

Pandora's Box Grantham continued their successful season in Division 2A of the 4NCL (4 Nations Chess League) when they were paired against Cambridge University II in the fifth round of the competition held at the De Vere Venues Hotel at Sunningdale. Having dropped only one point so far with a draw against White Rose II in round 2 Pandora were in confident mood.

On board 2 Pandora's Colin Crouch who is a partially sighted chess player who is also a member of the Braille Chess Association was paired as black against Sven Roy Quist and we pick up the game after white has just played 28. Kh1 (see diagram) after spotting that Colin was looking at 28. ...Bxh4. However, Colin still found a move to unlock white's defence - can you see it?

Colin played 28. ...Rxc3 29. fxc3 Qxc3 sacrificing a rook but opening up white's king 30. Be1 Kh3+ 31. Kg1 Rf6 32. Bg4 Rg6 33. Rf2 Rxc4+ and white's desperate attempts to defend the position seem doomed to failure 34. Rg2 Nxe3 bringing more pressure to bear 35. Rxe3 Qxe3+ 36. Bf2 Rxc2+ 37. Kxc2 Qf3+ 38. Kg1 e3 39. Be1 e2 40. Qd2 Qg4+ and white resigned unable to prevent black's pawn on f5 from making the decisive advance.

Wins also for Chris Ross and Peter Batchelor together with draws for Jerzy Slaby, Marcos Capuzzo and Sue Maroroa gave Pandora a narrow victory by 4½ to 3½ putting them in first place on 9 points and with 2 rounds left they are now assured of a place in the promotion play off where they will play the top four teams from Division 2B.

Lincoln Chess Club play at the RAOB Club, 58 South Park on Wednesdays at 7.30pm. [www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk](http://www.lincolinchessclub.co.uk)

