

# FORWORDS

**Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players  
No 102 Autumn 2011**



## In this issue

**You too can speak Cantabrian**

**Causeway / Tournament of Champions observations**

**Football's most valuable Scrabble names**

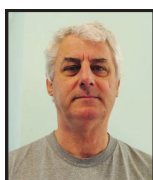
**How often do -ING words take an S?**

**Summer anagram challenge solution**



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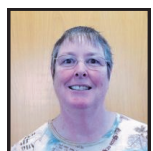
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# From the Editor



There's only one topic relevant to or worthy of an editorial in any magazine at the moment – the terrible Christchurch earthquake.

Scrabblers throughout the rest of New Zealand have been very concerned for all Christchurch residents, not just the ones we know. We are relieved to know that all our Scrabble friends are safe, but continue to worry about your sometimes impossible situation. We show our concern however we can: by donations, prayers, organising fund-raising, volunteering our skills and our labour, etc.

For myself, I have thought about Christchurch people with a degree of guilt every time I have stepped into the shower, flushed the toilet, turned on the stove, used the telephone or watched TV. I keep trying to imagine what it must be like being without even one of these basic services, let alone trying to manage in a now sub-standard house, or temporary accommodation.

I suffer from a bad back from time to time, and I'm always amazed at how time-consuming it is looking after yourself when you don't have the usual resources or skills available to you. I think of the labour and time involved in just going to whatever "toilet" Christchurch residents have available to them: extra distance to walk and waiting in queues, or digging holes and disposing of waste, and the extra supervision of children required, etc. The labour behind even getting a drink of safe water is enormous, not to mention the effort required to make a meal. And how the dirty laundry must have piled up!

Most of all, I feel guilty about having leisure, and being able to carry on doing enjoyable things, like playing a game of

Scrabble with a friend, or going to Scrabble club night or tournament without a care in the world – or, if I have got cares, being able to put them aside for a time while I do other things. Christchurch people cannot forget their cares – and if they do manage to switch off for a short time, another terrifying after-shake will bring them back to reality with a (literal) jolt.

The only positive I can come up with (apart from all the lives that **weren't** lost) is Scrabble. With gymnasiums, swimming pools, sports grounds, and leisure centres like the QEII Park out of action for probably the long-term, we have to be thankful that a game of Scrabble with a friend needs no special venue, no big or electronic equipment, no water, no power, no special clothing, no spectators, and just one other player. (Imagine trying to get a rugby team of 15 together at the moment!)

So, this is a message to all our beloved Scrabblers in Christchurch: play whenever you can; get in touch with another player near you and suggest a game. I'm sure it will do you both a world of good.

And the message to Scrabblers elsewhere: get your emergency supplies organised. Check the inside back cover of the Yellow Pages, and organise your emergency supplies of batteries, water, food, etc. We will never have a more pertinent warning than this earthquake of the need to be prepared. (A pack of cards and a Scrabble set could be useful, too, if there's no power.)

## From the Executive

It was hard to find anywhere to shop or bank in the days following the massive 22nd February earthquake in Christchurch and a nightmare to get there over the rutted, potholed roads. However, five days after the quake, I found myself in a queue at the bookshop/bank at Tower Junction, miles away from our normal business/shopping area.

The lady ahead of us in the queue told us that they had just arrived from the Bay of Plenty to live in Christchurch the day after the earthquake (timing!). She was then joined by her 10-year-old daughter who was holding a large Collins *Word List* book.

“We’ve just had to get this for her – she plays Scrabble endlessly and we need to resolve what are or are not valid words”!

This was a heartening affirmation that life goes on – from the basics of life right through to Scrabble and screw the earthquake. Needless to say, we made this family au fait with the existence of the Christchurch Scrabble Club and explained our headquarters were being used for civil defence/EQC purposes at the moment, but we would re-raise soon.

Our team for the WSC will be finalised after this year’s Nationals in Wellington. I’m excited that our five will be playing in such a different location although it will be a long testing trip to Warsaw and a bigger than usual hit on our Worlds fund for air fares and accommodation.

On the local front, the Pakuranga, Wellington, Rotorua and Mt Albert Memorial tournaments have been run successfully, Val, Liz and Glenda will run

the Masters in Pakuranga which has drawn an excellent field, and I look forward to MCing the Nationals in Wellington at Queens Birthday weekend.



Remember the Executive is here for your benefit and all ideas you may have to improve our organisation are welcome.

I am standing down from Scrabble administration after the 2011 Nationals – I’ve done 30 years at the clubs and the immediate past three years on the National exec. I was aghast to firstly have Lynn Wood, my predecessor, stand down due to chronic ill health (Lynn has since had a reprieve I’m thrilled to say), then to lose Bryan Foster. Events conspired further against us when my wife Roslyn’s health stalled after a cancer operation, the September 4th earthquake severely compromised my livelihood, and the February 22nd one has all but shut us off (our premises, work files and records are in the dreaded Red Zone and in the shadow of the Grand Chancellor).

So I’ll be spending the next year nursing Roslyn, resurrecting work and reinventing myself – I hope to be back as a player by the 2012 Nationals.

DOWN BUT NOT OUT

*Paul*

## You too can speak Cantabrian!

- by Lyn Dawson, Christchurch

**S**crabblers will already be familiar with various forms of English, for example American English and Australian English. Now a new dialect of New Zealand English has been identified – Cantabrian.

Lexicographers can accurately date the appearance of this dialect to the earthquakes of September 4 2010 at 0436 and February 22 2011 at 1251. Visitors to Christchurch may appreciate this guide to local words and phrases:

**Assessors** – EQC teams, usually comprised of a builder and insurance adjustor who carries a clipboard. Identified by hi-vis vests marked EQC and equipped with infrared lights, lasers, torches, ladders and other testing equipment. NB: the word has no singular form.

**Dust mask** – fashion item found mainly in eastern suburbs or city-wide in a nor'wester. From February.

**E-word** – earthquake. Avoid using the whole word as this seems invariably to cause one within a short time.

**EOC** – Emergency Operations Centre, the nerve centre of the city council.

**EQC** – Earthquake Commission, the government agency that collects and administers the surcharge on house and contents insurance.

**Geonet** – [www.geonet.org.nz](http://www.geonet.org.nz). The Internet home page for most Cantabrians as they race to find out the strength and epicentre of the latest aftershock.

**Hand sanitiser** – found at the entrance of most buildings and anywhere people are likely to make contact. Do not mistake the wringing of hands for unctuousness; it is simply people applying the sanitiser as a necessary hygienic measure.

**Have you been assessed yet?** –

Common greeting referring to the process of EQC assessors checking the property for damage more thoroughly than a police search team. Used between September and February.

**Have you power and water yet?** –

Common greeting after February.

**Hi-vis vests** – fashion statement worn by many and frequently accessorised with colourful IDs on lanyards. Ideally they should carry logos.

**Insurance** – If a householder, this means your house and contents insurance, as paths, fences and pools etc are not covered by EQC.

**I've been red/yellow/green stickered**

– A4 stickers are put on the entrance to a building indicating the perceived level of risk for access. Red means too dangerous and entrance is forbidden, yellow means access under certain conditions and green means free access. Common after February.

**Keep safe/stay safe** – goodbye.

**Portaloo** – the acme of al fresco plumbing and in high demand.

**Quake brain** – a bit like having senior moments only this is long term and caused by stress. Scrabblers' symptoms include inability to recall simple short words and overlooking obvious high scoring plays.

**RACS** – Recovery Assistance Centres staffed by government and social agencies (February). The hall used by the Christchurch Scrabble Club is now a RAC.

**Surreal** – How we describe life after the September 7.1 as we came to terms with what had happened amid ongoing shakes and damage. Usage ceased in February and as yet no replacement word or

phrase has been identified.

**Traffic cones** – ubiquitous symbols of the city. Found in nearly every street marking various hazards. Daily locations may vary depending on overnight earth movements.

**Totalled** – totally wrecked and unliveable, as in “My house was totalled.”

**Trashed** – badly damaged, as in “My house was trashed.”

**Was that a 3.2 or a truck?** – Something has just caused shaking, what was it?

### **Media Terms**

The following terms are not used by the locals. They are, however, hauled out and overworked at every opportunity by unimaginative media:

**Devastating** – apparently the only adjective known.

**Devastating earthquake** – they seem unable to use the word “earthquake” by itself or understand that since September there have been over 5,000 earthquakes, most of which have caused damage.

**Loved ones** – those who were killed.

**Significant aftershock** – one the presenter felt.

### **Redundancies**

No longer in use since September:

**Constipation** – no cases reported.

**Did the earth move for you?** – Not a joke.

Finally, a short note on etiquette – Don’t go sightseeing in badly affected



*Recent Christchurch tournaments have been held in the Coronation Hall in Spreydon. The driveway in the right foreground is the entrance and the view is down Lyttelton Street to the Port Hills. The fence in the middle of the road surrounds a sinkhole big enough to hold a small car. Pioneer Stadium, where many competitors lunch, is about 100m down the street on the right. This photo was taken early in the morning, three days after the February quake when flooding had subsided although there is still plenty of silt around. The hall was damaged but should be repairable.*

suburbs. It’s offensive and causes distress to those still living there. Traffic movement can cause further slippage of land or housing.

Since September, earthquakes have changed our lives dramatically in ways we would never have thought possible. There has been dreadful loss of life, serious injuries and probably every building is damaged. But all around the destruction and grief endlessly replayed by the media is life in all its glory, vigour and optimism.

Yes, we’ve experienced adversity and fear, but we’ve also seen the best in so many people, we’ve risen to the challenge and we’re looking forward and working to make our city beautiful once more.

**Of course we CANterbury!**



## Quaking in his shoes

*This is the email that President Paul Lister sent out on 24 February, a few days after the Christchurch earthquake:*

In the case of myself, wife Roslyn and sons Dominic and Patrick and his partner Anna – we are all OK, but both Anna's parents' houses have been annihilated and Patrick and Anna are now staying with us.

Roslyn and I were alone at the office on 2nd level 137 Hereford Street where we work when the quake zapped us at 12.51pm on Tuesday – the filled roll we were eating was thrown into the air and we were thrown round the office.

Although fire warden for 2nd floor, I forsook that duty and bundled my frail wife down to the street where a surreal scene greeted us – hundreds of upset, agitated and loud people and dust and smoke. We had been shown by soldiers in the September quake to walk in the centre of the road and we directed ourselves to Manchester St where the car was parked one kilometre away. We bypassed one man dead on the ground with people in attendance and then turned left into Manchester St where some people suggested we not walk in the middle of the road as we slowed car traffic. As they said this, a large pile of rubble dislodged from the side of buildings on both sides of the road – had we heeded these people's advice we both would have been maimed/killed!

We next came upon a bloodied body on the street again – this guy was also dead and with eight people in attendance – and then four collapsed buildings which had pinned six vehicles down. Sickeningly, in the last car a clearly deceased guy was being dislodged by a crew with the jaws of life. Fifty metres further down Manchester St a woman was screaming by a gas leak "Run for your life out of the city – it's going to blow!" Like characters in *Independence Day*, Roslyn and I then moved fast the next 100 metres and then made the decision to get to the car on the lower floor of the car park building.

With hearts pounding and terrified of the aftershocks, we rushed to the car. I threw Roslyn in and then gunned the car out, dodging debris and crushed cars and making it to the relative safety of a (liquefaction engulfed) Barbadoes St – one hour later to home (usually a 10 minute trip!).

Horror thought that the CTV building where Joanne Craig and I had been interviewed 18 months before, and at which Dominic had had a medical just the day before, had collapsed in the earthquake killing a dozen!

*And Lyn Dawson, owner of Olivia's former guide dog, also reported on 24 February:*

Friends of Awhi will be pleased to learn that she escaped the 6.3 unharmed.

Unfortunately this time she no longer has Rockie for comfort as he passed away a few weeks ago, but as always, she'll quickly join John or me for cuddles after a shake and spends the night beside our bed. We got off fairly lightly by comparison and still have the luxuries of power and water supplies. This morning we got the okay to flush the toilet (but only if necessary)!

(As I wrote this at 1010 there was such a strong shock that I took cover – Awhi suddenly materialised alongside – then another, so I grabbed her and tried to get us both under the desk).

Thank you all for your messages, we really do appreciate them (even my non-playing husband). Make sure you have your emergency kits ready (back page of the *Yellow Pages*) and stay safe.

### Seen on a coffee mug

*- sent in by Glenda Foster*

Dear Mum

If there is no such thing as a monster, why is it in the dictionary?

### **The lighter side**

Some people still have a sense of humour, even in difficult times. These words originated in Christchurch.

*You know you are from Christchurch when:*

- a group of students leave your place in better condition than when they arrived.
- every house is a crack house.
- you start looking for items by looking on the floor.
- it seems like it's a good idea to visit the in-laws in Invercargill.
- you take a plastic bag with you, when you go for a walk, even though you don't have a dog.

### **Silly words, please**

*- from Nick Cavenagh, Hamilton*

A friend of mine works on the local radio in a morning shift and would like to do a little feature on Scrabble. It would be great to have some silly scrabble words to give her to entertain the listeners.

Eg: "geep = cross between a goat and a sheep"

zzz, oidiod, etc.... I think words with silly meanings are good fodder.

If you could send me your favourite silly scrabble word(s) that would be great!

Unfortunately the station doesn't podcast, but I will let Hamiltonians know the date/time/station details when I have them.

*[And I hope she will give us permission to publish the transcript? -Ed.]*

### **Palindrome**

*- from Dianne Cole-Baker, Mt Albert*

I was given a good palindrome recently –  
... a man, a plan, a canal, Panama . . .

### **Shorthand words competition**

*- challenge from the Editor*

Gradually we are getting used to "txt-spkr", with expressions like C U (see you), L8 (late), etc.

Lately, I've been noticing words whose pronunciation can be represented accurately and entirely by the pronunciation of different letters of the alphabet – not just the actual words like emcee, okay, deejay, but words like envy (NV, en-vee), empty (MT, em-tee), cutie (CT, cue-tee), arsey / arsy (RC, ar-cee), decay (DK, dee-kay), etc. I think of these words as "shorthand words".

Your challenge is to provide as many words (of two syllables or more) as you can that can be represented by letters only. These are the only sounds that can be used: ay, bee, cee, dee, ee, ef, gee, aitch, eye, jay, kay, el, em, en, oh, pee, cue, ar, es, tee, you, vee, double-you, ex, wye and zed. (Please note that although N is a close enough pronunciation for ING or ION in texting, it's not close enough for the purposes of this competition. However, ODS would be considered by the judge as close enough for odious. As usual, judge's decision cannot be disputed!)

You'll find that two-syllable shorthand words are fairly easy to find. The longer ones, such as RABN for Arabian (not a Scrabble word) are not so easy or so common – which is why I'm not providing a Scrabble example.

Two prizes: one for the longest correct list, and one for the biggest word (in the event of a draw, the "best" word wins.) Acceptable Scrabble words only, please.

[Warning: check carefully that your words meet the pronunciation requirement.]

Send your entries to the editor (contact details on back cover).



## Competition Corner



### Scrabble contest no. 102

The following square contains fourteen allowable Scrabble bonus words. Remarkably, it can be constructed using a set of Scrabble tiles, without resorting to the blanks. Can you solve it?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						

### Clues

#### Across

- a tailor (sl.)
- not where you live
- phantom
- physostigmine
- belted
- violent emetic
- cuts away part of

#### Down

- the nose (sl.)
- offensive or disgusting
- liquid hydrocarbons
- an insecticide
- prudent, discreet
- distinguished
- declines

The winner will receive a book prize.  
Send entries by mail or email to:  
Jeff Grant  
'Ardra'

1109 Allenby St  
Hastings 4122  
ardra@clear.net.nz  
Closing date is 26 May 2011

### Solution: contest no. 101

1. Jethro Snafflerod scored 96 points for WYNDHAM, Delcie Macbeth (Independent) got 98 for ASHWICK (Flat), and Ron Bunny 106 for FOVEAUX (Strait), but we disallowed the last two because they are not 'stand alone' names.

Coming in before the first closing date for the contest were Pam Barlow (Pakuranga) and John Baird (Christchurch) who both found MAXWELL for 104 points. It's a small town between Wanganui and Waverley, and yes, it is allowed in Scrabble! A MAXWELL is a unit of magnetic flux named in honour of 19th century Scots physicist James Maxwell. First name out of the hat was John – congratulations!

Because some people didn't get their magazines till after the original closing date, we extended the time and Lyn Toka (Kiwī) came up with FAIRFAX, as did Anne Scatchard (Whangarei), who also found FOXHILL. Both of these score 106 points. FAIRFAX is a rural locality in Southland, and FOXHILL is a settlement in the Nelson-Marlborough region. Anne (first name out of the hat), a small prize is on its way to you as well.

### 2. Scrabble riddle

The poem contains the following anagrams:  
PAL UPON is Panupol (Sujjayakorn)  
PARK ON is Pakorn (Nemitmansuk)  
BODY'S AVID is David Boys  
BRAIN is Brian (Cappelletto)  
VALID DREAD is David Eldar  
RICH LAD REIGNS is Nigel Richards  
A MAN A GOLD is Adam Logan  
PREMIER SORT is Peter Morris  
RANK MY MAN is Mark Nyman  
Well done to Jennifer Smith

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(Hamilton), Lyn Toka (Kiwi) and Delcie Macbeth (Independent) for working this out. The answers we wanted were: (a) "He" is a Tournament of Champions contestant, and (b) Joel Wapnick is the player missing (Jennifer supplied the anagram PINE LOCKJAW!).

Congrats, Delcie, a trillion dollar note is heading your way. Just don't try to spend it!

### Scoring some que\*

- by Jeff Grant

In 2006 wordsmith Don Hauptman noted cleverly (and homophonically) that 'NABE or HOOD can be used for NEIGHBOURHOOD. In a similar vein to the likes of HOOD, CHUTE (parachute) and ZA (pizza), where a word is shortened to the last syllable, there is a new entrant in the class.

While reading Kathy Reichs's latest novel *Mortal Remains*, Pat pointed out to me a reference to one of the characters going to "score some 'que'". Apparently this is a shortened form of BARBEQUE, a variant of BARBECUE in the American *Official Scrabble Players Dictionary*. How long will it be before 'que' makes it into our Scrabble lexicon?

## Twenty years ago today

- by John Foster, Independent

My selection for this issue is an article on the evolution of two-letter words in our language. What I found interesting was that QI had apparently not been adopted in 1991.

I remember participating in the debate generated by the introduction of this seemingly inoffensive word but it seems like more than 20 years ago. No other word has polarised the Scrabble community the way this one did. Those opposed to it argued that it devalued the Q and that the point value of the Q should be reduced accordingly, or even that we should simply refuse to accept QI. They lost the argument and it now seems like it has been with us forever.

The article is reproduced on the opposite page.



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(see more of his cartoons on [sunshinestatecomics.com](http://sunshinestatecomics.com))

## TWO-LETTER WORDS

Two-letter words are the connectors, or stepping stones, of our language. Of the 100 most common words used in written English, no less than 24 are biliterals:

am, an, as, at, be, by, do, go, he, if, in, is,  
it, me, my, no, of, on, or, so, to, us, up, we

If you could go back in time to the year of 1765 and play a game of Scrabble using Dr Samuel Johnson's Dictionary as reference, all of the above would be allowed as well as:

ah, ay, bo, fy, ha, ho, la, lo, mo, ne, oh, ox, wo, ye  
A grand total of only 38 two-letter words.

Moving forward a hundred years to play another game you could then use the original Cedric - Chamber's Etymological Dictionary. It contains all the words from Dr Johnson's Dictionary except mo and ne, but adds eh. With only a third of the two-letter words we have today available, hooking on those bonus words would be much more awkward.

Let's move on to 1910 and play another game, this time using Chamber's Twentieth Century Dictionary. All Dr Johnson's words are usable, as well as:

ae, ax, ee, eh, em, hi, io, ky, li, ma, mi,  
na, od, os, pa, pi, re, si, ti, ug,ur, yo

Now we have 60 two-letter words at our disposal.

On to 1952, and Scrabble is really starting to take hold! Chamber's Mid-Century Edition gives us even more two-letter words, including one (gu) which doesn't seem to be listed in any other dictionary, and another (ch) which never stands alone. Here are the new twoers:

ad, al, ar, ch, da, ea, el, en, er, ex, fa,  
gu, id, jo, ka, mu, nu, ny, ob, oe, oo, ou,  
ow, oy, st, ta, ye, un, ut, xi, yu, zo

That's better! Now we've got 93 little beauties to call on.

In 1991 things are pretty good for Scrabblers. Using the new Cedric and OSPD there are an impressive 111 allowable 2-letter words. How many more will the dictionaries see fit to include in future? There is still plenty of room for expansion, larger works contain such terms as ak, fo, ie,ja,mn, qi, uv, and zs. Think how handy they would be. In fact, the present corpus of 2-letter Scrabble words could quite easily be doubled! Whether this would be beneficial to the game is a matter of opinion.

As updated editions of our references are published there will inevitably be new words to learn. We should all be familiar with ko now (even if we don't like it), and there will be another one to deposit in the old memory bank when Oswald Mk 2 comes out - di (latin plural of deus).

# Club News



## Dunedin

On the last Scrabble evening in 2010, the Dunedin Scrabble Club took all its members to dinner at Adana's Turkish Restaurant in South Dunedin. After a very enjoyable and filling meal, a Swiss Round Robin Tourney was held at our Club Rooms which was won by Karyn McDougall. This was followed by supper and our Annual 2010 Awards which were as follows:

Club Champion:	Scott Chaput (won the silver trophy)
Round Robin:	1. Peter Sinton 2. Scott Chaput
Challenge:	1. Scott Chaput 2. Karyn McDougall
Ladder:	1. Scott Chaput 2. Karyn McDougall
Dictionary:	1. Daisy Madden 2. Bev Allen

All of the above were presented with certificates.

Our thoughts are with Christchurch and, as many of our members have family and friends in Christchurch, we do have contact with them. We can only hope that playing Scrabble provides some relief in their circumstances.

## Hamilton

At Club night recently, one member played three bogus words in one play. We wonder if this is some sort of a record?

Jennifer Smith played SEASAWS (the W was a blank), hooking the first S onto CREEPING and the last S onto UMU. Shirley Martin challenged all three words, and the play was disallowed by Zyzzyva. On checking later, they found all three words were incorrect.

Jennifer said afterwards that as she played the word, she was aware that there was only a one in three chance that

CREEPINGS\* was OK [see the article in this issue about -ING words]; and she vaguely remembered that UMU (an oven) was one of those official list "defects" in that its plural is not allowed. In addition, as she typed SEASAWS\* into Zyzzyva, she realised that it should probably have been SEESAWS. [The only word with those letters is AMASSES, which was not playable.]

If three bogus words in one play were a record, Jennifer says it would be a dubious "honour" to hold it! (And it would certainly be an easy record to break!)

## Kiwi

Early in March, we held 20th annual Raglan Tournament, as usual, at Jo Jackson's home in Raglan. In recognition of the special occasion, spot prizes were decided on the letters of the word TWENTY.

In glorious weather and with Jo's relaxed and loving hospitality, 16 of us enjoyed playing six games in two grades. Winners of the grades were Jennifer Smith and Jena Yousif, while Val Flint won the prize for the most bonus words (13 for the 6 games).

## New office bearers

- Steve Richards is no longer the contact/secretary for the **Nelson Club**. Tony Charlton is now filling that position.
- Shirley Martin is no longer the President of the **Hamilton Club**. The new President is Nick Cavenagh. Jillian Greening is still the Secretary/Treasurer/contact person.
- The Secretary of the **Mt Albert Club** for 2011 is Dianne Cole-Baker. Anderina McLean is the new President, Mary Gray Treasurer and Katy Yiakmis Vice-President.

## Hall of fame

**G**reetings.  
My name is Pyrrhus. I was born about 318 BC and I became the ruler of the ancient kingdom of Epirus, in northern Greece, about 306 BC. (Later, after various victories, I also became the King of Macedon, and even later, the King of Sicily.) I was not only a statesman, but a general, being one of the strongest opponents of early Rome.

As a young man I proved myself on the battlefield again and again, and in time was considered one of the greatest military commanders of my era. I had great strategic skills, but, in hindsight, I see that I didn't really know when to stop. And I wasn't too good on the budgeting side! My wars took a heavy toll on my army as well as the treasury, which I didn't pay enough attention to.

In an attempt to subdue the Romans, I entered Italy with an army consisting of 3000 cavalry, 2000 archers, 500 slingers, 20,000 infantry, and 20 war elephants (which Ptolemy II was kind enough to lend me). I defeated the Romans in the Battle of Heraclea in 280 BC, and the Battle of Asculum in 279 BC, but suffered staggering losses in the process. (The Romans suffered greater casualties than we did, but they had a much larger supply of men to call upon.)

After Asculum, when I lost almost all my friends and principal commanders, I uttered my famous statement, "One more such victory will undo me."

I had a somewhat ignominious death. When I was invading Argos in Sparta in 272 BC, I got caught up in a battle in the narrow city streets. During the confusion, an old crone watching from a rooftop threw a roofing tile at me (damn her!). Taking advantage of my stunned state, an enemy soldier beheaded me.

A PYRRHIC victory is one where you win a contest, but at too great a cost. It carries the implication that another such victory will ultimately result in defeat.



Look at the picture of my bust, and remember me when you play the word PYRRHIC.

*PYRRHIC(S) also refers to a metrical foot having two short or unaccented syllables. A PYRRHICIST in ancient Greece was one who danced the pyrrhiche\*, a dance that imitated warfare.*

### Mailbox

Dear editor, I've just competed again in the Nelson tournament and was disappointed by the small number of entries. This has to be one of the finest tournaments around as, although the club is small and very hospitable, the talent is extensive and the venue is simply the best, with superb catering as well. Good and inexpensive accommodation is available at nearby Tahuna Park which is within walking distance.

I suggest that we all make the effort, when Nelson holds another tournament, to grab cheap airfares, book comfortable cabins and enjoy a happy weekend of competition at the top of the south.

*Lyn Dawson, Christchurch*

## Why play one when you can play two?

So you want to get rid of a couple of As? In some words, you can play two As, not just one. These are useful words to remember, especially when you are doing a parallel play alongside consecutive consonants.

### Two to 3-letter

AH	AAH (both take S, ED and ING)
AL	AAL (both take S)
BA	BAA (both take S)
FA	FAA (both take S)
MA	MAA (both take S)

### Three to 4-letter

BAL	BAAL (both take S)
FAN	FAAN
JAP	JAAP (both take S)
KAS	KAAS
MAR	MAAR (both take S)
NAM	NAAM (both take S)
NAN	NAAN (both take S)
PAL	PAAL (both take S)
YAR	YAAR

### Four to 5-letter

ARTI	AARTI (both take S)
ALAP	ALAAP (both take S)
KAMA	KAAMA (both take S)
LARI	LAARI (both take S)
MARE	MAARE
PRAM	PRAAM (both take S)

### Five to 6-letter

BASES	BAASES
BAZAR	BAZAAR (both take S)
LAGER	LAAGER (both take S, ED and ING)
MASES	MAASES
SAMAN	SAMAAN (both take S)

### Six to a bonus!

MATJES	MAATJES
MARKKA	MARKKAA
WADMAL	WADMAAL (both take S)

### Seven to 8-letter, or bigger

ASSEGAI	ASSEGAAI (both take S, ED and ING)
NARTJIE	NAARTJIE (both take S)
HANEPOOT	HAANEPOOT (both take S)
MESHUGAS	MESHUGAAS (both take EN)

### Grounds for divorce?

A NZ Scrabble couple found they were drawn to play one another in a recent tournament. On the closing racks, they were neck and neck.

**HE**, having tile tracked, knew that her last three tiles were L U and I.

**SHE** only had to play her last three tiles to win the game.

**HE**, having been married to her for many years, knew exactly what was going through her mind.

**SHE** was thinking, "Is LUI a word or isn't it?"

**HE** whispered under his breath, seemingly to himself: "DUI, HUI, LUI, SUI, TUI."

**SHE** thought, "Oh yes, that sounds familiar", and played LUI.

**HE** challenged.

**SHE** had to take the word off.

**HE** played out and won.

Surprisingly, not only are they still talking amiably to one another, and still playing Scrabble together, but they are still married!

### Unusual hook

At the Baltimore, Maryland (US), tournament some years ago, a player challenged XI, and of course lost the challenge. Minutes later, the challenger added an I to XI, making XII.

When the other player challenged, her opponent indignantly retorted, "If you can play eleven, I certainly can play twelve."

- *Everything Scrabble, Third Edition, Joe Edley & John D. Williams, Jr, 2009*



## A common language

*This article, sent in by Vicky Robertson, Wellington, has been doing the email rounds for many years. We're not sure if it has featured in Forwards in the past, but if so, it's worth reprinting:*

The European Commission has just announced an agreement whereby English will be the official language of the European Union rather than German, which was the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, the British Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a 5- year phase-in plan that would become known as "Euro-English".

In the first year, "s" will replace the soft "c". Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump with joy. The hard "c" will be dropped in favour of "k". This should klear up konfusion, and keyboards can have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year when the troublesome "ph" will be replaced with "f". This will make words like fotograf 20% shorter.

In the 3rd year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling can be expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible.

Governments will enkourage the removal of double letters which have always ben a deterent to akurate speling.

Also, al wil agre that the horibl mes of the silent "e" in the languag is disgrasful and it should go away.

By the 4th yer people wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" with "z" and "w" with "v".

During ze fifz yer, ze unesesary "o" can be dropd from vords kontaining "ou" and after ziz fifz yer, ve vil hav a reil sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubl or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi to understand ech oza. Ze drem of a united urop vil finali kum tru.

Und efter ze fifz yer, ve vil al be speking German like zey vunted in ze forst plas.

### A little poem

*- by Leighton (Sandy) Gelling, Hamilton*

From the bag I took my tiles and placed them on my rack.

I saw no vowels and thought, 'Oh no! I'll have to throw some back!'

And so I did – except the S – and pulled out six new tiles.

'Aha!' I thought, when shuffling 'round revealed to me DEFILES.

My hopes were dashed, however, when my opponent played XU.

I couldn't play my word at all; no bonus could I do.

I heaved a sigh and played DEFUSE, and picked up five more fizzers,

And just my luck, on his next turn he proudly put down QUIZZES.

The game continued, word by word, and frustrated did I grow,

When all I got upon my rack were As and Is and Os.

'I can't do anything good with these,' I muttered sotto voce.

As I once again exchanged, I acted very grouchy.

Catching up was not to be, as soon the game was done.

He won by over twice my score, 450 to my 201.

I put the tiles back in the bag, annoyed at coming last...

But then, I'm playing by myself – why am I so aghast?

## **Causeway and Tournament of Champions observations**

**T**he Causeway event in Malaysia last December was exciting viewing. Watching all the competitors from the three sections as they tussled with their opponents and observing the body language from the Open to the Premiers was interesting.

The Open section had a large variety of people from different countries and the humorous banter between the players was great to see. The Masters section was a bit more tense in their play but also had an amiable atmosphere. The Premier section was full of top players from around the world and that event was much more competitive. The teams event in this section was fascinating with players racing to the results board after games played to see where their team was lying as no-one wanted to be relegated.

Well done NZ on placing 8th in this extremely strong field.

There were two disappointing aspects of this competition: that was the tile bags splitting in the Premier section and my observation of a senior player not observing the rules. This player overdrew one tile as his opponent played a bonus word and instead of letting his opponent know, sneakily put the extra tile back in the bag while he announced he was challenging the word.

This competition is tough but there is no room for cheating! The appropriate people have been informed of this incident so in future the player involved can be more thoroughly scrutinised.

The Tournament of Champions was an amazing spectacle. Ten of the “crème de la crème” of Scrabble were in a room playing off for the winner-take-all prize. I was privileged to annotate the first World Champion, Peter Morris’s games. He

*- by Pat Grant, Independent*

played exceptionally well, especially as he had not participated in top level Scrabble for about 17 years. Peter was a perfect gentleman, making his racks easily readable and speaking clearly when announcing the score.

I did note in one game that an opponent mis-scored three times in the first four moves and as Peter always checked the scores there was no question of having to recount the moves at the end of play. There were a number of games recounted in both events and one hopes that players are not “banking” points.

Congratulations to Nigel on winning this prestigious event. Also congratulations to Michael Tang for having the foresight to set up these events. Scrabble is certainly better off with his enthusiasm for the game. Keep up the great work Michael.

---

### **From our “Wish-I’d-thought-of-that” photograph album**



*Kris Saether (Mt Albert) in his new t-shirt, given to him by his girlfriend Kim.*

## World Youth Champs

We've been a bit slow to report on the World Youth Scrabble Championships 2010.

The Malaysian contingent heading to the World Youth Scrabble Championship 2010 in Manila had a rough start. First, their flight was delayed by a few hours before they were informed that the flight was cancelled. Finally, the team boarded an airline past midnight and arrived in Manila about four hours before the start of the tournament at 8.30am.

All the team had was a few hours' sleep before they faced their biggest Scrabble challenge. Ker Jen Ho (16), who was stuck in Kuala Lumpur for hours, hoping for an available flight early enough to not miss the tournament, went all the way to clinch the World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC) 2010 title.

Karen Richards, the organiser of the World Youth Scrabble Championship, gathered 82 aspiring players from 14 countries for the most anticipated tournament among teen Scrabble players. Two new countries, South Africa and Pakistan, took part this time.

Oluwafemi Akinlosotu from Nigeria positioned himself as a front-runner when he garnered a 12-point winning streak.



*Ker Jen Ho*

With 2 points clear from the player next in line, all he needed was to be in the game and win all his matches before the draw reset in Round 16 to give him a comfortable lead and put pressure on the other contenders to catch up.

However, Oluwafemi suffered a shock defeat to upcoming Thai player, Sirinapa Srinornil. Her victory over the Nigerian was the talk of the day.

The defeat could have greatly affected Oluwafemi as he finished Day 2 with another three losses to Malaysians, Jagan Narayanan and Jen Ho, twice. As the Nigerian faltered to fourth place, Preedee Khongthanasat (Thailand) and two Malaysians, William Kang and Jen Ho, leapfrogged to the top three spots.

William led the pack at the end of Day 2, followed by Jen Ho who shared the same number of wins, with the former having a slight advantage on spread.

With just half a point ahead of Preedee, William and Jen Ho had to win all their final six games to maintain their positions. After the penultimate round, Jen Ho was ahead of William with a modest amount of spread. All he had to do was to win his last game, while William had to win by a large margin to grab the title.

William was pitted against fellow compatriot, Vinnith Ramamurti, while Jen Ho had to deal with experienced Jessica Pratesi from Britain. In the end, William lost 357-460 to Vinnith and fell one spot to third place, while Jen Ho beat Jessica 418-334 to take the championship title. Preedee beat Yasiru Fernando from Sri Lanka 417-251 to finish second ahead of William.

*- Source: Malaysian Star*

### **2011 World Scrabble Championships (WSC)**

The 2011 WSC venue and dates have been set. The tournament will take place in the Hilton Hotel, Warsaw, Poland, from Tuesday 11 October to Sunday 16 October, with 9 games played each of the first four days, Wednesday to Saturday, and the final on Sunday.

New Zealand is entitled to send four players. For selection, players must have played at least 50 games in the selection period (Nationals 2010 – Nationals 2011) and have played in at least two of the three majors in that period (Nationals 2010, Masters 2011, Nationals 2011). The top four available on the rankings list who meet these criteria will be in the team, which will be announced after the Nationals in June.

As the runner up in WSC 2009 Nigel Richards gets an automatic entry (so we have four players plus Nigel).

The prize money is significantly increased this year, with \$US20,000 to the winner, and prizes paid down to the tenth place. A trophy will be awarded to the best performing team.

### **Scrabble patron announces new projects**

Michael Tang, well-known promoter and sponsor of international Scrabble events, has announced through WESPA that he will franchise the Causeway Challenge to India this year to kickstart the “Scrabble to School” programme in India. (This does not change the Causeway event, which will continue to be held in Johor Bahru annually, as usual.) Michael is working with four media entrepreneurs in Delhi, aiming to have an India Scrabble league by 2013.

Michael Tang also plans to develop, along with N-Gen Studios in Gurgaon, an e-learning Scrabble programme. It will be

translated into 99 world languages by SDI Media, and will be hosted on [www.causewayscrabble.com](http://www.causewayscrabble.com) for Scrabble players around the world to learn about competition Scrabble.

Michael invites ideas for Scrabble promotion to be sent direct to him at [Michael.Tang@sdimedia.com](mailto:Michael.Tang@sdimedia.com). “Budget unlimited,” he says!

### **Alfred Butts would be amazed**

*Phyllis Korkki, writing in the New York Times, made an interesting observation:*

Were Alfred Butts the inventor of Scrabble alive today, he would be amazed by the way millions of people are playing his word game now: on tiny screens, wherever they happen to be, against players who can be halfway across the world.

Scrabble proved two decades ago that it didn't need the sound of tiles against a board when it became popular on computers. Now, the game has migrated to smart phones.

### **Tradenames**

*- by Philip Nelkon, UK*

An area which saw an influx of new words in 2007 was tradenames. Many of these had long been good, of course, such as ASPIRIN, CELLOPHANE, GRANOLA, and HOOVER, but CSW added a lot more:

BAKELITE, BANDAID, BIRO, DACRON, FEDEX, FORMICA, HORLICKS, KLEENEX, LUREX, LYCRA, MYLAR, ORLON, PERSPEX, PYREX, TEFLON, TERYLENE, VASELINE, VELCRO. It might amuse you to ask yourself how many of these you would still tend to write with a capital, and consequently would have been unsure of for Scrabble purposes!

*- from Scrabble Club News, UK*

## International ratings

In January, the Ratings Committee of WESPA (World English-Language Scrabble Players Association) announced they would like to fill a vacancy in its membership. Ideally, they wanted someone with some or all of mathematical/statistical knowledge, programming knowledge, and detailed understanding of their own country's rating system or another.

Following that notice, one of our members, Steven Brown (Kapiti) registered his interest, and was subsequently invited to join the WESPA Ratings Committee.

We congratulate Steven on his appointment. Steven joins our other New Zealand representatives we are proud to have on WESPA committees: Howard Warner (Executive Committee and Chair Promotions Committee), Jeff Grant (Dictionary Committee) and Ruth Groffman (Youth Committee).

Steven is happy to receive and/or chat about any ideas or information that people have about international ratings and/or how this affects the NZ ratings system or vice versa. You can contact him by email at [sgbrown@mac.com](mailto:sgbrown@mac.com).

Details of the full committee can be



*Steven Brown*

found on the WESPA site at <http://www.wespa.org/committees.shtml>. Same address for international Scrabble news – click on the “WESPA Whispers” icon.

## Inuit Scrabble

“Kina pigiaqqaarumava?”  
That’s Inuit for “Who wants to start?”



Scrabalics, a cooperative game inspired by Scrabble, was designed for two to four players by Inuuqatigiit Inuktitut Publishing, to encourage players in Canada’s north to speak Inuktitut and to learn and practice Inuktitut syllabics by having fun.

Scrabalics isn’t quite like the conventional game of Scrabble. For example, players can trade tiles — which each display a syllabic character — as much as they want, but only if they speak and negotiate in Inuktitut.

For beginner Inuktitut speakers, there’s also a Scrabalics dictionary to give them some ideas for words.

Only 100 Scrabalics games were produced during the first run of the board game, but now 500 to 1,000 more are in production.

There are also plans for Scrabalics to be created in two more dialects of Inuktitut (for now, it’s only available in North Baffin) and in Innuinaqtun.

## Playing Spanish language Scrabble

*The following observations were made by Travis Chaney, after he took part in the 14th Spanish-language World Championship in Costa Rica in December. They are extracts from an article published in Across the Board (Australia).*

- Average scores are significantly higher, usually around 500 points per game for the best players in the world.
- There are usually about five bingos (total) played per game.
- The flow of the game is different. For instance, no notes can be prepared before the game. (Since I track tiles, I had to write out my distributions after the game began.)
- After you begin to put down a word, you cannot change the play.
- The score is called, the new tiles are drawn and put on the rack, the score of the play is written, and THEN the time is started.
- If there is a challenge (which is free), it must be done after the word is put down and before the new tiles are drawn.
- The entire score sheet is turned in at the end of the game. It includes the number of Scrabbles (their word for bingos) played. They keep meticulous records of it.
- The pairing system they use is Swiss, and the rating system is complex.

### A question of number

What is the only number that equals the value of its tiles (no blanks)?

[For example, the answer is not 1 or 2. ONE (1 + 1 + 1 = 3), TWO (1 + 4 + 1 = 6), etc.]

Answer on page 37.

## More apparent misspellings

*- from the Association of British Scrabble Players website*

<b>allegge</b>	To alleviate, lighten [cf ALLEGE]
<b>apatite</b>	Calcium fluoride phosphate, used as a fertilizer cf APPETITE
<b>astroid</b>	Anything star-shaped {cf ASTEROID}
<b>caried</b>	Affected by CARIES, tooth decay [cf CARRIED]
<b>centry</b>	(Shakesp) a centre [cf SENTRY]
<b>cingular</b>	Ring-shaped [cf SINGULAR]
<b>corelate</b>	To be related one to another [more usually CORRELATE]
<b>cypres</b>	A legal term [cf CYPRESS, the tree]
<b>franzy</b>	Cross, peevish: FRANZIER, FRANZIEST [cf FRENZY]
<b>galop</b>	A dance; (verb) to perform a galop: GALOPS, GALOPPED, GALOPPING [cf GALLOP, the horse's movement: GALLOPS, GALLOPED, GALLOPING]
<b>immanent</b>	Indwelling, inherent [cf IMMINENT]
<b>insipient</b>	Wanting wisdom; stupid; [cf INCIPIENT, beginning]
<b>maile</b>	An old word for a halfpenny [cf MAIL]
<b>mandatary</b>	The holder of a mandate [cf MANDATORY, obligatory]
<b>morsal</b>	Pertaining to the cutting edge of a knife [cf MORSEL]
<b>parly</b>	A gingerbread biscuit [cf PARLEY, to hold talk]
<b>placcate</b>	A jacket reinforced with strips of mail [cf PLACATE, to calm]
<b>prescious</b>	Prescient [cf PRECIOUS]
<b>probeable</b>	That can be probed [cf PROBABLE]
<b>sycosis</b>	(Greek) inflammation of hair follicles, plural SYCOSES [cf PSYCHOSIS]



# Overseas News

## Costa Rica

### 14th Spanish-language World Scrabble Championship, December 2010

1. Luis Picciochi, Argentina (new World Champion)
2. Blai Figueras, Spain [España]
3. Ricardo Bondino. Argentina

## India

### iGate tournament in Bangalore, January

1. Nigel Richards, NZ (25 wins, 3354 spread).
2. Sherwin Rodrigues (18 wins, 1095 spread)

Nigel won the approx US\$5500 first prize, almost achieving a clean sweep of wins. He won 25 of the 26 games; his only loss was in round 20, by 3 points

## Northern Ireland

Three-times Northern Ireland Scrabble champ Paul Gallen (right) lost his Northern Ireland crown to former UK champion Brett Smitheram, from Belfast.

A total of 27 players from as far away as Australia took part in the Northern Ireland tournament.



## United Kingdom

The UK Open Scrabble Tournament was held in Coventry in January, with entrants from as far afield as Nigeria, Australia and the USA.

Nigel won the 48 game open with 36 wins and a spread of 3813. Nigel held the lead from round two and stayed in front from there. The only player to get close to Nigel was Nathan Benedict (USA) and they ended up playing each other five times during the tournament. At round 40 Nathan Benedict was second with equal wins (29) but in the end Nigel's win margin was three games. Nathan was second on 33 and a spread of 2290, Alastair Richards from Australia third on 32 and a spread of 1395.

Interestingly, the first five players were non-UK residents (two from USA, and one each from Africa, Australia, and along with Nigel).

You may be amused (or annoyed!) to hear that the *Coventry Telegraph* described Nigel Richards as "World number one American Nigel Richards".

## USA

*The Scrabble News*, the official newsletter of the USA National Scrabble Association, will no longer be printed as a newspaper, but will be published online only. John Williams of Greenport, executive director of the National Scrabble Association and publisher of *The Scrabble News* for the past 25 years, said: "It will be more fluid, appearing as it happens. Time and money is much better spent in other ways."

At its peak, *The Scrabble News* came out eight times a year and each edition's 7,000 copies were distributed all over the world.

## I've been reading ...

*-from Val Mills, Pakuranga*

These holidays I ended up reading two books that I had read ages ago and some of the interesting Scrabble words were:

### Power of One by Bryce Courtney

(lots of South African words)

SKELM	a rascal - also SKELLUM
KLOOF	a ravine
LOWVELD	lower areas of the Transvaal
TAAL	the Afrikaans language
STOMPIE	a cigarette butt
RIEMPIE	a rawhide thong used as string
SJAMBOK	to strike with a whip
DUIKER	a small antelope
KAFFIR	a cereal grass
STOPE	to excavate in layers
RONDAVEL	(overland) a South African round hut

### The Testament of Gideon Mack by James Robertson

(set in Scotland)

SLEEKIT	sleek
ABSTRUSE	difficult to understand [don't know why I didn't recognise this word – muddled with obtuse?]
GNEISS	type of rock [knew this, but just like it!]
MOULDERING	to turn into dust by natural decay
FLAFF	to flap
SWITHER	to doubt
NEWEL	an end stair post
LEET	a former English court for petty offences
BANNOCK	a flat oatmeal cake

*[Val has suggested that "I've been reading ..." could become a regular feature. Great idea, Val. So come on, people, let us know what vocab you're discovering in your favourite books. – Ed.]*



### Promising newcomer

*One of Dunedin's upcoming youngsters won the D grade recently with 12 wins from 15 games, an average of 377 and 12 bonus words. Alex Leckie-Zaharic is just 10 years old.*



### Two triple triples

*Marianne Bentley, Tauranga, achieved this amazing result of two triple triples in one game at the Rotorua tournament in February.!*

## Mt Albert Memorial Tournament

*- by Glenda Foster with the help of emails from Liz Fagerlund*

**T**he Mt Albert Memorial Tournament was held on 19-20 March in Auckland, organised by Howard Warner and Liz Fagerlund. This tournament was first established following the death of club member Eileen McLean in 2006 and now commemorates all club members who have died.

The tournament format differs from most tournaments in New Zealand as it is a Swiss Draw. In this format the draw for the first round is random. In subsequent rounds the players are paired against the nearest competitor to their place on the leader-board. If they have already played that person the next nearest competitor is selected. This occurs through the remainder of the rounds. This process has been referred to as “the cream rising to the top”.

Fortunately there is a computer program written by Barry Harridge of Australia that not only does all the pairings but also keeps track of the number of starts each player has and balances them. Most Australian tournaments are run in this format, which allows for much larger numbers of players in a grade and therefore a greater rating spread. Most of the international tournaments also use this format but with the variation that in the last several rounds of a tournament, repeat pairings are allowed, so that the truly top players get to play off for the title—this is known as King of the Hill (KOTH).

This format does have a few drawbacks from a New Zealand perspective. First, the draw for each round can't be completed until all players have finished their game and this can create delays between rounds. It is not

until the results and next round are posted that everyone can move to their next opponent and table. Second, it makes the ratings calculations more difficult to do under our current system as manual entry of a specific formula for each player is required so the program knows who played who. However, Liz commented “Players seemed to enjoy the different format from the usual round robin – always nice to have a change every now and then!”

On Saturday there was one division with 28 players. Results are on page 45. Highlights were: Howard Warner's massive spread of 1177, helped by a 700 game, and Pam Barlow's 99 point rating gain through achieving 5 wins against an expectancy of 2.1. The ratings were calculated overnight ready for the next day's tournament.

On Sunday there were 38 entries and two divisions, Sendai and Lyttelton—each one named after one of the epicentres of two recent major earthquakes. People who lost their lives in both tragedies were remembered with a minute's silence. Results are on page 45-46. One of the highlights was Cicely Bruce's rise from the bottom of Sendai division up to third place — gaining a massive 138 rating points. In Lyttelton division Margaret Cherry gained 126 rating points by rising from midfield to third place. This demonstrates the possibilities under the Swiss Draw format.

Liz sends thanks to all who attended and those who helped in lots of ways — with yummy lunch contributions, helping with taking money, serving and cleaning up, and Val who didn't play on day two and helped instead.

# A word (or more)

## SANTA words

For those readers who do not have access to Zyzzyva or LeXpert, here is the list of SANTA words mentioned in the last issue. SANTA is the stem word for 108 x 7-letter words, most of them unusual. The everyday words (ie. a subjective opinion of what's "everyday"!) have been included for completeness of the list, but are presented in lower case.

abstain	ACANTHS	against
AGITANS	AGNATES	AMTMANS
analyst	ANAPEST	ANATASE
ANATTAS	ANATTOS	ANESTRA
ANNATES	ANSATED	ANTARAS
ANTIARS	ANTISAG	ARCTANS
artisan	ARTSMAN	ASCAUNT
ASKANTS	ASTRAND	ATAMANS
ATONIAS	attains	AVAUNTS
BANTAMS	batsman	caftans
canasta	CANTALS	CAPSTAN
CAPTANS	CATENAS	catnaps
ENTASIA	FANTADS	FANTASM
FANTAST	fantasy	GANGSTA
GITANAS	ISTANAS	kaftans
KANTARS	KANTHAS	KATANAS
LATINAS	MANATIS	mantras
MANTUAS	NAMASTE	PARTANS
PASSANT	PASTINA	PATINAS
peasant	pinatas	PLANTAS
PLATANS	rattans	SABANTE
SABATON	SACATON	SALTANT
SALTPAN	SANGHAT	SANTALS
SANTERA	satanic	SAVANTS
SEALANT	SEAWANT	SHAITAN
sonatas	spartan	stamina
stanzas	STATANT	sultana
TAENIAS	TAGUANS	TAHINAS
TAIPANS	TALANTS	TAMANUS
TAMPANS	TANKIAS	TANNAHS
TANTRAS	TAONGAS	TAPSMAN
TARANDS	TARPANS	tartans
TARZANS	THANAHS	THANNAS
TINAJAS	TORANAS	TRAPANS
TSANTSA	tsarina	VANITAS
WANKSTA	YANTRAS	

## It's all BAD

- from Jennifer Smith, Hamilton

I found two wonderful words at the Rotorua tournament, after being thrashed by Liz Fagerlund.

We had a closed board, and try as I might, I could see no way to open it up. It all depended on finding a front extension for the word BAD, to open up the top left-hand corner. Two wonderful words might have done the trick:

MURDABAD, which is an Indian word meaning "down with!"

ZINDABAD, ditto, meaning "long live!" It sounds to me sort of pidgin English – murdabad [murder bad], and zindabad [isn't bad].

And so: murdabad Liz and zindabad Jennifer!!!

(Oh, to have had the knowledge of them earlier, let alone to have actually pulled out the appropriate tiles!)

## Alternative spellings

- from the Association of British Scrabble Players website

Here's a small sample of Scrabble words that have an acceptable variant (and helpful!) spelling, thanks to some of our literary greats.

<b>affoord</b>	(Spenser) to afford
<b>afront</b>	(Shakesp) in front, abreast cf AFFRONT
<b>anough</b>	(Milton) enough
<b>breese</b>	(Shakesp) a gadfly [cf BREEZE]
<b>cloye</b>	(Spenser) claw [cf CLOY]
<b>coste</b>	(Spenser) coast [cf COST]
<b>cowheard</b>	(Spenser) a coward [cf COWHERD]
<b>derth</b>	(Spenser) dearth
<b>dismayd</b>	(Spenser) ill made [cf DISMAYED]
<b>gealous</b>	(Spenser) jealous

# from our players

<b>goary</b>	(Milton) gory
<b>morall</b>	(Shakesp) possibly = MURAL
<b>raine</b>	(Spenser) to reign
<b>unbraste</b>	Spenser) unbraced
<b>unbrused</b>	(Shakespeare) unbruised
<b>unred</b>	(Spenser) unread
<b>unredy</b>	(Spenser) unready
<b>unvail, unvaile</b>	(Spenser) to unveil
<b>wrethe</b>	(Spenser) to wreathe

## QIBLA

- by Jeff Grant, *Independent*

QIBLA – same as kiblah, the point to which Muslims turn in prayer, the direction of Mecca. [*Chambers Dictionary*, 1998] Also KEBLAH, KIBLA

At the first NZ National Scrabble Champs in Tauranga in 1980, Kevin Edgeler (Tokoroa) caused a stir by playing the word QIBLA. It was familiar to Kevin and his wife Lesley because it was listed in the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, which they were using as their Scrabble reference at the time. Unfortunately, the dictionary of choice at the first Nationals was the much bigger *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary*, which didn't include QIBLA. So much to Kevin's dismay, the word was disallowed.

The earliest form of the word in English seems to be KIBLAH, for which the Oxford English Dictionary has a citation dated 1704. Other variants not allowed in Scrabble include KEBLA\*, KEBLEH\*, KIBLEH\* and QIBLAH\*.

In the Zon Regency Hotel in Johor Bahru, Malaysia, where we stayed and played in the Causeway event in December, every room has an arrow on the ceiling showing the direction of Mecca. The accompanying notation reads QIBLAT\*, a variant of QIBLA not listed in major English dictionaries, and definitely not allowed in Scrabble!

## Rude words

- from Val Flint, *Hamilton*

Some interesting "rude" word derivations and meanings:	
BLIMEY/BLIMY	abbr. from Cockney 'gor blimey' = God blind me (Shakespearean) = lecherous
CODDING	(Shakespearean) = lecherous
CRIQUEY	expression of surprise – euphemism for Christ
CRIPES	(as above)
CRUMBS	(schoolchildren's slang) = euphemism for Christ
DARN/DARNED	a minced form of damn or damned
EGAD/ECOD	(archaic) possibly "ah" or "oh God"
FRIG/FRIGGING	possibly more offensive than the other "F" word of 4 letters. Means masturbating but not to be confused with a FRIGGER = a glass ornament
GADSO	(archaic) interjection expressing surprise; from Italian cazzo = penis
GADZOOKS	(archaic) = God's hooks [I don't know what these are; please enlighten!]
GOSH	interjection meaning God
GOLLY	Negro modification of God
HECK	euphemism for hell
JEEPERS	(USA) euphemism for Jesus
STREWTH	euphemism. for God's truth
ZOUNDS	(archaic) int. = God's wounds

*[When I was young, I was friends with a girl whose parents would not allow her to "swear".*

*Words like crikey, gosh, jeepers, golly, cripes were forbidden. Couldn't imagine parents managing to enforce that sort of rule these days – it's a losing battle to enforce a ban on really foul words! - Ed.]*

## Crosswords fan

What kind of person knows the name of Gorbachev's wife (Raisa), a synonym for no-good (dadblasted\*), the Rangers coach in 1994 (Keenan), a platinum-group element (iridium) and the meaning of objurgation (rant)?

The kind of person who whips through 20 crosswords a day (at least 20,000 in the last three years), who won this year's American Crossword Puzzle Tournament and who has 100,000 puzzles saved on his computer. That person is Daniel Feyer.

In an interview with Denise Grady of the *New York Times* [the source of this article] he demonstrated his form by tackling their Saturday crossword – the week's hardest, notoriously clever and tricky. His left hand tracked the clues while his right skittered over the grid. He pressed his lips together and grimaced. He erased, and rapidly filled in more boxes. Then he paused, erased again, and resumed skittering. He mumbled once and erased three more times. He wrote something, looked up, put his pencil down. Done. Five minutes, 29 seconds.

Feyer got hooked on crosswords after he saw the 2006 movie *Wordplay*, a documentary about crosswords. He entered his first tournament in 2008 (in which hundreds of people in a hotel ballroom race to finish a series of puzzles, finishing "50-somethingth"); the following year, he finished fourth; this year he won, beating many veterans.

His brain is jammed with factoids: the names of songs and rock bands that lived and died before he was born, far-flung rivers and capitals, foreign sports equipment, dead astronomers, fallen monarchs, extinct cars, old movies, heroes of mythology, dusty novelists and the myriad other bevoweled\* wraiths that haunt the twisted minds of



crossword constructors. He has learned their wily tricks and traps, like using "number" in a clue that most people would take to mean "numeral" but that really meant "more numb".

His grand prize for winning the tournament was \$5,000. He professed mock outrage that Sudoku tournaments pay much more — \$10,000. "I'm not particularly good at Sudoku," he said.

He does not play Scrabble. That game and crosswords differ in the types of words they use. "It would probably hurt my championship chances if I tried to memorize the Scrabble list, too," he said. "My brain is full of crossword vocabulary."

### Is your dictionary up to date

*- from Reader's Digest 01/11*

While I was assigned to the space shuttle programme, my job included ordering supplies. One of the engineers requested a new dictionary. Following regulations, I asked him why he needed it. I expected his answer to be "my old copy is lost" or "the cover is falling off". Instead, he said, "my current edition defines spaceship as an 'imaginary aircraft'." He got his new dictionary.



## Advert for Scrabble

The first ever TV commercial for Scrabble in India was released early this year on various television channels.

“Used in the context of television, infotainment refers to programmes that provide both information and entertainment. But long before television coined this word, there was a board game that provided infotainment: Scrabble. This delightful game improves children’s word power without ever giving them a whiff of its educational value — making not just the children but their parents happy too,” says Sumanto Chattopadhyay, Executive Creative Director South Asia.

“The Scrabble advertisement appeals to children’s sense of mischievous fun, by showing them how knowing big words can get them out of tight spots. Of course, parents viewing the commercial would read between the lines and know that Scrabble promotes learning in a manner that children would be receptive to. They would likely be convinced to go out and purchase this winning tool with which to boost their child’s English vocabulary, something so essential to finding one’s way in today’s world.”

The advert shows two boys arriving late at a karate class. They are bawled out by the teacher. When asked to explain why they are late, one boy replies he overslept – punishment, 50 press-ups. The other boy says he has CLINOMANIA (which the screen tells you means the desire to sleep more). He is sympathetically told to rest! A Scrabble board appears with the voiceover, “Play Scrabble, learn more words”, and the ad closes with the resting boy watching the other do his press-ups.

You can view it (Scrabble add commercial India) on You Tube.

Very funny.

Only trouble is, CLINOMANIA does not seem to be a legit Scrabble word!

## Pumping tiles

Sometimes “pumping tiles” is used as a humorous name for playing Scrabble. This expression has a much more mundane meaning for Ryan Anderson, from northeast Australia.

In 1999 at the age of 15, he beat cancer with chemotherapy. However, the chemo left him with rare long-term complications. It took him years to leave the wheelchair, and regain some speech and movement.

At one point, the therapist suggested Scrabble as a means of improving hand dexterity. Ryan played Scrabble online for a few months and has now been in the live scene for a few years.

He can just barely make the 25-minute time limit. He struggles a bit with score keeping, drawing tiles out of the bag, onto his rack and then onto the Scrabble board. But he makes up for this slowness by simply thinking faster.

In the Masters section of the Causeway Challenge, Ryan finished in 10th place, ahead of several players who have taken part in the Premier Division in other years.

*- from AsiaOne.com*

## Comment from a reformed smoker

Five years ago this week I reluctantly quit smoking. If you listen to anecdotes about people who quit smoking, they always “smoked three packs a day.” I only smoked two. Two packs. Everyday since junior high. I was thin, grey and phlegmy. I’d get winded playing Scrabble.”

*- Tina Dupuy, Huffington Post*

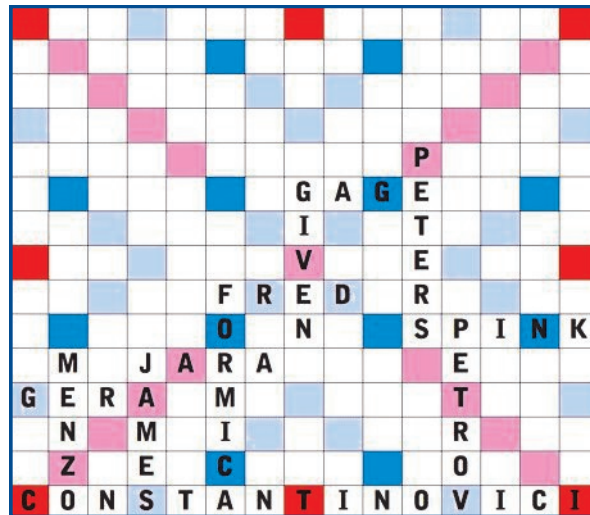
## Football's most valuable Scrabble names

You have to admire the work (and the Scrabble skill) that has gone into these Scrabble board layouts by John Ashdown of *The Guardian*, UK, who did a series of articles on the world's most valuable footballers – not in terms of their transfer price, but how many points they can bring home in a game of Scrabble.

The first week he devised a grid that gave him a score of 329 for Arsenal's

goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny. He topped that score the following week with scores for:

1. **Florin CONSTANTINOVIC**  
 (the former Romania and Rapid Bucharest defender, "crucially helped into position" (Ashdown's words) by Permasens' French forward Xavier Novic. **Score: 714**, by placing the underlined letters of CONSTANTINOVIC.



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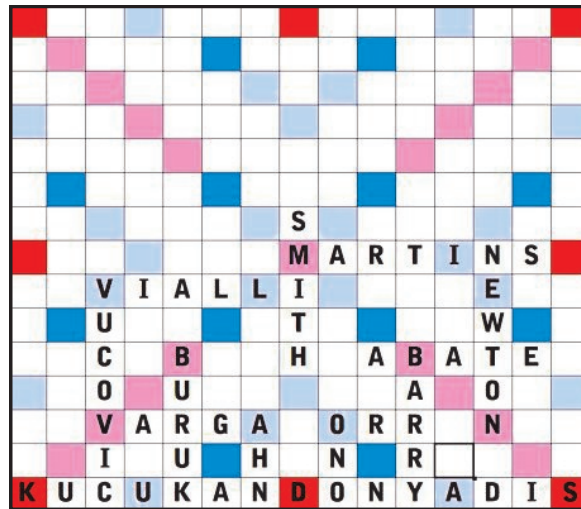
Sign on bar, Gerome, Arizona  
 - Photo: Keith Edwards, Nelson



Sign on shop window, Gerome, Arizona  
 - Photo: Keith Edwards, Nelson

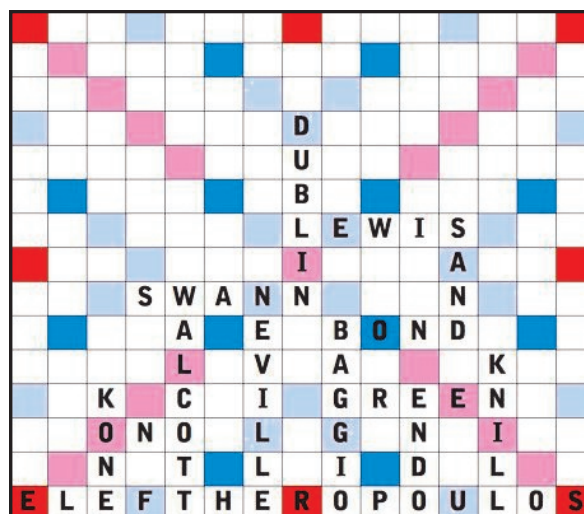
2. **Lefter KUCUKANDONYADIS**, the free-scoring inside-left of the Turkey national side throughout the 1950s. The little-known Guinean midfielder Minka

Yadi Camara “plays a vital set-up role”.  
**Score:** 752 (one of the Ks is a blank) for placing the underlined letters of **KUCUKANDONYADIS**.



3. **Dimitris ELEFTHEROPOULOS**, the much-travelled Greek stopper and former Milan keeper. Ashdown says it “takes some setting up, what with the absence of players called Steve Left or Bobby Poulo. Fortunately he’s got Vietnamese midfielder Le Tan Tai and

Chinese Taipei forward Lo Chih-en to help him out.”  
**Score:** (in Ashton’s words) “a quite-possibly-record-breaking-and-we-certainly -hope-so-because-this-took-us-ages 806” for placing the underlined letters **ELEFTHEROPOULOS**.



## What the #\*@!?

*We reproduce this extract from Nebraska's The Independent, and will refrain from commenting until the end of the article!*

The two-letter word "qi" left several judges scratching their heads at Sunday's Literacy Council of Grand Island Scrabble Tournament.

The word was in use simultaneously on three separate tables in the tournament's opening round. Since no objections were raised by players, the judges silently rallied to figure out what the word meant.

It was a little puzzling at first, because "qi" wasn't listed in the Merriam-Webster dictionary the judges had on hand. Neither was it listed in the *Official Scrabble Dictionary* present at the Literacy Council. Secretary Wanda Hutchinson then used her SmartPhone to check the Scrabble website, which contains a directory for two letter words.

"It's acceptable," Hutchinson declared. "'Qi' is a circulating life energy in Chinese philosophy."

But what isn't acceptable is using the same word twice on the same playing board.

That was the first challenge the Scrabble judges faced just minutes into the game.

Members of the team titled "Perquackey" challenged "Tile by Fire" for using "ba" twice on the same playing board.

Judge Ron Bailey ruled the double use a violation, which cost "Tile by Fire" their turn.

*[We asked Jeff Grant to comment. He said. "QI was first listed in the American Scrabble reference OSPD4 (pub 2006) so has been allowed there for several years. Someone was a bit out of date!*

*"As to the 'no two words the same' in a game rule, that's nonsense of course. I think I did*

*hear about it once a long time ago as a 'local' (club?) rule or maybe even just a 'social' (home) rule.*

*"Believe it or not, in the early days some NZ clubs had rules allowing such things as exchanging the blank on the board for the corresponding letter on a player's rack, and a free change if you had three or more of a kind (eg 3 x I) on your rack."]*

## Hybrid fruits

*—from Ron Bunny, Bunnythorpe*

Blair Glasgow, stone fruit grower of Palmerston North, is doing something different. With his friend Gary Coker, he spent two weeks travelling the San Joaquin Valley in California looking for ideas. He found Zaiger Genetics. The valley is about the size of New Zealand, and there Floyd Zaiger has achieved fame for his fruit breeding over the last 35 years.

Zaiger holds the trademarks for :

APRIUM*	hybrid of apricot and plum
NECTAPLUM*	hybrid of nectarine and plum
NECTARCOT*	hybrid of nectarine and apricot
PEACOTUM*	hybrid of peach, apricot and plum
PLUOT*	hybrid of plum and apricot

None of these are allowable Scrabble words, but look out for them in the future.

The new fruit varieties are proving popular in Blair's Longlands Road orchard, Plum City.

He also imports a plum-apricot hybrid called PLUMCOT. Now, that **IS** a Scrabble word.

## Wacky celebrity baby names

- by Jeff Grant, *Independent*

Did you know that former world heavyweight boxing champ George Foreman has six sons all called George and a daughter named Georgetta?

Most people have heard of TV chef Jamie Oliver's kids Daisy Boo, Poppy Honey, Petal Blossom Rainbow and Buddy Bear (will he get Buddy Oli?), and singer/activist Bob Geldof's daughters Fifi Trixibelle, Peaches Honeyblossom and Little Pixie. They also have a half-sister called Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily, and dad Bob himself has Zenon as a middle name. These are pretty way-out but some celebs have really pushed the boundaries of wackiness.

Here are the top 10 nutty celebrity baby names, as chosen by John Perry, author of *You Called Me What?* There have no doubt been many more weird names bestowed since the book was published in 2006.

1. Pilot Inspektor—(son of actor Jason Lee)
2. Moxie CrimeFighter—(comic/magician Penn Gillette's daughter)
3. Seven Sirius—(son of hip-hop star Andre 3000)
4. Moon Unit—(daughter of eccentric rocker Frank Zappa)
5. Speck Wildhorse—(singer John Mellencamp's son)
6. Jermajesty—(son of Jermaine Jackson, Michael's brother)
7. Pirate—(son of Jonathon Davis, vocalist with Korn)
8. Oriole Nebula—(singer/songwriter Donovan's daughter)
9. Sage Moonblood—(actor Sylvester Stallone's son)
10. Whizdom—(daughter of basketball star Jayson Williams)

It could be worse though. Even the maddest of celebs can't match this. In 1991 a Swedish couple went to court to

fight for the right to name their son Brfxccxxmnpccclllmmnprxvclmncssqlb bllll6. It was a "pregnant, expressionistic development that we see as an artistic creation". However, for ease, they intended to pronounce it "Albin". A judge ruled against them.

### Man of letters

- sent in by *Su Walker, Mt Albert*

A British man can boast the longest name in the world after adopting middle names beginning with all 26 letters of the alphabet. Barnaby Usansky, 36, formerly Nick, is fascinated by words and added the new names by Deed Poll – plus Marmaduke – because he loves it so much.

His full name is now Barnaby Marmaduke Aloysius Benjy Cobweb Dartagnan Egbert Felix Gaspar Humbert Ignatius Jayden Kasper Leroy Maximilian Neddy Obiajulu Pepin Quilliam Rosencrantz Sexton Teddy Upwood Vivatma Wayland Xylon Yardley Zachary Usansky.

But despite the new title – all 197 letters of it – his mates still call him Nick.

- from the "Sideswipe column" of the *NZ Herald*

### Fewtile

- sent in by *Dianne Cole-Baker, Mt Albert*

The "Wordsworth" column of the *New Zealand Listener* (27 Nov- 3 Dec) featured a phrase to describe the situation where, when playing Scrabble and having completed your turn, you spot an opportunity missed.

That would surely leave you feeling "indecscrabbleably fewtile".

## How often do -ING words take an S?

**Y**ou may be surprised to learn – only about one-third of the time!

### According to LeXpert:

517 x 6-letter words end -ING  
But only 193 x 7-letter words end -INGS.  
(27%)  
2116 x 7-letter words end -ING.  
But only 742 x 8-letter words end -INGS.  
(29%)  
2800 x 8-letter words end -ING.  
But only 801 x 9-letter words end -INGS.  
(35%)

So, if I play an -INGS word, or hook an S onto an -ING word, I know I have only a 30% chance (approx) of being correct.

I did this exercise a couple of years ago, and ever since then, I have consistently challenged any -INGS words that I'm not sure are definitely nouns (like STRINGS, PAINTINGS, MEETINGS). And yes, I have been winning the challenge two times out of three on average. Words I've successfully challenged off in the last 2-3 years include: STIRRINGS\*, GUSHINGS\*, FORCINGS\*, DRAPINGS\*, CROWINGS\*, COOLINGS\*, COAXINGS\*, FLEXINGS\*, JAILINGS\*, CLAWINGS\*, PACINGS\*, BRIBINGS\*, SITINGS\*, TAPINGS\*, WININGS\*, FUMINGS\*, FAXINGS\*, OILINGS\*, BURYINGS\*, SLAVINGS\*, SLOPINGS\*, CAGINGS\*, SOAPINGS\*, SIGHINGS\*, LEAPINGS\*, LILTINGS\*, MOVINGS\*, PUMPINGS\*, TEARINGS\*, YAPPINGS\*, CHIMINGS\*. I've also had several of my own -INGS words challenged off, but I won't share those ones with you!

There seems no rhyme nor reason as to which words take an S and which don't. I must admit to being surprised that some of them were wrong. At other times, I

have been amazed at the -INGS words that are correct (like PRAYINGS).

Those successful challenges represent a fair few extra turns for me, and therefore a lot of extra points! A lot more points than the probably 15 or so words that were OK. (15 x 5 points =75)

We can talk ourselves into anything. By putting "the" in front of any -ING word, we can make them sound plausible, and convince ourselves they are OK. Your mental conversation goes like this: "The sighings of his girlfriend indicated he had annoyed her." OR "The movings of the clock were faulty."

Rather, "The sighings\* of your opponent when you challenge off that incorrect -INGS word, will delight you". AND "The movings\* of their tiles off the board, ditto!"

### Life tip

When the one great scorer  
Comes to write against your name  
He marks – not that you won or lost –  
But how you played the game.

*- Grantland Rice  
thanks to the Christchurch Club*

### Letter perfect wedding

When Matt Lawson told Kate Taylor he wanted her to marry him, she had to take his word for it – he had spelled his proposal out on the Scrabble board.

*- from NZ Woman's Weekly  
- sent in by several members*



## Words inspired by God

These sentences (with all the bloopers) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

- The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
- The sermon this morning: “Jesus Walks on the Water.” The sermon tonight: “Searching for Jesus.”
- Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say “Hell” to someone who doesn’t care much about you.
- Don’t let worry kill you off – let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang “I will not pass this way again,” giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What Is Hell?” Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
- Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.
- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- This evening at 7pm there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10am. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare’s Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- The Associate Minister unveiled the church’s new campaign slogan last Sunday: “I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.”

## Black hole entropy

*This ultimate in Scrabble analogies, found on [universtoday.com](http://universtoday.com), might be beyond the comprehension of most of us Scrabble players, but here it is anyway...*

**A**n easy way to think about the entropy of black holes is to consider that entropy represents the loss of free energy – that is, energy that is available to do work – from a system. Needless to say, anything you throw into a black hole is no longer available to do any work in the wider universe.

So the best way to handle that is to acknowledge that whatever entropy a system possesses is transferred to the black hole when the system goes into it. This is another reason why black holes can be considered to have a very high entropy.

Then we come to the issue of information. The sentence *The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog* is a highly engineered system with a low level of entropy – while drawing out 26 tiles from a Scrabble set and laying them down however they come delivers a randomly ordered object with a high level of entropy and uncertainty (to the extent that it could be any of a billion possible variations).

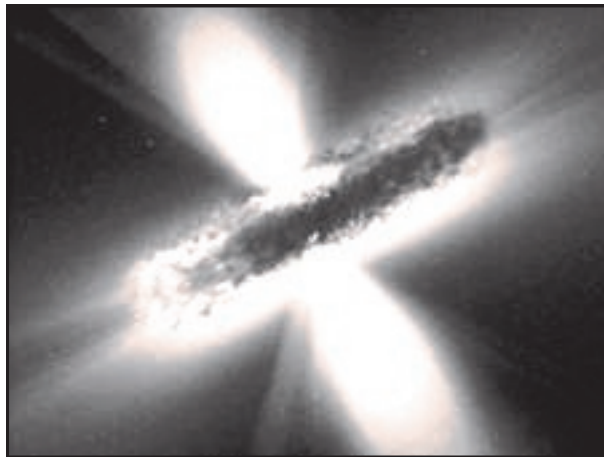
Throw your Scrabble tiles into a black hole – they will carry with them whatever entropy value they began with – which is likely to increase further within the black hole. Indeed it's likely that the tiles will not only become more disorganized but actually

crushed to bits within the black hole.

Now there is fundamental principle in quantum mechanics which requires that information cannot be destroyed or lost. It's more about wave functions than about Scrabble tiles – but let's stick with the analogy.

You won't violate the conservation of information principle by filling a black hole with Scrabble tiles. Their information is just transferred to the black hole rather than being lost – and even if the tiles are crushed to bits, the information is still there in some form.

*[That's so reassuring! I'm sure most of us are worried sick about what might happen to our expensive Scrabble tiles if we should have the misfortune to lose them in a black hole! Nice to know the information they contain is not lost. I wonder, does the same theory apply to the Scrabble words we used to know but which have now disappeared into a black hole in our brains? –*



*Black holes – throw something in them and that's the end of the story, right? Well, apparently some physicists just can't seem to leave it there.*

# Who's playing Scrabble?

## **Tommy Sheridan, Scottish politician (and perjurer!)**

It was a case that gripped Scotland — a former member of Scotland's Parliament who claimed he spent nights at home playing Scrabble versus a tabloid that claimed he took part in wild parties at a sex club. The first jury ruled for Scrabble. The next one decided that he had lied, and found him guilty of perjury.

## **Staff of a PR firm**

The offices of Lambert, Edwards & Associates (USA) feature a giant Scrabble board as a centrepiece — presumably, there's a huge set of Scrabble tiles somewhere.



## **Keira Knightley**

She has revealed she “tried to learn” from playing Scrabble with her *Never Let Me Go* co-stars Carey Mulligan and Andrew Garfield. As much as Keira enjoyed the sessions, she admits Andrew and Carey were more gifted players than her. “Scrabble has a nasty habit of making people feel stupid...” Keira has spoken in the past about her struggle with dyslexia —



she admits being dyslexic does rather impede her chances of winning the game. “A dyslexic playing Scrabble is always quite funny!” she laughed.

## **Paul Rudd, actor**

Paul Rudd would like to create his own superhero. He has developed a whole persona for his proposed character, who he has named Doctor Thesaurus, and even decided he wants his superpower to be based on a



popular word puzzle game. “I’m absolutely unbeatable at Scrabble. That’s my power. Able to use a triple word score at any given turn.”

## **Jennifer Love Hewitt and Betty White**

The CBS drama *The Lost Valentine* stars Jennifer Love Hewitt as a television

reporter pursuing the story of a woman, played by Betty White, who observes a wedding anniversary ritual each year for the husband she lost in World War II.

Jennifer says, "I grew up watching *The Golden Girls* with my grandmother. I've always loved Betty, she's really a hero of mine, someone I look up to, so I was super-excited to get to be with her off-camera as well as on."

Betty White says Jennifer is "just a delight. On our lunch breaks sometimes, she and I and her boyfriend would play Scrabble. We're avid players, and at one time, someone tried to run the word 'brotos' through. I said, 'There is no such word.' You know, it was one of those Scrabble things. Now our greeting for each other is, 'Hi, it's Brotos!'"



### **Queen drummer, John Taylor**

Roger Taylor used to play intense games of Scrabble with Freddie Mercury, as he was the late singer's only "match" at the game. Both were in the rock outfit Queen and were joined by bassist John Deacon and guitarist-and-writer Brian May. Roger, who was the group's drummer, has revealed that all four members tried to compete at the board game – but only he could keep pace with their charismatic leader.

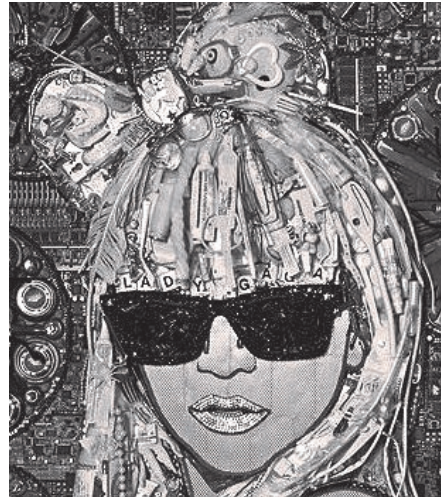
"Fred and I used to love Scrabble. We all played, but it got a bit too serious so that the other two would drop out," Roger explained to *Q* magazine. "Freddie was brilliant because he could score

more with fewer tiles. I was pretty much his match, I think."

However, the 61-year-old admitted that another member of the group once managed to better him and Freddie. "Brian got the most points I have I've ever seen with one word, which was 168," he said. "Can I remember what that word was? Yes, Lacquers. Q on the triple, all seven letters, triple word."

### **Lady Gaga**

This portrait of her was created by American artist, Jason Mercier, using stuff thrown away by Lady Gaga herself, including a wooden spoon, straws, Scrabble tiles, pencils and a ball of wool. You can see the tiles just above her glasses.



(The San Francisco-based artist used to root around in his subject's bins for the material to create his art but is now so popular that the stars contact him directly and supply a bag of their own junk too. And if you've got a spare £1000 lying around you could have one too.)

## Solutions

### Anagrams challenge solution

(from the summer issue of *Forwards*)

My dear Catherine,

I am sending this letter by anagram, knowing that the authoress of such learned books as yours will soon come to an understanding of its meaning. I can well imagine the consternation of your good father, the clergyman, should this betrayal of yourself fall into his hands, therefore I will place it upon the fire escape, where you will find it when you descend into your picturesque garden.

Any of his parishioners would expect the heaviest punishment which words could inflict on approaching a clergyman as the sweetheart of his daughter. Please advise me to come with whatever diplomacy I can command.

Tonight I am going to the decorator. I wish you could go with me to hear the rhapsody performed by the orchestra. When I return I shall look for the light of your chandelier as no astronomer ever looked for a constellation. If it is still burning I shall take it as a sign that I may present myself as candidate for matrimony to your respected ancestor, so to call him. If you approve, send me word by telegraph.

I have lately been very much occupied at the penitentiary. At present, the anarchists here have raised a spirit of revolution among the men and one of them has been shot. I was his surgeon and must attend his funeral tomorrow.

During his last days he told me that he acquired much wealth by the sale of [oil soap], and antiseptic spherical pastilles, but he had wasted it all in trying to crush the potentates of different countries. He assured the

evangelist who visited him that he belonged to the Presbyterian church and he maintained with his latest breath that he never sympathized with the adherents of the doctrine of transubstantiation, but, on the contrary, thought it a misrepresentation.

Two lawyers of my acquaintance plied him with wily plitudes, and many a brilliant aphorism, but he left everything that he had to the apothecaries who attended him.

I have the ring of amethyst, which is of somewhat elegant design. I am sending it to you, and I hope soon to see it worn by my precious little darling.

Your devoted worshipper,  
Archibald.

Re the "oil soap" conundrum, Jeff Grant, wrote:

The old anagram letter was fascinating. I eventually worked out all but a couple of the anagrams without resort to an anagram book or online program.

Tracking down OIL SOAP was a challenge but I finally did it with the help of *The Book of Indoor and Outdoor Games*, by Mrs Burton Kingsland, published 1904 (predating *The Strand*). The answer is given as SAPOLIO, which was an old brand of soap – so not listed in any dictionary as far as I'm aware.

### A question of numbers (from page 20)

TWELVE.



# Rankings

## NZASP Rankings list as at 21 March 2011

Rank	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Rank	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Howard Warner	2011	1428	1952	73%	44	Cicely Bruce	1561	170.5	266	64%
2	Joanne Craig	1991	239	359	67%	45	Lorraine Van Veen	1543	731.5	1429	51%
3	Patrick Carter	1939	676	1075	63%	46	Joan Thomas	1542	771.5	1543	50%
4	Kristian Saether	1937	107	168	64%	47	Lynn Wood	1540	1308	2754	47%
5	Peter Sinton	1914	535.5	736	73%	48	Jennifer Smith	1531	781	1588	49%
6	Jeff Grant	1909	1470	1935	76%	49	Anna Hough	1528	468	955	49%
7	Andrew Bradley	1908	711	1362	52%	50	Shirley Hol	1514	503.5	1101	46%
8	Steven Brown	1894	796.5	1459	55%	51	Scott Thiemann	1514	34	73	47%
9	Blue Thorogood	1891	414	607	68%	52	Peter Johnstone	1484	66.5	116	57%
10	Val Mills	1880	868	1841	47%	53	Selena Chan	1484	221	409	54%
11	Mike Sigley	1850	868	1234	70%	54	Leila Thomson	1482	471.5	1059	45%
12	Lawson Sue	1848	376.5	731	52%	55	David Gunn	1472	1055	2126	50%
13	Lynne Butler	1845	803	1304	62%	56	Scott Chaput	1468	108	177	61%
14	Rogelia Talosig	1836	382	642	60%	57	Karyn McDougall	1462	595	1135	52%
15	Nick Cavenagh	1823	122	209	58%	58	June Mackwell	1461	660.5	1490	44%
16	John Foster	1814	1276	2242	57%	59	Herb Ramsay	1457	105	157	67%
17	Glenda Foster	1808	846.5	1670	51%	60	Jean O'Brien	1451	889.5	1739	51%
18	Liz Fagerlund	1798	821.5	1591	52%	61	Clare Wall	1448	212	400	53%
19	Debbie Raphael	1796	501	815	61%	62	Lynn Carter	1433	453.5	857	53%
20	Denise Gordon	1762	646	1327	49%	63	Yvette Hewlett	1432	373.5	783	48%
21	Amelia Carrington	1753	265	467	57%	64	Shirley Martin	1425	677	1298	52%
22	Shirley van Essen	1749	331	639	52%	65	Irene Smith	1415	105	210	50%
23	Glennis Hale	1745	1275.5	2287	56%	66	Rosalind Phillips	1413	396.5	750	53%
24	Rosemary Cleary	1711	594	1288	46%	67	Maureen Holliday	1411	585	1142	51%
25	Chris Hooks	1698	861	1774	49%	68	Ella Rushton	1403	174	301	58%
26	Paul Lister	1679	732.5	1299	56%	69	Faye Cronhelm	1388	703	1414	50%
27	Glenyss Buchanan	1673	565.5	1208	47%	70	Ray Goodyear	1373	189	379	50%
28	Murray Rogers	1666	527	1006	52%	71	Kaite Hansen	1367	238.5	425	56%
29	John Baird	1663	126	215	59%	72	Yoon Kim Fong	1358	447	855	52%
30	Anderina McLean	1653	368.5	666	55%	73	Hazel Purdie	1349	813	1668	49%
31	Tim Anglin	1637	30	55	55%	74	Roger Coates	1337	585.5	1252	47%
32	Peter Jones	1635	734	1512	49%	75	Lyn Toka	1329	438.5	838	52%
33	Marianne Bentley	1630	268	604	44%	76	Allison Torrance	1321	297.5	565	53%
34	Janice Cherry	1622	344	657	52%	77	Lyn Dawson	1311	336	607	55%
35	Katy Yiakmis	1620	65	131	50%	78	Pam Barlow	1298	523	1039	50%
36	Helen Sillis	1620	649	1293	50%	79	Ruth Groffman	1295	363.5	747	49%
37	Allie Quinn	1603	892.5	1842	48%	80	Pat Bryan	1287	151	262	58%
38	Vicky Robertson	1594	161	304	53%	81	Glenda Geard	1265	861	1757	49%
39	Olivia Godfrey	1586	446	795	56%	82	Ernie Gidman	1263	335	666	50%
40	Margie Hurly	1582	275	520	53%	83	Su Walker	1260	775.5	1518	51%
41	Ian Patterson	1581	187	355	53%	84	Rhoda Cashman	1254	744.5	1533	49%
42	Lynne Powell	1580	831.5	1650	50%	85	Dianne Cole-Baker	1239	294	549	54%
43	Pam Robson	1567	487.5	1063	46%	86	Margaret Cherry	1213	422	852	50%



Rank	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
87	Marian Ross	1209	437	871	50%
88	Delcie Macbeth	1127	678	1307	52%
89	Shirley Wyatt	1113	430.5	918	47%
90	Roger Cole-Baker	1112	315	601	52%
91	Andree Prentice	1111	792	1563	51%
92	Roto Mitchell	1108	551	1089	51%
93	Mary Gray	1108	343.5	672	51%
94	Jena Yousif	1092	306.5	608	50%
95	Steve Richards	1087	207	430	48%
96	Elaine Moltzen	1082	501	1001	50%
97	Carolyn Kyle	1061	542.5	1076	50%
98	Malcolm Graham	1056	267	540	49%
99	Sandra Stacey	1056	121	236	51%
100	Betty Eriksen	1054	995	1973	50%
101	Bev Edwards	1050	140	246	57%
102	Karen Gray	1045	174	324	54%
103	Heather London	1041	269	522	52%
104	Colleen Cook	1041	224.5	468	48%
105	Catherine Henry	1019	346.5	651	53%
106	Gabrielle Bolt	1015	296	572	52%
107	Kerry Mckenna	1013	36	57	63%
108	Margaret Lyall	1007	429.5	860	50%
109	Carole Coates	1003	514.5	1050	49%
110	Suzanne Frederick	1000	195	342	57%
111	Suzanne Harding	987	176.5	340	52%
112	Mary Curtis	966	118	228	52%
113	Pam Muirhead	963	74.5	129	58%
114	Chris Handley	960	318	606	52%
115	Liz Richards	959	207.5	428	48%
116	Veronica Zilinskas	945	167.5	304	55%
117	Ann Candler	940	636.5	1359	47%
118	Tony Charlton	938	146.5	305	48%
119	Jo Ann Ingram	935	156	322	48%
120	Jean Boyle	931	375.5	715	53%
121	Fran Lowe	929	25.5	57	45%
122	Nola Borrell	927	175.5	324	54%
123	Karen Miller	908	411.5	839	49%
124	Athena Mafile'o	907	25	41	61%
125	Barbara Dunn	895	177.5	314	57%
126	Shirley Morrison	868	95.5	211	45%
127	Sheila Reed	860	152.5	318	48%
128	Alison Holmes	848	142	255	56%
129	Yvonne MacKenzie	835	384.5	824	47%
130	Valma Gidman	831	604.5	1197	51%
131	Joan Pratt	827	597	1166	51%
132	Jean Walsh	821	157	310	51%
133	Richard Cornelius	805	46.5	86	54%
134	Maria Clinton	798	180	368	49%
135	Rosemary Wauters	788	116.5	227	51%
136	Tim Henneveld	782	244	567	43%
137	Michael Groffman	781	192.5	419	46%



*Michael Groffman (Dunedin)*

Rank	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
138	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	780	486	1022	48%
139	Kathleen Mori-Barker	775	291.5	598	49%
140	Noelene Bettjeman	770	193	423	46%
141	Lisa Tam	768	29	41	71%
142	Judith Thomas	753	121.5	235	52%
143	Leighton Gelling	733	29	70	41%
144	Anne Scatchard	713	164	311	53%
145	Thelma Chisholm	711	235.5	500	47%
146	Roslyn Lister	711	303.5	593	51%
147	Judy Driscoll	704	46	146	32%
148	Annette Coombes	635	528	1204	44%
149	Anthea Jones	630	151.5	307	49%
150	Philippa Medlock	621	47.5	92	52%
151	Pat Wood	618	83	152	55%
152	Marc Van Hoecke	616	95	182	52%
153	Kaye Hubner	589	32	74	43%
154	Madeleine Green	585	33.5	73	46%
155	Janny Henneveld	578	270	563	48%
156	Ruth Godwin	569	110	295	37%
157	Joan Beale	544	54	107	50%
158	Julia Schiller	538	22	74	30%
159	Stephanie Pluck	535	31	70	44%
160	Pauline Smeaton	530	292.5	559	52%
161	Jean Craib	522	326	698	47%
162	Anne-Louise Milne	522	67	265	25%
163	Antonia Aarts	495	55	141	39%
164	Jean Wacker	491	218	436	50%
165	Frances Higham	470	22	84	26%
166	Christina Linwood	462	84.5	183	46%
167	Lynn Thompson	411	134	321	42%
168	Penny Irvine	379	73.5	191	38%
169	Sue Mayn	298	134	347	39%
170	Amy Tiopira	266	7.5	44	17%
171	Betty Sutherland	164	202.5	487	42%
172	Trish Fox	129	16	107	15%
173	Jeannie Lambert	106	12	92	13%

# Tournament Results

## Wellington Tournament 15-16 January 2011

### 14 Games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
<b>Grade A</b>					
1	Kristian Saether	IND	11	671	458
2	Joanne Craig	CHC	10	-19	433
3	Howard Warner	MTA	9	314	435
4	Jeff Grant	IND	8	587	437
5	Steven Brown	KAP	7	174	425
6	Val Mills	PAK	6	-391	397
7	Glenda Foster	WEL	3	-799	398
8	Glennis Hale	IND	2	-537	386
<b>Grade B</b>					
1	Anderina McLean	MTA	9	677	412
2	Rosemary Cleary	WAN	9	634	407
3	Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	9	436	422
4	Frank Robinson	WEL	9	43	381
5	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	7	-60	378
6	Vicky Robertson	WEL	6	-114	389
7	Lynn Wood	WEL	4	-417	374
8	Shirley Hol	CHC	3	-1199	344
<b>Grade C</b>					
1	Leila Thomson	LOH	9.5	238	390
2	Olivia Godfrey	WEL	9	262	395
3	Joan Thomas	HAS	8	-19	383
4	Yvette Hewlett	IND	8	-51	393



*Allison Torrance,  
2nd in D grade at Wellington*

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
5	Peter Johnstone	CHC	7	271	400
6	Clare Wall	WEL	7	255	406
7	Pam Barlow	PAK	6.5	-316	379
8	Teresa Ferrari	LOH	1	-640	358
<b>Grade D</b>					
1	Ruth Groffman	DUN	11	347	389
2	Allison Torrance	CHC	11	277	390
3	Andree Prentice	WAN	9	172	375
4	Su Walker	MTA	6	195	396
5	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	6	-101	366
6	Malcolm Graham	CHC	5	-216	370
7	Roto Mitchell	WAN	4	-303	358
8	Colleen Cook	CHC	4	-371	362
<b>Grade E</b>					
1	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	10	276	367
2	Gabrielle Bolt	CHC	9.5	643	384
3	Carolyn Kyle	DUN	9.5	513	384
4	Nola Borrell	WEL	9	343	378
5	Karen Miller	IND	8	205	359
6	Sheila Reed	WEL	7	290	364
7	Judy Driscoll	KAP	6	-357	336
8	Thelma Chisholm	WEL	5	-653	320
9	Judith Thomas	IND	4	-477	339
10	Julia Schiller	IND	2	-783	299



*Leila Thomson,  
C grade winner at Wellington*



**Chris Hooks,**  
*B grade winner at Pakuranga day 1*

**Pakuranga Club Tournament**  
**29 January 2011**

**7 Games**

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
<b>Grade A</b>					
1	Howard Warner	MTA	7	638	434
2	Patrick Carter	MTA	4	214	438
3	Val Mills	PAK	3	-63	380
4	Nick Cavenagh	HAM	3	-76	377
5	Lawson Sue	PAK	3	-99	395
6	Andrew Bradley	MTA	3	-158	387
7	John Foster	IND	3	-159	396
8	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	2	-297	365
<b>Grade B</b>					
1	Chris Hooks	MTA	6	590	452
2	Glennis Hale	IND	5	768	456
3	Vicky Robertson	WEL	5	147	413
4	Paul Lister	CHC	4	-317	373
5	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	3	-420	375
6	Tim Anglin	IND	2	-295	371
7	Jennifer Smith	HAM	2	-298	385
8	Anderina McLean	MTA	1	-175	396
<b>Grade C</b>					
1	Margie Hurly	WRE	5	396	442
2	Joan Thomas	HAS	5	255	428
3	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	5	-89	389
4	Lynn Wood	WEL	4	311	407
5	David Gunn	WKP	4	-14	403
6	Sheila Green	IND	3	-527	358
7	Allie Quinn	WRE	2	-325	381

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
<b>Grade D</b>					
1	Scott Thiemann	MTA	6	338	442
2	Clare Wall	WEL	5	573	446
3	Lynn Carter	NSB	5	68	399
4	Rosalind Phillips	MTA	3	-153	366
5	June Mackwell	NSB	3	-372	353
6	Hazel Purdie	MTA	2	-60	376
7	Pam Barlow	PAK	2	-130	392
8	Roger Coates	HAM	2	-264	357
<b>Grade E</b>					
1	Su Walker	MTA	6	150	390
2	Pat Bryan	MTA	5	262	398
3	Delcie Macbeth	IND	5	241	405
4	Mary Gray	MTA	3	46	379
5	Cicely Bruce	WRE	3	16	383
6	Glenda Geard	IND	3	-46	356
7	Catherine Henry	TGA	2	-307	354
8	Heather Landon	TGA	1	-362	353
<b>Grade F</b>					
1	Roto Mitchell	WAN	6	525	413
2	Margaret Cherry	PAK	4	80	361
3	Carole Coates	HAM	4	-91	362
4	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	4	-303	351
5	Betty Eriksen	WAN	3	99	364
6	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	3	63	386
7	Pam Muirhead	HBC	2	-48	372
8	Ann Candler	NSB	2	-325	357
<b>Grade G</b>					
1	Tim Henneveld	ROT	5	145	319
2	Janny Henneveld	ROT	4	125	359
3	Suzanne Harding	WRE	4	69	344



**Clare Wall,**  
*2nd in D Grade at Pakuranga day 1*

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
4	Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	4	31	319
5	Anne Scatchard	WRE	4	-7	323
6	Valerie Holbrook	PAK	4	-120	321
7	Mary Curtis	MTA	2	-173	334
8	Joy Hewson	HBC	1	-70	337

**Grade H**

1	Annette Coombes	WKP	7	558	398
2	Shirley Pederson	PAK	5	396	374
3	Joan Beale	PHC	5	186	362
4	Frances Higham	PHC	5	-157	324
5	Ruth Godwin	ROT	4	297	341
6	Patricia Wareing	PAK	3	90	343
7	Margaret Miller	HBC	3	-217	315
8	Gaye Dunbier	PHC	2	-276	329
9	Julia Schiller	IND	1	-347	307
10	Alan Henley	NSB	0	-530	278

**30 January 2011**

**7 Games**

**Grade A**

1	Val Mills	PAK	5	324	447
2	Andrew Bradley	MTA	5	308	429
3	Nick Cavenagh	HAM	5	9	395
4	Howard Warner	MTA	4	554	452
5	Lawson Sue	PAK	3	-110	392
6	John Foster	IND	2	-303	391
7	Chris Hooks	MTA	2	-321	404
8	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	2	-461	375

**Grade B**

1	Anderina McLean	MTA	5	263	438
2	Jennifer Smith	HAM	5	156	407



*Val Mills,  
A grade winner at Pakuranga day 2*



*Roger Cole-Baker,  
2nd in F grade at Pakuranga day 2*

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
3	Margie Hurlly	WRE	4	712	442
4	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	4	-29	398
5	Paul Lister	CHC	4	-126	389
6	Glennis Hale	IND	3	-354	376
7	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	2	-167	381
8	Vicky Robertson	WEL	1	-455	370

**Grade C**

1	Lynn Wood	WEL	5	321	419
2	Sheila Green	IND	5	178	394
3	David Gunn	WKP	4	160	389
4	Tim Anglin	IND	4	117	418
5	Joan Thomas	HAS	4	-51	400
6	Clare Wall	WEL	3	-3	394
7	Stan Gregec	TGA	3	-7	394
8	Lynn Carter	NSB	0	-715	342

**Grade D**

1	June Mackwell	NSB	5	344	417
2	Rosalind Phillips	MTA	5	311	408
3	Pat Bryan	MTA	5	182	398
4	Allie Quinn	WRE	5	150	407
5	Hazel Purdie	MTA	4	61	395
6	Roger Coates	HAM	3	-423	360
7	Pam Barlow	PAK	1	-106	371
8	Delcie Macbeth	IND	0	-519	346

**Grade E**

1	Cicely Bruce	WRE	7	548	427
2	Glenda Geard	IND	5	231	408
3	Su Walker	MTA	4	29	387
4	Catherine Henry	TGA	3	-105	373
5	Roto Mitchell	WAN	3	-201	361



*Allie Quinn,  
2nd in B grade at Rotorua*

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
6	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	3	-256	343
7	Mary Gray	MTA	2	-116	390
8	Heather Landon	TGA	1	-130	357

**Grade F**

1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	620	409
2	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	5	503	401
3	Ann Candler	NSB	5	227	394
4	Carole Coates	HAM	5	205	382
5	Suzanne Harding	WRE	3	-227	344
6	Anne Scatchard	WRE	2	-273	332
7	Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	2	-421	316
8	Tim Henneveld	ROT	0	-634	302

**Grade G**

1	Mary Curtis	MTA	6	520	385
2	Annette Coombes	WKP	5	210	369
3	Alan Henley	NSB	5	156	336
4	Joan Beale	PHC	4	193	350
5	Joan Rawlings	PAK	4	111	365
6	Janny Henneveld	ROT	4	-21	338
7	Ruth Godwin	ROT	3	-171	340
8	Julia Schiller	IND	2	-392	284
9	Frances Higham	PHC	1	-291	301
10	Margaret Miller	HBC	1	-315	319

### Rotorua Club Tournament 26-27 February

**13 Games**

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
Grade A					
1	Howard Warner	MTA	11	1182	464
2	Lawson Sue	MTA	11	847	417

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
3	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	10	813	425
4	Glennis Hale	IND	8	367	406
5	Anderina McLean	MTA	8	85	394
6	Rogelio Talosig	IND	8	-90	402
7	Tim Anglin	IND	7	-112	405
8	Nick Cavenagh	HAM	6	362	425
9	Olivia Godfrey	WEL	5	-792	371
10	Marianne Bentley	TGA	4	-139	412
11	John Foster	IND	4	-219	390
12	Jennifer Smith	HAM	3	-467	392
13	Lynn Wood	WEL	3	-734	356
14	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	3	-1103	363

**Grade B**

1	Janice Cherry	IND	11	675	430
2	Allie Quinn	WRE	10	597	415
3	Joan Thomas	HAS	8	435	408
4	June Mackwell	NSB	8	315	391
5	Cicely Bruce	WRE	8	244	408
6	Faye Cronhelm	IND	7	226	390
7	David Gunn	WKP	7	-24	404
8	Lynn Carter	NSB	7	-247	393
9	Rosalind Phillips	PAK	6	-21	385
10	Shirley Martin	HAM	6	-210	373



*Tim Anglin (from Canada) set to go angling. Tim didn't catch any fish this day but he had more success on the day when they went fishing (from a more conventional craft!) for some trout for the Rotorua Tournament lunch. He finished 7th in the A grade at Rotorua.*



	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
11	Roger Coates	KIW	5	-292	393
12	Lyn Toka	KIW	4	-464	371
13	Hazel Purdie	MTA	2	-404	369
14	Glenda Geard	IND	2	-830	356

**Grade C**

1	Ernie Gidman	ROD	11	782	404
2	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	10	406	366
3	Samantha Samuels	KIW	8	311	367
4	Su Walker	MTA	8	119	374
5	Delcie Macbeth	IND	6	168	392
6	Jena Yousif	KIW	6	155	380
7	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	6	-28	377
8	Roto Mitchell	WAN	6	-56	351
9	Margaret Cherry	PAK	6	-85	350
10	Elaine Moltzen	KIW	6	-286	376
11	Betty Eriksen	WAN	5	-176	362
12	Heather Landon	TGA	5	-233	361
13	Catherine Henry	TGA	4	-324	359
14	Carole Coates	KIW	4	-753	344

**Grade D**

1	Mary Curtis	MTA	10	601	396
2	Suzanne Harding	WRE	10	127	365
3	Jean Boyle	WAN	8	-138	358
4	Barbara Dunn	TGA	7	404	380
5	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	7	200	365
6	Ann Candler	NSB	7	184	373
7	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	6	-56	371
8	Tim Henneveld	ROT	6	-101	345



*Philippa Medlock,  
E grade winner at Rotorua*

9



*Murray Rogers,  
Winner at Nelson*

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Average
9	Shirley Morrison	TGA	5	239	348
10	Valma Gidman	ROD	5	-144	352
11	Anne Scatchard	WRE	4	-718	314
12	Annette Coombes	WKP	3	-598	326

**Grade E**

1	Philippa Medlock	ROT	10	580	344
2	Julia Schiller	IND	10	408	345
3	Maggie Bentley	ROT	9	337	330
4	Janny Henneveld	ROT	9	328	350
5	Pauline Smeaton	TGA	9	274	342
6	Antonia Aarts	MTA	9	-116	316
7	Linda Moore	ROD	7	150	331
8	Alan Henley	NSB	5	-611	293
9	Val Isherwood	ROT	4	-284	325
10	Jeannie Lambert	ROT	4	-514	281
11	Roy Seddon	TGA	2	-619	302

**Nelson Club Tournament  
26-27 February**

**14 Games**

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread
1	Murray Rogers	NEL	12	1243
2	Lyn Dawson	CHC	11	848
3	Irene Smith	CHC	10	540
4	Jean O'Brien	IND	10	401
5	Jan Evans	NEL	8	642
6	Steve Richards	NEL	7	68
7	Carolyn Kyle	DUN	6	-128
8	Tony Charlton	NEL	5	-317
9	Liz Richards	NEL	4	-756





*John Foster, winner on day 1 and second on day 2 at Mt Albert Memorial*

10	Maria Clinton	NEL	4	-770
11	Betty Don	NEL	0	-1746

### **Mt Albert Memorial Tournament 19-20 March**

#### **Day 1**

#### **8 games**

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	John Foster	7	738
2	Val Mills	7	480
3	Howard Warner	6	1177
4	Katy Yiakmis	6	-43
5	Chris Hooks	5	282
6	Allie Quinn	5	130
7	Nick Cavenagh	5	33
8	Pam Barlow	5	-6
9	Pam Robson	5	-67
10	Shirley Martin	4	286
11	Jean O'Brien	4	130
12	June Mackwell	4	111
13	Debbie Raphael	4	96
14	Joan Thomas	4	87
15	Anderina McLean	4	16
16	Cicely Bruce	4	12
17	Hazel Purdie	4	-89
18	Mary Gray	4	-190
19	Jennifer Smith	3	123
20	Glenda Geard	3	71
21	Bev Edwards	3	-20
22	Philippa Medlock	3	-138
23	Lynn Carter	3	-171
24	Andree Prentice	3	-182
25	Leighton Gelling	2	-201

26	Julia Schiller	2	-805
27	Frances Higham	2	-928
28	Joan Beale	1	-932

#### **Day 2**

#### **8 games**

#### **Sendai Division**

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	Howard Warner	7	709
2	John Foster	6	278
3	Cicely Bruce	6	-30
4	Debbie Raphael	5	541
5	Patrick Carter	5	192
6	Nick Cavenagh	5	81
7	Kristian Saether	4	530
8	Liz Fagerlund	4	311
9	Chris Hooks	4	-52
10	Katy Yiakmis	4	-85
11	Janice Cherry	4	-114
12	Lawson Sue	4	-131
13	Jennifer Smith	4	-138
14	Allie Quinn	4	-377
15	Scott Thiemann	3	-288
16	Joan Thomas	3	-491
17	Lynne Powell	2	-161
18	Lynn Carter	2	-219
19	June Mackwell	2	-248
20	Jean O'Brien	2	-308


#### **Lyttelton Division**

1	Hazel Purdie	6	306
2	Su Walker	6	227
3	Margaret Cherry	6	166
4	Glenda Geard	5	512
5	Dianne Cole-Baker	5	195



*Hazel Purdie, winner of Lyttelton division day 2 at Mt Albert Memorial*

	Name	Wins	Spread
6	Bev Edwards	5	154
7	Ernie Gidman	5	-130
8	Pat Bryan	4	363
9	Roger Cole-Baker	4	138
10	Pam Barlow	4	-25
11	Valma Gidman	4	-93
12	Marianne Patchett	4	-229
13	Elaine Ware	3	45
14	Mary Gray	3	-74
15	Andree Prentice	3	-170
16	Leighton Gelling	3	-269
17	Philippa Medlock	1	-432
18	Julia Schiller	1	-684



The Rodney Club has decided to change their next tournament date from 20 August 2011 to 6 May 2012. The tournament calendar has been amended accordingly.

### SI Champs Tournament still on!

The South Island Championships Tournament in Christchurch is still on!

Congratulations and well done to the Christchurch Club. Despite their personal circumstances in the wake of the February earthquake, they have rallied around to arrange their tournament at the Woolston Club Inc, 43 Hargood St, Woolston.

Buy own lunch from bistro on premises, or bring your own lunch and eat in the park next door.

Motels in the vicinity are in Bealey Avenue and Papanui Rd. If you google Woolston motels you will find them. If you need any help, such as transport from your motel, please let the Club know. They would also appreciate being told the time of your flight out of Christchurch.

If you are able to bring a digital clock and a suitable turntable board it would be a huge help to know as to date they have been unable to access their club boards locked in a cupboard in their club rooms which have been taken over by the EQC and Red Cross.

Christchurch Scrabblers say they are looking forward to seeing calm and stress-free faces! Let's get a good crowd there to show our support for them!

## Tournament Calendar (for the rest of 2011)

Tournament	Place	Dates
NZ Masters #	Auckland	23-25 April
South Island Championships	Christchurch	7-8 May
NZ National Champs	Wellington	4-5 June
Whangarei	Whangarei	9-10 July
Hamilton	Hamilton	6-7 August
Tauranga	Tauranga	27-28 August
Canterbury Open	Christchurch	10-11 September
Mt Albert	Auckland	1-2 October
World Scrabble Championship#	Warsaw, Poland	12-16 October
Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival	Norfolk Island	15-22 October
Wanganui	Wanganui	22-23 October
Otago Lion Open	Dunedin	12-13-November
		30 November -
Causeway Challenge#	Johor Bahru, Malaysia	4 December

# entry restricted to qualifiers

# NZ Scrabble Records

Record	Tournament		Club Level	
	Score	Player (Club)	Score	Player (Club)
Highest Game Score	717	Mike Sigley (WAN)	763	John Foster (MTA)
Highest Losing Score	514	Pam Barlow (PAK)	521	June Mackwell (MTA)
Highest Drawn Game	487	Lynne Wood (WEL) & Debbie Caldwell (NEL)	482	Margaret Warren (HAS) & Jeff Grant (HAS)
Highest Single Turn	221	Sheryl Davidson (PAK) Lisa McLean (IND) Jeff Grant (IND)	347	Neil Talbot (WEL)
Highest Single Turn Non-bonus	135	Ruth O'Neill (NPL)	261	John Foster (MTA)
Highest Combined Score	1078	Howard Warner (CAP) & David Lloyd (MTA)	1106	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Largest Winning Margin	493	Mike Sigley (WAN)	590	Paul Lister (CHC)
Highest Take-off	54	Lisa McLean (IND)	68	Andrew Bradley (MTA)
Most Bonus Words (3 Game Session)			14	Jeff Grant (IND)
Highest 3-Game Aggregate	—	—	1805	Nigel Richards (CHC)
Most Consecutive Bonus Words	5	Allie Quinn (NSB)	5	John Foster (MTA) Patrick Carter (MTA) Paul Lister (CHC)
Most Bonus Words in Game (1 person)	6	Nigel Richards (CHC) Yvette Hewlett (IND) Paul Lister (CHC)	7	Jeff Grant (IND)
Most Bonus Words in Game (2 people)	8	Mike Sigley (WAN) & Glenyss Buchanan (LOH) Nigel Richards (CHC) & John Foster (IND)	8	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Highest Average Single Tournament (Any Grade)	584	Nigel Richards (CHC)	—	—

## New Zealand Masters (23 Games)

Most Games Won	Jeff Grant (HAS) 21 (1993, 1997), Mike Sigley (WAN) 21 2002
Highest Aggregate	Nigel Richards (CHC) 11,103 (1999)
Most Bonus Words	Nigel Richards (CHC) 61 (1998)
Highest Spread	Howard Warner (MTA) +2410 (2000)

## Contact Information

Clubs (Nth to Sth)	Contact Person	Phone	Email	Meeting Day/Time
<b>Please contact the contact person to find out the meeting venue</b>				
Whangarei (WRE)	Bev Edwards	09 430 2832	<a href="mailto:bevholo@xtra.co.nz">bevholo@xtra.co.nz</a>	Thurs 1pm
Rodney (ROD)	Linda Moore	09 425 4959	<a href="mailto:colin.linda@wave.co.nz">colin.linda@wave.co.nz</a>	Mon 1pm
Hibiscus Coast (HBC)	Joan Pratt	09 426 4521	<a href="mailto:jopra@xtra.co.nz">jopra@xtra.co.nz</a>	Mon 12.45pm
Nth Shore Bays (NSB)	Ann Candler	09 444 8411	<a href="mailto:anncan@clear.net.nz">anncan@clear.net.nz</a>	Tues 10am
Mt Albert (MTA)	Dianne Cole-Baker	09 309 5865	<a href="mailto:drcb@xtra.co.nz">drcb@xtra.co.nz</a>	Fri 7.00pm
Pakuranga/Howick (PAK)	Jeanette Owler	09 534 4453	<a href="mailto:cliffordo@xtra.co.nz">cliffordo@xtra.co.nz</a>	Tues 12.30pm Thurs 7pm
Papatoetoe/Holy Cross (PHC)	Frances Higham	09 278 4595	<a href="mailto:jambo@actrix.co.nz">jambo@actrix.co.nz</a>	Mon 1pm
Hamilton (HAM)	Jillian Greening	07 843 7652	<a href="mailto:jillian.greening@yahoo.co.nz">jillian.greening@yahoo.co.nz</a>	Tues 7pm
Kiwi (KIW)	Elaine Moltzen	07 843 5108	<a href="mailto:jillian.greening@yahoo.co.nz">jillian.greening@yahoo.co.nz</a>	Thurs 7pm/1pm alt
Waikato Phoenix (WKP)	Annette Coombes	07 855 9970		Alt Weds 7pm
Tauranga (TGA)	Stan Skinner	07 572 0866	<a href="mailto:marstan@xtra.co.nz">marstan@xtra.co.nz</a>	Tues 9.00am
Rotorua	Ruth Godwin	07 349 6954	<a href="mailto:rgodwin#xtra.co.nz">rgodwin#xtra.co.nz</a>	
Tokoroa (TOK)	Lesley Edgeler	07 886 8374		
Waitara (WTA)	Ngaire Kemp	06 754 4017		Wed 1.00pm
New Plymouth (NPL)	Lynne Butler	06 755 2134	<a href="mailto:scrabblyn@clear.net.nz">scrabblyn@clear.net.nz</a>	Saturday
Pukekura (PUK)	Mary Waite	06 757 8654		Thurs 9.45am
Stratford (STR)	Sharon Clarke	06 765 5653	<a href="mailto:sharontc@xtra.co.nz">sharontc@xtra.co.nz</a>	
Hastings (HAS)	Yvonne Wilson	06 878 8229	<a href="mailto:wilsonpad@paradise.net.nz">wilsonpad@paradise.net.nz</a>	Tues 1pm
Wanganui (WAN)	Rosemary Cleary	06 347 1837	<a href="mailto:rosecleary@hotmail.com">rosecleary@hotmail.com</a>	Mon 7pm
Masterton (MAS)	Hilda Scott	06 378 2663		
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04 569 5433	<a href="mailto:glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz">glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz</a>	Tues 7.30pm
Kapiti (KAP)	Graeme Brown	04 297 0720	<a href="mailto:gcb@xtra.co.nz">gcb@xtra.co.nz</a>	Wed 7pm
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04 387 2581	<a href="mailto:lynnwood@paradise.net.nz">lynnwood@paradise.net.nz</a>	Tues 7pm
Nelson (NEL)	Tony Charlton	03 548 0635	<a href="mailto:Tony.charlton@yahoo.co.uk">Tony.charlton@yahoo.co.uk</a>	4th Wed 7pm
Christchurch (CHC)	Margaret Lyall	03 332 5963	<a href="mailto:noelrealest@hotmail.com">noelrealest@hotmail.com</a>	Fri 6.45pm Wed 12.45pm
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