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The Venue: Centre for Mathematical Sciences



Games in progress – with mathematics on the board

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EDITORIAL

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Welcome to the 179th British Go Journal.

In This Issue

There is quite a variety of articles this time, covering AlphaGo, Go in Europe, a British Championship game, a Chinese festival, youth Go and “ishinoshita” or playing under the stones.

Also included is the solution to the BGA Prize Crossword. The winners were Alex Selby and Ingrid Jendrzewski (a joint entry) who narrowly beat the only other entrant, Tony Atkins. I know a lot of people attempted it but these were the only two entries received.

This issue contains the annual club list – apologies for any errors or omissions – please let me know if you spot any – it is hard to keep the list up to date.

We have a new British Champion, Junnan Jiang 5d, and Matt Marsh has kindly provided a brief biography.

Finally, I should mention the recent passing of Tony Goddard, one of the few British Go players to reach the dizzy heights of 6 dan. I hope to publish a longer tribute to him in a future journal.

Bob Scantlebury

Credits

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

Contributions: Andrew Ambrose-Thurman, Tony Atkins, Chris Bryant, Tony Collman, Ian Davis, Martin Harvey, Daniel Hu, Roger Huyshe, Ian Marsh, Matt Marsh, Michael Marz, John Tilley, and Liu Yajie

Photographs: *Front cover*, Junnan Jiang. 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.

DURHAM CHINESE FESTIVAL

Andrew & Alice Ambrose-Thurman

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The Chinese New Year was this year at the end of January, and to celebrate there was a Food and Culture Festival held in Durham Students' Union, organised by the Durham Chinese Students and Scholars Association (including one of our regular players).

The main hall was filled with a number of stalls, and Durham Go Club was asked to go along to teach people about Go (or, I should say, Weiqi).



The Go Club's stall was very popular. Normally when we talk to people about Go, most of them have never heard of it – but as there were so many people of Chinese origin at the event most of them had, and they were excited to meet English people who had heard of it!

Amusingly, most people who knew the game said that they knew the rules, but when we asked how strong they were they said that they were beginners – they knew the rules, but were very weak, and hadn't played for a long time. About half of these were probably around 25k, while the other half turned out to be around 5-10k. It meant that trying to guess at handicaps was rather difficult!

There were many other stalls, covering a wide range of Chinese culture, as well as demonstrations. There were people playing Mah-Jong, dancers, various types of music, people dressed in traditional costumes, a game of 'pitch-pot', calligraphy and stalls cooking traditional Chinese food, amongst other things.



As well as all the interest at the festival, we found that the numbers at our twice-weekly club meetings had a sudden increase. We had about 10 new players in the following couple of weeks, and at the next session after the festival we had so many people that we had trouble finding space for all of them to play in the pub.

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WORLD NEWS

Tony Atkins

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European Youth Teams

Russia was the winner of this league for the third time, whilst Germany was second and Hungary third. The UK team was very pleased to take fourth place. On 7th January they had beaten the combined team from Italy, Switzerland and Austria by four boards to one. Yueran Wang, Josh Gorman, George Han and Edmund Smith won, whilst Zaki Betesh took the only loss in a close game on board one. Then on 28th they managed to beat France by three boards to two, with wins for George, Edmund and Alexander Hsieh.

European Youth

The Russians also dominated the prize list at this event in Grenoble. Their Ivan Klochikin won the under-12 section and Vjacheslav Kajmin won the under-20. In the under-16s they only took third behind a Ukrainian and the winner Oscar Vasquez from Spain. Chi-Min Oh, the Korean 7d formerly based in Durham, won the parallel Ellie Cup by beating Ilya Shikshin (1p) in the final.

Pandanet Teams

The sixth round of the B-League on 10th January saw the UK team draw with a much stronger Netherlands team, which had three 6 dans on it. With an all 3d UK team this was a very good result; there were wins for Daniel Hu and Jon Diamond, but losses for Charles Hibbert and Des Cann.

On 7th February the UK played top-of-table team, Poland. Andrew

Simons played his game a week early to fit in with the schedule of his opponent, the European pro Mateusz Surma, and lost as expected. Others of the team did well, with wins for Daniel Hu and Jon Diamond, but a loss for Des Cann. This draw meant the UK was the first team to take a point off the leaders, and it put the team in fourth place.

The 28th February saw the UK playing Slovakia. Andrew Simons played another European pro, this time Pavol Lisy. Charles Hibbert had connection problems, so Sandy Taylor, as captain, had to take over on board two. The match was drawn as both these two lost, but Des Cann and Jamie Taylor won.

The next match was against Switzerland on 21st March. The match was won as Andrew Simons, Des Cann and Jon Diamond won their games, and only Bruno Poltronieri lost. As top team Poland beat second-placed Italy, and all the other teams drew, the UK moved up to third place (just ahead of Austria on boards won).

Dublin

The 2017 Irish Confucius Cup took place in the Ballroom Suite of the Gresham Hotel on the weekend of the 3rd March. It was the strongest yet, with two European professionals and three 7 dans taking part; it attracted 47 entrants from 15 countries. In addition, teaching professionals Chen Rui (5p) and Yu Ping (2p) were visiting from China and Guo Juan (5p) from Amsterdam.

The event started on the Friday night with the Irish Rapid; Zhiqing Zhang (5d) won, with Mariusz Klimczak (9k) in second place. The Saturday saw the opening ceremony and then the main tournament. Alongside there was a Chinese Chess tournament, a junior Chess match between Sussex and Ireland, and downstairs a 150-player Chess tournament.

Korean player Kim Seong-Jin won the tournament, beating Pavol Lisy by half a point in their round-three game. Mateusz Surma took third on tie-break from Csaba Mero. The UK's top entrant, Matthew Macfadyen, found the top group tough going and ended in eighth place. The UK's Peter Collins won three games.

World Students

The 15th World Student Oza in Tokyo was won for a second time running by Ozeki Minoru from Japan. Sanghyeop Lee from America took second place. The European reps, Amir Fragman, Stanislaw Frejlak and Laura Avram, took 11th, 12th and 15th.

European Pro Championship

This second edition, held in St Petersburg in February, ended in a four-way tie on three wins, with Ilya Shikshin taking the title on SODOS tie-break from Mateusz Surma, Pavol Lisy and Alexandre Dinerchtein.

European Pair Go

This annual championship for male-female pairs was held on the 1st and 2nd April in Strasbourg. Winners were Natalia Kovaleva and Dmitry Surin from Russia. Second were Germany's Pei Zhou and Lukas Kraemer and third were the Russian professional siblings, Svetlana Shikshina and Ilya Shikshin.

The UK's Joanne Leung and Bruno Poltronieri were eleventh out of 28. They beat a Slovakian and two French pairs, but lost to the Russian pros, the Romanian Pair and Ngoc-Trang Cao and Antoine Fenech of France.

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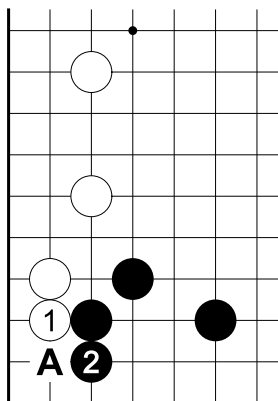
PROBLEM 1

White to play and kill

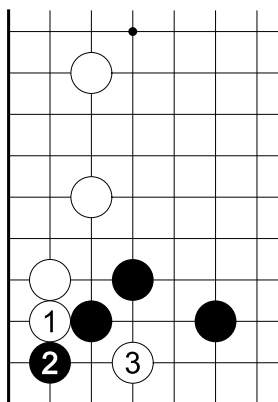
JOSEKI EXPLANATION

Ian Davis

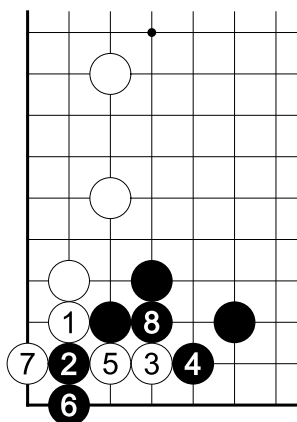
ian.davis29@btinternet.com



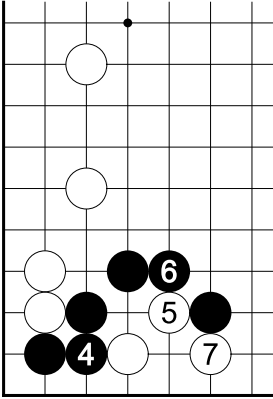
In this position players often choose the given move instead of the natural block at A. Why? Well, I suspect it is because they died after the following diagram.



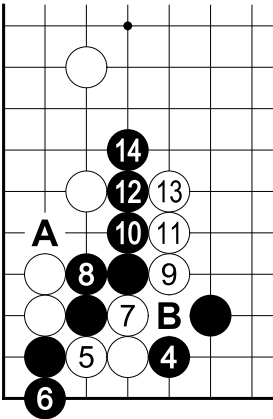
This move has killed countless players, but does it really work? Well, yes and no. If you understand the following variations you should be able to recognise when this move can prove lethal.



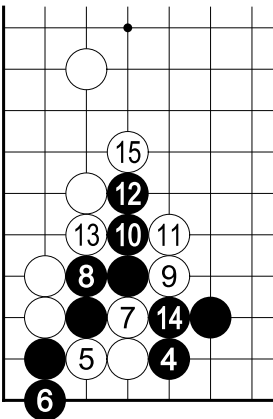
This is the first line to examine. Standing on its only leg, Black's golden chicken cannot be killed — approaching would mean self atari. White's invasion has failed completely.



We are making the assumption that the following line works for White, meaning that White can escape and also leave Black largely eyeless.



Pushing Black out like this cannot be entirely successful for White. Black retains A, B as miai.



However: If this ladder works for White, Black is in big trouble.

□

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Roger Huyshe

president@britgo.org



After a year as president-in-training, I look back at our successes (DeepMind sponsorship, some younger Council members, a larger London Open, a step up for the Pandanet team), and my errors (not being aware in time of some commitments, ssh!). Then I look forward to another year.

On the Youth scene, we have built on last year's BGA involvement in the AlphaGo match and further discussion with DeepMind has led to their very substantial sponsorship of Youth Go. Already this has been used in support of our squad for the European Youth Championships and the next step is a residential weekend in mid-August for ambitious young players.

Player Development has taken somewhat of a back seat, following the renewed emphasis on Youth and a short-staffed Council. My apologies to dan players for omitting the strong

players training weekend last year and we will ensure such an event in autumn 2017.

At the AGM, John Collins stepped down as Chair of Online after seven years on Council, managing the server, keeping us free from spammers, running the online league and many other tasks besides. Richard Wheeldon was newly elected to Council and there is still a vacancy.

The Awards for Recruiter of the Year went to Richard Mullens, for his effort in bringing London Orientals into BGA events. Jenny Rofe-Radcliffe received the award for Player of the Year for, over several years, giving up the last four days of each year running the London Open. The President's Award went to Paul Barnard who as membership secretary not only kept the records efficiently but in every detail strove to keep membership numbers up, bending the ear of Council as necessary.

It's encouraging to note that a year after the AlphaGo/Lee Sedol match that traffic to our website is still one-third up on previous volumes. To take advantage, you should soon see an addition on the home page "Free one hour online teaching game available to those joining the BGA for the first time". This is intended to help viewers who may have looked at the rules but still feel confused, and to encourage them to join our community.

There's still much to be done and we welcome any member who feels they can contribute, whether in an official post or with *ad hoc* contributions in an area that interests you.

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TEACHERS: STILL RELEVANT POST-ALPHAGO?

Chris Bryant

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Someone recently brought up the idea that the role of teachers in Go might be defunct with the advent of bots stronger than all professional players. As someone who teaches both in Go and in other fields, and greatly enjoys doing so, I hope to address this concern here.

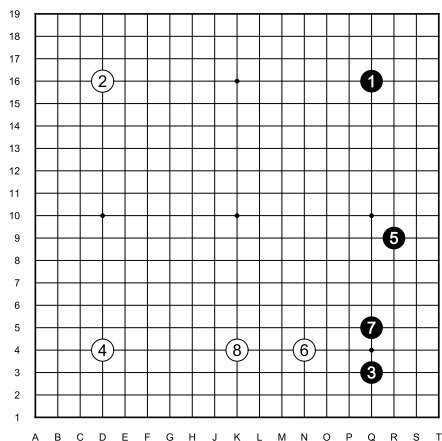


Diagram 1

The argument is this: if you can simply input the position you're curious about into a bot and be told the best move, then why do you need to hire someone like me or watch any Go lectures? My counterpoint is that although you're told the 'best' move (for some value of 'best' which might well change when the bot gains another two stones), this isn't necessarily the best move for you as a player.

Many of my students are (or have been) stuck at a certain level for an unacceptably long period of time, and I feel that one of the reasons of this is that although certain moves

are objectively better than others, being able to play the position resulting from those 'optimal' moves is considerably harder for them than it would be for them to play the position resulting from a sub-optimal move.

Let's consider the variant of the low Chinese in Diagram 1 as a good example.

When I look at games in tournaments, or even on KGS, there are people playing this line down to even the strong DDK level. But why? "Because the moves are correct", or "because professionals play this way" is the expected response. Well, yes, that's true. But let's consider now a follow-up to the lower-right corner, which could potentially be played later in the game (it's not big enough currently).

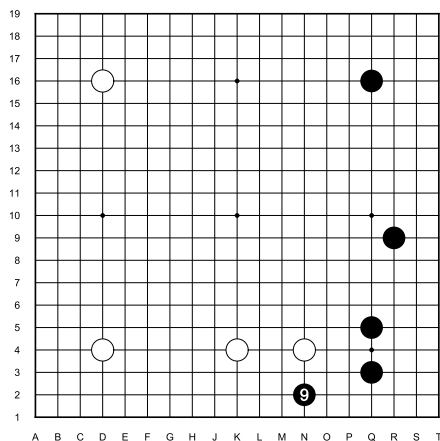


Diagram 2

Now, unless they've seen it before, I reckon that almost everyone below dan level would play either M3 (probably a lot of weaker kyu players)

or P4 aiming at attaching at O2 if black connects (likely stronger kyu players). But in this position, there is a tesuji.

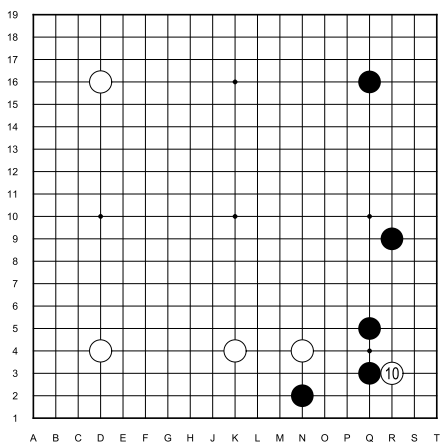


Diagram 3

This move allows White to either steal the corner territory, or cut off and kill N2 completely. And that is why N2 is not good for Black. The problem is, if White replies instead with something like M3, or P4 then O2, the general fuseki shape is overwhelmingly good for Black. So when I see people who have no idea about this kind of thing playing the initial diagram's variation, I cringe thinking "yes, you're playing the right moves, but because you don't understand them, you're going to lose perhaps 15 or 20 points".

There are many similar problems with the Kobayashi fuseki, the Orthodox fuseki – literally any other established professional-level opening you could imagine. I totally understand wanting to play a game that is interesting and fun; the standard 4-4 approach, slide, then extend joseki gets dull after a while. But if you don't understand why what you're doing is

'correct', then you'll often get screwed over when it comes to follow-ups. Remember that you can't ask the bot questions during the game itself.

This is where I feel the teacher's role is still essential. As a teacher, I can show you things like this, so that when they do happen in your games, you know what to expect and what the desired outcome should be. I can also suggest to you variations that while they are not 'optimal', are easy for you to play at your level and will give you a better result overall than a poor execution of the follow-up to the optimal sequence.

A good teacher must adapt to the level of the student. Teaching a low dan player and an SDK player from the same board position, the moves shown should be very different in most situations. The SDK player doesn't need to know about some odd ko variation that none of their opponents would ever think of playing. And the low dan player doesn't need to be told that it's okay to give your opponent some corner territory in exchange for a nice wall.

Until robots are able to explain logical reasons to humans to help us understand why the 'correct' moves are correct, the role of the human teacher still is relevant. That may only be five or ten years away, but at least for the moment, a good teacher provides much more value for learning than a program does, at least below mid-dan level. And if you yourself have had your skills plateau, and you play 'professional' sequences like the one I've shown without knowing why the moves are right, perhaps consider keeping things simpler and seeing if that helps you get out of your rut. Often the simplest way is the best way.

YOUTH TEAM DOES WELL AT EYGC

Martin Harvey

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European Youth Go Championships Grenoble

18th – 20th February 2017

The 22nd European Youth Go Championships were held this year in the scenic alpine university town of Grenoble in France, with an impressive 229 entrants.



The UK fielded a team of 10 youngsters. Six of these travelled with their parents, while I, as the BGA-designated Team Leader, flew with the other four lads – an honour and privilege for me, with Helen not having enough holidays to accompany me.

My contingent was from the school where I've been volunteering since Dec. 2014, Cheadle Hulme School (CHS)¹ in south Manchester. The cheapest flights for us were from Manchester to Lyon – and then on to the venue by airport bus. The night before we flew out, Manchester United had hosted (and beaten, to my delight!) St Etienne, which of course is 39 miles from Lyon. So, our flight was

full of French supporters, including one next to me, hence we two had a good football natter.

Of course, looking after kids is also a big responsibility, and I was mindful that – apart from keeping them safe and making sure they had fun – I should ensure two things:

1. don't lose any of my charges, and
2. fly home with the same number.

So how did I do? Well, I broke both the above! Not too badly though. On the second night, on our return to the school accommodation, one lad was quicker than the rest of us in getting his ticket and jumping onto the tram. The doors shut and off he went into the night – admittedly laughing! Whoops we all thought – and more – as we spent 15 minutes waiting for the next tram. They're all sensible lads, but I was still relieved to see him waiting for us at the next stop!

And as for bringing home a different number... well, that was actually by design, as Zaki was already in the Alps on a family skiing holiday, so he was a scheduled extra on our flight home.

Kindly sponsored by DeepMind (whose logo looked great on their smart, team hoodies), the UK team faced players from 17 European countries, from as far away as Ukraine and Russia. The event was run in three age groups and our players were generally towards the younger end of each group. Despite this handicap, there were many creditable performances.

¹<https://www.cheadlehulmeschool.co.uk>



In the age group for Under-12s, our youngest team member, 7-year-old George Han (see photo) from Reading, finished high up, in 15th place out of the 92 U12 competitors.

Our five players in the U16 group were also age-disadvantaged. Zaki Betesh from CHS did well to finish 22nd out of 79, while our youngest player in this group, 11-year old Edmund Smith from Cambridge (who despite his age did not qualify for the under 12's) also did very well, winning four of the six rounds, to finish 25th. Unfortunately Oscar Selby (Epsom) was unable to miss school for the 3rd day, finishing 34th, while Daniel Gascoyne (14 years old, CHS) and Hilary Bexfield (13 years old, Letchworth) – both in their first entry at this age group – each won two games, finishing 60th and 74th.

In the U20 group, totalling 52 competitors, we fielded four players, of whom 3 were 16-year-olds (Charlotte Bexfield from Letchworth, and Jacob Haynes and Tom Bradbury, both from CHS) and even the oldest (Roella Smith, Cambridge) was only 17 years old! Naturally they struggled against their more-experienced adversaries. They nonetheless

finished between 39th and 48th in this section. They won 11 games and lost 13, but that's not so much "unlucky 13" as 13 opportunities for learning. Some of our players took the option of manually recording their games on paper, for later analysis and learning, as electronic devices were not permitted (understandable, though annoyingly from this aspect).

The long weekend provided an exciting adventure for all the team. New friendships were forged – some continuing electronically – and new culture and languages were experienced. Of course, much Go was also learned. All the team (in sub-groups) took the opportunity to make the 216-metre ascent by cable-car up to the remains of the old fort, the Bastille². From there, the views were magnificent, over to the nearby snow-topped Alps.

I managed a little *entente cordiale* myself. In round five, I spotted a local U12 making a line of white stones across the middle of the board, while her opponent of course took four corners. I saw her at lunch, and she was happy for me to give her tips. So in my struggling French, I advised her and a friend the usual "corners first, then sides, then middle", and commented as they played a 13x13 game. They were pleased, but even more so later, when she came back to find me and thank me again, saying she'd won round six!

It wasn't all serious Go for the UK group. We naturally sampled some of the famous French cuisine, spending evenings with various parents. Indeed one night the whole UK group and all parents met up at one restaurant for a group meal – I and all ten players (whose meal that

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grenoble-Bastille_cable_car

night DeepMind kindly paid for) and the rest of the Bexfield, Han, Selby and Smith families all ate together. The youngsters also benefited from relaxing and socialising afterwards, at the spacious and central apartment that the Bexfields had rented for the long weekend.

We feel the UK has many years ahead of improved prospects. Looking to the years ahead, this year's players will gain from the Grenoble event, and we are confident that their performances will improve as they rise further up their sections with more years' experience. The team are already looking forward to next year's event in Kiev. We also have a

promising batch of youngsters behind the scenes, some just a little young and inexperienced at present to join the full UK travelling squad.

The team would like to thank the BGA, the European Go Federation, the French organisers led by Jose Olivares Flores and, last but not least, DeepMind. The latter's generous support – married to the longstanding and hard-working BGA – means we can all be proud of the level that UK Youth have already attained and what they are likely to achieve in the years to come.

Martin Harvey, UK EYGC 2017 team leader

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THE EUROPEAN GO CONGRESS IN GERMANY

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Please allow me to briefly introduce myself. I am the president of the German Go Association and for nearly 20 years I have also been a member of the BGA. My interest in British Go comes from the time when I used to live in England, using the tournament calendar (with the Three Peaks, the Welsh Open, the Scottish Open, Devon and many more) as traveller guide to get to know Britain.

As you may know, this year's European Go Congress will take place in Oberhof in Germany. It was not meant to, and with this article, I would like to tell you the full story of how it ended up there. I would also like to advertise the EGC 2017 to you by telling you about Oberhof and its surroundings and about our plans for the EGC.

At the annual general meeting of the EGF in 2013, the Turkish representative made a very exciting proposal to run the EGC 2017 in the tourist resort of Burhaniye at the Turkish seaside. I dare to say that everybody was convinced immediately and Turkey was selected to host the EGC. One year later, the Turkish representative reported a problem with Burhaniye, as the supportive major of the town had not been re-elected and his successor had not shown much interest in supporting Go. The decision to move the congress to Ürgüp in the fascinating area of Cappadocia in Central Turkey was announced in 2015. However, the political changes in Turkey and the increasing risk of terror attacks seemed to prevent people from coming to Turkey,

so in 2016 Turkey asked the EGC 2016 congress participants and the EGF members for their opinion on Turkey as EGC host. Most of the representatives expressed their sympathy with Turkey, so preparations on the Congress in Ürgüp went on. Unofficially, Russia offered to host the congress in case anything went wrong and also Germany offered to consider stepping in just in case.

Unfortunately for Turkey, though, by November there were not many registrations for the EGC 2017, so in a Skype conference on 18th November, the EGF Executive Board decided to take back the congress. Manja, my wife, who actually learnt to play Go in Scotland, works for the EGF as "EGC Advisor" – a position created in 2014 to help the national EGC organisers. She was invited to this conference, so we gained knowledge of this decision a few days before everybody else as it was also decided to allow Turkey to publish the news themselves.

Now the question was: where to run the EGC 2017? As the EGF president had completely forgotten about the German offer, Russia (at the time with Kaliningrad or Sochi as options) was already kind of fixed. Nevertheless, after some discussion Germany was given one week of time to consider an application. As it had taken us way more than a year to find the venue for the EGC in 2012, my hopes for a decent proposal were little, but we started looking for suitable places and contacted many congress halls, town halls, hotels etc. The deadline for our proposal was Friday night (25th

November) and on Friday morning we finally received two or three responses that fitted our budget plans and ideas. The most interesting one was from Oberhof in the Thuringian Forest.

Life is full of coincidences, isn't it? On that very Friday our family planned a weekend trip to celebrate my mother's 70th birthday, and on our way we more or less passed by Oberhof. So on Friday evening we arrived at the Panorama Hotel and we realised immediately that this was the perfect place to run an EGC that most participants would really enjoy! I informed the EGF that we would seriously like to go for it and I was told to submit a written application by the next day, 10pm. By that time, Russia had also handed in some written information on their ideas, but this was rather vague: maybe in Sochi, maybe in the surrounding mountains; sponsor yes, but no clear budget etc.

One day for an EGC application? Again, the EGF presented us with a big challenge. However, by 6pm the EGF had a German proposal, which also included a project plan, a budget, the description of our ideas for a congress and some tourist information on Oberhof. Several members of the Executive confirmed to me later that they found it really impressive and, compared to the Russian 'letter of intent', this was a pretty elaborate application.

The German proposal did not get enough sympathy from the executive board though, and after a half day's break, the board made a secret voted with an outcome of 4-3 votes in favour of Sochi.

However, for about one week the EGF board did not give any reasoning for their decision. Based on the

information available to the European Go players, both proposals were published on the EGF web page, but all the extra information on the Russian proposal from the meeting was not. Many people could not understand the decision at all, in particular as Russia had already been host of the EGC 2016.

A big and nasty debate started in the commentary section on the EGF web page. Even worse, the Russian Federation received a great storm of accusations. EGF Board members were accused of bribery and the whole situation turned really bad. Belgium and Czechia wrote open letters, criticising the decision. At some point, Russia were not willing to host the congress anymore and Germany were not prepared to take over anymore. So no EGC 2017 at all?

Did I mention that life was full of coincidences? On 2nd December, only five days after the decision of the Executive, Maxim Volkov, President of the Russian Go Federation, Natalia Kovaleva, designated Congress Director of the Sochi congress, Manja, designated Congress Director of the Oberhof congress and I were sitting together on 'neutral ground' in a restaurant in Tokyo. Maxim and Natalia were on a promotional tour to apply for the World Championship 2018 and Manja and I were representing Germany at the World Amateur Pair Go Championship. Martin Stiassny, the EGF President, was also present. We all felt sorry for what had happened. Maxim stated that he was very unhappy with the way the decision was taken without consulting the EGF members, and we all agreed that we would request the EGF to ask their members for an online consulting vote

(by constitution, a proper vote would take two months of time).

We announced this in an open letter to the EGF, in which we also condemned the accusations and bad comments. Whatever the outcome would be, we agreed to actively support each other. Again, I would explicitly express my gratitude to Maxim and Natalia from the Russian Go Federation for their cooperation! We allowed ourselves another week to tune the proposals – in that time Germany could renegotiate the hotel rates – and then asked the EGF member countries about their preference. We also encouraged other nations to submit a proposal as most countries were not even asked about this option. A few days after our Tokyo meeting, somebody found out that the decision of the EGF Executive was void anyway, as by EGF constitution, the Executive can only take decisions of this kind with a 2/3 majority...

The online consulting vote took place from 10th to 19th December, and it was only between Sochi and Oberhof. Many EGF members (27/36) took part. Despite the fact that the updated Russian proposal was really great, also showing a huge amount of sponsor money, 22 members, including the UK and Ireland, preferred Oberhof over Sochi. Just before Christmas, the EGF Executive confirmed the decision and Germany became the official host of the EGC 2017.

You can find both versions of both proposals on the EGF web site, and there you can also find the open letter from Germany and Russia and a statement of the EGF president on the whole process.

For sure, the Congress Director Manja Marz is the most experienced EGC organiser in Europe, so the

expectations are high. But what exactly will happen in summer 2017 in the Thuringian Forest and what will Germany manage to prepare in such a short period of time? And what is this Oberhof anyway?

Many of you have probably been to Germany before, but I guess only few of you have ever been to the Thuringian Forest. The hilly woods around Oberhof are quite typical for the low mountain ranges in Germany, so by coming to Oberhof, you will see a beautiful, but maybe less known typical face of Germany. Oberhof is a small city (yes, it is not just a town or village, but officially acknowledged as a city!) of 1,600 inhabitants, which offers 1,900 places of accommodation for tourists. The main season for Oberhof tourism is winter, as Oberhof is a famous Winter sports stronghold, being a regular host of international competitions in ski jumping, Nordic skiing, biathlon, bobsleigh etc. But Oberhof is also a popular place for summer holidays. Located at the Rennsteig, Germany's most popular hiking trail, possible summer activities besides hiking include biking and mountain biking, renting Segways as well as making use of the winter sports facilities such as summer bob (in real bobs with wheels!), biathlon shooting and Nordic skiing in a huge skiing hall.

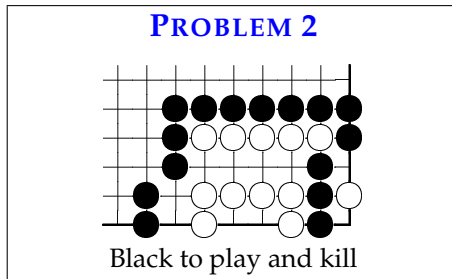
Have you ever wondered about bringing your children to a Go Congress? We try to make the EGC particularly family-friendly, so the EGC in Oberhof will be a very good option for you. The Panorama Hotel offers plenty of facilities for children (included in the hotel rate), such as a big indoor playing area with bouncy castles, a small football pitch, an indoor swimming pool, mini golf

and much more. There is also a large water park nearby and many points of interest in the vicinity, including a small zoo with exotic animals, caves for exploring and activities like glass blowing. This EGC will feature many tournaments attracting children, and we will make treasure hunts through the forest. And, most importantly, there will be many other children!

Of course, Go is what a Go Congress is all about. There will be many options to play tournament Go at all times, including the 'Midnight Madness' tournament, whose rounds all start at midnight. Last, but not least, I mentioned that we will

cooperate with our Russian friends. Among other joint activities, we plan a Russian Night as well as a Turkish Night to take into account where this year's congress should have and could have been. I am aware that the EGC clashes with the beautiful Isle of Man congress, but why not come to Oberhof for one week and then go straight to the Isle of Man? Either way, we hope to meet many of my old and hopefully also many new British Go friends in Oberhof. Welcome to Germany! (More information and promotion videos at www.egc2017.eu.)

□



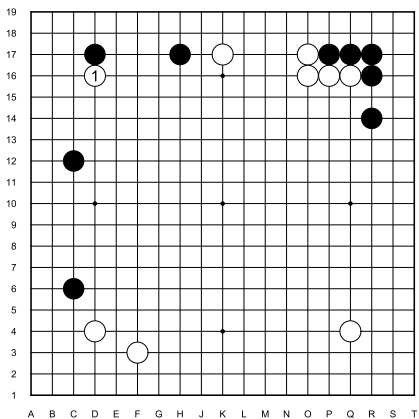
GAME REVIEW

Daniel Hu

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Highlights of an AlphaGo game

This is a game between Fan Tingyu (9p) (Black) and Magist¹ [Master aka AlphaGo] (9p) (White), the very first from a series of online games played in December 2016 (and thus the first time we saw these new moves), with comments by Daniel Hu (5d). We pick up the game on move 18.



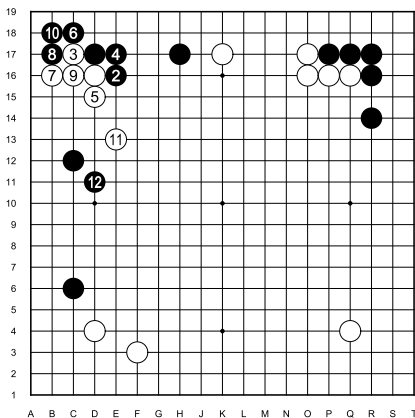
AlphaGo's stunning move

① Master stuns us with this new move to deal with the micro-chinese opening.

Normally this is at C8, since the space is too small to invade at D15.

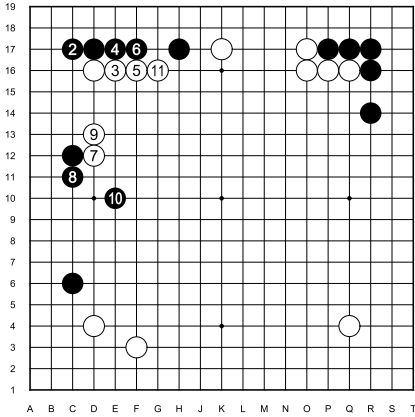
White needs to have the bottom right ladder for this.

- ② A stronger resistance than C17 in Variation 2.
- ⑫ Black doesn't make much territory but can keep up the attack as White owes a move at the top.



Variation 1

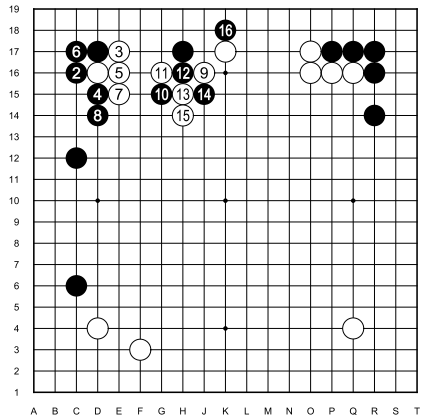
¹[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_\(software\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_(software))



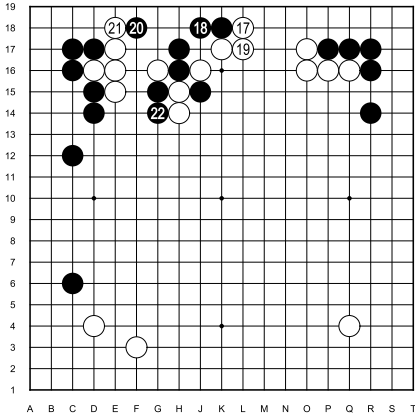
Variation 2

- ② Slack.
- ⑦ A Master style move.

- ③ Black cannot easily cut E16 as Q4 sets up the ladder.
- ⑥ Several points better if instead played at C18 to force White to atari.
- ⑨ White skilfully turns the black moyo into White's own potential.
- ⑩ Best move to cut White as if Black just pushed, White can double hane. Now White's shape will be weak.
- ⑪ Only move.
- ⑭ To create weaknesses otherwise White will connect. Black could also consider sacrificing with G14.



Moves 2 – 16



Variation 3

⑰ Greedy.

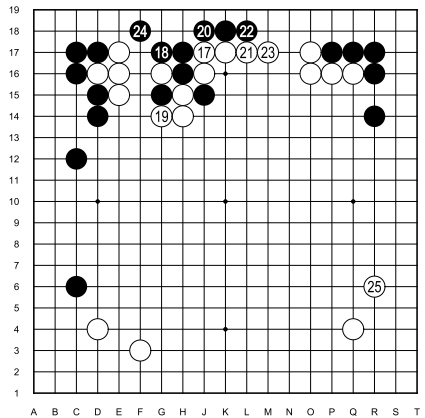
⑳ Black wins the capture race by one liberty.

⑰ Very nice empty triangle! This forces Black into a bad exchange.

⑱ White is happy to protect.

㉕ White picks up an early advantage by eliminating the Black moyo. Later J15 has a lot of aji, and White E18 is more powerful than it looks.

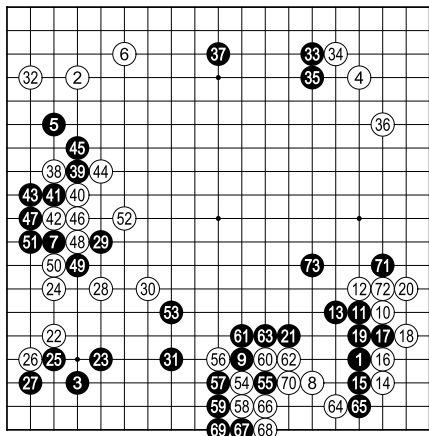
White later wins by resignation.



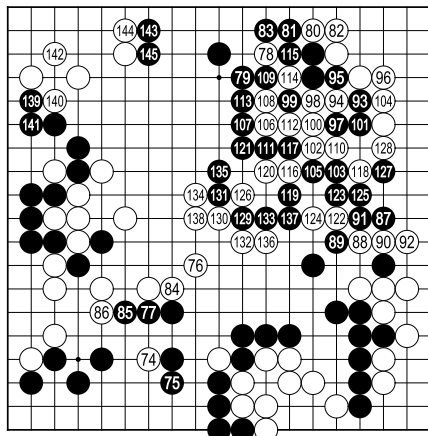
Moves 17 – 25

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

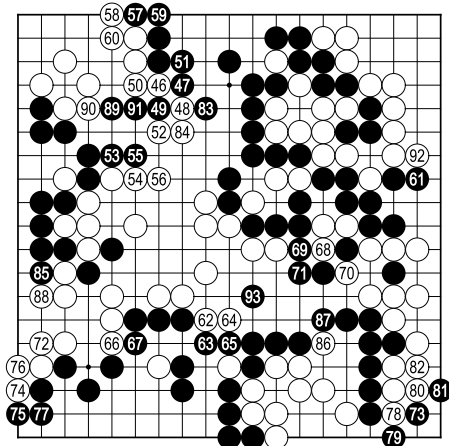
This is the deciding game in this year's British Championship Final between Junnan Jiang (White) and Charles Hibbert (Black). A fuller version of the game, with comments by Matthew Macfadyen and variations, can be found on the BGA website¹. Junnan Jiang won the game and so becomes British Champion.



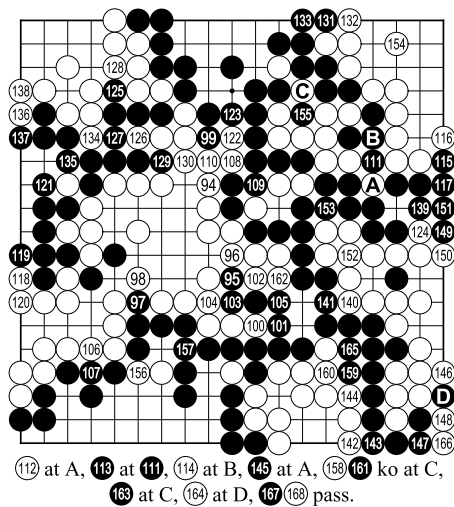
Moves 1 - 73



Moves 74 - 145



Moves 146 - 193



(112) at A, (113) at (111), (114) at B, (145) at A, (158) (161) ko at C, (163) at C, (164) at D, (167) (168) pass.

Moves 194 - 268

(197) White wins by 20.5 points.

□

¹<http://www.britgo.org/files/bchamp/2016/game.three.2016.clone.sgf>

BGA ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUTURE EVENTS

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

Galway, Ireland, Saturday 6th – Sunday 7th May

Bracknell, Wokingham, Sunday 14th May

Irish Open Pair Go Championships, Dublin, Sunday 14th May

Scottish Open, Edinburgh, Saturday 27th – Sunday 28th May

Challengers' League, May

British Pair Go Championships, Hatfield, Saturday 3rd June

Durham, Saturday 10th – Sunday 11th June

Welsh Open, Barmouth, Saturday 24th – Sunday 25th June

Milton Keynes, July

Mindsports Academy event for ages up to 21, Stoke, Saturday 8th July

Belfast, Saturday 22th – Sunday 23rd July

Isle of Man Go Festival, Port Erin, Sunday 30th July – Friday 4th August

Arundel, Sunday 13th August

Youth Training Residential, Grantham, Monday 14th – Wednesday 16th August

Mind Sports Olympiad, London, Sunday 20th – Monday 28th August

Cornwall, September

Swindon, September

Northern, Stockport, Saturday 14th October

Sheffield, October

Wessex, October

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OFFICIAL VACANCIES: CAN YOU HELP?

Vacant posts are listed at www.britgo.org/positions/vacancies.

We need volunteers for:

- London Open Organiser
- Regional Youth Representatives (Scotland, North East, West Midlands)
- Deputy Webmaster
- A further Council Member

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

GO JOTTINGS

John Tilley

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Getting back into Go

I started to play Go some 50 years ago, getting serious while at university and then living in Japan for 14 months from July 1969. I had a part time job in The Nihon Kiin's Overseas Department, playing at the Kitani school on Saturday afternoons and Iwamoto's school on Sundays. I received a one dan diploma in September 1970. During the late 1970s other interests and work commitments gradually took over; some 25 years later I started to get back into Go and I am now secretary of The Winchester Go Club. I have a reasonable library of Go books in Japanese (and English) and over those fifty years have earmarked and collected a number of interesting problems, positions and articles.

Ishinoshita tesuji in actual games

Ishinoshita (literally under the stones) is the most spectacular of tesuji. When I first read about it in the mid-1960s, I assumed it was something that only occurred in problems. Diagram 1 shows a typical problem, White to play and live.

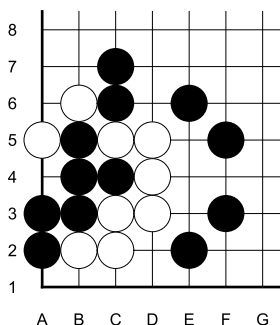


Diagram 1

The two White stones at A5 and B6 are a strong hint. In Diagram 2 White ① and ③ set up the "lightning bolt" shape for an ishinoshita and after Black plays ⑧, White can play back "under the stones" with ⑨ in Diagram 4 to live.

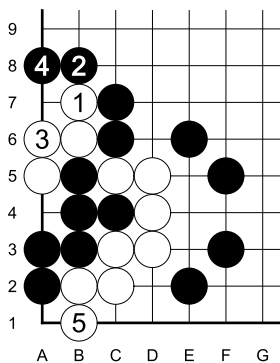


Diagram 2

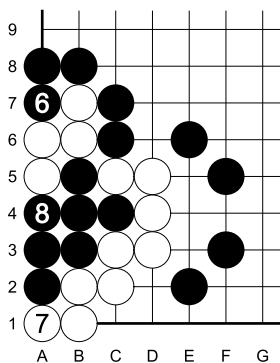


Diagram 3

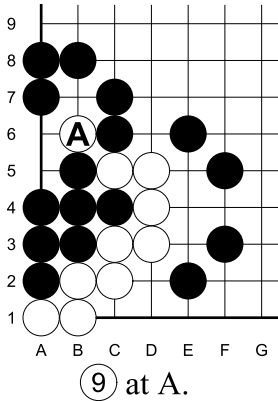


Diagram 4

While in Japan I eventually discovered the latent threat of an ishinoshita in a book by Sakata, which helped Sakata to a 0.5 point win.

A few months later one Sunday at Iwamoto's Go school I was playing Stuart Dowsey, when we were both around 1kyu. I became aware that Magari Reiki (then 8p) was watching our game from 3 boards away but, because he was sitting down, his view was not ideal. He raised himself up and smiled. Stuart turned round, we both knew there was something there but it eluded us. We carried on with our 1kyu moves and then Magari Sensei walked over and politely demonstrated the ishinoshita that we had both missed! Magari wrote the position down and it may have appeared in one of his books. I found this demonstration of professional skill a salutary experience. Understatement! – perhaps “frightening” is more appropriate, demonstrating the huge gap between a professional and a 1kyu.

In the last few months I have stumbled across two more ishinoshita in actual games, my favourite is

from a game by Dosaku played in 1683 against Inoue Dosa Inseki. The commentary and the presence of the ishinoshita is from the book by Fukui Masaaki 9p on Dosaku.

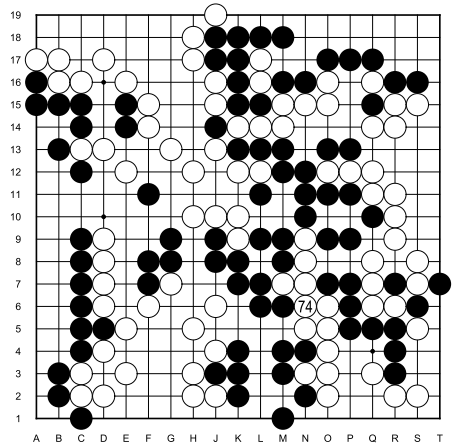


Figure 1

Figure 1 shows the position after White defends with (74). The really interesting part now follows. A sacrifice sequence is needed to get the right shape for an ishinoshita, in the lower right corner.

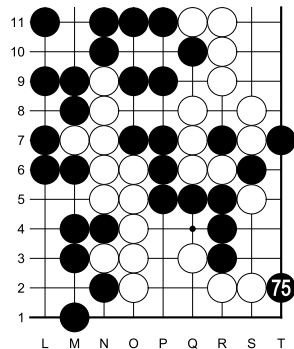


Figure 2 - the key move of Black 175

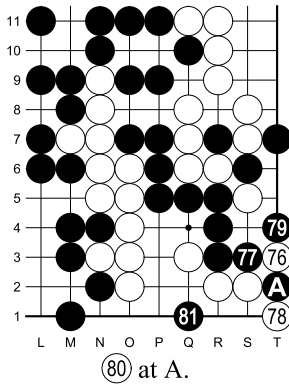


Figure 3 - 181 threatens ishinoshita

Black 75 is the key move; White captures and connects at 80. Black's sacrifice has resulted in the White stones becoming the correct shape to receive an ishinoshita. Black can now play 81, a sente yose sequence.

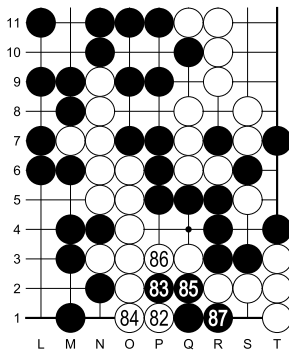


Figure 4

If White tries to resist as in Figure 4 then the lightning bolt shape of Black 81 to 87 results, when White captures to the right of 87, Black can cut at 85 and the White group dies. In this example there was the threat of an ishinoshita, it didn't appear on

the board. Many years previously I had seen how an 8dan professional could spot an ishinoshita from 12 feet away out of the corner of his eye, so I imagine that both Dosaku and Inoue had seen the threat and it was just "another yose sequence in sente".

I am fascinated to have learnt that you don't wait for an ishinoshita shape to turn up, you have to create it; as Black did in this game. The "lightning bolt" key shape of 4 stones needs a corresponding shape to fit into, the skill here was sacrificing one stone (Black 75) so that White ends up with a stone on T1, this created the fit for the "lightning bolt".

I was sufficiently excited to print off the game position with Black 81 as the last move played. I asked a club 9kyu what was interesting about the position; to my surprise he spotted the ishinoshita! Our club 1 dan didn't see it. Interesting, very interesting. Perhaps in 1683 when Inoue got home after losing this game by 13 points, he might have felt quite pleased - "Well I had an ishinoshita today. Playing Dosaku. We both spotted it of course, so it came to nothing."

I can recommend Richard Hunter's book *Inside Moves and Under the Stones Techniques*; published by Slate and Shell, "under the stones" gets a full 68 pages.

The lesson that I learnt from Magari sensei back in 1970 was that "the tesuji are all there waiting to be played"; always look at everything with an eagle eye, but it's much easier said than done.

□

UK NEWS

Tony Atkins

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Maidenhead: the final. Jesse Savo (L)

Maidenhead

On 21st January the Maidenhead-Hitachi Tournament was won by Andrew Simons for a second year running. The long final game against Finland's Jesse Savo (4d) suddenly ended in overtime with an "oops" from his opponent. This meant Jesse took second place ahead of Alistair Wall.

Youngsters Roella Smith (7k Cambridge) and Leuming Yang (26k Oxford) won all three games and Steve Bailey (7k Arundel) ended with two and a half. Both they and those on two wins went away with prizes, which this year included basketballs as well as the usual wine and the like. Joanne Leung (1d) won four games to win the 13x13 side event and Swindon won the team prize. As usual thanks went to Hitachi who generously provided both their headquarters as the venue and the buffet lunch for the 39 players.

Cheshire

Alistair Wall (1d Wanstead) was the winner at this year's Cheshire Tournament on 4th February, held as usual at the Community Centre in Frodsham, alongside the weekend Chess tournament. This time there was a record entry of 45 Go players, helped by a large contingent from Cheadle Hulme School (CHS) and the revival of Liverpool Go Club.

Also players travelled from as far as London, Swindon and Cambridge for the event.



Cheshire: Alistair Wall

As well as Alistair, the players winning all three games were: Helen Harvey (4k Manchester), Joseff Thomas (6k Central London) and, all from CHS, Lily Danson and Jack Nolan (both 14k), Lizzy Pollitt (24k) and Megan Upton (27k).

Martin Harvey, as CHS school trainer, kept the youngsters amused with

some teaching and also ran a 13x13 event with 16 entrants. This was won by Liverpool's Nathan Boswell (12k) with five wins out of five, with Andrew Russell (3k Birmingham) and Peter Allen (4k Liverpool) winning the second prizes for three wins each.

British Championship

The 2016 British Championship was decided on 19th February 2017 when the third game in the match between Junnan Jiang and Charles Hibbert was played at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club in West London. The game was relayed on KGS, with Matthew Macfadyen giving live online commentary. After a late start, the game lasted until the evening and, when the counting was done, Junnan had won by 20.5 points, thus becoming the new British Champion. Congratulations go to him and to Charles for making it a good match.

Trigantius

A total of 45 players braved the chill to play in the 41st Trigantius Tournament on 4th March this year. It was held as the last couple of years at the Cambridge University Social Club in the centre of the city. Although the day was plagued with computer troubles, organiser Geoff Kaniuk successfully saw the event through before retiring with a group of players for a well-earned evening meal.

Tournament winner was Daniel Hu (3d Central London) who beat local 4d Andrew Simons in the final to lift the trophy. Other players who gained prizes for three wins were Edmund Smith (6k Cambridge) and Toby Manning (1k Leicester).

During the afternoon 15 players, between 20k and 40k, took part in a novices' tournament of five rounds

on 13x13 boards. The crucial game to decide the winner was between two of the adult players, Pierre Oliviere from Harpenden and Mark Walters from Cambridge, which Pierre won by a single point. The top junior players, in joint third place with three wins, were David Baldwin from Letchworth and locals Sam Beck, Waylon Gao and Yize Gao.

South Manchester

The first-ever South Manchester tournament was held on Sunday 19th March. Cheadle Hulme School (CHS) kindly allowed use of their dining hall for the day, and nine of their students enjoyed free tournament entry. To cater for the wide range of grades and ages the event was split into two sections: a three round main event and a six round fast play.

In the main section, run by Helen Harvey, Manchester Go Club provided half the twenty players and won all the prizes. Winner was Yangran Zhang (3d); he beat Xinyi Liu in the final round. Michael Kyle (8k) won all three games and Alan Stokes (10k) won two and a half.

The Fast tourney, run by Chris Kirkham, saw a team of five young CHS students emerging as eleven games to seven winners against a Rest of the World team that included some adults and a youngster from Manchester Grammar School. Three from the first team won prizes for winning most of their games, but Manchester's Kathryn Ball (13k) was top player winning all six games. Doug Haynes won the Fighting Spirit prize.

In addition there were two non-playing organisers on hand all day: CHS teacher Mike Winslow welcomed attendees and presented prizes, whilst Martin Harvey ran impromptu

teaching lessons for both non-players and players, which all, despite the drizzle, helped make it a very pleasant and successful day.

Welwyn Garden City

The Bridge Club room at the Gosling Stadium was again the venue John Collins selected for the Welwyn Garden City Tournament. This year, on 25th March, skies were blue and the sun was out cheering everyone along.

Winning the tournament with three wins was Gong Cheng, a Chinese 2d from London. Also winning three games were Alan Thornton (2k St Albans) and Alexander Hsieh (15k Cambridge Junior). As there were lots of prizes left over, those of the 18 entrants who won two, and stayed to the end, got a prize as well.

Grand Prix

The third of the three BGA Grand Prix events for 2016 ended at the British Go Congress. Players above the McMahon bar in each tournament earn points in the Stacey Grand Prix, named in memory of Terry, the former British Go Champion. For a third year running Alistair Wall was the winner, this time with 36 points, which avoided him having to return the heavy trophy. Also second for the third year in a row was Toby Manning with 24 points; Andrew Simons was third with 18.

Both the Youth and the Double Digit Kyu Grand Prix end at the London Open. Top scoring Youth for 2016 was Edmund Smith with a massive 1024 points. Second was Zaki Betesh with 640 points and George Han was third with 621. They won cash prizes thanks to the family of John Rickard. All players below 10k can win in the

Double Digit Kyu competition, with the prizes this time going to Alan Stokes in the 10k-19k section and Joel Barrett in the 20k and below section. Joel had 444 points and Alan 438.

British Go Congress

The fiftieth British Go Congress continued the Oxbridge theme that had started in Oxford in 1968 by being held in Cambridge. The location on the weekend of 7th to 9th April was the Centre for Mathematical Sciences. This lies on its own campus behind some houses in the North-West of Cambridge, near to Churchill College which provided accommodation. The Centre is very modern with an arch-roofed central core that provides a dining area, surrounded by pavilions. This area was the breakout space for the Congress, with the two playing rooms situated below, down an elliptical stairwell.



BGC: Lukas Baker (L) and Andrew Simons

The event started on the Friday afternoon with a teaching session where Toby Manning filled in for a while until the planned tutor, Matthew Macfadyen, arrived. In the

evening Paul Smith ran the Lightning Tournament. This was run on an extended round-robin system, with one long table with three pivots. Most games ended cleanly, but referee Nick Wedd had to determine a result in which both players had seemingly lost on time. The top two players after this stage played a final, with Richard Mullens (6k) valiantly taking second place to Xunrui Zhao (2d London).

The Saturday and the Sunday were both hot days and there was a lawn in front of the Centre in which to unwind from your games and top up your tan. There was also the chance to play other games, such as 13x13 Go or Pits card game, or analyse your game whilst getting a coffee from the refreshment stand run by friends of Jonathan Chin, the main organiser.

On the Saturday evening there was the short AGM of the T Mark Hall Foundation and then a not too lengthy BGA AGM, which ended in plenty of time for a group of players to go for a meal at an Asian tapas and noodle

restaurant near the site of the former castle.

The final three rounds were on the Sunday, and after Geoff Kaniuk had ably processed the results the prizes could be awarded as follows:

- British Open Winner: Qinmeng Zhang (7d);
- 6 wins: George Han (5k);
- 5 wins: Matthew Macfadyen (5d), Lucas Baker (2d), Alan Thornton (1k), Richard Wheeldon (3k) and Alan Stokes (10k - Best DDK)

Special prizes were awarded as follows: Best Family: Smith (beating Bexfield and Ghica); Fighting Spirit: Sebastian Bartholomew (runner-up Andreas Ghica); Travelled Furthest to Congress: Steve Heim (from Germany). The Continuous 13x13 was won by Charlotte Bexfield who had the most wins.

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PROBLEM 3

Black to play and achieve best result

BRITISH CHAMPION 2016: JUNNAN JIANG

Matt Marsh

matt@crazedbytes.net



Junnan Jiang

The 2016 British Go Championship was won by Junnan Jiang (5d) for the first time, having beaten Charles Hibbert in the title match by two games to one.

Junnan (27) is originally from Tangshan, China where he learned Go from the age of seven. In his home city he was a member of a Go academy,

run by professional Jing Shang. There, he studied Go every weekend for six years, reaching 5 dan by the age of 12.

On moving to the UK to study, Junnan was surprised to find an active Go community in the UK. First in Birmingham, during his undergraduate degree, and later in Oxford, whilst studying for a PhD, he has taken part in local clubs and tournaments as well as being president of the Oxford University Go Society.

Since being in the UK Junnan has taken part in a number of tournaments, including winning the British Open in 2015 during the British Go Congress in Shrewsbury.

Having lived in the UK for 5 years, Junnan became eligible for the British Championship for the first time in 2016. He performed impressively with six wins and no losses at Candidates, six wins and one loss at Challengers' League, before going on to win the title match against Charles Hibbert.

We look forward to seeing how Junnan continues in this year's Championship and other tournaments!

□

MANY SLATE & SHELL PUBLICATIONS

ARE AVAILABLE
AT A DISCOUNT TO
BGA MEMBERS FROM

www.britgo.org/books/members.html

VIEW SAMPLE PAGES AT WWW.SLATEANDSHELL.COM



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/issue179.

Solution to Problem 1

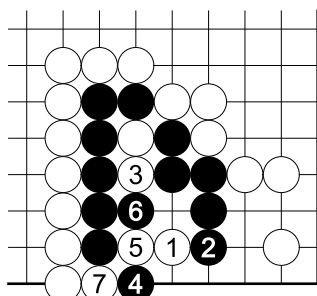


Diagram 1a (correct)

- ① This is the placement that kills Black.
- ⑦ This move connects and Black only has one eye.

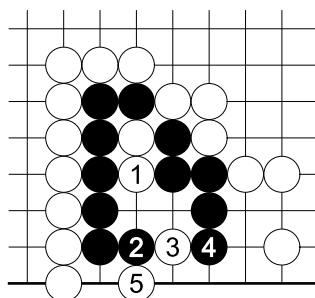


Diagram 1b (also correct)

- ① Starting here works too.
- ② Black responds here ...
- ⑤ ... but the hane enables White to connect out owing to Black's shortage of liberties.

Solution to Problem 2

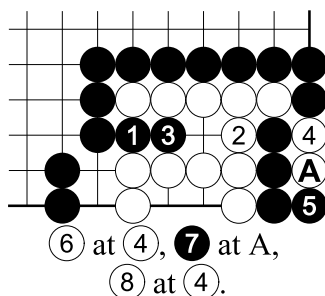


Diagram 2a (failure)

- ① Black must not push from this side.
- ⑧ White captures five stones and is alive.

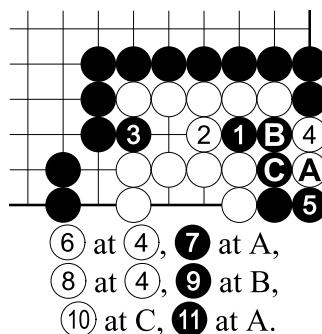


Diagram 2b (correct)

- ① Instead Black pushes from within.
- ⑧ This is similar to before, but now Black can atari safely.
- ⑪ White is dead.

Solution to Problem 3

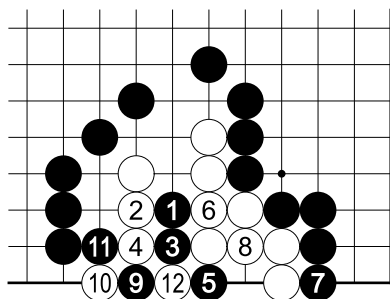


Diagram 3a (failure)

- ❶ This placement results in a ko.
- ❷ White captures first, so this is not the best result for Black.

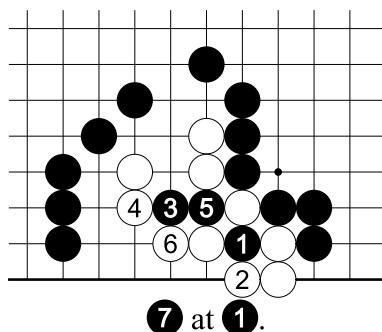


Diagram 3b (correct)

- ❶ This is a better move – a throw-in.
- ❷ Again the result is a ko that White must win, but now Black takes the ko first which is better than in the previous diagram.

EXPLANATION OF JAPANESE TERMS

Where space permits, less-common terms are explained in footnotes. If no explanation is provided then take a look at:

www.britgo.org/general/definitions

www.britgo.org/bgj/glossary

or search senseis.xmp.net/?JapaneseGoTerms.

Please let the Editor know if the term is still not found. One of the experts can then write an article to explain it ☺

UK AND IRELAND CLUBS LIST

For current meeting and contact information and links to club web pages please visit 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

ABERDEEN Hardback Cafe, Aberdeen University, Sir Duncan Rice Library, Bedford Road, Aberdeen AB24 3AA; Every second Saturday 11:00, but check website; Neil McLean 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

BATH Meets various places - check club web site. BA1 3EN; Tuesday 19:30 ; Paul Christie Tel: 01225 428995 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
<http://belfastgo.yolasite.com/>

BELFAST 86 Stranmillis Road BT9 5AW; Thursday 18:30; James Hutchinson 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
<http://www.goclub.footring.net/>

BIRMINGHAM Starbucks café in the International Convention Centre (ICC) B1 2EA; Sunday 14:00 ; Andrew Russell
<http://www.brungo.co.uk/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
<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
<http://www.britgo.org/clubs/bradford.html>

BRIGHTON Druid Arms, 79-81 Ditchling Rd BN1 4SD; Wednesday 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
<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
<https://www.facebook.com/BristolGoClub/>

CAMBRIDGE CITY Devonshire Arms, 1 Devonshire Road, Cambridge CB1 2BH; Sunday 18:00-22:00; Simon Mader mader.simon@gmail.com

CAMBRIDGE CITY Relevant Record Cafe, 260 Mill Road, Cambridge CB1 3NF; Thursday 19:00 - 21:30; Simon Mader 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 <http://www.chessgo.org.uk/>

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY Clare College, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TL; Monday 20:30 during University terms; James Wood jdww74@cam.ac.uk
<http://cugosoc.soc.srcf.net/>

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY University Centre, Mill Lane CB2 1RU; Thursday 19:00-21:00; Peter Rootham-Smith peter.rootham@alofmethbin.com
<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

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

CHELTENHAM ; Wednesday 19:30 ; Adam Watts Tel: 07403 475573 aceofs-pades2345@aol.com

CHESTER Ye Olde Custom House Inn, 65-67 Watergate Street CH1 2LB; Wednesday 20:00 - players are normally present from 19:30; Tony Pitchford Tel: 07870 893153 pitchtony@gmail.com <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

DUBLIN (COLLEGIANS CHESS AND GO CLUB) Toners Pub, 143 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2; Wednesday about 20:30-21:00 until midnight Monday about 20:30-21:00 until midnight most weeks ; 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
<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
<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
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/go.club/>

EDINBURGH Edinburgh Games Hub, 101 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh EH3 9JB;
Thursday 18:30 - 22:00 ; edinburghgoclub@gmail.com
<https://edinburghgoclub.wordpress.com/>

EPSOM Epsom KT19; Occasionally; Matthew via mobile: 07752 - 301 096
MatthewJSelby@aol.com

ESSEX see Billericay

EXETER White Hart Inn, South Street EX1 1ED; Monday 19:00 ; David Storkey
Tel: 01392 461182 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

GLASGOW Curler's Rest (upstairs), 256 Byres Road, Glasgow, G12 8SH;
Thursday 19:00; Seigfried Leher glasgowunigo@gmail.com
<http://www.dcs.gla.ac.uk/jtod/go/>

GREGSON see Lancaster

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

HURSLEY see Winchester

ISLE OF MAN 4 Ivydene Ave, Onchan IM3 3HD - Phone/email to check if meeting 54.181267,-4.465648; Sunday 20:00; David Phillips, 4 Ivydene Ave, Onchan IM3 3HD Tel: 01624 612294, 07624 459944 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

LEAMINGTON 22 Keytes Lane, Barford, Warwickshire CV35 8EP; Thursday 19:30, not Easter Thursday ; Matthew Macfadyen Tel: 01926 624445 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
<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
<http://www.leicestergoclub.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 <http://www.lechworth-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

LIVERPOOL 'Sugar & Dice' Board Game Café; 33a Cornhill L1 8DP; Mondays; Peter Allen, via email to: peter.allen@gmail.com; <http://sugaranddice.co.uk/blog/>

LONDON CITY The Inn of Court pub, 18 Holborn EC1N 2LE; Friday 18:00-23:00; Richard Mullens richard.mullens@gmail.com <http://www.citygoplayers.org.uk/> Please check on the website for the up to date situation.

LONDON, CENTRAL The Inn of Court pub, 18 Holborn EC1N 2LE; Saturday 14:00-19:00 ; Jonathan Turner Tel: 07968 538881 (mobile). je.turner@hotmail.com <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/london>

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.britgo.org/clubs/london>

LONDON, IMPERIAL COLLEGE Prince Consort Road SW7 2BW; ; Kalle Timperi <https://www.facebook.com/groups/430381293756773/permalink/1045508888910674/>

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 <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/london>

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/london>

LONDON, WEST Young Chelsea Bridge Club (behind Sainsbury's), 54 Goldhawk Road, W12 8HA 51.502837,-0.227045; Monday & Wednesday 19:00; Gerry Gavigan wlge@londongo.club <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/london>

MAIDENHEAD ; Friday 20:00; Iain Attwell, Norhurst, Westmorland Rd, Maidenhead, SL6 4HB Tel: 01628 676792 wintergarden@talktalk.net

MANCHESTER Sinclair's Oyster Bar. 2 Cathedral Approach M3 1AS; Monday 18:30-22:00; Various other days, by arrangement; Chris Kirkham Tel: 0161 903 9023 chris@cs.man.ac.uk <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/manchester>

MANCHESTER Manchester Go Club's Facebook group page The Shakespeare pub, 16 Fountain Street M2 2AA; Thursday 17:00-23:00 Various other days, by arrangement ; 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 Tel: 0118 950 7319 jimclarego@gmail.com
<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 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://sheffieldgoclub.org.uk>

SHEFFIELD Old Queens Head, 40 Pond Hill, Sheffield, South Yorkshire
S1 2BG; Wednesday 19:00; Sunday 19:30; <http://sheffieldgoclub.org.uk>
pandjbarker@virginmedia.com <http://sheffieldgoclub.org.uk>

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY GO SOCIETY Usually Students Union, The Zone
(level 3) - check FB S10 2TG; Friday 18:00-21:00 in term-time check Facebook;
Nicolas Goldstein <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sheffieldgosoc/>

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

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 <http://www.swindongoclub.org.uk/>

TEESSIDE ; Meets by arrangement; Matthew Holton M.D.Holton@tees.ac.uk

TONBRIDGE 4 Ives Road TN9 1XJ; Tuesday 19:30; Michael Pickles mjpickles@gmail.com

WANSTEAD see 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 <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 <http://www.jj-uk.com/go/wcgc.html>

WINCHESTER The Black Boy Public House, 1 Wharf Hill, Bar End SO23 9NQ; Wednesday 19:30; John Tilley 07824-163776 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

YORK Moroccan Room, El Piano (www.el-piano.com), 15 - 17 Grape Lane, York YO1 7HU; Tuesdays 19:30 check on Twitter @yorkgoclub; Chris Maughan 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

BGA PRIZE CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Sphinx

Across

1. FORSYTHIA 2. OPEN 3. BLACK 4. SHICHO* 5. TENUKI* 6. MIAI* 7. KEIMA* 8. SPREADS 9. ATARI* 10. RID 11. & 15d BRITISH GO ASSOCIATION 12. SABAKI* 13. KO* 14. JAPANESE GO TERMS 15. YE 16. STOOGE 17. NIHON KI-IN 18. MIA 19. GOBAN* 20. PANTHER 21. EMOJI 22. GORY 23. DRAGON 24. SEMEAI* 25. SENTE* 26. EXPO 27. IMPOSTRIX

Down

1. ORIGIN 2. SCHWAS 3. TV 4. ABOUNDS 5. ABOIL 6. BACKSTAB 7. OK 8. NOBI* 9. TSUKE* 10. BELEAGUERED 11. NIGIRI* 12. PASTA 13. ADJOURN 14. STRAIT 15. See 11a 16. BYO-YOMI* 17. KOMOKU* 18. ZEN 19. EVOKE 20. SAGARI* 21. OVALTINE 22. KATACHI* 23. RESENT 24. JOSEKI* 25. VIVID 26. UDDER 27. GOTE* 28. SO 29. DO

* These solutions all 14a, i.e. Japanese Go Terms¹

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      F O R S Y T H I A   A   B   O P E N
T   R   C   V           B   B L A C K   O
S   H I C H O   B   O   O   C           N   B
U   G   W   T E N U K I   K   M I A I
K   E   I   M A           L   N   L   S           G
E   N   S   P R E A D S   A T A R I   A
           S   A   A   S   A   A           R I D
B   R I T I S H G O           S A B A K I   J
Y           R   T   U   Z   S           O   K O
O   J A P A N E S E G O T E R M S   U
Y E   I           R   N   C   V   O   R
O   S T O O G E           N I H O N K I I N
M I A           V   D   K   A   K   U
I   G O B A N   P A N T H E R   J   V
           A           L   U   T   I           E M O J I
G O R Y   T   D R A G O N   S   S   V
O   I           I   D   C   N   S E M E A I
T           S E N T E   H           D   N   K   D
E X P O   E   R   I M P O S T R I X
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Solution as a grid

¹<http://senseis.xmp.net/?GoTerms>

ASSOCIATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Association contact page: britgo.org/contact

Email for general BGA enquiries: bga@britgo.org

President: Roger Huyshe president@britgo.org

Secretary: Jonathan Chin secretary@britgo.org

Membership Secretary: Chris Kirkham mem@britgo.org

If by post: 26 Groby Lane, Newtown Linford, LE6 0HH

Newsletter Editor: newsletter@britgo.org

Journal comments and contributions: journal@britgo.org

Our Facebook page: facebook.com/BritishGoAssociation

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/britgo

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

Gotalk general discussion list: gotalk@britgo.org (open to all).

Youth Go discussion list: 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.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JOURNAL

The copy date for the next issue of the Journal is 29th May.

Contributions are welcome at any time. Please send them to 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 for those wishing to contribute material.

COLLECTING GO XXXII: GO OVERSEAS - SINGAPORE

Tony Atkins

ajaxgo@yahoo.co.uk

Collecting Go countries by travelling to play in tournaments is an interesting way to explore the world and experience different cultures, whilst knowing you will meet people with whom you have something in common. Many readers will have visited some of the European Go-playing countries for the European

Go Congress or other events, a few will have been to the United States or the main Oriental countries, but other Go countries are less visited.

In April 2004 I was sent to Singapore to work for a fortnight which gave the chance to collect the Go scene in this small Asian country. Situated just north of the equator at the southern tip of Malaysia, Singapore is an island about twice the size of the Isle of Wight but with fifty times the population. Many of these five million plus people are from Chinese descent, as well as Malay and Indian, so Go would naturally be part of its cultural tradition. However when the Singapore Weiqi Association (SWA) was founded in 1981 there were only 100 players.



Thanks to the Ing Foundation, the first permanent Go centre opened in 1991. Situated on Middle Street in the centre of the city (near Bugis subway station), the centre is open at weekends for playing and other times for teaching. The SGA has an active programme of teaching and when I visited three young women were receiving Go lessons from a teacher. Because of this active teaching programme the number of players passed 20000 in the year 2000.

The centre has 340 square metres of playing and office space, and has a display case with a folding board, a mini Go ban, Hikaru no Go Books (in Chinese) and various Go mementos.



In 2000, along with the other Mind Sports such as Chess and Chinese Chess, the SGA was given a floor in a new Intellectual Games Center in Bishan, handily opposite the Bishan metro and bus stations in the north-west suburbs. This is the SGA's headquarters and has 160 square metres of space, open for playing everyday.

Here it was possible to find players of varying strength, and was popular with both old and young, the latter especially taking delight at beating a visitor even if it meant having to bamboozle them with the Chinese counting method!



One of the major museums in the centre of the city is the Asian Civilisations Museum featuring Chinese culture and history. Of course it includes Go stones in bowls, and a Chinese Chess set, amongst the exhibits focusing on the Chinese scholar.