Dear Chess Player

First, belated Christmas and New Year's Greetings. For a variety of reasons I have just not had the time to make up this Newsletter and send it out before (as originally intended) in December. However, better late than never. We begin with the new Grading List and Report by our Grading Officer, George Livie.

		GRADING LIST		the officeration of the	
R.BEECHAM	201	R.M. INMES	168	I. MACKINFOSH	177
G.H. BIRD	171	J.G.B JAMIESON	156*	J.N. McMEILL	230*
E.B. BLACKLAWS	159	D.M. JENKINS	191	D.G. MCROBERTS	142
W. BRACK	142*	R. KILPATRICK	150	C.W. MARSHALL	197
W.G. BRADY	169*	W.C. KINCAID	136*	C. MAKAREWICZ	120
W.E. BRUGES	169	A.G. KIRKLAND	193*	I. MARSHALL	156
I.S. CAMPRELL	187	J.P.R. KLEBOE	168#	R. MITCHELL	44*
D. CANNING	149	A.J. LAIT	173	G. MORRISON	190*
T.J. CRAIG	171*	R. LAWSON	186	W. MUNN	182*
A. DLUGOLECKI	189*	J.P.L. LUMSDEN	114*	V.A. NYE	176
A.B. DUNN	172	K.B. MCALPINE	227	B.B. PARTRIDGE	197
G. FERGUSON	117	R.A. MOBRAYNE	139	W.R. PERRIE	87*
R. FINLAYSON	165*	T. McCHEYNE	124*	D.J. SAVAGE	151*
K. GORDON	157	J.S. McCORMACK	119*	G.L. SUTTON	191
J.R. GRACIE	171*	J. McCRACKEN	127*	M.A. SWYSTUN	150*
F. HALL	113	A. McFADYEN	163	A. THOMSON	154
J.M. HERRIES	140	M.E. McGHGE	138*	A. THOMPSON (Wex.)	179
A.T. HISLOP	180	D. MCKERRACHER	195*	I. THOMPSON	129*
H.D. HOLMES	196	A.R.B. McKNIGHT	138*	J.W. VERNON	160
	of water to	SUPPLEMENTARY GRADII	NG LIST		
P.G. BASSET	169	D. GORMAN	135	D. PARIS	144
D. BRYSON	183	J. LEWIS	140	A.J. FOLLARD	119
E. BURNS	143	G. LIVIE	178	K. PONTING	154
J. BUTTOMS	154	D. McCLOY	120	H.C. PORTERFIELD	176
J.A. CLAYTON	193	A. McCLELLAND	125	A.J. STEWART	132
R.P. COMRIE	139	R. McCORMICK	157	S. TAYLOR	147
C. DINWOODIE	114	D. McCRACKEN	117	K. WARREN	86
J. FLANAGAN	121	A. McLENNAN	150		
R. GIBSON	161	I. MUIR	141		

The Scottish Correspondence Chess Grading list was first published in April 1978. It was not quickly conjured up simply to fulfill a present need. On the contrary it reflects a decade of conscientious and meticulous recording of results by Bernard Partridge and Walter Munn. As successor to the office of "Grader" I take this apportunity on behalf of the Association of admowledging in print their considerable contribution.

To ensure that the Grading List reflects "present" performance, only those players who have recorded results within the past three years are included. Inevitably this has resulted in a fairly large "Inactive List" which will be preserved but not published. Hopefully many of these players will in the future return to Correspondence Chess and appear once again on the published list.

In preparing the grading list I have continued to apply the rules used by my predecessors. The main grading list consists of (a) Recognised graded players - those who have 20 or more recorded results against recognised and/or provisionally graded opponents; (b) Provisional graded players - those who have 10 or more recorded results against recognised or provisionally graded opponents. The Supplementary List qualifications are:- 20 recorded results against any opponents or 8 recorded results against recognised or provisionally graded players.

For the future - consideration will be given to the suggestion that the Association should award titles. Hopefully, after full discussion at Committee level, a decision will be reached and at least one player will qualify for the title of Scottish Correspondence Chess Master.

Finally, I would like to engage the help of all Scottish players who frequently play competitive Correspondence Chess, often at the highest level - but alas, keeping it a secret. Please send me full details at the start of the event, for example, International, ECCA and RPCF Competitions. At the conclusion the result.

I will be pleased to answer any written queries concerning the Grading List. A stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated.

You will be interested to learn that Ken McAlpine has recently won an ICCF Class A Tournament with a convincing score of 6/6. (Other scores were:-A Muller-BRDand K Miettinen-SF  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , A Mokrousow-SU and G Dunkler-BRD 2, E Schneider-A and H Hauswald-DDR 1.) From what Ken told me there seem to be any number of tournaments - by winning one tournament one qualifies for the next and, hopefully, qualifies for the European Championship..... I am sure that we wish Ken every success. Here are two games from the tournament.

Game No.11 H. Hauswald (East Germany) v K. B. McAlpine

l p-k4 p-kn3; 2 p-q4 b-n2; 3 n-kb3 p-q3; 4 n-b3 p-qb3; 5 b-k2 n-q2; 6 o-o q-b2; 7 r-kl kn-b3; 8 b-kn5 p-kr3; 9 b-r4 p-k4; 10 pxp pxp; 11 q-q2 n-b4; 12 b-q3 n-r4; 13 qr-q1 o-o; 14 p-kr3 nxb; 15 pxn p-kn4; 16 b-n3 nxb; 17 pxn p-n5; 18 pxp bxp; 19 r-qb1 q-q3; 20 r-b2 qr-q1; 21 r-q1 p-kb4; 22 p-n3 q-n3; 23 q-b2 q-r4; 24 qxp bxn; 25 pxb qxp;kr-qb1rxp; 27qxp qxp+; 28 r-n2 q-k3+; 29 k-r2 q-b5+; resigns (0-1)

Game No.12 K.B.McAlpine v K.Miettinen (Finland)

1 p-q4 n-kb3; 2 p-qb4 p-k3; 3 n-qb3 p-b4; 4 p-q5 pxp;5 pxp p-q3; 6 p-k4 p-kn3;

7 b-q3 b-n2; 8 kn-k2 o-o; 9 o-o p-qr3; 10 p-qr4q-b2; p-kr3 qn-q2;12 p-b4

r-kl; 13 n-n3 n-bl; 14 q-b3 kn-q2; 15 b-k3p-b4; 16 r-b2pxp; 17 knxp n-b3;

18 p-kn4 r-nl; 19 p-b5 pxp; 20 pxp n(1)-q2; 21 r-n2 k-rl; 22 rxb resigns (1-0)

Bernard Partridge gives the final score of the Triangular Match just ended. Scotland beat England  $25\frac{1}{2}-13\frac{1}{2}$ , and also beat Wales  $29\frac{1}{2}-10\frac{1}{2}$ , whilst Wales beat England  $24\frac{1}{2}-15\frac{1}{2}$ . The clean sweep of 4-0 was achieved by A P Borwell,

C W Marshall, A B Dunn, R Lawsonn, A J Lait( on boards 4,9,17,18 and 19 respectively). On board 3 R Beecham scored  $3\frac{1}{2}$ , and the following scoed 3 - J N MacNeill, A G Kirkland, R Gibsonand I MacKintosh ( on boards 2, 10, 15 and 20 ). Six team members scored  $2\frac{1}{2}$  - K B McAlpine, H D Holmes, I S Campbell, A T Hislop, R M Innesand A Thomson - on boards 1, 5,6, 8,11 and 14. All these excellent results - coupled with the fact that only four players scored less 50%- combined to give us convincing victories.

Our membership is about 130, and this includes 47 Life Members and one Honorary Life Member - Bernard Partridge! The closing date for entries had been set the middle of October. It took a few days to compile information in making up the lists George Livie's new Grading List and the SCA Grading List were very useful. A Controllers' Meeting followed on 29th October. Since it had previously been decided (by the Executive Committee) to have not more than 5 Premier Sections, and no more than 6 players in each section, 3 players had to be put into the Major instead. The remaining 30 players were then seeded into 5 Sections of more-or-less equal strength. Similarly the 22 players in the Major were seeded into 2 Sections of 5 and 2 Sections of 6 players. There are eight Sections in the Quartets and these include the Trophy Finals. Only 9 players wanted to take part in the proposed Swiss 1978-80. Since the 4 Round Tourney really needs 16 players (or more) - to ensure a reasonable Prize Fund and also to facilitate pairings in later rounds (since each player has 2 opponents in every round ) - it had to be cancelled. On being told this most of the players concerned opted for the Handicap . All being wellit will be possible to run a Swiss 1979-81. The original entry for the Handicap was 12 and this was enough for it to proceed. At present, taking into account those from the defunct Swiss and some members who joined since the start of the season, there are 24 players in the Handicap. Most of the teams in the League renewed - including Dumfries Threats and Perth who had won their (parallel) sections - and there are now 10 teams . These split very conveniently into an upper division (I) and a lower division (II), the resolution being easiky decided from the previous results and known strength of the new teams Apart from the Swiss 1977-79 which started off using the BPCF Playing Rules (and so should continue under these Rules), all our Tournaments and the League are playing under our own Playing Rules. We hope next Season to have our own Scorecard . Besides having spaces to record the date received and date sent for each move there is to be an extra space to record the playing time for each move ( the point of our Playing Rule 7c). Playing time is normally the difference between the date received and the date sent. However, it is 2day if the scorecard is posted on the same day as it is received or if posted on a monday when received on the saturday ( there being no GPO collection an a sunday besides the odd bank holiday is the reason for Playing Rule 8d ).

Our match captain Richard Beecham has arrangements well in hand for the two International Matches which have been scheduled to start on April 1st. our opponents being Sweden and Iceland. The notation that should be used is based on 4 digit numbers. On the scorecards that I received from Ken McAlpine appeared - for the game against H Hauswald - 1 5254 7776; 2 4244 6877; 3 7163 4746; 2133 3736; 5 6152 2847; 6 5171 4837; 7 6151 7866, and so on.

Donations were made to the Association by R A MacBrayne, J W Vernon, D G McRoberts, L J Lane. A final point- I have just received from Bernard

Partridge to the result of the 40th game against England. We had thought this had got lost in the coils of the GPO.... Anyway we won the match 251-141.

Game No.13 (Quartete Q35 73/74) J dord v R Fullock

1 p-k4 p-qb4; 2 n-kb3 p-k3; 3 n-b3 n-kb3; 4 p-q4 pxp; 5 nxp n-b3; 6 n(4)-n5
b-n5; 7 p-qr3 b-r4; 8 n-q6ch k-b1; 9b-kn5 bxnch; 10 pxb q-r4;11 pxn pxb;

12 q-q2 p-qr3; 13 b-k2 p-n4; 140-0 n-k4; 15 q-r6ch k-k2; 16 qr-q1 qxbp;

17 k-r1 n-b5; bxn pxb; 19 q-n7r-b1; 20p-b4 p-qr4; 21 p-k5 resigns (1-0).

Game No.14 (League) C J Bown (Dumfries Threats) v I S Campbell (Clarkston

nud Giffnock)

1 p-qb4 p-k4; 2 n-qb3 n-kb3; 3 n-b3 n-b3; 4 p-q4 pxp 5 nxp b-n5; 6 b-n5

p-kr3; 7 b-r4 bxnch; 8 pxn n-k4; 9 p-kb4n-n3; 10 bxn qxb; 11 p-kn3 c-o;

12 b-n2 p-b4; 13 n-n5 p-qr3;14n-q6 qxpch; 15 k-b2 r-n1; 16r-qn1 n-k2;17 r-n3

q-b3; 18 p-k4 n-b3; 19 q-q5 q-q5ch; 20 qxq nxq; 21r-n6 p-b4; 22p-k5 n-k3;

23 r(r1)- qn1 n-q1;24b-q5ch k-r1; 25 rxqrp n-b3; 26 bxn qpxb; 27 rxbp b-q2;

28 r(n6)-n6 r-r1; 29 r(n1)-n2 b-b5; 30 nxnp bxn; 31 rnb r-r5;31 r-b2 r(1)-r1;

33 r(7)-p5 rxrp; 34 rxr rxrch; 35 k-k3r-r6ch; 36 k-q2 r-r7ch; 37 k-b3 rxp;

38 rxp r-kn7;39 p-k6 resigns (1-0). hite's win is all the more creditable since his opponent was in last year's Chempionship and is also in this year's

Game No.16 (Match 76-78) J E Haynes (England) v J M MacNeill (Scotland) 1 p-k4 n-kb3; 2 p-k5 n-q4; 3 p-q4 p-q3; 4 n-kb3 pxp; 5 nxp p-kn3: 6 b-qb4 b-k3; 7 b-n3 b-nz; 8 o-o o-o; 9 r-kl p-qb3;10 n-q2 n-q2; 11 qn-b3 nxn; 12 nxn p-qr4; 13 p-qr3 p-r5; 14 b-r2 bxn; 15 rxb q-q2; 16 q-k2 n-b2; 17 bxb nxb; 18 p-qb3 k-n2; 1) b-q2 q-b2; 20 r-kl r-r4; 21 rxr qxr; 22 p-qb4 q-kb4; 23 p-kn4 q-b3; 24 b-b3 nxp; 25 qxp r-q1; 26 q-b5 q-b5; 27 p-r3 k-n1; 28 bxn rxb; 29 r-k8ch q-b8ch k-b3; 31 q-r8ch k-n4; 32 r-k5ch p-b4; 33k-n2 r-q2; 34 gxp pxp; 35 p-b5 q-b5; 36 p-r4ch k-n3; 37 r-k3 q-b2; 38 r-n3ch k-r3; 39 k-r2 q-k2; 40 r-k3 q-n2; 41 q-k8 r-kb2; 42 r-k6chr-b3; 43 r-k6 r-n3; 44 q-k2 q-kb2; 45 q-k5 k-r4; 46 q-b4p-r3; 47 q-03ch r-n5; 48 k-r3q-n6; 49 r-q3 q-b2; 50 r-qk k-n3; 51rxrch . pur; 52 qxpch k-r2; 53 q-k4ch k-n2; 54 q-q4ch k-r2; 55 k-n3 q-b4; 56p-b3 q-n3ch; 57 q-n4 q-b2; 58 q-k4ch k-r1; 59 q-k5ch k-r2; 60k-n4 k-n1; 61 q-b5 q-n2ch; 62 k-z5 qxp; 63 kxp q-n2ch; 64 k-r5 q-qn7;65 q-q7 p-n4;66 qxp qxp; 67 q-k8ch k-u2; 68 q-k7ch k-n1;69 k-r6 q-b8ch;q-n5ch qxqch; 71 pxq p-r6; 72 p-b6 p-r7; 73 p-b7 p-r8=q; 74p-b8=qch k-b2;75 q-q7ch k-b1;76 qxp q-r8ch; 77 k-n6 qxp; 78q-n8ch k-k2; 79 q-k5ch k-b1; 80 q-b6ch qxq; 81 kxq resigns (1-6)

An interesting struggle. John MacNeil gives a question mark to his move 27.

If he leved 33..r-q7, then white has a mate pogning with 34 rxpch; However, we would not then have had the pleasure of socing a q+r ending followed by a q ending.