

## Round 4



A view of the playing hall in Edinburgh's historic chess club

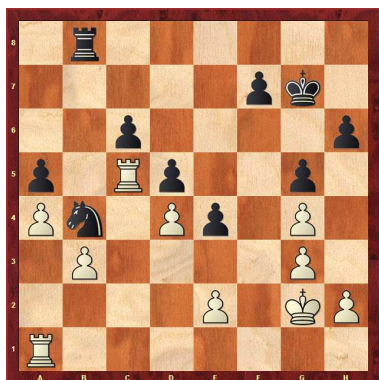
<b>McNab, Colin</b>	<b>1-0</b>	<b>Bremner, Adam</b>
<b>MacQueen, Calum</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>Berry, Neil</b>
<b>Steil-Antoni, Fiona</b>	<b>1/2-1/2</b>	<b>Burnett, Andrew</b>
<b>Green, Andrew</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>Michielsen, Joost</b>
<b>Kilpatrick, Callum</b>	<b>1-0</b>	<b>Hamitevici, Vladimir</b>

**A**nother battle of the big guns today as Callum Kilpatrick played an excellent game to down top seed Vlad Hametivici. Vlad has only shown glimpses so far of his true strength and will be hoping for a better second half of the event. I survived, barely, in a tough game against Fiona while Colin and Neil both won cleanly. Neil's win in particular deserves a look. Unfortunately Iain Swan had to withdraw owing to illness (sadly, he would be joined in successive days by his west-coast counterparts in the Challenger's event) and it was Andrew Green who stepped up to the plate to face Joost. Andrew very nearly upset the form book too, but the flying Dutchman (yes, I know, apologies!) turned the game around and secured the full point.

## (16) McNab, Colin (2457) – Bremner, Adam (2189) [A14]

Winter Chess Festival -Premier (4.1), 30.12.2013

1.c4 ♘f6 2.g3 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.b3 ♙e7 5.♙g2 0-0 6.0-0 a5!? An interesting idea which I first saw in an old Gel-fand game I believe. Black forestalls some of white's q-side expansion plans. 7.♙a3 ♙xa3 8.♘xa3 ♙e7 9.♙c1 c6 10.♙b2 ♘a6 11.d3N Colin enjoys playing within this pawn structure. 11...♙e8 12.♙fc1 e5 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.♘b5 ♙d7 15.a4 ♙c6 16.d4 e4 17.♘e5 ♘b4 18.♙c3 Black has a perfectly decent position, but his next move is one of those 'casual howlers' which haunt us all from time to time. 18...♘d7?? 19.♘xc6 bxc6 20.♘c7 ♙ab8 21.♘xe8 ♙xe8 22.♙h3! g6 [22...♘f8 doesn't really help because the white bishop already has a new life, whether it gets exchanged or not.] 23.♙xd7 ♙xd7 24.♙e3 ♙c7 25.♙c5 ♘g7 26.♘g2 h6 27.g4 g5 28.♙g3 ♙xg3+ 29.fxg3!



I like this recapture. White has rooks and rooks require files to play along. It also prevents any black action in the forthcoming R&P ending which doubtless Colin had foreseen. 29...♙a8 30.♙f1 f6 31.♘f2 ♘g6 32.♘e3 ♙a7 33.♘d2 ♙a8 34.h3 ♙a7 35.♘c3 ♙a8 36.♙xa5! The simplest way to break down black's blockade. 36...♘a2+ 37.♘b2 ♙xa5 38.♘xa2 c5 39.♘a3! Getting his own pawns moving while minimising the amount, or speed, of the opponent's counterplay is essential to good technique in R&P endings. 39...cxd4 40.b4 ♙a8 41.b5 ♙c8 42.b6 ♙c3+ 43.♘b4 ♙c2 44.♙b1 d3 45.exd3 e3 46.b7 e2 47.♘b3 [and not falling for 47.b8 ♙ e1 ♙+ 48.♙xe1 ♙b2+ although white should still win this. A big blunder from Adam, but good technique from Colin thereafter.] 1-0

## (17) MacQueen, Calum (2240) – Berry, Neil (2242) [E54]

Winter Chess Festival -Premier (4.2), 30.12.2013

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♙b4 4.♘f3 ♘f6 5.e3 0-0 6.♙d3 c5 7.0-0 cxd4 8.exd4 dxc4 9.♙xc4 b6 10.♙g5 ♙b7 This is a position very-well known to theory. When I saw Calum play his next move I thought it was a bit unusual, and indeed it is only a minor side-line in this variation. I remember thinking at the time that Karpov must have played this position dozens of times as black and he wouldn't have done so if Ne5 followed by Qa4 were correct. Checking it now on ChessBase I see the line we are in (...cxd4, ...dxc4,...b6,...Bb7) is known as 'Karpov's Game'! Calum's approach may be just about ok (white

does generally have a little more leeway than black in most openings) but it is a bit too crude to refute such a well-documented line. 11.♘e5!? ♘c6



12.♙a4?! White attempts to immediately win material are rather dangerous, e.g. 12.♙xf6 ♙xf6 13.♘d7 ♙h4 14.♘xf8 ♙xf8 15.♘e2 ♙d8 16.♙a4 ♙d6 17.f4 ♘xd4 18.♘xd4 ♙c5 19.♙ad1 ♙g4 20.g3 h5 and black had an extremely dangerous attack in Vidal – Cheparinov, Linares 2005] 12...♙xc3 [12...♙xd4] 13.bxc3 ♘xe5N 14.dxe5 ♙d7 These are the little tactical nuances which stronger players use all the time and which average players struggle to see far enough in advance to utilise them. 15.♙b3?! [15.♙xd7 is better but after 15...♘xd7 16.♙fe1 ♙fc8 black should be at least fine here as white's bishop pair have yet to find useful roles, whereas his c3 and e5 pawns are a bit sensitive.] 15...♙c6 16.f3 ♙c5+ 17.♘h1 ♙xe5 so black wins a pawn and still has most of the positional pluses. 18.♙h4 ♙ac8 19.♙ad1 ♘d5 [19...♘e4!? was also possible and shows the latent energy in black's position] 20.♙xd5?! Calum, perhaps dismayed at how quickly things have turned sour, fails to put up the strongest resistance. 20...♙xd5 21.♙a3 ♙xc3 22.♙xa7 ♙e2 I remember Neil spending quite a lot of time around here, but it was time well-spent as he plays very accurately to the end. 23.♙xb6?! which comes quickly after this move. 23...♙xf3! 24.♙fe1? and now it's just mate. [24.gxf3 would be little better 24...♙xf3+ 25.♙xf3 ♙xf3+ 26.♘g1 ♙xd1+] 24...♙f1+ 25.♙xf1 ♙xg2# A disappointing loss for Calum but another excellently played game by Neil who was probably wishing he was black in every game! 0-1

## (18) Steil Antoni, Fiona (2190) – Burnett, Andrew (2209) [C41]

Winter Chess Festival -Premier(4.3), 30.12.2013

Notes by Fiona Steil-Antoni

1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 e5 4.Nf3 Nbd7 I hadn't expected Andy to play the Philidor, but as I occasionally play this opening myself as Black I was lucky to be a little bit familiar with some plans. 5.Bc4 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 c6 8.a4 Qc7 [8...a5 is the most common move and also the one I play as Black myself, which is why after 8...♙c7 I had to pause and come up with a development plan.; 8...b6 is another option and probably the right move order if you want to play with b6. 9.d5 cxd5 10.Nxd5 There are still plenty of games in this position in the database.] 9.Ba2 b6 10.h3 a6 11.Bg5 Bb7 12.Nh4! I wasn't completely sure about this move during the game, but the computer considers it White's only option to get an ad-



vantage. **12...Rfe8** [I was expecting Andy to play  $\Delta 12...g6$  and strangely enough the computer now recommends **13.Nf3** (**13.f4!**? was the move I was intending to play.) **13...Rfe8 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Qe2±** With a slightly better position for White.] **13.dxe5 dxe5 14.Nf5** I was very happy with my position at this point. When going through our game later on Andy and I wondered where he had gone wrong, but I guess it might just be the slightly imprecise move order with  $8...c7$  that led him to this unpleasant position. **14...Nc5 15.Qf3 Ne6**



**16.Bxe6** [ $\Delta 16.Nh6+$  was even stronger: **16...gxh6** (**16...Kf8 17.Bxe6 fxe6 18.a5+-**) **17.Bxf6 Nf4 18.Bxe7 Qxe7 19.Ne2±**] **16...fxe6 17.Nxe7+ Rxe7 18.Bxf6 Rf8 19.Bxe5** [ $\leq 19.Bxe7$  Andy told me afterwards that he had totally forgotten about this move, but when looking at this line during the game I thought that after **19...Rxf3 20.gxf3 Qxe7 21.Ne2 a5=** Black would get enough counterplay as he will activate the bishop over a6.] **19...Qxe5 20.Qe3** I won a pawn, but converting my advantage into a full point turned out to be much trickier than I thought... **20...c5 21.Rad1 Bc6 22.Rd2** [ $\Delta 22.Qd3$  is stronger as I am forcing the exchange of the queens: **22...Qf4 23.Qd6 Qxd6** (**23...Qxf2+?? 24.Kh1+-**) **24.Rxd6 Rc8 25.f3±**] **22...b5 23.axb5 axb5 24.f3 Ref7 25.Ne2 b4 26.Red1 Bb5 27.b3 Bxe2 28.Qxe2 Qg3 29.Rd8 g5?** So far everything had more or less gone according to plan, but being rather short on time I started losing the thread now: **30.Rxf8+?!** I was happy to exchange a pair of rooks to prevent any kind of sacrifice on f3, but this move turned out to be my first mistake. [ $\Delta 30.Qa6$  with the same idea of exchanging the queens was stronger again. **30...Qe5 31.Qd6 Qxd6 32.R8xd6+-** This endgame has to be winning for me.] **30...Rxf8 31.Qc4 Qe5 32.Qd3 Ra8 33.Qd7 h5?** [ $\Delta 33...Ra1$  was better in order to force the rooks exchange. **34.Rxa1 Qxa1+ 35.Kf2 Qe5±** Although I am still a pawn up I guess that just as in the game Black should manage to hold a draw here.] **34.Qe7?!** Another inaccuracy as Black could have replied with **Ra1** once again. [ $\Delta 34.Kf2!$  was winning as Black doesn't have **Ra1** any longer and I will just be able to improve my position. **34...Rf8** (**34...g4** was the move I was worried about but after **35.hxg4 hxg4 36.Qe7 g3+ 37.Ke2** I am simply winning.) **35.Qe7** I am threatening to play **Rd7** and after **35...Rf7 36.Qe8+ Kg7 37.Rd8 Qc3 38.Qh8+ Kg6 39.Rg8+ Rg7 40.Qxg7+ Qxg7 41.Rxg7+** the endgame with a pawn up is of course winning.] **34...h4? 35.Rd8+?** The decisive mistake. I kind of realised that the queen endgame would only be a draw, but I only had seconds left and couldn't really come up with any other move... [ $\Delta 35.Kf2!$  was still winning! **35...c4** (**35...Qg3+ 36.Kf1 Qe5 37.Rd7+-**) **36.Ke2+-**] **35...Rxd8 36.Qxd8+ Kf7**

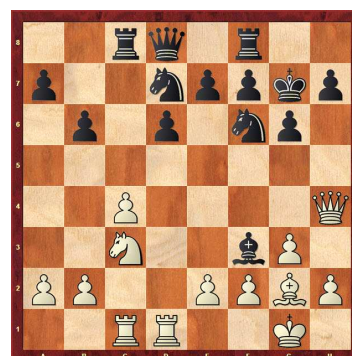
There is of course no way to win this endgame as my king is far too exposed. **37.Kf1 Qa1+ 38.Ke2 Qe5 39.Qd7+ Kg6 40.Qe8+ Kg7 41.Qe7+ Kg6 42.Qe8+ Kg7 43.Qh5 Qg3 44.Qg4 Qe5 45.Kf1** [I so upset with myself for spoiling my advantage that I even considered **45.g3** as I wanted to find a way to play on at all costs. However after **45...hxg3 46.h4 Qc3** (**46...Kf6** is bad because of **47.Qh5±**) **47.Qxg5+ Kf7=** the position is still only a draw.] **45...Qa1+ 46.Ke2 Qc1 47.Qxe6 Qxc2+ 48.Ke3 Qc3+ 49.Ke2** An interesting and well-fought game where I spoil my advantage when panicking in zeitnot, but Andy deserves all the credit for defending very tenaciously once he found himself in a rather difficult position.

1/2-1/2

## (19) Green,Andrew (2148) – Michielsen,Joost (2343) [A30]

Winter Chess Festival -Premier(4.4), 30.12.2013

With Iain Swan unfortunately having to withdraw due to illness, Andrew Green was the first of the Challenger's players to step up and fill the gap. **1.♖f3 c5 2.c4 ♘f6 3.g3 b6 4.♙g2 ♙b7 5.0-0 g6 6.♘c3 ♙g7 7.d4 cxd4 8.♙xd4 0-0 9.♙h4 d6 10.♙h6 ♘bd7 11.♙fd1 ♙c8 12.♙xg7 ♙xg7 13.♙ac1 ♙xf3N** I saw this move being played and instantly thought it just couldn't be good. **13...h6** is less committal]



**14.exf3!** If the **Bg2** were to be blocked in or side-lined then black's play would have some justification, however with **f4** available white should be clearly better [**14.♙xf3 ♘e5** is fairly equal as **c4** is attacked as well as **f3**] **14...♙c5 15.♙d4 ♙b8 16.f4 ♙g8 17.♙d2 ♙fc8 18.♙f1 a6 19.♙e1 ♙e8 20.b4 ♙cc8 21.h3 ♙c7 22.g4** white's plan is to gradually take away the squares from black's knights and then use his space advantage to build up an attack. Black will have to do something soon to avoid being pushed off the board. **22...♙d8 23.g5 ♘h5 24.♙e2 e5!** and here it is, a well-timed counterthrust. **25.♙xd6 ♘xf4 26.♙xd7** [**26.h4** looks to be necessary, restricting black's activity to the knight.] **26...♙xg5+ 27.♙g4 ♘xh3+ 28.♙f1 ♙xd2 29.♙xh3 ♙g7 30.♙d1 ♙g5?** white's main problem was his pieces being a bit loose, so black ought to have kept his queen active on **b2** or **c2** to restrict his opponent. **31.♘d5** [**31.♘e4!** heading to **d6** would win comfortably **31...♙f4 32.♘d6**] **31...♙c6 32.♙f3 h5 33.a4 e4 34.♙h3 ♙d6 35.♙b1** [**35.b5** fixing the weakness on **b6** looks better, but time-trouble had reared its ugly head.] **35...b5** [**35...♙ed8!** first would have avoided the fork we see in

the game] **36.axb5 axb5 37.♗c7 ♖e5 38.♗xb5 ♖d2 39.c5** [39.♗e3 would prevent black's next] **39...e3! 40.f3 ♖d8?** [40...♗xe2! wins cleanly because after 41.♗xe2 ♖d5 threatens ...Rd2 and the only sensible-looking defence 42.♖d1 allows 42...♗xd1 43.♗xd1 ♖g1+ 44.♗c2 e2 and the pawn queens] **41.♗d6 ♖a8 42.♗d7 ♖a2** [42...♗d5! again with the idea of taking on e2 looks to be very strong] **43.♖e1 ♗xe2?** but now it doesn't really work! **44.♗e8+?** or at least it shouldn't [44.♗xe2 ♖b1+ 45.♖e1 and the counter threats on f7 restrict black's activity 45...♖d3+ (45...♖a2 46.♗xf7+ ♗xf7 47.♗xf7 ♗xf7 48.♗e2 and my money would be on white to win—the 2 connected passed pawns being stronger than black's.) 46.♗g1 ♖g5+ 47.♗h1 ♖d5 48.♗e8+! now this would be a good move!] **44...♗h6 45.♗xe2 ♖b1+ 46.♖e1 ♖c2** and here is the difference; f7 is no longer attacked and black has time to combine against the white king. **47.♖e2 ♖c1+ 48.♖e1 e2+ 49.♗f2 ♖e3+ 50.♗g2 ♖g5+** An exciting game which Andrew should consider himself a bit unlucky to lose. **0-1**

## (20) Kilpatrick, Callum (2350) – Hamitevici, Vladimir (2508) [B06]

Winter Chess Festival -Premier (4.5), 30.12.2013

(Notes by Callum Kilpatrick)

**1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.♗c3 c6 4.♗c4 d6** [Unsurprisingly, Hamitevici chose not to repeat his game against Williams in the European Club Cup 4...b5 5.♗b3 e6? 6.e5± where White already had a clear plus, although he ended up losing in: 0-1 Williams,S (2463)–Hamitevici,V (2490)/Rhodes GRE 2013 (56); 4...d5 this blunt option has also been essayed a few times, however 5.exd5 b5 6.♗b3 b4 7.♗f3± is very strong] **5.♗f3 e6 6.♗ge2** this set-up seems at first rather counter-intuitive but I was drawn to the idea of simply developing quickly and getting on with it. Although there is a risk of White's pieces getting in a tangle, Black is yet to get out of the starting blocks **6...♗f6 7.♗g5 ♗bd7 8.♗b3** useful prophylaxis against any potential tricks with ...d5 **8...♖a5 9.h4!**? a slightly artificial way of keeping the bishop on g5, already we were in relatively uncharted territory **9...0-0** [in one of the few games in this line 9...e5 was played by Krasenkow, but after 10.0-0 h6 11.♗xf6 ♗xf6 12.dxe5 dxe5 13.♖d6 ♗g4 14.♖d3 ♗xe2 15.♗xe2 ♖c7 16.♖d1 White had achieved an excellent position, although he soon lost his way 16...0-0 here 17.h5! would have caused big problems for the second player (17.g4?! 0-1 Robak,Z (2350)–Krasenkow,M (2605)/Augustow 1996/CBM 57 (34)) 17...♗xh5 18.♗f3! ♗f4 19.♖d7 ♗xe2+ 20.♗b1!+-; 9...b5? 10.e5!±] **10.♗d2** now the bishop drops back, mainly as I couldn't think of anything better to do... [10.0-0 b5 didn't really take my fancy, this time 11.e5 doesn't offer the same rewards as on the previous move 11...dxe5 12.♖xc6 ♖b8] **10...c5 11.0-0-0** already there is a lot going on in the position, and it is quite hard to say exactly who it favours – White can quite easily see his light-squared bishop getting ensnared by an eventual ...c4 **11...a6** [11...♖a6 12.h5 looks very promising for White since 12...c4 is just met by 13.Ba4; perhaps Black should change the character of the position with 11...cxd4 but 12.♗xd4 again looks promising for White who can push the h-pawn and eye Black's weak pawn on d6] **12.h5!** just getting on with it! **12...♖c7** this is consistent, but Black's plan of trapping the light-squared bishop seems

far too slow. Indeed the computer thinks White is almost winning here! **13.dxc5** it hadn't occurred to either of us that White could simply capture on g6, instead I opted to exchange these pawns and release the tension in the centre [13.hxg6! would have been simple and strong, after 13...c4 (13...hxg6 14.♖h3 with 15.Bh6 to follow) 14.gxh7+ ♗h8 15.♗h6 ♗e8 16.♗xg7+ ♗xg7 17.♗xc4 ♖xc4 18.♖g3+- is crushing, Black's extra minor piece is fairly irrelevant here!] **13...dxc5** [13...♗xc5 I had expected this recapture, but now White's bishop is safe from any ...c4 tricks 14.♗g5! looks very pleasant for White, who holds all the cards here] **14.♗f4** [14.hxg6! was again strong] **14...♗e5** [14...e5? loses to a neat sequence 15.♗g5 c4 16.h6! ♗h8 17.♖xd7!! ♗xd7 (17...♗xd7 18.♗xf6 cxb3 19.♗xh8 f5 20.♗g7+-) 18.♗d5+-] **15.hxg6 hxg6 16.♖h3** I thought I was close to winning after this move, however, I began to lose my way as I became increasingly frustrated at not being able to find a check-mate! [16.♖g3 was my original intention, which looked very tempting 16...♗h5 17.♖xh5 (17.♖h4!?±) 17...gxh5 18.♗h6 f5 19.♗f4! is a neat retreat that did not occur to either of us, again this looks good for White (19.♗f4 ♗h7 in our post-mortem of the game, we decided Black had sufficient counterplay in these positions) ] **16...b5**



**17.a3** psychologically, an admission of defeat. Surprisingly, the computer still insists White is doing well though **17...c4** [17...b4 18.axb4 cxb4 19.♗a4 and Black's counterplay stalls, whilst White may continue with moves such as Bh6, f3, Kb1, etc.] **18.♗a2 ♖e8** over the board I started to run low on time as I couldn't see a clear win. However, just playing simple chess would have done the trick here **19.♖h2?** this throws away pretty much all of White's advantage [19.♗h6! I'm still not sure why this straightforward idea did not occur to myself nor Hamitevici 19...♗h8 20.♗g5! ♗g7 21.♖h4!+- and Black is just completely lost here] **19...♗h5 20.♗e3 ♖e7 21.f3 b4 22.♗b1?** [22.axb4 ♖xb4 23.♗b1 ♖b8 24.♗c1 although it looked incredibly grim, this would have allowed White to cling on, as 24...♗h6?? 25.♖xe5 simply leaves the knight hanging 25...♗xc1 26.♗xc1 ♖xb2+ 27.♗d2+-] **22...b3?!** this felt rushed [22...♖b8 just keeping the tension with 22...Rb8 looked better, it is hard to see what, if anything, White can do here] **23.cxb3 cxb3** [23...♗d3+ 24.♖xd3 cxd3 25.♗ec3 White seems to have some compensation here, at the very least I was grateful to see I am not getting mated!] **24.♗xb3 ♖b8** Hamitevici went in for this quite quickly, but White is now able to start untangling. White no longer seems to be worse **25.♗d4 ♖xb3** [White's pieces are shown to be surprisingly well co-ordinated in the following line 25...♖g5+ 26.f4 ♖h6 27.♗xe5 ♗xe5



28.♖d2 ♗xf4 29.♖xf4 ♜xf4 30.g4 ♜xh2 31.♞xh2 with a balanced position] 26.♗xe5 ♜c5+ 27.♗c3 by now we were both very short on time 27...♞e3+ 28.♖d2 [Ostensibly it looks risky but 28.♗c2 was stronger, since 28...♞xe2+ 29.♗xb3 e5 30.♖d2! secures the king's position after 30...♗e6+ 31.♗c2±] 28...♗d7? [28...e5 was possible] 29.♞g1 [29.g4! was strong, after the relatively forced sequence 29...♞eb8 30.♗xg7 ♗xg7 31.gxh5 ♞xb2 32.♞e5+ ♗g8 33.♞xb2 ♞xb2 34.♗xb2 ♞xf3 35.♞h2 ♞xe4 36.hxg6 fxg6 37.♞h3! White is on top] 29...♞xg1+ [29...♗h6 30.g4! would likely transpose] 30.♞xg1 ♗h6 31.g4 ♖f4 32.g5 ♖xe2+ 33.♞xe2 the dust has settled somewhat and now White is simply a pawn to the good 33...♗g7 34.♖d2 ♞b7 35.e5?! [35.♗f6! was just strong, I wasn't sure if this was wise so soon before the time control in case I miscalculated. However, the plan of meeting 35...e5 with 36.Nc3 and then doubling the rooks on the h-file is simple and winning by the looks of it] 35...♗c6 36.f4 this pawn structure looked tempting because after the inevitable dark-squared bishop exchange White has an almost risk-free position 36...♞c8 37.♗b4 ♗d5+ [37...♗f8 38.♗xf8 ♗e4+! this accurate move order would have probably saved Black, now 39.♗d1 (39.♗c3??

would result in tragedy 39...♞xc3+!/-+) 39...♗xf8 40.♗e2 ♗xb1 41.♞xb1 ♞b3 and Black has more than enough counterplay to hold] 38.♖c3 now White can consolidate 38...♞c4 39.♞f1 ♗f8 40.♗xf8 ♗xf8 41.♞ff2! [41.♗d1?? Even one move after the time control, it is never too late to be careless! 41...♞xc3!] 41...♗e7 42.♗d1 ♗c6 43.♗e2 ♞b3 44.♗e3 Black is just gradually being pushed back, White will continue with Rd4 and Rfd2 and trying to swap the rooks off. Hamitevici lashes out in desperation, but in reality it makes White's task much easier 44...♞xb2 45.♞xb2 ♞xc3+ 46.♗d4 ♞xa3 47.♞a2 ♞h3 48.♞xa6 ♗d5 49.♞a7+ ♗f8 50.♞c7 ♗g7 51.♞c8 ♞h4+- building a neat mating net, either by doubling the rooks on the back rank or the h-file 52.♗c5 ♞h3 53.♗d6 ♞a3 54.♞h2 ♞a6+ 55.♗c5 ♞a5+ 56.♗b4 ♞a8 57.♞xa8 ♗xa8 58.♗c5 White will simply march his king to e7 and then target Black's weak pawn on f7. Though this game was far from perfect it did have some interesting moments. Notable were the psychological shifts when White's and then Black's attacks both suddenly petered out. This game proved instrumental in helping me secure my final IM norm at a very well-organised and fun event in Edinburgh.

1-0



Luxembourg's top female player, WIM Fiona Steil-Antoni, in play against the eventual tournament winner