

Looking back again to the summer of 2020 I have found a game between two of Lincoln's players, Ben Ashcroft who plays in chess.com under the pseudonym Crafty_Crofty and William Orr otherwise known as HengistPod. Maybe not two of the top players in the club they are both capable of giving you a good game when on their day.

Ben runs his own computer sales and servicing company and has supplied me with a couple of excellent products while William runs a farm in the Sleaford area. William was also the captain of the county Under 140 team. In the 2019/20 season we qualified for the national stages. Unfortunately, due to Covid, these did not take place. Hopefully, we can enter a team again in the coming season.

This game came in the Lincoln weekly tournament and we pick up the game after Ben, as white, has just played 37. Rg1 (see diagram) - William's next move gained a significant advantage can you see it?

William played 37. ...Ng3+ 38. Rxc3 Qxh6 winning the queen for a knight so Ben had it all to do. He continued with 39. Ng4 Qd2 40. Nf6+ Kg7 41. Nd7 forking William's two rooks Qxe2 42. Nxb8 Rxb8 with William still in the driving seat with a queen and rook to two rooks plus William having two extra pawns.

Play continued 43. Rbg1 Qe3 44. h4 Qxa3 and William is setting about mopping up Ben's pawns while Ben is advancing his h-pawn to expose William's queen 45. h5 Kh6 46. hxg6 fxg6 47. Rxc6+ Kh7 48. R6g3 Rf8 49. Rh3 is mate.

Ben finished on 2 points out of 4 just ahead of William on 1.5.

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

