) 13 ♙xh6!? ♗xh6 14 0-0 followed by ♗g5 looking like very pleasant compensation for White.

9 c4!

Naturally White wishes to keep the queens on and exploit her lead in development.

9...dxc4 10 ♗xc4 e6 11 ♗e2

Development with the simple but powerful idea of ♗c3-e4.

11...♗a6!? 12 ♗c3 ♗b4 13 ♗e2 ♗a6 14 ♗e4



The French WGM has done well to obtain a fairly well-placed knight of her own, but White still dominates the board and is all set to invade the big hole on d6.

14...♗h6 15 ♗ed6+

Simple chess, although 15 ♙xh6 ♗xh6 16 ♜b1!? and only then ♗cd6+ would have



French WGM Andreea Navrotescu was pretty ruthless against the tail, racking up 4½/5.

been pretty strong too.

15...♙xd6 16 ♗xd6+ ♙e7?

Black is blown away down the b-file then across the seventh rank after this. 16...♙f8 was necessary, and if 17 ♙xh6 ♗xh6 18 ♜b1 when White is clearly better, but at least Black can fight, as with 18...♗xe2+ 19 ♙xe2 a5 20 a3 ♗c2. Then 21 ♙d3 ♗xa3 22 ♗xb7 ♗b5 23 ♗xf7 ♗g6 24 ♗g5 a4 might yet panic a human, very strong though the engines consider the instructive 25 d5! exd5 26 f4 to be.

17 ♙xh6 ♗xh6 18 ♜b1!

There's not much Black can do to prevent the rook landing on b7.

18...♗xe2+

Likewise, if 18...♗a3 19 ♗h3 or 18...♗a4 19 0-0 a5 20 ♗f3! f5 21 a3 and wins.

19 ♙xe2 ♗d5 20 ♗xb7+ ♙f8 21 ♗xf7

As so often, the removal of the weakest pawn at the start of the game quickly proves Black's undoing.

21...♗g6 22 ♗g5



22...♗d8

Desperation with ♗c1 on the way, or if 22...♗e7 23 ♗c1 ♗f5 24 g3! ♗xd4+ 25 ♙e3 ♗f5+ 26 ♙e4 ♗e7 27 ♗c1 when the stricken rook on g6 would have cost Black the game.

23 ♖xa7 ♜b8 24 ♖c1 ♜b2+ 25 ♔f3 ♘e7?



Losing on the spot, although 25...♜b6 26 ♖c2 ♜h6 27 g3 ♜g6 28 a4 wouldn't exactly have changed anything.

26 ♖a8+ 1-0



The highly-experienced Keti Arakhamia-Grant ground down Garcia Martin in the final round.

Organiser Aga Milewska reflected that “The tournament was of a high level for a women's international event,” adding that she “was very grateful to be able to organise things once again, as well as most happy with the London MindSports Centre, who once more were both flexible and looked after us extremely well.”

Aga added that, “The players were very friendly, which made for a great atmosphere over the five days. Everyone enjoyed dining together after the games and coming closer together, which is ever an important aspect with such tournaments. As I'm always pointing out, if female players support such women's events, they will land up playing much more and help to encourage more women and girls to take up the game.”



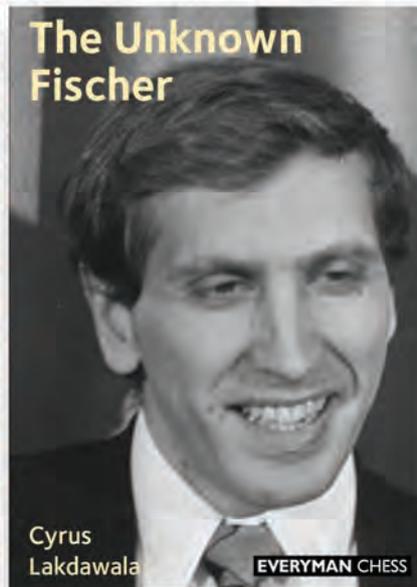
Tournament supremo and ECF Director of Women's Chess, Aga Milewska presents the main prizes, including the Menchik Memorial Cup to Harriet Hunt. Both Keti and Andreea-Marioara Cosman can be seen with copies of Jennifer Shahade's Play Like A Champion, which features the stories of, and some impressive tactics played by, the leading female players of all time, from pioneers like Vera Menchik to the Botez sisters.

8th Menchik Memorial 2024 - London, Friday 22nd - Tuesday 26th March

Player	Title	Country	Rating	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Pts	TPR	
1	Harriet Hunt	IM	ENG	2307	#	0	½	1	½	1	1	1	1	7	2380	
2	Andreea-Marioara Cosman	WFM	ROU	2115	1	#	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	6½	2347
3	Ketevan Arakhamia-Grant	GM	SCO	2290	½	½	#	1	1	0	1	½	1	1	6½	2328
4	Marta Garcia Martin	IM	ESP	2356	0	½	0	#	1	1	½	½	1	1	5½	2235
5	Andreea Navrotescu	WGM	FRA	2200	½	0	0	0	#	1	1	½	1	1	5	2215
6	Kamila Hryshchenko		ENG	2186	0	½	1	0	0	#	1	½	½	½	4	2130
7	Anusha Subramanian	WCM	ENG	1997	0	½	0	½	0	0	#	½	1	1	3½	2114
8	Bodhana Sivanandan	WCM	ENG	2088	0	0	½	½	½	½	½	#	½	0	3	2059
9	Fiona Steil-Antoni	WIM	LUX	2154	0	½	0	0	0	½	0	½	#	½	2	1957
10	Olivia Smith	WFM	WLS	2054	0	0	0	0	0	½	0	1	½	#	2	1968

GREAT NEW TITLES FROM EVERYMAN CHESS

ON SALE NOW



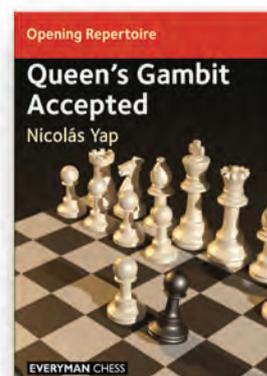
Bobby Fischer is one of the greatest (if not the greatest) chess players of all-time and this book includes early games before he was well known, simultaneous games, blitz games as well as many classical games that have simply fallen under the radar.

Paperback 384 pages



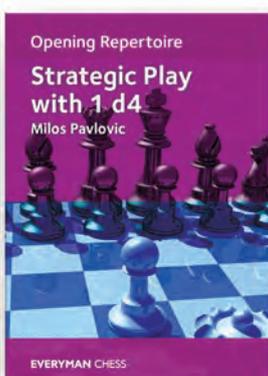
The variation of the French that starts 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 (or 3 Nd2) 3 ... dxe4 is often called the Rubinstein Variation. It is a great way to simplify the position and ensure that the middlegame battle rewards strategic understanding rather than rote memorisation of opening moves. It is also a very useful weapon to defuse the attacking intentions of aggressive White players who plan an all-out assault in the main lines of the French Defence.

Paperback 368 pages



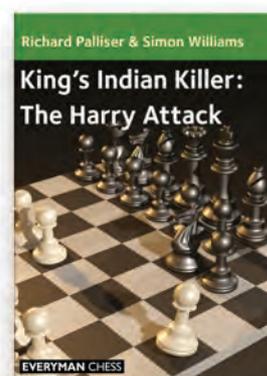
Yap analyses the line 1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e4 b5!? in forensic detail. This is now almost the main line of the Queen's Gambit Accepted and there is currently very little theoretical material on it. Yap also investigates other popular, counterattacking lines such as 3 e3 e5!?

Paperback 448 pages



In this book the highly experienced grandmaster Milos Pavlovic outlines a powerful repertoire for White based on 1 d4. The variations are very much based on strategic themes where an understanding of plans is far more important than memorisation of lines and move orders.

Paperback 280 pages



Do you want a simple and practical method to counter Black's kingside fianchetto defences after 1 d4? A line that takes the initiative from a very early stage and creates difficult practical problems? If so, then The Harry Attack (1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 h4) is for you.

Paperback 240 pages



EVERYMAN CHESS
www.everymanchess.com
available through all good retailers



60 Seconds with... WFM Andreea-Marioara Cosman



Born: 23rd August 1997 in Sibiu, Romania.

Place of residence: Sibiu, Romania.

Occupation: Professional chess player/coach.

Enjoyable? Most of the time, yes. I would say it is more enjoyable nowadays when the students perform well.

And home life? I live with my family and we own two dogs and a cat, so there is always something interesting happening every day.

But sometimes good to escape to: Nature! There is a park in Sibiu that contains the Astra Museum, which displays the old ways of living, from houses to tools, and so helps to bring the past to life.

Sports played or followed: I sometimes like to watch basketball and snooker.

A favourite novel? Anything by Agatha Christie, especially *Murder in Mesopotamia* because it has an unexpected turn of events.

Piece of music? I like multiple genres of music, especially rock, jazz and disco.

Film or TV series? Mostly psychological and police shows, although I also still enjoy the old Walt Disney animated movies.

What's the best thing about playing chess? Travelling to new countries, having the opportunity to meet new people, and always getting new positions at the board where you can use your creativity.

And the worst? Sometimes tournaments can be very tiring and stressful because of the multiple games per day.

Your best move? I really enjoyed this game, played just a few days ago at the Menchik Memorial against WGM Andreea Navrotescu, where with 22 ♕e2-f3? my opponent allowed me to create a very beautiful counterattack based on the overloaded white queen and the passed pawn on e3.

A.C.Navrotescu-A.M.Cosman Menchik Memorial, London 2024



22...♕a4! 23 ♖a3 c3! 24 bxc3
24 ♖xa4 e2 25 ♕xe2 ♖xe2 26 bxc3 ♜e3
27 ♖b3 ♖xg4 is pretty much all over too.
24 ..e2! 25 ♕xe2 ♖e3+ 26 ♜d2 ♘xc3
27 ♕d3 ♘e4 28 ♖a5 ♘f2 29 ♕b5 ♘h1
30 ♕xe8 ♜xe8 31 ♖xa7 ♖c3+ 32 ♘d1
♘f2+ 33 ♜xf2 ♜e1# 0-1

But less memorable than your worst move? I always think deciding between candidate moves is the hardest decision a chess player has to make. Choosing the wrong move then later seeing the computer's preference can be very painful, not least this encounter.

D.Belenkaya-A.M.Cosman European Women's Individual Championship, Iasi 2021



After 26...a6? 27 ♖b4! cxd3 28 ♕d1

White was able to put up serious resistance and we eventually agreed a draw. However, 26..cxd3! 27 ♕xd3 (27 ♕d1 ♘f3+ 28 ♕xf3 ♖xf3 carries too many threats) 27...♘f3+ 28 ♘d1 would have left Black with various ways to force the win, including the calm 28...♜d8 29 ♖b3 ♜d7.

And a highly memorable opponent? I used to play in the same team as GM Constantin Lupulescu and met him over the board once where I played Benoni as Black, and the game ended up in a draw. Lupulescu has very good opening knowledge and is one of the best Romanian chess players in history.

Favourite game of all time? The late GM Vugar Gashimov was one of my favourite players, not only for his creativity, but also for being one of the few GMs that played the Modern Benoni, an opening that I love to use, despite its sometimes dodgy reputation. Do check out Giri-Gashimov, Wijk aan Zee 2012, for a great example of Gashimov's tactical skill [Ed. – see this month's PGN download].

The best three chess books: I can wholeheartedly recommend *Imagination in Chess* by Paata Gaprindashvili for improving creativity, the *Encyclopaedia of Chess Combinations* for all the tactical motifs within, and *Dvoretsky's Endgame Manual* to learn everything important about the endgame.

Is FIDE doing a good job? I can't really tell as I haven't participated for a while in a tournament directly organised by FIDE.

Or your National Federation? The Romanian Chess Federation has focused in the last few years on making chess more visible to the public by organising stronger tournaments, such as the Grand Prix Series and the Superbet Romania Classic. Also, they have managed to find more sponsors and to employ well-known coaches, such as R. B. Ramesh and Ivan Sokolov, to help prepare not only the national team, but also our best juniors.

Any advice for either? I think the Romanian Chess Federation should focus on supporting financially the stronger Romanian GMs, so that they can concentrate on playing rather than having to teach as well to make a living.

Can chess make one happy? Definitely, yes! Chess helps you to make friends, learn about different cultures and improve your lifestyle.

A tip please for the club player: It is very important to remain creative, fearless and consistent. Then the results will surely follow.

New from Quality Chess!

TURBO-CHARGE YOUR TACTICS 1

Drive Your Improvement

Vladimir Grabinsky &
Mykhaylo Oleksiyenko



Turbo-Charge Your Tactics 1 is a multi-year effort by GM Mykhaylo Oleksiyenko and his world-renowned trainer IM Vladimir Grabinsky to introduce you to the world of “unnatural” tactical moves. The book contains 270 carefully selected puzzles, starting at a relatively simple level and gradually increasing in difficulty.

Presenting examples of extreme beauty, this book will cure your “selective blindness” by destroying the false notion of chess principles being a set of rules, instead of helpful guidelines. Most chess games are decided by tactics, so solving tactical puzzles is the most effective path to improvement.

Hardcover
328 pages

Turbo-Charge Your Tactics 2 builds upon the first volume, using carefully chosen examples from the World Champions and their challengers. Work through both books and your tactical ability will skyrocket.

This book also contains a special chapter with expert guidance on how to use chess engines. The engines might analyse precisely but they can also harm our chess understanding if followed blindly, so we must know when and how to use them.

Hardcover
280 pages

TURBO-CHARGE YOUR TACTICS 2

Accelerate and Win

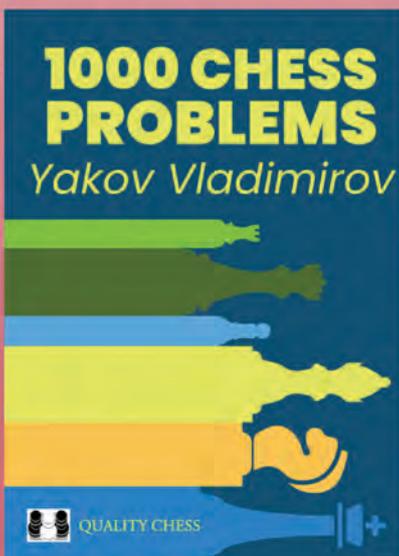
Vladimir Grabinsky &
Mykhaylo Oleksiyenko



1000 Chess Problems is a book where the title tells part of the story, but the vital point in such books is the care and expertise that the author has put into selecting just the right examples. **Yakov Vladimirov** is superbly qualified for this task, and has selected positions that will instruct and entertain competitive chessplayers.

1000 Chess Problems will develop your combinative flair while highlighting the beauty and profundity of chess.

Hardcover
376 pages



Quality Chess books are available from

QUALITYCHESS.CO.UK

The London Chess Centre and other specialist chess retailers



Black defenceless down the d-file and against the f-pawn) 4...♖a8 5 ♜ae1 ♟d8 (5...♞h8! 6 ♜h6+ ♟g8 7 f4 ♞h7 was probably a better try, if still a pretty dangerous attack

for White after 8 ♜e3 ♟f8 9 ♜h4 exf4 10 ♜g4+ ♟g7 11 ♞h5) 6 ♜e3 ♞h8 7 ♜h6+ ♟f7 8 ♜f3 ♟g8 9 ♞h5 ♟g6 10 ♜xh8 ♟e7 11 ♜h7+ 1-0

The Curse of *CHES* Magazine (p.40)

McShane & Nunn helpmate: 1...♞c4 2 0-0-0+ ♟c3 3 ♟b1 b4 4 ♜d3#.

This Month's New Releases

Dream Moves: Eye-Opening Chess Lessons for Improvers

Miron Sher, 304 pages
New in Chess

RRP £24.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.45**

New in Chess continues to publish books aimed at helping club and tournament players to improve their chess at a prolific rate. One of the main selling points of this one is the inferred desire to follow in the footsteps of a number of well-known players, including a former world championship challenger (and current Candidate), as revealed by the blurb:

“Do you want to do the same chess homework that world-famous grandmasters Fabiano Caruana, Robert Hess and Peter Heine Nielsen did in their formative years as chess players? This book will test you with hundreds of positions created by their coach Miron Sher (1952–2020). Just like Fabiano, Robert and Peter, you are not supposed to stop after the first move. You have to find the last move of the solution!”

The author's name may not be so well known, but that is partly because this is a posthumous publication. In a nutshell, Miron Sher “was born in Ukraine, studied in Moscow, coached the Russian national team and emigrated to New York in 1997” and “worked privately with dozens of students such as Fabiano Caruana, Robert Hess and Peter Heine Nielsen.”

There are warm forewords by Robert Hess, Mikhail Sher and Sher's wife, Alla Grinfeld, plus an introduction by the late author himself, who says “in this book I have shared my vision of chess and recommended approaches for rapid chess improvement for players of all ages.”

Five main themes are covered in great detail and they are: “An unprotected piece – the trigger to start thinking tactics!; In-between moves – they help you spring a surprise on your opponent; Open files – a fundamental element of chess strategy; The 20% Rule – if your pawn has advanced to the 5th or 6th rank, moving it forward is quite often your best option; Dream Move – dream about the final, decisive move, and you will find the way there.”

All the themes are united in the desire to help chess students to improve their calculational ability.

Here is an example taken from the chapter

on The Dream Move, featuring one of Sher's former students in action.

F.Caruana-R.Ponomarev Dortmund 2014



Here, White's dream move is ♟a6!, with checkmate to follow on b7. However, Black can of course defend easily with ...♟xa6, so White needs to prepare the dream with:

39 ♜e7! ♜xe7

If Black does not accept the rook sacrifice, then the collapse of c7 is obviously coming next, with catastrophic consequences. Therefore, Ponomarev sportingly allows a crisp finish.

40 ♟a6! ♟xa6 41 ♜a8# 1-0

There are annotated games, 309 exercises (from 'Easy' to 'Difficult'), and detailed answers. Chess students will certainly find plenty of material to keep them busy for quite a while. Meanwhile, chess tutors and coaches will appreciate having such an excellent collection of material in a single volume.

Sean Marsh

The evergreen Philidor

Christian Bauer, PC-DVD;

running time: 6 hours, 59 minutes, ChessBase

RRP £34.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £31.45**

There was a time when Philidor's Defence (1 e4 e5 2 ♞f3 d6) was seen as a relic from a bygone age, committing Black to a passive game from the very start and forcing the second player to dig in deep and hope for the



best. Modern move orders with 1 e4 d6 – to keep White guessing and to avoid all other 1 e4 e5 options, such as the King's Gambit – rehabilitated the Philidor around 20 years ago, with options of the Black Lion, in all its strange variations (from the Lion's Yawn to the Lion's Claw), adding extra spice along the way.

Three-time French Champion Christian Bauer wrote the very highly-regarded book, *The Philidor Files* (Everyman Chess, 2007), which changed opinions on how the defence should be played and he now presents his updated coverage in ChessBase format, over two parts.

The problem remains for Black that after 1 e4 e5 2 ♞f3 d6 3 d4, the wild 3...f5 and the more solid options, such as 3...♞d7, all lead to a White advantage, as shown by Bauer in his introductory video clips. The coverage of the early twists and turns is impressive and instructive, and builds up the reasons why Bauer likes the move order 1 e4 d6 2 d4 ♞f6 3 ♞c3 e5, with the hope of leading into a Hanham variation (4 ♞f3 ♞bd7 5 ♟c4 ♟e7 6 0-0 0-0), if left alone for long enough. Naturally, White can change tack with 4 dxe5 dxe5 5 ♜xd8+ ♟xd8, but modern practice has shown that he struggles to gain an advantage after, for example, 6 ♟c4 ♟e8. How complicated it has become, just to try and play such an old variation as the Hanham.

This is the key position Black is aiming for. As navigating through the alternatives is always going to be a tough job from both sides of the board, players with White are often happy to oblige and reach a position in which they historically and technically have a slight edge.



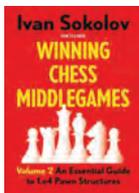
However, it is still very tricky, as Black has several different ways to play from here, with each one having its own nuances. For example, Black can play 8...a5, 8...b6, 8...c7 or even 8...h6. What are the plans? One sample sees Black playing 8...b6, followed by ...a6, ...b7, ...b8 and, eventually, ...b6-b5. This is obviously one of the slower approaches, but can White take advantage? Accuracy is required in order for the first player to gain a slight edge; this is typical of a lot of the Philidor lines.

Do 1 e4 players really spend much time preparing a nuanced approach to the myriad lines of the Philidor? It seems unlikely, which makes it a very practical choice for those with the black pieces – but, make no mistake, the second player still has to do a lot of work to get the most out of this defence.

There is a lot of interesting material on the early deviations too (for both the 1 e4 e5 and 1 e4 d6 move orders), which is well worth a look. For instance, after the (admittedly rare) 1 e4 e5 2 f3 d6 3 c4, Black achieves a good game immediately with 3...c5!. Also, in addition to the video clips, the viewer is presented with a series of exercises, as well as the facility to practice the Philidor moves and even test some key positions against *Fritz*.

This really is a very impressive package and Christian Bauer is an excellent presenter, who is very clearly a renowned expert on the Philidor Defence. The only problem is that the 'trendy' lowercase "evergreen" in the title stands out like a sore thumb.

Sean Marsh



Winning Chess Middlegames – Volume 2: An Essential Guide to 1.e4 Pawn Structures

Ivan Sokolov, 284 pages
New in Chess

RRP £24.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.45**

There are certain chess books I regard as paradigm shifts – ones that radically altered how I thought about a certain aspect of chess. They include Ivan Sokolov's *Winning Chess Middlegames* (New in Chess, 2008), which posed me a new question: do you understand the typical middlegame pawn structures that arise from the openings you play?

Given the disparity between the quality of positions I tended to reach from the opening and my results, my answer was a resounding 'no'. The crucial lesson that book taught me was that learning typical pawn structures, piece configurations and ideas associated with a particular opening is all well and good. However, if you cannot use that knowledge and understanding to play the resulting middlegames well then it is of limited value.

That first book focussed mainly on the 1 d4 and 2 c4 pawn structures that were a prominent feature of Sokolov's repertoire when he was an active player. This second volume

focuses on typical 1 e4 structures, and is primarily based on his experiences as a coach.

Given the more prominent role played by forcing variations in 1 e4 openings, I was intrigued to see how Sokolov had gone about maintaining the spirit of the first book. His approach has been to include structures that he thinks club players (and himself) have the most difficulty understanding. There are four chapters covering different Sicilian pawn structures (the Rauzer variation with doubled black f-pawns, the Maroczy Bind, the Hedgehog and the Sveshnikov), one chapter dedicated to the French Winawer, and one chapter covering structures that can arise from the Ruy Lopez, Italian Game and Petroff Defence.

As with the first volume, the strategic ideas are presented within annotated games. Throughout the focus is on plans and not concrete variations. However, the amount of extra games and analysis included within the annotations means that the reader is not only being supplied with excellent middlegame ideas, but also cutting-edge opening theory and repertoire suggestions.

Quite simply, for the entire time I was reading this book I felt like I was absorbing Sokolov's wisdom without any conscious effort. Even in pawn structures that I have played my entire chess-playing life, I constantly found myself thinking, 'I did not know that'. Furthermore, there were gasps of astonishment upon the discovery of some fresh ideas. The following is a striking example:

A.Giri-Ding Liren Bucharest 2023



This position arose in a game where Sokolov was looking at typical ideas that occur in both Ruy Lopez and Italian Game positions when White sacrifices a knight for two pawns on g5.

Is there any way to increase the pressure on the f6-knight? Here Giri played **16 O-O-O** and eventually won a nice game. Instead, Sokolov suggests 16 f1!. White brings the rook to the f-file, so that after 16...b8 (Sokolov states that Black has nothing better) 17 f5+! e5xf5 18 fxf5 e6bd7 19 O-O-O Black has no satisfactory way of dealing with the threat of f2-f4. His analysis continues 19...c6 20 c2 (to avoid ...e3+ resources) 20...b5 21 a2 bxa4 22 f4 and Black has no defence to all the threats. However, if, like

me, you were wondering why White puts the rook on f1 first and doesn't just go 16 f5+, Sokolov points out that by not waiting for the knight to go to b8, Black has the resource 16...e5xf5 17 fxf5 e6d8! and with ...e6 to follow, matters are not so clear.

If you found the above example a tasty morsel, then I am happy to report that this book is brimming with them. Furthermore, it is written in a highly accessible manner, which I'm confident will enable others to easily take on board the author's wisdom.

In summary, this book seems a worthy follow-up to its predecessor. Sokolov has supplied the reader with another veritable treasure trove of key ideas and strategic understanding, as well as sufficient groundwork to make some modifications to their opening repertoire. In a recent podcast interview Sokolov said that he believes this is a book that can enable someone to become a much better player. This reviewer has nothing to add except his agreement – very highly recommended.

Paul Hopwood



CAPTURE

Stev Bonhage, 224 pages, hardback
RRP £65.00 **SUBSCRIBERS £58.50**

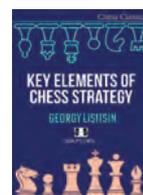
Last month we featured a selection of photos from this coffee table book, which is subtitled 'An Exchange Between Photography and Chess'. Regular FIDE photographer Stev Bonhage presents not only dramatic shots from some of the world's leading tournaments, but striking images too of chess being played in a number of varied settings around the world.

ChessBase Magazine 218

ChessBase PC-DVD

RRP £19.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.95**

The latest issue of *CBM* is for March/April 2024, features Wijk winner Wei Yi on the cover, and contains over six hours of video. As well as Wei, Abdusattorov, Firouzja and Giri analyse games, while there is detailed discussion of several theoretical lines, as well as highly instructive columns from Mihail Marin and Karsten Müller.

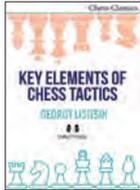


Key Elements of Chess Strategy

Georgy Lisitsin, 208 pages, hardback
RRP £27.50 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.75**

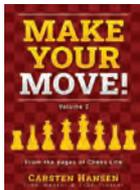
This latest work in Quality Chess's 'Chess

Classics' series is a first complete English translation of a Soviet classic. Georgy Lisitsin (1909 - 1972) finished third in the 1933 USSR Championship while honing a reputation as a feared theoretician. He later became an excellent writer, who in this textbook covers the fundamentals of chess strategy. The modern day club player will still learn plenty from Lisitsin, be it on coordinating your pawns and pieces, planning, realising an advantage or defending accurately.



At the same time Quality Chess have also released Lisitsin's other classic work, *Key Elements of Chess Tactics* (392 pages, hardback, RRP £29.50, Subscribers £26.55), which is also a fine translation from the Russian by John Sugden. Here too Lisitsin gradually builds up his impressive array of material, beginning with the key tactical devices and simple combinations, before moving on to all manner of more complex combinations and then presenting a large number of exercises.

Both Lisitsin volumes may be ordered together from Chess & Bridge for the special price of £55.00 or £49.50 for Subscribers.



Make Your Move! Volume 2

Carsten Hansen, 152 pages, paperback
RRP £15.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £14.39**

Over 200 positions from Carsten Hansen's *Chess Life* column 'Make Your Move' are collated in this puzzle book. They are presented in groups of nine: three easy puzzles, three medium ones and three tough ones. The solutions are pretty thorough and solving your way through this work should certainly improve readers's calculation and tactical awareness.



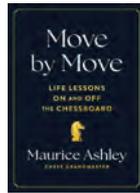
Master the Kalashnikov Sicilian

Fabien Libiszewski, PC-DVD; running time: 5 hours, 7 minutes

RRP £30.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £27.85**

French GM Libiszewski has been meeting 1 e4 with 1...c5 2 ♖f3 ♗c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♗xd4 e5 5 ♗b5 d6 for the best part of two decades and now maps out, in English, a repertoire with his favourite Sicilian for

ChessBase. He gradually builds up from coverage of White's fifth-move deviations to a fairly detailed examination of the main lines with 6 c4 and 6 ♗1c3, while also including some interactive test positions and a database of 300 model games.



Move by Move: Life Lessons on and off the Chessboard

Maurice Ashley, 176 pages, paperback
RRP £17.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £16.19**

Maurice Ashley is well-known for being the first African-American Grandmaster, as well as for his huge enthusiasm of and ability to explain the game. Long a popular commentator, Ashley now reveals that he can also write in this wide-ranging, general improvement work, which sees him discuss such topics as strategic thinking and handling failure, while also presenting at times a picture of a fairly rich and exciting chess world.

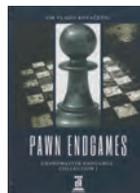


Opening Encyclopaedia 2024

ChessBase PC-DVD

RRP £135.00 **SUBSCRIBERS £121.50**

This is the ultimate theoretical tool for those who really like their preparation. *The Opening Encyclopaedia* now contains over 1,400 special theoretical mini-databases as well as 75 videos and a whopping 7,679 opening surveys, of which 350 are new or have been updated. There's also significant coverage of the latest opening trends by acclaimed theoretician Dorian Rogozenco. Indeed, you may be upgrading from the *Opening Encyclopaedia 2023*, which is possible for £75.00 (Subscribers £67.50), by supplying your serial key when ordering.



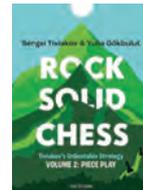
Pawn Endgames - GM Endgames Collection I

Vlado Kovacevic, 304 pages, hardback
RRP £27.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £25.15**

82-year-old Croatian Grandmaster Kovacevic is perhaps best known for his win against Bobby Fischer, but is also quite the endgame expert as quickly becomes apparent in this first volume of a new series by Chess Fortress. Kovacevic begins by quickly covering the basic mates before the vast majority of the book examines pawn endgames,

gradually building up from positions with just one pawn to those where each side has a king and three pawns. The material unsurprisingly becomes fairly advanced, but the explanation is generally excellent and there are certainly many striking diagrammed positions which can only impress the reader.

Chess Fortress have also published *Pawn Endgames Workbook* by Branko Tadic (160 pages, paperback, RRP £14.95; Subscribers £13.45), a collection of 300 exercises, all of which are pawn endgames. Both it and *Pawn Endgames - GM Endgames Collection I* may be ordered together from Chess & Bridge for the special price of £40 or £36 for Subscribers.

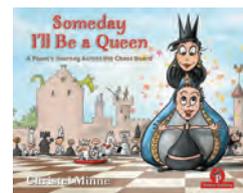


Rock Solid Chess Volume 2: Piece Play

Sergei Tiviakov & Yulia Gokbulut, 256 pages, paperback

RRP £24.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.45**

Rock Solid Chess was well received last year and now Tiviakov and Turkish WFM Gokbulut are back, with their focus no longer on pawn structures, but rather piece play. That doesn't mean that the pawns don't still play a significant role, with the opening chapter devoted to the effect of moving one pawn on the assessment of the position. There's also plenty of useful advice about improving the pieces, getting the best out of your bishops and when delaying castling can be useful, as well as discussion of some most useful practical topics, especially playing cramped positions and how to take the opponent into account when choosing a plan.



Someday I'll Be a Queen

Christel Minne, 56 pages, hardback
RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

This picture book introduces children to chess through a magical story and the aid of rhyming couplets. The heroine is Pompon Pawn who wants to grow up and become a chess queen. Along the way she reveals a little about the history of the game and especially the rules, and the story may well make younger children want to then master those rules of chess.



Thinkers Publishing have also released

Someday I'll Be a Queen: Toolbox, an accompanying work by Christel Minne (48 pages, paperback, RRP £19.95; Subscribers £17.95), which features all manner of mini-games as readers are gradually shown how best to use each of the pieces, as well as a few other key fundamentals of the game. Both books from Christel Minne can also be purchased together from Baker Street for the special price of £40.00.



The Unknown Fischer

Cyrus Lakdawala, 384 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

The eleventh world champion's reputation for making chess look easy is well-known, and what better than the prose-heavy style of Lakdawala to explain how he did it? This is actually the prolific Californian's second book on Fischer, but while his 2015 *Fischer: Move by Move* largely focussed on the great man at his peak, this new work looks mainly at his play up until the mid-1960s, as well as his 1992

match with an ageing Svetozar Gligoric. The games still contain several strategic masterpieces, but there are also some more wild encounters, legendary attacks and even the odd King's Gambit.



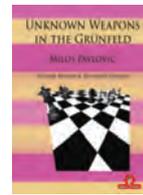
Uncovering the Anti-Sicilians! A dynamic grandmaster repertoire against 1.e4 Vol.3

Luis Engel, PC-DVD; running time: 4 hours, 45 minutes

RRP £34.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £31.45**

Having already mapped out a two-part Najdorf repertoire for ChessBase, young German GM Engel moves on to completing his recommended approach against 1.e4. As such, all White's second move deviations are covered in fair detail, as are the likes of 2 ♘f3 d6 3 ♗b5+ ♗d7 and 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♖xd4.

Note too that all three volumes of Engel's *A dynamic grandmaster repertoire against 1.e4* can be purchased together from Chess & Bridge for the special price of £99.00 or just £89.10 for Subscribers.



Unknown Weapons in the Grünfeld

Milos Pavlovic, 404 pages, paperback
RRP £33.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £30.55**

This revised and extended edition sees our occasional contributor provide significant new coverage of topical lines in his beloved Grünfeld Defence for Thinkers Publishing. As such, it may prove indispensable reading for all Grünfeld aficionados.

Also recently released from Belgium has been *Forgotten Genius: The Life and Games of Dragoljub Velimirovic Volume 2* by Gorg Mohr and Ana Velimirovic (380 pages, hardback, RRP £39.95, Subscribers £35.95), which covers the career of the late, great Serbian attacker from 1976 to 2011. Thinkers have also published Luis Rodi's highly detailed *The Modernized Queen's Gambit Declined* (620 pages, hardback, RRP £41.95, Subscribers £37.75), which is subtitled 'A Dynamic Repertoire for Black' and presents more than one option against most of White's main tries.



Forthcoming Events

May 3-5 Cornwall Spring Congress, Falmouth
cornwallchess.org.uk/congress/spring/spring-2024.shtml

May 4-6 City of Belfast Championships
ulsterchess.org/events

May 7 Muswell Hill Rapid
muswellhillchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537

May 10-12 County Durham Congress, Darlington
durhamchesscongress.co.uk

May 11 Golders Green Rapidplay
goldersgreenchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537

May 11 Scarborough Rapidplay
scarboroughchess.org.uk/rapidplay.asp

May 11 Stroud Rapid
www.stroudchess.club/stroud-summer-rapid-tournament

May 11 Wimbledon Rapidplay
londonfidecongress.com/wimbledon-rapidplay

May 14 Muswell Hill Rapid
muswellhillchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537

May 17-19 Frome Congress
someretchess.org/frome_congress/FromeHome.html

May 18-19 Leamington Open
warwickshirechess.org/2024-leamington-open/

May 18-19 Southall Congress
londonfidecongress.com/southall-congress

May 24-28 English Senior Championships, Kenilworth
www.englishchess.org.uk/english-seniors-championships-2024/

May 24-27 Perth Congress
congress.org.uk/congress/399/home

May 25-27 Cotswold Congress, Gloucester
cornwallchess.org.uk/cotswold/cotswold-details.shtml

May 25 Warrington Rapidplay
congress.org.uk/congress/361/home

May 26-27 Coulsdon Late Spring Congress
ccfworld.com/Chess/Adult_Compétitions/Longplays_info.htm

May 26 Frodsham Rapidplay
www.frodshamchess.co.uk/events

May 26 Kensington Rapid
chesscircuit.substack.com/p/kensington-fide-rapid-chess

May 27-31 Mitcham International Congress
londonfidecongress.com/mitcham-international

May 31 - June 2 London League Congress, Ravenscourt Park
londonchess.com

And for the Online Connoisseur:

May 8-12 Grand Chess Tour Warsaw Rapid & Blitz
grandchesstour.org; Abdusattorov, Carlsen, Duda, Giri, Gukesh, Keymer, etc.

May 27 - June 7 Norway Chess, Stavanger
norwaychess.no/en/; Carlsen, Caruana, Ding, Firouzja, Nakamura & Praggnanandhaa; also, Cramling, Koneru, Ju Wenjun, Anna Muzychuk.

Congress organisers – Don't forget to email editor@chess.co.uk to ensure your event is listed, or if you really want to guarantee a good entry, contact Matt@chess.co.uk to discuss having it advertised.

FRITZTRAINER

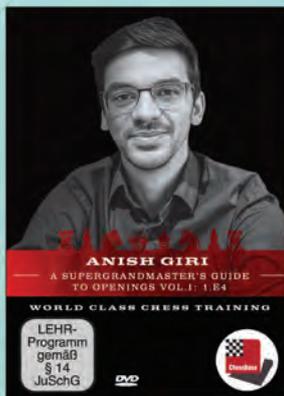


World Class chess training with **Anish Giri**

When you begin your journey of building an opening repertoire, how nice would it be to get a glimpse of what each opening looks like through the eyes of a super GM! It would help building your opening repertoire and understanding the vast world of chess openings. It is exactly with this thought that "A Supergrandmaster's Guide to Openings with Anish Giri" was made. This video course includes GM Anish Giri's deep insights and IM Sagar Shah's pertinent questions to the super GM.

A SUPERGRANDMASTER'S GUIDE TO OPENINGS VOL.1: 1.e4

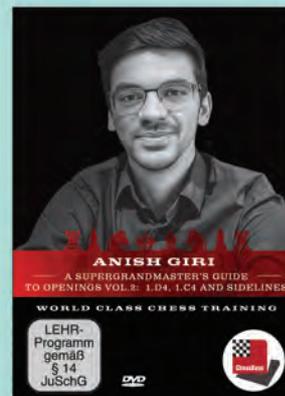
In Vol.1 all the openings after 1.e4 are covered. This includes the Ruy Lopez, Italian, Petroff, Scotch, French, Sicilian, Caro Kann, Pirc, Modern and much more. Along with explaining the nuances, each video also has a story, narrated by Anish, on the favourite game he played in that opening and his memories related to it. Getting this video course will elevate your knowledge of chess openings and will help you make informed decisions on how to go about building your opening repertoire. If you have always struggled with openings, this video course would be a perfect primer for the first phase of the game. Video playing time: 3 h 19 min. Extra: Training with ChessBase apps - memorize the opening repertoire plus a database with games from Anish Giri.



€ 49.90

A SUPERGRANDMASTER'S GUIDE TO OPENINGS VOL.2: 1.d4, 1.c4 AND SIDELINES

While Vol.1 dealt with 1.e4, Vol.2 has all the openings after 1.d4 as well as 1.c4 and sidelines are covered. This includes the Queen's Gambit Accepted, Queen's Gambit Declined, Slav, Nimzo Complex, London System, English Opening, 1.b3, Bird's Opening and more. Along with explaining the nuances, each video also has a story, narrated by Anish, on the favourite game he played in that opening and his memories related to it. It is extremely valuable to hear the thoughts of a player who is currently considered one of the best opening experts in the world of chess. Video playing time: 3 h 35 min (English). Extra: Training with ChessBase apps - memorize the opening repertoire plus a database with Games from Anish Giri.



€ 49.90



Bundle offer: Vol.1 & Vol.2 only € 89.90 instead of € 99.80

Scan QR code for
FritzTrainer advisor at
the ChessBase Shop:

