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An England Medal Hunt - A full report from the World Senior Teams



A New Dot on the Map! - Andrew Ledger on the European Club Cup



Meeting GM Ray Keene - A special *Never Mind the Grandmasters...*

Chess

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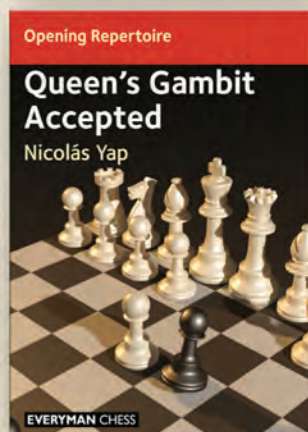
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GREAT NEW TITLES FROM EVERYMAN CHESS



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 280 pages



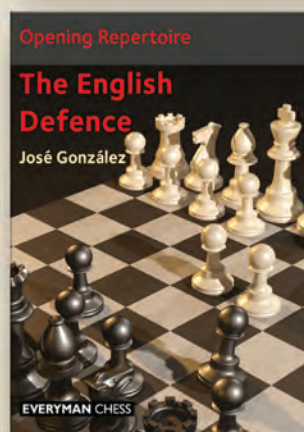
In this book the highly experienced grandmaster Milos Pavlovic outlines a powerful repertoire for White based on 1 d4. The variations are very much based on strategic themes where an understanding of plans is far more important than memorisation of lines and move orders.

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



The English Defence (1 d4 e6 2 c4 b6) is a dynamic, counter-attacking line, initially investigated by English grandmasters. José González provides an excellent analysis of this complex opening and carves out a powerful repertoire for Black covering all lines after 1 d4.

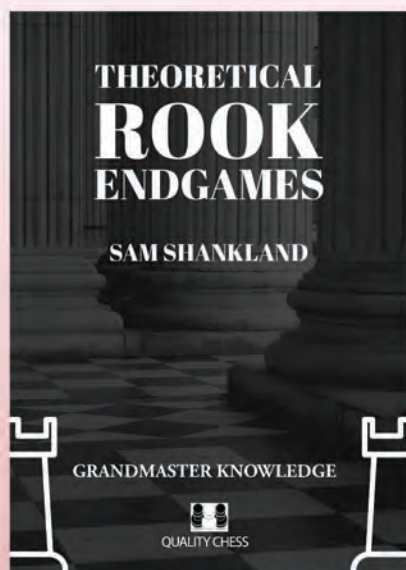
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Theoretical Rook Endgames



Rook endgames are the most important to study, because they are the type of endgame you will face most often over the board. Working on rook endgames gives the biggest bang for your buck.

World-class grandmaster **Sam Shankland** explains technical rook endgames in a way that is clearer, better organized, more concise, and easier to understand than any previous work. After learning the vital set positions, the reader is offered lots of rules and guidelines to cement their understanding. Shankland explains which endgames must be memorized, and which positions are best handled by considering general plans and principles.

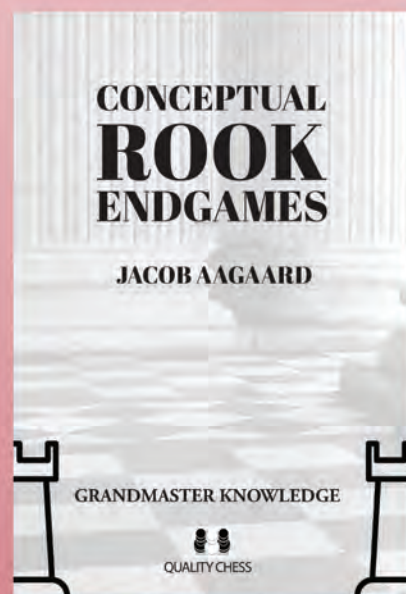
Sam Shankland's accolades include 2018 US Champion, 2016 Olympiad team gold medal winner, 2014 Olympiad individual gold medal winner, and all-round American Chess Hero.

Conceptual Rook Endgames

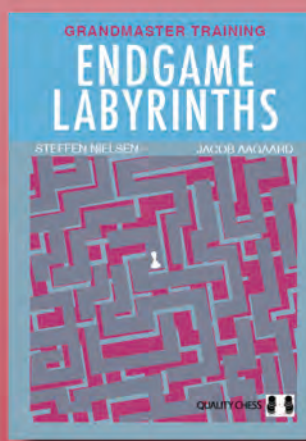
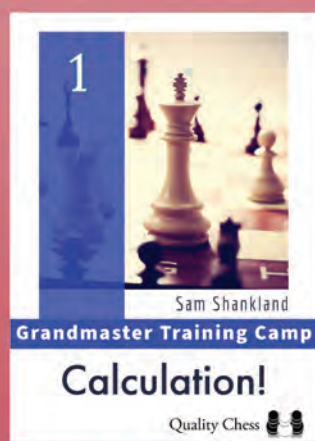
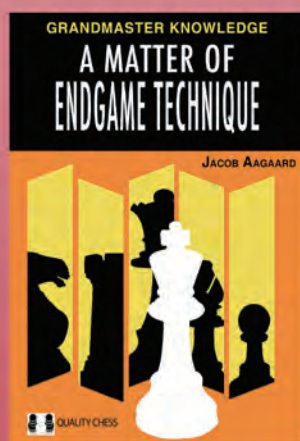
In this, the sister volume to Shankland's masterpiece, grandmaster and chess trainer extraordinaire **Jacob Aagaard** shows how the theoretical knowledge from Shankland's book is used in advanced practical play.

Focusing on two dozen underlying concepts, Aagaard explains the mechanisms of rook endgames in a novel way, by building foundations with simple examples, which can be seen in the most complicated examples as well. Rook endgames will remain rich and surprising, as they are for the greats, but armed with this book, your comprehension of them will skyrocket.

Jacob Aagaard is a multi-award-winning author and trainer, whose students have won virtually everything there is to win in chess.



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It's a Game of Two Halves...



Chessboxing returned to London with the recent "Oktoberfest" event. The sport has seen a noticeable rise in the quality of both the chess and boxing since the early days of the hybrid event. Highlight of an action-packed show was the heavyweight title fight between Matthew 'The Minotaur' Coldwell (1715 ECF) and David 'The Northern Powerhouse' Jarmany (2150 ECF), which saw heavy underdog Coldwell stop Jarmany in round 8 (boxing), just as his very superior position in the chess was about to unravel after blundering the exchange (the game is included in this month's annotated pgn download database). This month's 60 Seconds with... catches up with the new heavyweight champ - see page 51.



Forthcoming Events

November 2 hendonchessclub.com	Hendon Blitz	November 18-19 4ncl.co.uk	4NCL, Telford (Divisions 3B, 4)
November 3-5 eu.jotform.com/62236576074964	Central London Congress	November 18-19 londonfidecongress.com/southall-congress	Southall Congress
November 3-5 congress.popmalc.org.uk/congress/324/home	Glasgow Congress	November 18 cornwallchess.org.uk/qp/roche-20231118/qp.shtml	Cornwall Rapidplay, Roche
November 3-5 hampshirechess.co.uk/hampshire-chess-congress-2023/	Hampshire Congress, Fareham	November 18 congress.org.uk/congress/325/home	Oxford Rapidplay
November 3-5 limerickchessclub.net	Limerick Open, Ennis	November 19 chesscircuit.substack.com/p/kensington-fide-rapid-chess	Kensington Rapidplay
November 3-5 ulsterchess.org	Ulster Masters, Belfast	November 19 ulsterchess.org	Queen's University Belfast Winter Rapid
November 4-5 witneychess.co.uk/10thwitney_information.htm	Witney Congress	November 21 muswellhillchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537	Muswell Hill Rapid
November 5 londonfidecongress.com/ealing-rapidplay	Ealing Rapidplay	November 24-26 www.icu.ie/events/1636	Kilkenny Congress
November 7 batterseachessclub.org.uk/nimzowitsch-memorial-blitz/	Battersea Nimzowitsch Memorial Blitz	November 25-26 birminghamopen.warwickshirechess.org	Birmingham Open
November 10-12 torbaycongress.com	Torbay Congress, Torquay	November 25 spanglefish.com/docklandschessclub/index.asp	Poplar Rapid
November 10-12 welshchessunion.uk/WestWales23/	West Wales Congress, Swansea	<i>And for the Online Connoisseur:</i>	
November 10-11 londonfidecongress.com/wimbledon-congress	Wimbledon Congress	October 25 - November 5 FIDE Grand Swiss, Isle of Man fide.com; Caruana, Firouzja, Grischuk, Gukesh, Nakamura, Vitiugov, etc.	
November 11-12 4ncl.co.uk	4NCL, Milton Keynes (Divs 1,2, 3K)	November 10-21 European Team Championships, Budva etcc23.me; England: Vitiugov, Howell, Adams, McShane & Haria	
November 11 goldersgreenchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537	Golders Green Rapidplay	November 14-18 Saint Louis Rapid & Blitz grandchestour.org; Caruana, Ding, Firouzja, Nepomniachtchi, So, etc.	
November 12 londonfidecongress.com/mitcham-rapidplay	Mitcham Rapidplay	November 21-30 Sinquefield Cup, Saint Louis saintlouischessclub.org; Caruana, Duda, Ding, Giri, Vachier-Lagrave, etc.	
November 14 muswellhillchess.blogspot.com or call 07855 036537	Muswell Hill Rapid	<i>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.</i>	

To Boldly Go

FM Julian Way explores the enterprising style of Joseph Henry Blackburne



Joseph Henry Blackburne (1841-1924) was nicknamed 'The Black Death' because of his ruthless, dangerous style which defeated many illustrious opponents. He was regularly one of the world's top players between 1871 and 1889, and the top British player for 40 years. His notable tournament successes were first equal at Vienna 1873 with Steinitz, first at London 1876, second equal at Hamburg 1885, and second at London 1892 behind Lasker. He had an adventurous, romantic style, in stark contrast to Steinitz and his disciples. The games analysed below give a flavour of how Blackburne approached the game.

Despite his prominence in the chess world Blackburne took chess up at the relatively late age of 18. Furthermore, although he was an attacking genius, like Tal he was especially strong at endgames. A good example of his endgame artistry is the remarkable game, Weiss-Blackburne, New York 1899, which was annotated incisively in *The Most Instructive Games of Chess Ever Played* by Irving Chernev.

Blackburne was also widely known for simultaneous and blindfold displays. According to Fred Wilson, Emanuel Lasker thought that "Blackburne had more talent than Steinitz, but lacked the will power and capacity for hard work needed for becoming world champion". A useful resource for further study is *Blackburne's Games of Chess* (1899), edited by P. Anderson Graham.

G.Steinkuelher-J.Blackburne Manchester 1863 *Giuoco Piano*

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♙c4 ♙c5 4 c3 ♗f6
5 d4 exd4 6 cxd4 ♙b4+ 7 ♙d2 ♙xd2+
8 ♗fxd2?

This loses the d4-pawn and must be considered dubious.

8...♗xd4 9 0-0 d6 10 ♗b3

White attempts to exchange off the well-placed knight on d4, but it is hard to detect any meaningful compensation for the pawn.

10...♗xb3 11 ♖xb3 0-0 12 ♙e1 ♗h5!



Blackburne intends to deploy the knight on f4 where it can assist with a kingside assault.

13 e5?!

This achieves very little and implies desperation.

13...♗g5 14 exd6 ♗f4 15 ♙xf7+??

Blackburne suggests that this is White's decisive error. 15 ♗g3 is preferable.

15...♙h8 16 g3 cxd6 17 ♗c3 ♗h3+
18 ♗g2 ♖f6!

Creating a double attack.

19 ♙d5



White has little else; Blackburne now concludes the game with a lovely finish.

19...♖xf2+ 20 ♙h1 ♖g1+! 21 ♙xg1
♗f2+ 22 ♗g2 ♙h3# 0-1

That first game has many errors, but still demonstrates Blackburne's great tactical acumen. Our next was featured by Carl Portman in his fine September column devoted to Blackburne, but is so striking, it is well worth enjoying again.

J.Blackburne-W.Steinitz London 1883 *Philidor Defence*

1 e4 e5 2 ♗f3 ♗c6 3 ♗c3 g6 4 d4 exd4
5 ♗xd4 ♙g7 6 ♙e3 ♗f6

We have reached a Philidor Defence (by transposition); White has more space, but Black has no discernible weaknesses.

7 ♙e2 0-0 8 0-0 ♗e7?!

This retreat by Steinitz is illogical. Far more sensible is 8...d6.

9 ♙f3!

Restraining the advance ...d7-d5.

9...d6 10 ♖d2 ♗d7

Another retreat intending to occupy e5.

11 ♙h6

Exchanging the dark-squared bishops is a familiar motif.

11...♗e5 12 ♙xg7 ♖xg7 13 ♙e2



Intending to dislodge the knight with f2-f4.

13...f6 14 f4 ♗f7 15 ♖ad1 c6 16 ♙c4

Blackburne places his bishop on a more aggressive diagonal.

16...♙d7 17 ♙xf7!?

This is an unexpected capture, eliminating a key defender, but at the expense of an excellent bishop.

17...♖xf7 18 f5!

Now that the knight on f7 cannot come to e5 this advance is possible.

18...♗c8 19 e5!!



An incredible concept: Blackburne is ever-determined to break up the black king position and open lines.

19...fxe5

Not 19...dxe5? as 20 ♗e6+ is winning.

20 ♗e6+ ♗xe6 21 fxe6 ♖e7 22 ♖g5 ♖e8 23 ♗d3

Preparing to bring the rook into the attack.

23...♗xe6 24 ♗h3 ♖e7?

Now Blackburne has a forced checkmate.

25 ♖h6+ ♔g8 26 ♖f8+! ♗xf8 27 ♖xh7#

1-0 Relentless attacking play from Blackburne.

NN-J.Blackburne

London 1884

Jerome Gambit

1 e4 e5 2 ♗f3 ♗c6 3 ♗c4 ♗c5 4 ♗xf7+?

A fanciful sacrifice.

4...♗xf7 5 ♗xe5+ ♗xe5 6 ♖h5+ g6

7 ♖xe5 d6!

Blackburne returns the material. In his commentary he wrote that he "didn't want to be outdone in generosity".

8 ♖xh8 ♖h4

Blackburne launches a venomous counter-attack, choosing to fight fire with fire.

9 0-0 ♗f6!

The white queen is cornered.

10 c3? Too slow.

10...♗g4 11 h3 ♗xf2+ 12 ♔h1 ♗f5!!



Concealing a brilliant continuation.

13 ♖xa8 ♖xh3+! 14 gxh3 ♗xe4# 0-1

A wonderful finish.



Joseph Henry Blackburne (1841-1924).

E.Lasker-J.Blackburne

London 1899

Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♗f3 ♗c6 3 ♗b5 d6

The Steinitz variation played against Steinitz's successor as world champion.

4 d4 ♗d7 5 d5!?

Releasing the tension at this early stage changes the nature of the position.

5...♗b8 6 ♗d3

With more space Lasker avoids exchanging.

6...♗e7 7 ♗c3?!

It would be better to play 7 c4 and transpose into an Old Indian Defence.

7...♗f6 8 ♗e2 c6!

Chipping away at the white pawn centre.

9 c4 ♗a6 10 ♗g3 ♗c5 11 ♗c2

Again Lasker opts to avoid exchanges.

11...b5!

Attempting to gain play on the queenside.

12 b4 ♗b7 13 dxc6 ♗xc6 14 cxb5 ♗xb5



Blackburne's pieces are well placed with the exception of the knight on b7.

15 a4

Lasker needs to kick the bishop on b5 so he can castle.

15...♗d7 16 0-0 g6!

Blackburne could have quite easily castled, but he has aggressive intentions.

17 h3?

This is dubious as the pawn later becomes a target for Black's advancing pawns.

17...h5 18 ♗e3 a5!

Black wants to occupy c5 with his knight.

19 b5 ♗c8 20 ♗c1 ♗c5

Conventionally we are told to castle early, but Black's king is quite safe in the centre. Besides Blackburne certainly likes to eschew convention.

21 ♗d2 h4 22 ♗e2 g5!



An enterprising sacrifice, but entirely logical as it creates open lines against the white king.

23 ♗xg5

Otherwise Black continues 23...g4 with a great attack.

23...♗g8 24 ♗xh4 ♗xh3

Black has terrific compensation for the sacrificed pawn. Blackburne enjoys playing with the initiative.

25 ♗g3 ♗e6 26 ♗e1 ♗g4!

Black intends to release his dormant bishop from e7.

27 ♗f1 ♗g5!

Gaining a useful tempo.

28 ♗b1 ♗h8 29 ♗c3 ♗f4!

Another fine move from Blackburne, intensifying the pressure.

30 ♗d5 ♖g5

Black has amassed his forces on the kingside, while in contrast Lasker's pieces appear somewhat passive.

31 f3



31...♗h1+!!

The coup de grâce, culminating from Black's energetic play.

32 ♗xh1 ♗xg3 33 ♗xg3 ♗f2+

Now the white queen is lost.

34 ♗g1 ♗xd1 35 ♗f5 ♗xf5 36 exf5 ♖d2!

Maintaining the material advantage.

37 ♗exd1 ♖xc2 38 ♗bc1 ♖xf5 39 ♗b6

♗d8 40 ♗c4 ♗b7 41 ♗e3 ♖f4 42 ♗f2

♖xa4 43 ♗c7 ♗c5 44 ♗h1 ♗d7 45 ♗c8+

♗e7 46 ♗hh8 ♖d4 0-1

And Lasker finally resigns.

E.Salomon-G.Sargissian

Linares 1998

Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♟f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 g3 exd5
5 cxd5 d6 6 ♞c3 g6 7 ♞f3 ♟g7 8 ♟g2
0-0 9 0-0 ♞a6 10 ♞d2 ♞c7 11 ♞c4
♞fe8 12 e4 b5 13 ♞a5 b4 14 ♞c6 ♞d7
15 ♞a4 ♞a6 16 ♞c2 f6 17 f4 ♞ec7
18 ♟e3 ♞e8 19 e5! fxe5 20 fxe5 ♟xe5
21 ♞xe5 ♞xe5 22 ♟h6 ♟b7 23 ♞f6
♞e7 24 ♞af1 ♞e1



25 ♞xg6+!! hxg6 26 ♞xg6+ ♟h8 27 ♟g5
♞xf1+ 28 ♟xf1 ♞g8 29 ♟f6+ ♞g7
30 ♞h6+ ♟g8 31 ♟xe7 ♞xe7 32 ♞g6+
♟h8 33 ♞f6+ ♞g7 34 ♞xd6 1-0



Toms River Chess Club has played a major role in the post-65 chess career of Gene Salomon.

This game was selected by *Chess Informant* 71 as one of the 25 best combinations of the quarter October 1997 to January 1998. It was a true honour for someone who, like me, never pretended to be a professional chess player. That same year, at age 70, I received the coveted title of Life Master from the USCF.

Today at age 95, I'm proud to share with my readers my recent article, titled 'From Alekhine to Kasparov and Beyond', published

this past May in the quarterly online magazine of the Association of Chess Journalists of America, *The Chess Journalist*. The article won the award for 'Best Chess Historical Article – Online' for the year. It was, in effect, a brief summary of my recently published book: *Sweet Memories: Family, Friends, Chess, and Sugar*. I sincerely hope that the UK chess players may also enjoy the stories of how chess has been intertwined in the lives of my father and myself for close to 100 years.



Ed. – *Sweet Memories: Family, Friends, Chess, and Sugar* by J. Eugene Salomon & Diane S. Dahl is available from Amazon, currently retailing at £13.71.



Gene giving a simul (c.2018) at the Toms River Chess Club, where he recently gave his latest lecture.

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Overseas News

GERMANY – Berlin hosted the Armageddon Championship: Grand Finale (September 14–20), in which Jan-Krzysztof Duda defeated Nodirbek Abdusattorov 2-0 in the Winners' Final and then Wesley So by the same score come the Grand Final.

HOLLAND – Businessman and former Executive Director of the Russian Chess Federation, Igor Levitov staged another Levitov Chess Week in Amsterdam (September 22–26), assembling a stellar 10-player field, including four Russians: Daniil Dubov, Vladimir Kramnik, Ian Nepomniachtchi and Peter Svidler. In what was an 18-round fast rapid event (a 10+5 time control), Nepomniachtchi triumphed with 12½/18, finishing two points clear of both Levon Aronian and Svidler, with Vishy Anand a further half-point back, while Boris Gelfand and Vladimir Kramnik propped up the table.

HUNGARY – WGM Lan Yao has certainly enjoyed a busy summer of chess, including taking part in the First Saturday IM Group in Budapest (September 2–12). She only drew one game en route to 5/9, as Ukrainian teenage FM Kemal Bashirov racked up 7/9 to finish a point clear of Bogdan Lalic while making a norm in the process.

MEXICO – Mexico City hosted the 60th World Junior Championship (September 20 – October 2), where 16-year-old Corsican Marc'Andria Maurizzi sprang a small surprise as he edged out his elders on tiebreak after finishing on 8½/11 alongside fellow GMs Arseniy Nesterov, Luka Budisavljevic and Mamikon Gharibyan. Hans Niemann was top seed, but initially competed online before each round in the AI Cup (see below). Possibly as a result, he was outplayed by 13-year-old compatriot Andy Woodward and then by Nesterov in the final round.

14-year-old Shreyas Royal started well before finishing on a perfectly respectable '+2', while the World Girls Championship was won by WGM Candela Francisco. The 17-year-old Argentine WGM and American Continental Women's Champion edged out top seed Carissa Yip, as well as Bulgarian WGM Beloslava Krasteva after they had all also finished on 8½/11.

M.Maurizzi-I.Schitco
World Junior Ch. Mexico City 2023
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 d3 c6 3 b5 a6 4 a4 c5 5 0-0 d7?!



A big hope of French chess, 16-year-old Marc'Andria Maurizzi is now rated 2555 and the 2023 World Junior Champion, partly thanks to brilliant use of the knight-pair in Mexico City.

A relatively rare choice and instead 5...b5 6 a3 d6 would transpose to more normal lines, ones covered on a recent Chessable course, *Caruana's Ruy Lopez: Dark Archangel*. **6 c3 d6 7 d4 a7 8 g5!**

Forcing something of a weakness ahead of placing the bishop on e3.

8...f6 9 e3 d6

Likewise, 9...0-0 10 d2 d6 11 e1 h8 12 h3 d7 13 f1 ce7 14 c2 left White with a pleasant edge in Karjakin-Grischuk, Krasnogorsk (blitz) 2023.

10 d5!?

There was nothing wrong with such moves as 10 d2 and 10 h3, but instead Maurizzi forces the pace to unbalance the position and net a pawn.

10...xe3 11 dxc6 b5 12 fxe3 bxa4 13 xa4 0-0

Black comes up short after this, so should probably have tried 13...f5!?, and if 14 exf5 xf5 15 c4 e7 16 d2 e6 17 e2 d5 to regain the pawn.

14 c4! f5 15 c3 fxe4 16 d2!

The white knights begin to take control of the position and do keep an eye on them over the next few moves!

16...f5 17 dxe4

17 f2? g5 18 d5 might be even stronger, as shown by the engines.

17...h4 18 c5! d5 19 d6!



A stunning concept.

19...xa4 20 xa4 d3

Black had to avoid 20...xd6? 21 b6! followed by c6-c7, but 20...e7!? 21 b6 cxb6 22 cxb6 ab8! might have been the best defence, since Black would have good chances to draw the pawn-down endgame arising after 23 c7 xb6 24 xf5 xf5 25 xf5 c6 26 xe5 xc7.

21 d6!

The white knights continue to weave their magic.

21...xf1 22 xa8 xa8 23 xf1 d8?

Too slow. Clearly 23...xd6? 24 cxd6 f8 25 f5 had to be avoided, but 23...d4! 24 exd4 exd4 25 e1 d3 would still have offered Black chances to hold.

24 b4!



24...♖e7

Once again the knight was taboo, 24...cxd6? 25 c7 ♖c8 26 cxd6 ♖f8 27 ♖xf8+! ♖xf8 28 d7 forcing the pawns home.

25 ♖f7! ♖xc6 26 ♖xc7 ♖xb4 27 ♖b7?!

Maurizzi has played with great vision and creativity thus far, but here missed a clear win with 27 ♖f5! g6 28 ♖e7+ ♖f8 29 c6 d4 30 exd4 exd4 31 ♖b7!.

27...a5 28 a3? ♖d3??

Returning the favour, likely in mutual time-trouble. Instead, 28...♖a6! would likely have led to a draw.

29 c6!



Now the c-pawn will decide matters after all. 29...♖c5 30 ♖b6 ♖e6 31 ♖b5 ♖c8 32 c7! ♖xc7 33 ♖c6 ♖xb5 34 ♖xc8+ ♖f7 35 a4 ♖d6 36 ♖c5 ♖e6 37 ♖xa5 1-0

RUSSIA – The finals of Russian Championships in St. Petersburg (October 1-12) were somewhat weaker than usual, possibly as the war in Ukraine begins to have an impact on Russia's economy and with some critics of that war having left the country or unkeen to play in events organised by the RCF. We certainly can't remember a Russian Championship without one if not several 2700 players, even if two were rated over 2690, top seed Vladislav Artemiev and Evgeny Tomashevsky.

Artemiev defeated Tomashevsky in round two, after which neither player lost another game, but while Tomashevsky was only able to defeat tailender Klementy Sychev, 25-year-old Artemiev racked up six wins against the whole bottom half of the table. He drew with his closest rivals to triumph with 8½/11 (a 2819 performance), finishing some two points ahead of Maxim Matlakov, Pavel

Ponkratov and Evgenij Najer.

Notably two women competed in the final of the Russian Championship, Aleksandra Goryachkina, who defeated Artyom Timofeev and Ivan Rozum on route to 50%, and Kateryna Lagno who finished on '-3', but did defeat Matlakov. Partly as a result of that, the Women's Championship was slightly weaker than normal. Top seed Polina Shuvalova was defeated by Valentina Gunina, with whom and also Olga Badelka she tied for second on 7/11, a point behind the surprise winner, 36-year-old WGM Baira Kovanova.

V.Artemiev-I.Rozum
Russian Championship,
St. Petersburg 2023
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 ♗f5 4 h4 h5 5 c4 e6 6 ♖c3 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 ♖d7 8 ♖ge2 ♗e7 9 ♗e3!?

Offering a pawn which Black should probably decline.

9...♗xh4?!

9...♖h6 10 ♖g3 ♗g6! is likely the critical line when 11 ♖xh5 ♖f5 12 ♖f4 ♖xh4 13 ♖xh4 ♗xh4 followed by...♖xe3 should be OK for Black.

10 ♖f4



10...♗g4?!

This only serves to make matters worse, although even 10...♖b6!? 11 ♗e2 ♗g5 12 ♖xh5 ♖h7 13 ♖d2 must favour White, as does 10...g6 11 g3 ♗e7 12 g4! when 12...♗xg4 13 ♖xg4! hxg4 14 ♖xh8 ♖f8 15 0-0-0 gives White rook, bishop and a big attack for the piece. Just like in the game, Black finds himself rather vulnerable on both e6 and g6.

11 ♗e2! ♗xe2 12 ♖xe2 g6 13 g4 hxg4?!

Black would have done relatively best to return the pawn with 13...♗e7 14 gxh5 g5 and grovel.

14 ♖e4 ♖h6 15 ♖g2 ♖f5 16 0-0-0

Already White's position almost plays itself with ♖xh4 and ♗g5 now the threat.

16...♖xe3?

Allowing the white knight-pair to dominate. 16...g5 17 ♖xg4 ♖e7 18 ♖xh4 ♖xe3 19 fxe3 gxh4 was a better try, if still rather good for White after 20 ♖d6+ or 20 ♖df1.

17 fxe3 f5 18 ♖d6+ ♖f8 19 ♖f4

There's simply no way to defend both e6 and g6, so unsurprisingly Black's position is on the verge of collapse.

19...♗g8 20 ♖c4 ♖f8



21 ♖xg6

Now 21...b5 22 ♖b3 ♖h6 would have fought on for a few moves, so more clinical would have been 21 ♖xe6! ♖xe6 22 ♖xe6+ ♖g7 23 ♖f7+ ♖h6 24 ♖xb7 followed by ♖f7(+) and wins.

21...♗xg6? 22 ♖xe6+ ♖h7 23 ♖xf5 1-0



Vladislav Artemiev began with a draw then went on the rampage in St. Petersburg, racing to 6½/7 en route to the Russian Championship.

USA – September saw the final stages of Chess.com's SpeedChess 2023 event, with each match comprising of 90 minutes of 5+1, an hour of 3+1, and 30 minutes of increment bullet, i.e. 1+1. Magnus Carlsen destroyed Vidit Gujrathi 17½-8½, Ian Nepomniachtchi 20½-9½ and Wesley So 22-7 to set up a repeat of last year's final against Hikaru Nakamura, who had eliminated Yu Yangyi 19-9, Fabiano Caruana 18½-8½ and Maxime Vachier-Lagrave 16½-11½. Last year it was Nakamura who prevailed come the final to win his fifth title in a row, this time Carlsen took revenge, if only just. With time running out and Carlsen two points ahead,

Nakamura won a bullet game then found himself on the verge of winning another, only to slip up and allow Carlsen to force a draw with a double-rook sacrifice.

The final leg of the Champions Chess Tour, the AI Cup 2023 (September 25-29) was, of course, another Chess.com event and the final chance for players to qualify for December's Tour Final in Toronto. Just a day after their gripping SpeedChess final, Carlsen and Nakamura faced off again, the world no.1 taking their opening round match 2½-½ before defeating Ian Nepomniachtchi 2½-1½ to reach the Winners' Final. There he faced Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, who had overcome compatriot Alireza Firouzja then Shakhriyar Mamedyarov, both 3-1.

The Winners' Final was a high-quality, extremely hard-fought Sicilian feast before Carlsen switched to the Caro-Kann to draw an armageddon game and so prevail, only for Vachier-Lagrave to crush Mamedyarov 2-0 in the resulting Elimination Final to set up a rematch with Carlsen. The Frenchman's fine form continued come the Grand Final which he took 2½-1½, winning the opening game ahead of holding out. That necessitated a Grand Final Reset which Vachier-Lagrave also won 2-0, once again demonstrating some excellent practical play to pocket the first prize of \$30,000 while qualifying for Toronto. As Carlsen had to admit, "Maxime was strong and I failed at the critical moments."



It was a successful September for Maxime Vachier-Lagrave who followed up his success in the Tata Steel India Rapid by winning the AI Cup, defeating Carlsen in back-to-back matches.

M.Vachier-Lagrave-M.Carlsen

AI Cup, Grand Final Reset (rapid) 2023



White has been outplayed. Sensing that he was worse and the trend against him, Vachier-Lagrave now went for the radical and unexpected.

23 ♕xh7+?! ♖xh7 24 ♖h3+ ♕g8 25 ♖h5 f5?

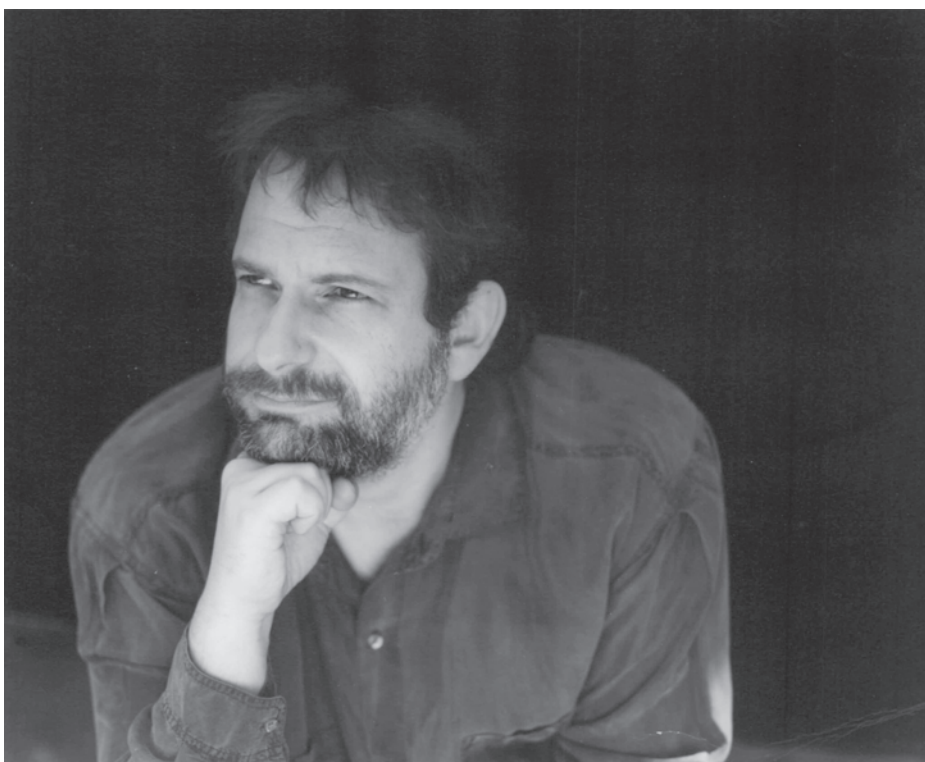
25...f6 26 ♖h7+ ♕f7, and if 27 exf6 ♕xf6 28 ♖h6+ gxh6 29 ♖xc7 ♖xd1 is easy for the engines to spot, but was not with limited time for arguably the greatest player of all time.

26 ♖h7+ ♕f7 27 ♖h6 ♖xc4??

Carlsen was clearly off balance. Instead, 27...♖xd1 28 ♖g6+ ♕g8 29 ♖h7+ forces a draw and even 27...♕e8!? 28 ♖xe6+ ♕d7 29 ♖g6 ♖xd1 30 ♖xb6 seems to give White enough checks with the queen to draw too.

28 ♖f6+ ♕e8 29 ♖xg7 1-0

The pawn about to appear on f6 will decide proceedings.



USA – From West Hollywood, we were saddened to hear of the death after a long illness of the popular IM and bestselling author Jeremy Silman (xxviii.viii.1954 - xxi.ix.2023), whose *Reassess Your Chess* and other works will have been enjoyed by many if not most of our readers. Bruce Pandolfini described the Californian IM as "an outstanding teacher, writer, and leading light in chess", while Peter Wells remembered that Silman was "wonderful company – I recall so many great laughs from the time I spent with him." Jennifer Shahade also paid tribute: "Beyond his great books that made so many fall in love with chess, he was a kind and generous man. I remember losing a playoff for the U.S. Women's Championship title, totally dejected. Then Jeremy approached, complimented my creativity/writing, and told me I should write a book. Big brain, bigger heart."

Breaking News: As we went to press, Fabiano Caruana had just secured his third U.S. title, finishing undefeated on 8/11 to triumph at the U.S. Championship (October 4-18), while Carissa Yip's 8½/11 saw her just edge out Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova in the U.S. Women's Championship. One player missing in Saint Louis was Hikaru Nakamura, who preferred to play in the Qatar Masters Open (October 11-20), as did a certain Magnus Carlsen. The world number one was defeated by Kazakh GM Alisher Suleymenov and Murali Karthikeyan to find himself on just 4½/7 with two to play, a point off a six-way tie for the lead. We'll have much more from the U.S. Championships and Qatar next month.



60 Seconds with... Matthew 'The Minotaur' Coldwell

Born: 2nd March 1996, Poole.

Place of residence: Harnham, Salisbury (Novichok central).

Occupation: Hi-fi technician and chessboxer.

Enjoyable? Absolutely!

And home life? I live with my family because I'm broke.

But sometimes good to escape to: The stable yard. I've been riding horses for nearly 20 years.

Sports played or followed: Boxing (obviously), but I love playing or watching any and all sport. It's the only thing on the TV at home!

A favourite novel? I haven't read one in years, but I enjoyed the *His Dark Materials* series as a teen. A book I'd recommend to anyone is *How an Economy Grows and Why it Crashes* by Peter Schiff. It's more fun than it sounds, I promise!

Piece of music? Oof, that's a hard one. 'Macon Georgia Blue' by Jeff Healey, final answer.

Film or TV series? *Hot Fuzz*. A masterpiece.

What's the best thing about playing chess? I love the feeling of invincibility when you get your opening prep on the board.

And the worst? Throwing away a great position. There are no excuses in chess!

Your best move? 15 ♖h5!! in this game:

M.Coldwell-E.Burton
Southampton League 2023



15 ♖h5!!

The greatest move I've ever played over the board. Steinitz was wrong about strategic chess. I don't care if it's unsound, I felt like a genius.

15...♗f8

See how he covers in fear! The point is 15...gxf5 16 ♖xh5+ ♗g6 17 ♖xg6+ ♖e7 18 ♖h7+ ♖f6 (or 18...♖e8 19 ♖xh8+ ♖f7 20 ♖g7+ ♖e8 21 ♖g8+ ♖e7 22 ♖g5+ ♗f6 23 ♖g7+ ♖e8 24 ♖f8+ ♗d7 25 ♖f7#; I had actually calculated this) 19 ♖g5#.

16 exf5 ♗xf5 17 ♖xg6+ ♗xg6 18 ♖h5 ♗fh4? 19 g3 ♗g2+ 20 ♗d2 ♖f7 21 ♖h7+ ♖e8

Boo and hiss. 21...♖f6 22 ♗e4+ ♖f5 23 ♖f7+ ♖xe4 24 f3# and how sexy is that?

22 ♖xg6+ ♗d7 23 ♖f7# 1-0

Only one backward move the entire game. If only he'd played 21...♖f6, it would have been none. Boom!

But less memorable than your worst move? Definitely not! My worst move was probably 16 ♗c4 in this game, which cost me last season's Salisbury Club Championship:

M.Coldwell-S.Redmill
Salisbury 2023
Caro-Kann Defence



15...♗d5-b6 was a cunning defensive resource I hadn't found. Black's next move is the irritating ...♖a5. However, I found a brilliant way to deny that move. After calculating for 20 minutes, I uncorked the fabulous...

16 ♗c4??

When I played this move, I genuinely thought it was one of the best finds I'd ever had in my chess career. Unfortunately...

16...♖xc4

Somehow I forgot that this was possible, being focussed on 16...♗xc4 17 ♖xb7 ♗d8 18 ♖xc6+ ♗d7 19 ♖c8+ ♗d8 20 ♖xd8#, while I confess I thought 16...a6 17 ♖xb6 ♗b8 18 ♖xc6+ bxc6 19 ♖xb8+ ♗d7 20 ♗d8+ was mate.

17 ♖xc4 ♗xc4 18 ♖xb7 ♖a3 19 ♖c7 ♗4xe5 20 ♗d2 0-0 21 ♗e4 ♗ab8 22 f4

We had somehow both overlooked this move.

22...f5 23 fxe5 fxe4 24 ♖xc6 ♖xf1+ 25 ♖xf1 ♗b6 26 ♖c7

This endgame might be lost, but at least there is some hope of a draw.

26...a5 27 ♗a7 ♖b4 28 ♖d8 ♖c6 29 ♖xa5 ♖c1+ 30 ♖e2??

My second absolutely moronic blunder.

30...d3+ 31 ♖e3 ♖c5+ 0-1

And a highly memorable opponent? My best scalp so far is a slightly drunken GM Keith Arkell, but the one opponent I will never forget was then Wiltshire Under-18 Champion Megan Owens at the Gigafinal. I lost in 11 moves with White in the English!

Favourite game of all time? Easy! The Evergreen game. I aspire to play all my games in the spirit of Adolf Anderssen.

The best three chess books: I'm a Chessable devotee now (please sponsor!), but my most memorable chess books are the *Usborne Complete Book of Chess* I started reading aged 6, *Play the Sicilian Dragon* by Edward Dearing, and *Streetfighting Chess* by Andrew Burnett.

Is FIDE doing a good job? I confess I'm rather ignorant of chess politics.

Or your National Federation? I know a few people who have criticisms of ECF policy, but it's not my place to speak for them.

Any advice for either? Yes, get behind Chessboxing! It's an excellent spectator sport with great potential, and has some fabulous and dedicated people. Make chess cool again!

Can chess make one happy? Of course!

A tip please for the club player: I have several – the most important one is to be ambitious. If the best chess players in history make mistakes in complex positions, what chance do your opponents have? Don't shy away from chaos!

This Month's New Releases

Grind Like a Grandmaster

Magnus Carlsen & David Howell, 208 pages
Chessable/New in Chess

RRP £26.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £24.25**

The appearance of former world champion Magnus Carlsen as an author should definitely pique the interest of chess fans. After all, his games have been the subject of many books, but his style is difficult to describe and explain, which means a direct route to the thoughts of the man himself is very welcome.

This book, subtitled 'How to Keep Pressing until Your Opponent Cracks', is based on Carlsen's Chessable course with David Howell. The blurb explains the book's mission:

"It is amazing how much play you can create in a seemingly equal chess position – if you persevere. In this book, the greatest chess player of all time, Magnus Carlsen, and his friend, Grandmaster David Howell, explain how to win these kinds of chess games. Carlsen and Howell show how you can keep a game alive, how you can keep posing problems to your opponent, how you can recognize the first small mistakes, and how you can grind your opponent down until he cracks."

The two authors engage in a dialogue, commenting on games of their own and offering insights into how they managed to derive the maximum from positions in which they had only a minimal advantage. Here is a moment from a game played at the highest level of chess.

M.Carlsen-I.Nepomniachtchi World Championship (Game 6), Dubai 2021



In this position, Carlsen opted to liquidate which at first glance seemed surprising.

80 ♖xf7+ ♜xf7 **81** ♜b7+ ♝g6 **82** ♖xa7
(and eventually 1-0, 136).

When asked by Howell "Did you think the resulting position was winning, or did you just not see anything better?" Carlsen replies: "I really didn't see anything else. We reach a new balance after the best sequence, which gives him some fresh options. And it solves some of mine: I had to constantly worry about the queen and bishop combination before, especially with the weakness on e3. With the bishop off, I just have to keep my pieces defended with no risk."

The content is fine, as one would expect, with many instructive moments. However, the book has problems and is, in some ways, unsatisfactory. The comments which follow will also be relevant to other books which have been converted from one format to another.

Converting speech to text is not as easy as it sounds. When one reads a novel, it soon becomes very heavy going when a character frequently uses slang or an abundance of abbreviations. It is different to watching a film or television series, in which natural character speech is easier to follow, within reason. The situation changes again when delivering instructional material on YouTube or via streaming services. A lot of presenters mumble and bumble their way through the presentation and it dilutes the message they are trying to convey so much that viewers will undoubtedly click away after a short period of time – no matter which chess title the presenter happens to have.

In this book, the material's verbal roots have been allowed to show far too much. Starting sentences with 'so' is a modernism we can all do without and a printed 'yeah' just makes the text appear juvenile. This spoils the book for me. A more comprehensive edit of the transcript would have produced a much better result. Imagine such sloppy language in any other textbook and the problem should become more apparent. As always, dumbing down is not a prerequisite to attaining accessibility.

The word 'grind' also has unpleasant connotations, but there is no escaping from the term. After the prefaces, we are given small sections on What is a Grind?, The Grind in action and even an extremely superfluous Glossary of the Grind. It's all a bit too much.

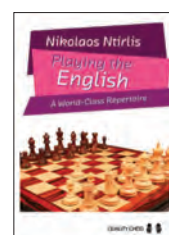
In other ways, production values are higher, with a typically impressive cover image by Adam Genesis, a sturdy hardback binding, colour diagrams throughout and even a photograph showing the two authors playing against each other in the 2002 World Under-12 Championship.

Summing up, the pure chess content is



strong and instructive, but converting videos to prose requires a lot more work than one would suspect. Something to keep in mind for future format conversions. This book is good, but should have been a lot better.

Sean Marsh



Playing the English

Nikolaos Ntirlis, 440 pages

Quality Chess

RRP £24.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.49**

This new book on the English Opening, 1 c4, took five years to write. For an opening book, that means it had better be a good one, as theory doesn't stand still for five minutes in the modern world, although, admittedly, 1 e4 and 1 d4 openings change faster than 1 c4.

One cannot – and should not – spend so many years on something one does not enjoy and we, the readers, are able to reap the benefits of the hard work invested in the book.

"I am sharing my personal journey: what types of positions I studied, which books I read, what I understood, what I learned from various GMs with whom I worked on these lines, and so forth."

There is no doubt the author has put a lot of effort into the book.

"I have spent countless hours analysing the English Opening for many years. My first serious attempt was just before the 2014 Tromso Olympiad when I had to prepare a repertoire for the black pieces for the Danish team I was coaching. What I realized back then was that many positions seemed equal, and the engines would confirm that they were equal. However, in a practical game between humans, the white position held more potential."

The "countless hours" have brought the author lots of experience with 1 c4 and he holds nothing back.

"I combined my knowledge and experience with the new practices at the top levels of human and correspondence chess, along with the new analytical capabilities that these engines allowed us to use. I believe the result is a classical repertoire that is approved and enhanced by neural network engines. And yes, believe it or not, I was working on this book continuously for the best part of the

last five years! I hope you will enjoy it."

Here is a whistle-stop tour of the basic lines of the recommended repertoire.

The English Four Knights is played with a straight bat; after 1 c4 e5 2 ♖c3 ♗f6 3 ♗f3 ♗c6, White plays 4 g3 instead of anything more exotic.

The Symmetrical English – 1 c4 c5 – is also met by the classic main line, although there is a wrinkle as early as the second move, with 2 ♗f3 finding favour over 2 ♗c3.

The repertoire breaks rank against the ever-popular King's Indian Defence approach by Black. White is advised to transpose to a d4 opening after 1 c4 ♗f6 2 ♗f3 g6 3 ♗c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 d4 0-0 6 ♗e2 and if Black tries to head to the Grünfeld waters then he will have to work out what to do against 1 c4 ♗f6 2 ♗f3 g6 3 ♗c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♗xd5 5 h4!

People play the English for a large variety of reasons and one of those is to avoid main line theory (as much as that is possible). Therefore, attempts by the second player to transpose to regular queen's pawn openings – such as 1...e6 and 1...c6 – usually bring out the weaker side of opening books covering 1 c4.

Here, we find a considerable amount of coverage to keep the ball in White's court. Flexibility is the key, especially when it comes to the choice between playing d2-d3 or d2-d4. One example: in Slav structures, when Black likes to play ...♗f5, White can make sure 'the bishop bites on granite' by playing the d-pawn just one step forward instead of the compliant d2-d4.

Of particular interest is the discussion on pawn structures, especially in the section on the English Four Knights variation. It is also worth reading the notes on the structures if one plays the Sicilian Defence too, as the explanations are highly relevant to both openings.

The discussion even delves into rook endgames based on the standard pawn structure of White having four pawns versus three on the kingside and Black enjoying a three against two pawn advantage on the queenside. Indeed, playing the English is a great way to improve one's endgame skills and it makes perfect sense to examine positions featuring the structure mentioned above, as White can often force Black's hand, as in this example.



10 d4!? and there we have it.

I have been playing and studying the

English Opening, on and off, for 40 years yet this book still brought many new ideas and plans to my attention. The clear explanations are also suitable for anyone taking up 1 c4 for the first time. Therefore, I can recommend this book to both sets of players: those who already play the English and those who would like to expand their repertoires by adding 1 c4 to their arsenal of openings.

Sean Marsh



Beat the French Defence with the Advance Variation

Jana Schneider, PC-DVD;
running time: 4 hours

RRP £28.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.05**

German WGM Schneider has plenty of experience on both sides of the Advance French and begins by examining a number of model games to explore the key motifs. The majority of the DVD is though devoted to a repertoire for White with 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 and after 3...c5 4 c3 ♗c6 5 ♗f3 she advocates meeting 5...♞b6 with 6 a3 and 5...♗d7 with 6 ♗e2.



ChessBase Magazine 215

ChessBase, PC-DVD

RRP £18.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.09**

The latest *CBM* is for 'September/October 2023' and features Hikaru Nakamura on the cover of the accompanying booklet. Dorian Rogozenco, Mihail Marin and Karsten Müller examine some of Nakamura's most instructive games, while elsewhere there are the usual tournament reports, opening surveys and a special video discussion of 1 e4 c5 2 ♗f3 ♗c6 3 ♗b5 e5!? by Daniel King no less.



Chess Informant 157

Chess Informant, 368 pages, paperback

RRP £39.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £35.95**

The latest 'Informator' is named 'Omnipresent' in honour of the recently deceased Aleksandar Matanovic, its founding editor-in-chief. As well as fine tribute to

Matanovic, there is plenty of coverage of the FIDE World Cup, while tournament commentator Danny Gormally reports on the British Championship. Add in a number of opening surveys, Douglas Griffin looking back on Spassky-Portisch, Toluca Interzonal 1982 – a powerful win by the Hungarian star against Spassky's Closed Sicilian – and it should be clear that there is much more to an edition of *Chess Informant* these days than just the languagelessly annotated recent key games, novelties, endgames and studies. Note too that if you'd also like the material from *Chess Informant 157* in digital format, the book and CD combined can be purchased for £49.95 or £44.95 for Subscribers.



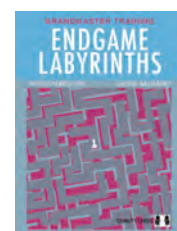
Chess Training with Matthias Blübaum

Matthias Blübaum, Karsten Müller & Matthias Krallman, 304 pages, paperback

RRP £29.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.95**

Subtitled 'His way to the title European Champion', this new release from Joachim Beyer Verlag sees Blübaum trace his career from his junior days to becoming European Individual Champion last year at the age of 25. Written in conjunction with long-time coach Matthias Krallman, Blübaum annotates many of his best games while Karsten Müller covers some notable endgames, with other chapters devoted to Blübaum's opening repertoire, tournament results and even some tactics to solve.

JBV Chess Books have also released of late both *Chess Tactics with GM Thomas Luther* (256 pages, paperback, RRP £22.95, Subs' – £20.65), and Karsten Müller's *Endgame Magic* (322 pages, paperback, RRP £29.95, Subs' – £26.95). The former sees the leading German chess trainer take readers on an enjoyable tactical journey, supplying many fascinating examples, as well as plenty of exercises to solve, ones assisted by the large diagrams. The latter begins by presenting 100 important endgame positions, with Müller keen to emphasize various useful general principles before he presents a further 100 positions to solve and help reinforce his key points.



Endgame Labyrinths

Steffen Nielsen & Jacob Aagaard, 424 pages, hardback

RRP £29.50 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.55**

ECF Book of the Year Award winner Jacob

Aagaard – for his monumental work *A Matter of Endgame Technique* – teams up with the reigning world champion for study composition to supply 1,002 challenging studies for readers to solve. Most notably these have largely been chosen with an eye to their practical relevance, with some studies even trimmed of their intricate initial play ahead of the main themes becoming clear. As one would expect from a Quality Chess production, the editing and layout are excellent, with the many of the solutions a mini-endgame lesson in themselves.



Improve Your Chess Now

Jonathan Tisdall, 240 pages, paperback
RRP £22.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £20.65**

This is a new edition of a modern classic, one initially published by Everyman Chess in 1997. Tisdall begins by tackling Kotov's "fabled tree of analysis" before moving on to a number of different topics, all linked by practical play and things that have helped him improve as a player. As such, the Norwegian-American GM explains how best to handle bad positions, considers the worth of the pieces in certain scenarios and provides plenty of material which should help to improve the reader's calculation and pattern recognition, including his fabled 'stepping-stones'.



Lessons in Pawn Play in Chess Endings

Rev. E. E. Cunningham, 140 pages, paperback
RRP £8.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £8.09**

This is another classic chess book which has received the impressive Carsten Hansen treatment, being re-examined, reanalysed and edited. The 100 positions within all remain highly instructive and should be especially of benefit to those relatively new to the game and most club players.

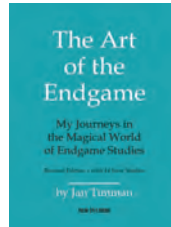


Play the French with 3...dxe4

Andrew Martin, 368 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £17.99**

Andrew Martin takes a detailed look at the important handling of the French that sees

Black meeting 1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3/d2 with 3...dxe4. After 4 ♗xe4 Martin begins by providing plenty of coverage of the Rubinstein variation (4...♘d7), before moving on to the Fort Knox (4...♘d7), with which he has a fair bit of experience. Black's less common fourth moves also receive sufficient detail, including both 4...♗f6 and 4...♗e7!?, another Martin favourite. The work concludes with a mini-repertoire for Black when White eschews the main lines – something which should be especially of use for readers taking up the French for the first time.

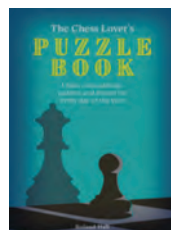


The Art of the Endgame

Jan Timman, 264 pages, paperback
RRP £24.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £22.45**

This is a revised edition from New in Chess of Timman's 2011 work devoted to his interest in endgame studies. Still subtitled 'My Journeys in the Magical World of Endgame Studies', Timman reveals how various composers have inspired him to create dozens of brand-new studies. This updated version features 14 additional studies while the remainder of the material has been fully checked and revised with the help of the latest engines, which saw Timman replacing six studies in their entirety. Note too that if you prefer your chess books in hardback, such an edition is also available, retailing at £31.95 or £28.75 for Subscribers.

New in Chess have certainly been busy of late, also releasing *Botvinnik versus Smyslov and Petrosian* (480 pages), which is a revised compilation of their earlier books, *Botvinnik-Smyslov* and *Botvinnik-Petrosian*. Andy Soltis supplies a new foreword to go alongside Vasily Smyslov's, while the content remains a treasure trove of high quality and at times tension-laden chess, as well as a tribute to Botvinnik's impressive work rate. The paperback version retails at £26.95 and a hardback edition is also available for £35.95.

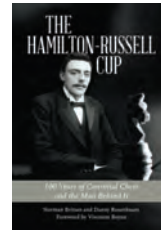


The Chess Lover's Puzzle Book

Roland Hall, 304 pages, paperback
RRP £12.99 **SUBSCRIBERS £11.69**

Leading publisher Hachette are responsible for this new release which is chess-themed without being a conventional chess book. Hall provides a great many puzzles, but not so much in the usual chess sense of that term. Rather he supplies chess-themed

crosswords, word searches, 'chess-doku', visual puzzles, coding and word challenges, and even a chess-themed quiz.

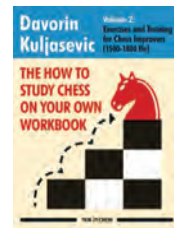


The Hamilton-Russell Cup

Norman Britten & Danny Rosenbaum,
284 pages, hardback

RRP £34.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £31.45**

In these pages last month Danny Rosenbaum revealed a little about Frederick Gustavus Hamilton-Russell, as well as the two chess trophies named after him. His and Norman Britten's book is subtitled 'Years of Convivial Chess and the Man Behind It' and provides not only more information about Hamilton-Russell, but celebrates one hundred years of the less well-known of his cups being fought for by London's clubs. Hamilton-Russell's relative Viscount Boyne supplies a foreword and there are also some fine annotations from Matthew Sadler no less.



The How to Study Chess on Your Own Workbook: Volume 2

Davorin Kuljasevic, 200 pages, paperback
RRP £22.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £20.65**

The Croatian Grandmaster continues to provide plenty of material aimed to help the club player study chess on their own, with this second workbook especially geared towards those in the 1500-1800 range. After initially running through some typical club player mistakes, Kuljasevic has four chapters of training, devoted to visualisation, tactics, middlegames and endgames.

Weapons against the Caro Kann Vol. 1

Daniel Fernandez, PC-DVD; 4 hours
RRP £28.95 **SUBSCRIBERS £26.05**

Daniel Fernandez has plenty of experience on both sides of the Caro-Kann, an opening he covers as part of his '1 e4...' column for Chess-Publishing. Here he maps out two mini-repertoires for the white player looking for a new way to pose problems after 1 e4 c6 without having to learn too much theory, covering both 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 and 2 ♘c3 d5 3 ♗f3.

While in Hamburg, Fernandez also recorded *Weapons against the Caro Kann Vol. 2*, which retails at £28.95/£26.05 for Subscribers. Here he presents three further mini-repertoires for White devoted to the very modern sequence that is 2 ♗f3 d5 3 d3!?, as well as the Fantasy (2 d4 d5 3 f3) and Exchange variations.