

# NEW KING AND QUEEN

By Harriet Brace

## Check out the young chess players of the year

TWO talented teenagers have scooped a top chess prize – defeating players up to four years their senior.

Anna Milton and Murad Abdulla, both 14 and from Aberdeen, are Chess Scotland's Young Players of the Year.

The members of Aberdeen's Bon Accord Chess Club, won the boys' and girls' trophies. They will be presented with

their awards, which are open to pupils from P3 to 18 years old, by Chess Scotland president Hamish Glen on Saturday.

Gerald Lobley, president of the North East Junior Chess Association, said for two such young city players to scoop both titles is rare.

The pair have had a successful year,

with Murad ending 2014 as under-14 Commonwealth Boys champion, and becoming the youngest ever winner of the Glenrothes Open.

Anna represented Scotland at the European Junior Championships – including against adult players graded up to 500 points higher than her.

Harlaw Academy pupil Murad, who lives in Ferryhill, said: "It is quite a good achievement and I am very happy."

Peterculter's Anna, who goes to Cults Academy, said: "My mum told me I had won and I was really happy. I am excited for Saturday."

Calum MacQueen, International Junior Director of Chess Scotland, said: "We are really proud of them both."

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**ENDGAME:** Murad Abdulla and Anna Milton have both scooped awards.

PICTURE BY KATH FLANNERY

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