

Looking at the British Chess Championships recently I came across a game involving Matthew Turner now a Grand Master resident in Scotland but I am sure that many in the county will remember him as a very talented young player at his local club of Bottesford in Scunthorpe.

Played at the Parks Leisure Centre in North Shields on Tyneside, Matthew was playing in the main event involving 11 rounds and he finished in equal 7th place on 7 points behind joint winners Gawain Jones and Stephen Gordon on 9 points with Gawain taking the title in the play off.

This game came in round 1 when Matthew was paired as white against FM Charles Storey from Jesmond and we pick up the game after black has just played 19. ...b6 (see diagram) trying to dislodge one of Matthew's menacing knights.

Matthew played 20. Na6 Ne6 21. Nxf7 Kxf7 22. Rxe6 Qxe6 sacrificing the exchange but he had seen 23. Nc7 Qd6 24. Bb5 Rac8 as he saw a better continuation with 25. Rc6 and black has limited options 25. ...Qxf4 26. Qxd5+ leads to mate and 25. ...Qd8 26. Ne6 is not much better.

Black played 25. ...Rxc7 26. Rxd6 exd6 27. Qxd5+ with the potential for some counterplay with two rooks against a queen but after 27. ...Ke7 28. Bc4 Rf6 29. b3 Bf8 30. h4 h5 31. g3 Kd8 32. Qa8+ Ke7 33. Qb8 Rd7 34. Bb5 d5 35. Bxd7 Kxd7 36. Qxa7+ (35. ...Rd8 36. Qxa7+ also loses the rook) and black resigned a few moves later.

Next year's championships will be at the Riviera Centre in, hopefully sunny, Torquay.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. www.lincolncchessclub.co.uk

