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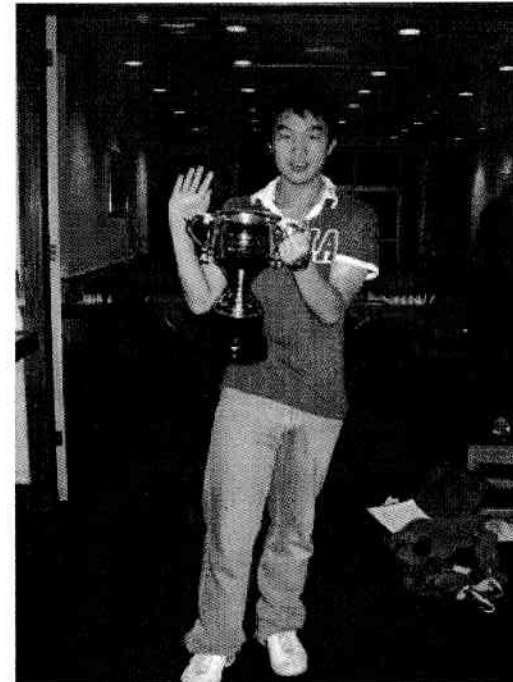
New Zealand Chess

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Puchen Wang Star of the 114th Congress

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STOP PRESS

NZCCA 74th Championship 2007-2008 Field

Ted Frost, Max Wigbout, Gerald Shields, Mark Noble, Brian Millar, Peter Voss, Gordon Hoskyn, Bob Gibbons, Murray Dunwoody, Justin Davis, William Lynn, Hilton Bennett.

2007 NZCF Council

Members of NZCF Council for 2007 are: President - Bob Smith Vice-President - Paul Spiller Secretary - Bob Mitchell Treasurer - Anthony Whitehouse Auckland Councillors - Viv Smith, Michael Steadman, Paul Godfrey, Bruce Watson. Regional Councillors - Wellington - Ross Jackson and Michael Freeman, Central North Island - Hilton Bennett, Otago - Quentin Johnson, Canterbury - Craig Hall.

Life Members

Congratulations to new NZCF Life Members. Ted Frost, Gordon Hoskyn and Arie Nijman. They were unanimously awarded this honour at the NZCF Annual General Meeting in Wanganui for their long service to chess.

Puchen Wang

Congratulations also to Puchen Wang, who achieved an historic clean sweep at the Congress in Wanganui, winning the NZ Championship, NZ Rapid Championship and NZ Lightning Championship. Puchen's success also earned him first place in the NZCF Grand Prix. The NZ Major Open was won by Neil Gunn.

Front Cover: *Puchen Wang with his Lightning Trophy.*

New Zealand Chess

Volume 34 Number 1

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Championship entrant and contender Mike Steadman presents a detailed round by round commentary plus selected games. Puchen Wang was the hero of the event easily eclipsing his older and more experienced rivals, winning by 1.5 points and taking the title for the first time.
16. **New Zealand Major Open**
Gordon Hoskyn comments on a hard fought Major Open in which top seed Neil Gunn emerged victorious from a field of 34.
23. **114th Congress**
A Congress round-up away from the boards by organiser Gordon Hoskyn.
24. **Correspondence Chess**
New Zealand's Queen of Chess Viv Smith provides the second and final part of her Diary of a Chess Addict. Second to none as a player, administrator, teacher, coach, organizer and supporter, Viv outlines her involvement in the game/sport that is such a big part of her life.
30. **DGT Boards**
Bob Mitchell and Bruce Pollard explain the workings and setting up of the NZCF DGT boards at Congress.

Next Issue: *Full report and games on the George Trundle IM Tournament plus the 2006-2007 Major Open from the viewpoint of the winner Neil Gunn and part one of Ted Frost's autobiography.*

NZ Women's Championship

18 - 22 April 2007
Held at
Auckland Chess Centre

Minimum prize fund
\$550

Enquiries: Mike Steadman
steadmanm@hotmail.com

114th New Zealand Championship

by Mike Steadman

The field for this year's event was a distinct spread of three categories of players. The top five were rated much higher than the rest of the field and the winner was expected to come from this group:

Russell Dive – past champion and highest rated

Anthony Ker – past champion

Puchen Wang – returning from the Olympiad with 2 IM norms and a lot more experience

Tim Reilly – past winner of the event and

handled carefully as they have teeth and will bite you if given the chance:

Nathan Goodhue

Gino Thornton

Chris Burns

Bill Forster

So the usual kick-off occurred, drawing numbers to see the only surprise pairing the players would get. The NZ Chess Council purchased 3 digital boards for last year's Queenstown event



L to R: Tim Reilly, Mike Steadman, Puchen Wang, Anthony Ker, Bob Smith and Russell Dive.

having achieved the 6.5 from 9 from the George Trundle IM in September

Bob Smith – past winner

The next group struggle for consistency, but have the ability to hurt the top group when they get their game together:

Mike Steadman

Graeme Spain

Peter Stuart

The bottom group made up the field due to the absence of other top NZ players not being available this year. However, all needed to be

and these were being used in this year's championships. The Auckland Chess Club used these in the George Trundle IM event and had the web site all configured to show the games. In each round boards 1 to 3 were piped out to the web on the Auckland Chess Centre site.

Round 1

Wang v Smith as the top tier game, this was an interesting f3 Nimzo Indian game that looked quite dangerous for Bob initially, but he defused Puchen's initiative and the game ended

calmly in a drawn ending. It must be said that at the end Bob could have tried to win the end-game, but the clock was winding down, so a draw was a good start for them. The surprise result of the round was Steadman defeating Ker with the black pieces, a significant result. Anthony rolled out his pet 4. a3 against the Winawer French, he has been successful with this line in the past, but with normal moves Black achieved a good position. Mike sacrificed an Exchange for 2 pawns, things were looking good, but a slip-up cost him one of the pawns, Anthony then responded in kind and put his King on the wrong square, this allowed Mike to pin the Queen to the King and transpose into an ending where the King, Knight and Pawn were too strong. Reilly was too strong for Burns, an Queens Gambit Accepted was misplayed by Chris and he went downhill in a sequence of combinations. Goodhue and Stuart had a draw, whether it was because they were roomies that Stuart did not press his position, the 2 Bishops v 2 Knights looked like they could carry the day if the game continued – think they were both happy to start the event with a half point. Dive v Thornton was a strange affair, Gino had a normal position against Dive's English, however 1 rash central push cost him a pawn and then it was all over, Dive put the screws on and ensured the point. Spain v Forster was an interesting game. Bill took his eye off the position and lost a key central pawn, he did get some pieces active and pressure, this turned into a win of his pawn back and then a nice combination that netted another pawn. Graeme then turned down a draw offer when he was a pawn down, so Bill just needed to redeploy his Knight back to f6 and he would have winning chances, but he left it on e5 and lost the piece to a combination, so tough finish for Bill, but Graeme was happy with the win.

Wang, Puchen - Smith, Robert

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. f3 c5 5. d5 b5 6. e4 bxc4 7. Bxc4 Nxd5 8. Bxd5 exd5 9. Qxd5 Nc6 10. Nge2 Ba6 11. Be3 O-O 12. Kf2 Re8 13. Rhd1 Ne5 14. Nf4 Rb8 15. Kg1 Nc4 16. Bc1 Bxc3 17. bxc3 Qa5 18. Nd3 Qxc3 19. Bf4 d6 20. Rac1 Qd4+ 21.

Qxd4 cxd4 22. Ne1 Rb2 23. Rxd4 Rc8 24. Nd3 Rb6 25. e5 g5 26. Bg3 dxe5 27. Nxe5 Nd6 28. Rcd1 Nf5 29. R4d2 Re6 30. f4 Bb5 31. Rb1 a6 32. Nf3 g4 33. Ne1 Rec6 34. Bf2 (=); 1/2-1/2

Ker, Anthony - Steadman, Mike

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. a3 Bxc3+ 5. bxc3 dxe4 6. Qg4 Nf6 7. Qxg7 Rg8 8. Qh6 Nbd7 9. Ne2 c5 10. Ng3 b6 11. Bb5 Bb7 12. dxc5 bxc5 13. Rb1 Rg6 14. Qd2 Qc7 15. O-O O-O-O 16. Qe2 Nb8 17. Be3 Nd5 18. Qc4 Nxe3 19. fxe3 f5 20. Rf2 a6 21. Ba4 Bd5 22. Qf1 Qa5 23. Bb3 Qxc3 24. Bxd5 Rxd5 25. Ne2 Qxe3 26. Rb3 Qg5 27. Nf4 Rd6 28. Qb1 Nd7 29. Nxc6 hxc6 30. c4 e3 31. Rfb2 Kd8 32. Rd3 Qf4 33. g3 Qe5 34. Re2 Rxd3 35. Qxd3 Qd4 36. Qxe3 e5 37. Kg2 Qxc4 38. Rd2 Kc7 39. Qg5 Qe6 40. h4 c4 41. Qe3 Kc6 42. Qa7 Nc5 43. Rb2 Kd5 44. Rb6 Qd7 45. Qa8+ Kd4 46. Qf3 Qd5 47. Qxd5+ Kxd5 48. Kf3 e4+ 49. Ke3 c3 50. Rxc6 Nd3 51. Rf6 f4+ 52. Rxf4 Nxf4 53. gxf4 Kc4 54. h5 c2 (54... c2 55. Kd2 Kb3 56. Kc1 e3) 0-1

Round 2

Smith v Dive as the key top group pairing, an Alekines was the game Smith wanted, and he got it. The position was looking a bit stretched for Bob for a while, but he found a nice sequence that allowed him to swap into an opposite coloured Bishop endgame with Rooks, but very drawn. Forster v Steadman was another French, an Advance where Bill played a little played line. Mike kept it simple, castled queen-side, swapped Queens and proceeded to attack the King, the attack played itself and he won a nice game. Thornton v Ker was another knock for Anthony, Gino transposed into a type of English that Dive would thrive in, could have won a pawn, but decided to transpose into an ending where he was better. White won a pawn, but Black's King got active, this provided Anthony squirming chances which he proceeded to use and Gino managed to swap everything off until there were only Rook pawns left and Gino's King was close enough to ensure An-

thony's King was trapped in the corner and was a book draw. Spain v Stuart was a rollout of Spain's pet Morra Gambit, Stuart managed to hold onto the pawn for a long time, but White's pieces were always active and there was no way to break out, finally the pawn returned and a Queen and Knight versus Queen and Bishop position was reached, but Black's King position was strong and there was no way of utilising the Queen and Knight combo, a draw was agreed. Burns v Wang was a nasty game, Chris tried 1 b4 against Puchen, he was not surprised, played solidly and folded out, the position exploded and Chris's position could not hold together – a good win for Puchen. Goodhue had a line prepared for Reilly's Pirc and achieved a good position, he offered a draw and Reilly wisely accepted.

Smith, Robert - Dive, Russell

1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. d4 d6 4. Nf3 Nc6 5. c4 Nb6 6. exd6 exd6 7. Be2 Be7 8. h3 O-O 9. O-O Bf6 10. Nc3 Bf5 11. Bf4 Re8 12. Qd2 d5 13. Nxd5 Nxd5 14. cxd5 Qxd5 15. Bxc7 Nxd4 16. Nxd4 Qxd4 17. Qxd4 Bxd4 18. Bf3 Rac8 19. Rac1 Bxb2 20. Bxb7 Bxc1 21. Bxc8 Rxc8 22. Rxc1 {=} 1/2-1/2

Forster, Bill - Steadman, Mike

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 c5 4. c3 Nc6 5. Nf3 Bd7 6. Na3 f6 7. Bd3 Qc7 8. O-O O-O-O 9. Nb5 Qb8 10. Bf4 a6 11. Nd6+ Bxd6 12. exd6 g5 13. Bg3 h5 14. h3 cxd4 15. cxd4 Qa7 16. Qc2 Kb8 17. Qc5 Qxc5 18. dxc5 e5 19. Bc2 g4 20. hxg4 hxg4 21. Nh2 Nd4 22. Bd1 Nh6 23. f3 Ndf5 24. Be1 Ne3 25. Ba5 Rdg8 26. Re1 g3 27. Nf1 Nxf1 28. Kxf1 Nf5 29. Bb3 Bb5+ 30. Kgl Rh2 31. Be7+ Ka8 0-1

Burns, Chris - Wang, Puchen

1. b4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. a3 d5 4. cxd5 exd5 5. Bb2 Bd6 6. e3 O-O 7. Nf3 c6 8. Nc3 Bf5 9. Be2 Nbd7 10. Nd4 Bg6 11. f4 h6 12. O-O a5 13. b5 c5 14. Nb3 a4 15. Nc1 d4 16. N3a2 Qb6 17. Bc4 Rfe8 18. Qf3 Bh5 19. Qh3 dxe3 20. dxe3 Re4 21. Bd3 Re7 22. Ne2 c4 23. Bd4 Bc5 24. Bxc4 Bxe2 25. Bxc5 Qxc5 26. Bxe2 Rxe3 27. Rac1 Qb6 0-1

Round 3

Stuart v Forster playing out an English which ended peacefully, Bill was happy with the result as it got him started after his tough first 2 rounds. He made 3 draws for Peter and a 1.5 point start. Wang v Goodhue was a horrible game for Nathan, played a Qa5 Scandinavian, was unfamiliar with the line and Puchen confused him with the Nge2 line, things went wrong quickly and Nathan was smashed. Ker v Smith was a c3 Sicilian, Bob had prepared for the line, but alas Anthony's knowledge of the isolated pawn positions in this opening carried him through, a couple of inaccurate moves from Bob and he was beaten. Dive v Burns was a typical slow win for Russell, he managed to confuse Chris and got a Benko as White, he always had a small pull and the clock slowly caught up with Chris and he lost a pawn, and against Russell that's usually enough. Steadman v Thornton was a Grunfeld where Gino took a couple of liberties with some pawn moves and chased White's Bishop, Mike sacrificed his Knight for the 2 pawns and proceeded to attack Gino's King. There were no definite winning lines, but the sacrifice had great long term potential, eventually Gino played a mistake and the attack broke through, a good win for Mike. Reilly v Spain was an interesting game, a quiet line against Graeme's Slav allowed Tim to get one of those grinding spatial type of positions he enjoys. Graeme was getting pushed off the board and then sacrificed the Exchange and got one of his pet Knights and a pawn for the Rook. The Queens came off and Tim started to make headway, but at the risk of letting Graeme's King get up the board and support his past pawn. In time trouble Tim took the wrong pawn missing Graeme's nice Knight retreat preventing the Rook from stopping the e pawn Queen-ing. Game over – a heart breaking loss for Tim.

Steadman, Mike - Thornton, Gino

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 d5 4. Bf4 Bg7 5. e3 O-O 6. Rc1 a6 7. Nf3 dxc4 8. Bxc4 Nbd7 9. O-O Nh5 10. Bg5 h6 11. Bh4 g5 12. Nxc5 hxg5 13. Bxc5 Nhf6 14. e4 b5 15. Bd3 b4 16. Ne2 c5 17. e5 Nh7 18. Bh4 cxd4 19. f4 Re8 20. Ng3 Nhf8 21. Nh5 Ng6

22. f5 Nxb4 23. Qg4 Ng6 24. e6 Ndf8 25. exf7+ Kxf7 26. fxe6+ Kg8 27. Qe4 Be6 28. Nxc7 Kxc7 29. Qe5+ Kg8 30. Qh5 Kg7 31. Qe5+ Kg8 32. g7 Qd5 33. gxf8=Q+ Rxf8 34. Qg3+ Kh8 35. Qh4+ 1-0

Reilly, Tim - Spain, Graeme

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. e3 a6 5. Nc3 Bf5 6. Bd3 Bxd3 7. Qxd3 e6 8. O-O Nbd7 9. b3 Bb4 10. Bb2 Bxc3 11. Bxc3 O-O 12. Nd2 Re8 13. e4 Nxe4 14. Nxe4 dxe4 15. Qxe4 Qf6 16. Rad1 Rac8 17. Rfe1 Qg6 18. Qf3 Nf6 19. h3 h6 20. Re5 Red8 21. Rde1 Rd7 22. Kh2 22... Rdd8 {=} 23. R1e3 Rd7 24. Qf4 Re8 25. Qh4 Nh7 26. Rg3 Qf6 27. Qg4 g6 28. f4 Qd8 29. Rge3 Rxd4 30. Bxd4 Qxd4 31. f5 Qxg4 32. hxg4 Nf8 33. Rd3 Kg7 34. fxe6 fxe6 35. Kg3 Re7 36. Rd8 Nd7 37. Re2 e5 38. g5 hxg5 39. Kg4 e4 40. Kxg5 Nc5 41. Rd6 Re5+ 42. Kf4 Rf5+ 43. Ke3 a5 44. Rf2 Rg5 45. Kd4 Kh6 46. Rdf6 Kh5 47. Rf7 Kg4 48. Rh7 Kg3 49. Ke3 Nd3 50. Rh3+ Kg4 51. Rf7 Re5 52. Rh6 Re6 53. Rhh7 Kg3 54. Rxb7 Ne1 55. Rbe7 Nxc2+ 56. Kd4 Rxe7 57. Rxe7 e3 58. Re6 Kf3 59. Rxc6 Nf4 60. Kc3 e2 0-1

Ker, Anthony - Smith, Robert

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 e6 6. Bd3 Nc6 7. O-O cxd4 8. cxd4 Be7 9. Nc3 Qd6 10. Be3 O-O 11. a3 b6 12. Qe2 Bb7 13. Rad1 Rad8 14. Bb1 Nb8 15. Rfe1 Bd5 16. Ne5 Qc7 17. Bg5 Ba8 18. Qd3 g6 19. Qh3 Nd5 20. Bh6 Nxc3 21. bxc3 Bxa3 22. Ba2 Rfe8 23. Bg5 Nc6 24. Ng4 h5 25. Nf6+ Kg7 26. d5 Be7 27. Nxe8+ Rxe8 28. Bxe7 Nxe7 29. d6 1-0

So after 3 rounds the scores were:

Steadman	3
Wang	2.5
Dive	2.5
Spain	2.5
Reilly	1.5
Ker	1.5
Stuart	1.5
Smith	1
Goodhue	1

Forster	.5
Thornton	.5
Burns	0

Round 4

Smith v Steadman was Mike's 3rd French defence, but Smith knew the book better, played a pawn sacrifice line championed by Kasparov. Mike got 2 pawns but had horrible dark square weaknesses. Bob loves these kinds of positions and duly killed Mike off. Forster v Thornton was a see saw game, Bill won a couple of pawns but got his King and Rooks tied up, Gino temporarily sacrificed an Exchange and quickly won it back with interest. Bill had 4 pawns for the piece, but once the Rooks came off, the Queen and Bishop was too strong with his King stuck in the corner. Burns v Ker was a standard win for Ker. Chris tried a line against Anthony's Pirc, but as Ker has shown so often, once he bounces out, White's position can often be over-exposed. Goodhue v Dive was an Alekines', Nathan had obviously prepared something for Russell but it did not help him, Dive finishing him off with a pretty mate. Spain v Wang was a Tarrasch French, the position was looking pretty calm when all of a sudden Puchen got a big passed pawn, a nice combination secured the Exchange and then the game shortly after. Stuart v Reilly was a Leningrad Dutch, Peter played a comfortable game and held the draw easily – his 4th draw.

Smith, Robert - Steadman, Mike

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. e5 c5 5. a3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 Ne7 7. h4 Nbc6 8. h5 Qa5 9. Bd2 cxd4 10. cxd4 Qa4 11. Nf3 Nxd4 12. Bd3 Nec6 13. Kf1 Nxf3 14. Qxf3 Qd4 15. c3 Qxe5 16. h6 g6 17. Re1 Qd6 18. Qf6 Rg8 19. Bb5 Bd7 20. Bxc6 Bxc6 21. Bg5 Bb5+ 22. Kg1 Bd3 23. Rh3 Bf5 24. Rhe3 Rc8 25. Re5 Rc7 26. Kh1 Rf8 27. g4 Be4+ 28. f3 Rxc3 29. R5xe4 dxe4 30. Qxc3 f5 31. Qc8+ 1-0

Goodhue, Nathan - Dive, Russell

1. e4 Nf6 2. Nc3 d5 3. e5 Ne4 4. Nce2 f6 5. d3 Ng5 6. Bxg5 fxe5 7. Qd2 e6 8.

O-O-O c5 9. f4 Be7 10. fxg5 {(=)} 10... Bxg5 11. Nf4 O-O 12. g3 Nc6 13. Nf3 Bh6 14. h4 a5 15. Kb1 a4 16. Bh3 a3 17. b3 Qe7 18. Rde1 Bd7 19. Bg4 b5 20. Qh2 b4 21. Ng5 Nd4 22. Qh3 Ra6 23. Nxd5 exd5 24. Bxd7 Rf2 25. Bg4 Rxc2 26. Bd1 Rb2+ 27. Ka1 Ra8 28. Qg4 Nb5 29. Re2 Rxe2 30. Qxe2 Bxg5 31. hxg5 Qxg5 32. Rh5 Qc1# 0-1

Spain, Graeme - Wang, Puchen

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nd2 Be7 4. e5 Nh6 5. Ndf3 Nf5 6. Bd3 c5 7. c3 Nc6 8. Ne2 cxd4 9. Bxf5 exf5 10. Nexd4 Be6 11. O-O O-O 12. Re1 h6 13. Nxc6 bxc6 14. Nd4 Qd7 15. Qh5 c5 16. Nxe6 Qxe6 17. Bd2 {(=)} 17... d4 18. cxd4 cxd4 19. b3 Rac8 20. Qd1 d3 21. Rc1 Rxc1 22. Bxc1 Rd8 23. Qd2 Qc6 24. Bb2 Bb4 25. Qxb4 d2 26. h3 Qc2 27. Bc3 d1=Q 28. Rxd1 Rxd1+ 29. Be1 Qe2 30. Qb8+ Kh7 31. Kh2 Rxe1 32. f4 Qf2 0-1

Round 5

Wang v Stuart was an example of Puchen's memorisation skills, Peter played down a line of the closed Sicilian that Puchen knew by heart. White's game plan was known and seen before. By the time Peter only had 10 minutes left on his clock, Puchen had used 20 minutes – good book victory. Dive v Spain was a English that transposed into an Old Indian. Russell held everything in check, expanded on the Queenside, won 2 pawns when Graeme thought he had a winning combination, but he missed a devious defence which left his King indefensible – a good win for Russell. Thornton v Smith was a position Bob normally wins, he had damaged Gino's queenside pawns and had good Knight versus bad Bishop, he just needed to get the major pieces off and he was winning. Gino managed to confuse matters and in the end could have won a pawn and had winning chances, the Bishop was now better than the Knight, but Gino's endgame confidence isn't high enough and he accepted Bob's draw offer. Ker v Goodhue was a Scandinavian again, they were following book for 13 moves, by move 15 Nathan was completely lost. Steadman v Burns

was a Queens Gambit Accepted, Mike did not play the most active line and Chris equalised easily, Mike kept probing but could not find a way through. In the end White pressed too far and was losing, however Chris only had a couple of minutes left and decided he wanted to take the half point, so forced a draw by perpetual check. Reilly v Forster was a powerful display by Tim. Bill messed up the opening and was punished.

Wang, Puchen - Stuart, Peter

1. e4 c5 2. Nc3 Nc6 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. d3 d6 6. f4 e6 7. Nf3 Nge7 8. O-O O-O 9. Be3 Nd4 10. e5 dxe5 11. fxe5 Nef5 12. Bf4 Nxf3+ 13. Qxf3 Qc7 14. Rae1 Nd4 15. Qf2 Kh8 16. g4 Bd7 17. Ne4 Bc6 18. Nf6 Bxg2 19. Qxg2 Qc6 20. Qh3 Bxf6 21. exf6 21... Nxc2 {(=)} 22. Re2 Nd4 23. Re3 g5 24. Qh6 Rg8 25. Rh3 Ne2+ 26. Kf2 1-0

Dive, Russell - Spain, Graeme

1. c4 c6 2. e4 e5 3. Nc3 Nf6 4. Nf3 d6 5. d4 Nbd7 6. Be2 Be7 7. h3 Qc7 8. Be3 Nf8 9. Qd2 Ng6 10. O-O O-O 11. b4 Bd7 12. Rab1 Rad8 13. Rfd1 Bc8 14. Qc2 a6 15. Rdc1 Nh5 16. Na4 Qb8 17. Nb6 Nhf4 18. Bf1 f5 19. Nxc8 Qxc8 20. dxe5 fxe4 21. Qxe4 dxe5 22. b5 Rf6 23. bxa6 bxa6 24. Re1 Bd6 25. Red1 Rdf8 26. Rxd6 Rxd6 27. Bc5 27... Qd7 {(=)} 28. Bxd6 Qxd6 29. Rb6 Qd1 30. Rxc6 Rb8 31. Rxa6 Rb1 32. Nd2 Rc1 33. Ra8+ Nf8 34. Qf5 N4g6 35. Ra7 Nh8 36. Qxe5 Nf7 37. Qd5 1-0

Ker, Anthony - Goodhue, Nathan

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 c6 6. Bc4 Bf5 7. Bd2 e6 8. Qe2 Qc7 9. O-O-O Nbd7 10. Ne5 Nxe5 11. dxe5 Nd5 12. g4 Bg6 13. f4 O-O-O 14. Rhf1 h6 15. f5 Nxc3 16. Bxc3 Rxd1+ 17. Qxd1 exf5 18. gxf5 Bh7 19. Qh5 g6 20. fxg6 Bxg6 21. Qg4+ Kb8 22. e6 Rh7 23. Qxg6 fxg6 24. Rxf8+ Qc8 25. Be5+ Rc7 26. e7 1-0

Reilly, Tim - Forster, Bill

1. d4 d6 2. e4 Nf6 3. f3 d5 4. e5 Ng8 5. f4 Bf5 6. Nf3 e6 7. Bd3 Bxd3 8. Qxd3

c5 9. c3 c4 10. Qc2 Nh6 11. b3 Qa5 12. bxc4 dxc4 13. Nbd2 b5 14. Qe4 Qxc3 15. Qxa8 Qe3+ 16. Kd1 Ng4 17. Qxb8+ Kd7 18. Qxb5+ Kd8 19. Qxc4 1-0

So after 5 rounds the scores were:

Wang	4.5
Dive	4.5
Steadman	3.5
Ker	3.5
Reilly	3
Spain	2.5
Smith	2.5
Stuart	2
Thornton	2
Goodhue	1
Forster	.5
Burns	.5

Round 6

Forster v Smith was one of Bill's best efforts. He played a good Sicilian against Bob, did lose a pawn but got himself into a drawn Rook and Pawn ending. Unfortunately he did not play it correctly and Bob duly won the game. Burns v Thornton was an Advanced French where Gino started to break out, got carried away and forgot about his King safety, he then duly lost. Goodhue v Steadman was a smart game by Nathan, to Mike's French he played an Exchange variation, Mike tried to push too hard and was lucky to draw. Spain v Ker was a terrific game. The usual Pirc where Anthony got a slight edge but Graeme defended very strongly. He reached an endgame that was drawn, but in time trouble he missed some drawing opportunities and Anthony finally won. Stuart v Dive was a good English by these two exponents, Russell played it like a Slav and then expanded on the Queenside. Before Peter knew it Black had a good space advantage, but all the heavy pieces were traded off down the c-file and the pawns were all locked up – there was no way through and a draw was finally agreed. Reilly v Wang was the heavyweight match-up for the round. Puchen played his Benko Gambit, duly won his pawn back and still held an advantage. He played well from there and converted the game for the

point.

Spain, Graeme - Ker, Anthony

1. e4 d6 2. d4 Nf6 3. Nc3 g6 4. Nf3 c6 5. Be3 Nbd7 6. Qd2 b5 7. Bd3 e5 8. h3 Bb7 9. Ne2 exd4 10. Bxd4 Bg7 11. c3 O-O 12. Be3 Re8 13. Ng3 d5 14. Qc2 dxe4 15. Bxe4 Qe7 16. O-O-O Nc5 17. Bd3 Nxd3+ 18. Qxd3 Rad8 19. Qc2 c5 20. Rxd8 Rxd8 21. Rd1 Rxd1+ 22. Qxd1 h6 23. Qd2 Kh7 24. Qd3 Nd5 25. Bd2 b4 26. Ne2 Qe6 27. c4 Nb6 28. b3 Qf6 29. Kd1 Bc3 30. Ke1 Nd7 31. Nc1 Ne5 32. Nxe5 Qxe5+ 33. Qe2 Bxg2 34. Qxe5 Bxe5 35. Be3 Bd6 36. Nd3 Bxh3 37. Bxc5 Bxc5 38. Nxc5 Bg2 39. Na6 g5 40. Ke2 f5 41. f3 g4 42. fxg4 fxg4 43. Kf2 Be4 44. Kg3 h5 45. c5 Kg6 46. Kf4 Bf3 47. Nxb4 Kf6 48. Nd3 Ke6 49. b4 Kd5 50. Kg3 Ke4 51. Ne1 Ke3 52. b5 Be4 53. Ng2+ Kd4 54. c6 Kc5 55. c7 Bf5 56. Nf4 Kxb5 57. Nd5 Be6 58. Ne7 Ka4 59. c8=Q Bxc8 60. Nxc8 a6 61. Nd6 Ka3 62. Ne4 Kxa2 63. Kh4 a5 64. Kxh5 g3 65. Nxc3 a4 66. Ne4 a3 67. Nc3+ Kb2 68. Nd1+ Kb3 69. Ne3 a2 70. Kg5 a1=Q 71. Nf5 Kc4 72. Kf4 Kd3 73. Kg5 Ke4 74. Nd6+ Ke5 75. Nf7+ Ke6 76. Nh6 Qg1+ 77. Ng4 Qg3 78. Kh5 Kf5 79. Nh6+ Kf4 80. Nf7 Qg7 0-1

Reilly, Tim - Wang, Puchen

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 c5 3. d5 b5 4. cxb5 a6 5. bxa6 g6 6. Nc3 Bxa6 7. g3 d6 8. Bg2 Bg7 9. Nf3 Nbd7 10. O-O Nb6 11. Re1 O-O 12. e4 Nfd7 13. Qc2 Nc4 14. Bf4 Qa5 15. Rac1 Rfb8 16. b3 Nce5 17. Red1 Nxf3+ 18. Bxf3 Ne5 19. Be2 Rb4 20. Kg2 Bxe2 21. Qxe2 Qa6 22. Qd2 Rd4 23. Qe3 Nd3 24. Rc2 Nxf4+ 25. Qxf4 Rxd1 26. Nxd1 Qd3 27. Rd2 Qb1 28. Qe3 Rxa2 29. Rxa2 Qxa2 30. Qd3 Bd4 31. Ne3 Qb2 32. Qc2 Qa1 33. Nd1 Qa5 34. Kf1 Kg7 35. Qe2 Qa1 36. Qd3 Qa3 37. Qc2 Qa5 38. Qe2 h5 39. Kg2 Qb4 40. Qf3 Qe1 41. h4 Qd2 42. Kf1 Qc2 43. Kg2 f5 44. exf5 Qxf5 45. Ne3 Bxe3 46. fxe3 Qc2+ 47. Kh3 Qf5+ 48. Kg2 Qc2+ 49. Kh3 Qxb3 50. Qe4 Qb7 51. Qe6 Qc7 52. g4 Qd8 53. gxh5 gxh5 54. Qf5 Qe8 55. Qg5+ Kh7 56. Qf4 Qg6 57. Kh2 Kg7 58. e4 Qg4 0-1

Stuart, Peter - Dive, Russell

1. c4 c6 2. Nf3 d5 3. b3 Nf6 4. g3 e6 5. Bg2
 Be7 6. Bb2 Nbd7 7. O-O O-O 8. d3
 a5 9. a3 b5 10. cxd5 cxd5 11. Nbd2 Bb7 12.
 Rc1 Qb6 13. Qc2 Rac8 14. Qb1 h6 15.
 Rxc8 Rxc8 16. Rc1 Rxc1+ 17. Qxc1 Bd6 18.
 d4 b4 19. a4 Ba6 20. Bf1 Ne4 21. Nxe4
 dxe4 22. Nd2 f5 23. e3 Bxf1 24. Qc8+ Nf8 25.
 Kxf1 Qc7 26. Qxc7 Bxc7 27. Ke2 Nd7
 28. Nc4 g5 29. Kf1 Nf6 30. Ke2 Kf7 31. Kf1
 Ke7 32. Ke2 Kd7 33. Kf1 Kc6 34. Ke2
 Kd5 35. Ba1 g4 36. Kf1 Nh7 37. Nd2 Ng5 38.
 Ke2 h5 39. Bb2 Bd8 40. Ba1 Nf7 41.
 Nc4 Bc7 42. Bb2 Nh8 43. Nd2 Ng6 44. Nc4 h4
 45. Nd2 h3 46. Nc4 Nh8 47. Nd2 Nf7
 48. Nc4 Ng5 49. Nd2 Bd6 50. Ba1 Be7 51.
 Bb2 Nf7 52. Nc4 Nd8 53. Nd2 Nc6 54. Nc4
 Nb8 55. Nd2 Nd7 56. Nc4 56... Nf6 {(=)}
 1/2-1/2

Round 7

Ker v Stuart was a c3 Sicilian which Peter knew well. Anthony got a slightly better position and really tried to push Peter. Peter defended well and got to an endgame with Knight against Bishop, but all the pawns were on the same side and his King was close enough that even though Anthony won a pawn, it was not enough to win – another good draw for Peter. Dive v Reilly was a Leningrad Dutch against Russell's English, Russell was better prepared and when the position exploded open, Tim's position collapsed. Wang v Forster was a simple win for Puchen, Bill lost a pawn early, then the 2 Bishops and he was finally check mated. Smith v Burns was a prepared line of a Queens Gambit accepted by Bob, he got Chris to tie up all his pieces, then make weakening pawn moves on the Kingside, he then broke through for a good win. Thornton v Goodhue was an English Dutch where Gino mixed his plans, got superficially active. Nathan foolishly offered a draw, luckily Gino turned it down. Nathan then proceeded to advance his pawns and push all Gino's active pieces back. Gino sacrificed a pawn, but there wasn't enough compensation and Nathan duly wrapped up the point. Steadman v Spain was a Scandinavian where Mike

got the moves wrong and Graeme pounced. He sacrificed an Exchange and Mike was forced to keep his King in the centre. Mike's position was clinging and for 13 moves he had only moves to counter Graeme's attack. This had the benefit of not using any time on the clock and by move 25 Mike had used 15 minutes and Graeme had 5 minutes left to complete the game. At a crucial stage when Graeme appeared to have a win on the board, there was a sacrifice that allowed Mike to complicate the position just when Graeme had no time left. Graeme did not see the hard to find winning line of Ka8, and could not adjust to the change in the game. Graeme bypassed many drawing options and won a Rook, Knight and Bishop versus Queen, however he needed to realise that his King was not safe and the Queen mopped up his Kingside pawns and then won the game.

Ker, Anthony - Stuart, Peter

1. e4 c5 2. c3 d5 3. exd5 Qxd5 4. d4 Nf6 5.
 Nf3 e6 6. Bd3 Be7 7. O-O O-O 8. Be3
 Nc6 9. Qe2 Rd8 10. Rd1 Qh5 11. Nbd2 cxd4
 12. Nxd4 Qxe2 13. Bxe2 Nd5 14. Nxc6
 bxc6 15. Bd4 c5 16. Be5 Bd7 17. Bf3 Bc6 18.
 Nb3 Rac8 19. Na5 Ba8 20. c4 Nb6 21.
 Bxa8 Nxa8 22. Nb7 Rxd1+ 23. Rxd1 Nb6 24.
 b3 Kf8 25. Rd2 f6 26. Bf4 Ke8 27. Kf1
 Rc6 28. Nd6+ Bxd6 29. Rxd6 Rxd6 30. Bxd6
 Nd7 31. Ke2 Kd8 32. Kd3 Kc8 33. a3 Kb7
 34. b4 Kc6 35. Bf4 a6 36. Kc3 Nb6 37. Be3
 Nd7 38. f4 cxb4+ 39. axb4 Nf8 40. Kb3
 Ng6 41. Ka4 Nh4 42. g3 Ng2 43. Bd4 Ne1 44.
 Ka5 Kb7 45. c5 Nc2 46. Bb2 Kc6 47.
 Bc3 Kb7 48. Bb2 Kc6 49. h3 h5 50. h4 Kb7
 51. b5 axb5 52. Kxb5 52... Ne3 {(=)}
 53. c6+ Kc7 54. Bc3 Nf5 55. Ba5+ Kc8 56.
 Be1 e5 57. fxe5 fxe5 58. Kc5 e4 59.
 Kd5 e3 60. Ke4 Ne7 61. Kxe3 Nxc6 62. Bc3
 Kd7 63. Kf4 Ke6 64. Kg5 Kf7 65. Kxh5
 Ne7 66. Kg5 g6 67. g4 Nd5 68. Bd4 Nc7 69.
 Kh6 Ne6 70. Be5 Nc5 71. g5 Ne6 72.
 Kh7 Nf8+ 73. Kh8 Ne6 74. Bc3 Nf8 75. Bd4
 Ne6 76. Be5 Nf8 77. Bd6 Ne6 78. Kh7
 Ng7 79. Bg3 Ne6 80. Bd6 Ng7 81. Bc5 Ne6 82.
 Bb4 {(=)} 1/2-1/2

Dive, Russell - Reilly, Tim

1. c4 g6 2. g3 Bg7 3. Bg2 e5 4. Nc3 d6 5. d3 f5

6. Nf3 Nf6 7. O-O O-O 8. b4 e4
 9. Nd4 Ng4 10. dxe4 c5 11. bxc5 dxc5 12.
 Ndb5 a6 13. Qxd8 Rxd8 14. Nc7 Bxc3 15.
 Bg5 Rd7 16. Nxa8 Bxa1 17. Rxa1 h6 18. Bf4
 Nc6 19. Nb6 Rd8 20. Nxc8 Rxc8 21.
 exf5 1-0

Steadman, Mike - Spain, Graeme

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 Nf6 5.
 Bc4 Bg4 6. Nge2 e6 7. f3 Bf5 8.
 g4 Bg6 9. h4 h6 10. Nf4 Bh7 11. Qe2 Bb4 12.
 Bd2 Nc6 13. Bb5 O-O-O 14. Bxc6 bxc6
 15. Qc4 e5 16. dxe5 Qxe5+ 17. Nfe2 Rxd2 18.
 Kxd2 Rd8+ 19. Ke1 Nd5 20. Rd1 Bxc3+
 21. bxc3 Re8 22. Rd2 Qg3+ 23. Kd1 Qxf3 24.
 Qa6+ Kb8 25. Re1 Nxc3+ 26. Kc1 Qf2
 27. Red1 Nxd1 28. Nd4 Qe3 29. Nxc6+ Ka8
 30. Nd8 Qxd2+ 31. Kxd2 Rxd8+ 32. Kc1
 Be4 33. Qc4 Bb7 34. Qxf7 a6 35. Qxg7 Ne3
 36. Qxh6 Nxc4 37. Qg5 Rd4 38. h5 Ra4
 39. Qd8+ Ka7 40. Qxc7 Rxa2 41. Qf4 Ra1+
 42. Kb2 Rh1 43. Qd4+ Ka8 44. Qxg4 Re1
 45. Qg8+ Ka7 46. h6 Be4 47. Qg7+ 1-0

Round 8

Wang v Dive was one of the heavyweight contests for this round. Puchen played 1.d4 which Russell turned into a Slav. Puchen's position was superior and Russell got into serious time trouble. Puchen played quickly during this and missed some nice tactics by Russell which allowed him to liquidate into an endgame with Bishop and Knight versus Rook. Unfortunately for Russell his 3 pawns were split and the clock was also against him. Puchen played a nice combination to sacrifice his Rook for the Bishop and leave a drawn Knight and pawn endgame. Reilly v Ker was Tim's second Benko for this tournament, he was better prepared and did not allow Anthony to get anything going and won a nice game. Stuart v Steadman was an English as usual. Mike needing to win played a reversed Dragon and started pushing all his Kingside pawns. Peter did not play actively and was routed. Forster v Burns was a Petroff with Chris equalising reasonably easily. Forster then proceeded to drift and lost an Exchange with Chris finally pulling off the

win. Goodhue v Smith was some smart preparation by Nathan. He got Bob to play a Kings Indian and responded with the g3 fianchetto line. Nathan sacrificed the Exchange for 2 pawns and had a huge bind on the position, he offered a draw and Bob was in no position to refuse. Spain v Thornton was a Rubinstein French, a good choice for Gino. Graeme was feeling a bit worse for wear after his last 3 rounds and a draw was agreed early.

Wang, Puchen - Dive, Russell

1. Nf3 Nf6 2. c4 c6 3. d4 d5 4. Nc3 a6 5. c5 b6
 6. cxb6 Qxb6 7. Na4 Qa7 8. e3
 e6 9. Bd3 Nbd7 10. O-O Bd6 11. b3 O-O 12.
 Bb2 Qb8 13. Qc2 Bb7 14. Nc5 Bxc5 15.
 dxc5 a5 16. Ng5 h6 17. Nh7 Nxe7 18. Bxe7+
 Kh8 19. Qc3 Qe5 20. Qd2 Qg5 21. Bc2
 f5 22. Rac1 Rf7 23. f4 Qe7 24. Rf3 Nxe5 25.
 Rh3 Kg8 26. Qc3 Nf7 27. Rxh6 c5 28.
 Rg6 Rf6 29. Rg5 Kd7 30. Bd1 g6 31. Qe1 e5
 32. Qg3 exf4 33. Bxf6 Nxf6 34. Qxf4
 Ne4 35. Rg4 Rh8 36. Bf3 Nf6 37. Rg3 Rh4 38.
 Qg5 f4 39. Bxd5+ Bxd5 40. exf4 Rg4
 41. Qe5 Qxe5 42. fxe5 Rxe5 43. hxe5 Nd7 44.
 Kf2 {(=)} 44... Ke6 45. Ke3 Kxe5
 46. Rc2 g5 47. g4 Kd6 48. Rf2 Be6 49. Ke4
 Bxg4 50. Rf7 Ke6 51. Rf1 Nf6+ 52. Kd3
 Ke5 53. Rf2 Ne4 54. Rf8 Bd7 55. Ra8 a4 56.
 bxa4 Kd5 57. Rd8 e4+ 58. Kc2 Kc6 59.
 a5 Kc7 60. Rg8 Ba4+ 61. Kc1 c3 62. Rf8 c2
 63. Rf3 Kc6 64. Ra3 Nc5 65. a6 Kb6
 66. Rxa4 Nxa4 67. Kxc2 Nc5 68. Kd2 Nd7 69.
 Ke3 Nf6 70. Kd4 70... Nh5 {(=)}
 1/2-1/2

Stuart, Peter - Steadman, Mike

1. c4 e5 2. g3 Nf6 3. Bg2 d5 4. cxd5 Nxd5 5.
 Nc3 Nb6 6. Nf3 Nc6 7. O-O Be7 8.
 a3 g5 9. d3 g4 10. Nd2 h5 11. Nc4 h4 12. b4
 Be6 13. Nxb6 axb6 14. Bb2 f5 15. e3
 Bf6 16. Ne2 Qe7 17. Qc2 O-O-O 18. Rfd1
 Qf7 19. Rd2 Bb3 20. Qb1 hxe3 21. hxe3
 Bd5 22. e4 fxe4 23. dxe4 Bc4
 24. Qe1 Rdf8 25. Nc1 Qh5 26. Nd3 Bg5 27.
 Rdd1 Qh2+
 28. Kf1 Qxg3 29. f3 Rxf3+ 0-1

Reilly, Tim - Ker, Anthony

1. d4 Nf6 2. e4 c5 3. d5 b5 4. cxb6 a6 5. bxa6 Bxa6 6. Nc3 d6 7. g3 g6 8. Bg2 Bg7 9. Nf3 Nbd7 10. Rb1 Nb6 11. b3 Qc7 12. O-O Qb7 13. Nh4 O-O 14. Bb2 Rad8 15. Re1 Qa8 16. e4 Bb7 17. Qc2 Ne8 18. a4 e6 19. dxe6 fxe6 20. Nb5 Bxb2 21. Rxb2 e5 22. Qd2 Bc6 23. f4 Ng7 24. fxe5 dxe5 25. Qc3 Nd7 26. Qc4+ Kh8 27. Nd6 Qa5 28. Rbe2 Qb4 29. Nf7+ Rxf7 30. Qxf7 Rf8 31. Qc4 Qxc4 32. bxc4 Bxa4 33. Bh3 Nb6 34. Ra1 Be8 35. Ra5 Na4 36. Rf2 Kg8 37. Rxf8+ Kxf8 38. Nf3 Nh5 39. Nxe5 Nf6 40. Bg2 Nc3 41. Rxc5 Nfxe4 42. Bxe4 Nxe4 43. Rc7 1-0

Round 9

Dive v Forster was an English with Russell performing his usual crush routine. Bill tried for normal development but got exploded on the Queenside – easy win for Russell. Ker v Wang was a Scandinavian where Puchen was never really threatened. Anthony played down the line that allows Black to equalise easily, at the end Puchen was slightly better but because of the tournament situation safely pocketed the draw. Steadman v Reilly was a tragedy for Mike, the opening was a typically messy Modern where White won a clear pawn, the major pieces were swapped off and Mike missed a tactic that dropped a piece in the middle of the board – sad loss. Thornton v Stuart was a Grand Prix Sicilian that Peter was prepared for. Peter knew Gino's weakness was endgames and slowly swapped pieces towards an endgame where he was always slightly better. Gino as expected played the Rook endgame terribly and was duly beaten, great game by Peter. Smith v Spain was a weird game, Bob won an Exchange early on and was winning easily, and he then proceeded to let a lot of his advantage slip, but was still winning. At a crucial stage instead of Queening a pawn he wasted a move attacking the Bishop with his Rook, allowing Graeme the extra tempo he needed to sacrifice the Bishop for the Queening Pawn and his Rook pawn and King would be enough to draw. However, just when he had a draw on the board, he walked his King into the corner and self mated himself. Burns v Goodhue was a Qd6 Scandinavian which was

slightly better for Nathan, he miscalculated a combination and Chris won an Exchange. Nathan dug in and found a way to put a fortress in place that Chris could not break down – a fighting draw the result.

Steadman, Mike - Reilly, Tim

1. e4 d6 2. d4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. Be3 a6 5. Qd2 Nd7 6. f3 b5 7. h4 h6 8. a4 b4 9. Nd5 a5 10. c3 e6 11. Nf4 bxc3 12. bxc3 e5 13. Nd3 Ne7 14. dxe5 d5 15. exd5 Nxe5 16. Nxe5 Bxe5 17. f4 Bf6 18. dxc6 O-O 19. Nf3 Nxc6 20. Bb5 Qxd2+ 21. Bxd2 Bb7 22. Rc1 Rad8 23. Be3 Rfe8 24. Kf2 Re4 25. h5 Rde8 26. Bd2 Kg7 27. hxg6 fxg6 28. Rhe1 Rxe1 29. Rxe1 Rc8 30. g3 Na7 31. Nd4 Nxb5 32. axb5 Rc4 33. Ra1 \$2 (33. Ke3) 33... Rxd4 34. cxd4 Bxd4+ 35. Ke2 Bxa1 36. Bxa5 h5 37. Kd3 Kf7 38. Kc4 Ke6 39. Kc5 Kd7 40. Be1 Bf6 41. Kb6 Kc8 42. Kc5 Be4 43. Bf2 Kb7 44. Kb4 Bd8 45. Bc5 Bd3 46. Bf8 Bb6 47. Be7 Bf2 48. Bh4 Be2 0-1

Ker, Anthony - Wang, Puchen

1. e4 d5 2. exd5 Qxd5 3. Nc3 Qa5 4. d4 Nf6 5. Nf3 c6 6. Be4 Bf5 7. Bd2 e6 8. Qe2 Bb4 9. O-O O Nbd7 10. a3 Bxc3 11. Bxc3 Qc7 12. Ne5 b5 13. Bb3 Be4 14. Rhe1 Bd5 15. Bxd5 Nxd5 16. Bd2 Nxe5 17. dxe5 O-O 18. c4 bxc4 19. Qxc4 Nb6 20. Qg4 g6 21. Bb4 c5 22. Kb1 Kb8 23. Rc1 Rd5 24. Re2 Rc8 25. f4 Qd7 26. Ba5 Na4 27. Be1 {(=)} 27... Qb5 28. Rec2 28... a6 {(=)} 1/2-1/2

Smith, Robert - Spain, Graeme

1. c4 Nc6 2. Nc3 e5 3. g3 g6 4. Bg2 Bg7 5. d3 Nge7 6. h4 d6 7. h5 Bf5 8. Rb1 gxf6 9. b4 a6 10. Rxh5 Bg6 11. Rh1 O-O 12. Bh6 Bxh6 13. Rxh6 f5 14. e3 Qe8 15. f4 exf4 16. gxf4 Kg7 17. Rh3 Qf7 18. Kd2 Rae8 19. Nge2 Ng8 20. Nd5 Nf6 21. Nxf6 Qxf6 22. Nc3 Ne7 23. Bxb7 Rb8 24. Nd5 Nxd5 25. Bxd5 Rb6 26. Qa4 Qe7 27. Bc6 Rfb8 28. Rhh1 Qf6 29. a3 Qe7 30. b5 axb5 31. cxb5 h5 32. Qd4+ Kh6 33. a4 Rxc6 34. bxc6 Ra8 35. Rb7 Qf7 36. Rb2 Qe7 37. Rb7 Qd8 38. e4 Qe7 39. Ke3 Re8 40. Kd2

fxe4 41. Re1 Qf7 42. dxe4 Qxf4+ 43. Qe3 Rxe4 44. Qxf4+ Rxf4 45. Ra1 Rc4 46. Rxc7 h4 47. a5 Be4 48. a6 Rxc6 49. Rxc6 Bxc6 50. a7 Kg5 51. Rc1 Bd5 52. Rc8 Kf4 53. Ke2 h3 54. a8=Q Bxa8 55. Rxa8 h2 56. Rh8 Kg3 57. Kf1 d5 58. Rg8+ Kf3 59. Rh8 Kg3 60. Ke2 Kg2 61. Rg8+ Kh1 62. Kf2 d4 63. Ra8 1-0

Round 10

Forster v Goodhue was a Modern where Bill did not really look that comfortable, Nathan slowly got a good position, but then messed it up. Bill got a big central past Pawn and a Rook on the seventh and good pressure, he offered a draw which Nathan had no option but to accept. Spain v Burns was a Petroff with Graeme producing a good attacking game to win. He produced a combination that gave him a Rook and Bishop versus a Queen, but Graeme's 2 Rooks got to the 2nd rank and there were mating combinations that allowed him to swap everything into a won Rook and Pawn endgame. Stuart v Smith was an English that changed to a Sicilian type position. Peter was rolling his Kingside pawns forward and preparing to squash Bob, then at the last minute Peter swapped his Bishop for the central Knight and offered a draw in a position Fritz thinks is completely winning. Bob rapidly accepted and breathed a sigh of relief. Reilly v Thornton was a Grunfeld where Gino was outplayed right from the start, was over very quickly. Wang v Steadman was an English that was slightly better for Black. Mike was trying to press for the win having lost the day before, as is normally the case for drawn positions, trying to win them often backfires. Puchen broke out of the bind and crushed Black. Dive v Ker was a key game for Russell, needing to win to stay in touch with Puchen; he tried transposing Anthony into a Kings Indian, hoping the different opening would lead him astray. Anthony played the game strongly, one wrong move from Russell allowed Anthony in and he won a Rook and then the game.

Spain, Graeme - Burns, Chris

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nf6 3. Nxe5 d6 4. Nf3 Nxe4 5. Nc3 Nxc3 6. dxc3 Be7 7. Bf4 Bf5

8. Qd2 Nd7 9. O-O-O Nc5 10. Be3 Qd7 11. Nd4 Ne4 12. Qe1 Bg6 13. f3 Nf6 14. Kb1 a6 15. h4 O-O-O 16. h5 Bf5 17. Nxf5 Qxf5 18. Bd3 Qd7 19. g4 g6 20. Bf2 Rhe8 21. Qe3 Qc6 22. hxg6 hxg6 23. Qf4 Rf8 24. c4 Nd7 25. Be4 Qa4 26. b3 Qa3 27. Bd4 Nc5 28. Bg7 Ne6 29. Bxf8 Nxf4 30. Bxc7 Re8 31. Bf6 a5 32. Rh7 Rf8 33. Bg7 Re8 34. Bb2 Qe5 35. Rxf7 g5 36. Rf5 Qe3 37. Bc1 Qe2 38. Rh1 Qg2 39. Rh7 Ne2 40. Rff7 40... Nc3+ {(=)} 41. Kb2 Nxe4 42. Rxc7+ Kb8 43. Rxb7+ Kc8 44. Rhc7+ Kd8 45. fxe4 Qxg4 46. Rg7 Kc8 47. Bxg5 Qxg5 48. Rxg5 Kxb7 49. Rxa5 Rxe4 50. Rd5 Kc6 51. a4 Rg4 52. a5 Re4 53. Ka3 Rg4 54. Kb4 Re4 55. a6 Re7 56. Rb5 Ra7 57. Ka5 Re7 58. Rh5 Re1 59. Kb4 Re7 60. Rh6 Re8 61. c5 1-0

Wang, Puchen - Steadman, Mike

1. Nf3 g6 2. g3 c5 3. c4 Nc6 4. Nc3 Bg7 5. Bg2 b6 6. O-O Bb7 7. d3 d6 8. e4 e6 9. Bf4 Nge7 10. Qd2 O-O 11. Bh6 f5 12. Bxg7 Kxg7 13. Rae1 e5 14. Nd5 h6 15. a3 a5 16. Qc3 Nxd5 17. exd5 Nd4 18. Nxd4 cxd4 19. Qd2 f4 20. f3 Qg5 21. Qf2 h5 22. Bh3 fxg3 23. Qxg3 Qd2 24. f4 exf4 25. Qg5 Rae8 26. Rxe8 Rxe8 27. Bf5 Rg8 28. Bxg6 Bc8 29. Kh1 1-0

Dive, Russell - Ker, Anthony

1. Nf3 d6 2. d4 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 Nf6 5. O-O O-O 6. c4 Nbd7 7. Nc3 c6 8. h3 e5 9. e4 Qb6 10. Re1 Re8 11. d5 cxd5 12. cxd5 Nc5 13. Rb1 a5 14. Be3 Bd7 15. Nd2 Rec8 16. Bf1 Qc7 17. Kh2 a4 18. Rc1 Qb8 19. b4 axb3 20. axb3 b5 21. b4 Na4 22. Qb3 h5 23. Bd3 Kh7 24. Nxa4 Rxa4 25. Nb1 Rxc1 26. Rxc1 Bh6 27. Bxh6 Kxh6 28. Nc3 Qb6 29. Kg2 Ra7 30. Bxb5 Bxb5 31. Nxb5 Nxe4 32. Qf3 Ra2 33. Rf1 f5 34. Nc3 Ra3 35. Rc1 Qxb4 36. Qe3+ g5 37. Qf3 Nxc3 38. Rxc3 Qxc3 39. Qxf5 Qc7 40. Qf8+ Kg6 41. g4 hxg4 42. hxg4 Ra7 43. Qf5+ Kh6 44. Qf6+ Kh7 45. Qf5+ Kg8 46. Qg6+ Qg7 47. Qxd6 Rf7 48. Qc5 Qf6 49. d6 Qf3+ 50. Kf1 Qd1+ 51. Kg2 Qxg4+ 52. Kf1 Qd4 0-1

So after 10 rounds the scores were:

Wang	8.5
Dive	7.5
Ker	6.5
Smith	6.5
Steadman	6
Reilly	6
Stuart	4.5
Spain	4
Goodhue	4
Burns	3
Thornton	2.5
Forster	1

Round 11

Thornton v Wang was an Exchange Slav – draw after 10 moves – the New Zealand Chess Champion for 2006 - Puchen Wang. Steadman v Dive was an Alekines that optically Black's pieces were all on good squares, however Mike rolled his pawns down the Queenside, forcing the Black knights back to the back rank, a small combination later and Russell lost a piece, a quick win. Smith v Reilly was a g3 Pirc/Modern that ended tamely a draw agreed early. Burns v Stuart was a quick draw. Ker v Forster was a Winawer French where Bill tried to improve on Steadman's variation in round 1, however, he is not a French player and used a lot of time finding the best moves, mistakes came and he lost. Goodhue v Spain was a Kings Indian attack against Spain's Slav, it quickly went wrong and Graeme had a nice bind on the game, things proceeded into a double Rook endgame which Graeme duly converted.

Steadman, Mike - Dive, Russell

1. e4 Nf6 2. e5 Nd5 3. d4 d6 4. c4 Nb6 5. exd6 exd6 6. Nc3 Be7 7. h3 Nc6 8. Nf3 Bf5 9. Bf4 Qd7 10. Be2 Bf6 11. O-O O-O 12. Qd2 Rfe8 13. b3 h6 14. Rf1 Re7 15. a3 Rae8 16. Rad1 d5 17. c5 Nc8 18. b4 Be4 19. b5 Nd8 20. Ne5 Bxe5 21. dxe5 Qe6 22. Nxe4 dxe4 23. Bg4 1-0

Ker, Anthony - Forster, Bill

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 Bb4 4. a3 Bxc3+ 5. bxc3 dxe4 6. Qg4 Nf6 7. Qxg7 Rg8 8.

Qh6 Nbd7 9. Ne2 c5 10. Ng3 Qc7 11. dxc5 Qxc5 12. Qd2 b6 13. a4 Bb7 14. Ba3 Qg5 15. O-O-O Bc6 16. a5 Rd8 17. Be2 Nc5 18. Qxg5 Rxc5 19. axb6 axb6 20. Rd4 Ra8 21. Bb2 Na4 22. Rd6 Rc5 23. Ba3 Rxc3 24. Bb4 Bd7 25. Bxc3 Nxc3 26. Rxb6 Ra1+ 27. Kd2 e3+ 28. Kxc3 Rxh1 29. Rb8+ 1-0

Goodhue, Nathan - Spain, Graeme

1. Nf3 d5 2. g3 Nf6 3. Bg2 c6 4. d3 Bg4 5. Nbd2 Nbd7 6. e4 dxe4 7. dxe4 e5 8. Qe2 Bc5 9. c3 a5 10. a4 O-O 11. h3 Bxf3 12. Nxf3 Qb6 13. O-O Rfe8 14. Nd2 h6 15. Kh1 Rad8 16. f4 exf4 17. gxf4 Nd5 18. Nc4 Qa6 19. Re1 f5 20. e5 N7b6 21. Nxb6 Qxe2 22. Rxe2 Nxb6 23. Bd2 Nc4 24. Be1 g5 25. Bg3 {(=)} 25... Rd3 26. Kh2 Ne3 27. Rae1 Nxc2 28. Kxc2 Kf7 29. Bf2 Bxf2 30. Rxf2 Ke6 31. Ree2 Rg8 32. Kh2 g4 33. hxg4 Rxc4 34. Re1 h5 35. Ree2 b5 36. axb5 cxb5 37. Re1 Rgg3 38. Ree2 a4 39. Re1 h4 40. Ree2 a3 41. bxa3 Rxc3 42. Rb2 Rh3+ 43. Kg2 Rcg3+ 44. Kf1 Rb3 45. Kg2 Rbg3+ 46. Kf1 Rh1+ 47. Ke2 Rxa3 48. Rxb5 Ra2+ 49. Kf3 Rh3+ 50. Kg2 Rg3+ 51. Kf1 Ra1+ 52. Ke2 h3 53. Rb2 Rg2 54. Rb6+ Kd7 55. Rd6+ Ke7 56. Rd2 Rxf2+ 57. Kxf2 h2 0-1

So the tournament ended and as can be seen by the table on next page Puchen was a comfortable winner. He played the best chess, beat the lower rated players and drew with his nearest rivals. He had no losses and never looked threatened at any stage. Dive was in the frame right till the last 2 rounds, these 2 losses handed first place to Puchen. Notwithstanding these 2 losses, he played really strongly up till then, really punished the lower rated players and deserved his 2nd equal. Ker had an up and down tournament, he started slowly and then made a real charge, but his loss to Reilly in the 9th round was the last straw for his chances. Steadman and Smith played both good and bad chess, not happy with the results, but not consistent enough to challenge the leaders.

Tournament Table

No	Name	Rtg	Tot	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
1	Wang, Puchen	2290	9	*	D	D	W	D	W	W	W	W	W	D	W
2	Dive, Russell	2350	7.5	D	*	L	L	D	W	W	D	W	W	W	W
3	Ker, Anthony	2330	7.5	D	W	*	L	W	L	W	D	W	W	D	W
4	Steadman, Mike	2265	7	L	W	W	*	L	L	W	W	D	D	W	W
5	Smith, Robert	2293	7	D	D	L	W	*	D	W	D	D	W	D	W
6	Reilly, Tim	2307	6.5	L	L	W	W	D	*	L	D	D	W	W	W
7	Spain, Graeme	2200	5	L	L	L	L	L	W	*	D	W	W	D	W
8	Stuart, Peter	2139	5	L	D	D	L	D	D	D	*	D	D	W	D
9	Goodhue, Nathan	2073	4	L	L	L	D	D	D	L	D	*	D	W	D
10	Burns, Chris	2017	3.5	L	L	L	D	L	L	L	D	D	*	W	W
11	Thornton, Gino	2105	3	D	L	D	L	D	L	D	L	L	L	*	W
12	Forster, Bill	2009	1	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	D	D	L	L	*

The tournament definitely had two halves to the field and the final results were as per this rating spread. The unfortunate result of not having enough of the top NZ players meant that four people who would have been in the Open were promoted to the NZ Championships, this had a detracting effect on the

strength of the Open as well. NZ Chess needs to address the issue of how to ensure our yearly championship can get the top players to come and play. Only the championship allows the round robin format where all of our strong players can play each other, there is nowhere to hide, you must get up for each game.

Books for Sale

I have written 2 chess books which are available for purchasing. They are published by Waikato Times Printers with ISBN numbers and thus suitable for Libraries.

The first book is Chess Knowledge Handbook 1 and it is aimed at improving your game.

To date I have sold over 100 copies. Covers The ideal centre, Short game lessons, Middle game combinations, King and Pawn endings, Walk the diagonal, Maintain the opposition, Anastasias mate, Corridor mate, Grecos Mate, Variation of Grecos Mate, Bodens Mate, Pillsbury mate, Smothered mate. Contents are 24 pages plus 4 page cover. Ideal for junior players to expand on their knowledge: Price \$5.00

The second book is Chess Badge Knowledge Levels 1, 2 and 3: Price \$5.00

A book which covers the syllabus for the Chess Badges promoted by the NZ Chess Federation; I felt there was a need for an instruction booklet. Level 1: 6 pages, Level 2: 7 pages, Level 3: 11 pages. For bulk buys I can give a discount.

Contact: William Lynn - welynn@xtra.co.nz

New Zealand Major Open 2006/2007

by Gordon Hoskyn

In a field of 34, the top seeds were; Neil Gunn 1951, Paul Godfrey 1930, Martin Post 1892, Fuatai Fuatai 1874, WFM Helen Milligan 1837 and Alan Aldridge 1815.

Round 1

Four upsets took place. Godfrey lost to David Bell (ranked 19th) Stanislav Chataline (20) beat Post, Edwin Yip (24) beat Sean Watharow (7), and Devon Smith (30) beat Mathew King (13). In the battle of the beards, Max Wigbout (34) and Tony Booth (17) drew a long game.

Godfrey, Paul - Bell, David

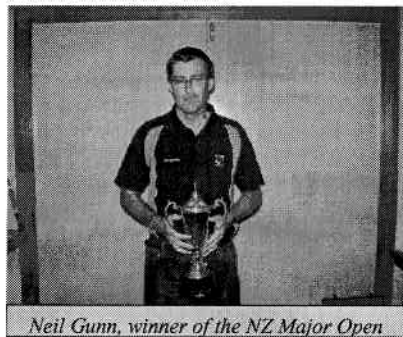
1. e4 e5 2. Bc4 Nf6 3. d3 c6 4. Nf3 Be7 5. O-O d6 6. Re1 O-O 7. c3 b5 8. Bb3 a5 9. a4 Na6 10. d4 Bg4 11. dxe5 Bxf3 12. Qxf3 dxe5 13. Qg3 Nc5 14. Bc2 Bd6 15. Bh6 Ne6 16. Rd1 Qc7 17. Qf3 Nf4 18. Bxf4 exf4 19. axb5 cxb5 20. Qd3 Rfd8 21. Qxb5 Qc5 22. Qe2 Re8 23. Nd2 Bc7 24. Ra4 Rab8 25. Qc4 Qe7 26. Bb3 Ng4 27. h3 Ne5 28. Qe2 Qg5 29. Kh1 f3 30. gxf3 Qh4 31. Qf1 Qf4 32. Qg2 Bb6 33. Rg1 g6 34. Nc4 Bc7 35. Nxe5 Rxe5 36. Rc4 Reb5 37. e5 Qxe5 38. f4 Qd6 39. Rc6 Qxf4 40. Bc4 Rxb2 41. Rf1 a4 42. Bd5 Rd2 43. Rc4 Qe5 44. Bf3 a3 45. Rc6 a2 46. Be4 Qf4 47. Ra6 Rbb2 48. Ra8+ Kg7 49. Bf3 Rb1 50. Rg1 Qh4 51. Bg4 Rxf2 52. Rxa2 Rxc1+ 53. Qxc1 Rxa2 0-1

Chataline, Stanislav - Post, Martin

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Nc6 7. Bc4 Bg7 8. h3 O-O 9. f4 Qb6 10. Qd3 Nxe4 11. Nd5 Qxb2 12. Nb3 Bf5 13. Be1 Bc3+ 14. Ke2 Qxc2+ 15. Qxc2 Ng3+ 16. Kf3 Bxc2 17. Nxc3 Bxb3 18. Bxb3 Nxb1 19. Be3 e6 20. Rxh1 Rac8 21. Nb5 d5 22. Be5 Ne5+ 23. fxe5 Rxc5 24. Nd6 b5 25. Ke3 a6 26. Kd4 Rc6 27. Rf1 f6 28. Rf3 f5 29. Rc3 Rxc3 30. Kxc3 f4 31. Bd1 h5 32. Kb4 f3 33. Bxf3 Rf4+ 34. Kc5 Ra4 35. Nb7 Rxa2 36. Kd6 b4 37. Kxe6 d4 38. Kd7 Ra3 39. e6 Re3 40. e7 Kf7 41. Nd6+ Kf6 42. e8=Q Rxe8 43. Kxe8 Ke5 44. Ne4+ Kf4 45. Kd7 b3 46. Ke6 b2 47. Nxb2 Ke3 48. Nd1+ Kf4 49. Kc5 Kg3 50. Kxd4 g5 51. Bxb5 Kxc2 52. Bg4 1-0

Yip, Edwin - Watharow, Sean

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. Nc3 Bg7 4. e4 d6 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Bd3 e5 7. dxe5 dxe5 8. O-O c6 9. Re1 Qc7 10. b3 a5 11. Bb2 Na6 12. a3 Bd7 13. Qc2 Nh5 14. Rad1 Nf4 15. Bf1 Rad8 16. Ne2 Ne6 17. Ng3 c5 18. h4 Nb8 19. Bc3 Nc6 20. Qb2 Ned4 21. Bd3 Bg4 22. Nxd4 exd4 23. Bd2 Ne5 24. Be2 d3 25. Bxg4 Nf3+ 26. Bxf3 Bxb2 27. Nf1 Bxa3 28. Ne3 Bb4 29. Nd5 Qe5 30. Bf4 Qd4 31. Be3 Qb2 32. Rb1 Qa2 33. Red1 f6 34. h5 a4 35. h6 axb3 36. Ra1 Qb2 37. Rab1 Qc2 38. Rdc1 Bd2 39. Bxd2 Qxd2 40. Rd1 Qc2 41. Ne3 Qc3 42. Rdc1 Qb4 43. Nd5 Qa3 44. Rd1 b2 45. Rd2 Qa2 46. Rdx2 Qxc4 47. Rxb7 d2 48. Rg7+ Kh8 49. Rbb7 Rf7 50.



Neil Gunn, winner of the NZ Major Open

Rbxf7 Qxd5 51. exd5 1-0

Smith, Devon - King, Mathew

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 f5 4. d4 fxe4 5. Nxe5 Nxe5 6. dxe5 c6 7. Bc4 Qa5+ 8. Bd2 Qxe5 9. O-O d5 10. Bb3 Bd6 11. g3 Nf6 12. Bc3 Qg5 13. Nd2 Bh3 14. Bxf6 14... Qxf6 \$2 (14... gxf6) 15. Qh5+ g6 16. Qxh3 h5 17. Rfe1 Kd8 18. c3 h4 19. Qg2 hxg3 20. fvg3 Kc7 21. Rf1 Qe7 22. Rae1 Qg7 23. Nxe4 Be7 24. Nf2 Rh7 25. Nd3 Rah8 26. h4 g5 27. Qf3 gxh4 28. g4 Bd6 29. Nf4 Bxf4 30. Qxf4+ Kc8 31. Bc2 b6 32. Bxh7 Rxh7 33. Qf8+ Kb7 34. Qxg7+ Rxc7 35. Rf4 Kc7 36. Kh2 Kd6 37. Kh3 Rg8 38. Kxh4 Rh8+ 39. Kg3 Rg8 40. Rf5 Kc5 41. g5 a5 42. Kg4 Rh8 43. Kg3 Rg8 44. Rg1 a4 45. Kf3 a3 46. b3 Rh8 47.

g6 Rh3+ 48. Kg2 Rxc3 49. g7 Rc2+ 50. Rf2 1-0

Round 2

A number of draws took place. Gunn was held to half a point by Michael Zhang (14), Wigbout drew Godfrey, Viv Smith (15) drew Fuatai and Bell drew with Stan Yee (8).

Wigbout, Max - Godfrey, Paul

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 e6 3. c3 d5 4. exd5 exd5 5. d4 Nc6 6. Be2 Bd6 7. O-O Nge7 8. Re1 O-O 9. Nbd2 exd4 10. cxd4 Nf5 11. Nb3 a5 12. a4 Qb6 13. Bf1 Bd7 14. Bd2 Nfxd4 15. Nfxd4 Nxd4 16. Be3 Qxb3 17. Bxd4 Qxd1 18. Rxd1 Rfe8 19. b3 Re4 20. g3 Bg4 21. Rd3 Rxd4 22. Rxd4 Be5 23. Rxc4 Bxa1 24. Bg2 Rd8 25. Rg5 d4 26. Rxa5 Bc3 27. Rb5 b6 28. Bf3 Rd6 29. Rd5 Bb4 30. Rxd6 Bxd6 31. Be4 h5 32. h3 Kf8 33. Kg2 Ke7 34. Kf3 Ke6 35. g4 hxg4+ 36. hxg4 Ke5 37. Bd3 Be7 38. Bc4 f5 39. gxf5 Kxf5 40. Bd3+ Ke5 41. Kg4 Kd5 42. f3 Kc5 43. Kf4 Kb4 44. Bc4 Kc3 45. Ke4 Bc5 46. f4 Be7 47. f5 Bf6 48. Bb5 Kxb3 49. Kd3 Kb4 50. Bc6 Kc5 51. Bd7 Kd6 52. Bb5 52... Kc5 {(=)} 1/2-1/2

Round 3

As the result of a win over Aldridge, 12 year old Michael Wu took the outright lead with 3 points.

Smith, Devon - Milligan, Helen

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O b5 6. Bb3 Bc5 7. Re1 d6 8. c3 O-O 9. d4 Bb6 10. Bg5 h6 11. Bh4 g5 12. Bg3 Bb7 13. Qd2 Nh5 14. Bc2 Qf6 15. Qd3 Nxc3 16. fvg3 Qg7 17. Kh1 exd4 18. e5 dxe5 19. cxd4 Nb4 20. Qd2 Nxc2 21. Qxc2 Bxf3 22. gxf3 exd4 23. Nd2 Rfe8 24. Qc6 Rxe1+ 25. Rxe1 Qf8 26. Ne4 Rd8 27. Nf6+ Kh8 28. Qe4 Kg7 29. Qe5 Kg6 30. g4 Rd6 31. Qf5+ Kg7 32. Ne8+ Kg8 33. Nxd6 Qxd6 34. Qc8+ Kg7 35. Re8 Qd5 36. Kg2 a5 37. Rg8+ Kf6 38. Rh8 d3 39. Qd8+ Qxd8 40. Rxd8 b4 41. Rxd3 Kg6 42. Kf1 h5 43. Rd5 hxg4 44. fvg4 f6 45. Ke2 Kf7 46. Rf5 Bd4 47. h3 c5 48. Kd3 Ke6 49. Kc4 Kd6 50. Kb5 Be5 51. h3 Kd5 52. Kxa5 Kc6 53. Rf1 Bd4 54. Rd1 Be5 55. Ka6 Bd4 56. Rd2 Be5 57. Rd8 Bd4 58. Rb8 Be5 59. Rb6+ Kd5 60. Kb5 Bd4 61. Rb8 Ke4 62. Kc4 Bf2 63. Rb7 Bd4 64. Rc7 Kf4 65. Kd5 Kg3 66. Rh7 Kf4 67. Rc7 Kg3 68. Rxc5 Bxc5 69.

Kxc5 Kxh3 70. Kxb4 Kxc4 71. a4 f5 72. a5 f4 73. a6 f3 74. a7 f2 75. a8=Q {(=)} 1/2-1/2

Wu, Michael - Aldridge, Alan

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. exd5 cxd5 4. c4 Nf6 5. Nc3 e6 6. Nf3 Be7 7. exd5 exd5 8. Bd3 Nc6 9. O-O O-O 10. Ne5 Qb6 11. Nxc6 bxc6 12. Na4 Qc7 13. Bd2 Bd6 14. h3 Ne4 15. Bxe4 dxe4 16. Nc3 f5 17. d5 Rb8 18. dxc6 Ba6 19. Rc1 Rfd8 20. Kh1 Bxf1 21. Nd5 Qf7 22. Ba5 Bf4 23. c7 Bxc1 24. cxd8=Q+ Rxd8 25. Bxd8 Bxb2 26. Ne7+ Kh8 27. Qxf1 Qe8 28. Qd1 g6 29. Qd6 Qf7 30. Bc7 Qxa2 31. Qe5+ (31. Qe5+ Bxe5 32. Bxe5#) 1-0

Round 4

Gunn and Fuatai led with 3.5, after beating Viv Smith and Wu respectively.

Pakenham, John - Wigbout, Max

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. g3 Bg7 4. Bg2 O-O 5. Nc3 d6 6. e4 c5 7. d5 Nbd7 8. f4 Nb6 9. Qd3 e6 10. Nge2 exd5 11. cxd5 Re8 12. O-O Ng4 13. a4 a5 14. h3 Nh6 15. Kh2 f5 16. Ra2 fxe4 17. Nxe4 Nf5 18. N2c3 Nd4 19. Ng5 Bf5 20. Nge4 Qd7 21. g4 Bxe4 22. Bxe4 Qe7 23. Be3 Nd7 24. g5 Rf8 25. Raa1 Rae8 26. h4 Nf5 27. Bxf5 Rxf5 28. Rae1 Qf7 29. Qb5 Bxc3 30. bxc3 Qxd5 31. Qxd7 Rxe3 32. Rxe3 Qd2+ 33. Kg3 Qxe3+ 34. Rf3 {(=)} 1/2-1/2

King, Mathew - Aldridge, Alan

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. e5 Bf5 4. h4 h5 5. c4 dxc4 6. Bxc4 e6 7. Nc3 Nd7 8. Nge2 Nb6 9. Bd3 Ne7 10. Bg5 Bxd3 11. Qxd3 Qd7 12. Ne4 Nf5 13. Rd1 Be7 14. N2g3 Bb4+ 15. Kf1 Nxc3+ 16. Qxc3 Qd5 17. Qf3 Qxa2 18. Kg1 Qxb2 19. Kh2 Qa3 20. Rd3 Qa2 21. Rb3 Bf8 22. Rc1 Rc8 23. Qc3 Rc7 24. Ra1 Qe2 25. Nd6+ Bxd6 26. exd6 Rc8 27. Rxa7 Nd5 28. d7+ Kxd7 29. Rbxb7+ Rc7 30. Rxc7+ Nxc7 31. Qc5 Re8 32. Bf4 e5 33. dxe5 Qd3 34. e6+ 1-0

Smith, Viv - Gunn, Neil

1. e4 g6 2. g3 Bg7 3. Bg2 d6 4. Nf3 Nd7 5. d3 e5 6. Nbd2 Ne7 7. O-O O-O 8. c3 h6 9. Ne4 b5 10. Ne3 Rb8 11. Ng4 Kh7 12. Qd2 Ng8 13. h3 Nc5 14. Ngh2 a5 15. Qe2 Ba6 16. b4

axb4 17. cxb4 Na4 18. Bd2 Bc8 19. Rac1 Be6 20. Rc2 Qd7 21. g4 c5 22. Rfc1 Rfc8 23. h4 f6 24. Ne1 24... f5 {T} 0-1

Round 5

In a top of the table clash Gunn overcame Fuatai to go to 4.5. Next were local hopes Justin Davis (12) and King, both on 4. At this stage the only unbeaten players were the top and bottom seeds Gunn and Wigbout. Helen Courtney (33) was doing well to be on 3.5.

Gunn, Neil - Fuatai, Fuatai

1. d4 d5 2. e4 2... e6 {(=)} 3. Nc3 c5 4. cxd5 cxd4 5. Qxd4 Nc6 6. Qd1 exd5 7. e3 Nf6 8. Nf3 Bb4 9. a3 Bxc3+ 10. bxc3 O-O 11. Be2 Qc7 12. O-O Bf5 13. Nd4 Be4 14. f3 Bg6 15. Bd3 Nxd4 16. cxd4 Qc3 17. Bxg6 Qxa1 18. Qb3 a5 19. Bb1 a4 20. Qb4 Rac8 21. Bb2 Rc2 22. Qxf8+ Kxf8 23. Bxa1 Ne8 24. Ba2 Rc2 25. Bxd5 b5 26. Rb1 Nd6 27. Be4 Re2 28. Bc3 Nc4 29. Bb4+ Kg8 30. Bd3 Rxe3 31. Bxc4 bxc4 32. Re1 1-0

Davis, Justin - Milligan, Helen

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. c4 b6 4. a3 d5 5. cxd5 exd5 6. Bg5 Be7 7. Nc3 Nbd7 8. Ne5 Bb7 9. Qa4 O-O 10. Nc6 Bxc6 11. Qxc6 a6 12. g3 Ra7 13. Bxf6 Nxf6 14. Bg2 Re8 15. e3 Bf8 16. Nxd5 Re6 17. Qc4 c5 18. dxc5 Bxc5 19. Rd1 Qe8 20. O-O h6 21. b4 Bd6 22. Bh3 Re4 23. Nxf6+ gxf6 24. Qd5 Bf8 25. Rd4 Rxd4 26. Qxd4 Qc6 27. Bg2 Qd6 28. Qg4+ Bg7 29. Rd1 Qb8 30. Qf5 Re7 31. Rd4 Re8 32. Be4 Qe5 33. Qh7+ Kf8 34. Bb1 Qh5 35. Bf5 Qf3 36. Rg4 1-0

King, Mathew - Watharow, Sean

1. e4 c5 2. d4 cxd4 3. c3 Nf6 4. e5 Nd5 5. Nf3 Nc6 6. Bc4 Nb6 7. Bb3 d5 8. exd6 Qxd6 9. O-O Be6 10. Bxe6 Qxe6 11. Nxd4 Qd7 12. Nxc6 Qxc6 13. Nd2 Rd8 14. Qe2 e6 15. Nf3 Bd6 16. Bg5 Rd7 17. Nd4 Qc7 18. Nf5 Bxh2+ 19. Kh1 O-O 20. Nxb7 Kxg7 21. Qh5 Bf4 22. Qh6+ Kg8 23. Bxf4 23... Qe5 {(=)} 24. b4 Qxc3 25. Rac1 Qg7 26. Qh4 Rd5 27. Rc5 Rfd8 28. Re1 Re8 29. Re3 Kh8 30. Rg3 Qa1+ 31. Kh2 Qd4 32. Rh3 Qe4 33. Qf6+ Kg8 34. Rg3+ 1-0

Courtney, Helen - Pakenham, John

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. Nc3 Qc7 5. Bd3 Bg4 6. h3 Bh5 7. g4 Bg6 8. Nh4 e5 9. Nxb6 hxb6 10. dxe5 dxe5 11. Be3 Nbd7 12. Qe2 O-O-O 13. Bxa7 Bb4 14. Be3 Qa5 15. Kf1 Bxc3 16. bxc3 Qxc3 17. Kg2 Nc5 18. Bxc5 Qxc5 19. Rhb1 Ne8 20. Ba6 Nd6 21. Bxb7+ Nxb7 22. Qa6 Rd7 23. Qa8+ Kc7 24. Rxb7+ Kd6 1-0

Round 6

Davis began a four game losing streak going down to Gunn who now had a one point buffer over Godfrey, Post, Fuatai and Wu all on 4.5.

Watharow, Sean - Tanoi, Edward

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. d3 Be7 5. O-O O-O 6. Bb3 d6 7. c3 Bg4 8. Nbd2 d5 9. h3 Bh5 10. Qe2 Bc5 11. Rd1 a6 12. Nf1 h6 13. Ng3 Bg6 14. exd5 Nxd5 15. Nxe5 Re8 16. d4 Bf8 17. Qf3 Nce7 18. c4 Nf6 19. Qxb7 a5 20. Ba4 c6 21. Bxc6 Nxc6 22. Nxc6 Qd6 23. Bd2 Ne4 24. c5 Qf6 25. Be1 Nxb3 26. fxb3 Be4 27. d5 Bxd5 28. Kh2 Qf1 0-1

Round 7

Gunn's win versus Post put him 1.5 points clear, and he looked the likely winner. Wu was held to a draw by Simon Ward (21).

Gunn, Neil - Post, Martin

1. d4 c5 2. d5 Nf6 3. c4 e6 4. Nc3 exd5 5. cxd5 d6 6. e4 g6 7. Nf3 Bg4 8. Bb5+ Nfd7 9. h3 Bxf3 10. gxf3 a6 11. Qa4 Bg7 12. h4 Bxc3+ 13. bxc3 Qf6 14. Ke2 O-O 15. Bxd7 Qxc3 16. Bd2 Qe5 17. Rac1 Qe7 18. Bb5 f5 19. Bd3 Nd7 20. Bg5 Qe8 21. Qb3 b5 22. Bb1 Nb6 23. h5 b4 24. Qd3 fxe4 25. fxe4 Rf5 26. Reg1 Nxd5 27. Qb3 Qe6 28. Kf1 e4 29. exf5 Qe5 30. Qxc4 Re8 31. hxb6 hxb6 32. Be3 Kf8 33. Qd4 Nxe3+ 34. fxe3 1-0

Wu, Michael - Ward, Simon

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Bg7 7. f3 Nc6 8. Qd2 O-O 9. Bc4 Bd7 10. O-O-O Rc8 11. Bb3 Ne5 12. g4 Nc4 13. Bxc4 Rxc4 14. h4 Qa5 15. Nb3 Qa6 16. h5 b5 17. hxb6 fxb6 18. Bh6 b4

19. Nd5 Nxd5 20. Qxd5+ e6 21.

Qxd6 Bxb6+ 22. Rxh6 Qxd6 23. Rxd6 Bc8 24. e5 Kg7 25. Rh1 g5 26. Nd2 Rc5 27. Re1 Kg6 28. Nb3 Rd5 29. Rxd5 exd5 30. Nd4 h5 31. gxh5+ Kxh5 32. Rh1+ Kg6 33. Kd2 Re8 34. Re1 Bd7 35. e6 Bc8 36. Re5 Bb7 37. Ke3 Bc8 38. Rxd5 Bxe6 39. Rd6 Kf7 40. Rxe6 Rxe6+ 41. Nxe6 Kxe6 42. Ke4 a6 43. c4 bxc3 44. bxc3 a5 45. c4 a4 46. e5 Kd7 47. Kd5 a3 48. Ke5 Kc6 49. Kf5 Kxc5 50. Kxg5 Kc4 51. f4 Kc3 52. f5 Kb2 53. f6 Kxa2 54. f7 Kbl 55. f8=Q a2 56. Qf1+ 56... Kb2 {(=)} 57. Qe2+ Kb1 58. Qd1+ Kb2 59. Qd2+ Kb1 60. Qb4+ {(=)} 60... Ka1 {(=)} 1/2-1/2

Wigbout, Max - Courtney, Helen

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Be7 6. Re1 b5 7. Bb3 O-O 8. c3 d6 9. h3 Na5 10. Bc2 c5 11. d4 cxd4 12. cxd4 Qc7 13. Nbd2 Bd7 14. Nf1 Rac8 15. Ne3 Nc4 16. Nxc4 Qxc4 17. Bb3 Qc7 18. Bg5 h6 19. Bh4 Bc6 20. Rc1 Qb8 21. d5 { (=)} 1/2-1/2

Round 8

Gunn and Wu shared a point, the former going to 7. On 6 were Godfrey and Fuatai who won against Edward Tanoi (28) and King respectively.

Godfrey, Paul - Tanoi, Edward

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. c3 Nf6 4. e5 Nd5 5. d4 cxd4 6. Bc4 Nb6 7. Bb3 Na5 8. Qxd4 Nxb3 9. axb3 e6 10. O-O Be7 11. Qg4 Kf8 12. Qh5 d5 13. Rd1 f6 14. Be3 Nd7 15. c4 g6 16. Qh6+ Kf7 17. cxd5 exd5 18. Rxd5 Qf8 19. Qf4 h6 20. e6+ Kxe6 21. Qc4 b6 22. Qc6+ (22. Re5+ Kd6 23. Re6#) 22... Kf7 23. Qxa8 Nc5 24. Bxc5 bxc5 25. Rxa7 Be6 26. Qxf8+ Rxf8 27. Rxc5 Rd8 28. Ne3 Kf8 29. Rcc7 Bb4 30. Nd4 Bxb3 31. Kf1 Bg8 32. g3 Re8 33. f3 h5 34. Rc6 Be7 35. Ne6+ Kf7 36. Nd5 g5 37. Nd4 Kf8 38. Nxe7 Rxe7 39. Rxf6+ Kg7 40. Nf5+ Kxf6 41. Nxe7 Bc4+ 42. Kf2 g4 43. Rc7 Bb5 44. Rc5 Bd7 45. Nd5+ Ke6 46. Nc3 h4 47. gxh4 gxf3 48. Kxf3 Kf6 49. h5 Be8 50. Ne4+ Kg7 51. b4 Kh6 52. Nf6 Bf7 53. Ng4+ Kg7 54. Rc7 Kg8 55. Nh6+ Kg7 56. Nxf7 Kh7 1-0

Pakenham, John - Davis, Justin

1. d4 d5 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 Nf6 4. g3 c6 5. Bg2 Nbd7 6. Qc2 Bd6 7. O-O O-O 8. Nbd2 Re8 9. Re1 e5 10. e4 dxe4 11. Nxe4 Nxe4 12. Qxe4 Nf6 13. Qc2 exd4 14. Bg5 Rxe1+ 15. Rxe1 Bg4 16. Nxd4 Qa5 17. Bd2 Qxa2 18. h3 Bd7 19. c5 Bf8 20. Bg5 Qa5 21. Re5 Ne8 22. Nb3 Qc7 23. Bf4 Qd8 24. Nd4 g6 25. Nf3 Bg7 26. Re2 Bf5 27. Qb3 b6 28. Ng5 Qf6 29. h4 Rd8 30. Be5 Qxg5 31. hxb6 Be6 32. Qc3 bxc5 33. Bxg7 Nxb7 34. Qxc5 Nf5 35. Kh2 Nd4 36. Re5 a6 37. Qb6 Rd7 38. Bxc6 Nxc6 39. Qxc6 Rd1 40. Rxe6 fxe6 41. Qxe6+ Kg7 42. Qxa6 Rd2 43. Qf6+ Kg8 44. b4 Rd7 45. b5 Rf7 46. Qe6 Kg7 47. Qxf7+ Kxf7 48. b6 Kg7 49. b7 h5 50. gxh6+ Kxh6 51. b8=Q 1-0

Yip, Edwin - Aldridge, Alan

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nf3 b6 4. Nc3 Bb4 5. e3 Bxc3+ 6. bxc3 Bb7 7. Be2 d6 8. O-O O-O 9. Qc2 Ne4 10. Bd3 f5 11. Nd2 Nxd2 12. Bxd2 Nd7 13. f3 Qh4 14. Rae1 Nf6 15. Re2 Rae8 16. e4 f4 17. e5 Nh5 18. Be1 Ng3 19. hxb3 fxb3 20. Bxg3 Qxg3 21. Bxh7+ Kh8 22. Be4 Ba6 23. Qd3 Rf4 24. Bc6 Ref8 25. exd6 cxd6 26. Rxe6 R4f6 27. Rfe1 Bc8 28. Re8 Bf5 29. Qd2 Rxe8 30. Rxe8+ Kh7 31. Qf2 Qf4 32. Qe3 Qg3 33. Be4 Rg6 34. Qf2 Qg5 35. Bxf5 Qxf5 36. Qh4+ Rh6 37. Qe4 Rf6 38. Qxf5+ Rxf5 39. Kf2 Kg6 40. Re6+ Kf7 41. d5 b5 42. g4 Rg5 43. Ke3 bxc4 44. Kd4 Rg6 45. Rxb6 Kxb6 46. f4 1-0

Round 9

On board one, Gunn and Godfrey drew. Ken Reed got his first win his victim being Alistair McGowan (16). Tanoi bested Wu.

McGowan, Alistair - Reed, Ken

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e6 3. Nc3 c5 4. Nf3 cxd4 5. Nxd4 Bb4 6. g3 Bxc3+ 7. bxc3 Qc7 8. Nb5 Qc6 9. Nd6+ Kd8 10. Nxf7+ Ke8 11. Nxb8 Qxh1 12. Ba3 d5 13. Qb3 Nc6 14. O-O-O Qxh2 15. cxd5 exd5 16. Rxd5 Nxd5 17. Qxd5 Qxf2 18. Qe4+ Kd8 19. Qd5+ Kc7 20. Bd6+ Kb6 21. Qb3+ Ka6 22. Qc4+ Kb6 23. e4 Qe1+ 24. Kc2 Qf2+ 25. Be2 a6 26. a4 Be6 27. a5+ Kxa5 28. Bc7+ b6 29. Qxe6 Qxe2+ 30. Kb3 Qb5+ 31. Kc2 Rxh8 32. Qa2+ Qa4+ 0-1

Watharow, Sean - Milligan, Helen

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bc4 Nf6 4. d3 Be7 5. c3 d6 6. Bb3 Na5 7. Bc2 c5 8. a3 Nc6 9. b4 a6 10. Nbd2 O-O 11. Ne4 Qc7 12. O-O Be6 13. Ne3 Rfe8 14. Ng5 Nd8 15. f4 h6 16. Nxe6 fxe6 17. fxe5 dxe5 18. Bb3 Kh8 19. Ng4 Ng8 20. Be3 Rf8 21. Rxf8 Bxf8 22. Qf3 Bd6 23. Rd1 b6 24. d4 Re8 25. Qf2 exd4 26. cxd4 e4 27. Bc2 b5 28. e5 Be7 29. Qf3 Qc6 30. Qh3 Bf8 31. Qh5 g6 32. Qxg6 Rc7 33. Be4 Qd7 34. Nxb6 Qg7 35. Nxb8 Qxg6 36. Bxg6 Kxg8 37. Kf2 Nc6 38. Be8 Ne7 39. g4 Nd5 40. Bc1 Be7 41. g5 Nc3 42. Rg1 Kf8 43. Bh5 Rd7 44. Rg4 Nd5 45. Rg3 Bd8 46. Rf3+ Kg8 47. Bg4 Nc7 48. Be3 Rf7 49. h4 Rxf3+ 50. Kxf3 1-0

Davis, Justin - Holdaway, Stewart

1. d4 d5 2. e4 c6 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. f3 e5 5. d5 cxd5 6. fxe4 d4 7. Bc4 dxc3 8. Qh5 Qe7 9. bxc3 Nf6 10. Qe2 Qc7 11. Nf3 Bg4 12. O-O Bc5+ 13. Kh1 O-O 14. Bg5 Nbd7 15. Qe1 Qc6 16. Bxf6 Bxf3 17. Rxf3 Nxf6 18. Bd3 b5 19. Qh4 Bb6 20. Raf1 Bd8 21. Rh3 h5 22. Rg3 g6 23. h3 Ng4 24. Qxh5 gxh5 25. hxg4 Bg5 26. Rf5 f6 27. gxh5 Qxc3 28. Kh2 Kh8 29. Bxb5 Qxc2 30. Bd3 Qd1 31. a3 Bf4 32. Rxf4 exf4 33. Rf3 Rab8 34. Rxf4 Qxd3 35. h6 Qe3 36. g3 Rg8 37. h7 {(=)} 37... Qxg3+ 0-1

Round 10

Tanoi's impressive run was halted by Gunn. Godfrey beat Post and Milligan lost to King. Bob Mitchell (25) beat McGowan who was stuck on 2.5 since round 6.

Tanoi, Edward - Gunn, Neil

1. d4 Nf6 2. Nf3 e6 3. e3 b6 4. Bd3 Ba6 5. c4 d5 6. b3 Ne4 7. O-O c6 8. Bb2 f5 9. Ne5 g6 10. Nd2 Bg7 11. Ba3 Nxd2 12. Qxd2 Bxe5 13. dxe5 dxc4 14. bxc4 Bxc4 15. Qb4 Bxd3 16. Rfd1 c5 17. Qa4+ b5 18. Qb3 c4 19. Qxb5+ Qd7 20. Qb2 Na6 21. Bd6 Kf7 22. Qd4 g5 23. g4 Rad8 24. gxf5 Bxf5 25. e4 Bg4 26. Rdc1 Nc7 27. Qe3 Rhg8 28. Rxc4 Ne8 29. Rac1 Kg6 30. Qb3 Nxd6 31. Rc7 Qb5 32. Qa3 Qe2 33. exd6

Qf3 34. R1c3 Qd1+ 35. Kg2 Qd4 36. R3c4 Qd2 37. Rc2 Qf4 38. h3 Qxe4+ 39. Kg1 Bf3 40. Qc1 Rxd6 41. Rd2 Rgd8 42. Rxd6 Rxd6 43. Rg7+ Kxg7 44. Qxg5+ Qg6 0-1

Godfrey, Paul - Post, Martin

1. e4 c5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 g6 6. Be3 Nc6 7. f3 Bg7 8. Qd2 O-O 9. Bc4 Bd7 10. h4 h5 11. O-O-O b5 12. Nxc6 Bxc6 13. Bd5 Qc7 14. Bxc6 Qxc6 15. Nd5 Nxd5 16. exd5 Qa6 17. Kb1 Rfe8 18. g4 Rc4 19. gxh5 Ra4 20. a3 b4 21. Qd3 Qa5 22. h6 bxa3 23. hxg7 axb2 24. c3 Rb8 25. Kc2 Ra1 26. Rb1 Rb5 27. Bd4 Rxd5 28. Qc4 e5 29. h5 exd4 30. h6 d3+ 31. Kd2 {T} 1-0

Pakenham, John - Fuatai, Fuatai

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 g6 3. g3 c6 4. Bg2 d5 5. Nf3 Bg7 6. O-O O-O 7. Nbd2 Bg4 8. Qb3 b6 9. Re1 dxc4 10. Qxc4 Be6 11. Qe2 Nd5 12. a3 Bc8 13. b3 Bb7 14. e4 Nc7 15. Bb2 Nb5 16. e5 Na6 17. Ne4 Nbc7 18. Rad1 Nd5 19. Nfg5 h6 20. Nh3 Rc8 21. b4 Nac7 22. f4 Ne6 23. Qf2 e5 24. dxc5 bxc5 25. bxc5 Qa5 26. Rc1 Be6 27. g4 Qb5 28. f5 Nef4 29. Nxf4 Nxf4 30. a4 Qb7 31. Qxf4 Qxb2 32. f6 exf6 33. exf6 Bxe4 34. Bxe4 Bxf6 35. Rc2 Qd4+ 36. Kg2 {(=)} 36... Rxc5 37. Rxc5 Qxc5 38. Qxf6 38... Rb8 {(=)} 39. Rf1 Qc4 40. Qc6 Qe2+ 41. Rf2 Qxg4+ 42. Kf1 {(=)} 42... Rd8 43. Bf3 Qh3+ 44. Kg1 Rc8 45. Qb5 Qh4 46. Qd7 Qg5+ 47. Qg4 Rc1+ 48. Kg2 Qc5 49. Qf4 {(=)} 49... Rc4 50. Qxh6 Rxa4 51. Qd2 Rd4 52. Qa2 a5 53. Rd2 Qg5+ 54. Kf1 Qxd2 0-1

Yee, Stan - Watharow, Sean

1. d4 Nf6 2. c4 e5 3. d5 b5 4. cxb5 a6 5. Nc3 axb5 6. Nxb5 Ba6 7. Nc3 g6 8. g3 d6 9. Bg2 Bg7 10. Nf3 Nbd7 11. O-O Nb6 12. Re1 O-O 13. e4 Ra7 14. Ng5 Nfd7 15. f4 Nc4 16. h4 Qb6 17. Qc2 Rb8 18. b3 Qb4 19. e5 dxe5 20. bxc4 exf4 21. Bd2 Qxc4 22. gxf4 Rab7 23. Rac1 Rb2 24. Qd1 Bd4+ 25. Kh1 Qd3 26. Nf3 Nf6 27. Bf1 Qf5 28. Bxa6 Qh3+ 29. Nh2 Nh5 30. Ne2 Bf2 31. Rc3

Qxh4 32. Rf1 Rxa2 33. Be4 Rab2 34. Rf3 Bg3 35. Rxb3 Nxb3+ 36. Nxb3 Qxg3 37. Qe1 Qh3 38. Qx3 Qf5 39. Re1 Qc2 40. Qe2 Rb1 41. Rxb1 Rxb1+ 42. Kg2 Rd1 43. Nf3 Ra1 44. d6 e6 45. d7 Ra8 46. Qd3 Qxd3 47. Bxd3 Kf8 48. Ba5 1-0

Milligan, Helen - King, Mathew

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. Bb5 a6 4. Ba4 Nf6 5. O-O Nxe4 6. d4 b5 7. Bb3 d5 8. dxe5 Be6 9. c3 Bc5 10. Nbd2 Nxf2 11. Rxf2 f6 12. Nf1 Bxf2+ 13. Kxf2 O-O 14. Kg1 fxe5 15. Bg5 Qd6 16. Qd2 Na5 17. Re1 e4 18. Nd4 c5 19. Nxe6 Nxb3 20. axb3 Qxe6 21. Rd1 h6 22. Be3 d4 23. cxd4 cxd4 24. Bxd4 Rad8 25. Ne3 Rf7 26. Qe2 Rfd7 27. Bc3 Rxd1+ 28. Nxd1 Qxb3 29. Nf2 b4 30. Be5 e3 0-1

Round 11

A draw with King, gave the title to Gunn with an unbeaten 9 score comprising of 7 wins and 4 draws. Godfrey and Fuatai were second equal with 8.5 after beating Wu and Yee. King won Grade 1 with 7, with Viv Smith second on 6.5. Yip took out Grade 2 with 6.5, ahead of Tanoi and Stewart Holdaway (27) both on 6.

Gunn, Neil - King, Mathew

1. d4 Nf6 2. Bg5 c5 3. Bxf6 gxf6 4. c3 f5 5. Nf3 Bg7 6. e3 Qb6 7. Qc1 Nc6 8. Nbd2 d5 9. dxc5 Qxc5 10. Nb3 Qd6 11. Nbd4 e5 12. Nb5 Qe7 13. Qd2 a6 14. Na3 Be6 15. h4 h6 16. Be2 O-O 17. g3 Rfd8 18. O-O Rac8 19. Nc2 Kh7 20. Kg2 Qd7 21. Rad1 Ne7 22. Rg1 {(=)} 1/2-1/2

Wu, Michael - Godfrey, Paul

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 Nc6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Qc7 5. Nc3 e6 6. f4 d6 7. Nxc6 bxc6 8. Be3 Nf6 9. Be2 Be7 10. O-O O-O 11. Qe1 Rb8 12. Qg3 Rxb2 13. e5 dxe5 14. fxe5 Rxc2 15. Rxf6 Bxf6 16. exf6 Qxg3 17. hxg3 Rxc3 18. fxg7 Rd8 19. Bg5 Rd5 20. Bf6 Rxb3 21. Rb1 Rf5 22. Bh4 Re3 23. Bg4 Rb5 24. Rf1 Re4 25. Bf6 Rxb4 26. Rd1 Rd5 27. Rb1 Rf4 28. Bc3 Rd8 0-1

Fuatai, Fuatai - Yee, Stan

1. e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3. Nc3 dxe4 4. Nxe4 Bd7 5. Nf3 Bc6 6. Bd3 Nd7 7. O-O Ngf6 8. Ng3 Bd6 9. e4 O-O 10. Re1 Bxf3 11. Qxf3 c6 12. a3 Qa5 13. Be3 c5 14. dxc5 Ne5 15. Qe2 Nxd3 16. Qxd3 Be5 17. b4 Rfd8 18. Qb3 Qc7 19. Rad1 Ng4 20. h3 Nf6 21. Ne2 Nh5 22. Nd4 Qe7 23. Nf3 Bc7 24. Bd4 f6 25. Qe3 Re8 26. Bc3 Rac8 27. Nd4 Be5 28. Nb5 Bb8 29. Nd6 Bxd6 30. cxd6 Qd7 31. g4 1-0

Smith, Viv - Booth, Tony

1. d4 d5 2. Nf3 g6 3. Bf4 Bg7 4. e3 Nf6 5. h3 O-O 6. Nbd2 b6 7. Bd3 c5 8. c3 Nc6 9. O-O Nh5 10. Bh2 f5 11. Bb5 Bd7 12. Bxc6 Bxc6 13. Ne5 Bb7 14. Nef3 Nf6 15. Rc1 c4 16. Ng5 Be8 17. Ndf3 b5 18. a4 a6 19. Ra1 Bb7 20. Ne5 Qc8 21. axb5 axb5 22. Rxa8 Bxa8 23. Qa1 Bh6 24. h4 Bxg5 25. hxg5 Ne4 26. Bf4 Qe6 27. f3 Nd2 28. Rf2 Nh3 29. Qe1 Bb7 30. Rf1 Kg7 31. Qh4 Rh8 32. Qh6+ Kg8 33. g4 Na5 34. gxf5 Qxf5 35. Ng4 Ne6 36. Qh2 Qe6 37. Qh6 Bc8 38. Ne5 Nd8 39. Ra1 Bb7 40. Kg2 Qf5 41. Ra7 Qc2+ 42. Kg3 Qe2 43. Qh2 Qxh2+ 44. Kxh2 Kg7 45. Nd7 Rg8 46. Nc5 Bc8 47. Rxe7+ Nf7 48. Ra7 Re8 49. Kg3 Kg8 50. Kf2 Bf5 51. Ra5 Rd8 52. Rxb5 Nd6 53. Bxd6 Rxd6 54. Rb8+ Kg7 55. e4 dxe4 56. fxe4 Bg4 57. Rb7+ Kg8 58. Rb4 Be6 59. Nxe6 Rxe6 60. e5 Rc6 61. Rb7 Kf8 62. Ke3 Kg8 63. d5 Ra6 64. d6 Ra8 65. Kd4 Rc8 66. Rc7 Rd8 67. Kxc4 h5 1-0

Hoskyn, Gordon - Copp, Levi

1. e4 e5 2. Nf3 d6 3. d4 cxd4 4. Nxd4 Nf6 5. Nc3 a6 6. Bg5 e6 7. f4 Be7 8. Qf3 Nbd7 9. O-O-O Qc7 10. g4 b5 11. Bxf6 gxf6 12. g5 fxg5 13. Rg1 gxf4 14. Bh3 Nf6 15. a3 Bd7 16. e5 Nd5 17. Nxd5 exd5 18. e6 Bxe6 19. Bxe6 fxe6 20. Qh5+ Kd7 21. Qh3 Kc8 22. Qxe6+ Kb8 23. Qxe7 Qxe7 24. Nc6+ Kb7 25. Nxe7 Rae8 26. Nxd5 f3 27. Rdf1 Rhf8 28. Rf2 Re2 29. Rxe2 fxe2 30. Re1 Rf1 31. Kd2 Kc6 32. Nc3 Kc5 33. Rxe2 a5 34. Rg2 b4 35. axb4+ axb4 36. Ne4+ Kd5 37. Ng3 Kc5 1-0

Major Open 2007 Cross Table

No	Name	Loc	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Neil Gunn	1951	9	30:W	19:D	15:W	6:W	3:W	12:W	5:W	7:D	2:D	11:W	4:D
2	Paul Godfrey	1930	8.5	27:L	28:D	24:W	9:W	6:W	4:W	3:D	11:W	1:D	5:W	7:W
3	Fuatai Fuatai	1874	8.5	26:W	6:D	27:W	7:W	1:L	16:W	2:D	4:W	5:D	15:W	9:W
4	Mathew King	1647	7	20:L	11:W	29:W	18:W	8:W	2:L	12:W	3:L	15:D	16:W	1:D
5	Martin Post	1892	7	17:L	25:W	30:W	19:W	7:D	28:W	1:L	26:W	3:D	2:L	11:W
6	Vivian Smith	1627	6.5	33:W	3:D	9:W	1:L	2:L	10:D	8:L	25:W	14:D	28:+	21:W
7	Michael Wu	1748	6.5	31:W	17:W	18:W	3:L	5:D	23:W	26:D	1:D	11:L	10:W	2:L
8	Sean Watharow	1784	6.5	10:L	31:W	17:W	20:W	4:L	11:L	6:W	28:D	16:W	9:L	15:W
9	Stan Yee	1770	6.5	25:W	27:D	6:L	2:L	20:L	34:+	32:W	23:W	28:W	8:W	3:L
10	Edwin Yip	1506	6.5	8:W	15:L	21:W	16:L	30:W	6:D	11:L	18:W	26:W	7:L	13:W
11	Edward Tanoi	1460	6	15:L	4:L	33:W	14:W	21:W	8:W	10:W	2:L	7:W	1:L	5:L
12	Justin Davis	1657	6	22:W	20:D	19:D	26:W	16:W	1:L	4:L	15:L	13:L	23:W	25:W
13	Stewart Holdaway	1470	6	14:D	16:L	26:L	31:D	17:L	29:W	30:W	27:W	12:W	22:W	10:L
14	Gordon Hoskyn	1693	6	13:D	0:L	23:L	11:L	31:D	33:W	29:D	32:W	6:D	24:W	22:W
15	John Pakenham	1664	5.5	11:W	10:W	1:L	28:D	23:L	27:W	18:D	12:W	4:D	3:L	8:L
16	Helen Milligan	1837	5.5	29:D	13:W	20:D	10:W	12:L	3:L	17:W	21:W	8:L	4:L	18:D
17	Stanislav Chataline	1592	5.5	5:W	7:L	8:L	21:L	13:W	19:W	16:L	22:L	31:W	26:W	20:D
18	Alan Aldridge	1815	5.5	24:W	32:W	7:L	4:L	26:L	22:W	15:D	10:L	20:W	21:D	16:D
19	Michael Zhang	1643	5.5	34:+	1:D	12:D	5:L	28:L	17:L	22:L	29:D	27:W	30:W	26:W
20	Devon Smith	1420	5	4:W	12:D	16:D	8:L	9:W	26:L	21:L	24:D	18:L	33:W	17:D
21	Tony Booth	1613	5	28:D	29:D	10:L	17:W	11:L	30:W	20:W	16:L	24:D	18:D	6:L
22	Levi Copp	1425	5	12:L	30:L	25:W	32:D	24:D	18:L	19:W	17:W	23:W	13:L	14:L
23	Helen Courtney	1305	5	32:L	24:D	14:W	27:W	15:W	7:L	28:D	9:L	22:L	12:L	31:W
24	Roy Seabrook	1506	5	18:L	23:D	2:L	34:W	22:D	32:L	31:W	20:D	21:D	14:L	29:W
25	Bob Mitchell	1491	5	9:L	5:L	22:L	33:W	29:D	31:D	27:W	6:L	30:W	32:W	12:L
26	Simon Ward	1561	4.5	3:L	33:W	13:W	12:L	18:W	20:W	7:D	5:L	10:L	17:L	19:L
27	David Bell	1592	4.5	2:W	9:D	3:L	23:L	32:W	15:L	25:L	13:L	19:L	0:W	33:W
28	Max Wigbout	1290	4.5	21:D	2:D	32:W	15:D	19:W	5:L	23:D	8:D	9:L	6:-	0:
29	Don Stracy	1555	4	16:D	21:D	4:L	30:L	25:D	13:L	14:D	19:D	0:W	31:D	24:L
30	Bruce Kay	1603	4	1:L	22:W	5:L	29:W	10:L	21:L	13:L	33:W	25:L	19:L	32:W
31	John Wilson	1490	3.5	7:L	8:L	34:D	13:D	14:D	25:D	24:L	0:W	17:L	29:D	23:L
32	Alistair McGowan	1618	2.5	23:W	18:L	28:L	22:D	27:L	24:W	9:L	14:L	33:L	25:L	30:L
33	Ken Reed	1349	2	6:L	26:L	11:L	25:L	34:L	14:L	0:W	30:L	32:W	20:L	27:L
34	Mana Garland	1415	1.5	19:-	0:L	31:D	24:L	33:W	9:-	0:	0:	0:	0:	0:

114th Congress

by Gordon Hoskyn

Puchen Wang: The 114th Congress was a triumph for 16 year old Puchen Wang. Long regarded as a champion in the making, he has now arrived. Puchen not only claimed the Giant Silver Rook symbol of national supremacy, but added the NZ Rapid and the NZ Lightning titles as well, the first player ever to do so at the one Congress. For good measure he went through the gruelling, 12 day long Congress without a single loss! Puchen is now at least the equal of the two competing IM's Russell Dive and Anthony Ker, and very likely the strongest player in the country. Puchen

Wang had a tournament he will never forget.

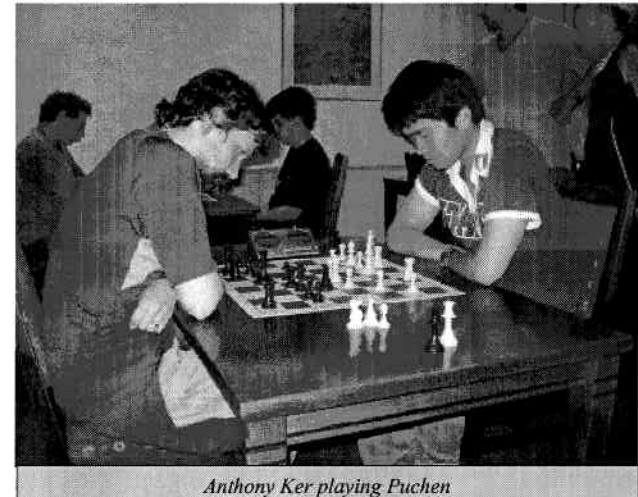
Director of Play: Bruce Pollard conducted Congress with aplomb. He was quiet and unnoticed when he needed to be, and efficient and organised when required. All rounds began on time.

The disputes committee was not required. Bruce did much more than what was usually required. He prepared the DGT boards for use, and set them up prior to the daily starts. Within minutes of the last games concluding - the results, cross tables and next rounds were on the website. Bruce also sent the daily results through to the Wanganui Chronicle. All in all, an excellent performance by Bruce Pollard, and much appreciated by the organisers and players.

Spot Prizes: Book prizes were won in round order by John Wilson no.33, Bob Smith 5, Stan Yee 9, Mike Steadman 45, Helen Court-

ney 3, Stewart Holdaway 22, Paul Godfrey 30, Michael Zhang 14, Bruce Kay 1, Bob Mitchell 37 and John Pakenham 38 who kindly presented his prize to Gordon Hoskyn. Much appreciated. The main events lucky accommodation draw of \$400 was won by Peter Stuart, No.10. The Rapid spot prize, goods to the value of \$50 kindly donated by NZ Chess Supplies, was won by Nathan Goodhue No.23. Michael Nyberg claimed the Rapid lucky accommodation prize of \$80 with No.16.

Thanks: No event can be successfully conducted without the involvement of a number of



Anthony Ker playing Puchen

volunteers. In particular, thanks must go to the following: Bob Smith for his advice leading up to Congress, Barry Williams for producing an appreciated daily bulletin, John Wilson for a big job well done handling the finances, Verginia and Christal Williams for making

ing tasty sandwiches, Tom Stratton for keeping the refreshment bar stocked up, Ted Frost for compiling the Congress booklet and entry form, Barry Pickett for allowing the use of his Collegiate Motor Inn as venue and accommodation and Bruce Pollard DOP who earned every cent of his honorarium. Without him, nothing!

Conclusion: I wish to thank all the volunteers and players who have supported Wanganui events throughout the years. It has been our pleasure. Finally best wishes for the next congress and may it be well supported.

Correspondence Chess

by Gordon Hoskyn

Profile: Viv Smith

Diary of a Chess Addict - Part Two

It's been ten years since my breast cancer operation and my life has changed considerably since then. At the time I took several months off work and away from the chess scene to recuperate. I had time to reflect on my future. I was now acutely aware that life is short – and mine could well be a lot shorter than I'd hoped. Bob – ever my rock of support – said I should not worry about working any more – just do whatever made me happy. Well, I had certainly not missed the office or the rush hour traffic, but I had missed the chess. I had been overwhelmed by the flowers, cards, and support from chess clubs and players all over the country during my illness. Chess had become a very big part of my life, and I wasn't ready to give it up yet.

Needless to say, I did not take the advice of the head of oncology at Auckland Hospital to stop playing chess because of the possible stress. Instead I became even more involved in the game – not just as a player, but also as organiser, administrator and promoter.

However as a player, I am now very conscious of the need to avoid stress. A bit of adrenalin- pumping in tense positions is unavoidable – that's part of the fun - but I try not to get too worried about the result. I play in almost every tournament I can, purely for the enjoyment – after all, each game is an adventure, not an exam or brain surgery! If I do well I'm thrilled, if I do badly 'c'est la vie' - my stupid moves are more cause for amusement or a lesson to be learned than for self-flagellation.

I do feel my chess game has gone downhill since my illness. While the chemotherapy was frying all those nasty little cancer cells, I'm sure it fried a few brain cells as well! Just three weeks into chemo I lost not only my hair but also my short-term memory. My body plunged into menopause overnight. One day I was fine, the next day I woke up in a forgetful, sweaty mess. I struggled to remem-

ber simple things like why I'd entered a room, where I was driving to, or why I'd made a special trip to the supermarket. I was told this is normal for menopause, and that one's memory does come back - eventually. Things have definitely improved since then, but I'm very aware my memory is still not that great. I try to compensate by writing notes to myself, and repeating things over and over in my mind. It's certainly made chess harder than it used to be. I get muddled up trying to analyse variations, and often stew over and over the same candidate moves, trying to recall why I'd decided one was better or even a mistake. Hard games make me very tired. Unfortunately there are very few tournaments these days with only one round a day, so I'm usually a wreck for any second round, let alone a third. I've come up with two possible solutions. Plan B is to get physically fit, in the hope that I won't get so tired. That's my resolution for 2007 (sound familiar?) – I just have to find the energy to do all that exhausting exercise. Till then I'm sticking to plan A – trying to play good superficial chess, and not get too engrossed in the position. It's fatal for me to think too hard. This year's Major Open is a good example. I tried long and hard to survive a horrible position against Stan Yee in round 3. Amazingly I got the point. But I staggered away exhausted, my head spinning. I was still a wreck the next day when I faced Neil Gunn, the eventual tournament winner, losing the game on time rather than position after only 24 moves. My brain just ran out of RAM.

Here's the Yee – Smith game. Not a great one, but another reminder that in chess it's not over till it's over.

Stan Yee – Viv Smith

Major Open 2006

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Be3 c6 5.Qd2
b5 6.Bd3 Nbd7 7.f3 a6 8.g4 e5 9.h4 h6
10.0-0-0 c5 11.dxc5 dxc5 12.g5 hxg5
13.Bxg5 Qc7 14.f4 b4 15.Nd5 Nxd5
16.exd5 c4 17.Be4 c3 18.Qe2 Qa5 19.Kb1

b3 20.cxb3 Nc5 21.Bxg6 fxg6 22.Qxe5+ Kf7
23.Qf6+ Kg8 24.Qxg6+ Bg7 25.h5 Bd7
26.h6 Rh7 27.Rh2 Rf8 28.Qd6 Bf5+ 29.Rc2
Ne4 30.Qa3 Qxa3 31.bxa3 Nd2+ 32.Kc1
Bxc2 33.hxg7 Bxd1 34.gxf8Q+ Kxf8
35.Kxd1 Rh1 36.d6 Ke8 37.Kc2 Rxc1
38.Kxc3 Ne4+ 39.Kb4 Nxc5 40.fxc5 Rxc5
41.a4 Kd7 42.Kc4 Kxd6 43.b4 Kc6 44.a5
Rg4+ 45.Kb3 Rf4 46.Ka4 Rf3 47.a3 Rg3
48.b5+ axb5+ 49.Kb4 Rg4+ 0-1

Far from using brain deterioration as a reason to give up chess, for me it's become an even greater incentive to keep playing. I'm hoping it'll help ward off too much further degeneration from creeping old age, and save me from Alzheimer's or dementia.

Of course I'll always be a starter for the NZ Women's Champs. I even played in the 1997 championship held by Howick-Pakuranga while dosed up on chemotherapy. Fortunately there was no drug testing! I finished second equal behind Rosaleen Sheehan. I think I've only missed two championships since my first in 1977. Some years it wasn't held due to lack of interest or for want of an organising club. Waitemata has stepped in many times to pick it up when there have been no other takers, with Bob and I organising at least ten of the last fifteen. To me it's an important measure of how female talent is developing in New Zealand. Over the years I've seen a raft of talented young female players come and go. They would be very enthusiastic, play well for a few years, even win the NZ title, and represent NZ at an Olympiad or two, then vanish from sight as studies, career, or family took precedence.

In the 2000 Women's Championship numbers reached an all time low, with only four players. NZ could barely raise a team for the Olympiad in Istanbul. We ended up fielding only three women when one pulled out. We had no one to replace her. It was clear that our female chess players were very much an endangered species. Maybe there would be no more women's Olympiad teams? I could not let that happen, I'm too selfish! I figured that only NZCF could do something to save us from extinction. But for

that it needed help – someone on Council with the time, energy, and desire to change things – obviously it needed a female.

I became an NZCF Councillor in January 2001, while hubby Bob became President.

Life was already quite busy with Waitemata Chess Club activities. I had been on the Club's committee on and off since I joined in 1978. At first I only filled positions when there were no other takers – but opted out in years when it was awkward to get to meetings due to a young family. When the venue for committee meetings moved to the Smith house, that problem was solved. I soon found myself taking the minutes as acting secretary, and was also left paying the bills and banking the monies when our treasurer left. That was seven years ago and I'm still holding those babies. We're a small club, so banking a few membership fees and paying a few bills should be easy. But Waitemata has this habit of running several big annual tournaments - which means hundreds of entry fees, prizes, and expenses - not to mention a junior club, with kids coming and going all year – an endless stream of cash going in and out. Every year I find myself buried in receipts and invoices, frantically trying to sort out accounts for the AGM.

Waitemata's junior chess activities have also kept the Smiths very busy. We had a brilliant and energetic club member – Brian Palmer – also a scoutmaster – who came up with the idea of holding a West Auckland Interschool Chess competition. Schools would compete with teams of four in primary, intermediate, and secondary divisions. We would hold it on a school day to make it more attractive to kids and have a second day for the finals. Brian, Bob and I all took time off work to run it. We had no idea of what we were getting into. The response was enormous. We had to hire an extra hall and borrow sets to accommodate over 250 kids. Thank goodness for Brian's booming voice and scoutmaster skills, as we struggled to keep order on that first exhausting but exhilarating day.

That was 15 years ago and the inter-schools competition has become a permanent and popu-

lar feature on our club calendar. We had to drop the secondary division along the way, as the primary and intermediates were getting so big they needed separate days, and there was already an Auckland secondary interschool tournament run by the Auckland Chess Association. Unfortunately Brian left for Oz a few years later, leaving the Smith duo to keep running it virtually on our own since then. It's so hard to get help on a weekday. We have it down to a fine art now, thanks to Swiss Perfect and a microphone, but I'm always a physical wreck at the end and so relieved when it's over. If that wasn't enough, when Bob became NZCF President, he made a bigger rod for our backs by encouraging clubs to hold similar interschool competitions in their areas, with winners going on to regional, North Island, South Island and ultimately national championships. This has created a huge wave of chess enthusiasm in schools throughout New Zealand, and it's still growing. But the Smiths have been left running the South Auckland region as well as west so those kids don't miss out, and also ran the Central Auckland region for several years until thankfully the Auckland Chess Centre took over. We know from personal experience that the interschool tournaments are a huge amount of work – my hat is off to all organisers of these events. I believe they're the best thing that's ever happened to New Zealand chess, and I'm proud to be part of it.

When we started the West Auckland Interschools back in 1993, we soon had parents ringing us to see if our club was suitable for their kids. Steve Lawson, our Club Captain, suggested we set up an after-school junior club, and heroically volunteered to run it. And so the Waitemata Junior Chess Club was established in 1994, and has had a steady stream of members ever since. Of course, shortly after starting it, Steve moved out of Auckland. Again the Smith duo was left to keep it running (notice a pattern here?) As I've slashed my working hours since my illness, I'm now the main Smith running the club, with Bob helping too whenever work hours permit. We would hate it to fold. It's brilliant watching young beginners

develop their skills and move on to the senior club. A few have now represented NZ at the World Youth and World Junior Championships. But alas, a little too often we've trained recruits for the Auckland Chess Centre!

Apart from running a lunchtime chess club as a high school teacher in the 1970s, the Waitemata Junior Club was my first real experience of coaching children. We always start with a coaching session before tournament play. Like a good school teacher I put a lot of work into devising lessons – finding appropriate games to demonstrate, creating worksheets, puzzles etc. I've enjoyed this, and it's led to me doing more coaching outside the club. Previously schools had sometimes phoned the Smiths looking for someone to do a bit of chess coaching. I'd always left that to Bob, whom I consider to be the real chess player in the family, not thinking I could do much myself. But Bob was not always available, and taking junior club had made me bolder. While I had continued to do part-time office work for several years after my illness, it gave me no joy. In 2002 I quit for good and now coach chess in schools. Bob and I set up a small business called 'Chess for Success', offering schools chess coaching programmes. I'm the main coach with Bob stepping in to do the occasional simul and take classes if I'm unavailable (he has to keep his regular job so we don't starve). We sent out a brochure to a few schools in 2002 and soon had more work than I wanted, sometimes taking up to 12 classes a week with anything from 12 to 30 kids in a group. I haven't advertised since, but still have enough work to keep me happily occupied. I always like to dress the part when I go to schools for my own and the kids' amusement – I'm easily recognisable as 'the chess lady'. I have a wardrobe full of black and white clothing, drawers full of jumpers and T-shirts with chess motifs, black and white checked jewellery, scarves, hats, bags, belts, and shoes – even socks. One of my daughters reckons if I threw out all my clothes relating to chess I'd be naked!

Being on NZCF Council has been an interesting experience. It's great to have one's finger on

the pulse of chess in NZ and be amongst a hard-core of such dedicated enthusiasts. I'm even taken seriously! Saving the endangered female species was my first priority, and Council members were more than happy for me to set up a new committee – with an initial membership of one – with myself as Female Chess Convenor. Now what could I do to justify this impressive title?

Without going too deeply into the biological and sociological differences of the male and female species, I figured the simple reason why so few females played chess was the lack of role models e.g. mothers or friends who played. Often women or girls would show up at our club but not last long, due to lack of female company. Maybe in a more nurturing female environment they could be encouraged to play more? I'd experimented once before in 1988 with a Sunday women's chess group at my house. The response had been small but not a complete waste of time. It did unearth players like Edith Otene and Helen Courtney, who went on to join our club and represent NZ several times. In fact the 1992 Olympiad in Manila was a case of "Waitemata versus the World", with all four players being Waitemata members – myself, Helen, Edith, and 13-year-old Amy Cater.

This time with NZCF behind me, I thought I'd try an experiment aimed at a younger group. I'd seen a few girls playing in our West Auckland interschool tournaments so I knew they were about. I decided on a "Chess for Girls Week", involving a girls' championship and follow up coaching. Waitemata, i.e. Bob and I, would run an Auckland Girls Chess Championship, followed by a coaching session at the Auckland Chess Centre. We would call on chess clubs in other regions to do the same, making it a nationwide event.

I drew up an Auckland entry form and debated the venue with Bob. Bob proposed the Auckland Chess Centre, anticipating about 40 entries 'if we were lucky.' I wasn't prepared to take that chance and ended up booking our big local community hall. Thank goodness I did – the entries kept coming and coming. We ended up

with 128 girls on the day – I still rib Bob about it! What a day that was – a wonderful nightmare – Bob working absolutely flat out to do the draws with nothing but paper, pen and pairing cards, TV One news cameras rolling, and an endless string of little voices calling out 'who do I play next?' Somehow we managed not to strangle anybody, and get through 5 rounds before they all had to rush off back to school. Phew! Well we had certainly proven that female players were out there, and we had discovered a fair bit of talent. Finishing in a three-way tie for first were future NZ Women's Champion Evgenia Charomova, New Zealand's only Women's FM Natasha Fairley, and Samantha Smith – yes our daughter – the only one of the trio with no further chess achievements to brag of. Sam just happened to be on school study leave, and had only come to help with the tuck shop. We'd had to beg her to play to avoid a bye. I remember her telling me after one game that she'd only just survived a savage attack from some little girl called Sue Maroroa (now NZ Women's Champion). Sam could well have followed in her mother's footsteps but doesn't play much – as she freely admits, she can't stand losing.

Our other daughter, Tessa, also doesn't play chess – too much concentration required – but son Devon is still enjoying the game and improving, despite sharing his mother's dislike of study, to the point where he was the 2006 Under 1400 Grand Prix winner.

In the wash-up to the Girls Championship, we posted out certificates to all participants, numerous age group book prizes, and invitations to a free coaching session for those who had shown the most promise. The idea was that the girls would receive their prizes at assembly, bringing chess to the attention of the whole school, and showing everyone that girls do play chess. We followed up with coaching for around 20 girls by Bob and Ewen Green.

When I first proposed Girls Chess Week, I knew I could make it happen in Auckland as I could depend on my dynamo husband for support. Without him I'd be up the creek. It was a big ask, and I doubted there would be anybody

interested enough in female chess in other regions to devote the time and energy to the cause. I was thrilled to find out I was wrong. An amazing woman contacted me to say she would organise Girls Chess Week in Christchurch. That was my first contact with Jacinta Buist, who has been an absolute inspiration. She had been teaching junior chess for years, and was heavily involved in running the Christchurch Press school chess competitions. With the aid of Craig Hall and the Canterbury Club, Jacinta organised a Christchurch Girls Chess Championship with 30 girls. She then sent me a plane ticket to come down and run a girls' chess workshop at the end of the week. An extra bonus for me was having a second member on my Female Chess Committee.

I'm happy to say that Otago also joined the bandwagon, with Graham Haase organising a Dunedin Girls Championship with 10 entries that year.

Another big bonus for me, and NZCF, was meeting Felicity Timings, who had come to the Auckland Girls Championship with a group of girls from a North Shore primary school. I'd found yet another female very enthusiastic about promoting chess to add to my committee. Felicity later joined NZCF as a councillor and has been invaluable with our junior chess initiatives.

All in all Girls Chess Week was such a great success we have made it an annual event. It has been running for 6 years now, with big turnouts every year. Jacinta even added a girls' team event in Christchurch last year. I haven't the time or energy to follow suit in Auckland yet, but have continued my yearly trek south to run the 'Viv Smith Chess Workshop' that Jacinta organises. Familiar faces come back each year, along with a bunch of new ones. Eight regulars from Girls Week have now played for NZ in international events, four of them in Olympiad teams. We now have a depth of good players to choose from, with reserves waiting in the wings. In last year's Women's Olympiad team, I was the only "oldie" – in fact my age comfortably beat the other three players put together! (How very young they were)

The young improvers have also taken over the NZ Women's Championship, and we've created a Reserve Championship as well to encourage the less experienced ones coming through. I was the only member of the "old guard" playing in the last two NZ Women's Champs - both won by teenagers. I could only manage 5th in the 2006 event – my worst result ever. Hmmm - maybe I've been too successful for my own good, like "a turkey calling for an early Christmas", as Bob puts it.

Here is my game from the 2006 championship against the winner. Sue Maroroa has a very aggressive tactical style, which is hard to combat. I thought I'd better meet fire with fire, and was the only player to take a point off her.

Viv Smith – Sue Maroroa

NZ Womens Championship 2006

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.Bd3 d6 7.0-0 h6 8.Nc3 Ne7 9.Na4 Bd4 10.c3 Bf6 11.f4 g5 12.Qf3 g4 13.Qe2 Ng6 14.Be3 Bd7 15.Bc2 h5 16.Rad1 Qe7 17.e5 Bg7 18.Qd2 d5 19.Nc5 Nh4 20.Bd4 Bf5 21.Ba4 Bd7 22.Nxd7 Kxd7 23.Kh1 Nf5 24.Bf2 h4 25.Qxd5+ Kc8 26.Qxc6 Ng3+ (Nice try – obviously hoping I'll play 27. hxg3. This leads to Black forcing checkmate in 4 with hxg+, followed by Rh1+, Qh4+ and Qh2#.) Sorry, not today. 27 Bxg3 1-0

I'm really happy to have played a part in this big surge in the ranks of female chess in NZ. I have also been beavering away on the NZCF Junior Chess Committee and am pleased to have played a part in not only what we've achieved with interschool tournaments, but also the junior badge scheme.

The Smiths were billeting a Christchurch player for the Women's Reserve Championship in 2001. Hannah Mason had earlier won the Girls Week Christchurch Girls Champs and was keen for more competition. She showed us a set of Canterbury Chess Club badges she'd got under a scheme administered by Craig Hall – a different coloured badge for passing various chess levels. Bob and I had been very impressed with this badge idea. In 2002 Felicity

joined Council and became convenor of the Junior Chess Committee, which included us, Jacinta and Craig. We all thought the chess badge scheme was brilliant, and that NZCF should undertake a similar nationwide scheme. Bob came up with the idea of badges in the shape of chess pieces for each level. Felicity and I set about writing the tests with Bob's invaluable technical input. I designed the badges with much trial and error and sweating of blood, while Felicity designed the certificates. These have proved to be a great hit with hundreds of kids in schools and chess clubs throughout NZ. We even have a few adults wanting to sit the tests. They're still a work in progress with the Queen and King tests yet to be written. Still, anyone passing the level four Rook Badge will have proved they've reached a pretty good standard. When I next get some spare time I'll think about those other levels and drag them off the back burner. So much to be done, so few hours in a day.

Ratings are another of my babies. NZCF lost its Rating Officer the year I came on Council. Soon the pairing cards were stacking up, with no one to process them. It was a horrible job requiring some poor person to key countless player codes into spreadsheets, recording the result of one player code against another - so monotonous. Looking around the table at the other male councillors, it was clear that while they might be better than me on the chessboard I could clean them up on a keyboard. So I foolishly volunteered, though I had no clue about any of the technicalities of the system – I was just the data entry person. It's now my 7th year as Rating Officer and, thanks to Swiss Perfect, the job has since become a breeze. I am still a bit clueless about rating formulae. My job now involves just checking that all the necessary information is in the email files, chasing a few people when it's not, and forwarding the files to our Rating Administrator in Norway. Why Norway? Because that's where expatriate New Zealander and rating whiz Rowan Wood lives. I've since met Rowan a few times and I am in awe of his knowledge of rating systems and passion for rating formulae. It's all incompre-

hensible to me, but I have absolute faith in everything he does.

I have sometimes wondered what my life would be like without all the chess. A lot less busy that's for sure. But I have no regrets. If anything, I could say I regret being such a late starter on the chess scene. I am more than a little envious of the opportunities our young female players have – flying off with coaches to World Youth Championships and Olympiads. Maybe I'd have become a better player. But chess has given me so much that I don't see myself ever quitting. I still have my eye on that elusive WFM title, and there's also winning the NZ Seniors' Championship to aim for – which had better be soon before the competition gets too tough. Maybe one of these days I'll even find time to put some work into my own game - perhaps learn some new openings and not be so predictable.

Anyway, there's always a next tournament somewhere to look forward to, and a new game – who cares who the opponent is – I hope it'll be a fine adventure.

Here is a correspondence game from 20 years ago (1987 TT2 section). It was interesting if only to see Black's king at e5 on move 12.

Viv Smith – John Veldhuizen,

TT2 1987, 1987

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 f5 3.exf5 e4 4.Ne5 Nf6 5.Be2 d5 6.Bh5+ Ke7 7.b3 b6 8.Ba3+ c5 9.d4 Bxf5 10.dxc5 Ke6 11.Nf7 Qd7 12.Ng5+ Ke5 13.Bb2+ d4 14.Bxd4+ Qxd4 15.f4+ Kxf4 16.Qxd4 Bxc5 17.Nh3+ Bxh3 18.Rf1+ Kg5 19.Qe5+ Kh6 20.Rxf6+ gxf6 21.Qxf6+ Kxh5 22.Qxh8 Bf5 23.Nc3 Bb4 24.0-0-0 Bxc3 25.Qxc3 Na6 26.g4+ 1-0

An Olympiad game from Manila 1992. I've often had to lose a pawn to wake up and get going, hopefully not too late. This game was a marathon. Towards the end my opponent offered a draw. Our Captain Ewen Green told me it was fine to accept, and Fritz would have agreed, but I was in a stubborn mood.

Giuliana Fittante (Italy) – Viv Smith

Manila Womens Olympiad 1992

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nge2

O-O 6.Ng3 e5 7.d5 c6 8.Be2 cxd5 9.cxd5 33.Rcd1 Qc7 34.Rd3 Bd4 35.Rff3 Qc8
 Nbd7 10.Bg5 h6 11.Be3 a6 12.h4 h5 13.Rc1 36.Kg2 Qd8 37.Kg3 Qe7 38.h4 Qa7 39.Kg2
 b5 14.a3 Rb8 15.b4 Nb6 16.Bg5 Bd7 Rc8 40.Kg3 Rf8 41.Rxf8 Kxf8 42.Nxd4 exd4
 17.Bxh5 Rc8 18.Be2 Nc4 19.Bxc4 Rxc4 43.Ne2 Qg7 44.Rxd4 Qe5+ 45.Kg2 Kf7
 20.Qf3 Qc8 21.Bxf6 Bg4 22.Qe3 Bxf6 23.h5 46.g5 Qe7 47.Nc3 Qc7 48.Rd3 Qc4 49.Rf3+
 Qd8 24.Qd3 Qe7 25.hxg6 fxg6 26.Nge2 Bh4 Kg7 50.Kg3 Qd4 51.Kg2 Qd2+ 52.Kh3 Qe1
 27.O-O Kg7 28.f3 Qa7+ 29.Kh2 Rh8 53.Kg2 Qxh4 54.Rg3 Qf4 55.Kh3 Qc1
 30.fxg4 Bf2+ 31.Qh3 Rxh3+ 32.gxh3 Be3 56.Kh2 Qxa3 57.Kh3 Qxb4 58.Kg4 Qd4

Setting Up the DGT Boards

by Bob Mitchell

Setting up the DGT boards went very well until we attempted to access the Internet. Plugging the boards in and linking the wiring to the computer was a simple task. The plan was to use Ted Frost's Xtra broadband connection to link with the Auckland Chess Centre Web site so that the top games would go out live onto the Internet.

After several fruitless attempts to get on line Gordon remembered that NZCF Secretary Bob Mitchell planned to arrive at the hotel on New Year's Day, and could possibly shed light on the problem by virtue of his computer forensic background. Bob quickly identified the issue as a data link failure. The hotel phone system did not have the required signal split to enable broadband linking to the Internet. The hotel DID have a wireless 'hot spot' provided by Telecom, but we would need a wireless adapter to access it. Bob agreed to buy one and lend it to us for the duration of Congress. A quick trip to Harvey Norman, the software was installed, and the wireless hot spot was immediately available. Alas, although Ted's account would provide us with free internet access there still remained a problem with the software settings. Finally we took the adapter

plus the computer back to Harvey Norman where the salesman used their hot spot to make the adjustments. Back to the hotel, set up the link to the Auckland Chess Centre Web Site, and we were in business. The system worked flawlessly for the whole Congress. For the future it is critical that any Club planning to use the DGT boards should have broadband access at the playing site. Also, internet connection software and possibly wireless access equipment should be a part of the DGT board infrastructure, so that the whole process is one of 'load and go'.

Bruce Pollard comments: Immediately after each round a web page was produced with the results and cross table by Swiss Perfect. A little bit of editing and the draw for the next day was added. The pages for the Championship and Major Open were then uploaded to the website allowing anyone the results of the days play within minutes of the end of each round. Thanks to Ted Frost for allowing us to use his internet account (and Telecom for providing free Wireless access to their Broadband customers till the end of 2007), and Bob Mitchell for his wireless adapter.

NZ Senior Championship

Hamilton

Mid May

Affiliated clubs

Clubs are requested to advise NZ Chess of any changes in details given below.

Ashburton PO Box 204, Ashburton. Meets Monday 7.15pm (Feb-Oct), Admin Building, Ashburton Hospital, Elizabeth St. Contact, Ken Pow (03) 308-3655.

Auckland Chess Centre Meets Monday 7.30 & Thursday (Social) 7.30pm, 17 Cromwell St, Mt Eden, Auckland 1003. (09) 630-2042 Clubroom. Contact, Bruce Wheeler (09) 623-0109.

Canterbury, PO Box 19-997, Christchurch. Meets Wednesday, 7.30pm., 227 Bealey Avenue; Tel (03) 366-3935 Clubroom.

Pres, Chris Benson Ph (0274) 318-951
 Sec, Craig Hall (021) 128-9543

Gambit Sec, Ted Frost, 103 Koromiko Rd, Gonville, Wanganui. (06) 348-4266

Hamilton Thur, 7.00pm, St Pauls Collegiate School. Inquiries Gary Judkins (07) 855-5392. Judkins4@actrix.co.nz

Hastings-Havelock North, P.O. Box 184, Hastings, Wed, 7.30 pm, Library, Havelock N High School, Te Mata Rd. Sec, Chris Smith (06) 877-4583.

Howick-Pakuranga Tuesday 7.45pm (juniors 6.30-7.30), Haseler Hall, underneath All Saints Church, Selwyn Road, Howick. Sec, Kees van den Bosch (09) 577-5285, 021 2627079

Invercargill Wednesday, 8pm, staff room, South School, Ness St. Contact, Garry Putt (03) 216-7368.

Kapiti Wednesday, 7.30pm, Salvation Army Hall, Bluegum Road, Paraparaumu Beach.

c/- 51 Ames Street, Paekakariki
 Contact, Rosemary Kingston (04) 292-8157

Mount Maunganui RSA, 10 Maranui St, Mt Maunganui, Contact Vaughan Collingwood (07) 570-3121, vaughan.lisa@xtra.co.nz

New Plymouth 11 Gilbert St, New Plymouth. Tuesdays, 7.30pm. Pres C Bell.

Contact B Bowler, (06) 753-6282.

North Shore P.O. Box 33-587, Takapuna, Auckland 9. Wednesday 7.30pm, Northcote Community Centre, College Rd/Ernie Mays St. Club Captain, Peter Stuart (09) 449-1812

Otago 7 Maitland St, Dunedin. Wednesday 7.30pm. otagochess@clear.net.nz
 Alistair Newbould (President) (03) 472-8819
 Duncan Watts (Secretary) (03) 477-5226.

Papatoetoe Wednesday 7.30pm Papatoetoe RSA Bowling Club, Cambridge Tce, Papatoetoe. Contacts: John McRae (09) 278-4520, Manhal Yaikooob (09) 277-9605

Upper Hutt Monday 7.30pm, Hapai Club, 879 Fergusson Drive. Sec Gerard Denton (04) 5289297 influence@xtra.co.nz

Club Captain Roger Smith (04) 971-6528

Waitemata Thursday 7.45pm, Kelston Comm Centre, cnr Great North Rd and Awaroa Rd, Kelston; jun 6.15-7.15, Mondays, schooldays. Postal address: PO Box 21478, Henderson, Auckland 1008. Contact Bob or Viv Smith (09) 817-2664; bobviv@actrix.gen.nz

Wanganui Mondays 7pm, 1st floor, Commercial Club, 42 St Hill St. Pres, Gordon Hoskyn, 7 Pehi St (06) 343-6101; Sec Kevin Yorston, 5 Mitchell St (06) 343-7166.

Wellington Tuesday 7.30pm, Turnbull House, Bowen Street, Wellington I. Pres Ross Jackson, 86B The Esplanade, Raumati South, (04) 902-1707, rosslin@paradise.net.nz. Sec Alan Aldridge, (04) 971-4874, alan_aldrige@paradise.net.nz

Associate members

Gisborne, 4/26 Harris St, Gisborne. M.P. Grieve (06) 863-0101.

NZ Correspondence Chess Assn, P.O. Box 3278, Wellington. Sec, J W (Sandy) Maxwell, (04) 237-4753.

North Harbour Junior Thursday 6pm-7.30pm Northcote Community Centre, College Rd/Ernie Mays St, c/- Felicity Timings, 13 Macky Ave Devonport, (09) 4453729 ftimings@clear.net.nz

District Associations

Auckland Chess Assn, Sec, Kees van den Bosch, 37 Centre Court, Pakuranga, Manukau City, (09) 577-5285, 021 2627079.