

Over the Christmas break Lincolnshire's own Grand Master, Matthew Turner, agreed to do an online simultaneous event against 15 of the county's top players. Matthew began his chess career at Bottesford near Scunthorpe before going to Cambridge University and is now Head of Chess at Millfield School near Bath.

Each player had 45 minutes on the clock plus a 45 second increment for each move. Matthew's clock only ticked down when he had switched to that game but, even so, it took some concentration to take stock as he moved from one game to the next.

In the 15 games Matthew won 10, drew 4 (against Martin Pettinger, Peter Cusick, Jason Dilley and Nigel Birtwistle) and his only loss was against Daniel Wells from Newark. This game, with Matthew as white, began with the King's Indian Defense 1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 g6 3. c4 Bg7 4. Nc3 d6 5. g3 0-0 6. Bg2 Nbd7 7. d5 e5 8. dxe6 and Matthew retakes the pawn using the en passant move (French for in passing) fxe6 7. 0-0 Qe7 8. h3 Nb6 9. b3 and Matthew defends the pawn on c4 but has set up an opportunity for Daniel (see diagram) can you see it?

Daniel played 10. ...Nfd5 11. cxd5 Bxc3 12. Bg5 Qg7 13. Rc1 Nxd5 and is now a pawn to the good. Play continued 14. e4 Nb4 15. Qe2 Nc6 16. e5 Bxe5 17. Nxe5 Nxe5 18. Rfd1 d5 19. Bf4 Rxf4 20. gxf4 Nc6 and Daniel has to sacrifice the exchange but in return has two extra pawns 21. b4 Bd7 22. b5 Nd4 23. Qd3 Nxb5 24. a4 Nd6 25. Rxc7 Rc8 26. Qc2 Rxc7 27. Qxc7 Bxa4 28. Qxd6 Bxd1 and Daniel regains the exchange and despite some valiant defense on Matthew's part Daniel went on to win a few moves later.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. Although we are yet to meet due to the lockdown [www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk)

