

The recent game involving Newark's Graham Ladds which featured the Grunfeld defence prompted Matthew Beal from Grantham to forward his game against Darren Smith in the Chorley Congress a few years ago. Devised by Austrian Ernst Grunfeld it became a popular opening for black giving good counter attacking possibilities but has since fallen out of favour.

In this game with Matthew as white the opening followed the conventional Grunfeld with 1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Qb3 dxc4 (not 4. ...c6 as in Graham's game) 5. Qxc4 Bg7 6. e4 Nbd7 7. Qb3 Nb6 8. Nf3 Bg4 9. Ng5 0-0 10. h3 Bc8 and Matthew has taken control on the centre although his king has yet to castle.

Play continued 11. Be3 h6 12. Nf3 c6 13. Qc2 Be6 14. Rd1 Bc4 15. Be2 Bxe2 16. Qxe2 e6 17. 0-0 Qe7 and after further development by both players white's king finds safety. Black now contests the centre 18. Nd2 e5 19. Nb3 exd4 20. Bxd4 Rfe8 21. Rfe1 Nfd7 22. Bxg7 Kxg7 23. f4 Nc5 but Matthew retains control but is having to fight hard to defend the pawn on e4 (see diagram).

White now builds the foundations for the final assault 24. Nd4 Rad8 25. Kh1 Qf6 26. Qf2 Ne6 27. e5 Qe7 28. Ne4 Rd5 29. Nf6 and the pawn on e5 allows the knight to fork black's two rooks 29. ...Red8 30. Nxd5 Nxd5 31. f5 (threatening 32. f6+ or 31. ...gxf5 32. Nxf5+) 31. ...Qb4 32. fxe6 fxe6 33. Nxf6+ winning the other rook and black resigned.

If you have any games that you would like to be featured in this column then e-mail them to peter.sherlock4@ntlworld.com.

In last weeks puzzle white opened up black's defense with 1. Bc6.

