

This week's game has been sent to me by John Grasham. John has lived in Louth for a number of years being the secretary of Louth Chess Club, Lincolnshire Chess Association and the Midland Counties Chess Union but has given all these posts up as he has moved to Wetherby in Yorkshire to start a new career.

In fact this game sees John representing Yorkshire in the National Final of the Inter Counties Under 140 grade section at the new venue of the Kettering Conference & Leisure Centre when he was on board 10 paired against Giles Stanton from Worcestershire, part of Finals Day which saw the finals from all the sections under one roof followed by a grand presentation.

We pick up the game after black has just played 14. ...Nf5 (see diagram) and at this stage all the pieces are still on the board but with plenty of opportunities for both players. John is the first to break the deadlock as he played 15. hxc6 opening up the h-file for his rooks 16. Rde1 e5 17. Bh4 Nxe4 18. Rxe4 Re7 and the exchange of pieces has put John's rook on h4 with his other rook poised 19. dxc6 dxc6 20. Re4 Bg8.

The pawn on h7 was defended by the rook on e7 so John pressed on with the attack with 21. Nf5 Bf6 22. Rxe7 Rxe7 23. Nxe7 g5 winning the pawn 24. Nxf6+ Qxf6 25. Be4 c6 26. Bxd5+ and black resigned as play would have continued 27. ...cxd5 28. Qh7+ Kf8 29. Qxd7 winning the bishop.

Yorkshire went on to be crowned champions by 9½ to 6½.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.
www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk

