

PRESS RELEASE

STAFFORDSHIRE CHESS CONGRESS

The Staffordshire Chess Congress was held over the weekend of 14/15 April 2012 at the Bloxwich Leisure Centre in Walsall and attracted an entry of 87 players in the three sections: Open (34 players); Major(31 players under 160 ECF Grade) and Minor (22 players under 120 ECF Grade).

The Open was won by Grandmaster Mark Hebden with 4.5/5 ahead of Ameet Ghasi, Oliver Jackson and Mike Townsend who tied for second place with 4 points.

The Open included the Staffordshire Closed Championship for which 10 players were qualified and Mike Townsend of Wolverhampton Chess Club won this and with it the Advertiser Trophy ahead of Alex Richardson of Newcastle Under Lyme and David cooper of Bushbury both on 3.5 points, The Open also included the Staffordshire Under 21 title and this was retained by Craig Whitfield of Cheddleton & Leek with 3 points ahead of Manpreet Sangha of Rushall with 2 points.

A selection of games from the Open is attached which include the exciting last round game in which Mark Hebden with Black defeated Ameet Ghasi.

The Major was won by Wiott Ropp with 4.5/5 and the Minor was won by David Hull with 4.5/5.

Submitted By David Anderton.