

## Round 9

Photo by: Fiona Steil-Antoni



Callum Kilpatrick's final IM norm is just minutes away

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

**T**he last round and a lot was at stake. Would Joost, already guaranteed outright first, force Callum to work for his norm? Would I finally manage to score a full point? Would Fiona, for that matter? I'd like to think we were both worthy of at least 1 win, but in the end Colin sunk Fiona's hopes while mine were finally realised in the last game to finish—a fiendishly tricky R&P end-game.

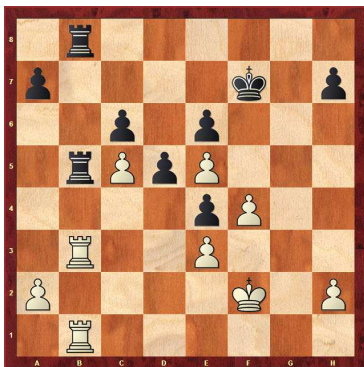
Joost decided that Callum deserved his norm and offered the early draw which this time Callum took! Excellent play by both and hopefully we'll see them north of the border again sometime soon.

Vlad tried and tried to win against Adam, but there seemed to be a stalemate trick in every variation -great defence by Adam secured the draw and so the tournament ended. A lot of exhausted and tired players (and not forgetting the 'arbiter without a voice' Andy Howie!) and a very happy organiser, David Oswald, who'd probably be mad to do it all again—but hopefully will!

**(41) Berry FM,Neil (2242) – Burnett,Andrew (2209) [A84]**

Winter Festival Festival -Premier(9.1), 05.01.2014

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 c6 4.♘c3 f5 5.♙f4 ♘d6 6.e3!  
White doesn't mind his pawns being disrupted if it gives him extra control over the e5 square 6...♗e7!? 7.♙d3 ♘f6 8.0-0 0-0 9.♗c2 ♘e4 10.♙xd6 ♗xd6 11.♘e5 ♘d7 12.f3 ♘g5 13.f4 ♘e4 14.c5 ♗e7 15.b4 ♘xe5 16.dxe5 [16.fxe5!? this seems to be a better way of recapturing although it does look like black will have some counter-play on the k-side.] 16...b6! although the engine prefers white I was more optimistic about my position now 17.♘e2 bxc5 18.♙xe4 fxe4 19.♗xc5 ♗xc5 20.bxc5 ♙a6 21.♙f2 g5 22.g3 ♖ab8 23.♖fb1 ♙xe2 24.♙xe2 gxf4 25.gxf4 ♙f7 26.♖b3 ♖g8?! I thought this was a very useful move to drag the white king one square further from any q-side action. However, in the K&P endings which might occur, forcing the king to f2 seems to allow white to at least draw by invading on the k-side. [26...♖b5! 27.♖ab1 (27.♖xb5 cxb5) 27...♖fb8 28.♖xb5 ♖xb5 29.♖xb5 cxb5 30.a3 a5 31.c6 ♙e7 32.f5 exf5 33.♙d2 ♙d8 34.e6 b4 35.axb4 axb4 36.♙c2 d4 37.exd4 e3 38.d5 b3+ 39.♙xb3 e2 40.d6 e1♗ 41.c7+ ♙c8 42.e7 f4] 27.♙f2 ♖b5 28.♖ab1 ♖gb8



29.♙e2?! [29.♖xb5 ♖xb5 30.♖xb5 cxb5 31.♙g3! This is the idea I had overlooked in my calculations. It looks too slow but in fact isn't. (31.♙e2 b4 32.♙d2 a5) 31...a5 32.c6 ♙e7 33.f5 exf5 34.♙f4 b4 (34...♙e6 35.c7 ♙d7 36.♙xf5 ♙xc7 37.e6 d4 38.♙xe4 dxe3 39.♙xe3 ♙d6 40.♙d4 b4 41.♙c4 ♙xe6 42.♙b5 ♙d5 43.♙xa5 ♙c5 44.♙a4 ♙c4 45.♙a5 h5 46.♙a4 ♙c3 47.h3 h4=) 35.♙xf5 a4 36.c7 ♙d7 37.e6+ ♙xc7 38.♙f6 b3 39.axb3 axb3 40.e7 b2 41.e8♗ b1♗] 29...a5 30.♙d2 ♙e8 31.♖xb5 ♖xb5 32.♖c1 [32.♖xb5 white can't take here as the black pawns break through easily. Compared to the earlier version, white's king is purely defensive here and can't help his own pawns to advance. 32...cxb5 33.c6 (33.♙c3 b4+ 34.♙b3 d4 35.exd4 e3 36.♙c2 a4) 33...b4 34.f5 exf5 35.e6 ♙d8 36.h3 h6 37.h4 h5 38.♙c2 a4 39.♙d2 b3 40.axb3 axb3 41.♙c3 f4 42.exf4 e3] 32...a4 33.♖c3 ♙d7 34.♖a3 ♖b4 35.♙c3 ♖c4+ 36.♙b2 h5 37.♖c3 ♖b4+ 38.♙a3 ♖b1 39.♙xa4 ♖b2 40.h4 [40.a3 ♖xh2 41.♖b3 ♙c7 42.♖b1 ♖h3 43.♖e1 h4 44.♙b3 d4+; 40.h3 ♖xa2+ 41.♙b3 ♖h2] 40...♖xa2+ 41.♙b3 ♖e2 42.♙b4 ♖b2+



43.♙a4 [43.♖b3? this move loses as again the white king can't cope with the 2 passed pawns black will have after the following sequence. 43...♖xb3+ 44.♙xb3 ♙e8 45.♙c2 (45.♙a4 d4; 45.♙b4 ♙f7 46.♙a5 d4) 45...♙f7 46.♙d1 ♙g6 47.♙e2 ♙f5 48.♙f2 ♙g4 49.♙g2 ♙xh4 50.f5 51.f6 (51.fxe6 ♙g6! it was important to not simply 'calculate' move by move, but to see the different ways to return to cover the white pawns. 52.♙g3 ♙g7 53.♙f4 ♙f8) 51...♙g6 52.♙g3 ♙f7 and also to spot that black can force white into zugzwang of sorts. 53.♙g2 h4] 43...♙e8 44.♙a5 ♙f7 45.♙a6 ♖b5 46.♖c1 ♖b3 47.♖e1 ♙e7 [47...♙g6 48.♖g1+ ♙f5 49.♖g5# is to be avoided.] 48.♖e2 ♙d7 49.♖g2 [49.♖e1 ♙c7 50.♖e2?? (50.♙a5 ♖b5+ 51.♙a4 ♖xc5 and finally an important pawn drops) 50...♖a3# is black's version of the mate] 49...♖xe3 50.♖g7+ ♙e8 51.♙b6 ♖d3 52.♙xc6 e3 53.♖g3 [53.♖g1 e2 54.♖e1 ♖d2 55.♙d6 d4] 53...e2 54.♖xd3 e1♗ 55.♖a3 ♗xh4 [55...♗e4 was my initial intention and might have been easier 56.♖a8+ ♙f7 57.♖a7+ ♙g6 58.♙d6 d4] 56.♖a8+ ♙f7 57.♖a7+ ♙g6 58.♙d6 ♗xf4 59.c6 ♙b4+ 60.♙d7 for a couple of minutes I thought I had blown the win, but it's clear now that black has many winning moves here. 60...♗c5 61.♖a2 [61.♖a1 would have been better in practice as the rook is on less vulnerable squares (a2/g2)] 61...d4 62.♖g2+ ♙f5 63.c7 ♗d5+ 64.♙e7 ♗xg2 65.c8♗ ♗g7+ 0-1

**(42) Kilpatrick,Callum (2350) – Michiel–sen,Joost (2343) [B50]**

Winter Chess Festival -Premier (9.2), 05.01.2014

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.c3 ♘f6 4.♙e2 g6 5.0-0 ♙g7 6.♙b5+ ♙d7 Joost had already won the tournament outright and as an IM already he would know how much it means to finally clinch your 3rd norm, so sees no reason to make Callum sweat for his! Congratulations to both players on their excellent victories and generally splendid play and behaviour over the 9 days. ½-½

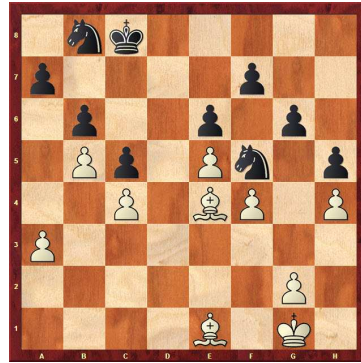
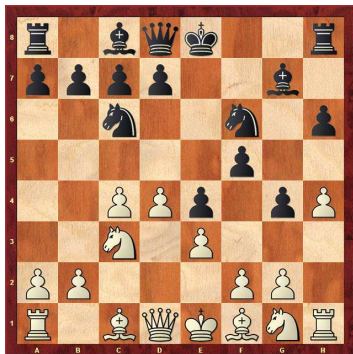
**(43) McNab,Colin (2457) – Steil–Antoni,Fiona (2190) [A27]**

Winter Chess Festival -Premier (9.3), 05.01.2014

1.c4 e5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.♘f3 f5 4.d4 e4 5.♘g5 ♘f6 6.e3 h6 [RR 6...♙b4 7.♙d2] 7.♘h3 g5 8.♘g1 ♙g7 9.h4 g4 10.h5!?!N [Colin already had a lot of experience in this line. Previously he had preferred 10.♙ge2 with very complex play also 10...♘h5 11.♘d5 ♘e7 12.♘df4 ♘xf4 13.♘xf4 h5 14.♗b3 ♖h6 15.c5 ♙f8 16.♙c4 ♖b8 (RR 16...♙g6 17.♙g8 ♗e7 18.♘d5 ♗d8 19.♘f4 ♘h8 20.♙d2



a5 21.a4 c6 22.0-0-0 ♟f6 23.♟c3 ♞b8 24.♟c4 b5 25.cxb6 ♞xb6 26.♞c2 d5 27.♟e2 ♞b8 28.f3 ♟g8 29.fxg4 fxe4 30.♞df1 ♟e7 31.g3 McNab,C (2440)–Spencer,E (2128)/Hawick 2006,1-0 (51)) 17.♟f7 b6 18.♟xh5 ♞f6 19.f3 exf3 20.gxf3 ♟b7 21.c6 ♟xc6 22.♟d2 ♟a5 23.♟xa5 ♟xf3 24.♟b4+ c5 McNab,C (2422)–Mason,D (2280)/West Bromwich 2004, 1-0]



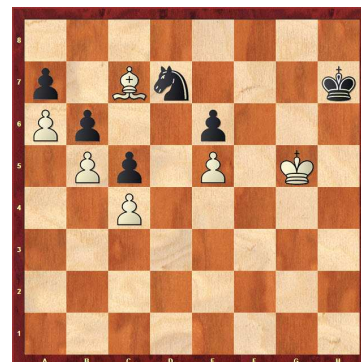
10...d5 11.♟ge2 ♟e7 12.♟f4 c6 13.♞b3 ♞b6 14.♟a4 ♞xb3 15.axb3 a6 [15...♞b8 is another way to meet the threat of Nb6] 16.♟d2 ♟d7 17.♟b4 b5! attempting a tactical solution to white's main threat [17...♟f7? allows the white threat here 18.♟xe7 ♟xe7 19.♟g6+; 17...♞h7 looks sensible enough, but you have to prefer white as the lack pieces will not co-ordinate well for a long time.] 18.♟c3 dxc4 19.♟xe7 ♟xe7 20.♟g6+ ♟f7 21.♟xh8+ ♟xh8 22.bxc4 b4 23.♟a4 ♟b7 24.c5! white will be able to find entry points for all his pieces eventually. All black can do is wait and hope he messes up. 24...♟f6 25.♟c4+ ♟e7 26.♟e2 ♟g5 27.g3 ♟d8 28.b3 ♟c7 29.♞a2 ♟f6 30.♟b6 and black resigned because of 30...♞a7 31.♟e6 when the pawns start going on the k-side. 1-0

**(44) Hamitevici,Vladmir (2508) – Bremner,Adam (2189) [A45]**

Winter Chess Festival -Premier (9.4), 05.01.2014

1.d4 ♟f6 2.♟g5 e6 3.♟d2 h6 4.♟h4 ♟e7 5.e3 d6N 6.♟d3 ♟bd7 7.♞e2 b6 8.c3 ♟b7 9.f4 White is happy enough to play a Stonewall set-up with his bishop outside the chain. 9...c5 10.e4 but changes his mind now as black chose not to play ...d5 last move. 10...♞c7 11.♟g3 0-0-0 12.e5 ♟d5 13.♟gf3 h5 14.h4 dxe5 15.dxe5 g6 16.a3 ♞b8 clearing a square for the knight 17.c4 ♟c7 18.0-0 ♟e8 19.♟e4 white has a clear spatial advantage here and good squares for his pieces. Black is solid enough, but I didn't really fancy his chances at this point as Vlad was starting to play very well. 19...♞c7 20.♟eg5 ♞f8 21.♟f2 ♟g7 22.b4 ♟b8 23.b5! I hesitate to criticise this but it is very commital [23.♞fb1 retains the flexibility of white's position.] 23...♞d7 24.♞fb1 ♟xg5 25.♟xg5 ♞fd8 26.♞d1 ♟f5 27.♟e4 [27.♟xf5 exf5 28.a4 is another plan] 27...♟xe4 28.♟xe4 ♞xd1+ 29.♞xd1 ♞xd1+ 30.♞xd1 ♞d7 31.♞e2 ♟d4 32.♞d3 ♟f5 33.♞c3 ♞d1+ 34.♞e1 ♞xe1+ 35.♟xe1

so the queens finally come off. Does white have a way to win this position? The b8-knight is awful, but the bishops are also limited by the pawn structure. 35...♟h6 36.a4 ♟d7 37.♟f1 ♟c7 38.♟e2 ♟f8 39.a5 ♟d7 40.♟d3 ♟f5 41.♟f3 ♟h6 42.a6!? ♟b8 43.♟e2 ♟d7 44.♟e4 ♟d8 45.♟f3 ♟e7 46.♟g3 ♟f5+ 47.♟h3 ♟h6 48.♟f3 ♟b8 49.♟f2 ♟d8 50.g4 Finally white has to try this break 50...hxg4+ 51.♟xg4 ♟xg4 52.♟xg4 ♟e7 53.h5 gxh5+ 54.♟xh5 ♟f8 55.♟h4 ♟g7 56.♟f6+ [56.♟d8!? looks as though it wins 56...♟d7 forced in view of the Bxb6 threat when the a-pawn queens 57.♟g5 ♟h7 (57...♟f8 58.♟c7 ♟e8 59.f5 exf5 (59...♟e7 60.♟d6+ ♟e8 61.fxg6 fxe6 62.♟g6 ♟d8 63.♟f7 wins) 60.♟xf5 ♟e7 61.♟d6+ ♟d8 62.♟g5 (62.e6? fxe6+ 63.♟xe6 ♟c8 64.♟e7 ♟e5! draws as 65.♟xe5 is stalemate!) 62...♟e8 63.♟h6) 58.f5 ♟g7 (58...exf5 59.♟xf5 ♟g7 60.e6 wins) 59.♟c7 (59.♟e7 ♟h7 and we are in a similar position to the game) 59...♟h7 60.fxe6 fxe6



61.♟b8!! a sensational winning attempt! 61...♟xb8 62.♟f6 ♟d7+! 63.♟xe6 ♟xe5!! the only way to draw! play will resemble the stalemate patterns of the game 64.♟xe5 ♟g6 65.♟e6 ♟g7 66.♟d7 ♟f7 67.♟c7 ♟e7 68.♟b7 ♟d7 69.♟xa7 ♟c7] 56...♟h7 57.♟g5 ♟d7 58.f5 ♟xf6 59.♟xf6 exf5 60.♟xf5 ♟g7 61.♟e4 ♟f8 62.♟d5 ♟e7 63.♟c6 ♟e6 64.♟b7 ♟d7! club-players often lose such endings because they forget what they are trying to do – draw! 65.♟b8 ♟d8 66.♟a8 ♟c8 67.♟xa7 ♟c7 68.♟a8 ♟c8 69.a7 ♟c7 70.e6 fxe6

1/2-1/2

## Standings after round 9

1.	<b>Michielsen, Joost (IM)</b>	<b>8/9</b>
2.	<b>Kilpatrick, Callum (FM)</b>	<b>6.5</b>
3=	<b>McNab, Colin A (GM)</b>	<b>5.5</b>
3=	<b>Hamitevici, Vladimir (IM)</b>	<b>5.5</b>
4.	<b>Berry, Neil M (FM)</b>	<b>4</b>
5.	<b>Bremner, Adam</b>	<b>3.5</b>
6.	<b>Burnett, Andrew B</b>	<b>3/9</b>
7=	<b>Steil-Antoni, Fiona (IM)</b>	<b>2.5/9</b>
7=	<b>MacQueen, Calum</b>	<b>2.5/8</b>
	<b>Sreeves, Clement</b>	<b>1.5/2</b>
	<b>Swan, Iain (FM)</b>	<b>1/3</b>
	<b>Green, Andrew D</b>	<b>0.5/2</b>
	<b>Schwartz, Julius</b>	<b>0/1</b>

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# Grading Performance

Pool	Name	Club	Status	Grade	PNUM	Pts	Plyd	Opps	Act	Plyd	Exp	Diff	Perf
5	<b>Michielsen, Joost (IM)</b>	XK	V	2343	24943	<b>8</b>	9	2290	8	9	5.142	<b>2.858</b>	<b>2643</b>
4	<b>Kilpatrick, Callum (FM)</b>	EN	V	2350	24942	<b>6½</b>	9	2298	6½	9	5.126	<b>1.374</b>	<b>2465</b>
8	<b>McNab, Colin A (GM)</b>	DV	-	2497	5190	<b>5½</b>	9	2270	5½	9	6.940	<b>-1.440</b>	<b>2350</b>
9	<b>Hamitevici, Vladimir (IM)</b>	XK	V	2508	24941	<b>5½</b>	9	2269	5½	9	7.055	<b>-1.555</b>	<b>2349</b>
2	<b>Berry, Neil M (FM)</b>	ED	-	2242	3187	<b>4</b>	9	2301	4	9	3.849	<b>0.151</b>	<b>2262</b>
1	<b>Bremner, Adam</b>	BAED	-	2163	14033	<b>3½</b>	9	2283	3½	9	3.183	<b>0.317</b>	<b>2203</b>
6	<b>MacQueen, Calum</b>	EDGI	-	2242	12082	<b>3½</b>	9	2318	2½	8	3.252	<b>-0.752</b>	<b>2176</b>
3	<b>Burnett, Andrew B</b>	WDGN	-	2248	3349	<b>3</b>	9	2309	3	9	3.823	<b>-0.823</b>	<b>2187</b>
10	<b>Steil-Antoni, Fiona (IM)</b>	XK	V	2190	24944	<b>2½</b>	9	2304	2½	9	3.234	<b>-0.734</b>	<b>2137</b>
12	<b>Sreeves, Clement</b>	ED	-	2248	17871	<b>1½</b>	2	2299	1½	2	0.864	<b>0.636</b>	<b>2492</b>
7	<b>Swan, Iain (FM)</b>	PY	-	2145	6171	<b>1</b>	3	2398	1	3	0.651	<b>0.349</b>	<b>2276</b>
11	<b>Green, Andrew D</b>	EDTC	-	2170	15013	<b>½</b>	2	2292	½	2	0.674	<b>-0.174</b>	<b>2100</b>
13	<b>Schwartz, Julius</b>	IV	-	1927	17850	<b>0</b>	1	2163	0	1	0.207	<b>-0.207</b>	<b>1763</b>

Pool	Name	Club	Status	Grade	PNUM	R1 Op	R1 Res	R2 Op	R2 Res	R3 Op	R3 Res	R4 Op	R4 Res	R5 Op	R5 Res	R6 Op	R6 Res	R7 Op	R7 Res	R8 Op	R8 Res	R9 Op	R9 Res	Pts	Plyd
1	<b>Bremner, Adam</b>	BAED	-	2163	14033	2w	0	4b	0	6w	½	8b	0	10w	1	13b	1	5w	0	3b	½	9b	½	3½	9
2	<b>Berry, Neil M (FM)</b>	ED	-	2242	3187	1b	1	9w	0	4w	½	6b	1	8w	0	10b	½	11w	½	5b	½	3w	0	4	9
3	<b>Burnett, Andrew B</b>	WDGN	-	2248	3349	4w	0	6b	0	8w	½	10b	½	12w	½	5b	0	9b	0	1w	½	2b	1	3	9
4	<b>Kilpatrick, Callum (FM)</b>	EN	V	2350	24942	3b	1	1w	1	2b	½	9w	1	6w	1	8b	½	10w	1	12b	0	5w	½	6½	9
5	<b>Michielsen, Joost (IM)</b>	XK	V	2343	24943	6w	1	8b	1	10w	1	11b	1	9b	1	3w	1	1b	1	2w	½	4b	½	8	9
6	<b>MacQueen, Calum</b>	EDGI	-	2242	12082	5b	0	3w	1	1b	½	2w	0	4b	0	9w	0	8w	½	10b	½	P	1	3½	9
7	<b>Swan, Iain (FM)</b>	PY	-	2145	6171	8w	0	10b	½	9b	½	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
8	<b>McNab, Colin A (GM)</b>	DV	-	2497	5190	7b	1	5w	0	3b	½	1w	1	2b	1	4w	½	6b	½	9w	0	10w	1	5½	9
9	<b>Hamitevici, Vladimir (IM)</b>	XK	V	2508	24941	10w	½	2b	1	7w	½	4b	0	5w	0	6b	1	3w	1	8b	1	1w	½	5½	9
10	<b>Steil-Antoni, Fiona (IM)</b>	XK	V	2190	24944	9b	½	7w	½	5b	0	3w	½	1b	0	2w	½	4b	0	6w	½	8b	0	2½	9
11	<b>Green, Andrew D</b>	EDTC	-	2170	15013	-	-	-	-	-	-	5w	0	-	-	-	-	2b	½	-	-	-	-	½	2
12	<b>Sreeves, Clement</b>	ED	-	2248	17871	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3b	½	-	-	-	-	4w	1	-	-	1½	2
13	<b>Schwartz, Julius</b>	IV	-	1927	17850	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1w	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1



Photo courtesy of: Fiona Steil-Antoni



**Callum Kilpatrick (right) receiving his IM norm certificate from Winter Festival organiser David Oswald**

Photo courtesy of: Fiona Steil-Antoni



**Dutch IM Joost Michielsen receiving the winners trophy for his fantastic performance in Edinburgh.**





**Calum MacQueen strides down the playing hall in Edinburgh Chess Club**