The 2014 British Open. 14th July to 18th July Report form a playing visitor.

On arrival at the playing venue, The Spectrum centre in Inverness city, it was as i remembered it from 2010. A well light and airy room with the players well spaced out. Everyone received a booklet On arrival, simple in its outlay and all the more a delightful collectors memento. I hadn’t realised that Shane McCosker was going for three in a row titles. This was only surpassed by J.Marshall in 1948,50,52 and 54. As always the standard of play is tough at this event and when Ron King decided to play, the stakes just got higher. It is a privilege to have the ten times World champion and as Alex Mosievey described Ron “ The champion of the 20th Century”seated across the board from you.

The ty was refereed by Graham Young, as well as playing in the Senior ty. Smoothly and efficiently run , on behalf of all the players thanks Graham.

With two rds per day, a 10.00 am start and 2.30 pm, we were usually finished up by 6.00 pm.

The players would usually head to Witherspoons, and after the food a few drinks the post-mortems would begin, and end with a good laugh. Inverness is more like a very large town, and there were many sights to see , and very pleasant walks, of course the weather was incredible.

By rd 5 Ron had extended his lead by two pts over Shane, and although i managed two draws as did Shane with Ron, he went on to establish an unassailable lead. The standard of play was extremely high and i continually kept an eye on the other boards during play. At the moment i have sent 7, diagrammed and annotated games to Graham and these should be available on the Scottish Draughts web page. I believe all players will find them of some interest The presentation was held at 5.00 on the Friday evening and loads of photographs were taken and can be seen on the same site. The prize money was very good and thanks to the Inverness Common Good Fund via The Highland Council. I personally acknowledge lamont Inksters contribution, and all the assistance he received from Danny Oliphant and the Young Family.

Congrats to all the prize winners and Lamont Inkster winning the Senior and Ron King the Masters.

The ty was officially closed by Alex Graham, Provost of Inverness.

There is talk of the next British Open taking place in Wyck, but yet to be confirmed. .

**English open is on the week of the 20th to 24th of April 2015 in I,o,W  
more info on the website under events**

**Myles Hannigan.**