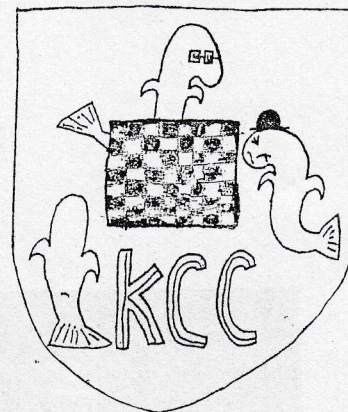


THE KINGSTON GAMBIT

Issue no. 3: January 2008



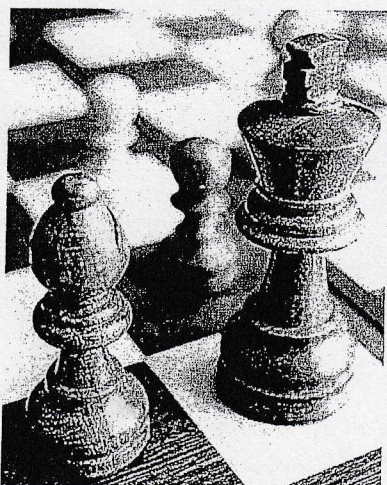
(logo by Anna Rowson)

There have been at least 4 previous newsletters. I have one which Paul Barasi produced in the 1970s, one ('The Kingston Chess Club Bulletin') which was penned by JP Wilkinson in the 1980s, 'The Kingston Chess Club Newsletter', which was edited by 'Tribe Scribe' (Dave Davis) from 1997 (and got as far as volume 2) and the one whose name I have retained, which Nick Grey began in 2002. There were also probably earlier newsletters – does anyone have copies?

Unfortunately the present effort can't match the level of presentation of Nick's version, as my computer has been uncooperative for the past couple of months. This therefore comes minus diagrams! However, I hope it will provide useful and interesting information about the club.

Please help me to produce an Issue no. 4 by contributing any games, news, pictures, letters to the editor... which you have.

David Rowson



Officers:

Bill Waterton: President

John Foley: Chairman

Ken Inwood: Treasurer

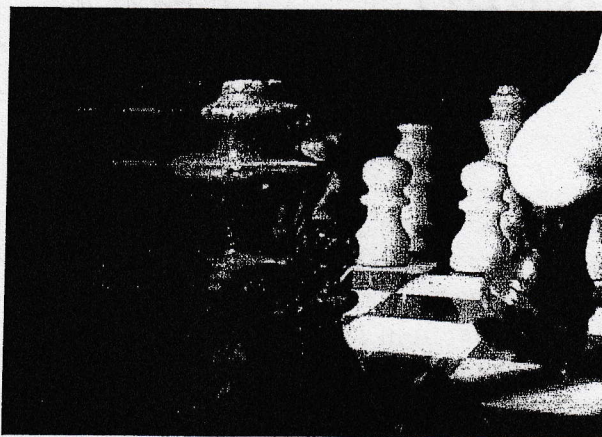
Nick Grey: Secretary

Chris Clegg: Thames Valley Match Captain

Chris Mann: Surrey League Match Captain

Club Grades

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Clegg, Chris RA	144	147
Foley, James	89	83
Foley, John P	159	161
Grey, Nicholas D	156	142
Harris, Richard GR	140	140
Heaton, Robert J	183	182
Inwood, Kenneth FH	150	149
Mann, Chris J	134	142
Maxwell, Neil	144	150
Roche, Peter J	157	164
Rowson, David J	184	184
Scrimgour, Alan	163	169
Turner, Caius AW	170	174
Turner, Mark	51	45
Waterton, William E	79	81
Way, Julian M	161	158
Wright, Chris JG	166	163



2007/8 Results

Thames Valley

Kingston A : 3 Maidenhead: 4 (one game to be adjudicated)
 Kingston A: 5 Richmond: 3
 Kingston A: 2 Ealing: 5 (one game unfinished)
 Kingston A: 4 Surbiton: 3 (one game unfinished)
 Kingston A: 4 Harrow: 2 (2 games to be adjudicated)

Thames Valley KO

Kingston A: 3 Surbiton 3 (Kingston lost on board count)

Ellam Trophy

Kingston 2: 4 CCF 4: 2 (one game unfinished)
 Kingston 2: 3½ Crystal Palace 3½
 Kingston 2: 1½ CCF3: 5½
 Kingston 2: 3 South Norwood: 3 (one game unfinished)

Beaumont Cup

Kingston 1: 6 Wimbledon 3: 2
 Kingston 1: 6 Redhill 2: 2

The Kingston v Redhill Alexander Cup match (5/10/07) resulted in an against-the-odds win for us, with a bottom-heavy look to the results table:

1. D. Rowson	0	N. McDonald	1
2. C. Wright	0	C. Chandler	1
3. A. Scrimgour	0	G. Meyer	1
4. J. Way	0	C. Howell	1
5. J. Foley	1	M. Rich	0
6. P. Roche	1/2	T. Ashby	½
7. N. Grey	1	K. Thurlow	0
8. K. Inwood	1	M. Muir	0
9. C. Clegg	1	M. Loftus	0
10 N. Maxwell	1	M. Harris	0

Here is one of the games which contributed to our victory, followed by one which didn't.

M. Rich (175) v John Foley

Notes by John.

1	e4	c6	
2	c4	d5	
3	exd5	cx d5	
4	cx d5	Qx d5	
5	Nc3	Qa5	
6	Bc4	Nf6	
7	d4	e6	
8	Nf3	Be7	
9	0-0	0-0	
10	Re1	Nbd7	
11	Bg5	Nb6	
12	Bb3	Nbd5	
13	Qd3	a3	A useless move. 13.. Nxc3 is essential. Black is now punished.
14	Nxd5	Nxd5	
15	Bxd5	Bxg5	
16	Nxg5	g6	
17	Nxf7		White has many ways to win.
		ex d5	
18	Nh6+	Kg7	
19	Qe3		19.Re7+ wins immediately. 19...Kxh6 leads to mate after 20. Qg3. Black must play 19. Kh8 when White then follows up with Qe3 with a complete stranglehold.
		Bf5	
20	Nxf5+		20. Qg5 poses too many problems for Black. White is simplifying too quickly, although he still possesses the advantage.
		Rxf5	
21	Qe7+	Rf7	
22	Qe5+	Kg8	
23	a3	Raf8	The first hint of counterplay. White is defending two moves in a row
24	Re2	Rf5	
25	Qe6+	Kg7	
26	Rc1	R8f7	
27	f3	Qd8	
28	Rc8		White is chasing the queen without a plan.
		Qg5	
29	Qe3?	Qf6?	29...Rxf3 wins instantly. Black hasn't yet realized that the tactical balance of the game has switched round.
30	Kf2?		This fails to protect the weakness at d4 and creates another one at h2.
		Rf4	
31	Rd2?		White's last chance was to play 31. Qe5
		Re7	
32	Qc3	Qh4+	
33	resigns		After 33. g3, Qxh2+ is devastating.

N.McDonald (GM, 226) v D.Rowson Scotch Game

1	e4	e5	
2	Nf3	Nc6	
3	d4		The Scotch, after years of neglect, has been popular for the past 15 or so years, even at GM level. At the World Blitz Championships recently Boris Savchenko (2583) won with this opening against Adams, Mamedyarov, Kazimdzhanov and Grischuk, and drew with Kramnik and Leko.
		exd4	
4	Nxd4	Bc5	
5	Nxc6	Qf6	
6	Qf3		Recently popular. The old move was Qd2.
		dx c6	In a game against McDonald in January this year I played 6... bxc6, but later had problems with my queenside pawn structure (...)
7	Qxf6	Nxf6	
8	f3	Be6	
9	Nd2	0-0-0	
10	Nb3	Bb5+	Bb6 may have been better. I was worried about 11. c4, but then I could play Nd7.
11	c3	Be7	
12	Be3	Kb8	
13	Nd4	Bc8	
14	Bc4	Rhf8	I know this doesn't look inspiring, but sometimes there's nothing to do but wait and hope.
15	g4	Nd7	Although White has more space and a central pawn majority, it's not so easy for him to make progress. Black improves his position in readiness.
16	0-0-0	Ne5	
17	Be2	Rfe8	
18	h3	Bf8	
19	Rhe1	f6	
20	f4?		White is not ready for this; Black's pieces now come to life.
		Nf7	
21	Bf3		Bd3 would avoid the coming pin.
		c5	
22	Ne2	Rxd1+	
23	Rxd1	b6	
24	Ng3	Nd6	
25	Bf2	Bb7	
26	Re1	g6	
27	f5		The only move in view of the threat of Bh6, as 27. g5 loses a pawn to f5. I was short of time here, but I can't see anything more forcing.
		Bh6+	
28	Be3	Bxe3+	
29	Rxe3	Nc4	How can Black make progress? e5 looks a lovely square for the N, but takes the pressure off e4.
30	Re1	Ne5	First time control: now for the quickplay finish.
31	Be2	Rd8	Around about here I became aware of the possible weakness of my king's side pawns. I shouldn't be losing this, but my thinking was disrupted by the knowledge that I was playing a GM. I was torn between negative thoughts about how to get a dead drawn position, and positive ones about how to capitalise on my positional advantage
32	fxg6	Nxg6	I was worried about 32... hxg6; 33. Rf1, Rd6; 34. g5, fxg5; 35. Rf8+ and Ba6, though I could play Nd7 after g5.
33.	Rf1	Rd6	
34	Bc4	Ne5	
35	Bg8	Rd3	35...h6; 36. Nf5 Rd3; 37. Nxh6, Bxe5; 38. Rxf6 Rxh3 is very unclear to me, though at least then I have a hole for my king at b7.

36	Rxf6	Nd7?	36...Rxg3; 37. Rf8+, Bc8; 38. Bd6, Kb7; 39. Bxc8+; Kc6; 40. Re8 (if a4 - threatening Rf6 mate - c4), Nd3+; 41. Kc2, c4
37	Rf7	Kc8?	Bc6 avoids the helpmate I'm inadvertently constructing. I thought I was leaving the B free to take on e4 later.
38	Nf5	Rxh3	
39	Re7	Kd8	39....Nf6; 40. Be6+, Kd8; 41. Rf7, Rh1+; 42. Ke2, Nxe4+; 43. Ke3 also leaves me with some diabolical problems. I was continuing with my plan to 'activate' my king.
40	Bf7	Nf6	
41	e5	Rh1+	
42	Kc2	Be4+	
43	Kb3	Bxf5	43...Bd5+; 44. Ka3, Bxf7; 45. Rxf7 and the e pawn is hard to stop.
44	exf6	Bxg4	
45	Bd5	Rf1	
46	Bc6	Bh5	
47	Rd7+!		The winning move.
		Kc8	
48	Rxh7		No time for 48...Rxf6 unfortunately, so...
		Resigns	

T. Oozeerally (164) v Neil Maxwell (Kingston B v South Norwood) December 2007

1	e4	e5	
2	Nf3	Nc6	
3	Bb5	a6	
4	Bxc6	dxg4	
5	0-0	Bg4	
6	h3	h5	
7	d3		If 7. c3, then an interesting continuation is 7...., Qd3; 8. hxg4, hxg4; 9. Nxe5, Bd6 (Damjanovic-Cetkovic, Pula 1968)
		Bd6	Qf6 was the move Adams played against Kasimdzhanov in the 2004 FIDE World Championship Final, though Adams lost (8. Be3, Bxf3; 9. Qxf3, Qxf3; 10. gxf3, Bd6; 11. Nd2, Ne7; 12. Rfb1...). Kamsky-Anand (Sofia, MTel Masters, 2006) continued 8. Nbd2, Ne7; 9. Nc4, Bxf3; 10. Qxf3, Qxf3; 11. gxf3 and was drawn in 39 moves.
8	hxg4	hxg4	
9	Ng5	Nh6	
10	Be3		10. Nxf7, Kxf7; 11. Bxh6, Rxh6; 12. Qxg4 leaves White a pawn up and with the better pawn structure, but struggling to protect his king against h file threats. 10.d4 is interesting, and if 10..., exd4; 11. e5, Bxe5; 12. Re1 creates problems. Preparing f6.
11	c4	Qe7	A cunning plan against this, but it has the consequence of exchanging good bishop for bad.
		f6	Anyway.
12	c5	Bxc5	
13	Bxc5	Qxc5	
14	Ne6	Qe7	
15	Qb3	Kd7	Finally winning back the piece, but the resulting black square weaknesses are a problem.
16	Nxc7	Kxc7	
17	Nc3	Rad8	
18	Rac1	Kb8	
19	Na4	Rd4	
20	Nc5	Ka7	
21	Qa3	Nf7	

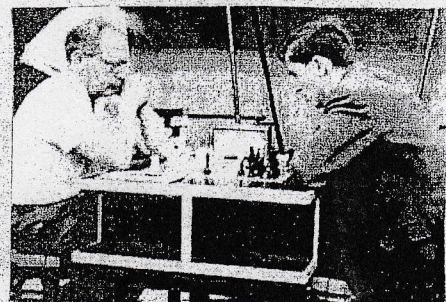
22	Rc3		This game, like a gunfight in a Western, generates a strong feeling of suspense: you can see what each side is intending, but somehow the final outcome is hypnotic in its uncertainty.
		Nd8	
23	Rb3	g5	
24	Rc1	Rh6	24...Qh7; 25. Kf1, Qh1+; 26. Ke2, Qxg2/Qxc1; Rxb7+! wins. Black needs to keep the Q on the 7 th rank to defend.
25	Qa5!	Qh7	
26	Qb6+	Ka8	
27	Kf1	Rh1+	
28	Ke2	Rxc1	
29	Nxa6	Rc2+	
30	Ke3		The only move. 30. Kd1, Rxf2; 31. Nc7+, Kb8; 32. Na6+, Kc8 and Black wins thanks to the threat of Qh1 mate
		f5	30...Rd7; 31. Ra3, bxa6; 32. Rxa6+, Ra7; 33. Qxd8+, Kb7; 34. Rb6 mate
31	exf5		Not Nc7+, because of 32...Qxc7 and f4 mate.
		Qxf5	
32	Nc7+	Ka8	
33	Na6+	Drawn	No arguments about this result.

P.Shepherd (144) v C Clegg (Kingston v Surbiton) 26/11/07

1	e4	e6	
2	d4	d5	
3	Nd2	Nf6	
4	e5	Nfd7	
5	Bd3	c5	
6	c3	Nc6	
7	Ne2	Qb6	
8	Nf3	cxtd4	
9	cxtd4	f6	
10	exf6	Nxf6	
11	0-0	Bd6	
12	Re1	0-0	
13	Ng3?!		The usual move is Nc3, which prevents a later Black e5 due to pressure on d5.
		Bd7	
14	a3		White's Q side play turns out to be too slow. Maybe Be3 was a better alternative.
		Rae8	
15	b4	e5!	
16	dxex5	Nxe5	
17	Nxe5	Bxe5	
18	Be3	d4	
19	Bc4+	Kh8	
20	Bc1	Ng4	
21	Ra2	Qf6	
22	Ree2		White is already lost. 22. f3 loses to Nxe2 and Qh4+
		Qh4	
23	h3	Nxf2	
24	Rxf2	Qxg3	
25	Kf1	Qh2	
26	Rxf8+	Rxf8+	
27	Ke2 and resigns		27. Rf2 loses to Qh1+ and Rxf2 winning the Q.

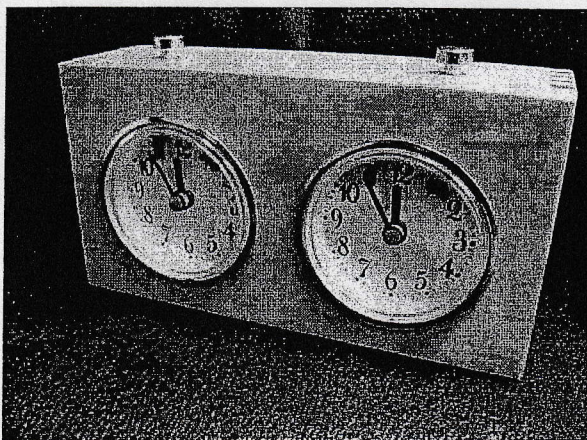
CLUB FIXTURES 2008

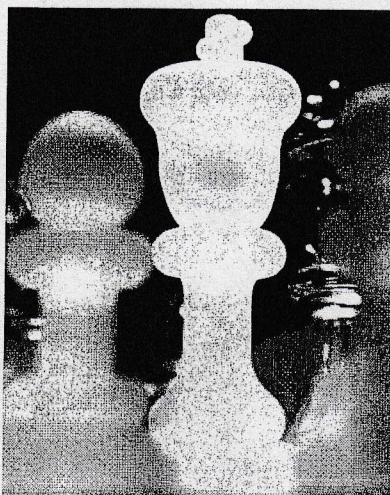
Mon	07/01/2008 (H) Maidenhead	
Wed	09/01/2008 (A) Surbiton - TVKO	
Mon	14/01/2008 (A) Wimbledon	
Thu	17/01/2008 (A) Hayes	
Mon	21/01/2008	(H) Guildford 3
Mon	04/02/2008	(H) Battersea
Thu	14/02/2008 (A) Richmond	
Mon	18/02/2008	(H) Ashtead 3
Thu	21/02/2008	(A) S Norwood 2
Mon	03/03/2008 (H) Ealing	
Thu	06/03/2008	(A) Wallington
Wed	12/03/2008	(A) Surbiton
Thu	20/03/2008	(A) Harrow
Mon	31/03/2008	(A) CCF4
Mon	07/04/2008	(H) Crystal Palace 2
Mon	14/04/2008 (H) Hayes	
Mon	21/04/2008 (H) Wimbledon	
Mon	28/04/2008	(A) CCF3



INTERNAL COMPETITIONS

Quickplay Champion 2007: Chris Clegg





CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP 2007

Following tradition, this year's Club Championship has outlasted the summer, with 2 games still to play. The participants are Chris Clegg, John Foley, Ken Inwood, Peter Roche, David Rowson, and Chris Wright. At present the leading scores are David Rowson 3½ out of 4 and Chris Wright 3 out of 3, and the games remaining are Roche v Wright and Rowson v Wright

Here are 2 games from the Championship:

Peter Roche v Chris Clegg (July 2007) French Defence Advanced Variation

Notes by Peter

1	e4	e6	
2	d4	d5	
3	e5	c5	
4	c3	Nc6	
5	Nf3	Qb6	All our previous encounters – and there have been many – have now gone 6.Bd3 resulting in a Milner-Barry: 6. Bd3, cxd4; 7. cxd4 (or Ng5 (!?)), Bd7; 8. Nc3, Nxd4; 9. Nxd4 Qxd4 10. Qe2
6	a3		A useful little move. White plans to play b4, putting pressure on c5 and freeing the bishop on c1 to defend b2.
		c4	Black can go on with his own plans (e.g. 6...Bd7 or Nh6) or prevent b4 as here.
7	Nbd2	Bd7	
8	g3	Na5	
9	h4	h6	
10	Bh3	0-0-0	
11	0-0	Ne7	
12	Rb1	g6	
13	b4 (!?)		This sets up a very complicated game, but is it sound? With hindsight 13. b3 is more accurate since b4 gives Black the alternative of Nc6
		cb3ep	
14	Nxb3	Ba4	
15	Nfd2	Nxb3	
16	Nxb3	Nc6	Heading for a5 to win the N on b3
17	Qf3		The reasoning is that if Black proceeds with the capture on b3 White will win a collection of pawns and Black will have to spend time unpinning the N on b3

	Rh7	Or ...Bb3; 18. Qxf7, then:
		(1) ...Na5 (to free the Q from defending the B) 19. Bxe6+, Kb8; 20. Qg6, Be7;
		21. h5 (to prevent Rg8 since the queen is no longer hanging), Qc6; 22. Bd2, Nc4 – Black seems to have an edge. Perhaps White should instead play 19. Qf6, Rh7; 20. Bxe6+, Kb8; 21. c4, dxc4; 22. d5, Be7; 23. Qf4, Bc5; 24. Bd2
		(2) ..Kb8; 19. Qxg6, Qb5 (to unpin the queen); 20. Re1, Qc4; 21. Re3, Be7; 22. Qxe6, Qa4; 23. Bd2, Qxa3; 24. Reel, Qa2; 25. Bf4 – unclear – like a lot of this game!
		Black can try another plan by 17. f5, e.g.
		18. ef6 ep, Bb3; 19. Bxe6+, Kb8; 20. Qg4 (planning Bf4+ and if Bd6 then Bd5). After the move played (Rh7) White could preserve the N by playing Nd2, but it would take time to unravel the pieces, so:
18	Bh6(!?)	Enterprising, but is this sound? Apart from the move selected, Black appears to have two credible alternatives:
		(1) 18... Bxb3; 19. Bxf8, Rxf8; 20. Bxe6+, Kb8 (if Kc7; 21. Bxd5, Bxd5; 22. Qf6, then, after the Q moves off the b file, Qd6+ and Qxf8); 21. Bxd5, Bxd5; 22. Qxd5, Qc7; 23. f4
		18. ...Bxh6 (this move seems to fall in with White's plan of playing Nc5); 19. Nc5, Bb5 (a move I had underrated when considering the position); 20. a4, Bxf1; 21. Rxb6, axb6; 22. Nxe6, Bxh3; 23. Nxd8, Kxd8 (or 23...Bf5: 24. Nxc6, bxc6; 25. c4, Be4; 26. Qe2, Kc7; 27. c5, bxc5; 28. Qa6, cxd4; 29. Qa7+, Kd8; 30. e6); 24. g4, Bxg4; 25. Qxg4, Bd2; 26. Qh3, Kc7 (g4; 27. Qd3); 27. Qd3, Bf4; 28. Qf3, Bd2; 29. h5, gxh5; 30. Kh1, Rg7; 31. Qd5
19	Nc5	Rxh6
20	Rxb6	Bxc5
21	Qxf7	Bxb6
22	Bxh6+	R(6)h8
23	Bxd5	Kb8
24	Qg7	Rhf8
25	Bg2	Bc2
26	f4	Rfe8
27	Kh2	Bf5
		Re7
		It seems Black could again opt for Bb4
28	Qf6	Re6
29	Qg5	Rh8
30	d5	
		White has to choose between Qf6 and Qh6. I was concerned that the queen could be out of the game on h6, though I could see Bd8 coming. Black is going to trap the queen, but at what cost?
		This was the compensation. White is going to have a 5 to 1 kingside and the material on both sides has been reduced. However, it might be better to play Bh3, then Bd8; 31. Bxf5, Bxg5; 32. Bxe6 followed by d5 etc.
31	Qxf5	Bd8
32	dxex6	gxf5
33	Bd5	Rh6
34	Rb1	Be7
		This looks lazy, and, as the rook belongs on the kingside, a4 was surely better.
35	a4	Kc7
36	Kg2	b6
37	g4 (!?)	Nd8
		Material equality is about to be restored. Time for the pawns to roll.
		Black can play:
		(1) 37... Rxh4; 38. gxf5, Rxf4; 39. Rf1
		(2) 37... Bxh4, then either Rh1 or gxf5
		(3) 37... fxg4; 38. f5 or the move played:
38	Bxe6	Nxe6
39	gxf5	Rxe6
		Rh6

40	Rh1	Kd8
41	h5	Ke8
42	Kf3	Kf7
43	Kg4	Rc6
44	Rd1	Rxc3
45	Rd7	Ke8
46	Rxa7	Rc1
47	f6	Bf8
48	e6	Rc8
49	f7+	resigns (Kd8; 50. Rd7mate)

Peter Roche v John Foley (17/9/07) Caro-Kann, Fantasy Variation

1	e4	c6	
2	d4	d5	
3	f3	e6	A more tactical line is 3...dxe4; 4 fxe4, e5.
4	Nc3	Nf6	
5	Bf4	Bb4	
6	Qd3	b6	
7	Nge2	Ba6	Black can develop his pieces quite comfortably.
8	Qe3	0-0	
9	a3	Be7	
10	Bxb8	Rxb8	This exchange allows White to make the following pawn advances, but weakens the black squares.
11	e5		After this Black's c5 is going to be strong, and White doesn't seem to be well-placed to attack on the kingside. However Black can play c5 even without White's e5, and White has problems due to his lack of development.
		Nd7	
12	f4	c5	
13	0-0-0	b5	
14	dx5	b4	
15	axb4	Rxb4	
16	Na2	Bxc5	
17	Qf3	Re4!	An original use of the rook.
18	Ng3		18. Nec3, Re3; 19. Qg4, Qa5 (threatening d4); 20. Kb1, Rb8 would not help.
		Re3	
19	Qg4	f5!	A good defensive move.
20	ef6ep	Nxf6	
21	Qg5	Qa5	
22	Kb1		22. Nc3 fails to Rxc3, followed by Be3+
		Rfb8	
23	Bd3	Bd4	Black has too many pieces and too many threats on the queenside. So White now goes for his best chance: attacking and confusing the issue.
24	Nh5	Rxb2+	
25	Kc1	Rxc2+!	Finishing the game in style.
26	Bxc2		Other moves also lead to a quick mate.
		Qa3+	
27	resigns		27.Kd2, Re2 mate.

From the Archives (1)



J.H.Blake (1859-1951)

One of the strongest players ever to be a member of the club was Joseph Henry Blake, who was born on the 3rd of February 1859 in Farnborough. In the 1901 UK Census his occupation is given as 'railway clerk'; he was living in Hampshire then, so I assume he joined Kingston Chess Club later. 'The Surrey Comet' for 14 October 1922 reported that he had won the club KO tournament and had just given a simultaneous display (won 15, drew 1, lost 6) against 22 players of the Thames Valley Chess Club (which had amalgamated with Kingston CC in 1914). He died in Kingston in 1951. He was British Correspondence Champion in 1922 and also finished 1st= in the British Championship of 1909 but lost the play-off to Atkins. He was also the first SCCU champion (jointly with W Ward) in 1898-99. At Hastings he scored wins against Yates and Colle and a draw against Maroczy. These games were played in the early 1920s when he was already in his sixties, but he went on to win the Kingston Club Championship 20 years later in 1942, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1948 and 1949 (the last, amazingly, at the age of 90!). His book, 'Endings for Beginners' was published in 1901. Curiously enough, it is now available as an e-book (whatever that is): see http://www.chesscentral.com/pickard/Chess_endgames_for_beginners.htm

Some of his games can be found on <http://www.chessgames.com/>, but the selection is not very representative. If anyone has more information about him it would be very interesting to hear from them. Here is one entertaining game. The opposition might not have been the strongest, but the finish is neat.

Courel v JH Blake 1904 King's Bishop's Gambit

1	e4	e5	8	h3	Ne7
2	f4	exf4	9	Nf3	Qh5
3	Bc4	d5	10	Nc3	Ng6
4	Bxd5	Qh4+	11	d4	Bf4
5	Kf1	g5	12	Ne2+	Qxf3+
6	g3	fxg3	13	resigns	
7	Kg2	Bd6			

From the Archives (2)

Meeting-Places

We are again in the position of possibly having to look for new premises. At least there is nothing new about this: Bill Waterton, in an article in the 'Malden and Kingston Clarion' (September 1965) on the occasion of the club's 90th anniversary, lists the following moves:

1. Pre-1927: The Scotch Café, Kingston Bridge
2. 1927: Ye Olde Post House
3. About 1929: the Zeeta Café (previously the Scotch Café)
4. 1937: Penrhyn House
5. 1940: the drawing room of Dr T.W. Letchworth, the club President (bombs having damaged Penrhyn House)!
6. 1941: Penrhyn House
7. 1947: Tiffin Boys' School
8. 1951: Richmond Road County School
9. 1964: Bonner Hill Road School

Subsequently:

10. 1967 (?): Kingston Workmen's Club, London Road
11. Nov 1970: All Saint's Church Hall, Ashdown Road
12. Feb 1971: The Castle pub, the Fairfield
13. Late 1971: The Grove Tavern, off Hawkes Road
14. 1972 (?) The Friends' Meeting House, Eden Street
15. 2003: The Royal Oak pub

25/9/54:
Those were
the days,
when the
start of the
club season
was
reported in
the Surrey
Comet.
You may
recognize
the
youngster
in the
bottom
right-hand
corner, a
stalwart of
the club
from that
day to this.

