

This week's game has been sent to me by John Grasham who has joined Scunthorpe Chess Club. Dave Mills, who John and myself have known for many years, is also a member at Scunthorpe as well as being a member of Hull & District Chess Association and is captain of their B team who play in the Yorkshire League Division 2. Dave has been looking for players at Hull and asked if John would be interested and John's first game was on board 7 in the match away to Calderdale B at the King Cross Working Men's club in Halifax.

John was paired as white against the Calderdale captain Dave Colledge with the opening following the Queen's Bishop game 1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 d5 3. Bf4 e6 4. e3 c5 5. c3 Nc6 with John deploying his bishop to f4 but black's c5 move putting pressure on the centre 6. Bd3 Bd6 7. Bg3 c4 8. Bc2 0-0 9. Nbd2 Re8 10. e4 Bxg3 11. hxg3 e5 and now the pressure is really on 12. 0-0 exd4 13. Nxd4 Nxd4 14. cxd4 Nxe4 15. Bxe4 dxe4 16. Nxc4 Be6 17. b3 Qd7 18. Qd2 Rad8 19. Rad1 Bg4 20. f3 exf3 21. gxf3 Bh3 22. Rf2 Qc7 and black looks to attack the pawn on g3 (see diagram) but this gives John an opportunity - can you see it?

John played 23. g4 Qg3+ 24. Kh1 Re6 25. Rg1 Qh4 26. Rh2 and black's bishop is trapped 26. ...Rde8 27. Qf2 Qxf2 28. Rxf2 Re1 giving black an escape route for the bishop via f1 but John counters this with 29. Ne5 Re3 disconnecting black's rooks 30. Kh2 f6 31. Nc4 Re2 32. Rxe2 Rxe2+ 33. Kxh3 and black resigned with Hull going on to win the match 5-3.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XG on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.
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