

Lincoln's team in Division 2 North played their opening game in the new season when Skegness came to Grafton House. Lincoln were crowned champions last season so were looking for a good start to their title defence whereas this is Skegness's first season in the Lincolnshire League having been formed last year by their chairman and team captain Andrew Watson. This is Skegness's third match having won one and lost one so far.

On board 2 Lincoln's William Orr, who joined Lincoln from Horncastle and was a team mate of Andrew's before it folded, was paired as black against Neil Bond and we pick up the game after white has just played 63. a7 (see diagram) with both players having linked passed pawns supported by a single rook.

William was forced to play 63. ...Rxa7 64. Rf7+ Kc8 65. Rxa7 losing his rook but he still had his passed pawns and so played 65. ...f2 66. Rf7 g3 67. Rf3 g2 68. Rxf2 g1(Q) so now has the advantage of a queen and pawn against a rook and two pawns.

William closed in for the kill after 69. Rc2+ Kd7 70. Kb4 Qd1 71. Rc3 Ke6 72. Kc6+ Kf5 73. Kc5 Qb3 74. Rd6 Qc4+ and the noose tightens 75. Kb6 Qxd4+ 76. Kc7 Qc4+ 77. Rc6 Qxb5 and with both his pawns gone white resigned.

A win also for Neil Roberts meant that the match finished all square at 2-2.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the Lincoln Labour Club, Grafton House, 32 Newland. LN1 1XJ on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.  
[www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk)

