

2007-06-11

Expedition through London - The Knights and Kings of Chess

"Everyone ought to have a hobby, and certainly no prettier or pleasanter hobby can be found than chess."

This was written by George A. MacDonald on page 88 of his wonderful "The Knights and Kings of Chess", London 1894 and I am confirmed in this statement by our nice London meeting from June 8-10, 2007. With the following selection of pictures I would like to invite all members who unfortunately couldn't attend the meeting of our English group to immerse a little in the fantastic atmosphere of the historical places. Naturally it was also vital to meet some of our British chess friends personally for the first time – this will be a lasting memory for me.

I would like to express my thanks especially to Jimmy Adams and Mark Huba for the fantastic guided tour on Saturday morning and to Malcolm Pein and Jim Fisher for the permission to use the London Chess Centre as a meeting place on Sunday morning.



(from left) John Beasley, Michael Negele, Marie-Theres and Andreas Saremba, Jurgen Stigter, Tony Gillam

Our meeting started on Friday evening, without further ado we chose the hotel of the Sarembas as our meeting point ...



Andreas Saremba and Tony Gillam in a Turkish restaurant

... and then went in a cheerful circle to a Turkish restaurant nearby. A successful start with a reunion of the "La Tour-de-Peilz" participants Tony Gillam, John Beasley, Calle Erlandsson, Marie-Theres and Andreas Saremba as well as Jurgen Stigter and Michael Negele.



Charing Cross Station - Mark Huba (left) and Jimmy Adams talking to John Beasley (right)

Next morning at Charing Cross Station I was pleased to meet – apart from the group of the evening before – for the first time such "heroes" of chess literature as Dr. Leonard Skinner and James (Jimmy) Adams; then Regina and Berth Corneth as well as the photographer from CHESS, Mark Huba joined us too.

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Jimmy Adams is flanked by the couple Corneth, on the right Andreas and Marie-Theres Saremba



Michael Negele, Bert Corneth and Jurgen Stigter follow Mark Huba's explanations



An interesting read for Englishmen too - the latest *KARL* with my article on Diemer



Leonard Skinner, Jurgen Stigter, Calle Erlandsson, Tony Gillam, Jimmy Adams, Andreas Saremba and Regina Corneth on their way to the "Strand"

Our tour led us to the Charing Cross Hospital where Johannes Hermann Zukertort once closed his alert eyes forever, by the former En Passant Club to Simpson's-in-the-Strand – a real eldorado for everyone interested in chess history.

(Please click the small pictures on the left.)

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Charing Cross Hospital

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Charing Cross Hospital plate

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En Passant Club