

This year's British Chess Championship's took place at Ponds Forge in Sheffield - better known for its Olympic size swimming pool and fitness centre but also including the large International Hall. This provided an excellent venue - very quiet and with good air conditioning.

Spread over 2 weeks the championships provided opportunities for chess players of all abilities - from the top players in the Championship and Major Open events through several grading tournaments from Under 180 down to Under 120 grade. Juniors players were given a high priority with events from under 16 age group through to under 8's and well as a senior competition for over 60's.

Also, beside these, there were mid-week and week-end competitions with several players entering more than one event over the 2 weeks allowing them to check out the excellent re-development of Sheffield city centre.

Lincolnshire was represented in several competitions and their best games will be highlighted in future weeks.

In my case I competed in the Under 160 grade event which included 5 rounds during the second week I choose the term compete loosely as in my case as I gained only one win in round 4 against Lana Boztas from the Coulsdon club in Surrey and we pick up the game after Lana, as black, has just played 24. ...R5c7 (see diagram) providing me an opportunity to gain further material - can you see it?

I played 25. Nd5 Rxc2 26. Nxe7+ Kf8 27. Nxc8 Rxc8 (25. ...Rd7 26. Nb6 also loses) and Lana resigned a few moves later.

Meanwhile, in last weeks puzzle black's demise is initiated by 1. Ra3.

