Gawain Jones

I knew Jessie well. We both represented England many times in the World and European Championships and we became good friends. Indeed we went on a trip to South Africa for the Commonwealth Chess Championships in 2006. It was an extremely enjoyable couple of weeks combining the chess with a holiday, going on safari and exploring South Africa. Jessie played well, achieving top female player, and we had a great time.

Jessie was always busy, she had just started up an E-Bay shop to which she devoted a lot of time, and was looking forward to starting her course in medicine. I never had the chance to play her, but analysed with her and was impressed by her work ethic. We had planned to play a tournament together in Italy before the tragedy occurred.

I never had any disagreements with Jessie, and never heard a bad word about her. I'll always remember her smiling away. She was a good friend and is missed deeply.