



*UK PUZZLE DAY
Novotel Birmingham 10th
November 2007*

WCA Report

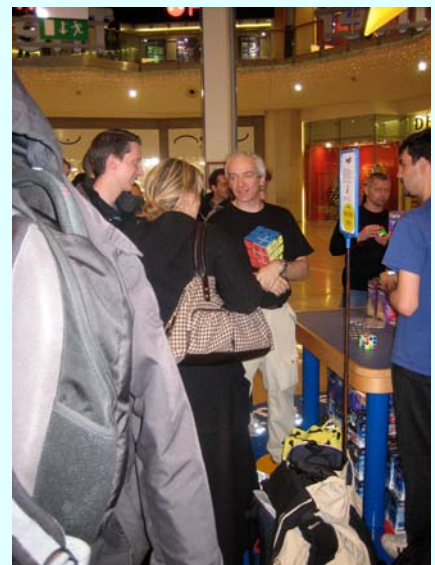
By Dave Hedley Jones



Friday 9th November

Competitors met at the toy shop "The Entertainer" to show off speedcubing skills to the general public. This wasn't as well organised as it could have been as the shop didn't seem to know what to expect and had arranged a large square table which wasn't brilliant. Lots of people were interested and watching though.

Myself and Chrisi left early to set up the room to be ready for the morning, the hotel staff had laid out the room as if it was a formal conference so we had to completely re-arrange the furniture. Dan came over at about 10pm and checked everything was OK - fortunately it was as the tables were really heavy and hard to move!



The Entertainer Toy Shop

Saturday 10th November

With everything laid out we only had to set up the computers on Saturday morning so we got off to a prompt start, we were joined by a puzzle club from a school in south of England (aged about 10/11) who were great fun; three of them were brave enough to compete and some helped with judging.

By grouping the events we were also able to have one group scramble and judge whilst the other group competed.

It was great to see so many nations represented: Hungary, Netherlands, Belgium, France and Lee Cheih and Lee Kang from Taiwan (studying in London). Some TV crews and radio stations turned up and one TV and radio actually broadcast live from the event.

World Records:

Matyas Kuti: 4x4 (single) 46.63 and 5x5 (single) 1:30.58
Ron van Bruchem : 2x2 (single) 2.65

Lots of UK records were broken:

2x2: (single) and (average): Thom Barlow: 3.41 and 6.50
Rubik's Cube (average): Breandan McElhill: 14.61
Rubik's Cube Blindfolded (single): Joey Gouly: 2:27.81
Rubik's Cube One Handed (single) and (average):
Breandan McElhill: 30.18 and 32.55

4x4 (single) and (average): Dan Harris: 1:00.68
and 1:09.02

5x5 (single): Dan Harris: 2:01.41

5x5 (average): Breandan McElhill: 2:12.98

After the competition was over 30 competitors, organisers and friends went to an Italian Restaurant across the road from the Venue and had a great evening; Cubing, chatting and of course..eating. Matyas tried to eat his 4x4 (see below)

Photo's from Saturday:



Breanden McElhill



Rich's Puzzle Collection



World Record for Matyas



Live on TV



Competition Time



Rubik's Cube finalists

And later that night.....



Matyas "Austin Powers" Kuti

And friends:





Thanks to all the competitors and to Dan for organising.

See you again soon.

Dave