4. Some play like Tony Goddard

Brian Castledine, Paul Prescott and others

English 18th century traditional



Some try to win with moyo, And some with corners small. Some try to win in yose, And some don't try at all. But the strategy that works for us, Is none of these at all, Just rip, rip, rip, rip, rip, rip, rip, Until the groups all fall.

Some like to play cross hoshi, And some play san-ren-sei. Some like to play shimaris, And maybe that's OK. But the opening move we like the best, We'll play it any day, That little dot in the middle of the board, It is the only te.

Some like to play on four stones, And some to play on five, But when you get to seventeen, It's tricky to survive. But the handicap we like the best Made all our groups alive We told them we were 30 kyu, And they gave us 25. Some like to play with one hour, But really that won't do. Some like to play with three hours, And byo-yomi too. But the time limits we liked the best, Were when we'd more than you, With fifteen minutes on the clock, And you had only two.

Some like to play nadare,
And some the bloody sword.
Some like to play the taisha,
But with these we are bored.
For the joseki that works for us,
We'll play with one accord,
Just cut, hack slice - it's not quite nice,
But it brings a rich reward.

Some like to play shibori, And some the mannen ko. Some like to take in geta, And some to take in sh'cho. But the tesuji that works the best, Which really all should know, Is an oki here and an oki there, Until the eyes all go.

(Repeat verse 1.)

Brian Castledine was briefly Honorary President of the British Go Association before his untimely death in an accident in 1979. He was one of the first authors of go songs. He is now commemorated in the trust fund with bears his name, and which makes financial grants to help young go players improve and gain experience.

Paul Prescott flashed across the British go scene like a meteor in the '70s. He won the British Championship from Jon Diamond once in 1974, before retiring to Scotland to run railways.

Tony Goddard was Jon Diamond's main challenger for the British Championship in the '60s and early '70s. He never won the title, but he is still seen at tournaments from time to time.

Stuart Dowsey, rated at 3 dan, was the manager of the London Go Centre throughout the years of its existence in the '70s.

Quite sufficient has been written elsewhere of T Mark Hall. [Ed]