

By Filip Kurbalija

Only 4 winners, but 5 losers

You defend 3N with this hand, after the

- ♠ AKJxx
- ♥ xx
- ♦ xx
- ♣ AKxx

bidding, 1S - 3H - P - 3N. You lead the

♠A and this dummy appears.

- ♠ xxx
- ♥ AQJ10xx
- ♦ AK
- ♣ xx

What do you play at trick 2? You may have cashed the ♠A, but that merely delays your decision. Declarer's hand was;

- ♠ Q10xx
- ♥ Kx
- ♦ Qxxx
- ♣ Qxx

Can you see the solution? All continuations except a ♥ gives declarer his ninth trick. A heart switch stops declarer enjoying his ♦Q and upon the run of the hearts squeezes declarer before you have to make your diamond.

Try it yourself and see how by watching declarer's discards you will always defeat him.

SELECTORS' REPORT

The new year has started very disappointingly with the Camrose Team losing to Ireland and Scotland and finishing in last place In the home international championship.

There was further bad news when the under 25 Junior Camrose side of T. Jones, M. Hampton, M. Ash, J. Seavers, A. Dunn and T. Ogden also finished last.

There was however much better news in the under 20's competition for The Peggy Bayer Trophy when the Welsh side of M. Rodderick, M. Cleaton, J. Dunn and D. Jones finished a very creditable second to Scotland.

The trials for the Lady Milne Trophy (the Ladies Home International Championship) will take place on Sunday the 19th of March. When 6 pairs will play a 10 board match against every Other pair. The results will be decided by cross imping and Victory pointing.

After the trial, 3 pairs will be selected to Represent Wales.

Can I remind pairs who wish to enter the Camrose trials for next Season that the closing date for entries is Friday the 12th of May.

THE WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Spring 1995

Issue 49

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Editorial

The WBU has purchased a notebook computer which I have used to produce this Newsletter. So far it has been used to score the Graded Masters Pairs events and has also produced the computer dealt hands, curtain cards and overhead acetates for this season's 2 home Camrose matches.

The friendly match against Ireland will go ahead on the 27th/28th May at Waterford. Wales have been invited to send 6 teams of 4 comprising of the following categories:

Open Team • Ladies Team • Junior Team
County Standard Team • Club Standard Team
Officials Team

Accommodation has been arranged at the Majestic Hotel and these expenses will be met by the Irish Contract Bridge Association. Travel will be by Sealink Ferry from Fishguard to Rosslare.

Applications from pairs wishing to be considered should be in the hands of the WBU Secretary by April 24th at the latest.

The intention is for the selection to be as representative of the membership as possible and club and county standard players from the 4 corners of Wales are encouraged to submit their names.

Gary Martin

NEWSLETTER

National Tournament Organiser's Report

THE PORTLAND PAIRS

The format of this competition run by the B.B.L. has been changed this year from a two day simultaneous event, to a one day qualifier for a National Final to be held in Stratford. The South Wales heat will be held on Sunday March 26th (Mothering Sunday) at The Commodore Hotel in Cwmbran. Play will start at 12.30 p.m. and hot food will be available if required in the break. Entry costs £30 per pair, but there will be no table money charged on the day.

NATIONAL RESULTS

The Graded Masters

- Section 1.
A. HAWORTH & K. PRATT
D. EVANS & D. BARNES
P. JOURDAIN & A. ZAMAN
- Section 2.
R. PARRIS & G. WHITE
D. MELVILLE & J. PATRICK
R. COX & J. INGRAM
- Section 3.
D. JONES & D. HILL
S. DAVIES & E. PRICE
W. WOOD & T. WATSON
- Section 4.
J. HENSON & G. TINKLER
L. LEWIS & G. FIFIELD
P. OEPPEN & B. HARRIS
- Section 5.
M. CLOSE & R. TREW
V. JARDINE & D. REYNOLDS
D. CHILDS & G. WILLIAMS
- Section 6.
G. SIMMONS & D. DAVIDSON
A. ANDERSON & A. PHILLIPS
S. GORARD & D. BRYANT

THE THOMAS JAMES CUP
G. MARTIN & J. MASON (Sect. 1)

NATIONAL MIXED PAIRS FINAL RESULTS

1. PAM & SIMON EDWARDS
2. Di KNIGHT & PETER NICKSON
3. SANDRA JAMES & CHRIS ROCHELLE

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

WELSH CUP QUARTER FINAL DRAW

HUMPHRIES
V
WOODRUFF

McKINLEY
V
BIRT

MARTIN
V
GAGNE

PIERCE
V
BANKS

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

CAMBRIA CUP SEMI-FINAL

WOOD
V
O' SULLIVAN

DISLEY
V
THOMAS

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣

MULTI TROUBLE IN THE GRADED MASTERS

By Dave Melville



Many gentlemen enjoy a large, expensive, cigar during their bridge, especially it seems, when they play with me!

The graded Masters at Llanelli was no exception, and my partner was to discover, in the rudest possible way, that not everyone enjoyed his aromatic taste. He was twice verbally assaulted (once during the play of a hand) by ladies from adjoining tables, who made it clear that they wanted him to put it out.

The frenetic approach was, and always will be, counter-productive. Anti-smokers, of whom I am one, would do better to approach those who frame the rules. Leave the smokers to make their mistakes in Hamlet peace.

A touch more aggression at one table would have pulled in a bushel of match points. What do you bid with

♠K1096 ♥A9652 ♦4 ♣Q105

when partner's Multi 2♦ has been overcalled 3♦ (natural)?

It is a sound Bridge principle that, in a competitive auction, hands should be bid to the limit at the earliest opportunity.

The recommended action with the above hand is thus to bid 4 of their suit (or 4♥ if this is your agreement), suggesting to partner that you wish to play at the 4 level opposite a weak-two-type. (Partner can move on with a strong strain). A case can also be made for bidding at the 5-level, particularly in good company, where the bidding is often more aggressive.



The full hand and the actual auction was,

♠A
♥10
♦AQJ6532
♣J932

♠Q87532 ♠K1096
♥QJ8 ♥A9652
♦1098 ♦4
♣6 ♣Q105

♠J4
♥K743
♦K7
♣AK874

All Non Vul.
W N E S
2♦* 3♦ P1 3NT
P P P

Note that NS readily make 3NT, or 6♦, with the right Club view, whereas EW are only one off in 4♠.

MASTERPOINT OF VIEW



By Noelle Bond



When the editor asked me to produce the promotion listing for this edition of the newsletter, my first thought was that he was either joking or had given me a very early date in case my contribution was late, for it seemed but a moment since I printed out the last one. However second thoughts showed the last list was produced before Christmas, I think time flies faster every month of each succeeding year, especially since I started playing bridge regularly.

I received many enquiries last year so please let me remind you once again that Masterpoints for registration this year should be sent in by the end of April (with totals, please). In fact my mail has started increasing in volume already, and April should see the postman bent over by the weight of his sack again. I was very surprised to find the doormat empty on Valentine's day morn, I thought that everyone had decided not to send their points in that day, to avoid getting confused with all my romantic mail, it was only later that I discovered there had been a postal strike (when it was over I got plenty of points but still did not get any Valentines).

Since my comments about the destructive effects of the Post Office sorting machines on Masterpoints, I heard from one member whose letter was totally destroyed, although the Post Office did manage to return to him all that was left, his unsealed and empty S.A.E.. I think they even added insult to injury by franking his stamp.

I have not had any more poems since the one printed in the last newsletter, although I did have an offer from a lady of one in Polish, and from a man the comment that our now published poet "should not give up her day job", but as he did not provide a sample of his own work I decided that criticism, like hindsight at the bridge table, is the easy part.

I have received some odd inscriptions on letters lately, which set me wondering if I have similar lapses myself, for example:

"Dear Mrs. Buttrills," (a mix up with my address, I suppose)

"To Mrs Noelle Bond, Dear Sir.." and "Dear " (that was all!)

Plus two letters allegedly written and signed by the same person, but in totally different handwriting. It all makes for interesting letter opening.

All being well, I shall be at the Llangollen Congress in April, if any one wants to hand deliver points or just say "Hello".

Happy Easter.

Only ranks with promotions are printed



Master

Club Master

Mrs Susan Anthony P
 Mrs Val Courtman NT
 Mrs Gwyneth Farthing BV
 Mr Peter Farthing BV
 Mrs Rosemary Gillam H
 Mrs Muriel Harrison D
 Mr David King PC
 Mrs Avryl Mort P
 Mrs A Richardson PW
 Mrs Edna Slater A
 Mrs Christine Wiseman PN

Mr Peter Bellwood M
 Mr Graham Fifield S
 Mr Phil Forbes OH
 Mrs Celia Holt A
 Mrs Hilda Keast PW
 Miss Jean Kyle S
 Mrs Rita Valerie Lewis PW
 Mr Mike Samuel GA
 Mrs Barbara Saunders MB
 Mr Brian Saunders MB
 Mrs June Teychmann A

Advanced Master

Local Master

Mr Harry Ashton AG
 Mr Geoff Carter CA
 Mrs Gwyneth Dew GA
 Mrs Edith Glover S
 Mrs Olive Hayes AG
 Mrs Lyn Lamb A
 Mrs Vera Miller S
 Mrs Sylvia Oaten MT
 Mrs Jean Thomas PN
 Mrs Pat Verdon PN
 Mr Steve Webb C

Mr Dave Davidson MB
 Mrs Emer Disley P
 Mr Philip Dorling NT
 Mrs Beth Forbes OH
 Mr Malcolm Fox MG
 Mr Ian Hudson L
 Mr Deg Morgan MB
 Mr Graham Simmons MB
 Mrs Dilys Thomas T

1 Star Master

County Master

Mr John Akister PN
 Mr Michael Ashe C
 Dr Chris Davies C
 Mrs Janet Davies A
 Mrs Ann Dolan AM
 Mrs Francine Douglas PN
 Mr Leon Katan CBY
 Mr Nigel Key MG
 Mrs Liliane Leyshon N
 Mrs Denise Nicol D
 Mr George B Powell AG
 Mrs Jean M Powell AG
 Mrs Maureen Thomas LD
 Mrs Sharon Winter C

Mrs Joan Brewer CRI
 Mr Mel Brewer CRI
 Mrs Glenda Dorling NT
 Mrs Josie Hutchinson N
 Mr Emyr Tudwal Jones A
 Mr Norman Large CBY
 Dr Paddy Murphy CBY
 Mrs Daphne Patrick GA
 Mr Eddie Urbanski PW
 Mr Glyn Williams BR
 Mr Leighton Williams N

2 Star Master

Mrs Mary Bellis W
 Mrs Ada Collins S
 Mr Vincent Llewellyn S
 Mrs Barbara Percival LD
 Mrs Enfyf Powell GA

3 Star Master

Mrs M Church MB
 Mr Arthur Gilbert R
 Mrs Diane Reynolds MB
 Mr Vic Ward BR

4 Star Master

Mr Robin Hall PN
 Mr Phil Jones L
 Mrs Margaret Morris CD
 Mrs Marjorie Turcan CR
 Mrs Pamela Woodhouse A
 Mr Richard Wronski BR

5 Star Master

Mr D F Letheren MB
 Mr Brian Swain CL
 Mrs Pat Swain CL

Tournament Master

Dr F N Pannell PW

Regional Master

Mr Kevin Maddox BR
 Mr George Percival LD

Premier Regional Master

Mr Michael Clare LD
 Mr Mark Hooper R

National Master

Mr Phil Duncan R

Premier National Master

Mr Bill Nicholls MB
 Mr Geoff White S

Life Master

Mr David Birt C
 Mr Ken Richardson C

Grand Master

Mr Tony Haworth P

Obituary

It can be a very distressing experience when attending bridge events to be approached by acquaintances, unaware of the sudden death of your partner-spouse, enquiring of their whereabouts.

Mr Gerald Bell of Mumbles B.C. reports with sorrow, the sudden passing of his wife Winnie on the 15th December, 1994. They moved to Wales 6 years ago and quickly made friends in the bridge playing fraternity of Mumbles and Swansea. Winnie will be sadly missed by her many friends for the cheerful outgoing personality she displayed at the bridge table.

BARON ARCLAY BRIDGE SUPPLIES

The above company is offering a free catalogue to all readers who request it. They have an extensive range of bridge books and other items. They can be contacted by telephone on
 Intl+USA+502-426-0410
 or by fax on
 Intl+USA+502-426-2044
 alternatively, their address is
 3600 Chamberlain Lane • Suite 230 •
 Louisville, KY 40241 • USA

TRUMP REDUCTION

By David Hamilton

If you think that trump reducing plays only happen in books, then I would advise you to look carefully when you next hold a long trump suit.

West led the ♠J East took dummy's ♠Q with the ace and returned the ♦Q. The contract looked routine but declarer was a little shaken when, having won the diamond in hand, West showed out on the ♥K.

Now it seemed that the contract depended on West having the ♠A in order for declarer to park his losing diamond on a spade winner but East turned up with the ace. South was now faced with a loser in each suit and an unexpected defeat.

South won the diamond switch in dummy, played ♠K and ruffed a club, a spade to the ♠K and ruffed a spade. At this point declarer had ♥Q87 and ♦9, while East had ♥J109 and ♦10. South led a heart to dummy's ace and played the ♠6! East was in a hopeless position, if he ruffed South discards and claims two trump tricks, and if he discards, South ruffs and has the ♥Q for the tenth trick.

Dealer West
 Game All

♠ KQ5
 ♥ A54
 ♦ K83
 ♣ KQ62

♠ J9432 ♠ A107
 ♥ none ♥ J1093
 ♦ 7652 ♦ QJ10
 ♣ J1097 ♣ A84

♠ 86
 ♥ KQ8762
 ♦ A94
 ♣ 53

West	North	East	South
Pass	INT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			



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Diary of a Chinese Take-away Weekend

By Myra Morris

Well we knew the Chinese were coming and bringing their coach, however this turned out to be 'Coach' as in 'trainer' not 'Coach as in 'bus', so suddenly we, bus pass holders, became drivers.

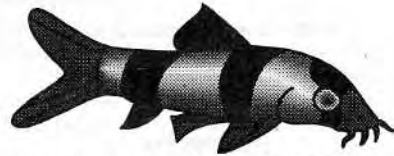
Pre-arrival an extra brief. "Fang Guangsheng must not be upset under any circumstance. He is very important"

As we were informed he spoke no English we felt quite safe and we'd remember the name, Fang sounded appropriate. Actually he is 'Fan Guangsheng' (What a difference a 'G' makes).

Arrival 29/8/94 Cardiff Central Station (August Bank holiday Monday). We double parked, we parked on double yellow and had a few altercations with the taxi drivers.

Train late then arrival, and we were there with our lists. Great off to hosts' homes. Oh no a suitcase was missing (the one with the presents in). They were so sure it had been put on the train. How awful this first impression of Wales all was resolved one hour later the case was found on Brighton station, lucky this unattended case hadn't been blown up

Delivery to hosts uneventful. Forty minutes later pick up from hosts and take to Cardiff B.C. for meal (Well done Babs on Monday, and Aileen and Babs for Wednesday - excellent as always)



I picked up Mr Fan(g) and (thankfully) the interpreter from PATENT'ly obvious more than suitable residents. But a snag Mr Fan must have fax and phone available at all times (seems China had to be informed at every stage of his jaunt).

Once fax was mentioned I was able to switch off and concentrate on driving. However, our wonderful organiser sorted this out. Park Hotel for him with his luggage delivered the next day.

Cardiff duplicate the Chinese did very well.

Tuesday morning. Pick up from various hosts. Sometimes a wait as they so enjoyed the Great British Breakfast, but struggled with knives and forks. How are you with chop sticks? Down to Cardiff Bay, for a tour of. Possibly more interesting for we locals but a lovely chance for our guests to sleep on the coach (as in 'bus').

Lunch at the Norwegian Church Centre. Afternoon offered options St. Fagans/drive thro' Countryside/shops. A few chose shops others just wanted to sleep.

Chinese Diary (Continued)

Night - all taken to Newport. Congratulations, Gwent Academy, I hear you did our guests proud the welcome, Bridge the meal and the prizes perfect.

Wednesday morning - Great. Apart from the rain. Once again pick up and wait as guests enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of their hosts. I was so proud when Gai told me they all thought of their hosts' houses as their homes.

Tour of Cardiff Castle, this was very good, we all went round (no ducking out for a quiet coffee we wouldn't have got the party rate! N.B. Robert). Then to the City Hall for reception by the Lord Mayor. (it was a pity it was so wet we had no chance to show them the Gardens). This, we think, was a high spot. Drinks etc. in Lord Mayor's parlour. Signed the Lord Mayor's visitors' book. (This cost £600 to buy with no signatures now Mike Jones is in it just think of the value!!) Mike and Anita were great, they have been so 'around' and helpful with driving etc. The Chinese enjoyed the visit to the Council Chamber. The Lord Mayor and his consort were so hospitable and explained everything, they seemed to enjoy the visit as much as we did.

W.N.O for a lovely lunch, well if you want to, you too, could try floating your lettuce in the soup!!

Afternoon.

Back to Cardiff B.C. for the match. (But not for me, we had to go to the Park Hotel, China must have been waiting, yet another fax, parking there, Park Hotel not China,

is horrendous, my heart went out to those who did the Park Hotel run every day.

Then the match at the club. Anne gave a party that night, a great success, I hear, sorry I couldn't attend.

Bits of information (approx)

These teams have been away from home 5/6 months. Taken in for training about 3 months. All expenses paid, work, homes, spouses (Camrose aspirants please apply W.B.U.)

This 'holiday' in Britain - Brighton, Cardiff, Manchester, Scotland; then Holland, then Mexico, all to prepare them for the Bermuda Bowl.

Wages in China average at about £20 a week. pkt cigs, half a pound (50p) but their rent is 90p a week.

They were so impressed with our houses and gardens (and cars) they thought we were all RICH people and they didn't get to Dr. J.B.'s

We found our guests very friendly. They laughed and smiled a lot amid so did we. Mary Aherne did a wonderful job. She made all the arrangements and everything went without a hitch.

We're sending the photos we took for the Chinese New Year. Jan 31- Feb2, as supplied by W.B.U. Diary. Do you have one?

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CHELTENHAM	The Cheltenham Park June 30 - July 2	£125

Ralph & Lesley Smith will be delighted to send you details



Excel Bridge, 10 Station Road, Patchway, Bristol BS12 6LP. ☎ 01454-615378

Points & Prizes!

Easter Monday Pairs
2 Sessions for £6 per
player (incl. refreshments)
Event restricted to 28 pairs
2 p.m. Swansea Bridge
Club.



Swansea Bridge Congress
Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th June '95
St. Helen's Cricket & Rugby Club.

Details: Mrs. [redacted] D. Panniers

☎ 01792 - [redacted] 297081

Attention Under-25's

Applications are invited from
players eligible to represent
Wales at the forthcoming World
Junior Pairs Championship to be held at
Ghent University in Belgium from
August 11th - 13th, 1995.

There will be a one week Junior Camp
immediately following this at the same
venue.

Applications should be sent to the WBU
Secretary.

ADVANCES IN BIDDING

Responding to Opener's Reverse

By Dr. Dean Hardie



A reverse by opener is a non-jump rebid in a new suit that necessitates responder bidding at the three level in order to give simple preference to his first bid suit. It shows substantial extra values, typically 16+ high card points, and distribution. Responding to a reverse causes problems for many partnerships as they are unclear what is forcing and what is not. It is this problem I wish to address in this article.

Actions differ depending on whether responder has bid at the one level, 1NT or at the two level.

1) Responder bids at the one level.

A reverse by opener after a one level response is forcing, but not to game. Responder can bid the fourth suit or 2NT, whichever is the cheaper available, as a scramble to express weakness. All other bids are forcing to game and descriptive. The scramble bid requests opener to bid the next denomination up (e.g. 3♠ over 2NT) and responder can now pass or sign off depending in which suit he wants to play. Obviously if opener has more values than he has already expressed he can break this request and bid higher.

- 1♠ 1♠ = forcing, 5+ ♠
- 2♥ 2♠ = forcing, 5+ ♠
- 2NT = scramble, weak up to 7 or 8 HCP and requesting opener to bid 3♠
- 3♠ = forcing, club support
- 3♥ = fourth suit, forcing because 2NT was available, asking for a stop for 3NT
- 3♥ = forcing, heart support

- 1♠ 1♥ = fourth suit, scramble this time (as 2NT is higher) and requests 2NT
- 2♦ 2♠ = natural and forcing
- 2NT = natural and forcing

2) Responder bids 1NT.

After a 1NT response and a reverse responder bids 2NT on all minimum hands as a scramble. All other bids are forcing to game. Over 2NT opener must 3♣ if he is minimum and responder can pass or sign off in one of the other suits.

- 1♥ 1NT
- 2♣ 2NT = scramble, 6-7 HCP and requests 3♣
- now:
- 3♣ Pass = 6+♣ and no major suit fit
- 3♦ = 6+♦ and no major suit fit
- 3♥ = heart support

If opener has enough values for game he must not bid 3♣ as this may be passed so he finds his most descriptive bid.

3) Responder bids at the two level.

This is easy! After a two level response and a reverse we are forcing to game so there are no scrambling bids. As a general rule we should use the Principle of Fast Arrival in forcing-to-game sequences. This means immediate leaps to game are weaker than 'round the houses' auctions eventually getting to game. In theory this gives us more information to judge whether or not a slam is on.