



62nd International
Gold Coast Bridge Congress
18 - 24 February 2024
Exercise your brain - play Bridge

**YOUR DAILY
BULLETIN**

Monday 19 February

[Stephen Lester](#) and [Barry Rigal](#)

BULLETIN 2

Support our under 26 Women's Team

Janelle Conroy from Mackay Bridge Club was the first to visit the desk where raffle tickets are being sold to help support and fund our Under 26 Women's Team for the 8th Youth Transnational Championships in Poland.

Janelle brought donations from Margaret Kane and Barbara Tait, also from Mackay.

The fundraising dinner, much like a Tay Tay concert was fully subscribed almost immediately it was organised.

Tickets for the raffle can be found next to the Bridge Administration office.



Kate Macdonald, Janelle Conroy and Jasmine Skeate

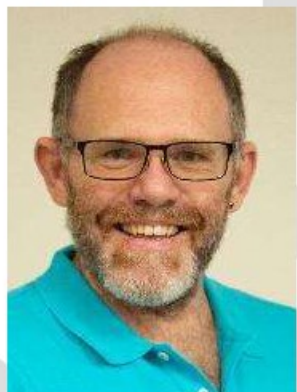
**Session tables as
at Sunday PM -
791; 2023 - 1223**

Monday Celebrity Speaker William Jenner-O'Shea

**Monday 19th
1.30-2.15pm**

**William Jenner-
O'Shea**

**Overcall more to be
a Nuisance.**



Zephyr Education Inc.

Collections will be held during the congress before play and after lunch on **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY** so please give generously to this very practical and worthwhile charity.

Kim Ellaway will also take donations at the office. Carmel Martin is available to answer any questions you may have.

Board 2, East deals, EW vulnerable

<p>♠ Q 6 5 4 3 ♥ 10 9 3 ♦ --- ♣ K 9 8 7 3</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A J 9 ♥ A Q ♦ Q 10 7 4 ♣ A Q J 6</p>	<p>♠ 8 ♥ K J 8 6 2 ♦ K J 6 5 2 ♣ 10 2</p>
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A Puppet Stayman auction to 3NT saw him receive a heart lead into his tenace. He then guessed extremely well to lead the ♦Q from hand. When this was covered all round, Kaplan pitched the ♣7.

Now I think the indicated line is to run the ♠10, so that you can repeat the finesse.

Coutts led a spade to the jack and a diamond up. When Kolesnik ducked Coutts took the club finesse and led ♦10 from hand.

If Kolesnik ducks this again I'm not sure declarer can make 12 tricks. But he won and led out a top heart. Coutts won and cashed his diamond winner to squeeze Kaplan in the black suit.

+490 was a 91% result – but even +460 would have been 81%. If declarer misguesses at trick two and takes the spade finesse nine tricks is the likely result.

On board 8, I saw Michael Ware (playing with Pete Hollands) make a very thoughtful play.



Peter Hollands and Michael Ware

Board 8, West deals, nil vulnerable

<p>♠ A K J 2 ♥ --- ♦ J 10 9 6 ♣ J 10 6 4 2</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ 8 7 6 3 ♥ K 10 5 2 ♦ A 2 ♣ A K 3</p>	<p>♠ 10 9 ♥ J 8 4 3 ♦ K Q 7 5 4 3 ♣ 7</p>
--	---	---	---

The unlikely auction that Ware witnessed was:

West	North	East	South Ware
1♣	Pass	1♥	pass
2♥	dbl	3♥	dbl
4♥	pass	pass	dbl
all pass			

Having doubled 3♥ for penalty, Ware wasn't too proud to double 4♥. His partner has suggested a three-suited hand, and there seemed to be a lot of hearts in the deck!

Ware reasoned that his partner hadn't overcalled despite having at most zero hearts (as we shall see, his partner actually had -1 hearts...).

Since Hollands had passed at his first turn, he rated to be 4-0-4-5 and while declarer might discard a spade loser on the clubs, he surely couldn't discard a club loser on the spades.

So, Ware led a spade, and this was the full story; The defenders cashed two spades and shifted to diamonds.

Declarer won in dummy, ruffed a club to hand and led a heart to the 10. From that point on they were doomed to -500 and N/S had a 97% result.

As to why partner had -1 hearts? Declarer only discovered at trick 7 that the ♥5 was the ♦5; and yes, the presence of the ♥5 in dummy might have been a clue...

Board 11, South deals, nil vulnerable

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

Mathematics is a funny thing. When you declare 3NT on a blind auction and the opponents lead 4th highest against you, from a four-card suit, do you automatically assume that their partner rates to be long in another side suit, rather than the opening leader? That is a fallacy, as this hand demonstrates.

Warren Lazer reached 3NT in an auction where no suits had been bid bar diamonds, on the ♥2 lead.

Who is likely to have the ♦Q? If opening leader has led his long

suit and that is four cards long, then that player I think is favourite to be long not short in diamonds.

So, I believe the odds favour the ♦A then the finesse. Lazer cashed the top diamonds (East pitching a club) then gave up a diamond and the defenders continued hearts.

Two more rounds of diamonds saw East pitch two more clubs, and West had to decide what to retain. The play this far might have been consistent with the declarer having the ♥10 not East; West pitched two spades, and now Lazer cashed the ♠K to drop the jack, then finessed spades for 11 tricks. +400 would have been a +15% result, +460 was a 65% result instead.

Board 13, North deals, all vulnerable

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

When you play with Peter Gill, it is easy to bid just a little too much and rely on him to read the position. He had his work cut out here, when in third seat Kim Morrison opened a 2+ 1♣. Liz Sylvester overcalled 1♠ (yes, a 1NT call has a lot to recommend it and would have worked a

treat!).

When Gill responded 1NT Sylvester gave him three, and when a low heart lead went to the jack and king Gill had his back to the wall. On the heart return Gill



cashied ♠A – no joy – then had to decide whether to take the diamond then club finesse or play for clubs 2-2.

He did very well I think to play clubs from the top; the clue might have been that his RHO's silence in the bidding might have suggested the diamond finesse would lose.

There was more to come: Chris Hughes discarded a discouraging diamond on the third club, so Gill crossed to hand with the ♦A and ran



clubs. In the four-card ending Morrison came down to two top spades and the $\heartsuit Q10$ so Gill threw him in with a spade for the tenth trick and a 78% result.

Board 18, East deals, NS vulnerable

<p>\spadesuit K Q 3 \heartsuit 10 \diamondsuit K 8 5 4 3 2 \clubsuit 10 9 5</p>	<table border="1" style="background-color: #006400; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>\spadesuit J 10 8 4 2 \heartsuit Q 6 5 3 \diamondsuit J 7 6 \clubsuit 6</p>	<p>\spadesuit 7 6 \heartsuit A J 7 \diamondsuit Q 9 \clubsuit Q J 8 7 4 3</p>
N						
W E						
S						

Sometimes the players request anonymity – but Alex Smirnov and Andy Hung have broad shoulders. I will however spare declarer’s blushes!

West	North	East	South
		2 \heartsuit ¹	Pass

4 \heartsuit all pass

1. Both majors less than an opening bid – and then some...

East found herself in 4 \heartsuit on a top club lead. She won and tried a heart to the ten, queen, and ace. Smirnov returned the $\diamondsuit Q$, perhaps unnecessarily,

and declarer won the ace, then advanced the $\heartsuit 10$ and was charmed when Andy Hung played low. East thoughtfully overtook the 10 and was now in hand. What now?

At this point taking the heart finesse is 100% assuming your RHO has more than one heart – and diamonds appear to be 6-2 do they not. If it holds you are making at least 420. If it loses, the defenders exit a club. You pitch your diamond, ruff a club, and run the $\spadesuit 10$ to endplay RHO.

Declarer, alas, took the spade finesse when in hand then misguessed hearts and now needed the second spade finesse. Unlucky but a huge opportunity wasted.

Board 24, West deals, nil vulnerable

<p>\spadesuit J 10 6 \heartsuit A 7 6 3 \diamondsuit 10 9 2 \clubsuit Q 4 3</p>	<table border="1" style="background-color: #006400; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>\spadesuit A K 8 5 \heartsuit Q J 10 2 \diamondsuit J 5 4 \clubsuit 4 2</p>	<p>\spadesuit Q 9 7 3 \heartsuit K 9 5 \diamondsuit K Q 7 6 \clubsuit 8 6</p>
N						
W E						
S						

\spadesuit 4 2
\heartsuit 8 4
\diamondsuit A 8 3
\clubsuit A K J 10 9 7



Cooper smothers Jack

by Stephen Lester

Renee Cooper is a star I believe to be the top of the firmament. She has proved herself at youth level, women's bridge, mixed bridge and while not yet tested in international open bridge, this supporter has no doubt that she has the skills to make it with the "big boys".



Five-card major teachers are increasingly tolerant - and sometimes enthusiastic - about opening 1NT on Renee's hand.

The most common response to 1♠ is 1NT, and for those without Gazzilli (where identifying the strength of a wide-ranging 1NT is possible), venturing a further bid can be fraught with danger.

Take the hand I watched from the recent South West Pacific Teams which precedes the famous NOT (won by Renee's team, B THOMPSON, Ben Thompson – Renee Cooper, Matthew Thomson – Peter Newman).

A four-person team with a woman(!), Peter Newman, who ventures out once a year to play the event with his favourite partner, Sydney teacher, author and expert Matthew Thomson and evergreen Zone 7 President Ben Thompson.

What a win!

But I digress:

SWPT, Board 9, Round 7

North deals, EW vulnerable

♠ A Q 9 8 3 ♥ K 8 5 ♦ 10 7 ♣ A K 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ --- ♥ Q 7 ♦ A K 8 5 4 3 ♣ Q J 6 4 2	♠ K 7 4 ♥ A 10 9 4 3 ♦ Q 6 ♣ 10 9 5
N						
W E						
S						
♠ J 10 6 5 2 ♥ J 6 2 ♦ J 9 2 ♣ 8 7						
West pass pass all pass	North <i>Renee</i> 1NT 3♥ 4♣ ³	East 2NT ¹ pass pass	South <i>Ben T</i> 3♣ ² 3NT 4♥			

1. Minors
2. Hearts, positive
3. Cuebid

Renee heard LHO bid 2NT (normally minors). Ben Thompson, South cooperated with 3♣, showing hearts and invitational plus values, (a standard treatment in this scenario.)

Renee bid 3♥ to show a heart fit and Ben gave a choice of game with 3NT. Renee cuebid 4♣ and Ben signed off in 4♥.

East cashed ♦A, K noting partner's upside down count cards, showing three diamonds. Endplayed, she exited ♣Q, won by Renee in hand. She played a heart to the ace and a heart to the eight and East's queen. East was forced to either give a ruff and sluff or lead another club. Having been drilled into never giving a ruff sluff, East played a low club and when ♣9 won the hand was over 10 tricks.

After the hand appeared in the SFOB bulletin, I was approached by two very strong declarers who found fault with the analysis.

"It doesn't make if you give a ruff and sluff, as you have to ruff in the short hand with ♥K, establishing West's ♥J."

I mentioned this to Renee later that evening as we were enjoying the event at the Boathouse Restaurant on the shores of the lake, organised by Convener, Ian Thomson.

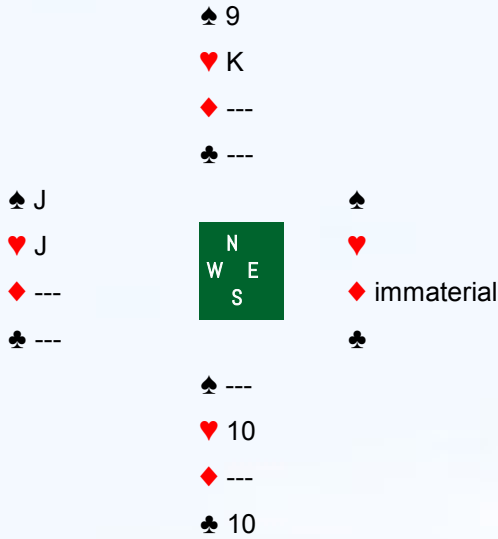
Without lifting an eyebrow she said: "If East gives me a ruff and sluff, it's simple. I ruff in dummy, and pitch a club from hand. Now when I ruff spades, I can coup ♥J at the end".

Was she right? She continued:

“I cash three top spades ending in hand, then ruff my fourth spade in dummy before crossing to hand with ♣A. In dummy, I ruff the last spade with ♥10, then ♥J is gobbled up when I play ♣10.

Of course, it was simple for Renee, who had visualised the entire layout at the first trick.

Here’s the two card end position, with Renee in dummy with ♥10:



Scott Ellaway

You may recognise the surname. Scott is my nephew from Ray’s side. Scott started as a caddy and, when a vacancy came up in the Floor Manager area, he jumped at it and has done a superb job considering he has absolutely no bridge knowledge. He has been an integral part of the set-up team as well.



Scott is now a teacher and cannot attend during the weekdays, however, he was here in 2024 for set-up and will no doubt be here for closing down. He also has had both his sisters caddying, brother-in-law caddying, mother finding staff, etc.





Paul Lavings
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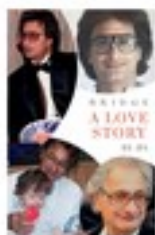




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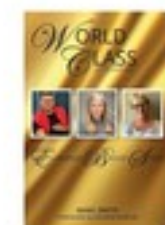
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Entry management

Entries are the means of placing the lead where you need it to be.

Preserving an entry or entries is essential in dummy play: for instance, declarer may need to set up a long suit, but that won't help if there is no entry to the long cards after they become established.

How would you declare this slam?

♠ Q 3 2

♥ A 4 3

♦ 7 6

♣ A J 6 5 2

♠ A K J 10 5 4

♥ K 8 6

♦ A Q

♣ 7 4

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♠
pass	2♣	pass	3♣
pass	4♠	pass	5♦
pass	6♠	all pass	

Opening lead: ♦J

Your ♦Q wins. The opening lead is helpful, but you still have a certain club loser plus a heart loser. You can hope to set up dummy's fifth club for a heart discard, but if the missing clubs break 4-2, you will need three dummy entries: two to ruff

clubs plus one to return for the good fifth club. Those entries are there – ♠Q,

♥A and ♣A – but you can't draw trumps or use ♣A until you are ready to start ruffing clubs.

Take the ♠A. Assuming East-West follow, play a low club from both hands. If a defender leads a heart, win with the king, take ♠K, then go to the ♣A and ruff a club high. Go back to ♠Q and ruff a club. You can return to ♥A to discard a heart on the good club.

What about this 6♠?

♠ A 4 2

♥ 8 6 4

♦ J 5

♣ A K 6 4 2

♠ K Q J 10 9 5

♥ A K 2

♦ A 7

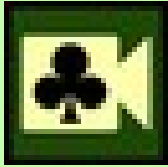
♣ 7 3

West leads ♥Q, and you take the ace.

You have 11 tricks and need to set up a long club again, but this time dummy has one fewer entry. If you take ♣A,K and ruff a club, you will be sunk if the suit breaks 4-2.

To get an extra entry, in effect, lead a club and play low from dummy. If a defender returns a heart, win and cash ♠K,Q. If trumps break 2-2, you can take the ♣A,K to discard a heart, then ruff a club if necessary and return to the ♠A to discard a diamond on the fifth club. If trumps break 3-1, lead to the ♣A, ruff a club high and get to dummy with ♠A to discard on the good club.

Real Bridge Bidding Contest



Popular online program **RealBridge** is offering a free bidding contest. They are hoping to attract over 2,000 entrants. The February competition entries close on February 29, but go to the following link to view the January hands:

<https://realbridge.online/realbridge-bidding-contest-form-february-2024.html>

There is also a YouTube video to watch

IBPA tidbits

by Barry Rigal

In 2014, co-editor Barry Rigal selected the best played and defended hands from the Bobby Richman Open Pairs, posting the deals in the International Bridge Press Association archives.

A selection of the deals is interspersed through this year's bulletins. Thanks, Barry.



Board 22, Bobby Richman Pairs final

East deals, EW vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
De Livera		Neill	
		1♥	pass
2♠	pass	4♥	all pass

Board 22 saw Bruce Neill as East at the helm in the most interesting declarer and defensive problem of the day. He declared 4♥ on the unopposed auction above where the 2♠ call showed three trumps and limit raise values.

Barry Williams

Over drinks Barry said he could assist in some way, so he took on roles as set-up Crew and the Bus Driver. He has been the Bus Driver for 5 years, however, over time, it's one of the things we provide that has been rarely used so from 2025 we are no longer having a bus to pick up players.



Thank you Barry.




James Coutts kept his side in the game with a club lead, (the five, playing thirds and fifths) and I wonder if Neill might have considered playing low from dummy. North will often find it very hard to duck even from e.g. A10. Neill actually put in the jack and North, Fraser Rew won the queen and after much thought found the killing trump shift (a few defenders played for club ruffs and made declarer's task easy).

Neill finessed, and now it was up to Coutts to exit in either major suit. The key is that declarer is threatening a dummy-reversal. Repeated trump leads kill that possibility. Coutts cashed the ♠A then went back to clubs. Neill put in the nine and claimed when it forced the ace. From South's perspective he should know that his black suit losers aren't going away. North's decision to shift to trumps rather than cash his club ace makes declarer's shortage highly likely.



Only three tables beat 4♥; five made ten tricks in hearts, two played what at IMPs would be the somewhat superior spot of 3NT, making nine tricks.

Bridge Companions program Monday - Tuesday

	<p>Monday 19th</p> <p>Kingscliff, and Fingal Head</p> <p>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingscliff,_New_South_Wales</p>	<p>Kingscliff, a coastal town, is just south of Tweed Heads. The main street Marine Parade offers lovely boutique shopping with many cafes. We will lunch here, and then off to Fingal Head if time allows. A slow walk to the lighthouse and outlook, to view Cook Island. Fingal Head and Cook Island were first sighted by James Cook on 16 May 1770.</p>	<p>Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach</p>	<p>10:30am -4:30pm.</p>	<p>\$30 bus.</p> <p>Lunch & Tea costs to be incurred by self.</p>
	<p>Tuesday 20th</p>	<p>Coffee or Tea for Non-Bridge Partners</p> <p>A quick tea or coffee for those partners unable to attend on the Sunday am get together to discuss the programme. Please advise attendance by latest Monday pm</p>	<p>Apartment 1901 Air on Broadbeach</p>	<p>09:45am- 10:15am</p>	
	<p>Tuesday 20th</p> <p><u>Cedar Creek Falls track to lookout</u> 500m return Time: Allow about 15min walking time. Details: Take a walk to Cedar Creek Falls lookout and admire views of the gorge and waterfalls. https://www.mustdobrisbane.com/outdoors-pools/cedar-creek-falls-tamborine-mountain</p>	<p>Lunch</p> <p>Lunch and shopping at Gallery Walk.</p> <p><u>Cedar Creek Falls track to rock pools</u> 1.1km return Time: Allow about 30min walking time Details: From Cedar Creek Falls lookout, descend through eucalypt forest and dry rainforest to the rock pools below. There are many steps on this walk, so be prepared for an uphill climb on our return.</p>	<p>Ground floor Air on Broadbeach</p>	<p>Leave 10:30am</p> <p>Bus to be back by 17:00 latest</p>	<p>\$30 bus.</p> <p>Lunch at own cost</p>



TASMANIAN FESTIVAL of BRIDGE



Hobart Waterfront courtesy of Kathryn Leahy

MyState Bank Arena, Brooker Hwy, Glenorchy

Thu 14th - Sun 17th March 2024

Wednesday	ONLINE Real Bridge warm-up pairs 7.15 pm
Thursday/Friday	TFoB Restricted Swiss Pairs Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs
Saturday/Sunday	TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs Saturday evening dinner (<i>bookings essential</i>)
Sunday only	TFoB Rookie Swiss Pairs for players with < 25 MPs



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Australian Bridge Federation
ABN 70 053 651 66



Under 26 Women's Team Raffle

We are holding a raffle to support the Australian Under 26 Women's Team in playing the Transnational Youth Championships in Poland! The raffle will be drawn Thursday morning before play.

Ticket Prices are 1 for \$10, 3 for \$25, 10 for \$50!

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*Liam Milne, James Coutts, Will Jenner O'Shea and Andrew Spooner or others, subject to availability.



Mitchell Raaen & Megan Raaen 1st NS Rookies



Gillian Hibbard & Jen Pusey 1st EW Rookies



John Vass & Anita Liu 2nd NS Rookies



Mary Doneley & Jennie Tucker 2nd EW



Winners Sunday Reg and Joan Butler Pairs winners
Di Marler - Heather Renton



Shanaal De Zoysa & Hema De Zoysa 2nd Under 500 Reg and Joan Sunday Butler Pairs



Merle Bogatie & Rita Kahn 3rd Open Reg and Joan Butler Pairs



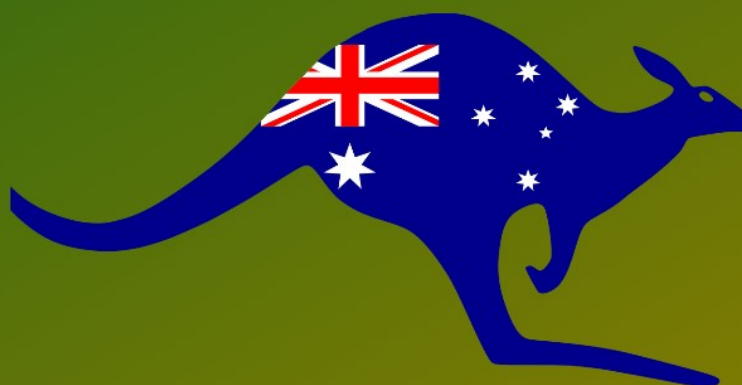
MingShu Yang & Oliver Goodman 1st Under 500 Sunday Joan and Reg Butler Pairs



Sue Ingham & Andrew Peake 2nd Open Joan and Reg Butler Pairs



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