



# NOT News 3

Friday January 18 2008

## Session Times Friday / Saturday

Friday (Rydges) 10 1.30 5.00

Friday (Hellenic Club except for Last Train) 10 1.30

Saturday (Rydges) - 10.00 start - times may vary thereafter

Saturday (Hellenic) 11.00 3.00 7.00

### Bus One

Leaves 1 hour before play each session each day

From Gateway Motel, Northbourne Ave

The full route is

- Gateway Motel, Northbourne Ave
- The Pavillion
- Capital Executive Apartments
- Saville Apartments
- James Court
- Rydges Lakeside

( about 15 minutes to here from start)

Then

- The Statesman Motel, Curtin
- The Hellenic Club

### Bus Two

Leaves 1 hour before play each session each day

From Rydges Lakeside

The full route is

- Rydges Lakeside
- Bentley Apartments, Manuka
- The Pinnacle Apartments, Owens St, Kingston
- Eyre St Apartments (around the corner from Owen St)
- The Hellenic Club

Buses leave both The Hellenic Club & Rydges Lakeside 10 minutes after the scheduled finishing time for the session and return participants to their accommodation.



## Tim Bourke's Problem

### 3. ORDINARY FINESSES

Dealer South. Nil Vul.

♠ 6 4 3  
♥ 7 4 3  
♦ A K 7 4  
♣ 10 6 5

#### SOUTH

♠ A Q J 10 9 7  
♥ A Q J  
♦ 5 2  
♣ A K

West	North	East	South
			2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
All pass			

After spades had been agreed, four control-showing cue-bids followed and you contented yourself with a jump to six spades. How do you plan to make twelve tricks after West leads the queen of diamonds?

## Ron Kilinger's Problem

What action should you, South, take with

♠ J ♥ Q J 10 8 4 ♦ A 10 ♣ Q 10 6 4 2

after the auction commences with North dealer and nil vulnerable:

West	North	East	South
---	Pass	Pass	1H
Dble	2H	Dble*	?

\*Responsive double, both minors

The phone number for the Bridge Desk at Rydges is

6257 3960

## Tim Bourke' Problem - Solution

If you had four entries to dummy, you would take the trump finesse at trick two and, as long as East had at least one of the major suit kings, use the other entries to take as many finesses as necessary. However, you only have two entries to dummy and so you have to decide which major suit finesse to take.

♠ 6 4 3  
♥ 7 4 3  
♦ A K 7 4  
♣ 10 6 5

♠ K 8	♠ 5 2
♥ 9 8 2	♥ K 10 6 5
♦ Q J 10 8	♦ 9 6 3
♣ Q J 4 2	♣ 9 8 7 3
♠ A Q J 10 9 7	
♥ A Q J	
♦ 5 2	
♣ A K	

The difficulty that ensues when you take the trump finesse and it loses is that you are virtually certain to finish with only eleven tricks. This is because you will have only one entry to dummy left to take a heart finesse. This means that will lose a heart trick unless East has a singleton or doubleton king of hearts, which is not a very likely proposition.

Let's see what happens if instead you play a heart to the queen at trick two. When the queen of hearts holds, you should plan to continue with the ace and queen of trumps and use the remaining diamond entry to dummy to repeat the heart finesse. Whenever West takes the queen of hearts with the king and plays a second diamond to dummy's king, you will lead a trump and hope that East has a singleton or doubleton king of trumps.

While it is possible West could hold up the king of hearts, that is not very likely because he cannot be certain that it is you rather than East who holds the jack of hearts.

Another way of looking at this is that it's equally likely for one of the major suit finesses to succeed. However if it loses there is more chance of picking up the trump suit with one finesse than it is to achieve the same outcome in hearts. Also, to make six trumps tricks you need East to hold no more than three trumps,

which is much less than a 50% chance whereas the heart finesse only has the restriction that East didn't begin with seven cards in the suit.

## Ron Klinger's Problem - Solution

The focus is again on a light opening today:

Dealer : N	♠ A Q 9 8 6	
	♥ 6 5 3	
	♦ J 9 4	
Vul: Nil	♣ 7 3	
♠ 5 4 3 2		♠ K 10 7
♥ K 9 2		♥ A 7
♦ K Q 8 7		♦ 6 5 3 2
♣ A J		♣ K 9 8 5
	♠ J	
	♥ Q J 10 8 4	
	♦ A 10	
	♣ Q 10 6 4 2	

West	North	East	South
---	Pass	Pass	1H
Dble	2H	Dble*	3H
Pass	Pass	Dble	All pass

\*Responsive double, both minors

West's takeout double, with length in opener's suit and lack of tolerance in an unbid suit, is no thing of beauty with minimum values. Still, it worked a treat here when West passed East's competitive double of 3H.

Opening light is one thing. Bidding again opposite a weak hand with 3-card support is another. South paid quite a price for competing to the three-level. The DK lead was taken by the ace. South led the SJ and overtook with dummy's queen. East won and exited with the H7, queen, king, and West returned a spade won by the ace, declarer ditching the diamond 10.

Declarer now led a club to the 10 and jack and West returned a heart to East's ace. The diamond shift was ruffed by declarer, who played another club, won by the ace. West exited with her third heart, won by declarer, who led another club to East. A diamond now removed declarer's last trump with the clubs not yet established. The result was four down for

+800 and +12 Imps when East-West scored +150 at the other table.

Courtesy of [www.ronklingerbridge.com](http://www.ronklingerbridge.com)

And Ron's thought for the day :

*Bridge player: One who calls a spade two spades.*

## One Eyed Jacks

Like certain celebrities, the major suit Jacks are careful always to present their profile. On this one from the Last Train, they played celebrity parts.

Dealer : S	♠ 9 8 5 2	
	♥ A Q 9 5	
	♦ A K	
Vul : NS	♣ K 8 4	
♠ J		♠ K 7 4 3
♥ K 10 8 3 2		♥ J
♦ 9 8 3		♦ Q 7 6 5 2
♣ A Q 6 3		♣ 10 9 7
	♠ A Q 10 6	
	♥ 7 6 4	
	♦ J 10 4	
	♣ J 5 2	

*Last Train 1 / 15*

South was playing 4♠ and Jimmy Wallis led a heart. Declarer played small from dummy and the first singleton Jack scored. Siggie Konig returned the ♣10 to declarer's Jack and Jimmy's Ace. A second small heart from Jimmy saw declarer rise with Ace, only to suffer a mortifying ruff by Siggie. Siggie put declarer on table with a diamond and the opportunity was grasped to finesse the ♠10 to the gratification of the defence. Jim was now able to cash the King of hearts, which, no doubt, he had mentally consigned to the waste bin as soon as dummy appeared.

Siggie was a little less successful on another hand from the same session. It's not often you go 6 shy in a freely bid game though there was an element of the "Unlucky Expert" about it.

Dealer : N

Vul : NS

♠ Q J 9 4 2  
♥ Q 10 8 5  
♦ 9 6 5  
♣ 4

♠ 6 5  
♥ J 4  
♦ J 10 8 7 2  
♣ A Q 6 3

♠ K 8 7 3  
♥ A 3  
♦ A K 3  
♣ K 10 8 5

♠ A 10  
♥ K 9 7 6 2  
♦ Q 4  
♣ J 9 7 2

*Last Train 1/5*

Siggy declared 3NT from East and received the lead of a low heart. The Jack, Queen and Ace made up the rest of the trick. Siggy cashed the Ace of diamonds and crossed to dummy with a club.

Back came the Jack of diamonds which ran to South's Queen. Three rounds of hearts did not have Siggy feeling good about life and when the Queen of spades appeared next, he played a desperate King. Four hearts and five spades and a diamond meant 10 defensive tricks. This was exactly the same number that Kim Colbert collected on the same board. The difference was that Kim was declarer. The first two tricks were the same but then Kim banged down the King of diamonds to gratifying effect.

When I asked Kim why he had chosen this line, he said that it "just felt right." Partner, Richard Hills, commented that he thought Kim's line was anti-percentage but "I'm not giving theimps back."

## Bidding Adventures & Misadventures

Boards 23 and 24 in the second Last Train match provided ample opportunities for both of these.

Dealer : S

Vul : All

♠ 9 5 2  
♥ 10 9 3  
♦ 10 6 4 3  
♣ 7 3 2

♠ K 10 8 3  
♥ Q 8 7 5  
♦ 2  
♣ K J 10 4

♠ A J 6  
♥ A K J  
♦ J 9 7 5  
♣ A Q 6

♠ Q 7 4  
♥ 6 4 2  
♦ A K Q 8  
♣ 9 8 5

*Last Train 2/23*

Justin Stark opened a systemic club as South and this ran to East who doubled. 2NT from West sent East off to 6NT. Justin doubled - Lightner.

Michael Wilks decided that clubs was out as the bid suit, East's double should show an interest in the majors and this left diamonds. The 3 of diamonds saw a quick 500 for Justin and Michael..

Ed Barnes sat North at his table and pondered his options after 2 passes. Finally, he settled for a descriptive 3 clubs - after all that's what he had!

It looks to me as if the defence to 3♣x would have to concede trick 13 for a paltry 8 off or -2300 but West passed up this chance by bidding 3NT.

Justin Williams (South) had played with Ed before so, despite holding 3 clubs facing Ed's pre-empt, he didn't lead one, preferring to have a look around with the Ace of diamonds. The sight of dummy's clubs did nothing to lessen Justin's distrust of Ed's bidding so, although he did switch, it was to a heart.

Phil Markey had a different problem in the North chair though he solved it with more success than Ed.

Andrew Mill opened a weak no trump from South. Phil thought this to be an unlikely make and, further, that an axe was going to appear as soon as he passed. He also decided to take a pre-emptive action in an attempt to escape the double. He tried a Stayman 2♣. East passed to

await developments and Andrew dutifully replied 2♦. Nothing else happened. From Phil's viewpoint this looked great - "no double, no trouble". How much happier would he have been had he known that he had hit Andrew's only 4 card suit and that to the AKQ!.

The defence set quietly about cashing its off-suit winners and managed this to such effect that at trick 10 West was on lead. This meant that East's J 9 of trumps were secure from Andrew and all declarer had to show for the hand was that ♦AKQ.

Nonetheless, -500 for Phil and Andrew saw them pick up 2 imps against the datum of 580.

They were in even happier bidding mode on the next board.

Dealer : W	♠ J 9 8 2		
	♥ K 10 5		
	♦ A Q 7 6 3		
Vul : Nil	♣ J		
♠ 10 7 4 3		♠ K 6 5	
♥ 9 8 4 3		♥ J 7 6 2	
♦ 8 5		♦ J 10 9	
♣ Q 9 7		♣ 10 8 3	
	♠ A Q		
	♥ A Q		
	♦ K 4 2		
	♣ A K 6 5 4 2		

*Last Train 2/24*

Phil opened 1♦ after a pass by dealer. Andrew responded 2♣ and Phil repeated his diamonds. That was enough for Andrew and he reached for Keycard. One keycard and the Queen of trumps was sufficient for Andrew to bid the grand. A datum of 1100 suggests that not many were able to replicate this effort.

Indeed, I heard the opinion expressed that it would be very difficult to do this if North chose (not unreasonably, perhaps) to pass. One pair who overcame this particular obstacle were Siggy Konig and Jimmy Wallis, with Jimmy attempting a new role as a bashful North.

Three passes saw Siggy open 1♣, the only forcing opening in their system. 2♣ from Jimmy said that he had a maximum pass (as distinct from Phil's minimum opener!) Siggy continued

2♦ to show any 17+ hand and Jimmy responded 3♦ - which, *mirabile dictu*, was natural. It was also enough to see Siggy reach for his driver. A 5NT grand slam force saw Jimmy admit to 2 of the top 3 diamonds and another excellent pick-up against the datum.

Which is more than can be said for this little gem from the next match.

Dealer : E	♠ K Q 8 4 3		
	♥ 4		
	♦ 7 6		
Vul: All	♣ Q J 10 7 4		
♠ A 5 2		♠ 10 7	
♥ 8 5		♥ K Q J 9 6 2	
♦ Q J 10 5 4		♦ 9 8 3 2	
♣ 9 8 5		♣ 2	
	♠ J 9 6		
	♥ A 10 7 3		
	♦ A K		
	♣ A K 6 3		

*Last Train 3/10*

Siggy opened a 12+ 1♣ after East had passed. Jim replied 1NT which systemically showed 9-11 with a 5 card major. 2♣ from Siggy asked for that major and 2♥ from Jim showed spades. East doubled this and Siggy made a wee, almost inconsequential, error. Had he continued with 2♠ - tell me more - Jim would have bid 4♣ and they would then have an easy run to +1370 in 6♣.

However...

Siggy found a redouble in his bdding box. This told Jim that Siggy really, really wanted to play 2♥xx.

Actually he didn't and -1000 was 17 imps out against the datum instead of 13 in for a successful club slam.

### Problem Corner

3 problems for you - a bidding problem, a defensive problem and a problem in divination.

1) You hold

♠ A K Q 10 7 5 ♥ 7 ♦ A K Q J 6 ♣ J.

You are at unfavourable and there are two passes before rho opens 2♠. This you are told shows 7-11 points, both majors and one 3 card minor.

Your bid?

2) Same hand. You are now defending 6♣x. Partner leads ♠3 and dummy appears

♠ 9 6 4 2 ♥ A 9 6 5 4 ♦ 8 ♣ K 7 5	♠ A K Q 10 7 5 ♥ 7 ♦ A K Q J 6 ♣ J
--	---

How do you continue?

3) Your side is defending 5♦. The defensive assets include ♠A, ♠K, ♣A, ♦K and the 7 6 5 and 2 of trumps. The defensive trumps are divided 3-2. You beat the contract by 3 tricks. Which 5 tricks did the defence score?

1) & 2) The complete layout was

Dealer : S Vul : EW ♠ 3 ♥ 10 8 3 2 ♦ 10 7 5 4 2 ♣ Q 9 8	♠ 9 6 4 2 ♥ A 9 6 5 4 ♦ 8 ♣ K 7 5	♠ A K Q 10 7 5 ♥ 7 ♦ A K Q J 6 ♣ J
♠ J 8 ♥ K Q J ♦ 9 3 ♣ A 10 6 4 3 2		

After North's highly inconvenient 2♠ opener, East contended himself with 3♠ (natural (he hoped)). West, however, thought this was asking for a spade stop and doubted that the singleton 3 qualified as such. He bid his tasty diamond suit at the 4 level and, no doubt, was exhilarated by a raise to 5♦ by East. South found the 6♣ save(?) and the inevitable double ensued.

West led his singleton and East cashed two top

spades. Now what?

At the table East cashed a diamond and South slithered out with 9 tricks. Consider, on the other hand, the effect of playing a third spade. If South ruffs with the Ace then E-W have 2 trumps by weight of cards plus the Ace of diamonds and the two spades already in the bank.

If alternatively, South ruffs with any other trump, then West will over-ruff, cross back to East's ♦A and a further spade will promote the 98♣ combination to a further trick. Whatever South does 4 down will be the outcome.

3) Unlikely as it may seem, the defence's 5 tricks were all trumps

Dealer : S Vul : NS ♠ A K 10 9 8 3 ♥ J 9 ♦ 5 2 ♣ A 4 2	♠ 9 6 4 2 ♥ A 9 6 5 4 ♦ 8 ♣ K 7 5	♠ A K Q 10 7 5 ♥ 7 ♦ A K Q J 6 ♣ J
♠ Q J 7 6 5 4 2 ♥ A 10 ♦ 8 4 ♣ 6 3		

*Last Train 3/15*

South opened 2♦ which showed a weak 2 in a major. West overcalled 2♠(!) And North doubled (pass or bid hearts). East tried 3♣ but West rebid his spades. North doubled again and East repeated his clubs. West raised to game and North tried 5♦ which East doubled to set the final contract.

The ♠A was led and ruffed with dummy's 9. Two rounds of hearts were cashed before declarer played a third heart on which he pitched a club. Keran Crowe-Mai ruffed this and played a spade, ruffed with the ♦10 while Kim Morrison pitched another club. Another heart saw declarer discard his second club while Kieran scored his second trump. A spade continuation was ruffed with the Jack and a club ruffed back to hand. Another spade was ruffed with dummy's Queen and Kim (finally) over-ruffed. He returned a club, ruffed in hand but a spade ruff by the Ace saw Kim's 7 and 6 of diamonds promoted to master status.