

BGA NEWSLETTER No. 195. February 2014

Editor: Jil Segerman, newsletter@britgo.org

The next Newsletter will be printed in the BGJ. The deadline for contributions is Tuesday 4th March. Please send them to the email address above. **DO NOT** use bganewsletter@gmail.com

If you would prefer us to contact you on a different email address, please advise the Membership Secretary on mem@britgo.org

NEWS

For the full set of recent news items see the BGA News Pages:

www.britgo.org/views/newsletterfull. If you prefer to scan the headlines and pick-and-choose what to read, see www.britgo.org/views/news, which covers the last twelve months.

T MARK HALL, 1947-2013 It is with deep sadness that we report the death of T Mark Hall, who died last December after a long illness. T Mark was a long and faithful servant of the British Go Association, of British Go in general and of World Go through his partnership with John Fairbairn in GoGoD (Games of Go on Disk). He was on our Council for some 22 years, serving for 20 of these as Treasurer, a record of service that will surely be unsurpassed. He has left his Go books, pictures and other ephemera to the BGA, also a substantial sum of money to the Go community via a Trust. **GOGOD** is now back on line, available to download www.gogodonline.co.uk

DAVID WARD Sadly, David Ward also passed away in December. Besides running the London Open for several years, David was much involved in teaching; as our games analyst, as a mentor in the Shodan Challenge, and in the many articles he wrote for the BGJ.

There will be obituaries for both T Mark and David in the forthcoming BGJ

STUDENT CHAMPIONSHIP

This year's British Go Association Online Student Championship is a 4-round McMahon, and will run throughout April, in the KGS British Room. You are eligible to play if you're studying full-time at an approved UK educational establishment (no age restriction).

Contact: edwin.brady@gmail.com

Further details will be available shortly on the BGA website; and once Edwin has got everything together there will be a news item which will have the address to enter the championship.

ACCOMMODATION at EYGC and BGC For the latest advice, including options for parties, follow the link on <http://www.britgo.org/views/news/>

NEW TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION SYSTEM John Collins has produced an online registration system for all our tournaments (to be used at the Tournament Organisers discretion). We shall be trying out for the first time at the Candidates' Tournament. Registration is now open for the Candidates', and for certain other events, at http://www.britgo.org/tournaments/_register Further information on the new system is on <http://www.britgo.org/node/4577>

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP 2014 UPDATE Please see link posted 04 Feb on <http://www.britgo.org/views/news/> which has information covering:

The change of dates for the Challengers'

The entry fee,

A new concessionary fee and the possibility of assistance with travel expenses for those in financial difficulty.

The link to see if you qualify to enter <http://www.britgo.org/bchamp/qualifiers.html>

Qualification closes on 31st March.

FUTURE EVENTS:

Full details are in the BGA Tournament Calendar <http://www.britgo.org/tournaments>

Irish Go Congress, Dublin, Friday 14th February to Sunday 16th February

Oxford * CANCELLED*****

European Youth Go Championship, Butlin's, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, Friday 28th February to Monday 3rd March. This will be run in three sections: under 12, and under 16 (based on age at 31 July 2014), and under 20 (based on age at 1st January 2014). We note that this is during term time, and we will make special arrangements for those unable to play on the Monday.

So far we've received more than 60 entries, but it's a little disappointing that we don't have any UK players in the Under-20 Championship yet, especially with the prize of a trip to the World Under-20 Championship in Japan.

The entries we do have for the Under-20 range up to 6 dan in strength, so it's definitely going to be a challenging tournament. We'd like to see more UK players in all three age-ranges, so if you know of someone young who might like to play (there's no entry fee) please get in contact with them and persuade them to come along.

British Go Congress, Butlins, Bognor Regis, Friday 28th February to Sunday 2nd March, and possibly a training session on Monday 4th March. British Lightning (on the Friday evening), British Open (6 rounds on Saturday and Sunday), BGA AGM (Saturday evening).

BGA AGM, Butlins, Bognor Regis, Saturday 29th February

Sussex Go Day, Fishbourne, Saturday 8th March, drop-in-day anyone who wants to learn Go or just play it for fun.

Trigantius, Cambridge, Sunday 9th March

Isle of Skye Tournament, Saturday 15th March to Sunday 16th March

Birmingham, Saturday 29th March

International Teams Spring Match, Saturday 5th April (provisional), London (provisional). For teams of three. Individuals usually required as reserves. Contact Jonathan Turner je_turner@hotmail.com

Welwyn Garden City, Saturday 26th April.

Candidates' Tournament, Warwick, Saturday 3rd May to Monday 5th May See NEWS item: British Championship 2014 Update

Bar-Low, Warwick, Sunday 4th May

Bracknell, Sunday 11th May

Challengers' League, London, Saturday 24th May to Tuesday 27th May *** **CHANGE OF DATE** ***

Scottish Open, Glasgow, Saturday 24th May - Sunday 25th May

British Pair Go Championships, Sunday June 8th (provisional), venue TBA, since our usual venue, Foxcombe Lodge has closed.

Durham, Saturday 14th – Sunday 15th June

Welsh Open, Barmouth, Saturday 21st June - Sunday 22nd June

Milton Keynes, Saturday 28th June

Mind Sports Olympiad, London, Saturday 16th to Sunday 23rd August

CAN YOU HELP?

REFEREE FOR THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES' TOURNAMENT

We've got an organiser/referee for the Challengers League, but don't have one for the Candidates, so we're looking for a volunteer: might you be interested? The job is: to confirm the players, make the draw and act as referee during the event. The host for the event, Warwick University, will handle the onsite logistics.

Contact: Jon Diamond president@britgo.org

TRANSPORT FOR GO SETS

Jenny Radcliffe has the sets for the Candidates, but isn't planning to be there, so we need to transfer them somehow. She'll be at the British Open in Bognor, so if there's someone who's going to be in Bognor and also at the Candidates with a car could you please contact Jon to organise this?

Contact: Jon Diamond president@britgo.org

OFFICIAL VACANCIES

There are several vacancies, for people to help with running the BGA. Web-links to some of these are given on <http://www.britgo.org/positions/vacancies> and some new vacancies are listed below. If you are interested in any of these please contact our President, Jon Diamond, or any member of Council.

- **Marketing Manager:** Following the successes at various events this year and discussions in Council, we'd like someone to be in charge of all our marketing efforts, so we've created a Marketing Manager position. Roger Huyshe is temporarily holding the fort in this area, but we really need someone to undertake the role permanently. Is there anyone interested in this (non-Council) role?
- **BGJ Editor:** Pat Ridley has said that he want to retire as editor of the British Go Journal at the end of this year, so we're looking for someone who'd like to undertake the job. There are plenty of people who will continue to help with the BGJ, including Pat, but an Editor is needed to be responsible for putting it together. If you're interested please contact Pat, who will be more than happy to let you know what's involved
- **British Championship Organiser:** Since Jenny Radcliffe retired as British Championship organiser after many successful years we've been struggling along with various people doing different jobs, but we really need someone to take overall charge and ensure better continuity. Is there a volunteer out there?
- **London Open Organiser:** We need someone to replace Martha McGill who's done a great job in the last couple of years, to manage the team of volunteers.
- **Council Member:** Fred Holroyd is retiring from Council, so we have at least one position to fill at the AGM this year. If you're interested in helping with managing the organisation and steering its direction you can join Council too, so please talk to me or one of the other Council members about what is involved. (You don't necessarily need to be at the AGM to be elected!)

CLUB CHANGES

Current information on clubs is posted on <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/map> and <http://www.britgo.org/clubs/list> and changes are not normally included in the email-version Newsletters.

On this occasion an out-of-date venue for **SWINDON** was listed on page 42 of BGJ 166 and on the BGA website. We apologise if anyone had a wasted journey. The club meets on Wednesdays, from about 7.30/8pm, at the Windmill pub, Freshbrook Village Centre, Worsley Road, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 8LY; also on Sunday evenings, at The Beehive, Prospect Hill, Swindon SN1 3JS.