

BRITISH

GO

JOURNAL

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AlphaGo

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Number 175

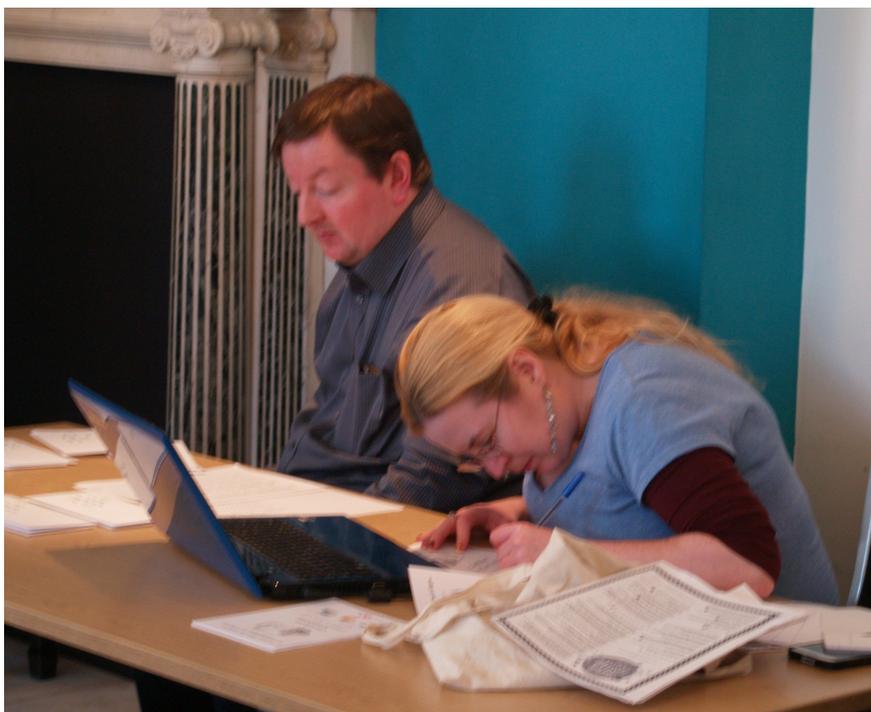
Spring 2016

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**Catalin Taranu with Andrew Kay and Sai Sun (London Open)**



**Organisers: Matt Marsh and Jenny Radcliffe (London Open)**

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# EDITORIAL

[journal@britgo.org](mailto:journal@britgo.org)

Welcome to the 175<sup>th</sup> British Go Journal.

## In This Issue

As I write this editorial, we are preparing here in Sheffield for the British Go Congress, which coincides with the AGM of the British Go Association when the officers of the BGA are elected; there will likely be some new names, or old names in new roles. There will be a tournament report for the BGC in the Summer edition of this journal.

The hot news (or not so hot as you read this) since the Winter edition is that Google DeepMind's AlphaGo computer program has beaten Lee Sedol (9p) in a best of five match. There has been plenty of comment elsewhere about the match and the games, so we decided the vast majority of you had probably read enough about that online and even in the UK mainstream media. But we've got an article here following on from one in the last issue about the Fan Hui match, talking about some of the things that went on behind the scenes.

The game review this time is a topical one since the game was played by Demis Hassabis, CEO of DeepMind.

There are some varied and interesting articles within, including one on Go in Cuba and two connected pieces about the potential benefits and risks of the BGA achieving charitable status. There is also a long and fascinating letter from Paul Barnard about the 'perfect' tournament performance.

Finally, included at the back of this issue is a comprehensive list of Go Clubs in the UK – this normally appears in the Winter edition but I decided that was already full enough. We endeavour to keep this list as up-to-date as we can; let us know if there are any omissions.

*Bob Scantlebury*

## Credits

My thanks to the many people who have helped to produce this Journal:

**Contributions:** Tony Atkins, Steve Bailey, Paul Barnard, Jon Diamond, Roger Huyshe, Liu Yajie, Colin Maclennan, Toby Manning, Ian Marsh, Charles Matthews, and Francis Roads,

**Photographs:** *Front cover*, The AlphaGo Logo. All other photographs in this edition were provided by the article authors or sourced from the BGA website.

**Proofreading:** Tony Atkins, Barry Chandler, Martin Harvey, Richard Hunter, Neil Moffatt, Chris Oliver, Pat Ridley, Edmund Stephen-Smith and Nick Wedd.

## **Publishing the Pairings**

Dear Editor,

I was intrigued to read in an article by Paul Barnard on page 36 of the current British Go Journal (*BGJ 174*) of a rip-off perpetrated by Simon Shiu against an anonymous player identified as "Francis". Initially I thought that this might refer to myself. Then I remembered that in the early days of the Welsh Open Championship there had been a prize for "being Francis Roads". I had thought myself well placed, but on two occasions this prize was won by players other than myself, and I think that it must be to one of these that Paul refers.

Regards,

**Francis Roads**

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## **On a Method to Measure an Approach to Perfection**

Dear Editor,

Back in ancient times – by which I mean, before the Internet – it was hard for people to get themselves heard if they wanted to express an opinion about something. One option was to stand on a soapbox with a megaphone at Hyde Park Corner and hope to draw a crowd with a witty but penetrating commentary on an issue of the day. Another option was to write to a quality newspaper and hope they would publish your letter. If they did, it was not unusual for someone else to write in with a response, which would perhaps get published a few days later, and so on. Really slow-paced dialogues would take place, with all participants being very genteel, for anything less than high standards of politeness would not secure publication. Some very creative methods were developed for calling other people stupid raving idiots.

The Times fancied itself as 'the newspaper of record', and this opinion was quite widely shared. Accordingly, it was a popular destination for letters of many sorts. One popular approach was to write in with some description of a strange occurrence or achievement, and ask, "Is this a record?" Having just experienced such an occurrence, and not being a Facebook or Twitter user, I find myself wanting to write a letter to some quality publication, and being of the opinion that The Times is not what it was, I am turning to the British Go Journal.

The "strange occurrence or achievement" in question is the fact that at the Maidenhead tournament recently (a three-round tournament) I had two half-point wins and a jigo. I wish to ask, is this a record?

I had better clarify exactly what record I am claiming, and that is, "The closest approach to perfection." So what is perfection? I hold these truths to be self-evident, that the purpose of playing a game of Go is to win, and to pursue a joint quest with one's opponent for elegance and enjoyment. It follows that the most desirable result is the smallest possible win, clearly achieving the former

and striving to attain the latter by not rubbing one's opponent's face in his loss by crushing him, and being supremely efficient with the win/score ratio.

To quantify this, I do of course need a unit, which I am hereby inventing and modestly calling the "Barnard". But this is not quite as simple as one would first think.

My first thought was simply to divide the number of wins by the net score, so with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  wins and a net positive score of 1 point, my result at that tournament would be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Barnards. But this doesn't work, because clearly absolute perfection would be three half-point wins, but that would be 3 divided by  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , so only 2 Barnards. And three jigos would result in a divide-by-zero error/an infinite number of Barnards. Whilst many Barnards would no doubt be a good thing in many ways, this calculation would not be delivering the desired results. The problem here is that a jigo is over-rewarded in the calculation in that it entails dividing a positive number of wins (a  $\frac{1}{2}$ ) by a zero score.

I thought this could be fixed by adding half a point to the score for each game, so that three half-point wins would now be  $3\div 3 = 1$ . But my result would be  $2\frac{1}{2}\div 2\frac{1}{2}=1$ , and three jigos would be  $1\frac{1}{2}\div 1\frac{1}{2}=1$ . Still no good.

An alternative approach to eliminating the over-rewarded-jigo problem is to follow the football league example, and allocate 3 points for a win and one point for a jigo. Now three half-point wins would be  $9\div 1\frac{1}{2}=6$ , but my result would be  $7\div 1=7$ . Still no good!

This is getting complicated and does not yet work, and there is a further problem. Players in games with integer komi cannot get a half-point win, and may with some justification claim that a one-point win is just as efficient and elegant as a half-point win. Clearly, if I am to leave a lasting legacy to mankind, this must be addressed. And I have not even got onto a "lost games" inclusion situation consideration and evaluation. It would be possible to win two games with a total score just half a point more than the negative score in the losing game. Although I am sure that nobody with any manners would wish to challenge for the record on the basis of including a lost game anyway – that would just be so ungentlemanly/unladylike — it is just possible that somewhere there is a Go player who is in fact a cad, and thus the applied system should prevent such shenanigans.

So having had a rethink, it seemed that a more successful approach might be simply to award, for integer komi games, 2 Barnards for a one-point win, and 1 Barnard for either a two-point win or a jigo. For games with komi that included a half-point, a half-point win would be awarded 2 Barnards, and a one-and-a-half-point win would get 1 Barnard. A half-point loss would not get anything! Finally, it would be necessary to divide by the number of rounds, otherwise somebody playing in a ten-round tournament might get four one-point wins for 8 Barnards, outscoring somebody who got three such wins in a three-round tournament. Nice and simple. And the funny fractions can be eliminated by awarding 30 or 15 Barnards in lieu of 2 or 1 – assuming a 3, 4, 5, or 10-round tournament, nothing more difficult than  $\frac{1}{2}$  pops out.

But wait, there is still an issue. Someone getting five one-point wins may well claim that it is a greater display of perfection than someone else getting three in a 3-round tournament. So the final tweak is to add some Barnards accordingly, and I think one or two for each scoring game does the trick.

Example 1. Five-round tournament, three one-point wins, one two-point win, and a jigo.  $(30+30+30+15+15)/5 + (2+2+2+1+1) = 32$ .

Example 2. Three-round tournament, three half-point wins.  $(30+30+30)/3 + (2+2+2) = 36$ .

Example 3 – my result at Maidenhead. Three-round tournament, two half-point wins and a jigo.  $(30+30+15)/3 + (2+2+1) = 30$ .

Example 4. Four-round tournament, a one-point win and two two-point wins, and one five-point loss.  $(30+15+15)/4 + (2+1+1) = 19$ .

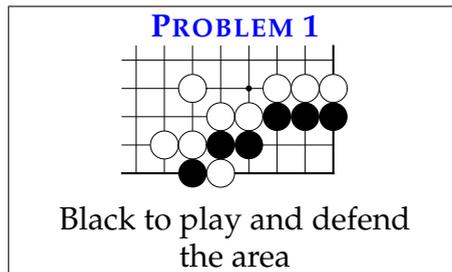
So anyway, I believe my result of 30 Barnards is a record, because I have never heard anyone claim more, and I look forward to receiving the recognition and approbation that I deserve. Unless someone can claim a higher score?

Yours faithfully,

**Paul Barnard**

[paul@psaa.me.uk](mailto:paul@psaa.me.uk)

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# WORLD NEWS

Tony Atkins

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## Pandanet Go European Team Championship

The UK team's first match after the New Year was against Norway. Andrew Simons beat Jonas Egeberg and Des Cann beat Heming Hanevik. However both Alex Kent and Charles Hibbert lost their games (though Alex only by 1.5 points) meaning the match was a draw.

At the end of January it was Turkey that was the opponent. On board 1 Andrew Simons got revenge against Emre Polat (5d) for the loss two years ago. As before Emre started fights in what Andrew thought were disadvantageous positions; this time Andrew did not screw up later so much, but Emre did, ending with a group being cut off. On board three Des Cann started well but had a hallucination, causing some stones to be lost. He fought back and took the lead, but Altan Kuntay won after some more stones were blundered away. Both Bruno Poltronieri and Sandy Taylor lost their games (against Husrev Aksut and Bertan Bilen), with Bruno blaming it on being out of practice, so the match was lost.

Against Belgium in February the match went a lot better, ending as a draw. Jon Diamond lost to Francois Gonze (after over-extending on the side leaving a weak group that died along with another) and Jamie Taylor lost to Nelis Vets (getting a joseki wrong, but catching up only to lose some stones in the endgame), but Des Cann beat Kwinten Missiaen (by a late opponent's blunder in a long, hard, fighting game) and Toby Manning

beat Gabriel Mercier (by winning two semeai fights).

The March match was against Slovakia and was the best of the year so far for the team. Charles Hibbert got an easy win on board four against a kyu player, Peter Smolarik, by killing an invading group. On board three Alex Kent used thickness to get ahead against Martin Reindl and, despite losing some stones in time trouble, ended with a win by 6.5. Board two saw Bruno Poltronieri take on Xaver Gubas in a game where it felt like he was constantly tripping up, but ended up 7.5 ahead.

Andrew Simons said of his game against the new European professional Pavol Lisy: "My game was rather like my first game of the British Championship, a disappointing loss after throwing away a large opening lead in late fighting, though I suppose I should be glad to have outplayed Pavol in the first hundred or so moves." Towards the end of an exciting game, Pavol managed to reduce one of Andrew's corners to win by 15.5. This 3-1 win put the team in ninth place of the B-League, with matches left against Italy, Switzerland and Poland, and a three point gap between them and the relegation zone.

## Ireland

In the Pandanet European Teams, Ireland has had several draws. The one in January, against Portugal, saw wins for James Hutchinson and Tiberiu Gociu, and losses for Peter Kasko and John Gibson. Against

Slovenia in February, Tiberiu and Tom Shanahan were the winners, whereas James and John lost. Against the strong team of South Africa, James and Michael Hutchinson won while Peter and John lost. Their match against Kazakhstan was postponed until after summer time starts because of the time difference, and a win in that could take them up to fifth from their current eighth place in the C-League.

### **Irish Open**

For a second year the Confucius Cup (Irish Open) was held in the Gresham Hotel in Dublin as part of the Irish Go and Chinese Chess Congress. On the Friday evening there were rapid game tournaments, which included one played by about twenty players from the Irish Chess Union. Piotr Gawron (4k Dublin) won the Go event, with Farid Ben Malek (6d France) in second place. Daqun Wang won the rapid Chinese Chess.

The main Go event attracted 44 players, including more than ten from Poland, and four players 6 dan or stronger. Thanks for this mostly go to the sponsors, such as the Confucius Institute, who generously provide prize money. The event also has the support of the Chinese Ambassador.

Winner this year was the Korean Mingyu Oh (7d) who won all five games. Second was Mateusz Surma, one of the European professionals, with Cristian Pop third and Jinwon Chae fourth. Top Irish player was Noel Mitchell, and Toby Manning (1k) and Pat Ridley (10k) led the three-man British contingent with three and four wins respectively. Others winning four games were Karol Cieslak (1k), Geoffrey Crespino (2k) and Marianna Szychowiak (11k). The

parallel Chinese Chess event was won by Nicholas Dang.

### **World Student Oza**

The 14<sup>th</sup> World Students Go Oza Championship was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February, again in Tokyo. Qualifying for the European players (and other non-Asians) was by a tournament held online on Pandanet in the autumn. The Europeans who thus qualified were Leon Stauder (4d) from Germany, Stanislaw Frejlak (5d) from Poland and the female representative Jitka Bartova (2d) from Czechia. The male players won one game each. The winner was Ozeki Minoru of Japan, beating Chung Chen-En of Chinese Taipei in the final. China, Korea and Hantao Huang of Australia also won three games.

### **Elite Mind Games**

The International Mind Sports Association held its first Elite Mind Games in Huai'an, China, from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 3<sup>rd</sup> March. This replaced the SportAccord World Mind Games, last held at the end of 2014, and had the same format. Go teams from six countries and regions took part, namely China, Korea, Japan, Chinese Taipei, the Americas and Europe. The European men's team was all professionals for the first time: Hui Fan (2p), Ali Jabarin (1p) and Ilya Shikshin (1p). They lost all their matches but Ali beat Ryan Li of America. Korea won the event, followed by China and Japan.

The women's individual champion was Yu Zhiying of China. Choi Jeong of Korea was second and Joanne Missingham of Chinese Taipei was third. The Europeans (Elvina Kalsberg, Rita Pocsai and Natalia

Kovaleva) fought bravely against the pros, but only got wins against each other.

The third event was the Pair Go, won by the Korean pair, ahead of the Chinese and the Japanese. For Europe Natalia Kovaleva and Ilya Shikshin was the top pair with one win.

### **European Youth Teams**

Best of the twelve countries and regional youth teams playing in this online league was Russia A. Next placed, before applying tie-break,

were Romania, Germany and Russia B. The UK team came sixth, beating Poland (3-2), losing to Czechia (2-3), losing to Croatia-Serbia-Slovenia (3-1) and beating Italy-Switzerland-Austria (4-1). Well done to the team, organised by the captain Alison Bexfield: Laurence Turner, Kapriel Chiarini, Elom Willson, Oscar Selby, Alex Terry, Dylan Zhu Dong, Charlotte Bexfield, Hasan Nisar, Edmund Smith, Aidan Wong, Wenzhou Mei, Alexander Hsieh and David Rosental.

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## **BRITISH GO ASSOCIATION MEMBERS EMAIL ADDRESSES**

[paul@psaa.me.uk](mailto:paul@psaa.me.uk)

We've had a number of rejections and bounced emails for our recent Newsletters.

If you didn't receive the regular monthly Newsletters the reason may be that we don't have your correct email address in our newsletter mailing list.

Currently we have two databases; one is compiled from members' online accounts, and this is used for the newsletter mailshot. The other is part of the membership database, which also includes addresses, membership expiry dates, membership categories, and so on. Normally, if you change your email address by logging into the members' area and editing your account, the membership secretary will pick up the change and ask you if you want to change your email address in the membership database as well (not everybody does, some people like to have different email addresses for different purposes). Equally, if you tell the membership secretary of a changed email address, he will normally remember to remind you to change your email address in your online account. Ideally, members would both change their email address online and also let the membership secretary know.

But obviously, if you have changed your email address and not done either, you won't get a newsletter!

# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Roger Huyshe

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At the April 2016 AGM I stood for president and came first (or indeed last) out of a short list of one. Now I have to decide what new contribution to make. When I came onto Council in 2013 and gained a better view of how the BGA was run, I was amazed to see such a large range of activities and volunteers. Council may be 7 or 8 people, but there are 30 further people with significant official posts, then over 50 club secretaries and tournament organisers not already mentioned.

That so many of you make these contributions demonstrates how passionate Go players are about the

game. Indeed a previous British Champion has mentioned one of the attractions of the hobby as 'meeting awesome people'. That's you.

We are still a relatively small organisation with a membership of just 441 which tends to limit attendance at clubs and tournaments as well as the resources to go out and promote the game. If we have more recruits, everything will be easier.

I have always been interested in outreach so am pleased to welcome two new and young members onto Council who will help on this front. Andrew Russell will co-ordinate the Youth scene. Jonathan Green will support universities, which are a key recruiting ground for the medium term, as well as acting as a point of liaison for clubs, especially new ones.

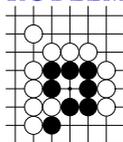
This is a particularly good time for promoting Go, with the wave of publicity from AlphaGo. Jon Diamond may have been expecting a quiet finish to his seven years in office but he put in a great deal of time and effort behind the scenes to make the most of the opportunity presented.

Well done, Jon.

□

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## PROBLEM 2



Black to play and live

# CUBA GO TOURNAMENT

Mike Cockburn

[cockburnm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cockburnm@yahoo.co.uk)



**Mike Cockburn (r) and Fernando Aguilar**

In October after nearly fifteen years I returned to Havana, Cuba to play in my second tournament there. I'd attended the IV Torneo Internacional de Go "San Cristobal de La Habana" in January 2001 (an article appeared in the BGJ 122). This time it was to attend the biggest international tournament in the Americas outside of the US, the 17<sup>th</sup> Campeonato Iberoamericano de Go. Like my previous tournament there, the organizer was Rafael Torres Miranda who, in 1995 was the first representative of Cuba in the World Amateur Championship in Japan. The three day, six round tournament was held at Complejo Deportivo "Eduardo Saborit" which is the centre of Go in Cuba. The centre was set-up with the help of a grant from the Japanese Embassy and is open daily.

The winner for the fourth time was Hisao Uyama (7d) from Brazil with

six wins, who also won the inaugural tournament in 1999. Second was the eight times champion Fernando Aguilar (7d) from Argentine with five wins. Hisao was the victor in the match between the top two and was therefore unbeaten. However, the rules of the competition were times of one hour, sudden death with no byoyomi. Fernando had technically won when his opponent's flag had dropped, but as the game was so close to the end, he insisted on counting and lost by 1.5 points. Third came the strongest Cuban player Santiago Alvarez (5d) who also won five matches, but might have done better in his first match had he not been delayed 30 minutes, thus starting with instant time troubles to a player several grades inferior. There were 38 participants, but this was restricted by the number of Cubans being limited to match the number of foreign players. This was a shame as the number of strong players there has increased dramatically since my previous visit.

I stayed in Cuba a couple of weeks more and was impressed by the changes. Much renovation has been made in Old Havana and those buildings contain a variety of good museums and galleries. The food is considerably better and there's more variety of accommodation with Cubans now allowed to rent out nicely renovated apartments. I'd thoroughly recommend a visit and Cuban players will always offer a warm welcome.

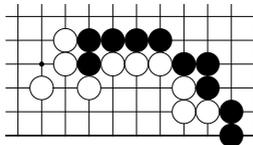
# SIDEWAYS LOOKING PERSONS



All he has to do is beat that little PC!

~ ~ ~

## PROBLEM 3



Black to play and damage White's area

# GOOGLE DEEPMIND AND ALPHAGO

Jon Diamond and Toby Manning

## THE STORY CONTINUED

### Post-match

You will remember in the last issue that we told you about the AlphaGo match and our involvement in that. This article talks about what happened afterwards.

To recap: Jon couldn't get involved in the match in early October, because of his holiday, so asked Toby to do so and Toby acted as Referee. Both signed Non-Disclosure Agreements, so couldn't discuss what was happening with anybody outside DeepMind.

Some time ago Maria Tabor produced a report about our website with some recommendations. Given the prospective match and likely publicity, this seemed to be the right time to implement some of these to improve our site for people who knew nothing or almost nothing about the game. Roger Huyshe and Tony Atkins were the others mostly involved in this upgrade, but were never told about why this was happening now...

In early November DeepMind submit their paper to Nature, who have already been primed for it and are expecting it to become a cover article (as it subsequently did). They also ask for our help with setting up the event that eventually becomes the challenge match with Lee Sedol. Since this was always intended to involve top Oriental players and be in the Far East we pass this on to someone more qualified and closer to the potential location.

Nature then approach Jon to act as a referee for the paper, slightly

unusually as he's not being asked for comments on the computer technical aspects. Due to the comments by a number of reviewers the paper is resubmitted with changes, so that the potential publication date is delayed, although we're not told about this until much later. One aspect of being a referee is that Jon now has access to the game diagrams that will be printed in Nature, so that Toby can complete his article about the match in early December.

Toby and Jon agree what is required from the Association when the paper is published (it hasn't been accepted yet though), since both Nature and DeepMind will be publicising it widely. We're going to produce a Press Release, changes for the website, a members' Newsletter and the full BGJ insert plus something for social media. Oh, and of course a history of Go-playing computer software for the website, since there didn't seem to be anything quite fitting the bill elsewhere on the Internet and we couldn't find someone else to do it for us.

As Jon is going on holiday in early January for three weeks in Vietnam/Cambodia/Thailand everything that he needs to do has to be completed before then as we suspect that the paper will be accepted in December... and Toby is skiing the week after Jon gets back. We need to brief everybody, but can't - at least we can talk to Robert Scantlebury about the possibility of having a late insert into the BGJ, without saying what it might contain.

It's now early January and Jon goes

on holiday. On the same day the DeepMind paper is accepted by Nature for publication later this month – but we’re not told, so can’t do any more preparation.

### Countdown

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January: Nature contacts Jon to ask for an interview and video on Friday (two days time!) - unfortunately they’re not planning to fly to Bangkok, so Toby fields this instead. Also, it’s time for us to send Nature and DeepMind our draft Press Release since it’s obvious things are about to happen, but we still haven’t been told about dates. [Good thing that Jon is able to see his emails and also has a phone that works in foreign parts.]

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>: DeepMind send us a photo that they haven’t given to anyone else, for us to use in our publicity (and the front page of the BGJ).

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>: Toby spends 2.5 hours being videoed and interviewed at home in Leicester. Also a New Scientist journalist asks for an interview with Jon on Monday about advances in computers playing Go. Does he know something about what’s going to be announced?

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>: we’re told that the article will be published on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>, with a Press Release going out at 10am on the 25<sup>th</sup>, but embargoed until 6pm on Wednesday. We’re not allowed to send out our Press Release or tell anyone else until then... Interesting though: in the Financial Times there’s an article “Lunch with Demis Hassabis” which doesn’t mention Go or what’s coming up this week.



The cover of Nature

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>: advance warning to a select few in the Association that something (unspecified) is happening this week and be prepared - also to definitely hold the publication of the BGJ, which was due to go to press this week anyway.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup>: It turns out that the New Scientist journalist is on the embargo list, so Jon can talk freely to him. The journalist discloses that there had also been a Press Briefing this morning, so we may not get too many direct calls. Discussions about details in the Nature articles and video continue during the week.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>: DeepMind tell us that there are some things that we shouldn’t talk about to the press, in the Press Release and BGJ article (sigh - time for more final edits). Shame that Nature have already forwarded the Press Release as an attachment to theirs... Still, Jon fields calls from a couple of journalists, unfortunately not UK ones.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>: Final preparations - we’re going to send out our Press

Release to the broadsheets, TV and a number of journalist contacts we've picked up (mostly Chess ones). Jon is contacted by Channel 4 news (10am) for someone photogenic (media code for young, preferably female) to play Go and there is a debate on Gotalk about whether or not we should agree to their request, it being both ageist and sexist. In the event the item does not happen (the Zika virus takes precedence - a good choice, perhaps, but not for Go - in retrospect our disappointment on missing a TV opportunity is mistaken).

BBC World Tonight phones at 4pm asking for someone to be available at about 7pm for interview in Broadcasting House - mad scurry around finds Charles Leedham-Green. Even now we cannot explain what it is about, so he's a bit bemused; when the interview is arranged he phones back and is told what had happened. He says "Of course I was astonished. So I packed a grotty old Go ban, and some stones in treacle tins, into a back carrier, and set off on the Underground. I arrived just in time and neither the producer nor the interviewer had heard of Go. The rule of the interview was that I should be interviewed for seven minutes, to be edited, down to three minutes. I did give a fifteen second summary of the capture rule, but I could tell that that would be edited out."

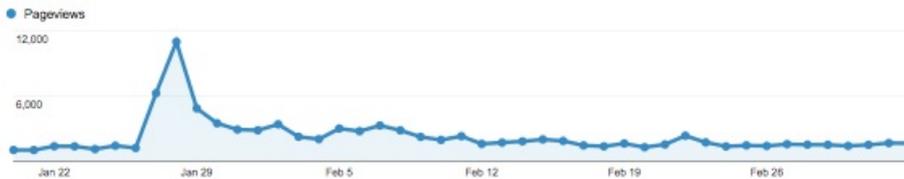
BBC World Service phone asking to interview Toby, but he's on holiday and they don't phone back, despite Jon being a suggested replacement. 6pm: embargo over: publish all the pages on our website, send out Press Release and Newsletter, plus

article/photo to BGJ editor (much work for him tonight - thanks Robert); and wait for reaction. Phew!

Friday 29<sup>th</sup>: We never thought we'd be on the BBC Radio and TV News as well as the front page of the Daily Mail! There are three articles in Nature: an Editorial, the "chatty" discursive article for which Toby was interviewed on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and the technical article which is largely incomprehensible. The story also appears in the Times, Guardian, Independent, Mail, Financial Times... etc. as well as New Scientist and the Economist. We have to reshape our "Mentions" page (<http://www.britgo.org/history/media.html>) to accommodate them all.

### Aftermath

The announcement had a major impact on traffic to our web site, apart from slowing it down temporarily. Jonathan Turner writes: "Before the announcement, we were getting about 400 visits per day, on the day following the announcement we had over 5,000. The number of different pages viewed also shot up, increasing tenfold to about 11,000 in a day as you can see from the graph below. (Note the secondary spike after the subsequent DeepMind press conference on 21<sup>st</sup> February and the much smaller one after the BBC Newsnight package on 3rd March. It's difficult to see from this graph, but there was an increase in traffic in the days immediately preceding the initial announcement - these are presumably due to accesses from insiders.)



## BGA Website Pageviews

“The most popular pages since the announcement include the “Learn to Play” pages, as well as the page about Deep Mind, of course. This trend is also shown by searches people have been making to find the site: “how to play go” is now bringing about twice the number of visitors to the site as the next best search term, leaping up from 4th place pre-announcement. More than 10,000 people have visited our “Learn to Play” page, with an average linger time of 6 minutes, so I think we can claim to have taught 10,000 to learn how to play, with at least 50% of these being UK people!

“On social media, the traffic is also up, with Facebook up from about 35 visits to the web site daily, increasing to 174 post announcement and the Facebook announcement posting itself being seen by more than 4,600 people. We’re up to almost 900 “likes” for our Facebook page. Our Twitter feed also had a huge percentage leap, from one visit every 6 days, up to 17 per day post-announcement.”

In early February we are contacted by a Korean TV company who wish to interview one of us and film at one of our clubs on Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. With the invaluable assistance of Martin Harvey, Toby arranges for them to visit Cheadle Hulme School in Manchester – the school is very amenable (we suspect they will seek their own local publicity) - as well as Manchester Go Club. They interview Toby on the same day.

Later in February there are also a couple of other phone interviews and some filming in London related to the match.

## The Match

Just when everything seemed to be settling down to a new normal the match started. Well, actually the merry-go-round started again just a bit before with an unexpected sighting on Newsnight a week earlier, and just a few days before the final DeepMind press push. This time the foreign press was German and Radio 4 was the Today programme. We get Sky News set up for some filming at almost no notice, but they pull out later the same day (shame).

The media seems to be going mad; asking for people to be at their studios in a couple of hours, so panic sets in, but we survive. Francis Roads is interviewed on BBC World TV and Radio 2, Toby Manning on Sky News, Natasha Regan on BBC Radio 4 Today, Jon Diamond on Radio 5 and BBC Radio Wales, Dylan Carter on Radio Wales too and Andrew Simons on Cambridge local radio.

The Mentions in the Media page (<http://www.britgo.org/history/media>) is getting so big it needs another revamp and the match deserves a page of its own with more than 100 entries!



### BGA Website Pageviews

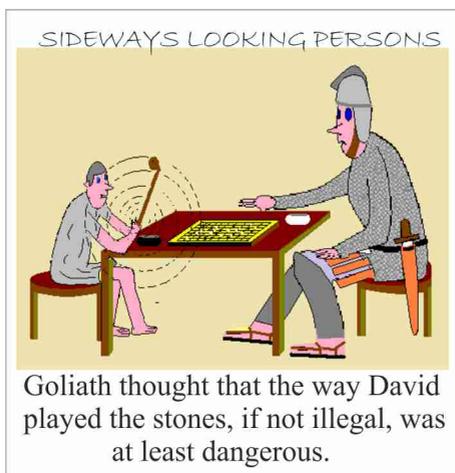
Website access goes through the roof again as you can see (note the change of scale!), so we have to temporarily buy more CPUs, and we peak on the third game with more than 25,000 page views in a day. About 50% of accesses now are to our How to Play Go pages, so that makes another 10,000 learning how to play on just this one day...

I'm writing this a week after the match is over, but our website hasn't settled down to pre-AlphaGo levels yet. We're still running at 5,000 page views a day.

It's looking promising that this is having a longer-term effect on the popularity of Go in the UK: there are reports from several clubs of more people turning up, including beginners, Pentangle have reported a significant increase in the sales of sets at a quiet time of the year. Perhaps surprisingly this soon there appear to be more people joining the Association!

We're also talking to DeepMind about developing Go in the UK, so watch this space...

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# BGA ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FUTURE EVENTS

For the next six months, the Tournament Calendar ([www.britgo.org/tournaments](http://www.britgo.org/tournaments)) features:

**Welwyn Garden City**, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Candidates' Tournament**, Letchworth, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

**Bracknell**, Wokingham, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**Challengers' League**, May

**Scottish Open**, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May

**British Pair Go Championships**, Hatfield, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June

**Durham**, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June

**Welsh Open**, Barmouth, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June

**Milton Keynes**, July

**UK Go Challenge Finals**, July

**Belfast**, August

**Arundel**, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August (provisional)

**Mind Sports Olympiad**, London, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August

**Northern**, Manchester, Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September

**Cornwall**, Penzance, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September

## OFFICIAL VACANCIES: CAN YOU HELP?

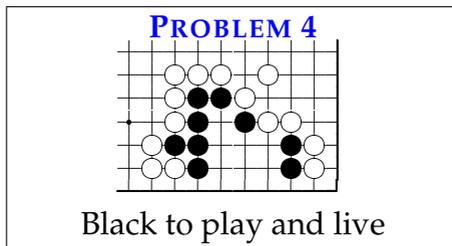
Vacant posts are listed at [www.britgo.org/positions/vacancies](http://www.britgo.org/positions/vacancies).

**We need volunteers for:**

- Championships Organiser
- Regional Youth Representatives (Scotland, North East, West Midlands)

If you are interested in any of these, please contact our President, Roger Huyshe ([president@britgo.org](mailto:president@britgo.org)), or any member of Council.

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# SHOULD THE BGA BECOME A CHARITY?

Colin Maclennan

[colin.maclennan@btopenworld.com](mailto:colin.maclennan@btopenworld.com)

The Autumn 2015 issue of the BGI (No. 173) contained an article "Is Go a Sport?" by Toby Manning and John Collins reporting on the unsuccessful attempt of the English Bridge Union (EBU) to be recognised as a sport by Sport England. The article touched upon – but did not explore – an issue that is very relevant to the BGA, "Should the BGA become a Charity?".

The Charity Commission website<sup>1</sup> provides detailed advice on setting up and registering a charity and has links to a wide range of publications on different aspects of managing a charity, including the legal status of the organisation and the responsibilities of trustees. I urge any member interested in examining this possibility to go to this source and see what would be involved.

## Is promoting Go charitable?

The purpose of the BGA is to promote the game of Go. So the first issue to be considered is whether the Charity Commission would consider promoting Go to be a charitable activity. As a pointer to their thinking, the Commission's website publishes "significant decisions". The decision of interest to us is that in respect of Hitchin Bridge Club's successful application in 2011 to register as a charity<sup>2</sup>. The application was successful because the Commission "... considered how a game can promote health through mental exertion, in

*an analogy with amateur sport which can promote health through physical exertion.*" It follows that promoting other mind games such as Go which also involve mental exertion would in principle be accepted as a charitable activity.

## What are the benefits of registering as a charity?

The most obvious benefit of registering as a charity is that members' subscriptions would qualify for GiftAid. This applies even where the subscription provides some financial benefits to the member, such as entry to tournaments at a preferential rate. The exact rules about what is and is not allowed for subscriptions to qualify for GiftAid are set out on the website<sup>3</sup>.

This means that where a member signed a GiftAid form certifying that he or she paid standard rate tax sufficient to cover the GiftAid amount, 25% of the subscription would be rebated to the BGA. If, say, half our members signed up for GiftAid, this would provide the BGA with an additional £1,000 a year.

There would of course be a downside in the additional administrative work for our Membership Secretary. A record would need to be kept of which members had signed up for GiftAid, and an application made each year for a rebate in respect of those members' subscriptions.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hitchin-bridge-club>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.gov.uk/claim-gift-aid/overview>

Another more speculative benefit of registering as a charity is that it would enable the BGA to seek grants and awards to promote its charitable object, and it would become a more suitable vehicle for the receipt of bequests and other donations.

### **Are there any constitutional issues?**

In our constitution, the object of the BGA is defined as “...*promoting interest in and the playing of the game of Go ...*”. There is no further definition of what this means. Our activities currently extend from encouraging new players to take up the game through to training and support for our strongest players. Nothing in this wide spectrum of activity would preclude our being registered as a charity. We do not undertake any significant commercial activity which would be non-charitable. However, if we were to register as a charity, we would probably need to define our object more fully and make it clear that we would be promoting Go by exclusively charitable means. The website gives guidance on writing charitable objects<sup>4</sup>.

Currently the BGA is an “unincorporated association” and as such it has no status in law. This would not preclude the BGA from becoming a charity. Indeed the Charity Commission recommends the “unincorporated association” as the most suitable governance model for a small charity. However, we would need to appoint trustees who would

be accountable for the activities of the organisation. The simplest way to do this, and the way that would probably suit the BGA best would simply be to appoint our Council members as trustees. Our constitution could be amended to provide that when Council members were elected, they would also be appointed as trustees.

The duties and responsibilities of trustees are described on the Charity Commission website<sup>5</sup>. An important point is that all trustees would be equally accountable for the operations of the charity. This would require an amendment to our constitution, clause 3 of which currently provides an “order of seniority” to the officers of the Association, i.e. President, Treasurer, Secretary. This “top down” approach seems to me to be inappropriate for an organisation that must necessarily operate in a consensual way. It would be better if this clause were simply deleted.

### **Conclusion**

Registering as a charity would provide a significant financial benefit to the BGA. But what is more important is that it would help us to focus the organisation on its primary purpose, promoting the game of Go. Amendments to our constitution would be required, but I believe that overall they would be beneficial. They would clarify accountability and would help the organisation to move forward in a harmonious way. □

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<sup>4</sup><http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/example-charitable-objects>

<sup>5</sup><http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-need-to-know-cc3>

# SHOULD THE BGA BECOME A CHARITY?

Toby Manning

toby.manning@dsl.pipex.com

Council has several times in the past looked at the pros and cons of seeking to become a charity, and has not yet been convinced that the benefits are large enough to outweigh the additional administrative resources that would be required.

Both the English Chess Federation and the English Bridge Union have examined the issue. They both identified the need to split themselves into two separate organisations, as some of the work that they do is not considered charitable. The EBU has successfully obtained charitable status for “English Bridge Education and Development”; the ECF has not yet definitively decided to go ahead with a split. We have not determined if we would need to split the BGA to achieve charitable status, but it seems likely (and if we did not, it would limit what we could legally do in the future).

## Benefits

The major benefits from charitable status are in reducing the amount of tax payable. The really significant savings are on Business Rates for organisations that own property, or on VAT (we would need to be about 5 times bigger before we would need to register for VAT). However, the BGA does not pay any tax – so there are no savings to be made. Colin is correct that some Gift Aid on Membership Subscriptions is available as a benefit, although I do not believe that the potential savings are as large as Colin

suggests; the regulations are not easy to interpret, but in my view only a proportion of each membership subscription would qualify to be “gift-aided”<sup>1</sup>. In my view the potential additional income is nearer £500 rather than the £1,000 that Colin suggests, and even this could be an overestimate. To put it into context, this amounts to approximately £1 per member.

## Costs and Risks

As Colin identifies, the process of claiming Gift Aid would require additional resource from the Membership Secretary; it is a requirement of HMRC that records are kept for a period of 6 years. Becoming charitable would introduce the risk that HMRC would come and audit us (requiring further resource), or that the BGA misinterprets the regulations and is found to be in breach of some charitable legislation. While this risk is probably low, it certainly should not be ignored.

To summarise, becoming a charity will require additional administrative resources, while generating some additional income. The BGA has always been resource-limited: we are not short of money, we are short of manpower to run useful projects to spend our money. It therefore does not currently seem to be worthwhile utilising the BGA’s scarce manpower resources to generate additional income, when it could be used for more positive purposes.

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<sup>1</sup>See in particular section 4 of <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charities-detailed-guidance-notes/chapter-3-gift-aid#chapter-337-membership-subscriptions> which refers to the costs of a magazine not qualifying for gift-aid

# BOOK REVIEWS - 5

Roger Huyshe

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## Opening

In this selection there is only slight discussion of fuseki and most of the discussion and problems centre round the early middlegame decisions which often determine the course of a game. The easier books introduce general principles that every Go player should strive to understand. As always the books are presented in (ascending) order of difficulty.

### **Elementary Go Series; Vol 1 - In the Beginning; Ikuro Ishiguro**

The book is aimed at 10-20 kyu. The first chapter introduces the basic kinds of moves played during the opening (e.g. what it means to play on the 3-4 point or the 3-3 point, extensions, pincers, invasions, etc.). The second chapter is about higher-level concepts like thickness and leaning attacks. The third chapter consists of ten problems which are somewhat harder but helpfully award marks and explanations to a range of plausible moves. Published 1985 by Kiseido, 150pp

**Opening Theory Made Easy; Otake Hideo** This book is at a similar level to the above book from the Elementary Series, and has attracted very positive reviews for the simple and clear explanations. It sets out 20 strategic principles under three main headings – fuseki, shape and strategy. It takes time and practice to be quite at home with the ideas and many high SDK could still benefit from rereading the book to ensure there are no gaps in understanding. Published 1992 by Kiseido, 170pp

### **Mastering the Basics; Vol 1 - 501 Opening Problems by Bozulich and van Zeijst**

This book addresses the choice of play in early middle game. It is not a book on fuseki. Each problem is accompanied by a big hint e.g. 'defend your weak group before attacking'. Players from say 15k can treat this as a gentle introduction to strategy, which will help in developing a whole board perspective; while stronger players should cover up the hints and will find enough meat down to mid or low SDK. The book is a good choice for a club library, being accessible and useful for a wide range of players. Published 1996 by Kiseido, 250pp.

**Get Strong Series; Vol 1 - Get Strong at Opening; Richard Bozulich** This is easier than most of the 'Get Strong' series. The book consists of 175 full-board problems on the opening. It is not a book on joseki, but rather a book designed to help develop your sense of the proper direction of play. The problems in the first half of the book concentrate on the niren-sei, sanren-sei, Chinese, and Shusaku openings. This is not fully representative of modern play; the problems in the second half are more general. The explanations are reasonably detailed, addressing both the best choice and the reasons for rejecting other moves. Published by Kiseido, 2002, 165pp

**Whole board opening problems; Yuan Zhou** This slim book takes 21 games, following each through the early stages and posing a total of 150 problems, typically with three choices. Explanations are short but adequate.

The level of the book seems to be from mid-SDK to low dan. Published 2014 by Slate and Shell, 100pp.

**The Chinese Opening by Yuan Zhou**

Yuan Zhou is a popular teacher and writer. He starts with a fairly short explanation of the ideas behind the Chinese opening, then illustrates these with examples from ten recent games showing the development of the early fighting. The second half of the book merely contains full game records of all games mentioned, which doesn't seem to add much to one's understanding of the Chinese. Published 2013, by Slate and Shell, 73pp.

**Chinese Opening (The) - The Sure Win Strategy; by Masao Kato**

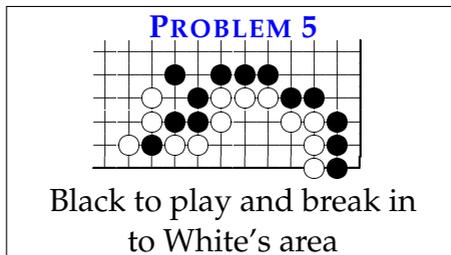
After the introduction, the book is divided into chapters according to how the opponent approaches the Chinese formation: first approaching hoshi; secondly going along with opponents plan by approaching the 3-4 stone; thirdly wedging to prevent the formation and finally waiting till the double wing has been created. There follow examples from the author's games. Study of this book should provide a very complete

understanding, although it has been suggested that some ideas are now out of date. Published 1989 by Kiseido, 145pp.

**Patterns of Sanrensei; Michael**

**Redmond** A substantial book at over 200 pages of A4, this would take quite some time to read and understand. Redmond starts by identifying six patterns according to the two or three moves that follow when White first approaches Black's sanrensei. On each pattern the character of the ensuing battle is explained. The main part of the book covers twenty of Redmond's games where he has used sanrensei and in each game he examines the decision points for each player. In places there are explanations of both corner and middlegame joseki relevant to the situation. Some space is wasted by showing the completion of the game, long after the particular sanrensei issues have subsided although keen students may still be interested in following the comments and outcomes. The book is not too difficult for a low SDK but it is more likely to benefit an ambitious dan player. Does what it says on the tin. Published 2011 by Slate and Shell, 212pp.

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**Bill Streeten**

*Bill Streeten, former BGA Secretary, Council member, long term member of North London and then Wanstead Go Clubs, died peacefully on 23rd December.*

I first got to know Bill when he was helping at the Canterbury EGC back in 1992. At the time he was a few stones stronger than I was, but we started playing each other, either in tournaments according to the draw or in the gaps between rounds when we would play a slow game in around 15 minutes!

Bill was a Cambridge graduate and lived in North London, where for several years he hosted the North London Club, but then moved to

Braintree and later Wanstead where he was a regular member of the local clubs. Then in 1998, we were both asked to become council members which we agreed to do. We served alongside each other, in the days before email was commonplace, attending several meetings each year in various parts of the country as each member took turns to host them. A job that needed doing, but not very exciting.

Bill had been a civil engineer by profession and as an engineer myself (electrical), we always got on well, discussing the ways of the world and engineering projects – including Bill’s railway viaduct “up north”. Mostly meeting at tournaments, we managed to enjoy each other’s company more at the various European Congresses when we both attended. Two that spring to mind in particular are Berlin and Marseilles.

Eventually Bill decided to move to Hastings to be near his daughter, Nicola, who had in years past organised the refreshments at the Highbury London Opens. The BGA took the opportunity of his move to hold the British Congress in a leisure centre in the town – a venue he found. Being close to his family was obviously good for him and whilst he played much less Go, he still managed weekly games against other local players – interspersed with Scrabble.

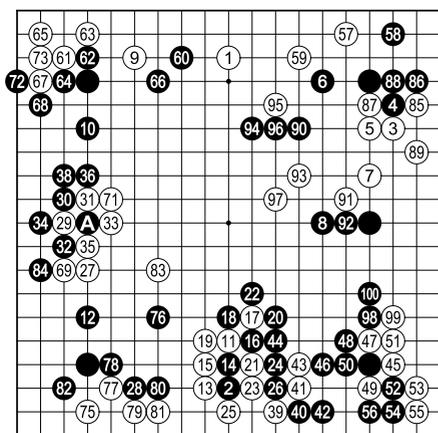
**Steve Bailey**

# GAME REVIEW

Charles Matthews

*In view of the Lee Sedol v AlphaGo match, we thought you'd be interested (amused?) by an old game from BGJ 109 (Winter 1997) between Charles Matthews and Demis Hassabis, now CEO of Google DeepMind. Comments are the original ones by Charles Matthews.*

This is a game I played in June 1996 against Demis Hassabis (Black), then a Cambridge undergraduate. If his fame round the University was more for his prowess at table football, he was also making rapid strides in Go. At the time he was reading Ishida's All About Thickness, and that shows. A strong (BCF 210) chess player, he had begun to play tidily as well as with tactical sharpness.



③⑦ ko at ⑲, ⑦④ at ⑲.

Figure 1: Moves 1 to 100

- ⑮ White gives Black bad shape. The exchange which follows probably favours White, but also simplifies the game.
- ⑳ I can't now recall whether I spent any time worrying about playing at ㉒ to make more points. Probably not. At the start of a handicap game points are hardly the issue for White, measured against thickness and sente – and here White manages both of those.
- ⑵⑨ In fact White only gives up sente at this point. White is now in the game, but has two weak groups. Black cannot attack the one on the top right side to make much territory after ⑵⑮.
- ⑶⑥ Proper to play at ⑦③ at once.
- ⑦⑵ hopes to find a target in the lower left Black group.
- Up to ⑽⑰ Black doesn't have an overwhelming lead in territory, but White is beginning to look a bit thin. Note that after Black ⑽⑰ the play bending round White ⑹⑹ is a huge follow-up for Black.

- ⑩1 A bid to take a key point for eye shape in sente.
- ⑩2 Black resists.
- ⑩5 White cuts to make a game of it. But Black lives in the corner.
- ⑩8 Better at ⑩2 to avoid a possible ko after ⑪1 at ⑩2. White felt Black had too many threats locally and backed down from it – losing would have weakened the group on the right.
- ⑩8 Black has two eyes.
- ⑩9 An attack in the centre just when the game seemed to be entering the endgame.
- ⑩2 An aberration.
- ⑩3 There is no large scale attack in the centre. Going for the stones ⑩0, ⑩4, ⑩6 on their own is quite small (ten points?).
- ⑩4 Another thick move. Plays like this or 84 are inauspicious for White even if the game becomes nominally closer when secure territory is counted.
- ⑩7 White looks to make the margin only a dozen to Black. However the centre is highly combustible.
- ⑩6 to ⑩6 White in fact resigned halfway through this sequence but it might as well appear on the record. White is comprehensively cut.

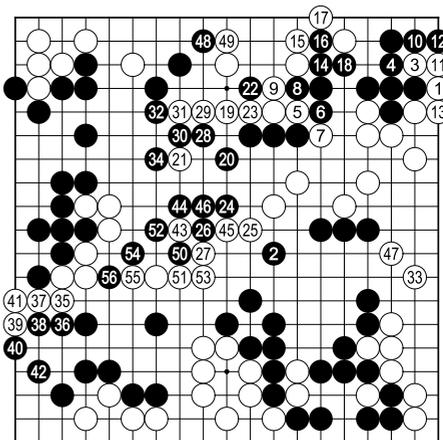
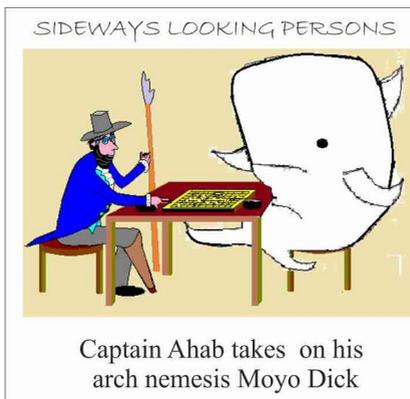


Figure 2: Moves 101 to 156



# UK NEWS

Tony Atkins

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## London Open



### London Pair Go

Following its long-established tradition, the London Open was held on the last four days of the year at International Student House (ISH) at the top of Great Portland Street. Gerry Gavigan kindly set the event up, but then handed over the organisation this year to Matt Marsh, Chairman of the Tournaments Committee. As usual the pairings were all ably made by Jenny Radcliffe, who also ran the Lightning, and others helped, such as Nick Wedd who acted as referee and Pair Go organiser.

The entry for this, the 42<sup>nd</sup> edition, was rather disappointing with only 76 players compared to normally over a hundred. There were no strong players from the continent, and so it was British players battling it out with those of Chinese origin at the top.

On hand to do game analysis and lectures was the professional from Romania, Catalin Taranu (5p). He gave a lecture on the opening, reviewed a large number of players' games between rounds and analysed

the game between Andrew and Sai before the prize-giving.

As it happened the event was dominated by Sai Sun (5d), from Beijing, who won three titles. She won the Open title and £120, with six wins out of seven, won the Lightning and also the Pair Go with Xinchu Gong.

Second in the Open was Andrew Kay (4d), who also won the David Ward Trophy for the top British player. Third was Xinchu Gong (5d) of Imperial College. Fourth place was Sandy Taylor; Sandy won the prize for being the best below the bar player. He had lost a game to Hallbjorn Gudmundsson of Iceland (the second best below the bar player), but remarkably went on to beat the top two players, Sai and Andrew. Nick Krempel was third best below the bar.

All players with four, five and six wins out of seven were given certificates to record their achievement. Those on six included Daniel Hu (1k London), Philippe Fanaro (4k Belgium), Le Tao Zhang (4k China), Kjetil Hjartnes (6k Norway) and Charlotte Bexfield (9k Letchworth). Special prizes went to players doing well below 10k: Patricia Tudor of Romania, Gudrun Breitenbauch of Germany and Magdalena Wegiel of Poland.

On the second evening, eleven couples took part in the Pair Go competition. Jenny Radcliffe and Francis Roads took second place, just ahead of Simao Goncalves and Philippe Fanaro in third. Both these teams only lost to the winning Chinese Sun-Gong pairing.

There were 18 players in four groups in the Lightning, played on the evening of the third day, winners going on to play a slower (12 minutes not 10) knock-out stage. In that, Daniel Hu lost to Sai Sun and Simao Goncalves (2d Luxembourg) lost to Wenshi Chen (5d China). The final only lasted about four minutes with Sai forcing a quick resignation.

After the prize giving there was, as usual, Rengo (won by Andrew Kay, Sandy Taylor and Tim Hunt) and, following a New Year Meal, the chance to play or party until the early hours.

### Maidenhead-Hitachi



**Andrew Simons (shown right playing Des Cann)**

Andrew Simons won all his three games to win the Maidenhead-Hitachi Tournament, held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, thanks again to the generosity of Hitachi, at their European headquarters.

Also winning three games and a couple of prizes each were Roger Huyshe (3k Shropshire), Malcolm Hagan (5k Winchester), Stephen Bailey (7k Arundel) and Robert Scantlebury (9k Sheffield). Paul Barnard (2k Swindon) won 2.5. All

players on two wins won a prize each too from the fine array of prizes.

Best teams were Arundel (Steve, Malcolm, Pauline and Casey) with nine wins and "No Go" (Roella, Edmund, Charlotte and Zaki) with eight wins between them. The 13x13 prizes went to Edmund Smith (8k Milton School) with three out of four and Lily Danson (15k Cheadle Hulme School) with four out of seven.

### Cheshire

The Cheshire Tournament on 6<sup>th</sup> February was held as normal at the Community Centre in Frodsham and alongside the Frodsham Chess Congress organised by Pat Ridley. This year a good attendance saw 30 Go players take part, and as well as the playing room another room was booked for analysis and casual games.



**Lucas Baker (2d London), shown on the left playing Baron Allday**

Lucas Baker (2d), recently moved to London from Switzerland, was the winner; he won all of his three games. Others winning all their games were three of the large team from Cheadle Hulme School: Daniel Atkinson (26k), Jack Nolan (18k) and Jason Brown (16k). In addition the runner-up, Tony Atkins (1k Reading), received a prize and Joel Barrett (20k Manchester) was awarded a prize for winning

two games and being told the wrong handicap in his other.

Winners in the self-paired 13x13 side event were youth players Yusuf Ahmed for 12/19, Daniel Atkinson for 9/11 and Matthew Benton for 7/9.

### **British Championship**

The delayed deciding third game of the 2015 British Championship was played on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at Andrew Kay's mother's house (who provided curry at lunchtime). Up to 100 fans watched the live relay on KGS from 10:00. After 299 moves it was found that Andrew Simons, playing black, was 15.5 ahead and was therefore the champion for the first time.

### **Skye**

Thirty-three players attended the fourth Isle of Skye Tournament in Portree on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March. The organisers were pleased that the numbers for this biennial event were holding up, as was the weather. Indeed a number of players took the opportunity to extend their visit for a few days and explore the island.

Friday evening attracted a number of players to the Tongadale Hotel for a 9x9 board league; this was won by Francis Roads (1k Wanstead).

This time there was sure to be a new winner as three-time winner Matthew Macfadyen had chosen to play in the Irish instead, but in the end family circumstances meant he could play neither. In fact the main tournament was won by Alistair Wall (2d Wanstead), who won the bottle of Talisker whisky with five wins out

of six. The runner up, also with five wins, was Ulf Olsson (3d) visiting from Gothenburg. Others with prizes for five wins were Edward Blockley (5k) and Greg Cox (10k Dundee). Four wins were recorded by Stanislav Traykov, Donald Macleod, Roger Daniel, Alasdair Clarke, John Collins and John Macdonald.

### **Trigantius**

A total of 54 players turned up at the Cambridge University Social Club for the Trigantius Tournament on 12<sup>th</sup> March, a good spring day. The main tournament was won by Jitka Bartova (3d) narrowly beating in the last round her friend Ngoc-Trang Cao (3d), both from the Leamington stable. Bruno Poltronieri (3d Cambridge) gained third place on SOS from Andrew Simons (4d Cambridge).

Apart from the winner, prizes were awarded for those others on three wins: Jonathan Green (5k Leamington), David Crabtree (7k Manchester) and Edmund Smith (8k Milton School). The organisers also awarded encouragement prizes to the best 1k, Alan Thornton (St Albans), best 9k, Richard Scholefield (Milton Keynes) and best 16k, Wenzhou Mei (Milton School).

The event's puzzle prizes were sponsored by Threedy 3d Printers. In addition, South Korean TV interviewed Andrew Simons and Matt Reid, including some discussion centred on the Lee Sedol-AlphaGo matches, Paul Smith ran a novices' event alongside, won by James Salmon (35k), and there was a 13x13 side tournament which was won by Wenzhou Mei (16k).

# SOLUTIONS TO THE NUMBERED PROBLEMS

The SGF files for these problems, showing a fuller set of lines, are to be found at [www.britgo.org/bgj/issue175](http://www.britgo.org/bgj/issue175).

## Solution to Problem 1

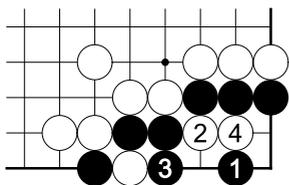


Diagram 1a (failure)

- ❶ Sometimes the 2-1 is the eye-making point.
- ❷ But not in this case.

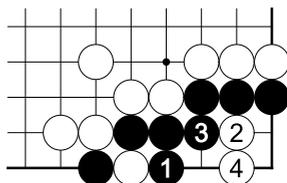


Diagram 1b (failure)

- ❶ Taking here fails too.
- ❷ Black is reduced to one eye.

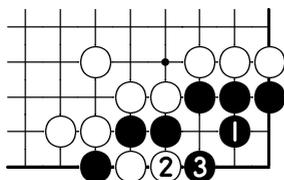


Diagram 1c (correct)

- ❶ In this case it is the 2-2 point that works.
- ❷ Black has two eyes.

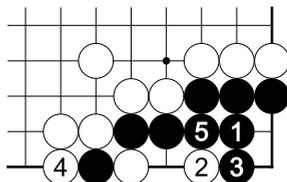
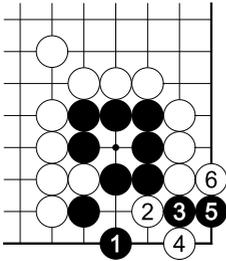


Diagram 1d (correct)

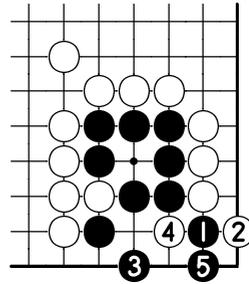
- ❷ Even if White takes the vital point here...
- ❸ ... and then captures one stone here...
- ❹ ... Black can still make two eyes this way.

## Solution to Problem 2



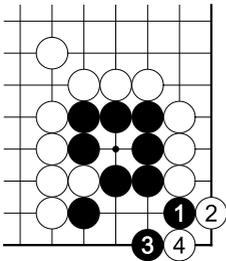
**Diagram 2a (failure)**

- ❶ Sometimes this is the move to make eye shape.
- ❷ However, with the corner nearby, Black cannot trap this stone.



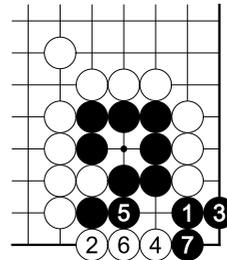
**Diagram 2b (correct)**

- ❶ So this must be the first move.
- ❸ Black should now play here.
- ❺ Now Black gets two eyes.



**Diagram 2c (failure)**

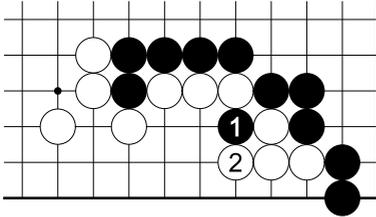
- ❸ Black should not play here next.
- ❹ White can start a ko with this move.



**Diagram 2d (correct)**

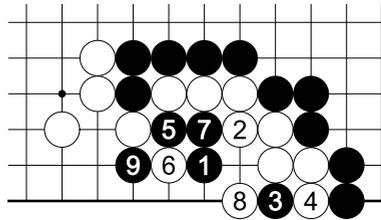
- ❸ Black must play here if White attacks from the other side.
- ❷ Still two eyes.

## Solution to Problem 3



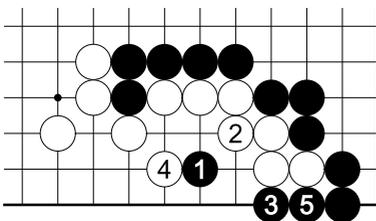
**Diagram 3a (failure)**

- ❶ Playing one of the cuts may be tempting but White has too many liberties. Also pushing along the edge is too small.



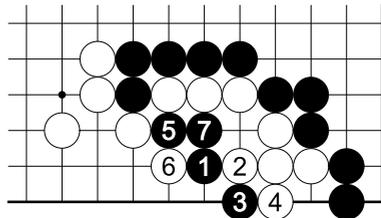
**Diagram 3b (correct)**

- ❶ This is the weak spot in White's shape.
- ❷ White's strongest answer is connecting.
- ❸ However, Black plays here and it is too dangerous for White to cut this stone off.
- ❹ White loses even more.



**Diagram 3c (correct)**

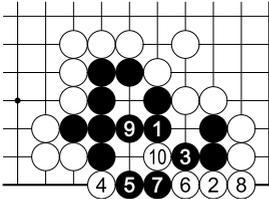
- ❷ White rescues the stones but loses the area.



**Diagram 3d (correct)**

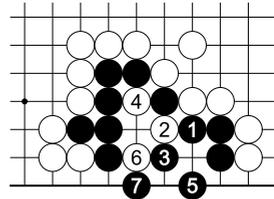
- ❷ This is an inferior move.
- Black would like to play ❹ to threaten a snap-back, but it does not work. So Black first plays ❸ to reduce White's liberties. White must now connect at ❺ and allow Black to connect out right of ❷.
- ❸ White cannot block here because...
- ❹ ... now this does threaten snap-back since White is short of liberties.

## Solution to Problem 4



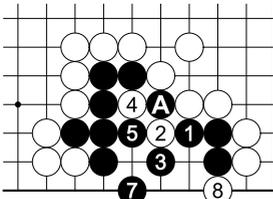
**Diagram 4a (failure)**

- ❶ Drawing back looks more sensible than blocking.
- ❸ White reduces the eye space from both sides.
- ❷ However, Black cannot live.



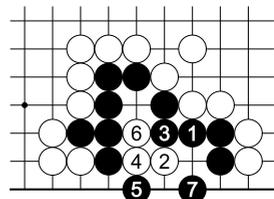
**Diagram 4b (correct)**

- ❶ So Black had better play here.
- ❷ If White plays the atari, Black can give up one stone to live.
- ❸ This is the correct way to live.
- ❹ Black makes two eyes.



**Diagram 4c (failure)**

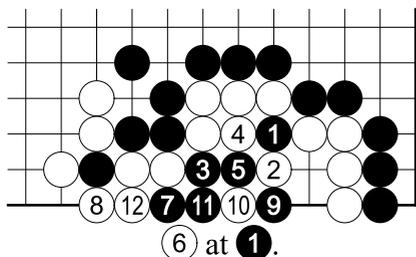
- ❸ Black must not play here as it is impossible to prevent one of the ataris after White connects.



**Diagram 4d (correct)**

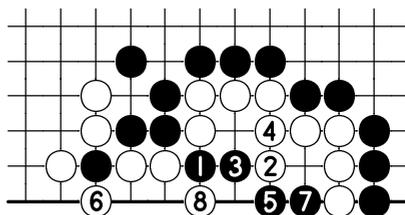
- ❷ However, White can play here.
- ❹ This ends in seki, which is the best Black can achieve.

## Solution to Problem 5



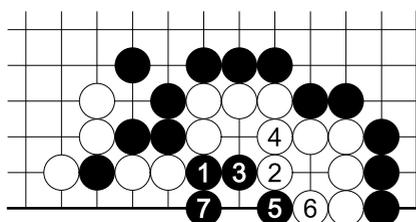
**Diagram 5a (failure)**

- ① This is not the right move.
- ⑫ Black runs out of liberties faster than White.



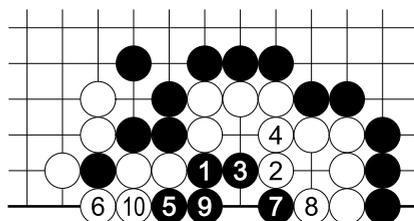
**Diagram 5b (correct)**

- ① Starting with this cut is the correct move.
- ② White can try this to save his four stones to the right.
- ⑥ This is one choice for White.
- ⑧ This is now a seki - both strings are alive, but White's area has gone.



**Diagram 5c (correct)**

- ⑥ Or White can play here making a ko as it takes two moves for White to safely fill the liberty to the left of the cutting stones.



**Diagram 5d (failure)**

- ⑤ This is a mistake by Black.
- ⑩ White is no longer short of liberties.

# UK AND IRELAND CLUBS LIST

For current meeting and contact information and links to club web pages please visit [britgo.org/clubs/map](http://britgo.org/clubs/map)

The list below is of active Go clubs. Any player turning up at the venue at the advertised time can be reasonably sure of a game, but it's advisable to check first. (The list on the website also includes 'inactive' clubs, which may meet by arrangement if you make contact.)

Anyone not within easy reach of an active Go club can be put in touch with any Go players in their area by our Membership Secretary.

**Please send corrections and all new or amended information to the website maintainers at [web-master@britgo.org](mailto:web-master@britgo.org)**

**ABERDEEN** Hardback Cafe, Aberdeen University "Sir Duncan Rice Library", Bedford Road, Aberdeen AB24 3AA; Saturday 11:00 every second one from 19/04/14, but check website; Neil McLean [aberdeengoclub@gmail.com](mailto:aberdeengoclub@gmail.com)  
<http://aberdeengoclub.yolasite.com/>

**ARUNDEL** 1 Town Quay, River Rd, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9DF; Sunday - last in month, but please ring first to confirm; Sue Paterson Tel: 07549 898376  
[suepat812@btinternet.com](mailto:suepat812@btinternet.com)

**BATH** Meets various places - check club web site. BA1 3EN; Tuesday 19:30 ; Paul Christie Tel: 01225 428995 [paul@widcombe.me.uk](mailto:paul@widcombe.me.uk) <http://www.bathgo.org/>

**BELFAST** Function Room, Belfast Boat Club, 12 Lockview Road BT9 5FJ; Monday 19:00; James Hutchinson [james8hut@hotmail.com](mailto:james8hut@hotmail.com)  
<http://belfastgo.yolasite.com/>

**BELFAST** 86 Stranmillis Road BT9 5AW; Thursday 18:30; James Hutchinson [james8hut@hotmail.com](mailto:james8hut@hotmail.com) <http://belfastgo.yolasite.com/>

**BILLERICAY** 42 Mons Avenue, Billericay, Essex CM11 2HQ; Monday 19:30 in term-time ; Guy Footring Tel: 01277 623305 [Guy@Footring.net](mailto:Guy@Footring.net)  
<http://www.goclub.footring.net/>

**BIRMINGHAM** Starbucks cafe in the International Convention Centre (ICC) B1 2EA; Sunday 14:00 ; Andrew Russell <http://www.brumgo.co.uk/>  
[ar41284@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ar41284@yahoo.co.uk)  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/182999955074295/>

**BOURNEMOUTH** 24 Cowper Road, Moordown BH9 2UJ; Tuesday 20:00 ; Marcus Bennett Tel: 01202 512655

**BRACKNELL** The Green Man, Crowthorne Road RG12 7DL; Tuesday 20:00 meets by arrangement only; Ian Marsh Tel: 01344 422296 [bracknell@kisekigo.com](mailto:bracknell@kisekigo.com)  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/bracknell.html>

**BRADFORD** The Noble Comb, Quayside, Salts Mill Road, Shipley BD18 3ST; Wednesday 19:30 ; Ewen Pearson Tel: 01274 598980 [ewen\\_pearson@hotmail.com](mailto:ewen_pearson@hotmail.com)  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/bradford.html>

**BRIGHTON** The Southover Pub, Southover St BN2 9UF; Tuesday 20:00 ; Felix Shardlow tel: 07940 973406 John Allen aka "Yogi" Tel: 01273 383254 or 07854 218920 Jil Segerman Tel: 07920 865065 or 01273 470346 [felix37@gmail.com](mailto:felix37@gmail.com)  
<https://sites.google.com/site/brightongo/>

**BRIGHTON** The Southover Pub, Southover St BN2 9UF; Monday 20:00 ; Felix Shardlow 07940 973406 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/brightongoclub/>  
<https://sites.google.com/site/brightongo/>

**BRISTOL** Bristol County Sports Club, 40 Colston Street, Bristol BS1 5AE; Wednesday 19:00 ; Luke Oram [bristolgoclub@gmail.com](mailto:bristolgoclub@gmail.com) <http://bristolgo.co.uk/>

**CAMBRIDGE CITY** CB1 2BH; Sunday 17:30-20:00; Simon Mader [mader.simon@gmail.com](mailto:mader.simon@gmail.com)

**CAMBRIDGE JUNIOR CHESS AND GO** St Augustine's Church Hall, Richmond Road CB4 3PS; Wednesday 18:00-19:30; Paul Smith Tel: 01223 563932 [junclub@chessgo.org.uk](mailto:junclub@chessgo.org.uk) <http://www.chessgo.org.uk/>

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY** Linnett Room, Robinson College CB3 9AN; Monday 19:00-22:00 during University terms (possibly on hold this term); Sean Hao [xh266@cam.ac.uk](mailto:xh266@cam.ac.uk) <http://cugosoc.soc.srcf.net/>

**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY** University Centre, Mill Lane CB2 1RU; Thursday 19:00-21:00; Sean Hao [xh266@cam.ac.uk](mailto:xh266@cam.ac.uk) <http://cugosoc.soc.srcf.net/>

**CANTERBURY GO CLUB** Chocolate Cafe in Canterbury, 1 Guildhall Street, Canterbury CT2 2JQ; Wednesday evenings from about 7.00pm; Andy Renshaw [andy@religoran.co.uk](mailto:andy@religoran.co.uk)

**CARDIFF** Cafe area of Chapter Arts Centre, Market Road, Cardiff CF5 1QE; Tuesday 19:00-23:30; Dylan Carter [welshgoplayer@gmail.com](mailto:welshgoplayer@gmail.com)  
<http://www.cardiffgo.com>

**CHELTENHAM** ; Wednesday 19:30 ; Adam Watts Tel: 07403 475573 [aceofs-pades2345@aol.com](mailto:aceofs-pades2345@aol.com)

**CHESTER** Ye Olde Custom House Inn, 65-67 Watergate Street CH1 2LB; Wednesday 20:00 - players normally present from 19:30; Tony Pitchford Tel: 01925 730583 [tony@towbarsdirect.co.uk](mailto:tony@towbarsdirect.co.uk) <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/chester.html>

**CORK (UCC WEIQI CLUB)** Cork Cricket Club, Mardyke Walk 51.896337,-8.492080; Sunday 20:00; [corkgo@gmail.com](mailto:corkgo@gmail.com)

**DUBLIN (COLLEGIANS CHESS AND GO CLUB)** The Baggot Inn, 135 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2 53.336883,-6.248860; Wednesday about 20:30-21:00 until midnight Monday about 20:30-21:00 until midnight most weeks ; [dublin@irish-go.org](mailto:dublin@irish-go.org) <http://www.irish-go.org/clubs-tournaments/Dublin/>

**DUNDEE** Mennie's, aka the Speedwell Bar, 165-167 Perth Road DD2 1AS; Monday from 20:00 during University terms; Rich Philp Tel: 01382-666129 Peter Clinch Tel: 01382 665322 [richphilp@hotmail.com](mailto:richphilp@hotmail.com)  
<http://www.personal.dundee.ac.uk/pjclinch/dundeegoclub/>

**DURHAM** The Bar, Ustinov College, Howlands Farm DH1 3TQ; Monday 20:00-22:00 during term time; Andrew Ambrose-Thurman [andrew@ambrose.thurman.org.uk](mailto:andrew@ambrose.thurman.org.uk)  
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/go.club/>

**DURHAM** The Elm Tree pub, Crossgate DH1 4PS; Thursday 20:00-22:00 during term-time; Andrew Ambrose-Thurman [andrew@ambrose.thurman.org.uk](mailto:andrew@ambrose.thurman.org.uk)  
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/go.club/>

**EDINBURGH** Edinburgh Games Hub, <http://edinburghgamehub.co.uk/> EH3 9JB; Thursday 18:30 ; Phil Blamire Tel: 0131 663 0678 [contact@edinburghgoclub.co.uk](mailto:contact@edinburghgoclub.co.uk) <http://www.edinburghgoclub.co.uk/>

**EPSOM** Epsom KT19; Occasionally; Matthew via mobile: 07752 - 301 096 [MatthewJSelby@aol.com](mailto:MatthewJSelby@aol.com)

**ESSEX** Billericay

**EXETER** White Hart Inn, South Street EX1 1ED; Monday 19:00 ; David Storkey Tel: 01392 461182 [DaveStorkey@netscape.net](mailto:DaveStorkey@netscape.net)

**GALWAY** Westwood House Hotel bar 53.289630,-9.075140; Wednesday 20:00 - players normally present from 19:30; Richard Brennan [richardkbrennan@eircom.net](mailto:richardkbrennan@eircom.net)

**GLASGOW UNIVERSITY** Gilchrist Postgraduate Club, University Avenue, University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ 55.871799,-4.288999; Thursday 18:00; Seigfried Leher [glasgowunigo@gmail.com](mailto:glasgowunigo@gmail.com) <http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/jtod/go/#Club>

**GREGSON** *see* Lancaster

**HULL** 12 Fitzroy St, Beverley Rd HU5 1LL; Thursday 20:00 ; Mark Collinson Tel: 01482 341179 [micollinson@micollinson.karoo.co.uk](mailto:micollinson@micollinson.karoo.co.uk)

**HURSLEY** *see* Winchester

**ISLE OF MAN** Phone for details ; Sunday 20:00; David Phillips, 4 Ivydene Ave, Onchan IM3 3HD Tel: 01624 612294, 07624 473688 [davidp@manx.net](mailto:davidp@manx.net)

**LANCASTER** Gregson Community Centre, 33 Moorgate LA1 3PY; Wednesday 20:00 - players normally present from 19:30; Adrian Abrahams Tel: 01524 34656 [adrian7k@live.co.uk](mailto:adrian7k@live.co.uk)

**LEAMINGTON** 22 Keytes Lane, Barford, Warwickshire CV35 8EP; Thursday 19:30, not Easter Thursday ; Matthew Macfadyen Tel: 01926 624445 [mrmac-fadyen@gmail.com](mailto:mrmac-fadyen@gmail.com)

**LEEDS UNIVERSITY** The Faversham, 1-5 Springfield Mount, Leeds LS2 9NG; Tuesday 17:30-20:30; Jitse Niesen [jitse@maths.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:jitse@maths.leeds.ac.uk) <http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/jitse/lugc.html>

**LEICESTER** Stephen Bashforth's house, Mayfield, Station Road, Kirby Muxloe LE9 2EN; Thursday 19:45 ; Toby Manning Tel: 01530 245298 [ptm@tobymanning.co.uk](mailto:ptm@tobymanning.co.uk) <http://www.leicestergoclub.org.uk/>

**LETCHWORTH GO CLUB** Central Methodist Church, Norton Way South SG6 3TR; Thursday 20:00-22:30 during term-time; Alison Bexfield [alison@bexfield.com](mailto:alison@bexfield.com) <http://www.letchworth-go.org.uk>

**LETCHWORTH JUNIOR CHESS AND GO CLUB** Central Methodist Church, Norton Way South SG6 3TR; Thursday 18:00-19:30 during term-time; Alison Bexfield [alison@bexfield.com](mailto:alison@bexfield.com) <http://www.letchworth-go.org.uk>

**LINCOLN** The Wig and Mitre, Steep Hill LN2 1LU; Monday 19:00-22:00 (1st Mon); Richard Leedham-Green [richard.leedham-green@ntlworld.com](mailto:richard.leedham-green@ntlworld.com)

**LONDON CITY** The Inn of Court pub, 18 Holborn EC1N 2LE; Friday 18:00-23:00; Richard Mullens [richard.mullens@gmail.com](mailto:richard.mullens@gmail.com) <http://www.citygoplayers.org.uk/>

**LONDON, CENTRAL** The Inn of Court pub, 18 Holborn EC1N 2LE; Saturday 12:00-20:00; Jonathan Turner Tel: 07968 538881 (mobile). je\_turner@hotmail.com

**LONDON, EAST** Wanstead House, 21 The Green, Wanstead E11 2NT; Thursday 19:00 except August; Francis Roads Tel: 020 8505 4381 wayne@thewalters.eclipse.co.uk  
<http://www.wansteadgoclub.org.uk/>

**LONDON, NIPPON CLUB IGO KAI** London, Central and London City; Kiyohiko Tanaka Tel: 07956 594040 KGS: matta – tanaka@gokichi.org.uk

**LONDON, NORTH** Allatson Room, Parish Church, Church Row, Hampstead NW3 6UU; Tuesday 19:30; Michael Webster nlgoclub@gmail.com

**LONDON, TWICKENHAM** The Alexander Pope Hotel, Cross Deep, Twickenham, West London TW1 4RB; Wednesday 19:30; Colin Maclennan Tel: 020 8941 1607 colin.maclennan@btopenworld.com  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/twick.html>

**LONDON, WEST** Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 54 Goldhawk Road W12 8HA; Monday & Wednesday 19:00; Gerry Gavigan gerry@gavigan.f9.co.uk

**MAIDENHEAD** No regular venue; Friday 20:00; Iain Atwell, Norhurst, Westmorland Rd, Maidenhead, SL6 4HB; Tel: 01628 676792 wintergarden@talktalk.net

**MANCHESTER** The Shakespeare pub, 16 Fountain Street M2 2AA; Thursday 19:45; Chris Kirkham Tel: 0161 903 9023 chris@cs.man.ac.uk  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/manchester>

**MID-CORNWALL** Penhalurick Barton, Penhalvean, Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6TG 50.198643,-5.218773; Tuesday 20:00; Paul Massey Tel: 07966 474686

**MID-CORNWALL** Bluefruit Software, Gateway Business Centre, Barncoose, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3RQ 50.228835,-5.247745; Friday 13:00 - 14:00; Paul Massey Tel: 07966 474686

**MILTON KEYNES** The coffee bar in the Catering Hub, The Open University, Walton Hall MK7 6AA; Tuesday 12:15-13:15; Tim Hunt Tel: 07850 119939 T.J.Hunt@open.ac.uk <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/mk/>

**MILTON KEYNES** Wetherspoons, 201 Midsummer Boulevard MK9 1EA; Tuesday 18:15; Tim Hunt Tel: 07850 119939 T.J.Hunt@open.ac.uk  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/mk/>

**NORTHAMPTON** Blackcurrent Centre, St Michaels Avenue, Abington, Northampton (www.blackcurrentcentre.org.uk) NN1 4JQ; Wednesday 19:00; Thomas Streamer 07926357826 tommyst@gmail.com  
<http://northamptongoclub.moonfruit.com>

**NOTTINGHAM** The Last Post, Chilwell Road, Beeston NG9 1AA; Wednesday 19:30-22:00; Brent Cutts Tel: 0115 959 2404 brent.cutts@boots.co.uk  
<http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/nottsgoclub/>

**OPEN UNIVERSITY** *see* Milton Keynes

**OXFORD CITY** Freud's Cafe Restaurant, 119 Walton Street OX2 6AH; Tuesday 19:30-23:00; Harry Fearnley, 38 Henley Street, Oxford OX4 1ES Tel: 01865 248775 (day/eve) harryfearnley@gmail.com  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford.c.html>

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY** Fitzjames 2 in Merton College, Merton Street, Oxford OX1 4JD; Thursday 19:30-23:00 - wks 1-8 Oxford Univ term; Toby Cathcart Burn Tel/Text: 07821 199649 toby.cathcartburn@merton.ox.ac.uk  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford.u.html>

**PENZANCE** *see* West Cornwall

**PORTSMOUTH** *see* Purbrook

**PURBROOK** Mostly at Peter Wendes's house PO7 5LU; Thursday evenings - most weeks; Peter Wendes Tel: 02392 267648 pwendes@hotmail.co.uk  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/purbrook/>

**READING** Eclectic Games, 5 Union Street, Reading RG1 1EU; Monday 18:30 except bank holidays; Jim Clare, 32-28 Granville Rd, Reading, RG30 3QE Tel: 0118 950 7319 jim@jaclare.demon.co.uk <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/reading>

**SEAFORD** 149 Princess Drive, Seaford BN25 2QT; Thursday 19:00-21:30 (not every week); Karen van den Zyl tel: 01323 351473 kvandenzy@outlook.com

**SHEFFIELD** (Since October 2015): The Old Queens Head, 40 Pond Hill, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S1 2BG; Sunday 19:30; Phil Barker Tel: 0114 255 1440 (home) pandjbarker@virginmedia.com <http://www.sheffieldgoclub.org.uk>

**SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY GO SOCIETY** Student Union Gallery Eye room, Western Bank S10 2TG; Tuesday 18:00-21:00 in term-time; David Philpott gosociety@sheffield.ac.uk <http://su.sheffield.ac.uk/groups/go-society>

**SKYE** Givendale Guest House, Heron Place, Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9GU; Tuesday 19:30; Carel Goodheir Tel: 01478 611763. Jurriaan Dijkman Tel: 01478 612183, 07554 434215 carelgoodheir@gmail.com

**SOUTH EAST WALES** *see* Cardiff

**ST ALBANS** The Garibaldi, 61 Albert Street AL1 1RT; Wednesday 20:00 until pub closing; Secretary: Brian Ellis 01727 872575, Mike Cockburn 01727 834035 brianparkstreet@aol.com <http://stalbans-go.org.uk/>

**ST ANDREWS** Aikman's Cellar Bar, 32 Bell Street KY16 9UX; Tuesday 19:30-23:00; Edwin Brady edwin.brady@gmail.com  
<http://www.undecidable.org.uk/> edwin/StAndrewsGo/

**SUSSEX UNIVERSITY** *see* Brighton

**SWANSEA** also Cardiff The Mill Pub, 75 Brynymor Road SA1 4JJ; By arrangement; Dylan Carter welshgoplayer@gmail.com <http://www.swanseago.com>

**SWINDON** Windmill Pub, Freshbrook Village Centre, Worsley Road SN5 8LY; Wednesday 19:30; David King, 21 Windsor Rd, Swindon Tel: 01793 521625 secretary@swindongoclub.org.uk <http://www.swindongoclub.org.uk/>

**SWINDON** The Beehive, Prospect Hill SN1 3JS; Sunday evening; David King, 21 Windsor Rd, Swindon Tel: 01793 521625 [secretary@swindongoclub.org.uk](mailto:secretary@swindongoclub.org.uk)  
<http://www.swindongoclub.org.uk/>

**TEESSIDE**; Meets by arrangement; Matthew Holton M.D.[Holton@tees.ac.uk](mailto:Holton@tees.ac.uk)

**TONBRIDGE** 4 Ives Road TN9 1XJ; Tuesday 19:30; Michael Pickles  
[mjpickles@gmail.com](mailto:mjpickles@gmail.com)

**WANSTEAD** London, East

**WARWICK UNIVERSITY** Room B2.03 on campus (see website for directions) CV4 7AL; Wednesday 17:00-20:00 during University term ; Philip Leung  
[Chun.Leung@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Chun.Leung@warwick.ac.uk) <http://www.warwickgo.co.uk/>

**WEST CORNWALL** John Culmer's house, Rose-in-Vale, Gweek, Helston TR12 7AD; Thursday 20:00; John Culmer Tel: 01326 573167 [johnculmer@btinternet.com](mailto:johnculmer@btinternet.com)  
<http://www.jj-uk.com/go/wcgc.html>

**WINCHESTER** The Black Boy Public House, 1 Wharf Hill, Bar End SO23 9NQ; Wednesday 19:30; Mr John Tilley, The Old Cottage, Micheldever, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 3DF Tel: 07824-163776 [john@jtilley.co.uk](mailto:john@jtilley.co.uk)  
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/winch.html>

**YEOVIL** Mason's Arms, 41 Lower Odcombe, Odcombe BA22 8TX; Thursday 19:45; Julian Davies Tel: 01935 423046 [GoStone@gmail.com](mailto:GoStone@gmail.com)

**YORK** Moroccan Room, El Piano, 15 - 17 Grape Lane, York YO1 7HU (<http://www.el-piano.com>); Tuesdays 19:30 check on Twitter [@yorkgoclub](https://twitter.com/yorkgoclub); Chris Maughan  
[goclub.york@gmail.com](mailto:goclub.york@gmail.com) <http://yorkgoclub.org/>

**YORK UNIVERSITY** University of York Go Society V Bar, Vanburgh College, University of York, Heslington YO10 5DD; Tuesday 18.00 - 21.00; Leonardo Sandoval [gosociety@yusu.org](mailto:gosociety@yusu.org)

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JOURNAL

The copy date for the next issue of the Journal is **30<sup>th</sup> May**.

Contributions are welcome at any time. Please send them to [journal@britgo.org](mailto:journal@britgo.org). The Editor will be glad to discuss the suitability of any material you may have in mind.

The BGA website has guidelines at [www.britgo.org/bgj/guidelines](http://www.britgo.org/bgj/guidelines) for those wishing to contribute material.

## ASSOCIATION CONTACT INFORMATION

*Association contact page:* [britgo.org/contact](http://britgo.org/contact)

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*Secretary:* Jonathan Chin [secretary@britgo.org](mailto:secretary@britgo.org)

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*Journal comments and contributions:* [journal@britgo.org](mailto:journal@britgo.org)

*Our Facebook page:* [facebook.com/BritishGoAssociation](https://facebook.com/BritishGoAssociation)

*Follow us on Twitter:* [twitter.com/britgo](https://twitter.com/britgo)

*Association internet message board:* [fora.britgo.org](http://fora.britgo.org),  
for general discussion about Go in the UK (open to all).

*Gotalk general discussion list:* [gotalk@britgo.org](mailto:gotalk@britgo.org) (open to all).

*Youth Go discussion list:* [youth-go@britgo.org](mailto:youth-go@britgo.org), intended for junior  
players and their parents, Go teachers, people who run junior Go clubs  
and tournaments, and youth Go organisers.

Use the links on the Help page of our website to join these lists.

# COLLECTING GO XXVIII: PRESS CUTTINGS

Tony Atkins

ajaxgo@yahoo.co.uk

It is not known how many people first learnt about Go by reading an article in a newspaper. It is known, however, that some who did became Go players and clubs have started because of it. For instance, a school club started at Huish's in Taunton after a Go-playing teacher appeared in the Somerset County Gazette in 1977.

Collecting the cuttings of such articles gives an interesting record of how the press have perceived Go over the years. It also gives an amusing set of Go puns! "Do not pass Go", "You could be gone on Go", "It's all Go", "Time to get up and Go", "Players Go for it", "Go for Gold" and many variations thereon. Have a look at <http://www.britgo.org/history/media> and the two archive pages for more. Many of these are in the BGA's media library. This was set up some years back so sample articles could be shown to potential sponsors to prove that Go does get media coverage from time to time.

The recent coverage of the AlphaGo matches has seen unprecedented coverage of Go in the media, newspapers being no exception. More than 35 mentions in national newspapers were noted, and there were many more articles on their news websites. The picture shows a montage of some of these printed reports. For details of all known media coverage of the matches see <http://www.britgo.org/leesedolvalphago-media> – if you spotted anything we missed, let us know!



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