

# ***New Zealand Chess***

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***The Wellington Open***

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The NZCF Website is a superb resource for all aspects of competitive chess in NZ including a chess calendar and full results of all significant tournaments. Go to [www.newzealandchess.co.nz](http://www.newzealandchess.co.nz)

**On the Cover:** Has anyone played more Wellington Easter tournaments than Don Stracy? Picture credit: Ian Sellen. Belated picture credit for last issue's photo of Peter Stuart at Upper Hutt in 1979: Anton Reid

## History Never Repeats

Like the last issue, this one includes some historical material, as we pay tribute to chess players who have played their last game. The obituary of Peter Stuart in the last issue referenced his database of New Zealand games. Since that issue NZCF has been very pleased to receive permission from Peter's family to make his database freely available. You can find and download the database on the new History Project page on the NZCF website at [newzealandchess.co.nz](http://newzealandchess.co.nz).

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***Bay of Plenty Rapid  
2018  
by Caleb Wright***

**B**en Hague claimed his fifth Bay of Plenty Rapid title to join Mike Steadman as the now joint record holder. Sixty-six players turned out from far and wide, a record for the event. A bonus was even numbers in each of the three groups. It's always satisfying to know that it is possible for provincial events to drag players out from the concentration of chess in NZ's three main centres.

The Mount Maunganui RSA Chess club and the complimentary Tauranga RSA Chess club again combined resources. Our good team of people can be proud of what has been achieved in NZ's first and longest running Fischer time control Rapid. We are proud of our record keeping, and can report that only three players have either played or been arbiter in all thirteen events; Hilton Bennett, Caleb Wright and Thomas Gothorp.

### **A-Group**

The A-group had 22 players, and the top ten seeds had FIDE rapid ratings of 2052 to 2318. The real action on the top boards began in round three when Noel Pinic panicked and lost against Mike Steadman (The New Mike version 3.0) in a pawns and two knights against pawns and bishop pair endgame, while Ben Hague was too solid and won against Alphaeus Ang.

Round four saw Ben win an active game with pieces everywhere against Mike Steadman while other boards began to clamber over each other to keep in the running.

Round five saw Ben win a positional game against Paul Garbett, while Mike Steadman employed his classic smoke and mirrors anti-junior chess against Alphaeus Ang to bring home a win with the Black pieces.

The final round saw Ben Hague only needing a draw for clear first place and he duly drew against Noel Pinic for Ben to finish on 5½/6. Meanwhile on the next board Mike Steadman's hopes at the beginning of the round of first equal were dashed when he wasted a key move and later lost to local co-Champion Kirill Polishchuk who therefore finished in clear

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second place and also secured top local player with 4½ points.

## B-Group

Here 26 players took part. By round four there were three players on a perfect score. On board one Asheesh Gautam lost to Laurens Goormachtigh while Leyton Hackney also on a perfect score lost to Luis Duran Rubalcava.

Round five saw Laurens seal up a nice win against Neil Cruden followed by a last round win against Leyton Hackney for Laurens to finish clear first place on six points. Second place was also decided in the last round, Asheesh Gautam lost against Luis Duran Rubalcava who finished in clear second place on five points.

## Junior & under 1200 Group

Here 18 players competed in what was a mixed bag of experienced and learning players. This group since its inception has been remarkably hard to predict and this year was no exception. In the end the player who moved slowest often had a telling advantage and a three way tie resulted with five points out of six each. Aidan Morgan, Leo Kim and Udula Bandara.

A huge thanks to Vega-master Keong Ang for performing his Vega magic and the art of tidying up files for FIDE and NZCF ratings very promptly. Our thanks also go to several others who have helped keep the tournament going over the years - you know who you are, so I won't name people for fear of missing names out! But it is much appreciated. See you next time.

---

## 2018 Bay of Plenty Rapid

1	FM	Hague, Ben	2318	NZL	AC	5.5	+W16	+B2	+W8	+B3	+W5	=W4
2		Polishchuk, Kirill	2072	NZL	MM	4.5	+B7	-W1	+B15	=W10	+B14	+B3
3	FM	Steadman, Michael V	2269	NZL	AC	4.0	+B20	+W11	+B4	-W1	+B8	-W2
4		Pinic, Noel	2052	NZL	MM	4.0	+B15	+W5	-W3	=B6	+W13	=B1
5	IM	Garbett, Paul Anthon	2197	NZL	NS	4.0	+W18	-B4	+W12	+B13	-B1	+W10
6	CM	Milligan, Helen	1917	NZL	NS	4.0	=B10	+W20	=B14	=W4	=B7	+W11
7		Dare, Richard	1876	NZL	HA	4.0	-W2	=B18	+W19	+B9	=W6	+B13
8	CM	Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	2132	NZL	AC	3.5	+B9	+W12	-B1	=W14	-W3	+B15
9	CM	Marko, Helmut	1919	PNG	MM	3.5	-W8	+B21	=B11	-W7	+B20	+W14
10	FM	Gong, Daniel Hanwen	2101	NZL	HP	3.0	=W6	+B16	-W13	=B2	+W18	-B5
11	CM	Huang, Alex	2086	NZL	AC	3.0	+W17	-B3	=W9	=B18	+W12	-B6
12	CM	Duneas, John	2070	NZL	AC	3.0	+W21	-B8	-B5	+W20	-B11	+W18
13		Fulo, Nunilon III	2091	PHI		2.5	+B22	=W14	+B10	-W5	-B4	-W7
14	CM	Bennett, Hilton	1968	NZL	HA	2.5	+W19	=B13	=W6	=B8	-W2	-B9
15		Seabrook, Roy	1812	NZL	AC	2.5	-W4	+B17	-W2	=B19	+W16	-W8
16		Mistry, Prashant	1963	NZL	NS	2.5	-B1	-W10	=B17	+W22	-B15	+W21
17	CM	Picken, Oliver	1893	NZL	PT	2.5	-B11	-W15	=W16	-B21	+B22	+W19
18	FM	Gibbons, Robert	1936	NZL	PT	2.0	-B5	=W7	+B22	=W11	-B10	-B12
19		Cooper, Nigel	1592	NZL	CA	1.5	-B14	=W22	-B7	=W15	=W21	-B17
20		Runcan, Daniel-Ioan	1947	ROU	AC	1.5	-W3	-B6	+W21	-B12	-W9	=B22
21		Wright, Caleb	1873	NZL	MM	1.5	-B12	-W9	-B20	+W17	=B19	-B16
22		Jackson, L. Ross	1916	NZL	WE	1.0	-W13	=B19	-W18	-B16	-W17	=W20

## Wellington Open 2018

Anthony Ker won this year's Wellington Open with a strong performance anchored by a fine win against Nic Croad (see below). Jack James came close to a breakthrough win against an elite field, beating Russell Dive for the first time and dominating Anthony in their game, only to fall short of victory by a tiniest margin (one poor move can spoil the best game).

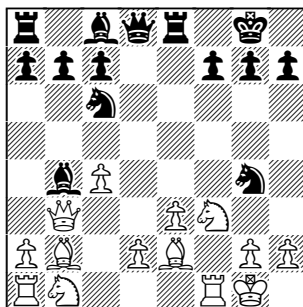
Ross Jackson was watching James-Ker and describes it in terms of "The Theory of Infinite Resistance" in a addendum to the main article. Jack also was very unlucky to lose a game by default due to an untimely car problem.

This isn't a conventional tournament report, more a selection of highlights that happened to catch the Editor's eye. The obvious starting point for any highlights reel was big upset as a result of an impressive attack in the first round.

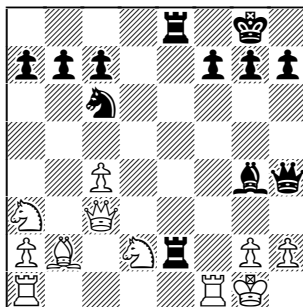
### Steadman, Michael V R (2194) - Sole, Michael D (1686) [A00]

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL (1), 30.03.2018

**1.b4 e5 2.Bb2 Bxb4 3.Bxe5 Nf6 4.Nf3 0-0 5.e3 Re8 6.c4 Nc6 7.Bb2 d5 8.Qb3 d4 9.Be2 dxe3 10.fxe3 Ng4 11.0-0**



**11...Bxd2!? 12.Nfxd2?** Presumably White wants to exchange off the menacing knight, but capturing with the other knight was more natural and better **12...Rxe3 13.Qd1 Qh4 14.Bxg4 Bxg4 15.Qc1 15.Nf3 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Rae8 17.Nc3 Nd4** is fatal **15...Rae8 16.Na3** A funny looking move, but White has a specific idea **16...Re2 17.Qc3**



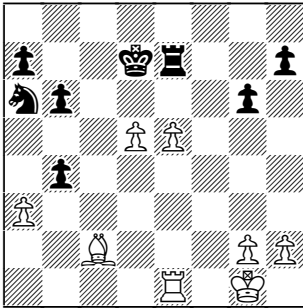
White hopes this mate threat will signal a revival, but... **17...Rxc2+!** Mate in four. Nice! **0-1**

The tournament featured a lot of quality chess from the youth brigade. But it was also nice to see our cover boy, veteran Don Stracy, having a good tournament.

**Stracy, Don M (1575) -  
Lyall, Simon (1734) [C42]**

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL  
(2), 30.03.2018

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 Nxe4 4.Bd3 d5  
5.Nxe5 Nd7 6.Nxd7 Bxd7 7.0-0 Qf6 8.c4  
Qxd4 9.cxd5 0-0-0 10.Nc3 Nc5 11.Bc2  
Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Bd6 13.Be3 Kb8 14.Bd4  
f6 15.a3 b6 16.Re1 Rde8 17.b4 Na6  
18.Ne4 Be5 19.Bxe5 Rxe5 20.Nc3 g6  
21.Rxe5 fxe5 22.Re1 Re8 23.Ne4 Kc8  
24.Nf6 Re7 25.f4 e5 26.Nxd7 Kxd7  
27.fxe5 cxb4

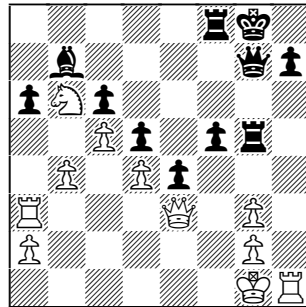


White's beautiful centre pawns should carry the day. If they advance to the sixth rank they're worth a rook **28.Ba4+! Kd8 29.d6! Re6 30.axb4?** Oh no - this is not the time to pause for breath 30.Rf1! Wins everything here; 30.Bb3 is also more than sufficient, forcing the e pawn forward **30...Nxb4 31.Bb3 31.Rf1!** is still available **31...Nd3!** Now Black has this annoying move **32.Bxe6 Nxe1** White is still winning, but some accuracy is now required, and Don's peaceful inclination takes over instead **33.Be4 Kd7 34.Kf2 Nc2 35.Kf3 Nd4+ 36.Ke4 Ne6 37.Bb5+ Kd8 38.Kd5 Nf4+ 39.Kc6 Ne6 40.Kd5 Nf4+ 41.Kc6 ½-½**

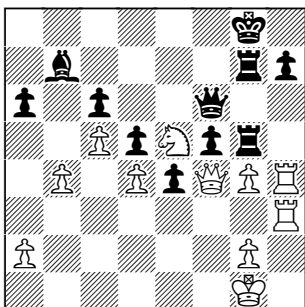
**James, Jack (2019) - Dive, Russell  
J (2318) [B14]**

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL  
(3), 31.03.2018

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6  
5.Nc3 e6 6.c5 Nc6 7.Bb5 Be7 8.Nf3 0-0  
9.0-0 Qc7 10.Re1 a6 11.Bxc6 bxc6  
12.Ne5 Nd7 13.Bf4 Nxe5 14.Bxe5 Qa7  
15.b4 Bd7 16.Rb1 Rae8 17.Qc2 f6 18.Bg3  
Bd8 19.Rb3 Bc7 20.Na4 Bxg3 21.hxg3 e5  
22.Rbe3 e4 23.Nb6 Be8 24.f3 f5 25.f4 Qc7  
26.Ra3 Bb7 27.Qc1 Re6 28.Kf2 Rg6  
29.Rh1 Qe7 30.Qe1 Rg4 31.Kg1 g5  
32.fxg5 Qg7 33.Qe3 Rxg5



**34.Rh4!** Not 34.Nd7?? f4! wins **34...Kh8?** Russell: "My ugly bishop isn't a problem as long as White's knight isn't doing anything either. Unfortunately I let the knight back into the game" **35.Nd7! Rg8?** 35...f4! is still best, although now just as a way to escape to a perpetual 36.Rxf4 Rxf4 37.Qxf4 Qxd4+ **36.Ne5 Qf6 36...Rxg3?? 37.Qxg3 Qxg3 38.Nf7+ Kg7 39.Rxg3+ Kxf7 40.Rxh7+ 37.Qf4 R8g7 38.g4!** Not so much a pawn break as a way to introduce the queen's rook **38...Kg8 39.Rah3**



**39...Qf8?** Cracking, although White now has an absolute bind **40.Rxh7! Rxh7 41.Qxg5+ Rg7 42.Qh6** And Black can't even postpone Qh8 mate next 1-0

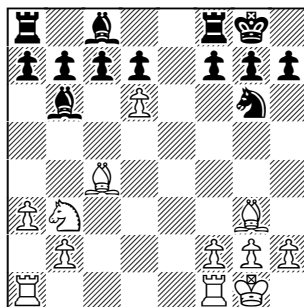
**Ker,Anthony F (2307) - Croad,Nicholas (2294) [C54]**  
Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL (3), 31.03.2018

**1.e4 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 Nf6 5.d4 exd4 6.cxd4 Bb4+ 7.Nbd2** An interesting sideline, the third most

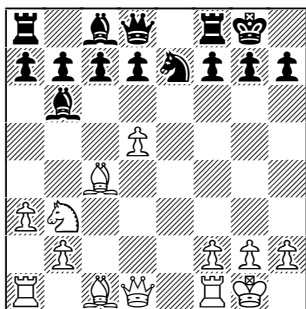
## Wellington Open 2018

1	IM	Ker, Anthony F	2307	NZL	5.5	+W27	+B7	+W2	=B6	+W9	+B3
2	FM	Croad, Nicholas	2294	NZL	4.5	+B19	+W26	-B1	+W15	+B13	=B4
3	WIM	Timergazi, Layla	1958	NZL	4.5	+W17	+B16	=W13	+B22	+BYE	-W1
4	FM	Steadman, Michael V	2194	NZL	4.5	-W16	+B17	+B10	+W14	+B8	=W2
5	IM	Dive, Russell J	2318	NZL	4.5	+B18	+W15	-B6	=W7	+B22	+W13
6	CM	James, Jack	2019	NZL	4.0	+W9	+B14	+W5	=W1	-BYE	=B7
7		Goodhue, Nathan	1915	NZL	4.0	+B23	-W1	+B28	=B5	+W24	=W6
8		Wells, Clinton A	1930	NZL	4.0	+B32	=W10	+B11	=BYE	-W4	+W15
9		Winter, Ryan	1668	NZL	3.5	-B6	+W33	+B26	+W25	-B1	=W11
10		Benitez, Edgar	0	NZL	3.5	+W24	=B8	-W4	=W23	+B19	=B14
11		Rossiter, Philip E	1773	NZL	3.5	+W31	=B13	-W8	=B12	+W23	=B9
12		Weng, Xintong (Winst	1489	NZL	3.5	=B25	-W20	+B18	=W11	=B14	+W22
13		Macdonald, Paul	2002	NZL	3.0	+B28	=W11	=B3	+W19	-W2	-B5
14		Brockway, Andrew	1736	NZL	3.0	+B33	-W6	+B21	-B4	=W12	=W10
15		Nyberg, Michael	1920	NZL	3.0	+W29	-B5	+W16	-B2	+W28	-B8
16		Sole, Michael D	1686	NZL	3.0	+B4	-W3	-B15	=W26	+B21	=W20
17		He, Caleb	1604	NZL	3.0	-B3	-W4	+B33	=W18	=B25	+W26
18		Lyall, Simon	1734	NZL	3.0	-W5	=B29	-W12	=B17	+W33	+W31
19		Chen, Wei Kai	1690	NZL	3.0	-W2	+B34	+W30	-B13	-W10	+B29
20		Ha, Huy Minh (Timoth	1673	NZL	3.0	=W30	+B12	-W22	-B24	+W27	=B16
21		Xie, Felix	1252	NZL	3.0	=W22	=B30	-W14	+B27	-W16	+B28
22		Aldridge, Alan L	1872	NZL	2.5	=B21	+W25	+B20	-W3	-W5	-B12
23		Day, Fabian	1556	NZL	2.5	-W7	+B27	=W24	=B10	-B11	=W25
24		Lee, Edward	1838	NZL	2.5	-B10	+W32	=B23	+W20	-B7	
25		Jackson, L Ross	1893	NZL	2.5	=W12	-B22	+W29	-B9	=W17	=B23
26	CM	Forster, William	1867	NZL	2.0	+W34	-B2	-W9	=B16	=W29	-B17
27		Weiskopf, Philip	1710	GER	2.0	-B1	-W23	+B34	-W21	-B20	+W32
28		Wevers, Alexis	1661	NZL	2.0	-W13	+B31	-W7	+B30	-B15	-W21
29		Stracy, Don M	1575	NZL	2.0	-B15	=W18	-B25	+W32	=B26	-W19
30		Johnson, Quentin J F	2028	NZL	2.0	=B20	=W21	-B19	-W28	-B31	+B34
31		Legner, James	0	NZL	2.0	-B11	-W28	=B32	=W34	+W30	-B18
32		List, Robert	1591	NZL	1.5	-W8	-B24	=B31	-B29	+W34	-B27
33		Lee, Dylan	0	NZL	1.0	-W14	-B9	-W17	+BYE	-B18	
34		Xu, Hannah	1120	NZL	0.5	-B26	-W19	-W27	=B31	-B32	-W30

important move in the position. Wikipedia has the intriguing comment that it is more popular with computers than people - my computer is a bit too feeble to confirm this theory. Anthony is really working on his openings - he only used to play those Guicco Piano positions that can arise by transposition from his preferred Scotch or Scotch Gambit. 7.Nc3 Nxe4 8.0-0 Bxc3 9.d5 leads into both tactical madness and important theory; 7.Bd2 competes to be the main line, and is quieter; 7.Kf1 has a name (the "Krakow Variation") but has almost been abandoned 7...Nxe4 8.d5 Ne7 Nakamura (2799) - Giri (2776), Khanty-Mansiysk RUS 2015, quickly burned out to sterile equality 8...Nxd2 9.Bxd2 Bxd2+ 10.Qxd2 Ne7 11.d6 cxd6 12.0-0 d5 13.Bxd5 0-0 14.Rad1 Nxd5 15.Qxd5 d6 16.Qxd6 Qxd6 17.Rxd6 1/2-1/2 in 31 moves 9.0-0 Nxd2 10.Nxd2 avoiding too much simplification a la Nakamura-Giri 10...0-0 11.a3 Ba5 12.Nb3 Bb6

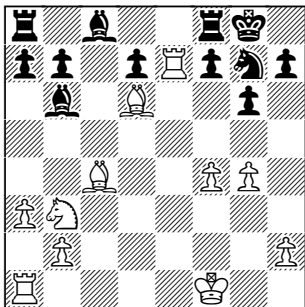


White retains positional pressure in the queenless middlegame. Black's only problem is that it takes a lot of moves to develop his queenside - but it's a big problem 17...cxd6 The engine wants to play ...c6 instead. It's understandable that Black wants to get rid of the bone in the throat pawn on d6 but the problem is that the bishop that now takes up residence is an even bigger and more irritating bone. 17...c6 18.a4 a5 19.Rae1 Kh8 20.Re2 Bd8 21.Rfe1 b6 is a computer line - Black is painfully unravelling but even here White has the tactic 22.Bxf7 so Black is not going to emerge with extra material. A painful tortuous path to equality is the best he can hope for 18.Bxd6 Rd8 18...Re8 19.Rfe1 Nf8 20.Kf1 Ne6 21.f4 g6 22.g4 Ng7 23.Re7 Rf8

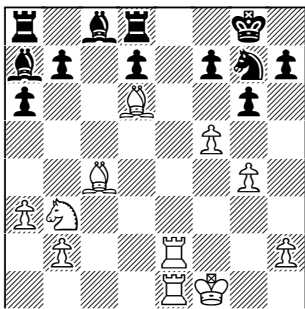


13.d6! Nf5 14.Qg4 Qh4 This looks sensible, forcing an exchange of queens in a cramped position and reducing White's attacking chances 15.Qxh4 Nxh4 16.Bf4 Ng6 17.Bg3

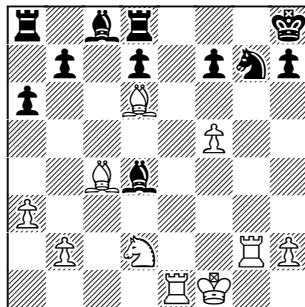




This looks horrible, but Black does threaten to entomb the rook with Ne6, so for the moment at least White has to fall back **24.Re2 Rd8 25.Rae1 a6 26.f5** Denying Black's knight the obstructing e6 square in future **26...Ba7**



**27.Nd2** Bringing the last piece around for the kill. It is striking how White plays calmly with no apparent hurry **27...gxf5 27...Bd4** doesn't work **28.Nf3 Ba7 29.Ne5**; Black wants to play **27...b5** but clearly it loses material, although after **28.Bd5 Rb8** White does best actually to spurn the exchange, eg **29.Re7 Rf8 30.f6 Ne6 31.Bxe6 fxe6 32.Rg7+ Kh8 33.Bxf8 28.gxf5 Bd4 28...Nxf5? 29.Rg2+** is overwhelming **29.Rg2 Kh8**

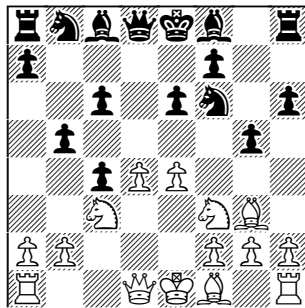


**30.Be7?** Sadly there's a flaw in an otherwise lovely game. It is hard to retain absolute control indefinitely **30.Nf3** is the move again, **30...Bf6 (30...Nxf5 31.Bc7 Rf8 32.Nxd4 Nxd4 33.Be5+)** **31.Ne5 Bxe5 32.Bxe5 30...Re8?** Black returns the favour **30...d5! 31.Bxd8 Bxf5** with freedom and rough material equality **31.Bxf7 Rxe7 32.Rxe7 d6 33.Re8+** Mate next move 1-0

### Forster, William (1867) - Winter, Ryan (1668) [D43]

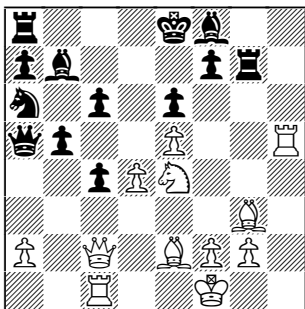
Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL (3), 31.03.2018

**1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 dxc4 7.e4 g5 8.Bg3 b5**



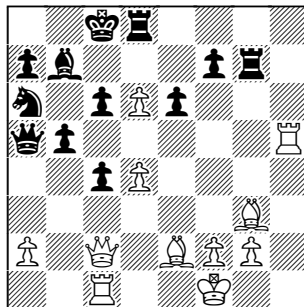
This is something of a sequel to last issue's Botvinnik Semi-Slav article. It illustrates

one of the practical problems of playing these very sharp theoretical openings without deep knowledge. I knew White was totally fine in this position, I could remember Cox recommended this line in his book. I also remembered that Cox said the position used to be considered dubious. I didn't understand that, "Looks like a perfectly sensible position, I'd play that, no problem" was the only thought I had glancing at the book. But now, studying the position seriously for the first time, I realised why you need some knowledge here. Black threatens ...b5 knocking away the support of the e4 pawn, and if Qc2 then ...g4 knocks away the support of the d4 pawn! I spent 20 minutes but could find no reasonable way to continue!. **9.e5?** lashing out for want of something sensible to do. It turns out White can play calmly **9.Be2!** and if **9...b4** **10.Na4** **Nxe4** **11.Be5** **Nf6** **12.Bxc4** with an interesting game **9...Nd5** **10.h4** **Qa5** **11.Be2** **Nxc3** **12.bxc3** **Qxc3+** **13.Kf1** I am obviously busted here, two pawns down with a poor position as well **13...Rg8?** **13...g4!** Would have firmly nailed me into a coffin **14.hxg5** **hxg5** **15.Rc1** **Qa5** **16.Qc2** **Bb7** **17.Rh5** **Na6** **18.Nxg5** **Rg7** **19.Ne4**

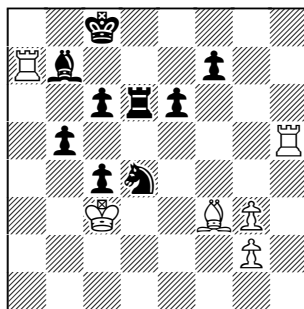


I've won one of the pawns back and have active play. In fact surprisingly, I am better

here **19...0-0-0** **20.Nd6+?** **20.Bh4!** was the move, Nd6 will be a real problem if White prepares it properly with Bh4 and possibly Rh8 **20...Bxd6** **21.exd6**



I was playing for a cheap trick here. Ryan so nearly fell in with my plans. He reached for his knight once, twice, three times, each time withdrawing his hand and reconsidering. I couldn't bear it and walked away. **21...Rxg3!** Great move Ryan! It's far from obvious, but this is the only good move here. Ryan finishes the game off in real style **21...Nb4?** **22.Qxc4!** with a massive position for White **22.fxg3** **Qa3** **23.Bf3** **Nb4** **24.Qd2** **Qd3+** **25.Ke1** **Qxd2+** **26.Kxd2** **Rxd6** **27.Ke3** **Nxa2** **28.Ra1** **Nb4** **29.Rxa7** **Nc2+** **30.Kd2** **Nxd4** **31.Kc3**



**31...Kc7** **32.Ra1** **Nxf3** **33.gxf3** **Rd3+**

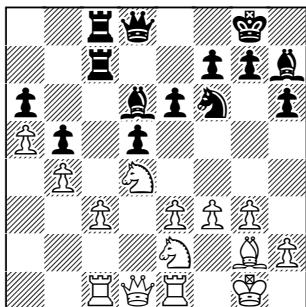
34.Kb4 Kb6 35.Ra3 c5+ 36.Rxc5 Rxa3  
37.Rxb5+ Kc6 38.Rxb7 Rb3+ 0-1

German visitor Philip Weiskopf had a tough tournament. No doubt he will be wondering just how under-rated the local juniors are, after suffering through the following extremely mature positional crush at the hands of Auckland junior Felix Xie.

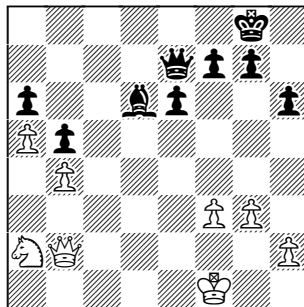
### Weiskopf,Philip (1710) - Xie,Felix (1252) [D00]

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL  
(4), 31.03.2018

1.d4 d5 2.Nc3 Bf5 3.Bf4 Nf6 4.g3 e6  
5.Bg2 a6 6.a3 c5 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Nge2 Be7  
9.Bg5 h6 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.0-0 b5 12.dxc5  
Bxc5 13.Nd4 Bh7 14.Nce2 0-0 15.c3 Qb6  
16.b4 Bd6 17.a4 Rfc8 18.a5 Qd8 19.Rc1  
Ra7 20.Re1 Rac7 21.f3



Black's knight now goes on the rampage, almost winning the game by itself 21...Nd7  
22.Qd2 Ne5 23.e4 Nc4 24.Qa2 Ne3  
25.exd5 Nxd5 26.Kf2 Nxc3 27.Qb2 Nxe2  
28.Nxe2 Rxc1 29.Rxc1 Rxc1 30.Nxc1 Qe7  
31.Na2 Bd3 32.Bf1 Bxf1 33.Kxf1



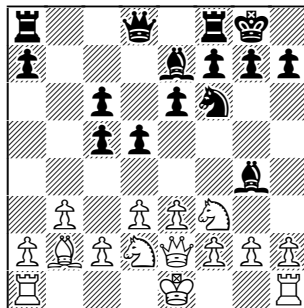
One pawn is more than enough. Black's pieces have been better than their opposites throughout. 33...Qc7 34.Qd2 Kf8 35.Qd4 Be5 36.Qe4 Qc4+ 37.Qxc4 bxc4 38.Ke2 Ke7 39.Kd2 Kd6 40.b5 axb5 41.a6 Kc6 42.a7 Kb7 0-1

I liked the attacking plan that developed out of Paul Macdonald's pet 1.b3 opening in the following game.

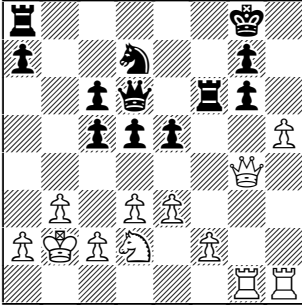
### Macdonald,Paul (2002) - Chen,Wei Kai (1690) [A01]

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL  
(4), 31.03.2018

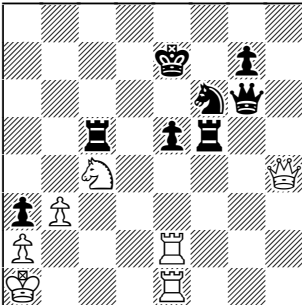
1.b3 d5 2.Bb2 c5 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.e3 Nf6  
5.Bb5 Bg4 6.d3 e6 7.Nbd2 Be7 8.Qe2 0-0  
9.Bxc6 bxc6



White now forces a pawn weakness on the kingside and castles queenside. 10.h3 Bh5 11.g4 Bg6 12.Ne5 Qc7 13.Nxg6 hxg6 14.0-0-0 Nd7 15.h4 Bf6 16.g5 Bxb2+ 17.Kxb2 e5 18.h5 Qd6 19.Qg4 f5 20.gxf6 Rxf6 21.Rdgl



White has made a lot of progress with his plan. Black decides to flee inward from the coastal regions. 21...Kf7 22.hxg6+ Ke7 23.Qh4 Rg8 24.f4 Kf8 25.f5 Qb8 26.e4 Qb4 27.c3 Qb5 28.Rg3 a5 29.Rgh3 Ke7 30.Re1 a4 31.exd5 cxd5 32.d4 cxd4 33.Qxd4 Rxf5 34.c4 Qc5 35.Qh4+ Nf6 36.cxd5 a3+ 37.Kb1 Re8 38.Nc4 Qxd5 39.Rhe3 Qg2 40.R3e2 Qxg6 41.Ka1 Rc5



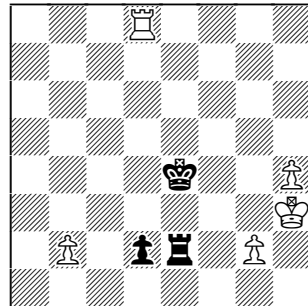
White has continued to hunt the king, and ultimately he is not to be denied. 42.Nxe5 Qh5 43.Qxh5 Rxh5 44.Nd3+ Kf7 45.Nxc5

Rxc5 46.Re7+ Kf8 47.Ra7 g5 48.Rf1 Kg8 49.Rxa3 Ne4 50.Kb2 Kg7 51.b4 Rb5 52.Rb3 Nd2 53.Rg1 Nxb3 54.Kxb3 Kf6 55.a4 Rb8 56.a5 Rg8 57.a6 Ke6 58.Ka4 Kd6 59.Kb5 g4 60.a7 Kc7 61.Rxg4 1-0

### Macdonald,Paul (2002) - Croad,Nicholas (2294) [A69]

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL (5), 31.03.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f4 e5 6.d5 0-0 7.Nf3 e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.cxd5 Re8 10.e5 Nfd7 11.e6 Nf8 12.0-0 fxe6 13.Bb5 Bd7 14.dxe6 Bxb5 15.Nxb5 d5 16.f5 gxf5 17.e7 Rxe7 18.Bg5 Nc6 19.Nh4 Qd7 20.Nxf5 Re6 21.Nxg7 Qxg7 22.Qxd5 Qe5 23.Rad1 Qxd5 24.Rxd5 Re5 25.Nc7 Rc8 26.Rxe5 Nxe5 27.Nd5 Nc6 28.Bh6 Ne6 29.Nf6+ Kf7 30.Nxh7+ Kg6 31.Rf6+ Kxh7 32.Rxe6 Nd4 33.Rf6 Re8 34.Bd2 b5 35.a3 Nb3 36.Bc3 a5 37.Rc6 b4 38.axb4 axb4 39.Bf6 Re2 40.h4 Kg6 41.Kh2 Kf5 42.Kh3 Nd4 43.Bxd4 cxd4 44.Rc4 Ke5 45.Rxb4 d3 46.Rb8 d2 47.Rd8 Ke4



An interesting ending. Black's advanced pawn and well placed pieces outweigh the two pawns, but White can draw easily enough 48.h5?? White misses Black's most dangerous idea 48.g3 blocking the threatened check makes fewest concessions

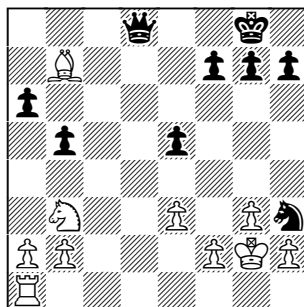
48...Ke3 49.h5 Re1 50.Kg4 d1Q+ 51.Rxd1 Rxd1 52.h6 and White is in no danger. One logical way for Black to draw is 52...Rd5 cutting off the king 53.h7 Rd8 54.Kg5 and now Black checks endlessly from the side, if the white King tries to approach, the rook gets behind the pawn and Black wins **48...Re3+ 49.Kg4 Rd3 50.Re8+ Kd4 51.Rd8+ Ke3 0-1**

Quentin Johnson and your Editor competed with each other for a kind of wooden spoon – the “experienced competitor who had the most miserable time” award if you like. Towards the end of the tournament we both experienced nightmare tactical slips. Look what happened to Quentin in round 5, . Unbelievably for such a strong player this condemned him to play on bottom board in the last round.

### **Legner,James - Johnson,Quentin J F (2028) [E04]**

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL  
(5), 31.03.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nf3 d5 4.g3 dxc4 5.Bg2 Nbd7 6.Qc2 c5 7.Qxc4 a6 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.0-0 b5 10.Qb3 Bb7 11.Rd1 Qb6 12.e3 0-0 13.Bd2 Rfd8 14.Bb4 Nd5 15.Bxc5 Nxc5 16.Qc2 Rac8 17.Qe2 Ne4 18.Nbd2 Rc2 19.Nd4 Rxd2 20.Rxd2 Nxd2 21.Qxd2 e5 22.Nb3 Nf4 23.Qxd8+ Qxd8 24.Bxb7 Nh3+ 25.Kg2



**25...Ng5?? 26.Rc1! 1-0**

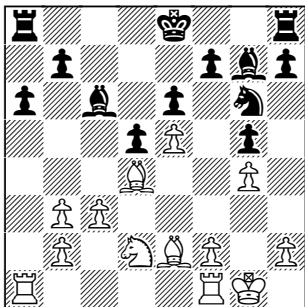
I am sympathetic as to me this is a rather unusual tactic – and easy to miss. You'd expect to be able to counter a coarse threat to pin the queen in many ways. You can, but sadly only by transforming the threat into a back rank mate instead.

In the last round I fell victim to something similar. A simple uncovered attack on my rook, apparently easy to meet. But meeting it transforms it into a different kind of threat, to skewer my other rook instead.

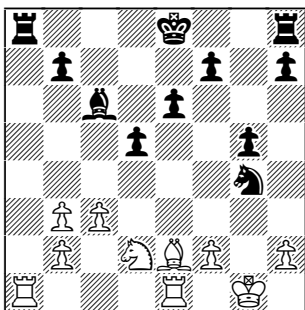
### **He,Caleb (1604) - Forster,William (1867) [B28]**

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL  
(6), 01.04.2018

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.c3 e6 4.d4 d5 5.e5 Bd7 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Qb3 Qxb3 8.axb3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Nc6 10.Nxc6 Bxc6 11.Be2 Ne7 12.0-0 Nf5 13.Bb6 g5 14.g4 Nh4 15.Nd2 Bg7 16.Bd4 Ng6



**17.Rfe1!** This actually retains material equality. I spent a lot of time here and couldn't see the idea **17...Bxe5 18.Bxe5 Nxe5 19.Bxa6 Nxc4??** I should have spent the time here instead of relying on long distance vision from the previous diagram **20.Be2!**



Even now it took a while before the true nature of my dilemma penetrated my thick skull. I can't even get a second pawn for my piece **1-0**

### ***The Theory of Infinite Resistance*** ***by Ross Jackson***

( A couple of adjacent games at the Welly Open made a big impression on Ross)

In chess, wins are often obvious to bystanders. However at the board , after a very long period of sustained concentration, the brain tires. If the defender can prevent simplification, and throw up the occasional thought-provoking move, superior stamina is often rewarded by a moment of blindness from the attacker, and a lost position may be saved. Top players are experts at doggedly defending until their opponent errs. Australian GM Ian Rogers wrote an excellent article on the technique which was re-published by New in Chess in "The New in Chess Book of Chess Improvement", 21 July 2017, compiled and edited by Steve Giddens. The article was entitled "The Theory of Infinite Resistance" in reference to an adage coined by a Melbourne player, Bill Jordan. It goes : "When a player makes a serious mistake or reaches a bad position, if he or she continues to try to find the best possible move thereafter, he or she can put up virtually infinite resistance and should not lose".

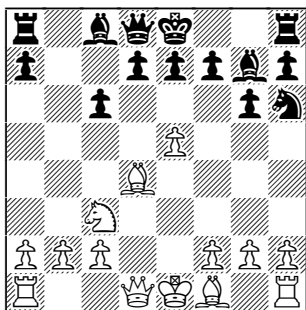
The article can be read in the advertising sample pages 57-70 at [www.newinchess.com/media/wysiwyg/product\\_pdf/9043.pdf](http://www.newinchess.com/media/wysiwyg/product_pdf/9043.pdf). Rogers' examples were World Championship games, Short – Kasparov 1993 and Anand- Carlsen 2013. If this can occur at the highest level, how much more likely is it to occur at the level of us mortals. At the Wellington Easter Open two games particularly exemplified this to me. In Round 3 Jack James had won against IM Russell Dive and was paired in Round 4 against another multiple New Zealand Champion, IM Anthony Ker. Russell and Anthony are adding new

openings to their repertoire as Black and are slightly vulnerable to opening nuance. Anthony mis-remembered some variations in the Accelerated Dragon Defence and was in a horrible position out of the opening.

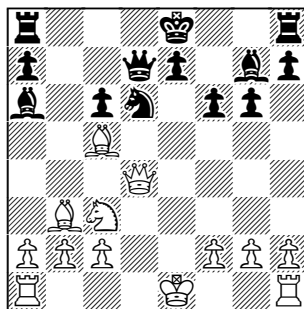
### James, Jack (2019) - Ker, Anthony F (2307) [B27]

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL (4), 31.03.2018

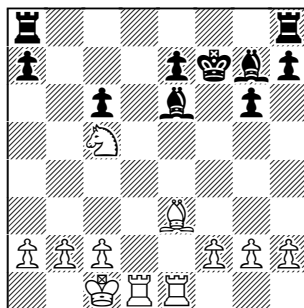
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Bg7 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nxc6 bxc6 8.e5 Ng8 9.Bd4 Nh6



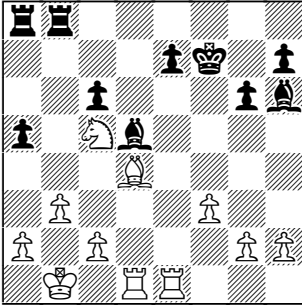
**10.e6 f6?** There are variations beginning 9...Nh6, and 9... f6 but Anthony misremembered. Where the knight is sometimes developed to h6 after 9.. f6 it is only after White has played f4 . Anthony precipitately committed both moves and Jack ably set about destroying Anthony's position. **11.exd7+ Qxd7?** 11...Bxd7 was less bad in Diez del Corral-Velimirovic, the Hague 1966 **12.Bc4 Nf5 13.Bc5 Nd6 14.Bb3 Ba6 15.Qd4**



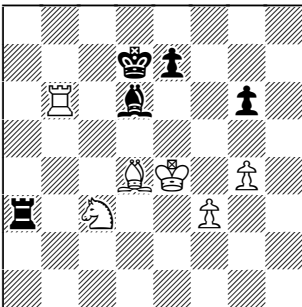
**15...Nc4 15...Rd8** was played in Varavin-Myrvold, Gausdal 1993. Black resigned six moves later **16.Qxd7+ Kxd7 17.0-0+ Ke8 18.Bxc4 Bxc4 19.Rhe1 Bf8 20.Ne4 Be6 21.Nxf6+ Kf7 22.Nd7 Bh6+ 23.Be3 Bg7 24.Nc5**



The minus pawn is just one problem. Black's light squared bishop is dominated by the superb White knight. In fact the bishop soon drops off due to Black's understandable reluctant to retreat it to c8 **24...Bd5 25.f3 a5 26.Bd4 Bh6+ 27.Be3 Bg7 28.Bd4 Bh6+ 29.Kb1 Rhd8 30.b3 Rdb8**

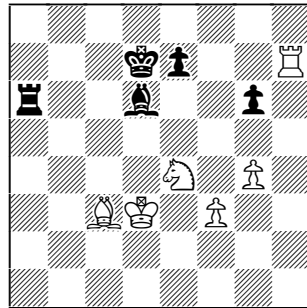


31.c4! Winning more material 31...Bxc4  
 32.Nd7 Bxb3 33.axb3 Rxb3+ 34.Kc2 a4  
 35.Nb6 Rd8 36.Bc5 Rxd1 37.Rxd1 Rb5  
 38.Nxa4 Ra5 39.Kb3 Rb5+ 40.Kc4 Ra5  
 41.Nc3 Bg7 42.Bd4 Bh6 43.Re1 Bf4 44.h3  
 Bd6 45.Re2 h5 46.Ra2 Rf5 47.Ra6 Rg5  
 48.g4 hxg4 49.hxg4 Ke6 50.Rxc6 Ra5  
 51.Kd3 Kd7 52.Rb6 Ra3 53.Ke4



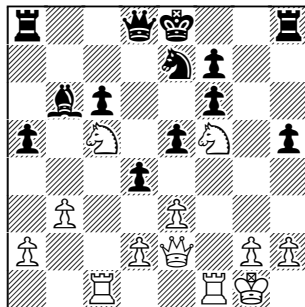
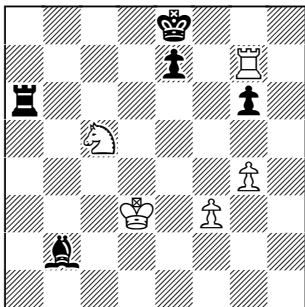
Black got some counterplay and a couple of pawns for his lost piece, but White has successfully neutralized the counterplay and won back the pawns, and only exchanged off one of his precious pawns. But Black can continue to resist 53...Ra1 53...e5?? might look like a disruptive blow but it loses instantaneously 54.Rxd6+ Kxd6 55.Nb5+ 54.Rb1 Ra8 55.Nd5 Rf8 56.Rb7+ Ke6 57.Ra7 Rc8 58.Nf4+ Kf7

59.Nh3 Rc1 60.Ng5+ Ke8 61.Ra1 Rc8  
 62.Rh1 Kd7 63.Rh7 Rc4 64.Kd3 Ra4  
 65.Ne4 Ra3+ 66.Bc3 Ra6



White has played dominantly and the game is won game on both material and position. Black, a piece down, has been playing according to The theory of Infinite Resistance, just determinedly trying to play the least bad moves and avoid piece exchanges which would allow simplification. Of course it should be in vain but Anthony took his time over every move, did not leave the table once, and was a picture of determined concentration. White's simplest is to take the opportunity of exchanging the bishop here. 67.Rg7 Ba3 A minor frustration - did White miss the lateral defence? Did this contribute to the mistake that follows? 68.Bb2? Jack reacted immediately after this move when he realised the rook was hanging at the end of the combination. Showing reaction was also a mistake - it alerted Anthony who hadn't yet noticed it. 68...Bxb2 69.Nc5+ Ke8

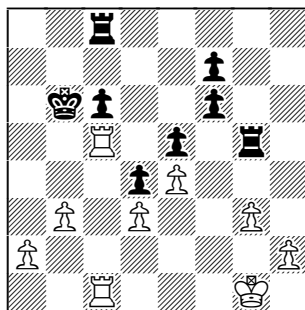




**70.Nxa6?** White could have taken the pawn first with check and played on a bit -the knight can return to the action. **70...Bxg7 71.Nc5 Kf7 72.Ke4 e6 73.f4 Ke7 74.Nxe6** Jack probably sensibly takes the opportunity to force immediate cessation of hostilities by eliminating both Black pawns. **74...Kxe6 ½-½**

Very often the mental disturbance of making one mistake leads quickly to more. Despite one's best efforts the mind behaves as though it is on the receiving end of a boxing combination. The end of the game Aldridge – Timergazi showed how dramatically things can change.

**24...Nxf5 25.Rxf5 Qd5 26.Na4 Bd8 27.e4 Qb5 28.d3 Be7 29.Rc4 0–0–0 30.Rxh5 Rhg8 31.Qc2 Kb7 32.Rf5 Rg6 33.Rf1 Rdg8 34.g3 Rc8 35.Rc1 Bb4 36.Nc5+ Bxc5 37.Rxc5 Qb6 38.Qc4 Rg7 39.Qa4 Qb4 40.Qxa5 Qxa5 41.Rxa5 Kb6 42.Rac5 Rg5**



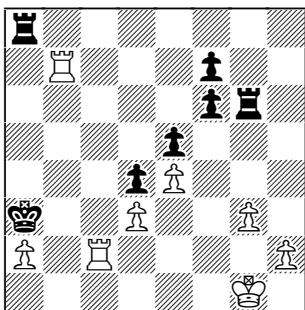
### **Aldridge, Alan L (1872) - Timergazi, Layla (1958) [A01]**

Wellington Open 2018 Wellington NZL (4), 31.03.2018

**1.b3 Nf6 2.Bb2 d5 3.e3 Bg4 4.Be2 Bxe2 5.Qxe2 e6 6.f4 c6 7.Nf3 Nbd7 8.0–0 Bc5 9.Nc3 Nf8 10.Na4 Bd6 11.c4 Ng6 12.c5 Bc7 13.Bd4 h5 14.Nb2 Ne7 15.Nh4 a5 16.Nd3 b6 17.Rf3 bxc5 18.Bxc5 Bb6 19.Rc1 Nd7 20.Rff1 Nxc5 21.Nxc5 d4 22.f5 e5 23.f6 gxf6 24.Nf5**



White has a won game - what can possibly go wrong? Black had been pursuing "Infinite Resistance" trying to keep a bad position closed but White had forced exchanges and now finally breaks through.  
**43.b4 Ra8 44.Rxc6+ Kb5 45.R1c2 Rg6 46.Rc7 Kxb4 47.Rb7+ Ka3**



**48.Rcc7?** 48.Rb3+ Ka4 49.Rc4+ Ka5 50.Ra3+ wins **48...Kxa2** Alan said that he didn't even consider that the king could take the pawn. This demonstrates another chess truism - there is no limit to blindness.  
**49.Ra7+?** White can protect the d pawn after Rc2+ and keep the rook on the b file to stop the king approach **49...Rxa7 50.Rxa7+ Kb2 51.Rc7 Rg8 52.Kf2 Rb8 53.h4 Rb3 54.Ke2 Rc3 55.Ra7 Rc2+ 56.Kd1?** Drawing is difficult now. Kf3 and running with the h pawn is the best according to my computer **56...Rg2 57.Rc7 Rxc3 58.Rc2+ Kb3 59.Rh2 Kc3 60.h5 Kxd3 61.Rh1 Kxe4 62.h6 Rg8 63.h7 Rh8 64.Ke2 Kf5 65.Kf3 Kg6 0-1**

"Infinite resistance" moves are not necessarily the moves that survive the longest. Nor are they moves that gamble on a cheap swindle. It is better to produce the occasional surprise and to just keep relentlessly dodging simplification to wear

the attacker down. Only the attacker can provide the result. This is analogous to how cricket bowlers sometimes work on batsmen to get lapses. Bobby Fischer once said "I don't believe in psychology. I believe in good moves." A truism, but the human brain is not structured to allow us to achieve that.

**Roger Perry**  
**1959-2018**  
*by Bill Forster*

The chess community was saddened to learn of the very untimely death of Roger Perry on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April. Roger bravely fought his final illness from early in 2017. He continued to compete at the Wellington Chess Club without many of the members being aware of the grave situation.

Roger was a quiet achiever. Some of us only realised the extent of his popularity and success in the wider community at his funeral. So many people spoke so movingly of this "scholar and gentlemen" as one speaker emphasised. The first speaker was Graeme Wheeler, the most recent governor of the Reserve Bank where Roger worked as a senior economist. Mr Wheeler was so strongly affected he struggled to finish his speech.

Looking at Roger's chess career, an early highlight was an appearance in the New Zealand Championship in 1977-78, back in the days of an elite round robin. Roger managed two (interestingly similar) wins against NZ legends.

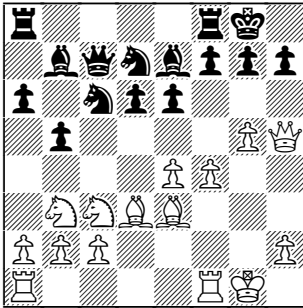
(Thanks to Ross Jackson for spotting the Small game on [chessgames.com](http://chessgames.com) and to

Auckland Paul Merton who posted it there – this is one historical game that doesn't yet appear in the Peter Stuart database).

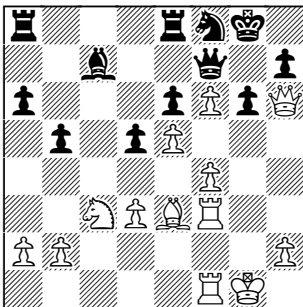
**Perry,Roger L - Small,Vernon [B45]**

New Zealand Chp (85th) Wellington NZL (10), 07.01.1978

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Bd3 a6 8.Nb3 Qc7 9.0-0 Be7 10.f4 0-0 11.Qf3 b5 12.g4 Bb7 13.g5 Nd7 14.Qh5



14... Rfe8 15.Rf3 Nb4 16.Rh3 Nf8 17.Rf1 Nxd3 18.cxd3 f6 19.Nd4 g6 20.Qh6 Bd8 21.gxf6 Qf7 22.e5 Bc7 23.Nf3 Bxf3 24.Rhxf3 d5



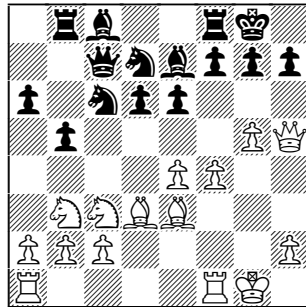
25.Nd1! White has time to bring the knight

around with fatal effect 25...Nd7 26.Nf2 Kh8 27.Nh3 Qg8 28.Ng5 Rf8 29.Rh3 1-0

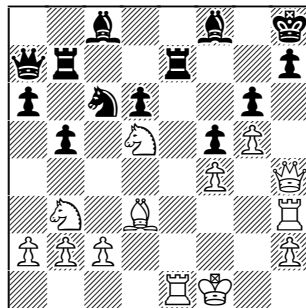
**Perry,Roger L - Stuart,Peter W [B57]**

New Zealand Chp (85th) Wellington (5), 31.12.1977

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Nb3 Nf6 8.Bd3 b5 9.f4 d6 10.0-0 Be7 11.Qf3 Rb8 12.g4 0-0 13.g5 Nd7 14.Qh5 Compare this to the position at the same stage of the Small game. Very different move orders, but just one small change in the Black setup.

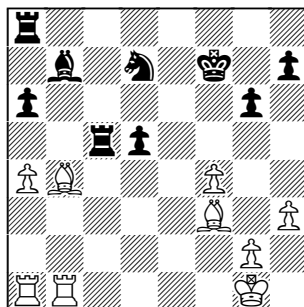


14... g6 15.Qh6 Re8 16.Rf3 Bf8 17.Qh4 f5 18.Rh3 Nb6 19.exf5 exf5 20.Bxb6 Qxb6+ 21.Kf1 Qa7 22.Nd5 Kh8 23.Nf6 Re7 24.Re1 Rbb7 25.Nd5



25...Rxe1+? 25...Re6 is the only safe move  
 26.Qxe1! Threatening Qe8 forking the bishops and Qc3+ forking king and knight  
 26...Bd7 Good try but 27.Nf6 Threatening mate and... 27...h5 28.Nxd7 ...the queen fork again 28...Rxd7 29.Qc3+ Bg7  
 30.Qxc6 1-0

Roger could still compete with anyone on the domestic scene at the end of his career, as can be seen from this win against Ben Hague.

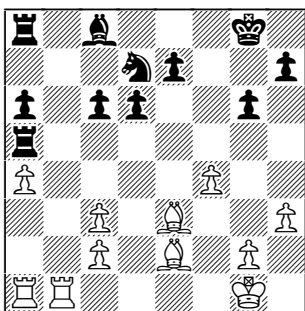


29.Bxc5 Nxc5 30.Rxb7+ 1-0

### Perry, Roger L (2018) - Hague, Ben (2340) [B06]

ACC May Weekender Auckland (2.2), 19.05.2012

1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 c5 4.dxc5 Bxc3+ 5.bxc3 Qa5 6.Bd2 Qxc5 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.Bd3 d6 9.h3 Nf6 10.Qe2 0-0 11.0-0 Qh5 12.Rfb1 a6 13.a4 Nd7 14.Nd4 Qxe2 15.Bxe2 Nc5 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.f3 f5 18.Be3 Nd7 19.exf5 Rxf5 20.f4 Ra5?



This is not going to end well for this rook. White just rains down hammer blows from here 21.Bf3 d5 22.c4 e6 23.cxd5 cxd5 24.c4 Kg7 25.cxd5 exd5 26.Bd4+ Kf7 27.Be3 Rc5 28.Bb4 Bb7

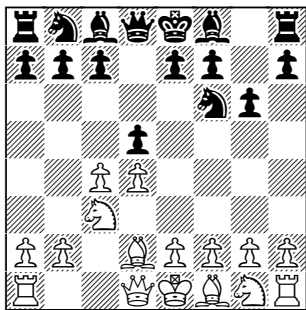
### New Chess by Bill Forster

Recently I've been annoyed with myself. I seem to spend half my life on chess. Writing chess software. Editing chess magazines. Maintaining chess websites. Writing chess material to put on magazines and websites. Maybe chess is quite important to me, yet when do I ever sit down and just look at some chess? Just to enjoy and learn, not for any other reason? Well, basically never. So I stopped what I was doing, grabbed that chess software I spend all this time writing, and got it to show me some recent grandmaster games. Right away I saw some beautiful chess, material fit to convince that chess is as good a subject as any to waste your life on. Here's one of the games that made an impression on me. Apart from anything else, it convinced me that chess is evolving, it has changed a lot since I learned to play.

**Korobov, Anton (2664) -  
Maghsoodloo, Parham (2594)**

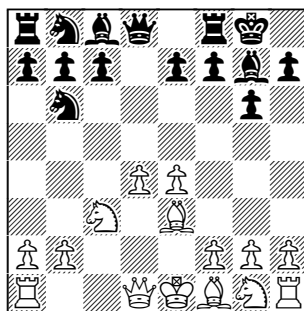
Aeroflot Open A 2018 Moscow RUS (7.6),  
26.02.2018

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g3 3.Nc3 d5 4.Bd2



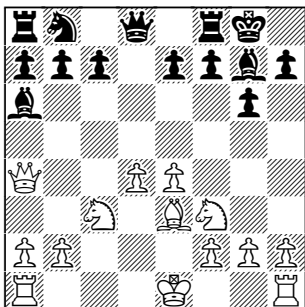
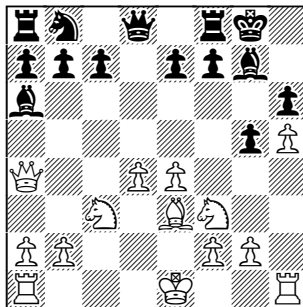
This looks completely eccentric already. Beginners quickly learn that there is more to developing pieces than just moving them anywhere off the first rank. Bd2 (or d7) is usually just about the first not-very-developing move an improving player starts avoiding. Seeing this move here made me think about exactly why this should be the case, and I remembered that C.J.S. Purdy, the great chess teacher in this part of the world, addresses this very point in his classic "Guide to Good Chess". Purdy writes "By a few experiments, you can see that the d-file is opened far more often than the e-file; and this explains why Be2 (...Be7) is often good, whereas Bd2 (...Bd7) is usually bad.". Needless to say, White has a specific idea in mind, one that is less strange looking in the much more common move order 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Bd2 Bg7 transposing to the game after Black's 5th move. White postpones the immediate judging that it's worth a tempo to be able to capture on c3 with the bishop instead of the

b2 pawn. (Basically there are less queenside weaknesses and development problems that way) 4...Bg7 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.e4 Nb6 Evidently Black agrees with White's reasoning and avoids capturing on c3, even though exchanging minor pieces is helpful when defending against a space advantage. 6...Nxc3 Is also commonly played. Amusingly I have found one high level game (amongst hundreds) where White then recaptured with the pawn. It was a rapid game. Presumably he rushed it and got confused, or was drunk, or both. Having said that, White won. 7.Be3 White spends another tempo putting the bishop on a more sensible square, no doubt arguing that with Black's f6 knight displaced, he's saved the tempo often expended on h3 or f3 to secure a bishop on the ideal e3 square. 7...0-0



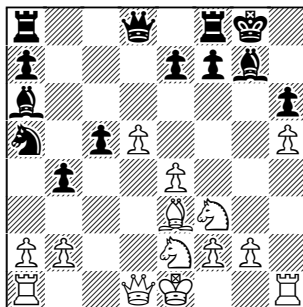
8.Bb5 I'm not sure what Purdy would have made of this. In his (wonderful and very lively for its time) book he spends a lot of space on the various ways you might go about developing bishops. Most of this discussion centres around the tendency of bishops to be 'biffed' as he puts it by annoying attacks (like the Nf6-g4 attack on a Be3 just discussed). Of course no bishop is going to be biffed as much as a Bb5 bishop

that's not attacking anything and facing unmoved pawns on a7 and c7! I need an expert to explain this (book) move to me. Maybe White is arguing that in this particular position neither a6 nor c6 are useful moves so he doesn't mind gifting those on the way to e2 **8...Be6** Both a6 and c6 are played here, but Black chooses to leave the bishop hanging instead. **9.Nf3 Nc4 10.Bxc4 Bxc4 11.Qa4 Ba6**



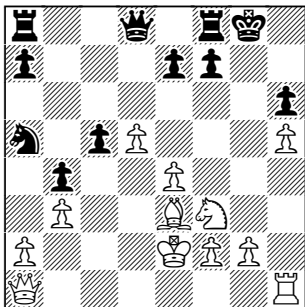
An intriguing, unbalanced position. White has the centre, Black holds back and snipes from the corners. Importantly, the Ba6 deprives White of the opportunity of just playing quietly with O-O and so a full blooded, damn the torpedos approach is called for, hence **12.h4! h6?!** We are now out of book. Black chooses one of the standard ways to parry an h-pawn thrust, but he will quickly regret his choice. Maybe he should have pushed the pawn two squares instead. **13.h5 g5**

**14.Nxg5! c5 14...hxg5 15.h6 Bf6 16.e5** and Black will have to give the piece back. White is better **15.Nf3 b5** Black lashes out, he has to play very actively else he is just material down and lost **16.Qd1 b4 17.Ne2 Nc6 18.d5 Na5**



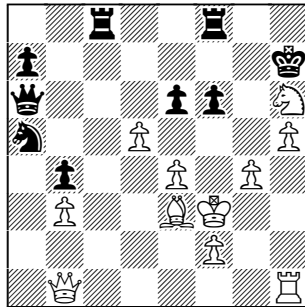
Already we've reached the key moment of the game. It's basically White to play and win, but it's a positional puzzle not a tactical one. If you're an old bugger like me you've got no chance of finding the right move unless you can throw off the simple conventional wisdom you learned from Fred Reinfeld and company as a child. **19.b3!** The engine immediately recommends this move. White thereby neutralises the pressure on his queenside and gets rid of Black's best minor piece.

The cost is an exchange and an apparently exposed king in the centre. An exchange? Well the rook = 5, bishop = 3 arithmetic from days gone by seems to have been put aside in the modern era. A modern grandmaster apparently sacrifices exchanges as readily as club players of yore would carefully develop each piece in turn. As for a king in the centre, that's often okay too. "Let's push the g and h pawns, gain space on the kingside, maybe just for positional reasons. The king can chill on maybe f1. Connecting the rooks? Yeah, nah. Let them live their own lives for a while and maybe they can hook up later in the game. If we don't sacrifice an exchange first." My attempt at imagining the thoughts of a modern grandmaster. Clearly I am the wrong generation and completely out of my depth. No doubt a nervous nelly club player like me would have played something insipid like 19.Rb1 Nc4 20.b3 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Qa5 after which Black's raking bishop pair gives him full compensation 19...Bxe2 20.Kxe2 Bxa1 21.Qxa1



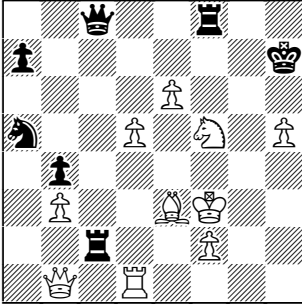
The engine appreciates immediately that Black is quite lost here. White's space advantage allows him to quickly bring all his pieces to bear on the sad king stuck in a

corner with no friends. As an experiment I asked the engine for an opinion on the same position with the Black king on e8 instead (still losing, but not as badly) and the knight on h7 instead of a5 (still losing, but not as badly). As for Black's material advantage, as it happens Purdy addresses that elsewhere in his writings. He wrote that he often heard players complain that they had failed to convert the advantage of exchange for a pawn (it is one extra 'point' right?) but that personally he was never surprised, since really it's the smallest material advantage, more like half a pawn. I wish I could find the exact quote. White's positional advantage certainly dwarfs the half pawn here. 21...Qd6 22.Nh4 f6 23.Nf5 Qa6+ 24.Kf3 White continues to be creative when it comes to finding a nice safe home for his king 24...e6 25.Nxh6+ Kh7 26.g4 c4 27.Qb1 cxb3 28.axb3 Rac8

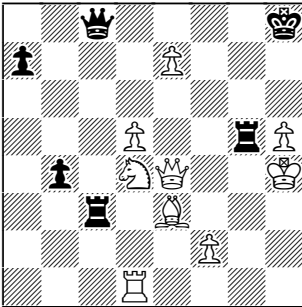


Black has been desperately seeking counterplay, and is only one tempo short of getting back into the game with Rc8-c3 29.e5+ f5 30.gxf5 exf5 31.Nxf5 Rc3 Too late 32.Rd1 Qc8 33.e6 Rc2

## **Peter Stuart Memories** by Neil Gunn



**34.Kg4!** A nice finishing touch. The king takes one more step forward, freeing the knight, with the decisive threat of Nd4. Black throws in a few spite blows then resigns in view of a material deficit and an imminent new queen. **34...Nxb3 35.Qxb3 Rc3 36.Qb1 Qc4+ 37.Nd4+ Kh8 38.Qe4 Rg8+ 39.Kh3 Rg5 40.e7 Qc8+ 41.Kh4**



A very modern final position **1-0**

Ewen Green reports on the youthful wisdom of his student Leo Li: *When I asked which side he intended to castle, he replied "I am going to castle in the middle" - and shortly thereafter had six pawns in front of his uncastled (as we oldies would say...) king.*

This article is in part a response to the editor's request for more games, and also a tribute to Peter Stuart. It annotates my only ever victory over him in the long version of the game. It would be more normal to annotate a victory of his, but sadly there are far too many to choose from, so instead we will look at my only victory with the dark pieces. As you will read, it was mostly down to a large dollop of advice from an expert. But first, Peter. North Shore Chess Club lost part of it's fabric when Peter Stuart passed away in December 2017. Much has been said and written of Peter. I had occasion over almost 20 years to work with him on the club committee and can attest to his tremendous energy for all things chess related. He was an excellent organiser, as has been noted, however behind the scenes he put in a huge amount of effort running inter schools tournaments, inter club events, any manner of other chess related activities, and was the prime mover for our club's ever expanding junior chess group. A huge loss to our club, and a genuine legend of the game. He was also formidable over the board, especially for a journeyman club player, such as myself. Peter routinely beat me several times each year, but as my play slowly improved over the years, I was determined to beat him. The odd draw was managed, but that wasn't enough. The truth of it was that he was simply much stronger than I was, and my choice of Kings Indian when Black required a certain accuracy and energy that perhaps I never really had. After another demoralising loss I came across a book by

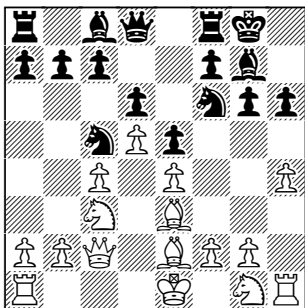


Joe Gallagher "Play the Kings Indian" and it laid out several clear lines of play.

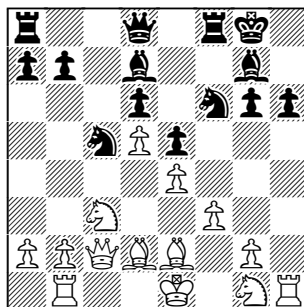
### Peter Stuart - Neil Gunn [E73]

NSSC A Grade (2), 03.09.2008

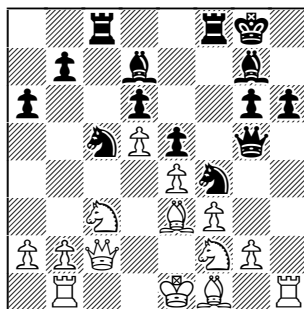
**1.c4!** well - no surprise with that first move  
**1...Nf6 2.Nc3 g6 3.e4 d6 4.d4** Peter's standard way of transposing into a Kings Indian  
**4...Bg7 5.Be2 0-0 6.Bg5** his standard Averbakh **6...Na6 7.h4** One of the standard options, and I was ready for this. From memory I had suffered badly in this variation previously, but with the help of Mr Gallagher I was at least prepared this time **7...e5 8.d5 h6** Previously this move would have made me nervous due to the subsequent weakness along the h file, but Mr Gallagher insists it's all fine **9.Be3 Nc5** Black takes advantage of the fact that the dark squared bishop is valued more highly than this mere knight. **10.Qc2**



**10...c6** Standard practise - opening lines in the middle to counter the h4 action **11.h5 cxd5 12.cxd5 Qa5** White doesn't really want to play f3 due to the weakening of the black squares **13.Bd2 Bd7 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.Rb1 Qd8 15...Qb6 16.Be3 a5 17.Nh3 Rac8 18.Qd2 a4 19.f3 Nh5 20.Bxh6 Ng3 21.Bxg7 Kxg7 22.Rh2 Rh8** and I'm told Black is fine **16.f3**

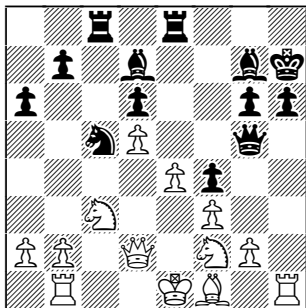


**16...Rc8** White's king is destined to remain in the middle, and black does not fear the loss of the h pawn because he will quickly gain control of the h file and expose the awkwardness of white's king side **17.Nh3** Tarrasch now gives this a 0.8 advantage to Black - thanks Mr Gallagher - I'll take it from here (Ed: I appreciate Neil mentioning my program - but sadly it is whatever engine Tarrasch is running that is able to make this assessment - the Tarrasch GUI doesn't know or care) **17...Nh5 18.Nf2 Nf4 19.Bf1 a6 20.Be3 Qg5**

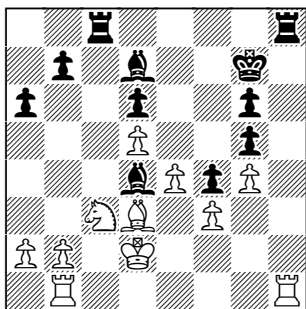


**21.Bxf4 exf4** Analysing this game almost 10 years later I clearly recall this moment - the opening of the long diagonal **22.Qd2 Qg3? 23.Ne2** an inaccuracy **23...Qg5 24.Nc3 Na4 25.Nfd1 Nc5 26.Nf2** and this

is threefold repetition mised by both of us OTB but kindly pointed out by Tarrasch in 2018 - imagine my surprise (and dismay) to discover 10 years after one of my best games (?) that in fact it was flawed by this fact - sigh **26...Kh7 27.Nfd1 Rfe8 28.Nf2**

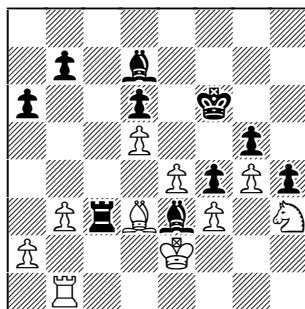


White is stuck for a plan, so Black slowly improves his position **28...Be5 29.Nd3 Nxd3+ 30.Bxd3 Bd4 31.g4 Be3 32.Qh2 Kg7 33.Qh4** White's best here was apparently **33.e5 Rxe5 34.Ne4 Rxe4 35.Bxe4 Re8 36.Qh4 Qxh4+ 37.Rxh4 g5 38.Rh2 Bxg4** with black still ahead - but I'm not claiming I saw any of that over the board **33...Rh8 34.Qxg5 hxg5 35.Ke2 35.Rxh8 Rxh8 36.Kd1 Rh2 37.Be2** is just plain ugly for white **35...Bd4 36.Kd2**



**36...Rh4!** Not a hard move to find - but

significant in the outcome of the game **37.Rbe1 Rch8 38.Rxh4 38.Rhf1** is probably better than the text but it's an ugly ending to play from White's perspective **38...gxf4 39.Rh1 g5 40.Nd1** The passed h pawn makes White's defence difficult **40...Kf6 41.Ke2 Ke5 42.Nf2 Rc8 43.Nh3 Kf6 44.Rb1 Be3 45.Ke1 Rc5 46.b3 Rc3 47.Ke2**



**47...Rxd3!** **47...Bb5 48.Bxb5 axb5 49.Rb2 Rc1** is lethal, but I saw a simpler way to force the ending **48.Kxd3 Bb5+ 49.Kc3 Be2 50.Re1 Bxf3 51.Rxe3** a last desperate attempt **51...fxe3 52.Kd3 Bxg4 53.Ng1 h3** And Peter resigned for my first ever (and only) victory over him in the long version of the game - with thanks of course to Joe for the first 17 odd moves **0-1**

*It's not too late to contribute to NZ Chess.*

*Why not fill up blank space like this in the next issue with some thoughts on your favourite openings, players or games?*

## **Auckland Anniversary Weekender** by Mike Steadman

Congress had only just finished, but already people were champing to get some more chess in. We easily got the required numbers to break even. We had a decent group at the top that could give Ben Hague a challenge (at least that was the plan). Ben has won the Grand Prix easily for the last couple of years, could the rest of us wake up, or were his highly honed weekend warrior skills going to do the business again? The only regular missing was Daniel Gong, all the others plus Garbett, McLaren and Thornton were there.

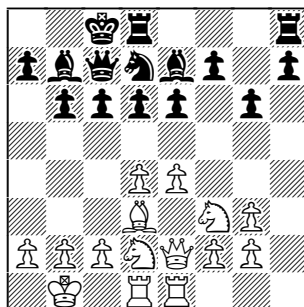
The first round saw no surprises on the top boards. Round 2 saw one of the heavyweights take a hit from the kids – Oliver Picken is a far more dangerous player with White than Black – he has one mode and that is attack. Positionally still clueless (Ed: Forgive me dear readers – it's my job to let Mike's unique no-nonsense perspective shine through :), plays every game as if it is rapid, but give him a sniff of an attack and watch out. McLaren fell to his attacking prowess. The lesson for all? Swap off Oliver's Queen and he is helpless.

### **Picken, Oliver (1769) - McLaren, Leonard (2229) [A47]**

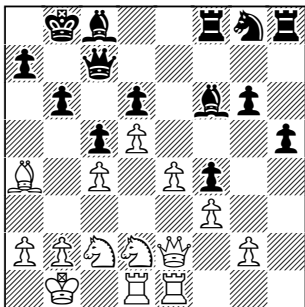
ACC Anniversary Weekender Auckland  
Chess Centre (2.2), 27.01.2018

**1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4** Not another junior following in Carlsen's footsteps :-(. Guess

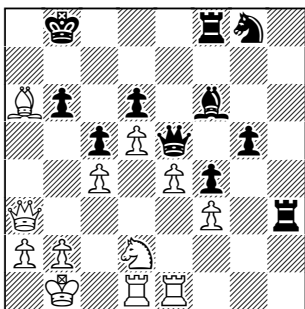
my openings aren't anything classic, so who knows **2...e6 3.e3 b6 4.Nd2 Bb7 5.Ngf3 Be7 6.Bd3 Nh5 7.Bg3 g6** This all just looks a bit planless to me. Think Oliver forgot the h3 move so the bishop can hide on h2. But now he gets the centre as compensation for the bishops. **8.e4 d6 9.Qe2 Nd7 10.0-0-0 c6 11.Rhe1 Nxb3 12.hxg3 Qc7 13.Kb1 0-0-0**



All very boring and not the most aggressive system. This looks even, but think it is easier to play White **14.c3 Kb8 15.Bc2 h5 16.Nf1 c5 17.d5 e5 18.N3d2 Bg5 19.Ne3 Rdf8 20.Ndf1** Not sure what these grandmasters are up to. Manoeuvring like Karpov **20...Bc8 21.f3 Nf6 22.c4** Not sure about this move, puts another pawn on a white square. I guess it does allow for rook lifts. **22...Ng8 23.Ba4 f5 24.Nd2 f4 25.gxf4 exf4 26.Nc2 Bf6**

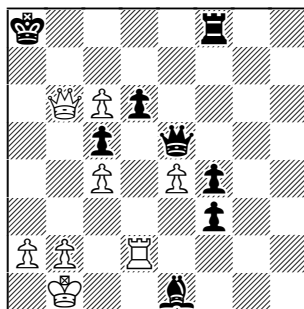


Black must be better here, the dark squared bishop is a monster and should prove a winner. **27.Na3 Qe7 28.Qd3** Black needs to take stock here. White's play will be based around putting a bishop on c6 and trying to come up with an attack. He will get crushed on the kingside if he does not. With that in mind - improve your worst piece, get the knight to e5, defends c6 and supports a g5, g4 push. **28...Qe5 28...Nh6 29.Qb3 Nf7 30.Bc6 Ne5 31.Nb5 Bb7 32.Bxb7 Kxb7 33.Qc2 a6 34.Nc3 g5** Black has pushed White back, closed down any attack and will proceed to get a passed pawn and win **29.Qb3 h4 30.Bc6 h3 31.gxh3 Rxh3 32.Nb5 g5 33.Nxa7 Kxa7 34.Qa3+ Ba6 35.Bb5 Kb8 36.Bxa6**



Position is still equal, but White still has

attacking options and Black has a knight and a rook not doing anything **36...g4 37.Bb5 Ne7?** Black panics, time is creeping up and he has lost the thread **37...Rf7 38.Bc6 Ra7 39.Qb3 Kc7 40.Qc2 Ne7 41.Bb5 g3** Black is just winning here **38.Bd7 Rxf3 39.Nxf3 gxf3 40.Rd2 Bh4 41.Qa6 Bxe1 42.Qxb6+ Ka8 43.Bc6+ Nxc6 44.dxc6**



**44...Qe7??** Final blunder when a draw was at hand **44...Rf7 45.Qa6+ (45.Qd8+ Ka7 46.Qa5+ Kb8 47.Qd8+)** **45...Kb8 46.Qb6+ Kc8 47.Qa6+ Kb8 45.Rd3 Ba5 46.Qxa5+ Qa7 47.Qd2 Rg8 48.Ra3 Rg1+ 49.Kc2 Qxa3 50.bxa3 Rg2 51.Kd3 Rxd2+ 52.Kxd2** Black can calmly resign **52...Ka7 53.Ke1 Kb6 54.Kf2 Kxc6 55.Kxf3 Kb6 56.Kxf4 Ka5 57.Kf5 Ka4 58.Ke6 Kxa3 59.Kxd6 Kb4 60.Kd5 1-0**

Round three and a couple more top contenders slipped. Smith drew with Duneas and Steadman drew with our newly selected female Olympiad player Jasmine Zhang. Neither game was of much interest, both players did not do enough to win. Against Gino Thornton, Ben continued his winning ways and won his first of three Nimzos in this tournament. We keep playing these standard d4 openings against

Ben and he keeps just taking the points on offer – perhaps we need to change our plans if we want different results.

Round four and again we get Garbett playing his same line of the Sicilian against

Ben. Ben has this all worked out and has a nice victory when Garbett plays g6 and weakens the dark squares and then the dark squared Bishop goes and Ben wins with the Queen invading through those squares. It's not looking good for the rest, everybody is

## Auckland Anniversary Weekender

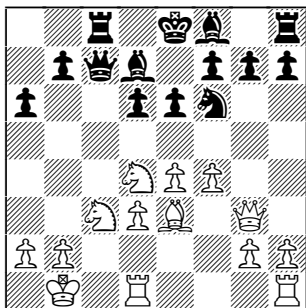
1	FM Hague, Ben	2368	NZL	AC	6.0	+B22	+W12	+B6	+W4	+B2	+B8
2	CM Ang, Alphaeus Wei Er	2219	NZL	AC	4.5	+B29	+W14	+B5	+W9	-W1	=B6
3	FM Smith, Robert W	2201	NZL	MC	4.5	+W25	+B13	=W7	+B31	=W8	=B5
4	IM Garbett, Paul Anthony	2196	NZL	NS	4.5	+B34	+W21	+B11	-B1	=W12	+W17
5	CM Fan, Allen Chi Zhou	2073	NZL	AC	4.5	+W24	+B19	-W2	+B21	+B10	=W3
6	Thornton, Giovanni A	2136	NZL	NS	4.5	+B44	+W26	-W1	+B13	+B9	=W2
7	CM Duneas, John	2035	NZL	AC	4.5	+B36	+W16	=B3	-W8	+B11	+W15
8	FM Steadman, Michael V	2166	NZL	AC	4.0	+W38	+B37	=W31	+B7	=B3	-W1
9	CM Picken, Oliver	1769	NZL	PT	4.0	+B42	+W10	+B18	-B2	-W6	+W21
10	FM McLaren, Leonard	2229	NZL	HP	4.0	+W39	-B9	+W19	+B14	-W5	+B12
11	CM Milligan, Helen	1958	NZL	NS	3.5	+W30	+B33	-W4	+B16	-W7	=B13
12	CM Nagorski, Alex	1851	NZL	AC	3.5	+W28	-B1	+W27	+B35	=B4	-W10
13	Goormachtigh, Lauren	1692	BEL		3.5	+B45	-W3	+B32	-W6	+B29	=W11
14	Yan, Caroline	1759	NZL	AC	3.5	+W35	-B2	+W25	-W10	+B39	=B16
15	Holdo, Karl	1665	NZL	AC	3.5	=B18	=W17	=B44	+W36	+W31	-B7
16	Dai, Oliver	1623	NZL	HP	3.5	+W47	-B7	+W33	-W11	+B36	=W14
17	Seabrook, Roy	1784	NZL	AC	3.5	=B15	+W40	+B38	+W22	-B4	
18	Zhang, Kendrick (ken	1129	NZL	AC	3.5	=W15	+B20	-W9	-B22	+B34	+W32
19	Peak, Stephen	1575	NZL	AC	3.5	+B46	-W5	-B10	=W32	+B44	+W23
20	Fu, Tom	1466	NZL	AC	3.5		-W18	+B43	+B30	=W24	+B31
21	Ha, Huy Minh (Timoth	1679	NZL	AC	3.0	+W43	-B4	+W30	-W5	+B25	-B9
22	Yan, Sarah	1484	NZL	AC	3.0	-W1	=B28	+B23	+W18	-B17	=W24
23	Barry, Jacob	1216	NZL	AC	3.0	-W31	+B39	-W22	+B27	+W37	-B19
24	Park-Tamati, Philli	1310	NZL		3.0	-B5	=W41	=B45	+W26	=B20	=B22
25	Jain, Uday	1382	NZL	AC	3.0	-B3	+W42	-B14	+W45	-W21	+B35
26	Solilin, Alexander	1641	NZL		3.0	+W40	-B6	-W35	-B24	+W46	+B38
27	Wang, Aaron Ziwen	1487	NZL	HP	3.0	+W48	-B31	-B12	-W23	+B43	+W36
28	Xie, Felix	1197	NZL	AC	3.0	-B12	=W22	+B34		=W38	+B37
29	Ning, Isabelle Yixua	1391	NZL	AC	3.0	-W2	-B35	+W47	+B33	-W13	+B40
30	Deng, Abraham	1245	NZL	AC	3.0	-B11	+W46	-B21	-W20	+B41	+W39
31	WFM Zhang, Jasmine Haomo	1888	NZL	AC	2.5	+B23	+W27	=B8	-W3	-B15	-W20
32	Wang, Ying	1352	NZL	AC	2.5		+B43	-W13	=B19	+W35	-B18
33	Zhang, Boyuan	0	NZL		2.5	+BYE	-W11	-B16	-W29	=B45	+W44
34	Liu, Jiajie	1352	CHN	AC	2.5	-W4	=B40	-W28	+B47	-W18	+B45
35	Chen, Matthew	1190	NZL	NS	2.0	-B14	+W29	+B26	-W12	-B32	-W25
36	Yu, Jeffrey	1258	NZL	AC	2.0	-W7	+B48	+W37	-B15	-W16	-B27
37	Mukkattu, Philip	1628	NZL	AC	2.0	+B41	-W8	-B36	+W44	-B23	-W28
38	Qiu, Daniel	1341	NZL	HP	2.0	-B8	=W45	+B41	-W17	=B28	-W26
39	Lopez Sanz, David	1423	ESP		2.0	-B10	-W23	+B46	+W42	-W14	-B30
40	Thurner, Anya	1018	NZL		2.0	-B26	=W34	-B17	=W41	+B42	-W29
41	Xu, Hannah	815	NZL	AC	2.0	-W37	=B24	-W38	=B40	-W30	+W48
42	Ryu, Rosa	1185	NZL	AC	2.0	-W9	-B25	+W48	-B39	-W40	+B47
43	Sivabalan, Brijesh	1130	NZL	CP	2.0	-B21	-W32	-W20	+B48	-W27	+B46
44	Liu, John	1337	NZL	AC	1.5	-W6	+B47	=W15	-B37	-W19	-B33
45	Bandara , U O G Udul	1149	SRI		1.5	-W13	=B38	=W24	-B25	=W33	-W34
46	Bandara, Danidu This	0	NZL		1.0	-W19	-B30	-W39	+BYE	-B26	-W43
47	Zheng, Yantao	838	NZL	HP	1.0	-B16	-W44	-B29	-W34	+B48	-W42
48	Ray, Charlotte	0	NZL		0.0	-B27	-W36	-B42	-W43	-W47	-B41

fighting for second. Ang has had a good year in 2017 and finished tied for the big Silver Rook, so maybe he is our only real hope (we'll see in round five). In round four he did not look all that great throughout his game against Fan, but once Fan missed his chance to keep the pressure on, Ang finished him off nicely. The real weird game in this round was the typical Steadman game, White looked like he was winning, but it was complex, and the win was not easy to see. The line Duneas chose had a serious hole in it and Steadman had seen one move further – game over.

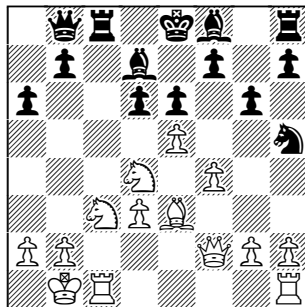
### Hague, Ben (2368) - Garbett, Paul (2196) [B48]

ACC Anniversary Weekender Auckland Chess Centre (4.1), 28.01.2018

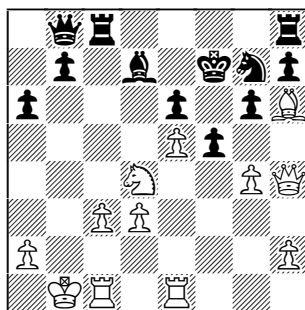
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be3 a6 7.Qf3 d6 8.0-0-0 Bd7 9.Qg3 Rc8 10.Kb1 Nf6 11.Bd3 Ne5 12.f4 Nxd3 13.cxd3



13...g6? It's never good to move this pawn in this type of position, Black had to just ignore and put in some threats of his own. 13...b5 14.Rc1 Qb7 15.Nce2 a5 16.e5 dxe5 17.fxe5 Nd5 18.Qf3 Qb6 19.Rxc8+ Bxc8 20.Bf2 Qa6 14.Rc1 Qb8 15.e5 Nh5 16.Qf2



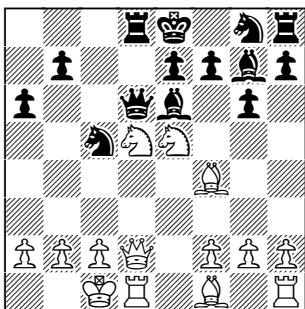
16...f5 16...dxe5 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.g4 Nf6 (18...Ng7 19.Ne4 Be7 20.Bf4 Qa5 21.Rxc8+ Bxc8 22.Bd6 f5 23.Bxe7 Kxe7 24.Qh4+ Kd7 25.Qf6 Ne8 26.Qxh8 fxe4 27.Qxh7+) 19.Rhf1 Bg7 20.g5 17.Rhe1 Not the best, he needed to open up 17.exf6 Nxf6 18.Rhe1 Kf7 19.Nf3 Ng4 20.Ng5+ Kg8 21.Qf3 Nxe3 22.Rxe3 Qc7 23.Nxe6 Over, pawn up and Black's position is busted 17...dxe5 18.fxe5 Bb4 18...Bg7 19.Nf3 0-0 20.Bc5 Rfe8 21.Bd6 Qa8 22.g4 Nf4 23.Qd2 fxg4 24.Ng5 Nd5 25.Qf2 Nxc3+ 26.bxc3 Rf8 27.Bxf8 Rxf8 28.Qd4 And White is winning - be wary of playing g6 in these types of positions, left holes all over. Poetic that White wins by jumping through these dark squares. 19.Bh6 Bxc3 20.bxc3 Kf7 21.g4 Ng7 22.Qh4 1-0



## Duneas (2035) - Steadman (2166) [B06]

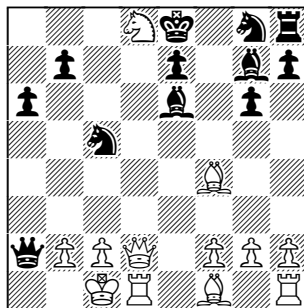
ACC Anniversary Weekender Auckland  
Chess Centre (4.4), 28.01.2018

**1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Bf4 a6 5.Nf3 Nd7 6.Qd2 c5?** Not the way to play this, Black is not ready for this to open up. **6...b5 7.e5 Bb7 8.Be2 Nb6 7.dxc5 Nxc5 8.e5! Bg4?! 9.exd6 Qb6?! 10.Ne5 Be6 11.0-0-0** Black is bad here but I saw a line that offered hope. John had lots of options that still won, but some hope was better than resigning. **11...Rd8 12.Nd5± 12.Nc4 Bxc4 13.Bxc4 e6 14.Qe3 Nf6 15.Be2 h5 16.Kb1 Ncd7 12...Qxd6**



**13.Nxf7?** This looks good, but is what I was hoping for. Black gets a winning attack if White takes the material, so surprisingly Black is already better **13.Qe3?** Is another option that falls short **13...Bxd5 14.Bc4 Nf6 15.Nxg6 Ng4 16.Qg3 Qf6 17.Ne5 Nxe5** and Black wins; **13.Bc4!** Is the right way **13...Bxd5 (13...Bxe5? 14.Bxe5 Qxe5 15.Nf6+ Kf8 16.Qxd8+ Kg7) 14.Qxd5 Qxd5 15.Bxd5 Nh6 16.Rhe1 e6 17.Bf3 0-0 18.Rxd8 Rxd8 19.b4 Rd4 20.Be3 Bxe5 21.Bxd4 Bxd4 22.bxc5 Bxf2 23.Re2 Bxc5 24.Bxb7** and White should win **13...Qxd5± 14.Nxd8?** Now White is lost, it was still possible to bail out. **14.Qxd5 Rxd5**

**15.Rxd5 Bxd5 16.Nxh8 Bxh8±** But I still fancy Black's chances **14...Qxa2**



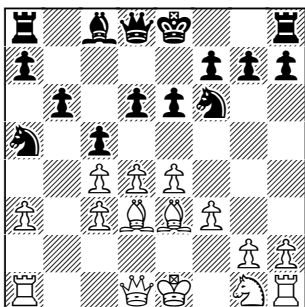
**15.Qe2** White had expected to now play **15.Qb4** only to realise that Black could force mate **15...Nb3+ 16.cxb3 Qxb2# 15...Qxb2+ 16.Kd2 Qc3+ 17.Kc1 Nb3+ 0-1**

Round five had Ang taking on Ben's Nimzo and again another win for Ben. I have seen Alphaeus play this mixed f3 and a3 stuff before and I just think it loses if Black knows what he is doing – Ben certainly does and cleaned him up nicely. Event over, Ben wins with a round to spare. Further down Smith pressed but a draw was again the result vs Steadman. Leonard was done over by his second junior; this time Allan Fan did the business with a nice French.

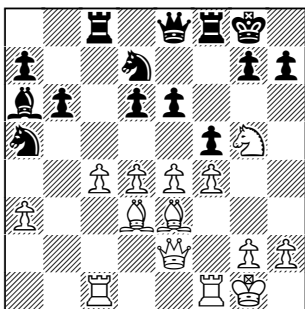
## Ang, Alphaeus (2219) - Hague, Ben (2368) [E24]

ACC Anniversary Weekender Auckland  
Chess Centre (5.1), 29.01.2018

**1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 Nc6 7.e4 d6 8.Be3 b6 9.Bd3 Na5**

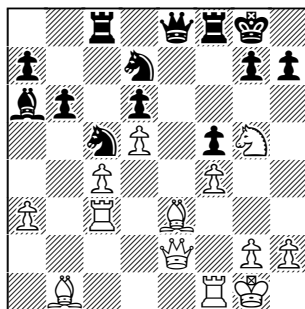


They had played this line before in 2017 and Alphaeus tried a different approach, but same result **10.Nh3** The earlier game went 10.f4 0-0 11.e5 Ne8 12.Nf3 f5 13.g4? (13.0-0 Ba6 14.Qe2 Rc8 15.Rac1 Qe7 16.Bf2) 13...fxg4 Ben played Ba6 and still won, but this is better. 14.Ng5 h6 15.Ne4 cxd4 16.cxd4 dxe5 17.dxe5 Bb7 18.0-0 Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Qxd1 20.Raxd1 Rc8 Black is winning easy, 2 pawns up **10...Ba6 11.Qe2 Rc8 12.Rc1 0-0 13.0-0 13.e5 cxd4 14.cxd4 dxe5 15.dxe5 Nd7 16.f4 h6 17.Nf2 Nc5 18.Bxc5 Rxc5** Black is better, again White's "attack" has been neutralised and Black will just swap off and win all endgames. **13...Nd7 14.f4 cxd4 15.cxd4 f5 16.Ng5 Qe8**



**17.exf5** Too soon, never release the

pressure unless there is a good reason. 17.Bf2 h6 18.exf5 hxg5 (18...exf5 19.Ne6 Rf6 20.d5 Nf8 21.Bh4) 19.fxe6 Nb8 20.fxg5 17...exf5 **18.d5 Nb3 19.Rc3 Nbc5 20.Bb1?**



White has lost the thread and starts going downhill. 20.Re1 h6 21.Nf3 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 Qf7 23.Bd4 Rfe8 24.Rxe8+ Rxe8 25.Qc2 Re4 26.Qa4 Qe8 27.Kf1 (27.Qxa6 Rxd4) 27...Qc8 The position is equal. **20...h6 21.Nf3 Nf6 22.Bxf5 Nxd5 23.Bxc8 Nxc3 24.Qe1 Bxc4** Alphaeus could calmly resign here...but the kids don't resign. **25.Bg4 Ne2+ 26.Kh1 Qxe3 27.Nd2 Ba6 28.Rf3 Ng3+ 29.Qxg3 Qxd2 30.h4 Ne4 31.Be6+ Kh7 32.Qg4 Nf2+ 33.Rxf2 Qxf2 34.Bf5+ Kh8 35.Qg6 Qf1+ 36.Kh2 Qxf4+ 37.g3 Qxf5 38.Qxd6 Qf2+ 39.Kh3 Bf1+ 40.Kg4 Qf5# 0-1**

Last round and it is a scrap for second. Steadman plays the third Nimzo against Ben and duly messes it up and loses – six from six for Ben, a crushing 2800 performance. Ben off and running with the Grand Prix again. In the end it was a six-way tie for 2nd equal a full point and a half behind Ben. Embarrassing.

A successful tournament and I'm thinking



about not charging Ben an entry fee from now on - I'll just take it out of his winnings – It will save me some time! ☐ ☐

**Frank Hutchings**  
**1936-2018**  
*by Russell Hosking*

It is with great sadness that I have received the news of the death of my old friend, expatriate chess player Frank Hutchings, on January 10 2018, two days after a terrible accident. My heart goes out to his wife Diana, their two daughters Fleur and Alexandra, their son Ross and the rest of the family.

Frank and Diana were tidying up in the garden in the cool of the evening at their home in Sydney. Frank was in the garden bed above the concrete driveway. He was pulling at a small shrub when when he suddenly overbalanced and fell heavily on to the driveway one meter below with a terrible thud.

Diana was sweeping up leaves and he fell right beside her. Although he was able to speak to her in the ambulance and at the hospital, he had a very bad head wound and died in hospital two days later.

Frank's first NZ Chess Congress (and Ortvin Sarapu's) was in Napier 1951/52. Sarapu gave a simul there and Frank was one of his opponents. The simul was played outdoors and Frank had a vivid memory of Sarapu's quite severe sunburn after about four hours. I'm glad that Nigel Short's "Beauty versus the Beast" simul in Auckland's Aotea Square in 2016 took

place under a canopy.

Frank's last NZ Congress was the 1959/60 one in Dunedin. He thought that saw his best performance in a NZ Championship -only 50% but a strong field and he won his games against Rodney Phillips and Richard Sutton.

In February 1960, about six weeks after that Congress, Frank left NZ to take up a job in Sydney and in November of that year he married Diana. A chess database incorrectly gives the year of their marriage as 1970.

*C.J.S. Purdy—His Writings*



*Diana's wedding to the New Zealand player Frank Hutchings congratulated by Ortvin Sarapu (1960)*

*Australasian Chess Royalty. Frank and Diana with Sarapu and Mr and Mrs Purdy*

Some time in the 1950s, Diana (who was the daughter of C.J.S. Purdy) had travelled around New Zealand visiting chess clubs – I remember her visiting the New Plymouth Chess Club. I think Frank, who was taking an engineering course at Canterbury University, saw her for the first time when she visited Christchurch.

I first met Frank in early 1953 when he and his mother came to New Plymouth to prepare for him becoming a boarder at New Plymouth Boys High School. He must have seen my name in the NZ Chessplayer and so looked me up. That evening I went to the hotel where he and his mother were staying and we played a game of chess in the hotel lounge with his mother looking on. Perhaps the games we played as the year progressed helped him to win the NZ Schoolboys Chess Championship final in Christchurch that year with seven wins out of seven games (including wins against Neil Cruden, 11 year old Rodney Phillips and me).

Frank was born in Whakatane in 1936 as was his cousin Margaret Mahy (the famous writer). Frank and Margaret maintained contact over the years and he remarked that she was rather more like a sister than a cousin, and of course a friend. He came over in 2012 for the private funeral service for Margaret at Governor's Bay.

Frank's name had itself appeared in the NZ Chessplayer before we first met. Here is a piece which appeared under the heading "Sad end":

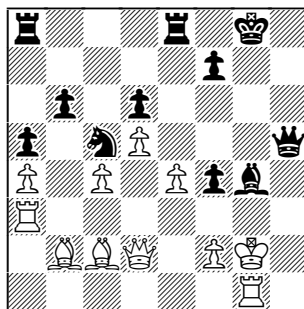
"A game from the South Auckland Provincial Chess League championship at Morrinsville. You will shed a tear at the end". (NZ Chessplayer, October 1952).

### **Hutchings, Frank P - Hirst, Fred A [B07]**

South Auckland Provincial Chess League Morrinsville, 1952

**1.d4 d6 2.e4 Nf6 3.Bd3 g6 4.b3 Nbd7 5.Nf3 Bg7 6.Bb2 0-0 7.c4 c5 8.d5 Qc7**

**9.0-0 Re8 10.Re1 e5 11.Nc3 a6 12.a4 b6 13.Qd2 Nh5 14.Ne2 Qd8 15.b4 cxb4 16.Qxb4 Nc5 17.Bc2 a5 18.Qd2 Bg4 19.Ra3 Bf6 20.Kh1 Nf4 21.Neg1 g5 22.g3 Nh5 23.h3 Bd7 24.g4 Nf4 25.Kh2 h5 26.gxh5 g4 27.hxg4 Bxg4 28.Ne2 Bg5 29.Nxg5 Qxg5 30.Nxf4 exf4 31.Rg1 Qxh5+ 32.Kg2**



**32...Qh6?? 32...f3+! 33.Rh1 Bh5 34.Rg3+ 1-0**

A chess database informs me that Frank won the State Chess Championship of Victoria in 1969 and the Correspondence Chess Championship of Australia in 1989 and 1993. According to the same database, he became C.J.S. Purdy's "chess sparring partner and confidant."

Frank was able to contribute to the chess world's knowledge and understanding of Purdy's games and ideas through the following books:

How Purdy Won – Frank Hutchings, Kevin Harrison

C.J.S. Purdy on the Endgame – Frank Hutchings, John Purdy (Compiler: Ralph J Tykodi)

Both these books have been published by the Thinkers Press (there is a Purdy series) but I think "How Purdy Won" may have first been published (in Australia) in 1983.

**Four Chess Players  
Walk Down a Hill in  
Holland**  
*by Bill Forster*

Friday January 19th 2018, 1:15pm, Wijk aan Zee. I am jetlagged and disoriented. Note to self: Don't ever again schedule serious chess on the other side of the world immediately after a direct flight from NZ! Fortunately I have just revisited the tournament website or I might not have realised that the round starts at 1:30pm not 2:30pm as I somehow imagined. Never mind the venue is not too far away, so all is well.

I stagger outside and try to get oriented. I am staying at a different hotel this year and it has a labyrinthine layout and relationship with the topology of the high dune it's built around. It will actually take me several more days to get my head around it. I could simply follow the road that spirals down then back up and around the hotel to the back of the town. That would be quite a hike. Or I could try and find the path that allegedly takes a shortcut straight down the hill and across the dunes to the centre of town. Decisions, decisions. Risk and reward, chess and life. I spot another man who's just starting out, maybe he's a chess player, I'll follow him. The man is impressive. Tall, powerfully built and

handsome, he has a shock of glossy black hair, is expensively clad and has the air of a man enjoying the prime of his life. He walks with pace and vigour. It's not really a chess player kind of vibe is it. However after a while even my dimmed senses and intellect makes a connection. I am following Vladimir Kramnik. The man who dethroned Kasparov. The owner of the most classically beautiful chess style of the modern greats. The man who late in his career is apparently effortlessly transforming himself from ultimate chess predator to ultimate chess entertainer.

As I hurry after him I manage to do the right thing and beam some negative karma in his direction. After all, he may be my personal chess hero, but today he's playing my friend Gawain Jones whom I'm here to support.

Kramnik's giant strides have him rapidly disappearing into the distance, but never mind there are exotic voices closing up on me from behind. More chess players hopefully. I step aside and Sergey Karjakin and his second hurry past. Okay so that just happened. This time it's the most recent challenger to the chess throne, the record holder as youngest GM in chess history, the pride of Putin's Russia. Yes I think he counts as a chess player too.

By now the contours of the town of Wijk are more readily apparent, I can see the playing hall, it's pretty clear I am not going to get lost and I'm going to make it on time.

I'm still a worried man though because I haven't yet adjusted mentally to being a feeble old guy who can't keep up with

society. And surely enough there are more foreign tones (not Russian this time, definitely not Dutch, a different weird Germanic language), more urgent footsteps behind me. This will never do, I really don't want another party to overtake. I lengthen my stride. Still they get closer and closer. I start a kind of half walk, half run. That stops the bleeding, but I quickly realise that if I am worried about looking ridiculous, I have just made the problem worse. I resign myself to the inevitable, just 100 metres from the goal. I step aside and despite what had come before I am still star struck and surprised as World Champion Magnus Carlsen and his father stride purposefully past me. Incidentally, Magnus's dad is probably almost as old as me but like most Norwegians he looks as if he's a competitive Nordic skier.

Later that day Gawain explained to me why top players were leaving it to the last minute like this. Apparently they don't want to arrive early and stew unnecessarily. But a financial penalty clause in their contracts means a fine if they are actually late.

So how did our four chess players do this day? In arrival order:

In round 6 of the Tata Steel Masters:

**Vladimir Kramnik** (FIDE 2787, Russia, 42 years old) White, drew with Gawain Jones (2640, England, 30).

**Sergey Karjakin** (2753, Russia, 28) Black, drew with Hou Yifan (2680, China, 23).

**Magnus Carlsen** (2834, Norway, 27) Black, drew with Peter Svidler (2768, Russia, 41).

In round 1 of the Tienkamp (amateur 9 round), section 4K:

**Bill Forster** (1902, Wellington, 57) Black, lost to Lola Den Dunnen (1781, Rotterdam, 16).

So just one of the four is a loser. Perhaps we didn't really need the day's results to establish that much.

One thing that went right was Gawain's result. Kramnik started with a characteristic transposition trick in the opening, wrong footing Gawain completely. Big Vlad then followed up with one of his patented brilliant positional sacrifices leading to a thoroughly miserable position for Black. Gawain really had no business surviving, yet somehow he did. After the GM games the players would not usually analyse, just exchange a few whispered words at the board. I can reveal that in this game Kramnik's thoughts were "I must have missed a million mates!". Of course I am going to take the credit. It must have been my high beam negative karma that did for him.

*Coming Up Fast:*

*June 2nd-4<sup>th</sup>: Trusts Open*

*July 27th-29<sup>th</sup>: Waikato Open*

*All the details are (of course)  
on the Calendar at  
[newzealandchess.co.nz](http://newzealandchess.co.nz)*

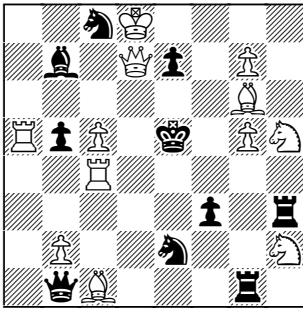
## Problem Kingdom

by Linden Lyons

- Submissions and comments to:  
problem.kingdom@gmail.com

### Problem 99

Rauf Aliovsadzade (USA) &  
Alexander Melnichuk (Russia)  
Original

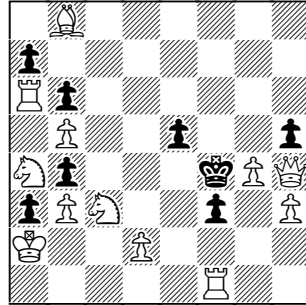


#2

After the key of **Problem 99**, **1 Nf4!** (threat **2 Qe6**), there are an incredible nine variations: **1 ... Bd5 2 Qxd5**, **1 ... bxc4 2 c6** (an **open-gate mate** which also shuts off the line of the black bishop), **1 ... Rh8+ 2 gxh8Q**, **1 ... Nd4 2 Qxd4**, **1 ... Nxf4 2 Bxf4**, **1 ... Qd3** (pinning the white queen) **2 Nxd3**, **1 ... Qf5 2 Qxf5**, **1 ... Qxg6 2 Nxg6**, **1 ... Rd1** (another pin of the white queen) **2 Ng4**.

### Problem 100

Rauf Aliovsadzade (USA)  
Original

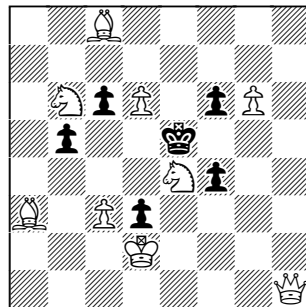


#2

**Problem 100** demonstrates the **Ojanen theme**: White threatens multiple mates, and Black has just as many defences which defeat all of the threats and which result in new mates. The key is **1 Nc5!** (thr. **2 Ne6/Nd3/Nd5/Ne2**) after which there are two open-gate mate variations (**1 ... bxc5 2 Rf6** and **1 ... bxc3 2 Ra4**) as well as two extra variations (**1 ... hxg4 2 Qxg4** and **1 ... f2 2 Rxf2**).

### Problem 101

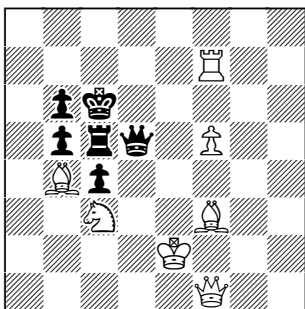
Antti G. Ojanen  
*Schackvärlden* 1944



#2

**Problem 101** is an example of the Ojanen theme by Ojanen himself. Key: **1 Nf2!** (thr. 2 Ng4/Nxd3/Qe1/Qe4). Variations: 1 ... b4 2 Nc4, 1 ... c5 2 Qd5, 1 ... f3 2 Qh2, and 1 ... f5 2 Qh8.

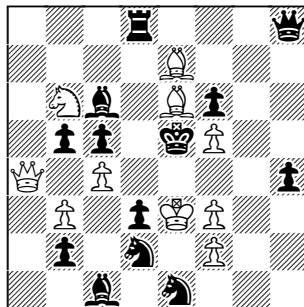
**Problem 102**  
Leonid Makaronez (Israel)  
Original



#3

With **1 Ke3!**, White puts Black in zugzwang in **Problem 102**. The black queen is pinned and has only two moves: 1 ... Qxf3+ 2 Qxf3+ Kd6 3 Qd5 (with a pinned black rook) and 1 ... Qe4+ 2 Bxe4+ Kd6 3 Qf4 (again with a pinned black rook). The black king also has a **flight square**: 1 ... Kd6 2 Bxd5 Ke5 3 Qf4. This third variation reveals why the white king had to occupy e3 in the key: it is now the sole guard of d4 and f4.

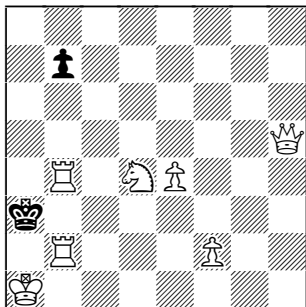
**Problem 103**  
Alberto Armeni (Italy)  
Original



S#2

In a selfmate, White forces Black, against his will, to deliver mate. In **Problem 103**, White must force Black to do so on the second move. There is some set play: 1 ... Qh6+ 2 f4+ Qxf4 and 1 ... bxc4 2 Nxc4+ Nxc4 (a double checkmate). The key is **1 cxb4!** (thr. 2 Nc4+ Nxc4) with the variations 1 ... Qh6+ 2 Qf4+ Qxf4 (not the set 2 f4+? due to 2 ... Qxf4+ 3 Qxf4#), 1 ... Rd4/Bd5 2 Q(x)d4+ cxd4, and 1 ... Bxb5 2 Qe4+ Nxe4. Note the effectiveness of the knight-bishop **battery** along the c1-e3 diagonal as well as the fact that the white queen visits each of d4, e4, and f4 in the course of the solution.

**Problem 104**  
 Daniele Gatti (Italy)  
 Original

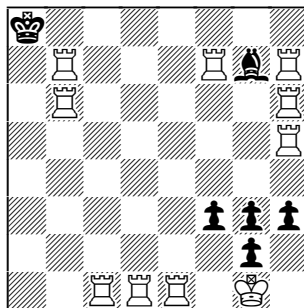


S#8

The black pawn in **Problem 104** will somehow need to mate the white king. White must ensure a safe passage for it without losing control of the black king. Key: **1 Nf3!** (zz). Variations: 1 ... b5 2 Rd4 (zz) b4 3 Qc5 (zz) Ka4 4 Nd2 (zz) Ka3 5 Nb1+ Ka4 6 Ra2+ Kb3 7 Qc3+ bxc3 8 Rb2+ cxb2 and 1 ... b6 2 Qa5+ bxa5 3 Rc4 (zz) a4 4 Re2 (zz) Kb3 5 Nd2+ Ka3 6 Nb1+ Kb3 7 Rd4 (zz) a3 8 Rb2+ axb2. The mating position is the same in both variations: the knight blocks b1 and the black pawn, guarded by the black king, captures a white rook on b2. This black pawn does so from c3 in one variation and from a3 in the other.

Note that in the second variation, the reason for 4 Re2 is that 4 Rc2 would have allowed 7 ... Kxc2 and that 4 Rd2 would have prevented 5 Nd2+.

**Problem 105**  
 Daniele Gatti (Italy)  
 Original



S#8

Look at all those rooks in **Problem 105!** White would like to make Black play ... f2# or ... h2#, but he must first rid himself of the rooks on the f- and h-files. In the process, the rooks on the first rank must also be sacrificed. Solution: **1 Ra1+!** Bxa1 2 Rh8+ Bxh8 3 Ra1+ Bxa1 4 Rh8+ Bxh8 5 Ra1+ Bxa1 6 Rh8+ Bxh8 7 Rg7 (zz) Bxg7 8 Rxg7 f2/h2. Note that 1 Rh8+? fails because of 1 ... Bf8!

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