

Herman Kok has given me his game from this season's Lincolnshire County Championship. Herman is the Finance Director of the Lindum Group as well as one of the top players for Lincoln Chess Club and the county. For the last few years he has made the facilities at the Lindum Group Business Park on Station Road in North Hykeham available free of charge.

The Atrium on the second floor of the main building is normally used as a conference room but is big enough to run the County Championships and also a Junior Rapidplay at the same time. The venue is also used by the Lincolnshire county teams and, last year, for the George Renison Memorial Jamboree.

In this week's featured game where Herman was white against Neil Milson from Louth, father of Samuel and Amy but a good over the board himself, with the opening following the Giuoco Piano 1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 h6, an unusual line allowing Herman to play 4. d4 exd4 5. Nxd4 Nxd4 6. Qxd4 d6 and now dominates the centre.

Play continued 7. Nc3 Qf6 8. Qd3 Ne7 9. Be3 Be6 10. 0-0-0 and Herman castled queen's side to bring all his pieces into play 10. ...Bxc4 11. Qxc4 c6 12. Qb4 attacking both pawns on b7 and d6 (see diagram) 12. ...Rd8 13. Qxb7 d5 14. exd5 cxd5 15. Rhe1 d4 and Neil appears to have regained some material by forking Herman's knight and bishop but Herman played 16. Bxd4 Rxd4 17. Qc8+ and black resigned as 17. ...Rd8 18. Qxd8 mate follows.

Herman finished in equal 9th place out of 20 with 2½ points unfortunately out of the prize money.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. www.lincolnchessclub.co.uk

