

BRITISH

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## PHOTO AND SCAN CREDITS

The Photos in the body of the Journal were provided by the article authors.

Front Cover: Group Photo – Youth Exchange in Japan – Paul Smith.  
Welcome dinner party in Ginza with the sponsors. Middle of the front row is Ms Sagawa of the Sakura Golf Company, next to her is Mr Kimura from Nikkei Newspapers.

Above: The Go Show! – ExCel London – Sheila Wendes.

Inside Rear: Collecting III – Stamps from Tony Atkins.

Rear Cover: Guo Juan reviewing games at the London Open. – Tim Hunt

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# EDITORIAL

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Welcome to the 150<sup>th</sup> British Go Journal.

## In This Issue

After the shortage of technical material last time, there is an excellent record of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Championship Game of 2009, starting on the centre pages.

With sadness, this issue also includes two obituaries. Our thanks to their fellow club members, Francis Roads and Fred Holroyd, for adding to the permanent record of the BGA.

With fun, Sheila Wendes recounts the time they had travelling the UK in October, on a CCPR funded series of events; and Paul Smith recounts the Youth Exchange Trip to Japan, also in October.

The President's regular page keeps everyone up-to date.

The new Membership Trial (outlined by Edwin Brady on page 19) caused much discussion on GoTalk. Rich Philp outlines his opposition in Letters (page 4).

Plus, of course, you'll find all the regular contributions by Tony Atkins.

A series of profiles of members of the BGA Council is now to be expected, starting with the Secretary.

Another article, hopefully the first of a series, by Guoru Ding, facilitated by Franco Pratesi, throws a whole new light on Go in the West as seen by Chinese Diplomats.

## New BGJ Editor

This is my 11<sup>th</sup> Journal. During proofreading there was a very different paragraph here, calling for a New Editor.

Thankfully, there are now two volunteers who will probably alternate; BGJ 151 will be driven by Pat Ridley.

The reason is simple, my partner and I have just bought a 'project/adventure' in Shropshire. The renovation will take a year. Then perhaps when it is finished, I'll host another Challengers' League or a Championship game and I'll have more time for playing Go.

There are always opportunities to help with the Journal; typesetting games for one is a separate skill all of its own.

## Archiving the BGJ

There are moves afoot to ensure that all previous issues of the BGJ will be available on-line – a team led by Dave Denholm is overseeing the 'scanning' operation and OCR (Optical Character Recognition), as well as .html / .pdf conversions and .sgf conversions (Pat Ridley and Martha McGill). I'm sure a few more volunteers for the latter two sub-projects will be welcomed; especially now that Pat is your new Editor.

## Problems

There has been some suggestion that the Journal should contain the answers to the problems it sets rather than the current approach of publishing the answers in .sgf on the website when the next Journal appears. Our apologies that the timing went astray last time. Views are requested. This editor believes the approach is the norm for a multi-media publishing empire ...

For space reasons there are only 3 problems this time; the first is from a game and the other 2 were the hardest of 8 problems set for the MSO Decamentathlon competition this year.

## Credits

This been the hardest of all my Journals to edit. Mostly through a surplus of material and some political paths to be carefully trodden. BGA Council were always timely with guidance, thank you.

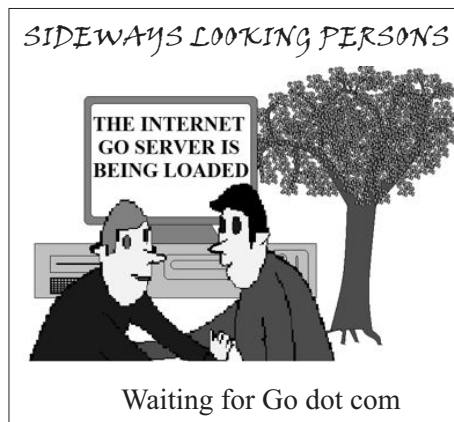
Heartfelt thanks to Ian Davis and Geoff Kaniuk, both individually and collectively, for producing the technical material in this edition, and the next.

Space was so limited that SuperKo's Kitten part III has had to be held over, along with a travelogue from Francis Roads and a formatted article from the GoGod disk. So the next Journal is half-written already!

Special thanks to Fred Holroyd for catching the first phase of errors. The proof readers included all the article authors, along with Edmund Stephen-Smith, Rich Philp; further input from Fred, and some real howlers caught by Martin Harvey. I cannot emphasise enough that it is the proofreading process that produces a readable journal. Tony Atkins and Jon Diamond did a lot towards shaping the contents and style as well.

And therefore, as always, the remaining mistakes are all my fault.

*Barry Chandler*



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## **Trial (and Retribution)**

It takes hard scrutiny of the BGA 'release' on 'Trial Membership' to elicit its implications.

Compulsory membership as a pre-condition for admission to locally-organised tourneys is unethical. It sets up an inherently polarised/coercive element in the relationship between the members and the organisation.

More negative, for hitherto independent tourney organisers, is the warning on GoTalk from the President himself that they should comply with this new policy or suffer isolation and exclusion at all levels. It is as much a trial of the compliance of organisers as it is of the new 'recruits'.

Dundee will again be organising the Scots Open over the late-May Bank Holiday. We will not be a part of this scheme. If other readers also object to this 'play-ground bullying' then this is the time to stand up and say so.

The obvious and ethical way to recruit at tourneys is by persuasion – a BGA rep telling the assembly what they do for the game, nationally, locally, in schools, on-line, mentoring etc.. Thus the underlying ethos in new members would be positive, engaged – even willing. I am surprised the BGA do not show faith by trialling this route first.

**Rich Philp** – "Dundee Club Secretary, Scots Open organiser, ex-member"

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## **Faster Please or Courtesy Lesson 1**

I have been playing Go for over four decades, and can claim to have played more large handicap games with White than most. I am pleased to do so, and I hope that no weaker player will ever feel hesitant about asking me for a game. Indeed, I think it discourteous for any stronger player to turn down such a request on grounds of strength.

However, the weaker player also has a courtesy to observe. It is not reasonable to play so slowly as to use up a substantial amount of the stronger player's Go playing time. Some weaker players will argue that it is because they are weaker that they need to think for so long. Wrong. It is the quality, not the quantity of thought that wins games. And players will improve the quality of their thought more with two or three quick games than one slow one.

In the '60s the BGA's founder and first president John Barrs was often heard to say to kyu players at the London Go Club: "You think and think and think, and at the end of all that thought the move you play is often no better than the one you would have played straight away". Harsh, but often very true.

So, kyu players, please keep asking me and other dan players for games. But if you then spin it out so long that we have little time left for games with other players, we might not be quite so keen to play with you next time. Or insist on using a clock, which usually favours the White player anyway.

**Francis Roads**

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## Response to Paddy Honte's dame workshop

Here is an account of a game I played in a tournament against a courteous Japanese opponent. My memory is fading with age, and some details of an unhappy episode some thirty years ago may be inaccurate.

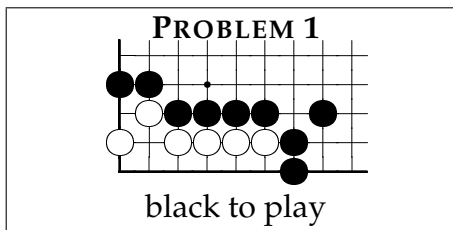
After a furious game, we got to the decisive stage of filling the dame, with my opponent to play. There were many dame to be played, and the situation was very complex. Since the dame had to be played with care he first had to decide whether the various traps that he could lay were genuine traps that honour required him to try, or whether they might be regarded as insults. After some analysis he decided that they would be insults, and so he needed to find the most courteous move. This, as he explained afterwards, was no easy matter. If he played the most unthreatening move, and I played the most obvious unthreatening reply, then my position would become more fragile, and I would have to play the remaining dame with great care, so he needed to find the move that threatened least, however courteously I replied. Thus a whole board anti-semeai had broken out, and there was only one truly courteous move for him to play.

In the meantime I had been checking the score, and confirmed my suspicion that I was two points behind. As my opponent reached out his hand to play his courteous move I saw his flag fall, and so I exclaimed "Sensei, I resign". Unfortunately it is discourteous to resign a game when the dame are being filled, and even more discourteous to indicate displeasure when this occurs, so the change in expression in my opponents face as I resigned was very subtle; but then he saw that his flag had fallen, so he replied "No, no, it is I who have resigned". This produced a real challenge to my ability. On the one hand I could not accept his resignation, on the other hand I could not assert that I would not accept it as that would imply that my honour was more important than his. In the end the tournament director simply said "Well you've both lost then" and wandered off.

The details of the game escape me; there was a ko fight; but if this is sufficient information, I should be glad of any comments from the experts.

### Charles Leedham-Green

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# UK NEWS

## Tony Atkins

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### KGS

Many BGA members like to play on-line Go, so the BGA ran another tournament on KGS in August. Unfortunately, being holiday season, 13 out of the 40 registered players failed to play a game. However, several players played a lot of games and the winner with an impressive 9/9 was Alex Kent. Second with 12/15 was Andrew Kay; Andrew Simons was 3<sup>rd</sup> winning all his games.

### Mind Sports Olympiad

The 13<sup>th</sup> Mind Sports Olympiad (MSO) was held, as last year, at the Horticultural Halls near Victoria in London. The Go events were held on the first Saturday and the final Sunday and Monday of the MSO to give a chance to take part in the many other games events, including the ever-popular poker sessions. The first event was the Rapid, a handicap tournament. Seven players took part, including a visitor from Japan. Winner, as last year, was Tony Atkins, 2d, who was unbeaten. Taking the silver place was Felix Wang, 3d, and bronze place Matthew Hathrell, 3k, after a play-off game. The second event was again, as last year, the Small Board Championship, with 10 players. Matthew Cocks, 5d, was winner of the national title on 13x13 boards, at his first attempt. Second equal, only losing twice to the winner, were Alex Selby and Nick Krempel. Winner of a Junior Gold was Oscar Selby. The main Open Go event attracted 11 players. Gold went to Felix Wang, 3d. Second was Paul Tabor, 2d, who beat third placed Alistair Wall, 4d. A Junior Gold went to Roella Smith, 18k.

### Northern

The Northern was held again at the Masonic Guildhall in Stockport on the first Saturday in September and was attended by 22 players. Players came from as far north as the Scottish borders and from as far south as Bristol. Overall winner, winning all three games and for the second year running, was Bob Bagot, 1k. Also winning prizes were Alberto Adriasola, 4k, for winning all three games, and Brian Timmins, 8k, for winning two and getting a jigo in the other.

### Cornwall

The following Saturday 20 players took part in the Cornish Handicap Tournament, held as usual at the seafront location of the Yacht Inn in Penzance. Winner was Ian Marsh, 1k, from Bracknell. He beat Swindon's Elinor Brooks, 7k, in the final. Earlier in the day a BGA teaching session had been led by Toby Manning and Tony Atkins; it concentrated on analysing the British Championship game which was being played that day in Derby. After another evening sampling the local fine restaurants, 21 players took part in the 10th Cornwall Tournament on the Sunday. Winner of the newly renamed Devon and Cornwall Go Stone trophy was Paul Massey, 1k. He became the first Cornish winner of the event by beating Tony Atkins. Also winning the usual wooden stones were Jil Segerman, 8k, and Sam Foster, 4k, for winning five games over the two days.



## Swindon

The next Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Swindon tournament was held, like the last few, at the Even Swindon Community Centre. Forty-three players played and the new winner was Matthew Macfadyen, 6d. Second was Simon Shiu, 4d. Prizes for 3 wins went to Christian Scarff, 1d, Stephan Thober, 1d, Zaichen Lu, 4k, Edwina Lee, 5k, Andy Price, 11k, and Pauline Bailey, 15k. Leamington won the team prize and young Barney Shiu, 22k, won the 13x13. Special prizes went to Casey Alexander for coming all the way from Oregon, and to Jim Clare and Toby Manning for sharing a jigo. The Special General Meeting of the BGA was postponed as correct copies of the accounts were not available.

## Belfast and Irish

Matthew Crosby, now playing 3d, was never in serious trouble during the Belfast Tournament. He emerged as the winner with a perfect four wins. In second place on three wins was Laurens Spijker, 1k, who travelled from Delft in the Netherlands. Local player James Hutchinson, 2k, took third on tiebreak. Other players with 3 wins were Poland's Jakub Flasz, 6k, Chris Cohrs (the strongest Chess player in Ulster), 6k, Donagh Maguire and Patrick O'Feich, both 9k from Dublin. Seventeen players took part in the event held over the last weekend in September at a new venue of the Belfast Boat Club, which pleasantly has picnic tables for those who want to play outside. Other Irish events during the autumn were the UCC Tournament in Cork in November, won again by local expert Wei Wang, the start of the inter-provincial team matches and the final of the Irish Championship, won by Ian Davis.

## Shrewsbury and Youth

There were two events on the first Saturday in October. The Shrewsbury Tournament attracted 34 players; held again at the Severnside venue of 'The Gateway'. Adding to his clutch of tournament titles was Matthew Macfadyen (who had last won it in 1997). His wife, and Pair Go partner, Kirsty Healey, 2k, also won all three, both playing as part of their training for the IPAGC. Eric Hall, 6k, and David Horan, 8k, also won three. Helen Harvey, 3k, won 2.5. The other event that day was the new Cambridge Youth Tournament held at Milton Country Park with 15 entrants. Owen Walker was the winner, Jennifer Johnson won the younger age group and best of the new players was Jennifer Burgess.

## London International Teams

The autumn team event was held at the Nippon Club which is the current home of London Go. As expected the strong Chinese team was the winner with 10 points. Second was Central London with 8; third were Nippon Club and Cambridge, each with 6. Winning all three, and getting the best of the guaranteed prizes, were Qing Du and Felix Wang for China, and Stuart Barthropp and Jonathan Turner for Central London.

## Wessex

The following Sunday being the day the clocks went back meant the Wessex Tournament. The landmark 40<sup>th</sup> stayed again at St Mark's Community Centre, a Victorian former church. This is near enough to the centre of Bath to allow a chance to wander around the historic heart of the city at lunchtime and see if they had finished building it yet. ►

Best of the 43 players was Matthew Macfadyen. Players winning all three lower down were Louise Bremner, 1k, Andy Price, 11k, and Mark Webb, 13k.

### **Milton Keynes**

The MK Tournament was held on the last day of October at the Open University. It was held this time in the meeting rooms of the new Betty Boothroyd Library due to building work in progress at Walton Hall. Best of the 35 players was Matthew Macfadyen, who increased his number of concurrent titles to 8. Players winning all three lower down were Louise Bremner, 1k, Xinyi Lu, 5k, Jonathan Englefield, 7k, and Brent Cutts, 9k. Best, and only, team was Barford winning 7 out of 8. Steve Bailey won the MK Go Board tournament with the same score and Graham Philips won all three at the same. Over £100 was collected for the Willen Hospice in memory of local player and former event organiser Andrew Grant, who had died earlier in the week.

### **Three Peaks**

The first weekend in November saw the Three Peaks Tournament leave the mountains and head for the sea with a new venue, the Commodore Inn in Grange-over-Sands. Matthew Cocke, 5d, was the winner for the second year running and the only one of the 41 players to win all five games. Surprisingly only one other player, Adam Watts, 6k, won 4 out of 5. Tony Pitchford, 10k, won 3 out of 4. Frank Visser won a prize as the first to enter. The new venue in Grange-over-Sands was favourably received

by everyone and is likely to remain for future years, as will the name Three Peaks, despite the 30 mile distance from Ingleborough.

### **East Midlands**

The third Saturday in November saw the National Space Centre in Leicester as again the venue for the fourth East Midlands Tournament; it attracted 48 players. New winner was Summer Tian Xia, 5d, from Sheffield. Also on three wins were Edwin Brady, 2k, Laurence Ogden, 6k, Ben Ellis, 6k, and Stephen Bashforth, 13k. The 13x13 prizes were awarded to Bristol's Barney Shiu, 12k, for 5 out of 5 and to his father Simon Shiu, 4d, for 2 wins. At lunchtime, a Special General Meeting approved the 2008 BGA accounts.

### **West Surrey Handicap**

Twenty-two players took part this year, held as always on the first weekend in December at Burpham Village Hall near Guildford. Peter Collins, 2k, from Bristol was the new tournament winner. Matthew Cocke, 5d, Mike Webster, 1k, Malcolm Hagan, 5k, Ken Kneller, 6k, Neil Cleverly, 7k, and Colin Maclennan, 10k, all won three. The prize in the 13x13 competition went to Bill Streeten, 7k, with 2 / 5; well, he was the only player to complete the minimum 5 games! The general knowledge quiz was won as ever by Tony Atkins. The previous day some 16 students were taught various subjects, such as attacking strategy, choosing good moves, connections and joseki, by teachers Matthew Macfadyen, Francis Roads, Tony Atkins and Paul Barnard.

# POETRY CORNER

Partner is nervous.

Will she make the big blunder?

It's always my fault!

This Pair Go Haiku was submitted by Tony Atkins for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pair Go Writing Competition.

The winning entry was an essay "Pair Go Can Change Your Life" by Manja and Micha Marz.

All the best entries can be found on a World Pair Go website.

<http://www.pairgo.or.jp/event/pairgo20th/index-e.htm>

In particular, "Pairgo – some memories and reflections from Kirsty Healey and Matthew Macfadyen 2009".

The logo for Slate & Shell Publications features two circular icons. The left icon is a light grey sphere with horizontal lines, containing the word "SLATE" in a serif font. To its right is a smaller ampersand "&". The right icon is a solid black circle containing the word "SHELL" in a white serif font.

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# VIEW FROM THE TOP

Jon Diamond

President@britgo.org



For the first time I went to the East Midlands tournament, held at the National Space Centre at Leicester. It's a great location, but I lost my game against another very strong Chinese player, who's just started studying in Sheffield, so didn't win. However, it was good to see some old faces and meet some new ones, especially the youngsters who enjoy playing Go. Don't forget to come and talk to me and the other Council members if you spot us at tournaments and clubs around the country.

One of the major aspects that Council wants to concentrate on with the sponsorship from Winton Capital Management is that of developing Youth Go. It's taken a bit longer to get off the ground than we'd like, but Toby Manning is developing a Youth Strategy with the Youth Committee to ensure that we spend the money wisely. I hope that by the time you read this we'll have started on our Programme of Events to encourage teachers and students to play Go and also support their on-going activities with visits, books and equipment. If you'd like to help please contact him. Peter Wendes and the Zen Machine will be a major part of this, but part

of the delay is due to his frantically travelling all over England in October introducing people to Go as part of a CCPR Adult Education initiative.

Many of you will already be aware that we've accepted a donation from T Mark Hall (Honorary Vice President) and John Fairbairn for the Division 1 trophy of our highly successful On-Line Team Tournament. It will be called the GoGoD Shield and will be accompanied by 3 copies of GoGoD for the winning teams for the first 5 years. Many thanks to them for this generous offer.

We'd also like to thank and publicly acknowledge everyone who's donated money to the BGA, to help supplement our out-reach, teaching and publicity activities. A consolidated list of those for 2009 will be appearing on our website shortly, in a form similar to that produced by other organisations. We'd like to extend this back to previous years, but searching the records is a time-consuming activity, so if you wish to be recognised for a previous year or be recorded as an anonymous donor please let me know.

Finally, after much animated discussion we've updated the front page of our website so that we welcome newcomers to Go and the BGA rather more and provide them with a more intuitive path to the information they need. Unfortunately, this means we've had to de-emphasise the latest pictures etc. that used to be at the top of the page. These now appear at the bottom. We hope you appreciate and like the changes.

Oh, and Happy New Year to you All!

# JAPAN-EUROPE YOUTH GO EXCHANGE '09

Paul Smith

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Roella, with Hector from the French team.

## The Youth Go Exchange

One day in July I received a phone call from Toby Manning, the BGA's Youth Committee Chairman. Would Roella (my daughter) and I like to go to Japan for a week on a Go exchange project?

The Japan Europe Youth Go Exchange is an annual event. Each year three European countries are selected and three children plus an adult team leader from each one are selected to visit Japan (as well as an overall European team leader). Although it is called an exchange it is basically an expenses paid trip provided generously by sponsors in Japan. The idea is that young Go players from Europe should be able to improve their Go but also to find out more about the history and culture of the game.

## The UK Team

Apart from Roella, the other members of the UK team were Mazhar Warraich

from Aston and Tian-Ren Chen from Loughborough, pictured here.



I had met them before at junior Go events but did not really know either of them. They are both 15 years old and both not far away from getting to shodan strength. I was selected as team leader on the basis of being the parent of the youngest junior player and at the same time being some sort

of Go player myself (so it was not for my congenial personality).

### **Before the Trip**

Before we travelled to Japan we got lots of useful information from the people at the Nihon Ki-in, including a schedule of our visit. Roella and I tried to learn a bit of Japanese but we made very slow progress. It is a shame as it would have been really useful to know more of the language. We also tried to find out about etiquette in Japan. This was useful, for example we read that if someone gives you their business card you should leave it on display rather than put it immediately in your pocket. It is said to be unacceptable to blow your nose in public in Japan so of course I started to get a cold, for the first time in ages, just a couple of days before we were due to set off.

### **Saturday 17 Oct**

We met up with Tian and Mazhar at Heathrow Airport. The flight was 11 hours long so we left Heathrow in the afternoon and were due to arrive the following morning. I always find that I cannot sleep on aeroplanes. I almost nod off and then something in my brain says "You are miles up in the air! You can't sleep here!". At least there was a big choice of movies, music etc. to keep us entertained.

### **Sunday 18 Oct**

We arrived in Japan on Sunday morning. We were met at Narita airport by Ms Mori, Ms Mizukami and Mr Hosono from the Nihon Ki-in. During the following week these three looked after us extremely well and did a lot to make sure that we had a good time in Japan. At the airport we also

met the other teams — Lukas, Gleb, Adrian and their team leader Klaus from Germany and Paul, Tanguy, Hector and their team leader Michele from France. The German and French players seemed really motivated to play Go a lot, they preferred to play Go rather than do sightseeing. However they were also fun to be with and not too serious!

I was impressed that Klaus had brought some detailed folders of information including profiles of all the pro players whom we were expecting to meet on the trip. Every evening he wrote up a summary of the day's events and sent it back to Germany. Michele had learned Go a long time ago but had only relatively recently returned to playing actively. He told me that Go was doing well in France due to the popularity of Hikaru no Go.

We travelled to our hotel, partly by an elevated railway. Our hotel rooms were very nice, with big TV screens, microwaves, washing machines and other mod cons. As with many places you are not supposed to wear shoes in your room and some flip-flops are provided for walking indoors. At the reception you could borrow Go boards and play in the hotel lobby. The hotel is just by a theme park and outside you can see a pretty scary looking roller coaster track.

After lunch we had some free time but we were a bit jet lagged and so we didn't do much.

Later we met Catalin Taranu, the Romanian player who is one of the few westerners to have made it to become a professional player. He was our overall team leader for the trip. Catalin played as a pro in Japan for several years and reached the rank of 5-dan. He decided however

that he wanted to return to Romania and there he is now the head of the Romania Go Association and is full of enthusiasm for organising and promoting Go.

### Monday 19 Oct



On Monday we had a tour of the Nihon Ki-in. This was one of the highlights of our trip. The Nihon Ki-in is simply a wonderful place, a huge ten-storey building completely devoted to Go. We saw round the professional playing rooms, the public playing room, the Go museum, the offices where people were busy working and even the calligrapher's office.



In one of the professional playing rooms there was some calligraphy on the wall written by Kawabata, the Nobel prize winner writer who wrote "Meijin" the book based on

the famous match between Honinbo Shusai and Kitani Minoru.

After lunch there were some simultaneous teaching games by pro players. The UK team was playing against Oki Keiji 7-dan. I was very impressed he took so much trouble to go over the games in detail afterwards, and he gave the impression of enjoying what he was doing too. There were some translators provided to help with analysing the games. They were really helpful. One, Ms Shimoda, who had learned English in the USA, came with us when we went out for dinner on Tuesday evening.

In the evening we went to have a welcome dinner with some of the sponsors, from the Sakura Golf company and from Nikkei newspapers. On the way there we walked through the Ginza shopping district. We even saw a specialist shop full of nice Go and Shogi equipment.

At the dinner, the food was great. Ms Sagawa, the president of the Sakura Golf company, gave each of us a pair of beautiful Go bowls as a gift.

### Tuesday 20 Oct

On Tuesday morning we met Otake Hideo. At the time when I first played Go he was a top player who won many of the most important titles in Japan. Nowadays he is the president of the Nihon Ki-in. He asked us many questions. He said that he hoped one day there would be a professional Go organisation in Europe just as there is in Japan. He reminded us that in China and Korea not so long ago there was no professional Go, but now it is very well established in both countries.

After our meeting with Mr Otake, we played some games in the public

playing room at the Nihon Ki-in. This is a great place to play Go. When you first go in you are issued with a card which has your rank converted into a points system. As you play games, your points can go up or down. There were very many people there so always many possible opponents. As soon as you finish one game, the people at the desk quickly find you another opponent. I felt in my own games that the Japanese players tended to play with very good style, a real contrast to all my bad shape moves! All the games I played were exciting and close. Mazhar and Tian did very well and had both moved up to 5-dan by the end of the week (although the grades were quite different from European ones). Roella initially lost quite a few games by very close margins but finally won one on Thursday.

In the afternoon we travelled to Azabu Academy, a middle school where we played against the players from the Go Club. Ms Shimoda, who is less than half my age, remarked that visiting a school made her feel very old. We played lots of games and then we exchanged presents. Among other things we got some socks designed to wear with the Japanese indoor slippers.

In the evening we had a very nice meal in a traditional Japanese restaurant.

### **Wednesday 21 Oct**

Today the junior players had a second set of teaching games with professionals. This time the UK team were up against Koda Akiko, a 3-dan lady pro. Again she took a lot of time and trouble in analysing the games afterwards. Mazhar won a very interesting game.

In the afternoon there was a recording of a programme to be shown on TV in Japan in February. The TV studio is in the basement in the Nihon Ki-in, quite near to the museum. Catalin, Lukas, Tanguy and Roella were interviewed briefly about Go and then Lukas played a handicap game against Matsumoto 7-dan pro to be shown in the programme.

### **Thursday 22 Oct**

On Thursday morning we had a visit to the Electric Museum. Here we found out everything about electricity in Tokyo including how a nuclear power station works and we had the chance to do some "virtual cooking with real smells". At the end we were all given presents of Japanese wrapping cloths with pictures of Mt Fuji. Nearby we had a very nice lunch at a Chinese restaurant.

In the afternoon we visited the Meiji Shrine, a Shinto shrine dedicated to the souls of the Emperor Meiji (who died in 1912) and his consort. It is set in a very beautiful park. On the way in there was a place where we had to purify ourselves by pouring water on our hands.

In the evening we went to the Ryokusei-gakuen, a famous place for training pro players. It is run by Mr Kikuchi who is a very strong amateur player and won the World Amateur Go Championship in 1992. When we arrived we were given a very rousing welcome as all the students came out into the street and clapped. We met Jonathan from Israel who is currently studying as an insei.

### **Friday 23 Oct**

Today we got to see the start of the Oza title match. This was held in a traditional Japanese hotel, the



Akasaka Prince. I had not realised that we were actually going to be allowed into the playing room for the first few moves, a great honour that Japanese Go enthusiasts would be very unlikely to experience. The players – Cho U the title holder and Yamada Kimio the challenger – came in along with the game recorders and referees. Cho Chikun was one of the officials and he came in to meet us after we had left the playing room. We watched some of the game on the closed circuit TV until it was time to leave.

We walked over to Tokyo Tower for lunch. We had time to go up to the upper observatory deck where there is a great view of the city. There were lots of places to buy souvenirs.

Next we went by taxi to the Hotel Okura, where there were some more teaching games with professionals in the Go Salon there. The hotel was huge and extremely opulent, simply amazing. And then we were met by the Go legend Takemiya Masaki as well as Ogawa Tomoko and other professionals and sponsors of the trip. Tian won a very interesting game against Ishikura Noboru 9-dan. In the opening he made a double ko to save a threatened group and Mr Ishikura was very impressed.

In the evening we all had dinner together and there was some singing. Our hosts sang "If you're happy and you know it" in Japanese. Our UK team sang "London Bridge is falling down" – I'm afraid we were not the best singers!

### **Saturday 24 Oct**

This morning at the Nihon Ki-in we saw the insei playing their games, it was very much as I imagined from reading in Hikaru no Go. We got some stamps for our postcards and bought lots of stuff from the shop where we

were given a discount and some free calendars.

In the afternoon we went to a Go club in Ginza at the invitation of Kobayashi Chizu, the famous lady professional 5-dan who was a pupil of the great Kitani Minoru and who now lives in Paris. We also had time to go shopping. One place we visited was the huge stationery shop Itoya which had an amazing array of cards, wrapping paper, art materials, origami stuff and so on. At the club we played lots of games and failed to do some tsume Go problems. Then we went out for dinner with Kobayashi and her daughter Anna.

### **Sunday 25 Oct**

It was time to get the plane home. As we had had such a great time we did not really want to leave. Once again I couldn't sleep on the plane and watched five movies on the way.

### **Back Home**

We all really enjoyed our trip to Japan and feel enthused to play more Go.

When we got back Ms Mizukami sent us over 1000 photos from the trip and also copies of the Go Weekly which had an article about the Youth Go Exchange.

I think that we have some very promising junior Go players in the UK at the moment, and Tian and Mazhar certainly both have the potential to be strong dan players. It was great to spend a week with them in Tokyo.

I hope that these exchange visits will be able to continue, so that more junior players from Europe can enjoy this experience. We are very grateful to all the sponsors who made it possible and to the staff of the Nihon Ki-in who looked after us so well. □

# THE GO SHOW!

Sheila Wendes

swendes@yahoo.com



Some years ago Peter noticed an advertisement about the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) on a bread wrapper. After a closer look, he saw it included chess amongst its many activities, and so he suggested that the BGA join too.

We returned from holiday this September to find an email from Tony Atkins about possible CCPR funding for Go promotion which we might like to apply for. Peter sent in a proposal and shortly afterwards they rang to say it had "hit the nail on the head", and they would like us to run twenty Go events during October, around England, engaging adults in informal learning.

Normally, when we run Go workshops in schools, colleges, etc. somebody else sorts out the venue, books an hotel, makes sure an audience is waiting and generally smoothes our path. For this project we started with carte blanche. No route, no venues, no audiences and short notice in which to organise

everything. We pinned a map of England to a large board, took out a tin of red flags, and started to plan.

As people began to confirm provisional bookings in community centres, museums, libraries, town halls, and the like, we began to sketch out a route. Subsequent bookings had to fit around this. Our final journey was:- Funtington, Great Yarmouth, Framlingham, Stevenage, Rugby, Durham (St John's Chapel), Wirral, and home. Then : Chichester (photo next page), Brighton (photo above), Chatham, London, Stroud, St Austell, Camborne, and St Ives.

Advertising posters were sent out and displayed in all areas ahead of our arrival.

We had been advised to be imaginative about venues.

One of our most successful was a car boot sale. A rented market stall, some boxed games, books, magazines, fridgegos—a huge sign saying, Go—The Christmas present for the person who has everything!

We'll even show you how to play...  
We had dozens of people playing all day long.

Another receptive group was at the ExCel Centre in London attending a manga/cosplay Japan exhibition. There were noisy crowds of people dressed as their favourite characters from manga and animes, many of whom had seen Hikaru no Go. Our tables were full of people playing on small boards all day.



Being used to introducing Go to children or students who are enthusiastic learners, we considered our target numbers to be on the low side for the whole project. However, adults going about their daily routines were more difficult to engage. Many

of them asked suspiciously what we were selling, or told us they didn't have time, weren't very good at games. The majority of them had to be tempted, encouraged, and not frightened off.

Self-help groups recovering from addiction or mental health problems, adults with specific learning difficulties, or mature students, were much more open to interesting and unexpected possibilities enhancing their day. Go is ideal in these situations because it is possible to access at almost any level. We met some extremely receptive residents in sheltered housing in Cornwall who were running ahead of our presentation and asking interesting questions, such as how mood would affect play, and how Go might help them to get in touch with their strengths and weaknesses.

Our target number was 250. We reached 407.

We included old and young, some with physical disabilities, those at risk of social isolation, ethnic minorities, and a wide range of ability.

Some surprised themselves by enjoying the unexpected opportunity. Settled couples discovered how competitive they could be. People who had heard of Go and failed to learn from books, or on line, learnt playing against humans. Some isolated people in rural areas have since got together to play in each other's homes. Five new players turned up at Brighton Go club after our workshop at the Jubilee Library.

Thank you very much to everyone who helped us with this project, especially Toby Manning. ►

I'll finish up by letting some of the people speak for themselves:-

It's funny how certain things in society have hidden depth. The subtleties of Go are like the evolution process itself, like the patterns made by throwing consecutive pebbles in a pond, beyond the human's ability to turn it into a computer game.

A brilliant morning, everyone was enthralled.

A game I'd not seen before. Loved it. Thank you!

A fascinating game, so few rules—pure and uncomplicated. Can learn it in a few minutes, but still be learning whenever you play...

Very interesting game. A lot more than I first thought.

Very interesting. Wish we had time to stay longer now.

I wish I had discovered it earlier.

A fascinating game. I will definitely play again!

Could get addicted.

It's taxed my brain!

The sound of focus.

Interesting and enjoyable and well presented.

Much harder than it looks.

The time flew by. We will play this at home.

Informative and good fun too.

Fascinating. Yield to overcome. Capture space? Very Zen!!

You've inspired me to have another look at Go.

Hooked on Go. Will make a board myself.

Enjoyed our brief experience of Go. New to both of us. Will endeavour to try it again in the future.

Where do people meet up to play?

Thanks for the new thoughts.

I saw this game in the film, A Beautiful Mind!

I've been trying to find out how to play this. I tried to look up the rules, but now it makes sense. I'll order from the BGA.

Thanks very much – I thoroughly enjoyed the session and will give the game some time in the future. Poetry in motion!!!

Thanks for a fun and thought-provoking afternoon. Certainly given us food for thought, and entertainment for the future.

May well have some new converts here.

This has been a most enlightening experience. My grandson, daughter and I have been introduced to Go and have loved every minute. Plan to purchase our own set.

Absolutely brilliant! Thanks for letting me have so much fun in my first game with a real person (not a computer). Learnt a lot already and might be positively hooked now ☺ After years of looking at the odd rule set and being puzzled I now feel I've really made my start. □

# THREE MONTH MEMBERSHIP TRIAL

Edwin Brady

secretary@britgo.org

The BGA are giving three month memberships to all non-members who play in a BGA recognised tournament, for a 6 month trial period from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009.

As you may know, tournament organisers pay a small levy per entrant to cover hire of equipment, publicity and insurance. This currently stands at £3.00 per entrant per day, or £1.50 per day for members and £1.00 per day for concessions. The full rate includes BGA membership for the duration of the tournament, which in particular allows these players to use the BGA shop if it is present. The idea behind the trial memberships is to extend this from the duration of the tournament to three months, so that these players will also receive one issue of the British Go Journal, be able to use the BGA shop, and pay reduced rates at other tournaments should they choose to attend. The objective of this change is to increase the BGA membership, by getting those who receive the trial membership to renew at the end of their trial period.

Note that foreign visitors are assumed to be members of their national organisations and so pay the members' rate.

For the trial period, we are not increasing the levy, however we are asking tournament organisers to set entry fees so that there is a £5 difference between the BGA members' rate and the non-members' rate, so that we can properly judge the effects of the trial. We are not, however, asking tournaments which have already set and published their entry fees to change them. Tournament directors are being informed of the details.

We recognise that there is a lot of work involved in running tournaments, so BGA officials, including the book seller, will be available at tournaments wherever possible in order to help with administration, distributing membership forms and with returning membership details to the membership secretary.

No long-term decision will be made until the end of the trial, and no decision will be made without consulting the members via the AGM. We would appreciate feedback from everyone during the trial about how you feel it is progressing. In particular, we would like to know:

- if you have taken advantage of the offer and would like to extend your membership to a full year;
- if you feel the trial will benefit or harm the BGA in the long term, and if so why;
- if you know of non-members who have been put off attending a tournament because of the trial;
- as always, if you have any suggestions as to how the BGA can improve its services to its members. □

# THE CASTLEDINE-BARNES TRUST

This is a reminder about the trust. It is a memorial to two Go players who died young in tragic circumstances; Susan Barnes and Brian Castledine. Further information is available on the website (see below). It offers financial support for activities involving young Go players (under the age of 18).

There are many ways in which support can be offered. Young players who need financial help to attend a tournament or other event may apply. Any individual or organisation planning an event for young Go players may do so. Grants may be made towards equipment for young Go players. Other possible ways of helping will always be considered.

In each case application should be made in advance. Any particular reason why help is required should be stated; such reasons might include single parenthood or parental unemployment or long term sickness. All such information will be treated in strict confidence.

Grants are never made to cover entire costs. Applications should provide an estimate of total expenses, and how much of the total can be afforded from local sources. A typical grant will cover from 50-90% of the total, depending on need.

The trust's only source of income is donations from individuals and organisations, which are always gratefully acknowledged.

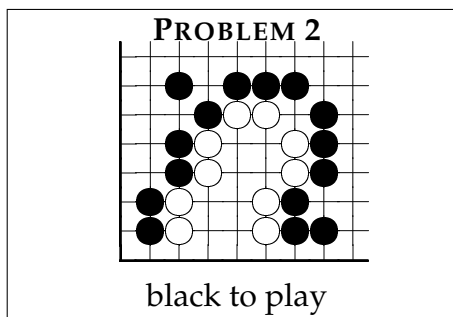
Applications or any requests for further information should be made to the Managing Trustee, Francis Roads:

Email: <francis@jfroards.demon.co.uk>

Phone: 020 8505 4381

Post: 61 Malmesbury Road, London E18 2NL

Website: <http://www.britgo.org/youth/cbtrust>



# COUNCIL PROFILE – EDWIN BRADY

## **Tell us a bit about yourself.**

I'm a Research Fellow in Computer Science at the University of St Andrews. Before that, I studied in Durham, which is where I learned to play Go. I'm now around 2k, and the BGA Secretary and Chair of the Publications Committee.



## **When and why did you start playing Go?**

I don't remember exactly how I found out about Go —

I probably stumbled across it on the Internet. It was shortly after graduating in 1998, while living and working in Durham. I bought Matthew Macfadyen's book and a cardboard Go set, and played a few games against Igowin, a free computer program. I went along to Newcastle Go club, where Allan Scarff and John Hall taught me the basics. Unfortunately, I only went once, because their Go night clashed with my pub quiz night, so I forgot about it for a while!

A couple of years later I went back to Durham University to study for a PhD, and there were two keen Go players in my group, Paul Callaghan and Robert Kiessling. They got me interested again so I brought a few friends to the club. We all started improving, and the club started growing.

## **How did you get involved in the BGA?**

I think the first thing I did for the BGA was to co-organise a tournament in 2004. A few of us went to Three Peaks in November 2002 and were pleasantly surprised at how friendly and welcoming the tournament Go community was, so decided we should host an event in Durham. After that I volunteered for a couple of odd jobs here and there, including revising the Organiser's Handbook. Eventually Ron Bell, the President at the time, asked if I'd consider running for Council (probably I had made too much noise on the GoTalk mailing list!) and suggested I could also take on the role of Secretary.

## **What do you think are important projects for the BGA in the next few years?**

When I joined Council I felt one of the important things we needed to do was make better use of the Internet for promoting and playing Go in the UK. We've now had a few online tournaments, which are generally popular, and this year we are beginning the online Go league, run by Joss Wright and Sandy Taylor, which has attracted a lot of interest.

I also believe it is important to support and promote Go at the youth and student levels, as it is from there that the next generation of players will emerge.

## **What else do you do when you're not playing Go?**

If I'm not travelling somewhere, or at one of the local Go clubs in St Andrews or Dundee, there's a good chance you'll find me walking in the Highlands, or enjoying a wee dram at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society in Edinburgh. □

# BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP – GAME 2

Ian Davis

ian.davis@durge.org

This review was produced from the live commentary by Li Yue, including some additional comments from Matthew Macfadyen.

The original, full commentary is available with the other games online<sup>1</sup>.

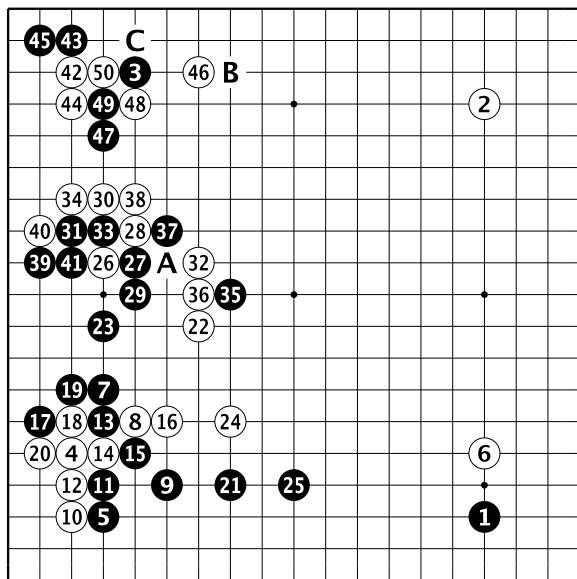


Diagram 1 – Moves 1 to 50

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2009

White: Hui Wang, 5d

Black: Matthew Macfadyen, 6d

Location: Derby

Host: Andre Cockburn

Time: 3 hours each

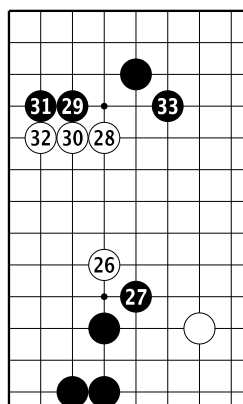
Overtime: Canadian,  
10 moves in 10 minutes

Komi: 7.5

Result: Black,  
by resignation

- ② A key point to defend the stones on the lower side. If Black omits it, then White will play there at once.
- ④ The last two moves were a little dubious. ② seemed thin, it would have been better at ④. ③ seems rather slow, why not extend one space further?
- ⑥ Aggressive play.
- ⑦ The best way to get out.

Slack play at ⑦ would allow White to settle easily – see Variation 1.



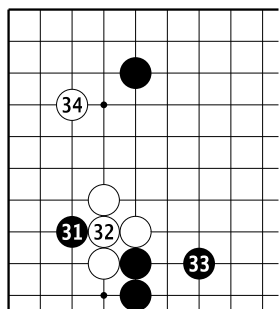
Variation 1

<sup>1</sup>See <http://www.britgo.org/bchamp/>

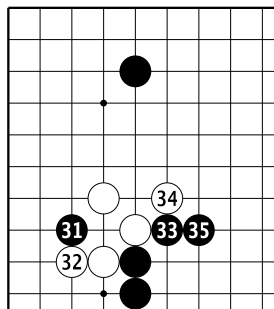




- ③① Allowing White a choice.
- ③② Focusing on the centre. The connection was expected here, allowing White to live on the side. See Variations 2 & 3.



Variation 2:  
The most obvious continuation.



Variation 3:  
The black group breaks out into the centre, while ③① gives White bad aji on the side.

- ④② White chooses a move focused on territory. Cutting at A instead would focus on influence.
- ④③ Black planned to settle his stones on the top in sente, then come back to cut at A. However ④③ was probably better at B.
- ④④ White makes sure of sente, but the hane at ④⑤ looks more natural.
- ④⑤ Taking the corner, Black could also choose B to try to take sente.
- ④⑦ Dubious. Instead C would create a certain 2 eyes.

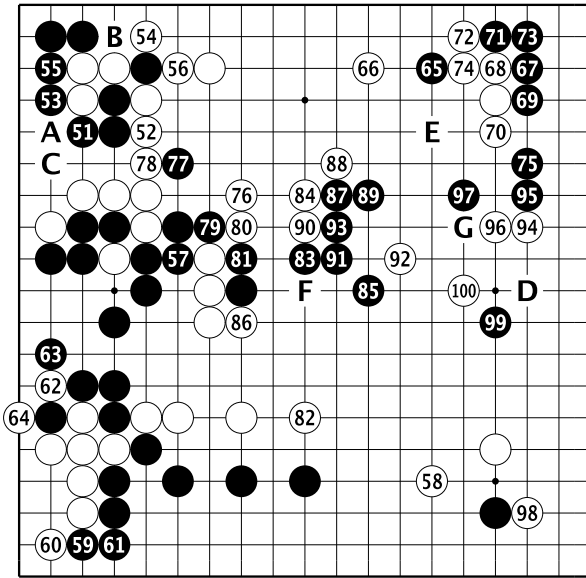
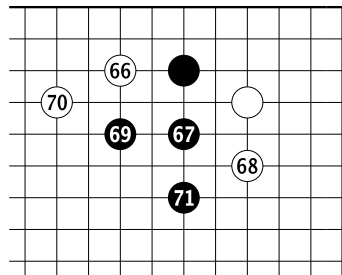


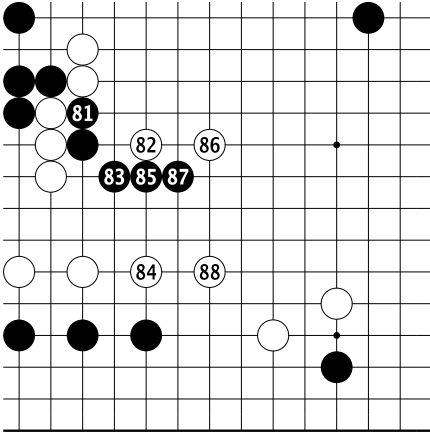
Diagram 2 – Moves 51 to 100

- ⑤2 It looks better to separate Black with the hane at A.
- ⑤6 This was a pretty big mistake, White should just connect at B, forcing Black to defend at C to keep his corner alive. Then White can use sente to take the big influence point of ⑤7.
- ⑤7 Now Black gets this huge move.
- ⑤9 Matthew did not agree with White's last move, and took the chance to completely settle his group with this corner exchange.

- ⑥5 White still has big potential in the top and centre, so Black must invade. D was another possibility to combat the influence.
- ⑥6 This move may be a bit overconcentrated. Instead a play at ⑦2 would take points whilst attacking the invader at the same time.
- ⑥7 Could also have been at E to reduce the moyo, see Variation 4.
- ⑥7 to ⑦5: With this joseki Black chose to take points, suggesting he is not afraid of White's moyo.
- ⑧1 Starting a fight. F looks like a good point to counter, see Variation 5.
- ⑧5 Now it is not easy to attack Black's centre.
- ⑧6 Sente against the centre.
- ⑧7 This move defends against the threatened cut and reduces the top.



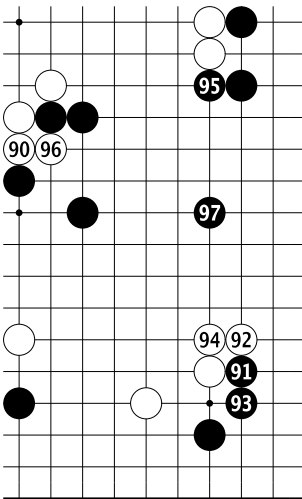
Variation 4



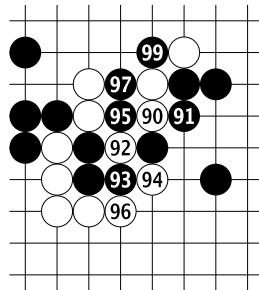
Variation 5:

Black is weaker than White in the centre.

⑨⑩ It is possible for Black to tenuki now, see Variation 6. Matthew also considered ⑨③ instead of ⑨①, see Variation 7.



Variation 6



⑨⑧ at ⑨②.

Variation 7:

Matthew thought this an amusing exchange, but rejected it. Although Black is alive with access to the top side, White's centre is also clearly alive.

- ⑨② White's move takes away Black's eye-shape.
- ⑨④ An interesting switch. White now chooses to make territory on the right.
- ⑩⑩ Maybe a little slack, better to force at G to then enable White to better reduce the danger of ⑨⑨.

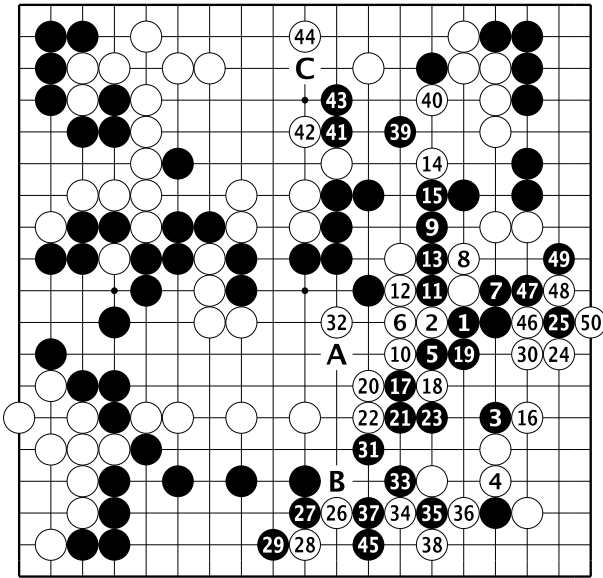
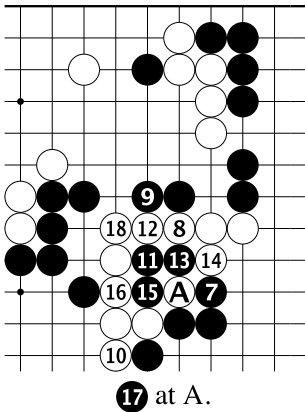


Diagram 3 – Moves 101 to 150

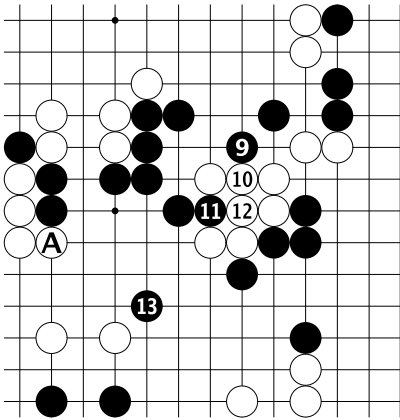
- 103 Black looks to stir up trouble.
- 104 White responds calmly, solidifying his corner.
- 106 White's side group at 102 is now under attack by Black who is gaining territory at the same time
- 108 A little slack, see Variation 8.



Variation 8:

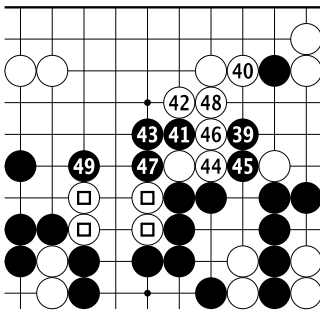
108 is better shape, Black must answer at 109 to prevent White from linking to his stones above. After 110 we see that Black cannot try to cut White apart with 111.

- 109 Black is really happy to get the severe attack.
- 110 It is clear that losing the right side is enormous, but White decided he had no choice, see Variation 9.



Variation 9:  
Surely either A or 112 will die

- ①⑦ Black is focusing on the centre, but the top still has a lot of aji.
- ①② Crude. The tiger mouth connection at A is better.
- ①⑥ White made a lot of points with his last few moves, a sign that Black is playing too cautiously.
- ①⑨ Countering at B would be a more active way of playing.
- ①③ Black continues to eye the centre.
- ①③⑨ A good point. White does not have a comfortable answer, see Variation 10.



Variation 10: White's marked stones have too few liberties to cut off the invading black stones.

- ①④② C would retain more points.

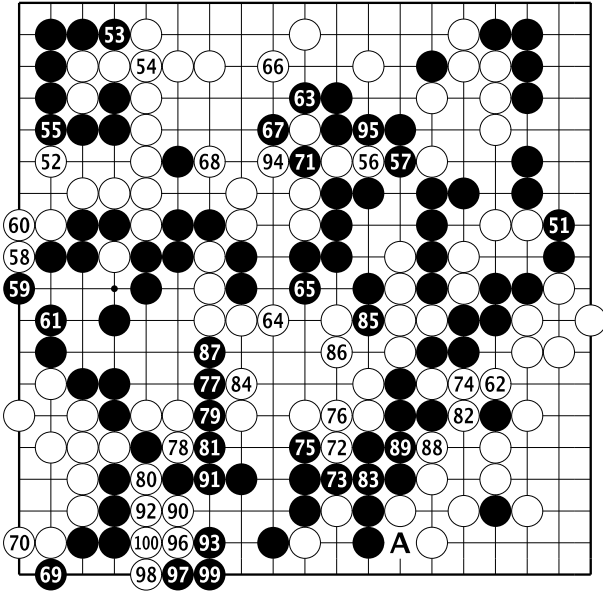
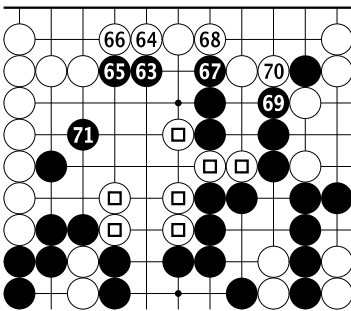


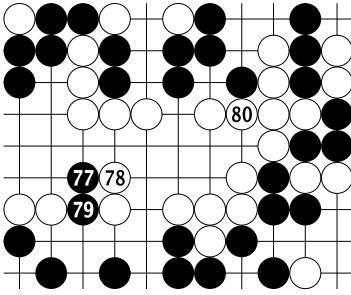
Diagram 4 – Moves 151 to 200

- ⑩⑥② Small, it looks bigger to defend either the top or the centre.
- ⑩⑥③ Black is about 10 points ahead at this stage, but did he miss a chance to finish the game here? See Variation 11.



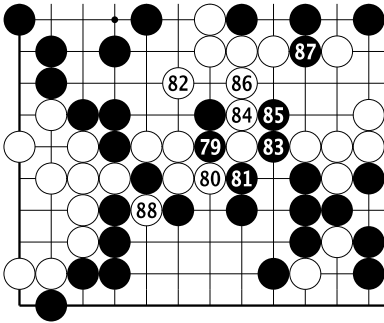
Variation 11:  
The marked white stones appear to be in trouble.

- ⑩⑦ Is this working? Li Yue thought just A was enough.
- ⑩⑧ White abandons the centre but could have lived, see Variation 12.



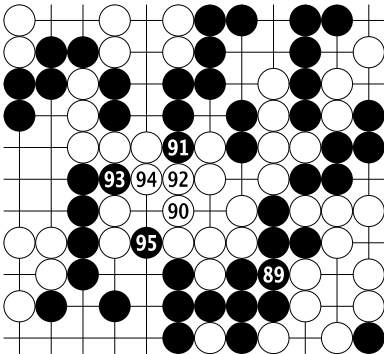
Variation 12: White is alive.

⑱⑩ There is an alternative exchange at ⑱①, see Variation 13.



Variation 13: This is an alternative exchange.

⑱⑩ The centre is dead, see Variation 14.



Variation 14: Death.

⑳ Black is now safely ahead. White resigned at move 233, remaining moves omitted. □

# MEMBER RETENTION SURVEY

Jon Diamond

president@britgo.org

## What was it?

It was a survey of ex-members to try to find out what they thought about the BGA and why they didn't renew.

## Why did we do it?

At the AGM in March it was observed that membership showed a significant decline from previous years, down by nearly 100 to under 500. This obviously needs to be addressed and a report *Membership Recruitment and Retention: Some Ideas* was produced.

This made a number of suggestions and recommendations, one of which was to undertake a survey of lapsed members, to try and understand why they hadn't rejoined. [We know that in most organisations the cost of gaining a new member is 5-10x the cost of retaining an existing member.]

## How did we do it?

We decided that this would be a telephone survey, to ensure that we got a meaningful and representative response, despite the extra effort involved and also so that we could capture more of what these ex-members felt about the BGA. A questionnaire was developed by Anna Griffiths and myself, trialled on a small sample of members and then revised somewhat.

Although it was originally intended to be used by several interviewers, the initial results showed that a consistent approach was more important than completing it speedily, so I spent several evenings between August and November talking to as many on the list as possible.

## Who did we interview?

The list chosen was 104 people whose membership expired in 2008. From this a number of categories were eliminated; foreign members, under-18s and those for whom we have no telephone number. This left a total of 75 potential contacts.

At least two attempts were made to talk to everybody on this list and contact was made with a total of 39 (52%), so this survey is probably statistically significant, although I don't think it would satisfy a statistician. A number of those contacted had gone abroad, were ill or had rejoined leaving some 31 respondents, all of whom were happy to take part.

## What were the results?

In practice the questionnaire was suitable for most, but not all of the respondents, because they either pre-empted the conversation or it was not totally suitable to their circumstances, so detailed analysis by question has not been undertaken. However a summary has:

32% of non-renewals are due to the member not playing Go any more due to a reason we can't address (lack of time etc.) and another 32% (an astonishing percentage I think) due to the member being disorganised or too busy and just never getting around to renewing, which we can obviously help somewhat with. Of the remainder 10% cited as a reason they'd stopped playing because of a lack of local players or club and the remainder a scattering of reasons for not playing any more.



Quite a few respondents didn't know about PayPal payments and asked for details about membership to be forwarded to them; subsequently about one third of those in this "too busy" category have actually renewed, which I think means that the survey achieved a small indirect success.

Only one respondent mentioned value for money as part of the reason for non-renewing, although some of the services we provide, e.g. the Journal, were specifically identified as of no value for one or two respondents.

Of those who responded to the renewal options questions 60% wanted a website form, 40% direct debit or standing order payment and 70% a renewal reminder by email, although a couple of respondents preferred a postal notification.

All respondents were familiar with most of the services we provide, with no discernible pattern of unfamiliarity or lack of value. There were a few general comments, all of which were positive, especially for the Shodan Challenge, e.g. "BGA great, shodan challenge excellent". There were two slightly negative responses "generally quite good, but a query about delivery" and "too much of a focus on ancient Oriental - negative marketing". There were few suggestions about additional services, but the only one mentioned by more than one respondent was for more teaching events.

Finally, 25% of respondents provided a general comment all of which were positive - "really good organisation" and "a lot of dedicated people" being two examples. What conclusions can we draw from this? It's very encouraging that no one left the BGA because of some organisational

or service issue, and that almost everybody is very complimentary about us and what we do.

In the stopped playing category the BGA can realistically do very little to address many of the sub-reasons, but must do more to encourage more clubs to form and get players to know who else plays locally.

The "too busy" non-renewal category is much higher than expected, probably amounting to at least 25 members per annum, and needs to be addressed as soon as possible. The process for membership renewal and sign-up is just not easy enough.

The Shodan Challenge is highly valued, and needs to be publicised more, but more local teaching events are also needed.

### **What are we doing about it?**

We've already encouraged a new club to form in Birmingham and will be more active in doing more to assist clubs in the future.

Our website has been updated to make it clearer that you can pay your renewal subscription by PayPal and then just send an email to our Membership Secretary, thus avoiding the post or using cheques. More importantly, we're hoping to put our membership system on-line in 2010.

A new programme of teaching events is being constructed for next year.

Finally, there was almost no help in how we should recruit new members, so we need to investigate this too. I'm sure there are other issues that we need to address that weren't raised by the survey that you think are burning ones - so don't hesitate to contact me or one of the other Council members if there's something you want to say. □

## BACK NUMBERS

[past-journals@britgo.org](mailto:past-journals@britgo.org)

Go World issues from 20 to 100 are now for sale at £2.00 each, inc. p&p.

There are plenty of interesting articles including tesuji problems, professional games, and life and death problems.

Can you really afford to miss out on such a good deal?

Contact David Hall for further information.

And see <http://www.britgo.org/bgabooks/goworld.html> for further information on back numbers.



## PENTANGLE

PUZZLES AND GAMES

Pentangle Puzzles and Games (formerly Payday Games) is the main supplier of books and equipment to the BGA. We have a much wider range of Go equipment than is available via the BGA which can be purchased via our website [www.pentangle-puzzles.co.uk](http://www.pentangle-puzzles.co.uk).

As wholesalers, we are able to offer discounts to clubs and schools, please contact us for more details.

We had a major clear out of stock over the summer and still have some bargains available. If you would like details please contact us via [info@pentangle-puzzles.co.uk](mailto:info@pentangle-puzzles.co.uk) or send a large stamped addressed envelope to Pentangle, PO Box 5, Llanfyllin, SY22 5WD.

## USEFUL WEB AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

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

Email for general BGA enquiries: [bga@britgo.org](mailto:bga@britgo.org)

BGA website: <http://www.britgo.org/>

BGA email list: [gotalk@britgo.org](mailto:gotalk@britgo.org)

used for general discussion and announcements - control from:

<http://three.pairlist.net/mailman/listinfo/gotalk>

For discussion of how the BGA operates: [bga-policy@britgo.org](mailto:bga-policy@britgo.org)

<http://two.pairlist.net/mailman/listinfo/bga-policy>

Newsletter Distribution contact: [SGBailey@iee.org](mailto:SGBailey@iee.org)

# 2008 ACCOUNTS

Simon Mader

treasurer@britgo.org

The full accounts were presented and approved at the Special General Meeting held in Leicester on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2009. A summary of the accounts is shown below to give members an indication of how the BGA finances operate.

## Income and Expenditure

Income	£
Subscriptions	6,924
Levies	1,873
Other (Books, etc)	5,236
Donations	11,000
Total Income	<u>25,033</u>

Membership Services	
Journal/Newsletter	5,787
Affiliations	589
	<u>6,376</u>

Tournaments	3,956
Player development	4,506
Outreach	1,478
Administration	2,170

Total Expenses	<u>18,486</u>
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Surplus for the year	<u>6,547</u>
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## Balance Sheet

	£
Fixed assets	1,472
Current assets	39,774
Current liabilities	15,295
Net Current assets	<u>24,479</u>
Net assets	<u>25,951</u>

The large increase in Income is a result of the sponsorship received from Winton Capital Management. Much of the sponsorship received was used in support of the British teams' attendance at the World Mind Sports Games in Beijing and the remaining has been allocated to special projects in 2009.

Current liabilities mostly relate to advance subscriptions received. These will be recognised as income in the relevant period.

In October 2009 we were again fortunate to secure further funding of £11,000 from Winton to cover special projects during the year ahead. This will enable sponsorship of the London Open along with many other promotional projects and training events.

BGA Accounts are reported on a calendar year basis. □



David Strowlger died at Springfields Care Centre, Barkingside in the London Borough of Redbridge on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. He had been suffering from lung cancer, which had spread elsewhere. He acknowledged that his condition had been brought on by a lifetime of smoking, and met his end philosophically. He is survived by a sister, a daughter and two grandchildren.

David's somewhat rough and occasionally abrasive personality concealed two sterling qualities which won him respect from those who knew him well. Firstly, he was a prompt and regular attender at both Wanstead and Central London Go Clubs. At Wanstead he was usually first to arrive, and did much of the setting up of equipment and furniture. Never from his lips would be heard, "I couldn't come last week because ...". Keen player though he was, he would always offer to drop out when there was an odd number present.

He also belonged to that minority who are willing to take on voluntary administrative responsibility. For many years he served Wanstead and later CLGC as Honorary Treasurer with reliability and accuracy. His manner was well suited to extracting subscriptions and board fees.

He had many other interests beyond Go. In his younger days he had been an accomplished athlete and oarsman. He loved classical music, and had extensive knowledge of wild flowers and birds.

Though he took great delight in his rare victories over stronger players (which he always insisted on playing as even games), as a Go player his reach may be said to have exceeded his grasp. Nonetheless, we are going to miss this dedicated player. □

**Francis Roads**

[francis@jfroards.demon.co.uk](mailto:francis@jfroards.demon.co.uk)



Andrew was born on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1959 in Plaistow, East London, the sixth child of Rene and Richard Grant. He had a brother, David, and four sisters, Brenda, Iris, Barbara and Christine.

Andy was a quiet boy who did well at grammar school, though he left at 16 to train in industrial chemistry. Owing to a skin allergy he had to change career and joined the BBC at the age of 21. He remained with them throughout his working life (though formally his employer became Siemens during his final years).

A lifelong bachelor, Andy started playing Go seriously in 1976, initially attending Wanstead Go Club. He moved to Milton Keynes later that year and always loved the area.

Apart from Go, he was very fond of exploring the countryside, by bicycle and on foot.

He was the main organiser of the European Go Tournament in Edinburgh in 1983. He helped to form the OU and MK Go Club, which started to run annual tournaments from 1989, and was heavily involved

in the organisation of these right from the start, until 2006.

Andy travelled to Japan to learn more about the game. Such was his sense of dedication that he first learned to speak Japanese so that he could converse with the locals. He is the author of the historical account "400 Years of Go in Japan", published in 2003. He was also a contributor to the BGJ, writing interesting and unusual articles on Go paradoxes. He is the author of three songs in the BGA song book, including "The Tournament Director's Lament".

Unhappily Andy developed a lung disease, and the last few years were very difficult for him. The last Go tournament he ever attended (MK 2007) was with the help of an oxygen cylinder. However, throughout his illness he always remained optimistic that he would receive his lung transplant. His sense of humour and enthusiasm for Go never failed, and friends regularly visited him for a game and chat during his last weeks in MK Hospital. I shall always remember my 'hospital games' and his patient comments on them. In the last of these, and the last game he ever played (I took 5 stones handicap), we both thought I was winning, but he found a tesuji to snatch victory.

Sadly he lost his battle with his disease, passing away peacefully in his sleep on the morning of 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009, but he will always remain in the hearts of all the Go players who met him, lost to him and (sometimes) prevailed against him. □

**Fred Holroyd**

F.C.Holroyd@open.ac.uk

# EARLY GO IN WESTERN EUROPE

Guoru Ding

sente88@yahoo.com

In the 1980s, a series of books, "From East To West", was published by a government-owned publishing house in Hunan Province, China. Its entire contents were diaries and travel notes written by Chinese diplomats or private citizens who visited foreign countries in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. They planned to print 60 books, about 70% relating to the Western World; however, only 38 of them were eventually published. The project was taken over by another publishing house in Hunan province, and was expanded to publish 100 such diaries. The first 10 volumes, published in 1985-1986, contained about 34 diaries, mostly the same as previous published. But that's all, no follow-up is known.

There are certainly more similar diaries written by Chinese diplomats, students and other travellers, but we might never have a chance to read them. I learned for instance that all the students studying in the Royal Navy College had diaries. So far I have found and studied about 30 books, about 20 or so related to Europe, and I have quickly gone through seven important books. The aim of my research has been to find information on the introduction of weiqi into Europe. Here is a first report —

The Qing government of China was forced to open the door to Western countries after the Opium War with Britain in 1840. For about thirty years, the Qing government relied on foreign interpreters, who could speak several languages including Chinese, to deal with foreign affairs. It was obvious that the Qing government could not trust them completely in every situation, so native interpreters were in urgent need. There were a few Chinese who could translate a little, for example some businessmen could speak foreign languages and missionaries in China also taught a little to some poor kids, but they were not well educated and not qualified enough for assisting in foreign affairs. This was exactly the situation that Giles<sup>1</sup> described in his text on weiqi.

The Qing government opened the first school of foreign languages in Beijing in 1862, and ten children around 14

years old were chosen from the "Eight Banners" (the Manchurian military administrative system, directly under Qing Emperor's control). Zhang De-Yi (1847-1918) was one of them, studying English. Because of his excellent performance, Zhang and another two students were chosen in 1866 for a tour through ten European countries with Sir Robert Hart (1835-1911). As an interpreter for the diplomatic missions of the Qing government, Zhang went to America and Europe in 1868-1869, to France in 1870-1872, to England in 1876-1878 then to Russia until 1879 and to Germany in 1887. He became an English teacher for the Emperor in 1891. He travelled to England, Italy and Belgium as a counsellor at the Chinese Embassies in 1896, and to Tokyo, Japan, in 1901.

At last, Zhang became ambassador to England for 1902-1906.

<sup>1</sup>Ed: Interesting - see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert\\_Giles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_Giles)

Four members of the Chinese diplomatic delegation to England in 1876 wrote and published diaries about this journey. They were ambassador Guo Song-Tao (1818-1891), vice-ambassador Liu Xi-Hong, counsellor Li Su-Cang (1837-1897), and interpreter Zhang De-Yi (1847-1918). Only Zhang recorded some information about weiqi activities in England. Guo Song-Tao was an important court official in the Late Qing Dynasty, and a weiqi player known in the court, however he did not mention anything about the game in his diary. I don't know whether he ever played the game in England with anyone, but we do know that there were other members in the delegation who played the game, for example Li Xiang-Pu and Zhang De-Yi.

Altogether Zhang De-Yi made eight journeys overseas, and he wrote eight diaries, one for each journey. Of Zhang's eight diaries, the 7<sup>th</sup> was destroyed by himself, because in its contents there were "his duties in Japan that brought dishonour to the country". I have gone through Zhang's diaries. His diary 3, for the journey to France in 1870, recorded a small piece of information about weiqi, though it was indirectly mentioned. The French ship that Zhang boarded started off from Yokohama, Japan, so there were some Japanese passengers, and at least nine names were mentioned in Zhang's diary. In the diary dated on December 21, 1870, he wrote: "the majority of Japanese on board played the game that has the same form as the Chinese". Apparently, this game must be Go. There is no information related to weiqi in Zhang's Diaries 1, 2, 5 and 8.

In his diary 6 for the journey to

England from 1896 to 1900, there is only a piece of information, which moreover appears to be wrong. In his diary of August 3, 1897, Zhang translated all 1999 names of newspapers, magazines and journals that were sold in London at the time, and listed them one by one for 57 pages! There was one monthly magazine named Yingguo Weiqi Bao. Yingguo is England in Chinese. Bao can be newspaper, magazine or journal in Zhang's translation. If it is translated back into English, this title should thus be British Weiqi Journal, or English Weiqi Magazine, or another similar name. We know there could not be such a monthly weiqi magazine in England in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, so Zhang must have translated wrongly. The most likely explanation is that Zhang intended a journal of draughts – indeed, the inverse mistake of finding weiqi mentioned as draughts is very common in the old European literature on board games.

In 1878, Zeng Ji-Ze (1839-1890) replaced Guo Song-Tao as the ambassador from the Qing Court to both England and France, and he stayed on in the post up to 1886. Zeng Ji-Ze was the eldest son of Zeng Guo-Fan (1811-1872), one of the most important court officials in the late Qing Dynasty. Zeng Guo-Fan could be called a weiqi fanatic. His diary records that he played two or three games a day in his later years, right up until the day before his death.

Almost all of Zhang Guo-Fan's family members, including his wife, three sons and at least one daughter, played weiqi. This tradition passed to Zeng Ji-Ze's family, his wife played both weiqi and xiangqi and later on she taught his sons and daughters to play these games in England. Zeng Ji-Ze

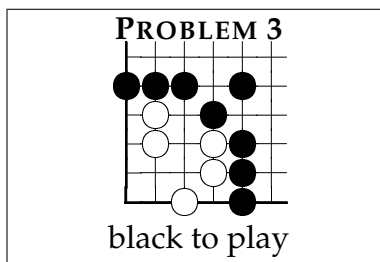
studied English only in his thirties and he had several friends from Western countries: English diplomat William Frederick Mayers (1830-1878); Scottish missionary doctor John Hepburn Dudgeon (1837-1901); English missionary Joseph Edkins (1823-1905) and American missionary William Alexander Parsons Martin (1827-1916).

Zeng was an avid weiqi player, and he left numerous records in his diary about his weiqi activities inside the Embassy. Zeng played the game with his wife, his younger sister, and at least five Embassy counsellors and attachés - the number could be larger because later on he often omitted the name of the person he played with. Normally he played two games a day - one after lunch and one after dinner - when his family was around (he often had to go back and forth between London and Paris and his family was not always with him). Otherwise he would play more games, often two-four games a day. In a few occasions he played six games in a single day! According to his diary, he had more game books with him. Zeng Ji-Ze

played weiqi and xiangqi too and later also learned to play chess in England.

Unfortunately, some weiqi-playing with Europeans was recorded only twice in his diary. In the diary dated on November 24, 1878, on board of the ship from China to France, he wrote "watching Fa Lan-Ting (Joseph Hippolyte Frandin) who played a weiqi game with Lian Zi-Zhen". In the diary dated on March 25, 1879, Zeng wrote: "An English man named Taylor came and wanted to see what the game of Weiqi and Xiangqi are". Zeng and two interpreters Zuo Zi-Xing and Frandin showed him both games. According to a Chinese dictionary, Dictionary of Foreigners' Entry into China in Modern Times, Joseph Hippolyte Frandin (1852-?) was a Frenchman, with the Chinese name Fa Lan-Ting. He came to China as an interpreting student at the French Embassy in 1875. In 1880 he became interpreter at the Consulate of France in Tianjin, then promoted to acting counsellor in 1883-1884 and to first-class counsellor in 1889. There is no further information about Frandin in the dictionary.

That is all information related to the game of weiqi in Europe that I have found from the diaries written by diplomats from late Qing Court published in the 1980s. The interpreter Zhang De-Yi provides the most valuable information, and more will be communicated in a subsequent BGJ.





# WORLD NEWS

Tony Atkins

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## European Championships

Three championships were held in the autumn.

The first was the Women's in Mikulov in Czechia. Twelve women from seven countries fought for the title.

The winner was Rita Pocsai, 4d, from Hungary; UK's Natasha Regan, 1k, won two games.

The Student event was in Warsaw, Poland, with 20 students from 8 countries. Jun Tarumi, 5d, from Germany was unbeaten winner. Pal Balogh from Hungary was second and Igor Nemly from Russia was third. Top female was again Manja Marz from Germany.

The Teams Championship was held in Pitesti, Romania. Twenty-five teams from 11 countries took part. The Romanian first team of Taranu, Pop, Bajenaru and Burzo won all their games to take first place. Serbia was second and Hungary was third.

## KPMC

Sixty-six countries were represented at the 4<sup>th</sup> Korea Prime Minister Cup International Baduk Championships in Jeonju city, in south-west Korea, at the end of October. Unfortunately the large Go festival planned alongside was cancelled. Championship winner this year was Hong-Suk Song from Korea. Second and third were China and Hong Kong. UK's Alistair Wall beat Portugal and India to take 54<sup>th</sup> place whilst Olivier Demé, representing Ireland, beat Guatemala and Costa Rica in 59<sup>th</sup>.

## IAPGC

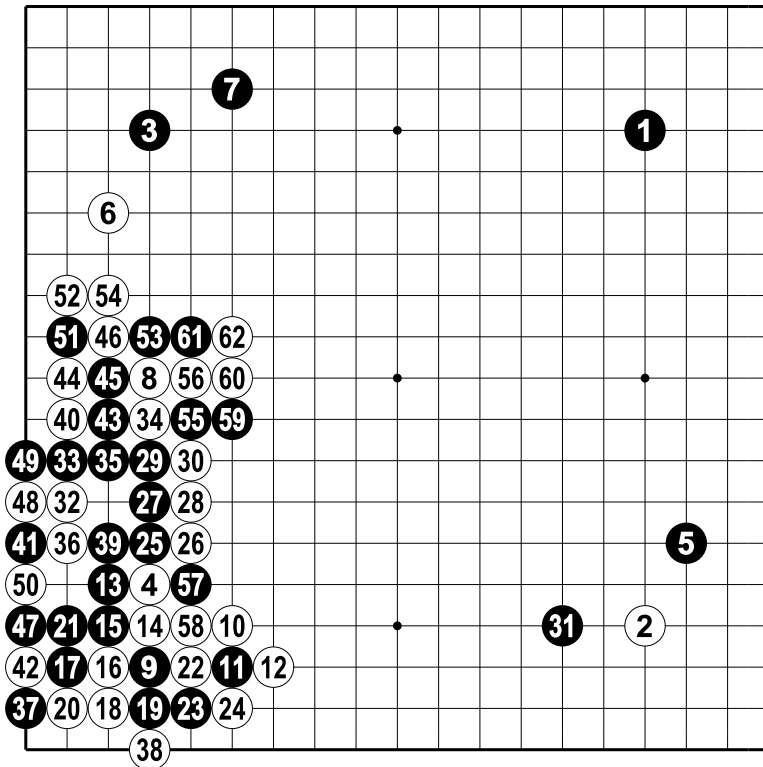
The 20<sup>th</sup> International Amateur Pair Go Championships started on 14<sup>th</sup> November in Tokyo. It was a special celebration to mark Pair Go's coming of age (Japanese count). Our representatives were Matthew Macfadyen and Kirsty Healey who warmed up with a visit to the spa resort of Atami. There they were joined by Francis Roads, who had been invited along to receive a special award for promotion of Pair Go in the UK. Tony Atkins was also at the event representing Europe, but he declined the spa resort in favour of a trip to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. All four played in the Pair Go friendship match, with mixed results depending on the strength of their random partners, and Francis and Tony enjoyed a one-on-one game against a professional.

In the tournament, Matthew and Kirsty lost their first game to a Japanese pair, but beat Guatemala in the second round. In round 3 they lost to Germany, but in round 4 beat The Netherlands. In the final round they lost to another Japanese pair, to end 19<sup>th</sup>. However they did win the Best Dressed Pair Prize. Of the top teams, China lost in round 3 to a Japan pair, and Chinese Taipei lost to Korea in round 4. So the final was Oda and Nagayo from Japan against Ye-Seul Song and Sang-Heun Lee of Korea. The Koreans won as usual. □

# RIP-OFFS

Jonathan Chetwynd

j.chetwynd@btinternet.com



Here we see an anonymous 1k getting mauled by a 3d, but can you spot the bad moves? And the inspired ones?

## ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements in the BGJ are approximately £100 per page for black and white.

Contact the Advertising Manager [advertising@britgo.org](mailto:advertising@britgo.org) for the full advertising rates, terms and conditions, or any other advertising related promotion with the BGA.

Privately placed small ads, not for profit, are free.

Discounts are available for a series.

# 10 YEARS AGO

Tony Atkins

ajaxgo@yahoo.co.uk

Shrewsbury was wet, held on the first weekend in October. Des Cann won it to keep the Leamington club domination of the event.

Wanstead moved date from February and was won by Seong-June Kim. Alongside it was held a British Youth Small Board in honour of the visit of Yuki Shigeno, 2p. Philip Tedder, Shawn Hearn and Luise Wolf were the age-group winners.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Wessex was as usual at Marlborough. Young Kim won the Wessex Trophy and Shawn Hearn the FG Cup.

In November, the Three Peaks was preceded by a walk to Ingleborough; the tournament was won by John Rickard.

The British Small Board was won by Dan Micsa and Swindon by Des Cann.

In December, 31 students attended the West Surrey Teaching Day and Chris Dawson won the Handicap Tournament the next day.

Winners in Europe were Radek Nechanicky in Prague, Guo Juan in

Brussels and Rob van Zeijst at the Fujitsu Cup in Amsterdam.

In Japan, the International Amateur Pair Go Championships was won by a local pair. Alison Jones and Tony Atkins were 24<sup>th</sup>, having lost to France in the last round.

Other Japanese news was Shuko being expelled from the Nihon Ki-in for issuing his own dan diplomas and the death of Iwamoto at the age of 97. Founder of Go centres in three continents, his loss brought an end to an era of Go that spanned almost the entire 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Ninety-nine players attended the 26<sup>th</sup> London Open at Highbury. South Africa's Victor Chow won the Lightning. Zhongyong Zhang of China won the knockout stage final against Valentin Urziceanu of Romania. The tournament spanned the Millennium, with Zhang becoming the first winner of 2000.

So concludes this series of articles that have reviewed the history of Go from 1960 to 1999. □

The .sgf files for problems and games printed in this journal appear on

<http://www.britgo.org/bgj/current>

All the .sgf files, and the answers to the other five problems set in the last issue appear on the BGA website at

<http://www.britgo.org/bgj/issue149>

# UK CLUBS LIST – UPDATE

The up-to-date clubs list, with a map of the UK, many telephone and email contacts, and links to club webpages, is available at:

<http://www.britgo.org/clublist/clubsmap.html>

Please send new and amended information to [club-list@britgo.org](mailto:club-list@britgo.org)

Recent changes are at: <http://www.britgo.org/clublist/update.txt>

All significant changes between full lists will be published here. The last full list appeared in BGJ 148. They are ordered as 'most recent first'.

Please subscribe to the email Newsletter for more frequent updates.

## LONDON, CENTRAL

Jonathan Turner, [je\\_turner@hotmail.com](mailto:je_turner@hotmail.com), 07968 538881 (mobile).

Meets: Friday 19:00 – 23:00, Saturday 14:00 – 21:00, Nippon Club Salon, 2nd floor, Samuel House, 6 St Albans Street, (off Jermyn Street) London, SW1Y 4SQ. Behind Mitsukoshi Department Store on Lower Regent Street. (Parallel and between it and Haymarket.) Three minutes from Piccadilly Circus Underground. At the entrance, ring the bell for Nippon Club to get in.

Friday: Board fee still £3 per player.

Saturday: Board fees £4 for a non-member and £3 for a member.

<http://www.alexprach.co.uk/go>

## LONDON, NIPPON CLUB IGO KAI

Kiyohiko Tanaka (KGS: matta), [gokichi@tanaka.co.uk](mailto:gokichi@tanaka.co.uk), 07956 594040 (mobile).

## BELFAST AREA

Ian Davis, [ian.davis29@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.davis29@btinternet.com), 07952 184010 (mobile).

Meets: Monday 19:00, Function Room, Belfast Boat Club

<http://www.tabletopnorth.org/>, Table Top North society, BT9 5FJ.

<http://belfastgo.yolasite.com/>

## BIRMINGHAM

Mark Winters, [dragon@veedo.co.uk](mailto:dragon@veedo.co.uk).

## BORDERS

Ron Bell, [ronbell@silverhow.me.uk](mailto:ronbell@silverhow.me.uk), 01896 823172

Meets: Monday 19:30, Greenwells, Gattonside (Ron's House), near Melrose and Galashiels.

## BRISTOL

Paul Atwell, [Paul5Bristolgo@aol.com](mailto:Paul5Bristolgo@aol.com), 0117 949 0924 (home), 0117 908 9622 (fax), 0781 195364 (mobile); Bob Hitchens, [bob@hitchens10.freemove.co.uk](mailto:bob@hitchens10.freemove.co.uk).

Meets: Wednesday 19:30, King George VI, Filton Av, (Corner of Station Road) Filton. Regular meetings now resumed. <http://bristolgo.co.uk/>

## **CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY AND CITY**

New Contact: Andrew Kay, [ak524@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ak524@cam.ac.uk).

<http://www.cam.ac.uk/societies/cugos/>

## **GALWAY**

Richard Brennan, [richardkbrennan@eircom.net](mailto:richardkbrennan@eircom.net).

Meets: Wednesday, Westwood House Hotel bar.

## **LONDON, NORTH**

Kevin Campbell, [nlgoclub@gmail.com](mailto:nlgoclub@gmail.com), 01442 262251 (home), 07801 270342 (mobile).

Meets: Tuesday 19:45, Gregory Room, Parish Church, Church Row, Hampstead, NW3 6UU. <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/lonn.html>

## **MANCHESTER**

Chris Kirkham, 0161 903 9023.

Meets: Thursday 19:45, Town Hall Tavern, 20, Tib Lane, Manchester, M2 4JA. <http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/~chris/mango.html>

## **NOTTINGHAM**

Brent Cutts, [brent.cutts@boots.co.uk](mailto:brent.cutts@boots.co.uk), 0115 959 2404.

Meets: Wednesday 18:30 – 22:00 (1st and 3rd in month), Bugman's Bar at Games Workshop, Willow Road, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 2WS. Other Wednesdays 19:30 – 22:30, The Crown, Church Street, Beeston, NG9 1FY. New members or visitors please check with the club secretary before attending; sometimes a meeting is cancelled.

<http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/nottsgoclub/>

## **LONDON, SOUTH (Also called PUTNEY)**

David Cantrell, [david@cantrell.org.uk](mailto:david@cantrell.org.uk).

Meets: Monday 19:30, The Balham Bowls Club, 7-9 Ramsden Road, Balham, SW12 8QX. 1 minute walk from Balham station. <http://southlondongo.com/>

## **SKYE**

Carel Goodheir, [ruth.goodheir3@virgin.net](mailto:ruth.goodheir3@virgin.net), 01478 612909; John MacDonald, 01478 611207.

Meets: Tuesday 19:30, Tongadale Hotel, Wentworth Street, Portree, Isle of Skye.

## **LEAMINGTON**

Matthew Macfadyen, [matthew@jklmn.demon.co.uk](mailto:matthew@jklmn.demon.co.uk), 01926 624445.

Meets: Thursday 19:30, 22 Keytes Lane, Barford, Warwickshire, CV35 8EP.

## OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Mark Amery, [Mark.Amery@queens.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Mark.Amery@queens.ox.ac.uk), 07722 003960.

Meets: Monday 19:30 – 23:00, Weeks 1-8 of term only, Lecture Room A, Staircase IV, Queen's College, 40 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4AW. Check the website for latest contact info.

[http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford\\_u.html](http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford_u.html)

## OXFORD CITY

Harry Fearnley, [oxfordgocclub@goban.demon.co.uk](mailto:oxfordgocclub@goban.demon.co.uk), 01865 248775 (home), 01865 273928 (work).

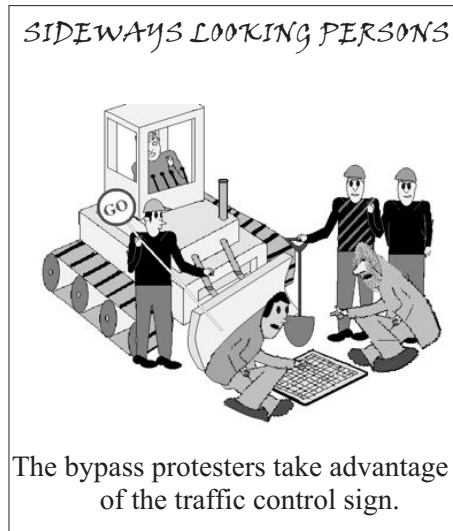
Meets: Tuesday and Thursday 19:00 – 22:30, Freud's Cafe or Istanbul/Caffino Restaurant (variable venue), 119 Walton Street, Oxford, OX2 6AH. Istanbul/Caffino Restaurant is at Manzil Way, Cowley Road, Oxford, OX4 1XD. Check web-site for which venue.

[http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford\\_c.html](http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford_c.html)

## HINSTOCK (Also called NORTH SHROPSHIRE)

Roger Huyshe, [roger.huyshe@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.huyshe@btinternet.com), 01952 550361.

Meets: By arrangement.



## Collecting Go III

Not many collectable Go items seem to come out of China, unless you count the small plastic models of characters from Hikaru no Go.

Previously we have seen stamps from Japan, Macau and the Gambia that have featured Go.

However the People's Republic of China issued three stamps on a Go theme at the end of the last century.



The first stamp from China is from a set of four stamps from 1986. The design shows a block rubbing of two figures with a stylised board in between. The other three values in the set show other sports such as archery and hockey.

A set of two stamps from 1993 celebrated the Chinese contribution to Go history. Firstly they invented it, so the 0.20 value stamp showed an ancient print of some dark faced Go players in colourful robes at a seemingly rectangular board.



The other stamp in the set, the 1.60 value, shows the first ten moves of a Chinese Fuseki, their 20<sup>th</sup> Century contribution to the game.



In the next BGJ we will have a look at the stamps produced by the other Republic of China (Chinese Taipei or Taiwan).



Winton Capital Management, one of the UK's most successful investment management companies, have agreed to renew their sponsorship of the BGA's activities for 2009/10. This will allow the BGA to increase the effort spent on introducing Go to youngsters, for youth development in general and also support various training events for BGA members around the country.



Winton Capital Management is a UK based global investment management company, founded by David Harding in 1997. Winton relies solely on scientific research in mathematics, statistics and computer science, to develop successful investment management strategies. It now employs over 200 people and manages over \$16 billion for international financial institutions from offices in London, Oxford and Cambridge.