

ODE TO THE CANNING CUP (2026)

The Canning Cup, The Canning Cup,
The best day of the season.
In order to be here today
You'll need no other reason.

Gents v ladies, Oh what fun!
We claim it's all for pleasure.
Don't you believe it - it's prestige
And war in equal measure.

It's all quite friendly at the start
(It's good to have a chat.)
But once that opening jack is bowled
The mood shifts – just like that!

Retaliation's in the air
And vengeance is the aim.
So never let yourself believe
That this is just a game!

Wicks and tricks and crafty moves
Are all employed to try us.
And then, despite our best intent,
There's always a wrong bias.

The frequent winners are the men
And don't we ladies know it?
But even though it gets our goat
Of course, we never show it!

So, good luck everybody,
And may the best prevail?
But let's just hope we have some fun
And live to tell the tale!

Sue Russell