

EDITOR Jil Segerman, jil.segerman@gmail.com tel. 01273 470346 mobile 07920 865065 DEADLINE for next issue Saturday 6th February 2010

DISTRIBUTION The BGA Council has decided that, due to technology trends and increasing postal costs (which are not covered by the higher subscription for non-UK members), non-UK addresses will no longer receive Newsletters by post. There are no plans to change the distribution by post of the British Go Journal. We would like to reduce the cost of all our activities, including the Newsletter, so that we can spend more of your subscriptions on developing our members, supporting clubs and the promotion of Go.

✉ **Non-UK members:** If we do not already have your email address, please register this with the Membership Secretary (mem@britgo.org).

✉ **UK members:** There are no plans to discontinue postal distribution. However if you are able to receive emails, we would prefer you to receive this Newsletter by email rather than by post. To do so, please contact the Membership Secretary as above.

There are plans to distribute the email Newsletters both in the present plain-text format, and as a PDF file similar to our postal Newsletters.

RESULTS

WEST SURREY HANDICAP 06/12/09 22 players took part this year. Peter Collins (2 kyu Bristol) was the new tournament winner. Matthew Cocke (5 dan Epsom), Mike Webster (1 kyu Central London), Malcolm Hagan (5 kyu Winchester), Ken Kneller (6 kyu Wanstead), Neil Cleverly (7 kyu Bournemouth) and Colin MacLennan (10 kyu Twickenham) all won 3. The prize in the 13x13 competition went to Bill Streeten (7 kyu Hastings), with 2/5. The quiz was won by Tony Atkins. On the previous day some 16 students were taught various subjects by teachers Matthew Macfadyen, Francis Roads, Tony Atkins and Paul Barnard.

EAST MIDLANDS 21/11/09 The National Space Centre in Leicester was again the venue for the fourth East Midlands Tournament; it attracted 48 players. New winner was Summer Tian Xia (5 dan) from Sheffield. Also on three wins were Edwin Brady (2 kyu St Andrews), Laurence Ogden (6 kyu Nottingham University), Ben Ellis (6 kyu Nottingham) and Stephen Bashforth (13 kyu Leicester). The 13x13 prizes were awarded to Bristol's Barney Shiu (12 kyu) for 5/5 and to his father Simon Shiu (4 dan) for 2 wins. At lunchtime, a Special General Meeting approved the 2008 BGA accounts.

THREE PEAKS 07/11/9-08/11/09 Matthew Cocke (5 dan) was the winner for the second year running and the only player to win 5 games. Surprisingly only one player, Adam Watts (6 kyu Durham), won 4 out of 5. Tony Pitchford (10 kyu Chester) 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. 41 players attended.

MILTON KEYNES 31/10/09 Best of the 35 players was Matthew Macfadyen (6 dan Leamington), who increased his current titles to 8. Players winning 3/3 lower down were Louise Bremner (1 kyu Isle of Man), Xinyi Lu (5 kyu Maidenhead), Jonathan Englefield (7 kyu Maidenhead) and Brent Cutts (9 kyu Nottingham). Best, and only, team was Barford winning 7/8. Steve Bailey won the MK Go Board tournament with 7/8 and Graham Philips won 3/3 at the same.

WESSEX 25/10/09 The 40th Wessex Tournament stayed again near to the centre of Bath at St Mark's Community Centre, a Victorian former church. Best of the 43 players was Matthew Macfadyen (6 dan Leamington), who increased his current titles to 7. Players winning 3/3 lower down were Louise Bremner (1 kyu Isle of Man), Andy Price (11 kyu Leamington) and Mark Webb (13 kyu Exeter).

LONDON INTERNATIONAL TEAMS 18/10/09 The autumn team event was held at the Nippon Club, home of their Igo Kai and the Central London Go Club. As expected a strong Chinese team was the winner with 10 points. Second was CLGC with 8, and third were Nippon Club and Cambridge, each with 6. Winning 3 for China were Qing Du and Felix Wang. Winning three for CLGC were Stuart Barthropp and Jonathan Turner.

NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010 The AGM will be held on Saturday 10th April 2010, at the British Go Congress in Edinburgh. Proposals for inclusion on the agenda should be mailed to the Secretary (secretary@britgo.org) by 31st December.

ANDREW GRANT Andrew Grant died in his sleep early on Monday morning 26th October. He had been suffering from cystic fibrosis, which had become much worse over the last couple of years, though he was still a formidable opponent over the Go board. In his last ever game he beat Fred Holroyd on 5 stones, and in his last game against Tim Hunt, he found a fantastic tesuji sequence to make a ko to save a large group and win the game. The funeral was at Crownhill Crematorium, Milton Keynes, at 3:30 pm on Wednesday 4th November; 7 Go players attended. At the Milton Keynes Go tournament over £100 was collected for Willen Hospice in Andrew's name.

DAVE STROWLGER Dave Strowlger (born 1944) was a stalwart member of the Wanstead Go Club for many years and a familiar figure on the London Go scene, having been both treasurer of the CLGC and Wanstead. He died from lung cancer on 2nd October. He will be missed by those who knew him. Several Wanstead and London players attended the funeral.

STACEY POINTS 2009-2010 After Three Peaks and East Midlands these are:- 1= Matthew Macfadyen and Yohei Negi with 19 points; 3rd Sandy Taylor 15; 4th Gerry Mills 13.5; 5th Bob Bagot 11; 6th Toby Manning 9.5; 7= Tony Atkins, Alex Kent and Alan Thornton 9.

YOUTH GRAND PRIX 2009 After the East Midlands: Matthew Hathrell 985 points; Roella Smith 772; Michael Webster 646; Danielle Ward 528; Owen Walker 452; Peran Truscott 450; Kelda Smith 426; Langdon Truscott 388; Jamie Taylor 386; Tien-Ren Chen 380.

BRITS OVERSEAS: INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR PAIR GO, 14/11/09-15/11/09. The 20th IAPGC was held in Tokyo. Matthew Macfadyen and Kirsty Healey won their second game against Guatemala having lost their first game to a Japanese pair. In round 3 they lost to Germany, but in round 4 beat Netherlands. In round 5 they lost to another Japanese pair. The Korean pair, Ye Seul Song and Sang Heun Lee won. Matthew and Kirsty won the Best Dressed Prize. **KOREA PRIME MINISTER CUP INTERNATIONAL BADUK CHAMPIONSHIP, 24/10/09-25/10/09.** 66 countries were represented at the fourth International Baduk Championships in Jeonju city, in south-west Korea. UK's Alistair Wall beat Portugal and India to take 54th place whilst Olivier Deme, representing Ireland, beat Guatemala and Costa Rica in 59th.

BGA LEAGUE TOURNAMENT is a team-based Go league designed to be played mainly on-line. The purpose is to encourage interaction between players in different areas of the country and to encourage on-line play amongst BGA members. So far, Cambridge has won two matches 3-0 to go top of Division 1 (against St Albans GC and Durham Team Awesome). In Division 2 Cornish Rogues and Newcastle are joint top, having beaten Aston and Chester A, and Aston and Glasgow, respectively. Divisions 3 and 4 are still getting underway. Details on <http://league.britgo.org>

BGA BOOKSHOP Regrettably some prices have increased from 1st December. New books now available include: Test Your Go Strength (£15), Imagination of a Go Master (£30), After Joseki (£19), Master Play - Kitani Minoru (£12) and The Go Consultants (£14) by John Fairbairn and T Mark Hall. Sample copies of the new series "Graded Go Problems for Dan Players Vols 1-3" have now arrived; these books will cost £14 each and will be available in January. Contact Gerry Mills, 7 Belan Fields, Guilsfield, Welshpool, SY21 9NW, tel. 01938 556484, bga-books@britgo.org

CLUB CHANGES

BELFAST new website <http://belfastgo.yolasite.com/>

BIRMINGHAM New club, contact Mark Winters dragon@veedo.co.uk Tel. 07521283350

BORDERS GO CLUB is now up and running. We meet every Monday evening at 7:30 pm in Ron Bell's house in Gattonside.

BRISTOL is resuming weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at the King George VI, Filton Avenue, Filton

CAMBRIDGE contact now Andrew Kay ak524@cam.ac.uk

GALWAY now meets on Wednesdays.

MANCHESTER has returned to meeting at The Town Hall Tavern, Tib Lane, M2 4JA

NORTH LONDON GO CLUB is now meeting again on Tuesdays at 7:45 pm at Hampstead Parish Church.

NORTH SHROPSHIRE / CHESHIRE / STAFFS AREA Contact Roger Huyshe roger.huyshe@btinternet.com 01952 550361

NOTTINGHAM CITY Meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 6:30 pm at Bugman's Bar at Games Workshop, Willow Road, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 2WS. On the other Wednesdays from 7:30 pm The Crown, Church Street, Beeston, NG9 1FY. New members or visitors please check with Brent, the club secretary, as sometimes a Wednesday meeting is cancelled. Email brent.cutts@boots.co.uk

OXFORD CITY Tuesday and Thursday 19:00-22:30. Venue variable -- Freud's Cafe, 119 Walton Street, OX2 6AH or Istanbul/Caffino Restaurant, Manzil Way, Cowley Road, OX4 1XD -- check the club web-site, or contact Harry Fearnley, oxfordgoclub@goban.demon.co.uk, 01865 248775 (home), 01865 273928 (work), 38 Henley Street, Oxford OX4 1ES. Club web page: http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford_c.html.

OXFORD UNI Mondays, 7:30 pm on, Weeks 1-8 of term only. Lecture Room A, Staircase IV, Queen's College, 40 High Street, Oxford, OX1 4AW Club Secretary: Mark.Amery@queens.ox.ac.uk Mobile: 07722 003960 http://www.britgo.org/clubs/oxford_u.html

SKYE now meets on Tuesdays at 19:30 in the Tongadale Hotel, Wentworth Street, Portree.

SOUTH LONDON new website, meetings now regularly every week. <http://southlondongo.com/>

FORTHCOMING

MAIDENHEAD – FURZE PLATT Saturday 23rd January. Registration by 10:00, Prize giving by 19:00. Supported by Hitachi Europe Ltd.

Location Hitachi Europe Head Office at Whitebrook Park, Lower Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8YA

Event 3-round McMahon tournament. Time limit 60 minutes plus overtime. Flexible komi with players bidding to play black.

Contact Eddie Best edwin.best@homecall.co.uk or tel. 01628 483967

WANSTEAD Saturday 30th January. Registration by 9:45; prize giving 17:45

Location Wanstead House, 21 The Green, Wanstead, London E11 2NT

Event 3-round McMahon tournament, 50 minutes time limit with 50 in 5 overtime

Contact Ken Kneller: wanstead2010@googlemail.com Wanstead 2010, 43 Dinsdale Road, London SE3 7RJ

CHESHIRE, Saturday 13th February. Registration by 10:30. Prize-giving by 18:30.

Location Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 7QN. Registration by 10:30.

Event 3-round open (top 8 players) and 5-round handicap.

Contact Tony Atkins: Cheshire@kisekigo.com tel. 0118 9268143

NOTTINGHAM, Saturday 27th February. Registration by 9:45; prize giving 18:00

Location Portland Building, University Park, University of Nottingham, NG7 2RD.

Event 3-round McMahon Tournament. 60 minutes time limit with 40 in 5 overtime.

Contact Laurence Ogden: lexlo1@nottingham.ac.uk tel. 07504661223

ISLE OF SYKE, Saturday 13th March–Sunday 14th March.

Location Tongadale Hotel, Wentworth Street, Portree, Isle of Skye IV51 9EJ.

Event 6 round McMahon; also Novices League (Saturday).

Contact Carel Goodheir ruth.goodheir3@virgin.net tel. 01478 612909

ARUNDEL, Sunday 28th March. . Registration by 10:15. Prize giving by 18:30.

Location Arundel Football Club, Mill Road, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9PA

Event 3-round McMahon Tournament. 60 minutes time limit sudden death.

Contact Sue Paterson suepat812@btinternet.com tel. 01903 889825

LONDON TEACHING DAY Saturday 6th February. 10:00 to 17:00, Nippon Club. Contact David Carter-Hitchin dch888@gmail.com

IRISH OPEN, Dublin, Friday 5th March–Sunday 7th March. Pandanet Go European Cup event. Contact secretary@irish-go.org

BRITISH YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, Loughborough, Sunday 14th March. Contact bygc@kisekigo.com

BRITISH GO CONGRESS, Edinburgh, Friday 9th–Sunday 11th April.

BRACKNELL, Sunday 9th May. Contact bracknell@kisekigo.com

DURHAM, Saturday 19th–Sunday 20th June. Contact go.club@durham.ac.uk

WELSH OPEN, Barmouth, Saturday 26th–Sunday 27th June. Contact tony@towbarsdirect.co.uk

MIND SPORTS OLYMPIAD, London, Friday 20th – Monday 30th August.

ISLE OF MAN GO WEEK, Port Erin, Sunday 22nd - Friday 27th August. Contact leo@manx.net

NORTHERN, Stockport, Sunday 5th September

CORNWALL TOURNAMENTS and TEACHING, Penzance, Saturday 11th–Sunday 12th September. Contact johnculmer@btinternet.com

BRITISH GO ASSOCIATION

WEBSITES: www.britgo.org [facebook.com/group.php?gid=2256642115](https://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2256642115) twitter.com/britgo

MEMBERSHIP: Annual Rates: UK £18, UK concession £11, UK Family £24, Europe £20, Rest of World £24, UK School £18.

Members receive one year's subscription to the British Go Journal and BGA Newsletter, can buy books and equipment, and get reduced tournament entry fees. Further details www.britgo.org/membership

Membership Secretary: Phil Beck, 41 Kingston Street, Cambridge, CB1 2NU. 01223 367022 mem@britgo.org

AGA BGA members are entitled to receive the American Go Association's email newsletter. www.britgo.org/aga-ejournal/

BGA MOBILE For emergency calls to tournament organisers on the day of most tournaments: **07506 555366**



NEWS FROM THE BGA COUNCIL, AUTUMN 2009

Issued as a supplement to Newsletter 167

COUNCIL AUGUST 2009

There was a meeting of BGA Council on 15th August 2009.

Council discussed the possibility of 3-month memberships, and agreed to go ahead from October 1st for a 6-month trial period. Non-members who enter a tournament will now automatically become BGA members for 3 months, and receive at least one journal. Tournament directors will be asked to increase the surcharge for non-members to £5 to cover this, though the tournament levy will not increase during the trial period. BGA officials will be available at tournaments to help with the additional administration.

There was some discussion of the selection policy for the next World Mind Sports Games, which may be in 2011. It was agreed that the selection would be based on players included in the BGA rating list at the time of selection - this means, for example, in the event of a WMSG in 2011, that anyone who has played in a tournament after March 2009 will be eligible.

The book-stocking policy was discussed and revised. Previously, the bookshop has stocked every book available in English, but the number of books available has made this impractical. In future, the decision on whether to stock new items will be made by the bookseller, in consultation with the bookseller's committee, based on the likely sales, value for money, quality, and whether it duplicates the content of any other recommended titles.

The status of the on-line league was discussed, and it was agreed that it had to be up and running by October.

Finally, some topics were discussed which had been raised in discussion on Gotalk. These included:

- * The EGF anti-doping policy: Further discussion was deferred since the EGF AGM minutes had not been published at the time of the meeting.
- * The rules for the British Championship: Council decided not to change the format or qualification rules since there has been no feedback from anyone involved or likely to be involved.

COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2009

There was a meeting of BGA Council on 22nd November 2009.

Winton Capital is again sponsoring the BGA, as announced in the British Go Journal 149. They have provided funding of £11,000, which will be used for youth development, supporting the London Open, funding travel for a representative to the World Amateur Go Congress and continuing the programme of training events. Council thank Winton Capital for their continued support.

A current priority is the development of Youth Go, and Council spent some time discussing a strategy for youth development. In 2010 we will be beginning a new programme of introducing Go in schools and youth clubs, providing books, equipment and support for volunteers. Council have set aside a budget of £1000 for this programme, and there will shortly be an application form on the web site to allow schools to apply for funding. Council noted that in the longer term it is more effective to attract teachers to Go, rather than children. We will be contacting schools, which have previously taken part in BGA activities to let them know about this programme, and we encourage members to let their local schools, teachers and youth clubs know about it.

Council discussed the on-line league tournament. The league is now well underway, the number of teams being well above expectations. Council acknowledged in particular the hard work John Collins and Sandy Taylor have put into making the league happen, and thanked them for their contribution.

Council has agreed to extend the qualification period for the Candidates' tournament to 31st March, and will be inviting participants to provide feedback on the current structure of the tournament. It also discussed and agreed to encourage organisers to hold Class A events where possible.

The results of the membership retention survey were discussed. The main conclusion of the survey was that the BGA should prioritise making joining and renewal as easy as possible. More details of the survey results will be given in the British Go Journal. A project has begun to develop a new membership management system, based on "CiviCRM", with one goal in particular being to make it easy to join and renew online.

Council discussed progress and feedback on the three-month membership trial. A small number of people have signed up under this scheme at tournaments throughout October and November, some of whom have chosen to join as full members. Following feedback, under 18s will not be asked to pay the additional £5 entry fees.

Several other items relating to the day-to-day management of the BGA were discussed.

As always, full minutes are available from the Secretary (secretary@britgo.org) on request.

ON-LINE TEAM LEAGUE TROPHY

The BGA Council is pleased to announce that we have accepted an offer from the GoGoD team of T Mark Hall (Honorary Vice-President of the BGA) and John Fairbairn to sponsor the trophy for our On-Line Team League.

They will be providing a trophy, to be called the GoGoD Shield, for the winner of Division 1 and in addition will be donating three copies of the GoGoD Database and Encyclopaedia to the Division 1 winning teams for the first 5 years.