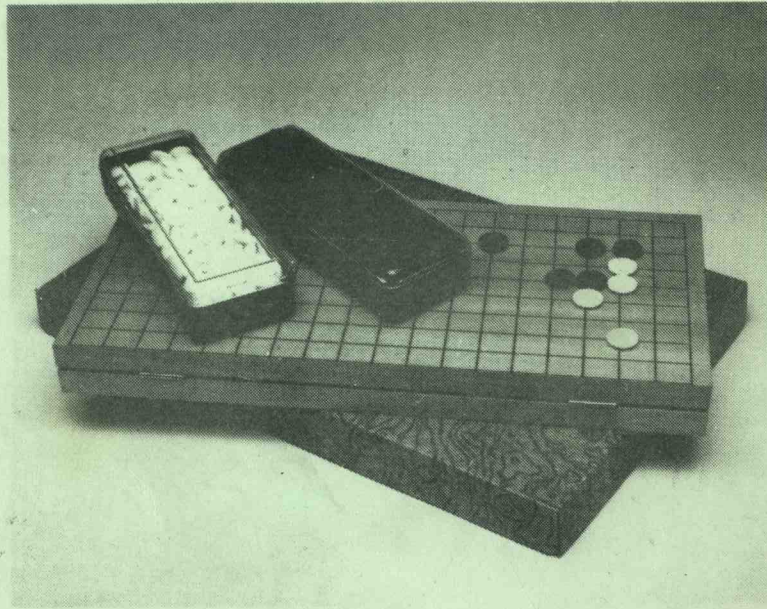


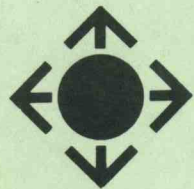
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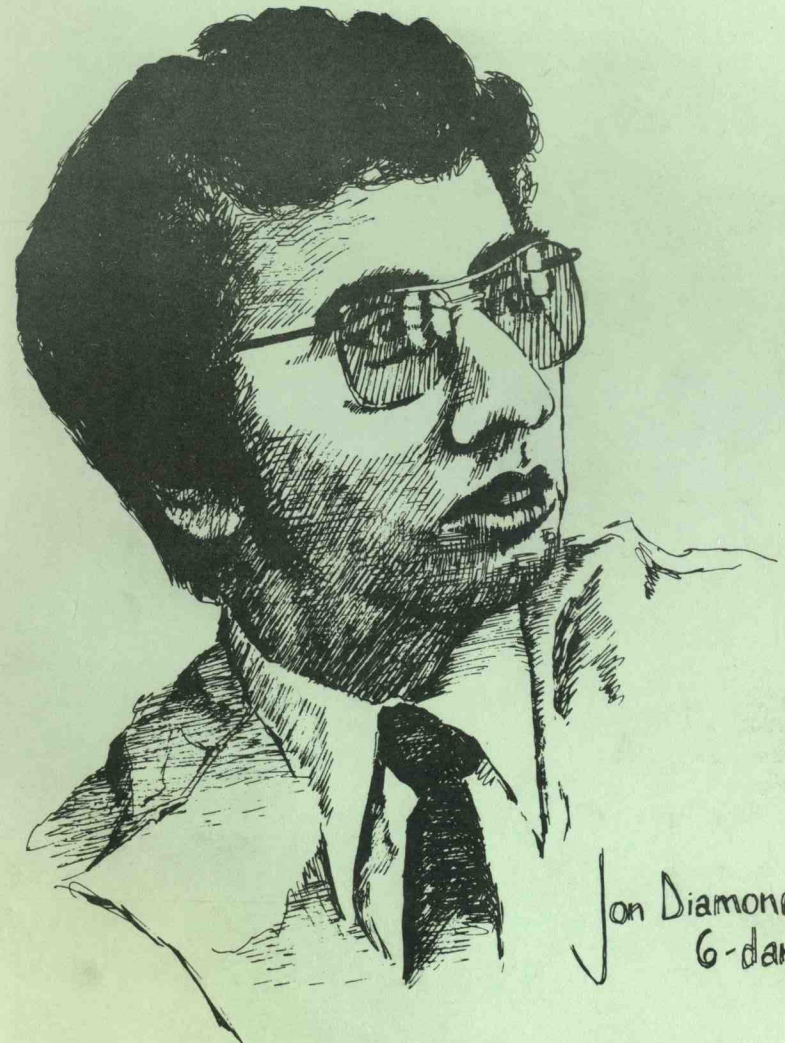
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BRITISH GO JOURNAL

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Jon Diamond
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THE COVER DRAWING is of Jon Diamond in characteristic mood, and was drawn by Alison Cross.

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EDITORIAL

Football, tennis, golf, chess, Go in Japan, are widely popular because they are played by the young, who have enthusiasm and time on their side, and because they have many star players to inspire, set standards and attract the mass of players whose keenness exceeds their ability. As long as the stars shine, or a new star like Bobby Fischer appears, the game flourishes and grows. If the stars fade, the entire body becomes weak and sick.

The BGA is taking steps to promote Go among the young, as Brian Castledine reports in his President's Notes, below.

As yet there are no stars in British Go. Players with ability, certainly, but to be a star requires much more than natural talent. Dedication and hard work, which do not preclude enjoyment, are necessary to realise fully even the most outstanding natural gift. Among the stronger British players, Matthew Macfadyen and Tony Goddard have both been very successful recently. We wish them further successes on the road to Go mastery, and hope that others will join them.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I first stood for the BGA Committee in 1976, shortly after I graduated from Cambridge University and moved to London - and was rather surprised to be elected. It is a measure of the recent high turnover of committee members that I now find myself, two years later, the longest serving member of the committee. This means that it may take a little while for the new members, and the three new officers, to 'learn the ropes', but I believe that we are already in a position to make real progress on several matters which the BGA has been weighing up for some time. I shall attempt to outline in these and future notes some of these long-term policies.

One of the most important areas of BGA activity will be our efforts to introduce the teaching of Go into schools. In the past, a high proportion of Go players have been introduced to the game while at University or College. Indeed, the importance of student members to the Association is indicated by the fact that of the current 53 BGA clubs, 18 are attached to higher education establishments. However, it is vital for the long-term expansion of Go that we get more schoolchildren playing. There are at present a sprinkling of school Go clubs throughout the country - all started by keen schoolmasters - but a more systematic and thoughtful approach is needed.

Our plans were roughly outlined in BGJ36 in an article on our Youth Committee; (please note that correspondence should now be addressed to me at: 4 Alexandra House, St Mary's Terrace, W2.) Although progress has been slow in the past year, we are planning a pilot scheme for the Autumn. Progress will be reported in this journal.

Brian Castledine

