

2023 CONGRESS BULLETIN

Bulletin 2, September 23, Mercury Baypark

Submissions to sleksix@gmail.com

A relaxed start to the NZ Congress, with a leisurely 10:30am start (a reminder here that Daylight Savings kicks in on Sunday morning, so an hour less sleep as well as a 9:30 am start tomorrow!)

Two sections of 13 table Mitchells and a 23-table section catered for the 96 pairs entered for the NZ Open Pairs. The NZ Open Pairs was a two-board affair while the Restricted Open Pairs played a 28 table three board movement.

I watched from behind the South seat, with Ashley Bach South and Michael Cornell North.

Ashley and Michael defended well on the following deal, where EW could make eight tricks in the 5-3 heart fit or nine in the 4-4 spade fit.

Board 1

♠ J9
♥ KJT5
♦ JT63
♣ K85

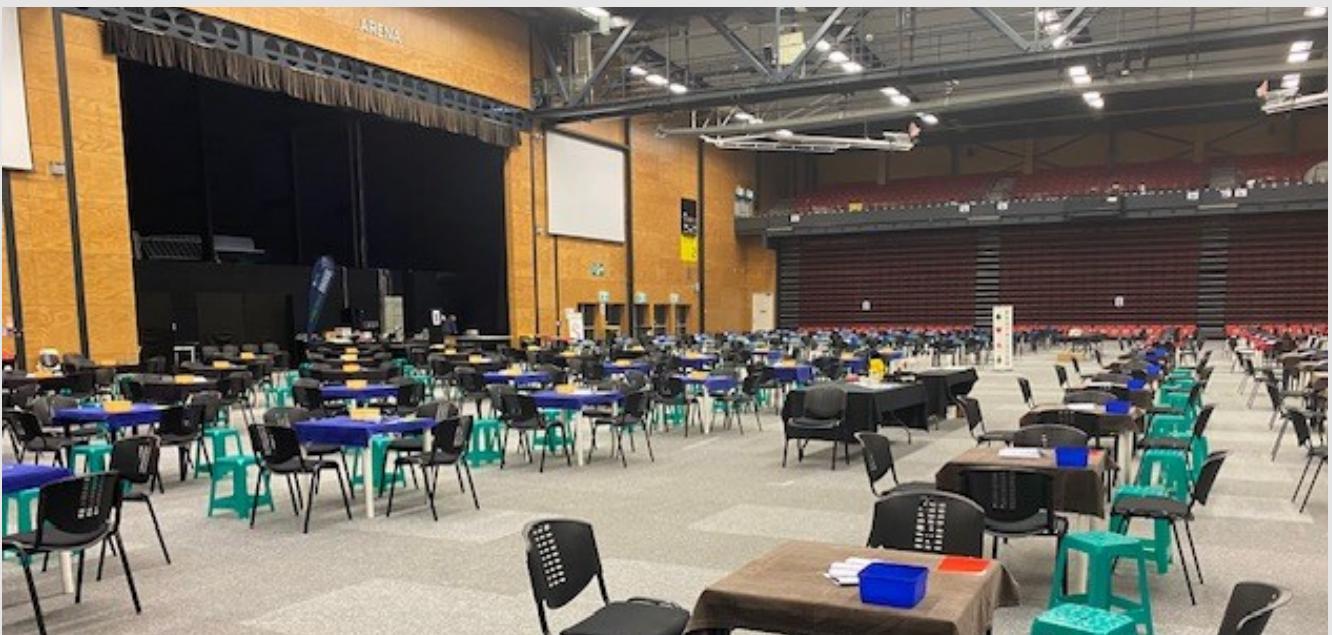
Dir: North
Vul: Nil

♠ 6532
♥ A7632
♦ AQ4
♣ Q

♠ KQ74
♥ 984
♦ K8
♣ JT93

♠ AT8
♥ Q
♦ 9752
♣ A7642

West	North	East	South
	<i>Cornell</i>		<i>Bach</i>
	pass	pass	pass
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
2♠	3♦	3♥	pass
3♠	all pass		



Bach led a diamond, declarer winning the ace in dummy and playing ♣Q. Bach won the ace, and continued a diamond to declarer's king.

He played a heart to the queen and ace. He now erred by playing a second heart without taking a heart discard on ♦Q. Cornell won and cashed another heart as Bach shed a diamond.

A fourth round of hearts saw declarer ruff with ♠Q as Bach discarded his last diamond. Declarer took the losing ruffing finesse of ♣J, and now with the defenders' trumps high apart from ♠K, a crossruff ensued, with down four earning the NS pair a 100% score.



Ellen Curnow

Board 5	♠ J962 ♥ J5 ♦ T73 ♣ 8765	Dir: N Vul: NS
♠ A85 ♥ AQ432 ♦ A98 ♣ T4		♠ KQ4 ♥ T6 ♦ QJ642 ♣ KQ2
	♠ T73 ♥ K987 ♦ K5 ♣ AJ93	

West	North	East	South
Ray Curnow	Cornell	Ellen Curnow	Bach
	pass	1♦	pass
1♥	pass	1NT	pass
3♥	pass	3NT	all pass

Ashley did not enjoy this hand one little bit. He led ♣3, and Ellen Curnow made short work of the play. Putting in ♠10 from dummy is recommended, but when she played ♣4, it went ♣3, ♣4, ♣5, ♣K!

♦Q was covered by the king and the ace, and now Ellen ran ♦9. When that won, she cashed out the rest of the diamond suit, putting Ashley under intense discarding pressure. When he unguarded hearts, Ellen scored 13 tricks for 94 matchpoints (only 2 for Ashley and Michael).

Board 8	♠ AQ62 ♥ J987 ♦ -- ♣ JT963	Dir: W Vul: Nil
♠ K753 ♥ KQ42 ♦ KQT ♣ K8		♠ T94 ♥ T6 ♦ AJ9753 ♣ Q4
	♠ J8 ♥ A53 ♦ 8642 ♣ A752	

This board created problems for many pairs. Cornell - Bach defended 3NT after a strong notrump by West and 2♣, majors from Cornell. EW can hold declarer to seven tricks, but after ♣J opening lead, declarer managed to score a heart trick to go with the six diamond tricks and a club trick (declarer played low from dummy and won the king in hand. This was 61 matchpoints (out of 96) to NS.

At least one auction started 1NT: 2♣, 2♦, all pass, with declarer making eight tricks (supposedly the

limit, but in reality some EW pairs bid and made 3NT, or nine tricks in diamonds.

The biggest score was from 2♥X by NS, making for +470. Peer Bach - Setsuko Lichtnecker were the only NS pair to find the par spot, 4♣, making +130 for 94 matchpoints.

What do you bid with ♠AJ54, ♥Q9763, ♦J4, ♣A6 after partner opens 1♣ and RHO bids 1♠, alerted and explained as diamonds or the majors?

It is probable from your hand that RHO has the diamond option. Should we bid 2♥, forcing? Our hearts are not great, and that makes it difficult to find spades as a strain.

David Hangartner tried the effect of double. Mark Hangartner rebid 2♣, giving David another problem. He now bid 2♥ and heard 2♠ from Mark. He raised to 3♠ and there the auction finished.

Mark made 9 tricks in spades, scoring 80 matchpoints for the making partscore. The nebulous 1♠ bid didn't work this time, so David's efforts to explore the best spot worked out well.



Mark Hangartner

With hearts breaking 3-3 and the spade suit behaving perfectly, 10 tricks are possible on any defence.



Tracey Lewis, Setsuko Lichtnecker, Greta Casey and Peer Bach

The full hand:

BD: 10	♠ T87	Dir: E
	♥ AJ2	Vul: All
	♦ 976	
	♣ QT52	
♠ AJ54		♠ K93
♥ Q9763		♥ K8
♦ J4		♦ A2
♣ A6		♣ J98743
	♠ Q62	
	♥ T54	
	♦ KQT853	
	♣ K	

The following deal poses a difficult problem for a matchpoint declarer. Should one play safely, or try to grab the maximum number of tricks assuming things are going to go as normal.

BD: 11	♠ KQ975	Dir: S
	♥ T52	Vul: Nil
	♦ AJ5	
	♣ A2	
♠ 864		♠ JT32
♥ QJ743		♥ --
♦ 7		♦ QT983
♣ KQJ3		♣ T987
	♠ A	
	♥ AK986	
	♦ K642	
	♣ 654	

Several declarers made 10 tricks in hearts, and John Goacher's invention *Bridge Solver Online* affirms this is true.

A winning line is to duck ♣A, win the second club, cross to ♠A, ruff a club then shed two diamond losers on ♠KQ.

A heart to hand clears up the trump position, and declarer's aim of losing two trump tricks and a club is achieved.

Bach's line of winning the first club, cashing ♠A and discarding clubs on ♠KQ was thwarted when he tried to cross back to hand in diamonds and West, Liam Milne was able to ruff ♦K and score three heart tricks and a club.

What do you lead from ♠98764, ♥--, ♦K9732, ♣K84 after this sequence?

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	pass	pass	2♣
pass	2♦	pass	2♥
pass	2♠	pass	3♣
pass	3♥	pass	3♠
pass	4NT	pass	5♦
pass	6♥	all pass	

This has been a Kokish-style auction, with South showing a strong hand with hearts and clubs. North has taken control with 4NT and bid 6♦ after South shows 3 Key Cards for hearts.

A number of NS pairs bid confidently to slam and avoided the killing diamond lead. I was always told that leading away from a king had the upside of finding partner with either the ace or queen of the suit. Here South is likely to be short in diamonds, having shown hearts and clubs.

There were slightly more pairs going down in 6♥ than making. The full hand:



Novice pairs - only one session today

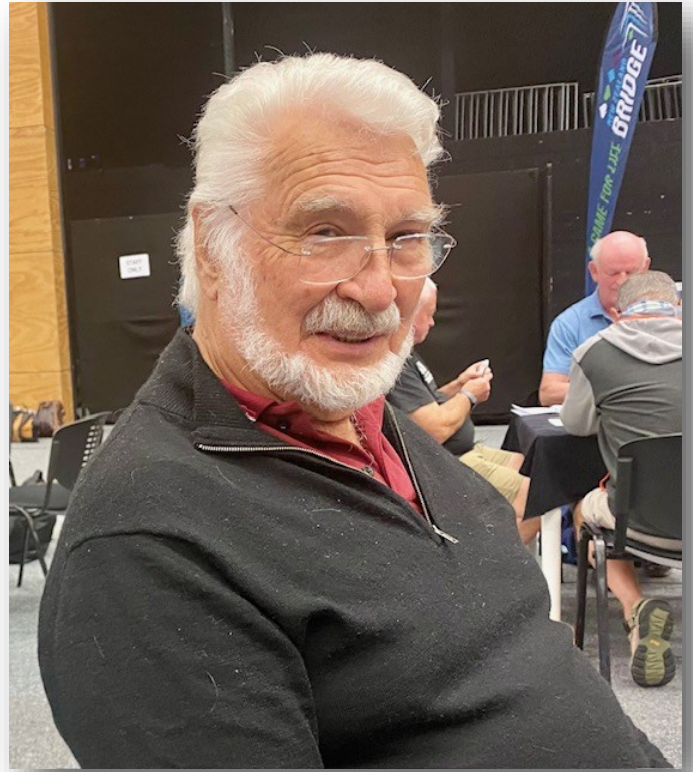
BD: 17	♠ KT32 ♥ KT754 ♦ 54 ♣ 53	Dlr: N Vul: Nil
♠ 98764 ♥ ♦ K9732 ♣ K84		♠ QJ5 ♥ 8 ♦ AQJT6 ♣ T762
	♠ A ♥ AQJ9632 ♦ 8 ♣ AQJ9	

Ever presents

I hope to have tracked down those who have been to every congress since 1986. Today I was able to snag Heini Lux from Rotorua, who is playing the NZ Open Pairs with Alan Dick.



The book shop with the albums of people from years gone by.



Julie Atkinson has worked out how to be spotted in a crowded bridge venue.



The directors' meeting this morning

Restricted Open Pairs - Overall

North-South

Place		Session 1	Session 2	Total
1	Jos Van Hees - Hamish McDonald	55.08	61.72	116.8
2	Lee McDonald - Andrew Hudson	53.02	62.44	115.46
3	Bigi Cameron - K.c. Lee	54.8	59.27	114.07
4	Lori Godden - Beth Burdett	59.26	52.86	112.12
5	Rhonda Graham - Nick Edginton	54.73	55.03	109.76
6	Gail Tippett - Paul Maxwell	51.65	55.39	107.04
7	Vicki Taylor - Ann McCombe	53.64	52.49	106.12
8	Barbara Imlach - Sue Cohen	55.97	50.04	106.01
9	Dorothy Bain - Jim Burford	51.99	50.17	102.16
10	Gayle Leader - Morgan Booker	50.55	51.56	102.1
11	Cathy Carroll - Felicity Hannay	50	51.85	101.85
12	Maxine Keay - Annette Scanlan	42.87	58.49	101.36
13	Raewyn Taylor - Barbara Gordon	50.62	50.49	101.11
14	Heather Robertson - Jan Bennett	53.7	47.15	100.86
15	Diana Warring - Ann Baker	53.36	47.18	100.55
16	Pat Ware - Stacey Hilton	55.01	45.54	100.54
17	Jenni Borren - Margaret Robbie	48.22	52.14	100.36
18	Rachelle Meijer - Jon Verhoek	46.57	53.5	100.07
19	Pam Whitehead - Stuart Grant	56.17	42.27	98.44
20	Judy Honeybone - Ashley Mooney	47.12	48.27	95.39
21	Tim Rigter - Rochelle Van Heuven	47.19	48.08	95.27
22	Virginia Warren - Marsha Woodbury	42.25	52.89	95.14
23	Peter Hirzel - Roger Toplis	49.52	44.15	93.67
24	MAREE CUDBY - HELEN WALKER	52.19	40.56	92.75
25	Christine Burton - Annette Weaver	53.43	36.38	89.81
26	Mereana Cullen - Kevin Birch	44.86	42.95	87.81
27	Jody Burchall - Thomas Freeman-Greene	35.67	45.28	80.95
28	Viv Murray - Trish Clearwater	30.59	49.77	80.36

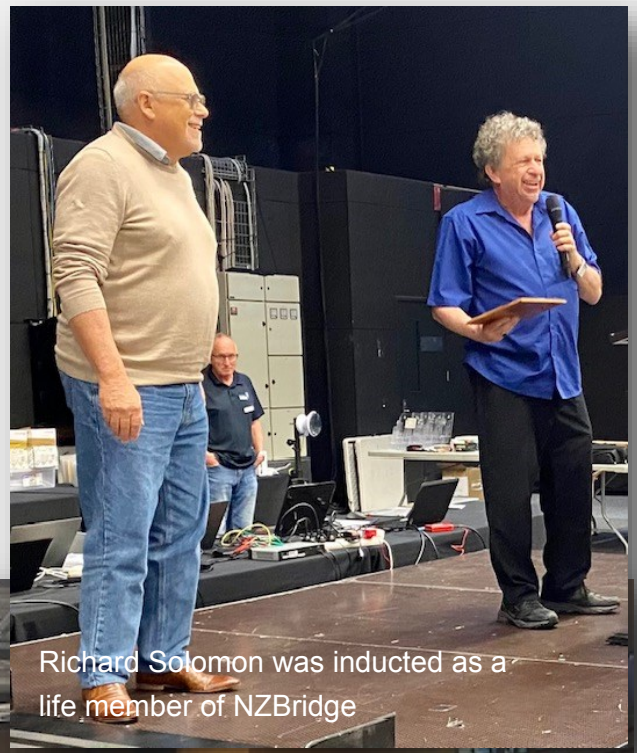
East-West

Place		Session 1	Session 2	Total
1	Ruth Brucker - Nan Wehipeihana	58.98	55.42	114.41
2	Rhonda Sweetman - Jill Church	61.8	51.77	113.57
3	Bridget Hannaway-Willcox - Tony Quinlivan	44.79	66.54	111.32
4	Laurie Hinchcliff - Elaine Ford	56.93	52.79	109.71
5	Jacinda Manconi - Carol Bearsley	57.68	49.97	107.65
6	Jane Snow - Takayo Yanagisawa	52.13	55.43	107.55
7	Bruce K Anderson - Jennifer O'Leary	48.56	58.8	107.36
8	Kevin Whyte - Clare Coles	53.29	53.96	107.26
9	Emma Russell - John Craig	50.62	56.32	106.94
10	Guy Kalma - Joy Williams	53.5	51.34	104.84
11	Alan Parkes - Megan Richards	56.52	48.06	104.58
12	Pamela Pederson - Bren Birss	57.82	46.54	104.36
13	Graham Young - Shirley Bain	55.49	48.36	103.85
14	Daniel Chua - Bill Morgan	53.02	50.33	103.35
15	Lysandra Zheng - Tim Pan	46.98	53.75	100.73
16	Sandra Veling - Jeff Veling	51.71	47.91	99.63
17	Cathy Numan - Vivienne Cannell	52.54	46.39	98.93
18	Ron Janes - Yvonne Doole	51.1	47.17	98.27

19	Barry Koster - Barbara Mackay	39.44	55.66	95.1
20	Sandy Buzzard - Paul Tomlinson	47.19	47.01	94.19
21	Valerie Fitzsimons - Michael Fitzsimons	46.09	47.94	94.03
22	Victor Kooter - Peter Daffurn	55.08	38.45	93.52
23	Cath Preen - Chris Darvell	44.17	46.81	90.98
24	Victor Weedn - Phil Merchant	48.77	41.97	90.74
25	Jane Lennox - Jennifer Hollingworth	43.83	46.84	90.67
26	Carolann Verity - Steven Verity	36.01	53.61	89.62
27	Eve Clarkson - Brenda Campbell	46.36	42.52	88.88
28	Brad Tattersfield - Jan Borren	29.63	47.5	77.13



Paul Hangartner faced a difficult decision



Richard Solomon was inducted as a life member of NZBridge



Open Pairs Qualifying Overall *

Place	Pair Names	Carry Fwd	Session 1	Session 2	Total
1	GEO TISLEVOLL - LEON MEIER		64.14	62.08	126.23
2	PAULA GREGORY - MICHAEL JOHNSTONE		61.02	57.17	118.19
3	KATE DAVIES - JOHN PATTERSON		55.81	62.2	118
4	RUSSELL WILSON - RUSSELL DIVE		62.42	54.6	117.02
5	BRIAN MACE - TOM JACOB		53.89	62.2	116.09
6	ALAN GRANT - ANNE-MARIE RUSSELL		59.13	55.99	115.12
7	MALCOLM MAYER - RACHELLE PELKMAN		54.25	59.79	114.04
8	BRIAN SENIOR - NIGEL BIRD		66.47	47.46	113.92
9	KATHY KER - ANTHONY KER		54.05	59.42	113.46
10	KAREN HARRIS - BOB HURLEY		55.93	56.48	112.41
11	SAM SIMPSON - JO SIMPSON		54.85	57.53	112.38
12	PETER MCCASKILL - JEFF THOMPSON		60.9	51.25	112.15
13	JAMES COUTTS - LIAM MILNE		47.64	63.65	111.28
14	HUGH GROSVENOR - TANIA LLOYD		61.18	49.56	110.74
15	JOHN WANG - GARY CHEN		51.76	58.11	109.87
16	KATE TERRY - JUDY PAWSON		48	61.33	109.33
17	PREM SOUNDNANAYAGAM - JEREMY F'HOSKIN		50.08	59.24	109.32
18	PAMELA MARSLAND - MIKE DUNN		52.52	56.25	108.77
19	SAMUEL COUTTS - BRAD JOHNSTON		60.42	47.64	108.06
20	KATHY YULE - ELIZABETH FISHER		54.41	53.49	107.9
21	BARRY PALMER - NEIL STUCKEY		50.2	57.52	107.72
22	JOHANNA PERFECT - HAMISH BROWN		48.56	58.82	107.37
23	JUNE LEI - JETER LIU		57.65	49.38	107.03
24	COLIN CARRYER - SANDRA CALVERT		50.64	56.25	106.89
25	XIAO LIU - SHI ZENG		54.85	51.3	106.15
26	RICHARD SOLOMON - ANNA KALMA		49.24	56.89	106.13
27	JAN CORMACK - GRANT JARVIS		52.68	53.01	105.69
28	ALAN CURRIE - BRUCE INGLIS		54.09	51.56	105.65
29	HERMAN YUAN - JEFFREY CHANG		53.37	52.23	105.59
30	BLAIR FISHER - GEORGE MASTERS		51.76	53.62	105.39
31	MIKE DOECKE - ADAM KAPLAN		44.39	60.75	105.14
32	IAN SOUTHEN - KELVIN TIBBLE		54.89	50.02	104.91
33	JOHN KRUIINIGER - FIONA TEMPLE		65.3	39.4	104.7
34	STEVE GRAY - LINDSEY GUY		51.12	53.12	104.24
34	KATHRYN TENNANT - HAYDEN SEAL		53.41	50.84	104.24
36	BRETT GLASS - GARY FOIDL		49.32	54.09	103.4
37	GRAEME TUFFNELL - IAN BERRINGTON		54.41	48.77	103.17
38	JON HUNT - JEFF TRAVIS		46.51	56.51	103.02
39	MARCUS DUDLEY - JOHN DAVIDSON		45.79	57.19	102.98
40	LINDSAY GLOVER - MOSS WYLIE		51.4	51.54	102.94
41	MAX MORRISON - JANE LENNON		53.97	48.72	102.68
42	WILL WATSON - GEESKE JOEL		49.12	53.44	102.56
43	SIMON HINGE - MICHAEL WARE		50.2	52.32	102.52
44	JAN WHYTE - ANNE GORDON		50.08	52.16	102.24
45	ALICE YOUNG - GEORGE SUN		53.81	48.36	102.17
46	GRAEME NORMAN - PATRICK D'ARCY		55.69	46.45	102.14
47	DEBBIE MCLEOD - BRIAN CLEAVER		49.32	52.74	102.06
48	TOBY GORDON - EDWARD ROGGEVEEN		46.07	55.55	101.62
49	JOHN BUCKLETON - DOUGLAS RUSSELL		45.71	55.44	101.15
50	MICHAEL CORNELL - ASHLEY BACH		54.57	46.4	100.96
51	BARRY JONES - JENNY MILLINGTON		49.6	51.24	100.84

52	GWYNETH MACE - STEPH JACOB	53.08	47.53	100.61
53	PETER RAMSEY - JACK JAMES	48.76	51.82	100.58
54	GARY DUNCAN - DEAN SOLE	51.96	48.53	100.5
55	JENNA GIBBONS - JULIAN FOSTER	60.9	39.34	100.24
56	GREG BUZZARD - HARRY SHEPHERD	47.04	52.74	99.78
57	JULIE ATKINSON - PATRICK CARTER	55.01	44.74	99.75
58	GILLIAN CORBETT - MIKE NEWTON	48.08	51.65	99.72
59	FELICITY SMYTH - SHEILA BIRD	53.25	43.97	97.22
60	ERNIE SUTTON - JEAN-OLIVIER BEGOUIN	52.24	43.25	95.49
61	PRISCILLA BLOY - NAOMI HANNAH BROWN	43.55	51.92	95.47
62	KINGA HAJMASI - CANDICE SMITH	41.87	53.41	95.28
63	STEVE BOUGHEY - WILLIAM LIU	48.04	47.11	95.15
64	NEIL RUDELLE - TANIA BROWN	46.31	48.63	94.94
65	JENA ROBINSON - JANE STEARNS	45.07	49.74	94.81
66	PAVLA FENWICK - ANDREW PURVES	46.11	48.62	94.73
67	LIZ WILCOX - MICHAEL WILCOX	50.76	43.74	94.5
68	MURRAY PHILLIPS - MURRAY MCMILLAN	46.63	46.97	93.61
68	DAVID SKIPPER - TIMOTHY SCHUMACHER	51.68	41.93	93.61
70	TREVOR ROBB - LYNNE GEURSEN	46.71	46.33	93.04
70	PHILIP NOYE - MARILYN NOYE	47.92	45.12	93.04
72	SUE SOUTHEN - PAM TIBBLE	39.98	52.8	92.78
73	ROGER BELL - JOHN MCINTOSH	45.83	46.8	92.64
74	ANNE M MCGREGOR - ANNETTE FEA	42.23	50.31	92.54
75	MARILYN JACKSON - FRANCES SHEEHY	44.75	47.1	91.85
76	ALAN DICK - HEINI LUX	50.64	40.57	91.21
77	ALAN HAMILTON - JUNE GLENN	47.48	43.66	91.14
78	OWEN CAMP - ANISIA SHAMI	46.63	44.41	91.05
79	SUE BROWN - BOB BROWN	41.51	48.88	90.38
80	WHITE SALLY MURRAY - GEOFF WHITING	50.64	39.63	90.27
81	TONY JIANG - JULIA ZHU	47.28	42.76	90.03
82	MICHAEL BYRNE - WILLIAM VAN BAKEL	39.06	50.83	89.9
83	REBECCA OSBORNE - JANA BOTT	50.96	38.78	89.74
84	CHRISTINE WILSON - GLENIS PALMER	45.75	43.93	89.68
85	STEPHEN HENRY - ANNETTE HENRY	43.11	46.36	89.47
86	PEER BACH - SETSUKO LICHTNECKER	49.8	39.55	89.35
87	DARSHANI JAYASINGHE - TONI BARDON	34.78	54.36	89.13
88	JIM WALLIS - NICOLETTE BARTOLI	44.43	44.29	88.72
89	TRISH DOWNWARD - PETER DOWNWARD	50.8	37.84	88.64
90	MAX ROBB - BILL MECCHIA	44.03	44.27	88.3
91	MARK HANGARTNER - PAUL HANGARTNER	45.67	41.63	87.31
92	PATRICIA SCOTT - MARILYN COPLAND	42.63	44.07	86.7
93	MURAT GENC - ANNE SOMERVILLE	36.34	49.56	85.89
94	TRACEY LEWIS - GRETA CASEY	41.83	43.39	85.21
95	BEVERLEY MORRIS - ALLAN MORRIS	44.83	39.38	84.21
96	ELLEN CURNOW - RAY CURNOW	43.55	38.94	82.49
97	CHRIS BOLLAND - CAROL DE LUCA	39.1	38.14	77.25
98	ANN MELLINGS - SHERYL CULLENWARD	34.82	38.82	73.64