

The 6 round Alf Newman Memorial Quickplay tournament was held at the church hall next to St.James church in Louth recently. Now a regular event on the Lincolnshire circuit the coveted shield was first played for in 2007 a year after Alf Newman, who was chairman of Louth Chess Club, died suddenly.

Top seed was Ayman Hammam from Lincoln and after round 3 was on the maximum 3 points, the same as Harry Russell from the local Louth Chess Club and they went head to head in round 4 and we pick up the game after Harry, as white, has just played 25. Rc4 (see diagram) - can you see Ayman's next move?

Ayman played 25. ...gxf3 26. Rxf4 sacrificing his queen but then played 26. ...Rxf2+ 27. Kh1 Rh2+ 28. Kg1 Rg8+ and white resigned as 29. Qg3 Bxf3 follows with further loss of material.

Ayman drew with Joe Kilshaw from Grimsby and then beat Qais Karimi from Lincoln to win the top prize of £80 with a score of 5½. Joe came second on 5 points with Harry and Nick Stead also from Grimsby sharing third place on 4½.

Yours truly had a couple of lucky wins to claim the Under 150 grading prize with 4 points and up and coming young star Arya Parnian from Grimsby also finished on 4 points to take the Under 110 grading prize.

The best junior, apart from Arya, was Kishore Muruges from Boston on 3½ points the same score as Louth Secretary John Grasham who claimed the Nottinghamshire Building Society Shield for the highest placed Louth player who has not won it before.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. [www.lincolncchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolncchessclub.co.uk)

