

This week's game has been sent to me by Keith Palmer from Louth. Keith is a retired school teacher having taught at Lyle Marsden School in Grimsby for many years and is very active with juniors throughout the county Keith is also the captain of the Louth team in the Lincolnshire League Division 1 who took this season's title from Grimsby.

However, on this occasion he turned out for the county in Lincolnshire's win against Essex reported last week and was paired as white on board 13 against Elliot Cocks from Chelmsford with the opening following the English Opening 1. c4 Nf6 2. Nc3 g6 3. Nf3 Bg7 4. d4 d5 5. e3 0-0 6. Be2 a6 7. 0-0 dxc4 8. Bxc4 c5 9. dxc5 Qa5 10. Bd2 Qxc5 and black regains the pawn to maintain parity 11. Be2 b5 12. Rc1 Qb6 13. e4 Bb7 and in Keith's analysis he played this last move to provide opportunities to attack black's queen although he knew that pawn would come under attack.

Keith played 14. Be3 Qa5 15. Nd2 b4 16. Nc4 Qd8 17. Qb3 (prepared for 17. ...bxc3 18. Qxb7) but black instead played 17. ...Nc6 18. Rfd1 Qb8 19. Nd5 Bc8 20. Ncb6 (see diagram) and Keith's knights are in advanced positions supported by that pawn on e4 20. ...Nxd5 21. exd5 Nd4 22. Bxd4 Bxd4 23. Nxa8 Be5 and Keith now has the advantage of the exchange and went on to win a few moves later.

Meanwhile, Lincolnshire's team in the counties correspondence competition finished their season with only 3½ points and were relegated to Division 3. A couple of new players, Joe Kilshaw and Alex Ashworth will hopefully reverse our fortunes this season.

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

