Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players

No. 106 Autumn 2012



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YOUR SLUT * WEIRD WORDS * WORLD TEAMS * CREATOR OF CLUEDO * JAFAS AND
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Web Master

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Shakespeare

2 FORWORDS AUTUMN 2012





"Is that a real word?" that's the most frequent sentence uttered by newcomers to Scrabble clubs.

In all honesty, we Scrabblers have to concede there are two types of words, 'Scrabble words' and 'real words'. And even we wonder whether some words are ever used in real life.

Certainly, it's a joy when we come across a new word in our reading or elsewhere, and we can make a mental note of it to use in Scrabble sometime.

I regularly wait at a set of traffic lights and see the word AVANTI on the sign of a cycle shop. I was pleased to discover it's a Scrabble word, an interjection meaning 'go forward!' Good brand name for a bike. (Unfortunately, the only time I've had a chance to play it, I tried to pluralise it with an S!)

Just today, I read an article in the local free rag about a person who specialises in INTARSIA, the art of making pictures using different coloured pieces of timber. Wonderful word, with two As and two Is – and it has no anagrams.

Nice as it is to discover new words like this, I actually find it even more delightful when it's the other way round: that is, when I find a 'Scrabble word' being used in real life.

I was listening to a talk by a scientist who had been to Antarctica, and he used the word ALBEDO without explaining its meaning. I was so excited because I knew it, having played it after discovering it's an anagram for DOABLE. (I only looked up its meaning because to my smutty mind it

sounded like LIBIDO – but it's the measurement of reflection of light off snow).

Even better still, is when I discover a word I know and play confidently – but without knowing its meaning – actually being used in a non-Scrabble context.

It probably sounds pathetic, but I well remember my excitement just after I started playing Scrabble about 16 years ago, when I saw the animal labelled ANOA at a zoo in Indonesia. (Val describes the same sense of discovery in her article.)

At the recent Wellington tournament, Lyn Wood hooked a Y onto the word CROWD. I challenged, and was truly surprised to find it was a valid word. (In her heart of hearts, I suspect Lynn was surprised, too!) We had a short discussion on its possible meaning. Was it a CROWDY shopping mall? Did they act in a CROWDY way? Is a member of a CROWD a CROWDY?

I didn't look up its meaning then ... but ...
That very night, I started reading *The*Apothecary's Daughter by Julie Klassen.
Imagine my amazement when one of the
southern England characters bakes apple
CROWDIES to take on a picnic. (CROWDY,
CROWDIE. a kind of turnover)

And so another 'Scrabble word' comes out of the closet as a 'real word'!

Don't you love how some words gather a little history of their own because of one or more Scrabble games, or are forever linked in your mind to another Scrabble player? Perhaps you have a word 'history' you'd like to share in *Forwords*?



From our president



In early February this year we went to a wedding in Christchurch which had originally been planned for early March last year but which had to be postponed due to the Feb 22 quake.

It was my first time to Christchurch since any of the quakes and even though I'd seen pictures, read stories and talked to people, nothing prepared me for actually being there and seeing the city with my own eyes. Life does chuck some hard things at us from time to time and it is truly inspirational to see how people deal with them.

A quote came in one of my emails the other day: "A successful person is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him or her." That's literally what the people of Christchurch are having to do. I truly admire the efforts of the members of the Christchurch Scrabble club for managing to keep the club going over the past year and a half — I don't know how you have done it.

While we were there, the Pike River enquiry was being held, and the use of a word I had only seen in Scrabble circles caught my eye when I was reading the paper.

"Last week, the inquiry at Greymouth District Court heard the blast was blamed on a roof collapse in the hydro-mining goaf, a void left when coal is extracted, which pushed accumulated methane gas around the mine and was ignited by an electric spark."

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I've always thought that GOAF was a pretty strange word, but obviously not to miners!

Sometimes playing Scrabble is more like playing snakes and ladders with the ups and downs we experience in the ratings. Recently I landed on a long snake that took me down 200 points. Why is it the climb back up takes so much longer than the slide down?

But we can only make our way up again by playing the game and attending tournaments. It's great to see that you are doing this. The year started with the Pakuranga tourney which had record numbers for both days - going no frills had no impact on the numbers attending. Since then Nelson, Rotorua, Wellington and Mt Albert clubs have had tourneys. (I always thoroughly enjoy going to Rotorua. I think it's the trout they serve up at lunch time!)

I know it's not easy for all of us to attend as many tournaments as we'd like to due to the cost of travel, but thanks to those that do, and special thanks to club members for the effort spent putting on a tournament. I'm looking forward to the next tourney and hoping like mad that I will find a little ladder to land on!

Happy Scrabbling

Val



Dunedin

Dunedin Club will be holding a fundraising rated tournament on 1 – 2 September this year for the NZ World Youth Championship team. It will be in the form of a Swiss Round Robin. An entry form will be sent next month but in the meantime put this date in your calendars.

For those of you who would like to come to the South Island for a bit of a trip, the Christchurch tourney will be held in the following week – nothing like a double whammy! We look forward to your support.

Hamilton

The Hamilton Club held its 2011 prize-giving early in the new year. Club Champion was Peter Jones, with Val Flint runner-up. Peter also won the Pyramid, and Val the Ladder.

The Knockout tournament was won by Nick Cavenagh, who also won the Pot Luck, Round Robin Group 1, and the Bonus Words Championship. Leighton (Sandy) Gelling won the Round Robin Group 2.

Roger Coates played the most 100-point words (3), earned the most championship points in one week, and had the highest individual score (576). Jennifer Smith won the highest word score of 158 for VILENESS, while the highest aggregate score (1030) was achieved by Nick and Val.

The most coveted prize, of Sportsperson of the Year, went to Erana Davis.

Our Club was sorry in March to farewell Sandy (Leighton) Gelling, who is moving

to New Plymouth. Hamilton's loss is New Plymouth's gain, but we hope we will catch up with him again at various tournaments.

Hastings



June Ward

We sadly advise that June Ward, a longtime member of our club, passed away in February aged 87.

June joined the club on 16 February 1989 and for many years participated in tournament play around the North Island. She particularly enjoyed the Nationals and was pleased when the venue changes were made to include Wellington, Auckland, and Christchurch as well as Hamilton. She billeted players from other regions when Hastings hosted tournaments and the highlights of her Scrabble experiences were the two holidays she had on Norfolk Island playing in their Scrabble Festivals.

In recent years our club has met on Tuesday afternoons at June's residence, which enabled her to continue playing when her physical health was failing. June never lost her enthusiasm and she played a sharp game of Scrabble right to the end. She was always cheerful and enjoyed a joke – we miss her.

Hibiscus Coast

One of our members, Rebecca Freeth, died on 3 March after a long fight against cancer. She was much loved, and never,

ever complained.

For years she was the top scorer in our Club - Rodney Scrabble Club - in spite of English being her second language. Her daughters Lyres and Melody are also excellent players.

She was born in the Philippines in 1961 and was working as a midwife in a hospital in Cebu City when she met her husband Lloyd Freeth in 1985. The following year they came back to New Zealand and settled in Te Atetu, Auckland for a little while. Then they moved up here to Snells Beach and finally to Warkworth.

She was very keen on dancing and belonged to a line dancing group; she played badminton, was a member of the RSA Women's Division, belonged to the Presbyterian Church and of course was a wonderful Scrabble player. She could look at a page of 50 words and in about ten minutes she could memorise the lot!

She was one of the most gracious ladies I have ever met; always smiling, calm and friendly. She will be sorely missed by us all.

Janetta Reitsma.

President Rodney Scrabble Club

Kiwi

Important: change of tournament

date. In the last *Forwords*, we said we would hold a tournament on 30 June. We

now realise that we would be impinging on Whangarei's tournament time, so have altered the date to 23 June, 2012. More details will be sent out nearer the time.

Kiwi Scrabblers held their prize giving and Christmas dinner in December. Roger Coates and Val Flint between them cleaned up most of the trophies this year. Val was the Club Champion, Pot Luck winner, the winner of the group 1 Knockout, and runner-up in the group 1 Round Robin; while Roger was runner-up to the Club Champion and the group 1 Knockout, won the Pyramid, and took the trophies for the most bonus words and the most 100-point words.

Jennifer Smith won the group 1 Round Robin, and was second in the Pot Luck.

Relative newcomer, Ruth Lilian, was named the Most Improved Player. She was second in the Pyramid, and won the group 3 Round Robin - Margaret Penniket was the runner-up in this group.

The Ladder was won by Jena Yousif – runner-up was Betty Gibb. Group 2 Round Robin was won by Elaine Moltzen, with Betty Gibb the bridesmaid again. Jena also won the group 2 Knockout – runner-up this time was Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell.

Kiwi Club held its annual Raglan Tourney at the beginning of March, hosted by Jo Jackson at her home. A good day was had by all, as you can see by the happy photo below. (Jo is front left.)

Betty Gibb won A Grade with Shirley Martin runner up, and Shirley Pearce won B Grade with Ruth Lilian runner up. David



Gunn played the most bonus words (13) in A grade, while Karen Stewart got 15 in the B grade. Roger Coates and Lyn Toka had the highest aggregate (831).



Allison Mclean, Rotorua's oldest member, playing against Alan Henley.

Mt Albert

Mt Albert Club (with quite a bit of thought and a lot of hope) is introducing Monday night social Scrabble at the Mt Albert bridge club rooms starting Monday 16 April (after Easter) at 7 pm. This is additional to our Friday night club nights.

We are advertising this in local free papers and we hope to attract some new players who perhaps don't know we exist or would never come along on Friday nights to a Scrabble club. Howard is giving a series of coaching lessons on the finer points of strategy and we hope that Patrick will continue to supply his inimitable puzzles to keep us thinking.

Any members of other Scrabble clubs are very welcome and we hope that you will pass this information on to any Auckland persons who might enjoy some social Scrabble without pressure and competition.

Rotorua

It was bright and sunny for our weekend tournament in February. Our thanks go to all 58 participants, especially those who travelled considerable distances, as without your effort, the competition and fellowship would be greatly diminished.

Thank you, too, Nick Cavenagh, for promptly expressing your appreciation of the tournament on the internet. Positive feedback is always appreciated by our hard-working committee. Our thanks also to Heather and Colston Landon who managed the draws and scoring and, with the help of the Murray Landon program, kept the results flowing through without any hiccups.

We were pleased to hear praise all round for the Arawa Scout Group for their catering efforts. The youngest member, Michael (pictured), worked hard to keep the playing area free of "empties". Our traditional smoked trout was once again a feature on the Sunday menu.

36 entries qualified for the "Early Bird" prize, and it was appropriate that Jena Yousif won, as it was her birthday that weekend.

- Tim Henneveld



Michael from the Arawa Scout Group and youngest member of the catering team.

A New Era

Kevin Edaeler

It is the end of an era for one of the oldest Scrabble Clubs in New Zealand as the only affiliated members, Kevin and Lesley Edgeler, have decided to affiliate through the Rotorua Club as from the 2012 financial year.

Kevin and Lesley founded the Tokoroa Scrabble Club in 1979 when Kevin transferred there through his employment with New Zealand Post. The club was the third (he thinks) to establish at the time, after the late Noel Maisey's Club in Tauranga and the Lower Hutt Club under Glenyss Buchanan.

The Edgelers were also present at the inaugural meeting which set up the now NZASP under the first president, David Pinner. Lesley served as Association secretary for one year but contact was limited due to no internet and emails etcetera at that time.

The Tokoroa Club ran several popular and successful tournaments in the 80s

when draws and scoring were all done manually. Adjudication was also done manually. The Club had the services of Jeff Grant, who adjudicated in all but the first of those tournaments and travelled over each year from Hastings to do so. To make it a family affair our boys were runners and Kevin did the scoring. Lesley either assisted with scoring or filled in as a player for last minute withdrawals.

The Club even hosted the Masters one year in order to allow the Club's leading player at that time, Florence Veldhuizen, the chance to play at that level. Kevin and Lesley adjudicated and ran the event.

The Club at one time had 19 members. Many chose to retire out of town. Others moved for employment reasons and other members took on other pursuits.

A former member, Betty Price, started up the Rotorua Club but has sadly since passed away.

Although the Club has ceased to operate as such, any Scrabblers travelling through the area can still contact us if they would enjoy a game on our beloved boards.

Scrabble Creek

For those of us who often find themselves up the proverbial creek without a paddle during a Scrabble tournament, it's no comfort to know there *is* a Scrabble Creek.

It's in West Virgina, USA.

No comfort to know that
others have been in an even
worse situation in Scrabble
Creek, either! The picture shows
cars washed into it after a flood.



Scrabble Creek, West Virginia

Hokianga Scrabble Tournament

The inaugural Hokianga Tournament will be held on 13 and 14 April. Because this is a completely new tournament in a completely different location, Debbie Raphael has provided the following information to encourage you to attend.

The tournament and accommodation are in Opononi. Opononi is four hours north of Auckland on the west coast. It is slightly shorter to come up through Dargaville, but an easier drive coming up through Whangarei. The nearest airport is 85km away in Kerikeri. If a group of you wish to come by plane, we are happy to pick you up, as long as it is no later than early Friday afternoon.

Opononi and neighbouring Omapere are small seaside settlements. Between them they have two shops, a petrol station, a laundromat, a cafe, a pub, two takeaways and two restaurants. There is no bank or supermarket for 50km so please come prepared. If the weather is nice there are good views of the golden sand hill and harbour. I swim here year round and the fishing is good.

Tournament

I am doing two single day tournaments, and the games will be held at odd times so that we can include sightseeing. I am supporting locals, so most of the prizes will be local food or crafts, so expect something special and different.

We would really appreciate you bringing your boards and clocks as we don't have any.

Meals during tournament

Breakfasts - self catering.

Saturday lunch – trip to Schooners Cafe at own expense.

Morning and afternoon teas provided, but Saturday afternoon tea, for those out sightseeing, will be at own expense at Morrell's Cafe in Waimamaku

Saturday dinner – try the Opo Takeaways, Boar and Marlin Restaurant, or the Copthorne Restaurant.

Sunday lunch will be catered by a friend in Rawene with a fledgling catering business.

Sightseeing and events

- Koutu Boulders. This walk starts 5km from Opononi. It is one hour return and is on estuarial sand. The Koutu Boulders are like the Moeraki boulders. There are some oysters and rocks to walk over.
- Friday night, Scrabble down the pub.
 The locals love watching anything different so I was thinking of some kind of team knock-out competition at speed.

 Any ideas let me know.
- South Head lookout. This is a 40 minute return walk down to a lookout over the Hokianga bar. For those spending longer in the Hokianga, it is nice to also walk around the beach at the bottom and admire the pools and blowholes.
- The Labyrinth Puzzle Shop. This quaint little shop down Waimamaku Gorge Road specialises in puzzles and games. Louis, the owner, has a maze with an anagram to solve. The first time I did

the maze, I solved the anagram in a far quicker time than anyone had done before. The challenge is out there ...

Accommodation

We live in one of the Opononi Motel Units, which my husband runs. The units are different qualities, but are basically self-contained units (3-4 beds) with two car parks and a view over the harbour. Charge is \$50 for one night, \$40 for a second night and \$30 for a third night. Partners are at the same prices. Please pay by cash or eftpos on arrival. No credit cards please. We can also use the Opononi Hotel on request or if we have lots of bookings.

Please book with my husband, Brian Raphael at opononimotelunits@vodafone. net.nz, or phone 09-946-6958. Email me at debbieraphael@vodafone.net.nz for enquiries about the tournament.





The scale of Success

Debbie Raphael, Hokianga

The Hokianga Scrabblers meet around three times a month. Twice a month there are three of us and once a month there are two. When the two of us play, we judge our success by our combined aggregate: 600 or less and we are devastated; 600 to 700 and we're disappointed; 700 to 800 and we vow to do better; 800 to 900 is fair; 900 to 1,000 is what we aim for; and 1,000 plus is nirvana.

We finally reached nirvana at Christmas time with 1,037. We got four bonus words each and no triple-triples. I got ASPROUT, OVERCOAT, ABLATOR and LIGATION; while Judy got CENTRIES, MAGGIES, REDATES and WITHERED. I won with 523 points and Judy was the annoyed loser, with 514 points. Every time we meet we still aim for that 900 mark or even better, the 1,000. Do others play with a similar scale?

We have had a couple of visitors to our little gathering including Lynn Carter from Auckland who came and stayed with us one Tuesday night and joined us for Scrabble. It was good to have her input about where I should rate the other two for tournament play. We are having our inaugural Hokianga tournament on April 14 and 15. If you'd like to come along please see the poster and information in this *Forwords* and in the Scrabblers' news. So far we have 12 entries so it's looking like a good tournament. Hopefully it's that little bit different.



Mailbox

Re the article "Blown Away" (page 26) in the last issue of *Forwards*:

The suburbs Newton and Wilton can both be found in Wellington. I have often wondered if there is a real GILL NEWTON or GLEN WILTON in Wellington.

[Our layout editor, Vicky, lives in Newtown (with two Ws). She points out that Wellington is a W short of the letters required for her suburb, which she says is often misspelt Newton. There is a suburb of Newton in Auckland, but even Wellington's winds couldn't blow the letters that far!. – Ed.]

Re "Why teachers drink" (page 41):

It's amazing how often the name Gandhi is misspelt Ghandi. A similar phenomenon happens with Ghurka (misspelt Gurkha). A worse example is the Scrabble word RHANJA in *Collins*, which should be RANJHA* (from the Punjabi love story of Heer and Ranjha).

Jeff Grant, Independent

Hi all

2012 and the deaths seem to have stopped and the earthquakes have (slightly!) tapered off. As the saying goes ... "When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on" – I have been swinging on the end of that knot for a fair old time as have the citizenry of Christchurch!

I went to Sydney in January for two weeks to do a couple of ocean swims and catch up with friends/relatives - linked up with our outstanding champion Joanne Craig over there and we enjoyed watching the Aussie TV programme "Letters and Numbers" – the adjudicator on the show was the excellent David Astle. David is a bit of a walking dictionary and writes the column "Wordplay" in the *Sydney Morning Herald*. Some items/ideas from his column while I was over there:

- David uses the Macquarie rather than the Collins OSW and laments the absence of PEDALO (I once used one in St Tropez!), SHALOM and PLAYBOOK amongst others that appear in OSW but not his Macquarie reference, and some that appear in neither, eg. FLOATIE* and THUMBER*.
- Throwing a party where you bring a
 word (an interesting but unfamiliar
 one to the host this would be very
 difficult at a party where Jeff Grant
 was your host!) in lieu of a present.
 Interesting words gifted to David
 included CAPOTASTO "the gizmo
 that sits athwart a guitar's frets,
 designed to raise a melody's pitch" and
 FILIPENDULOUS, "hanging by a thread".
- An annual awards night for wordsmiths, Scrabblers and crossword compilers where the awards are called the AnaGrammies or perhaps the Crossies.

I felt David Astle himself should get the Golden Crossie for 2011 with his excellent word games and columns, with probably Nigel Richards receiving same or similar for his feats (although Nigel dislikes trophies!)

Looking forward to seeing everybody at the Nationals in June.

Paul Lister, Christchurch

I would like to thank Lynn Wood for her very generous donation of \$500 to the NZASP Youth Fund in memory of her mother Thelma. This gesture is so appreciated.

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I would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone else to make a contribution towards this fund.

Dunedin Club will be holding a fundraising rated tournament on 1 – 2 September this year for the NZ WYC team. Perhaps your club could do something similar? Ruth Groffman, Dunedin

e-Scrabble book

The latest Collins Scrabble Club and Tournament list of words and dictionary is available electronically in Amazon.com e-Kindle store for US\$10.

On a Kindle there is the word list (includes words longer than 9 letters) and when a word is highlighted the meaning is displayed. With a free Kindle app the display on a computer is the dictionary meaning.

Rosemary Cleary, Wanganui

Scrabble the original no brainer

From Who said that first, by Max Cryer

No brainer

In 1942 Americans first saw a comic cartoon strip about a pleasant middle-class family of five called "The Berrys". The strip, drawn by Carl Grubert, ran until 1974.

During the 1950s the term "no brainer" arose informally among Americans, meaning that a decision or solution was easy and obvious. The term first saw light in Grubert's cartoon in 1959, showing that during a game of Scrabble the father Peter chooses a word that to mother Pat seems so easy she dismisses his choice as a "no brainer". Before long, the expression was in wide international use.

Corrections to last issue

Sorry, folks, but we need to point out and apologise for a few mistakes in the last issue:

ANOTHER story about AFRONT A (pages 24-25)

ABROOK* is not allowed, although ABROOKE, ABROOKED and ABROOKING are OK. Thanks to Jeff Grant for picking that up.

And that gives us another of Zyzzyva's delightful definitions:

ABROOKE – an erroneous spelling of Shakespeare's "abrook*" (to brook; to tolerate or endure) found in late 20th century editions of Chambers [v. ABROOKED, ABROOKING, ABROOKES]

So it's also an example of illogical words

in our official word list - we are allowed to use a word that's an erroneous spelling, but we're not allowed to use the word that it's an erroneous spelling of. Work that one out!!!

2. Night safari: Scrabble study (page 33)

Binurong* was a typo. The word should have been BINTURONG, of course. Thanks again, Jeff.

3. Photo, C grade (page 48)

We apologise to Carolyn Kyle for getting her photo wrong, and to the person whose photo it is.

2012 Nationals

The venue for the **2012 Nationals** to be held on Queen's Birthday weekend (2-3 June) is the Mt Eden War Memorial hall in Balmoral, Auckland (in Dominion Road near the corner of Balmoral Road).

From trash to treasure

Master recycler Tim Henneveld (Rotorua) presents Olivia Godfrey (Wellington) with her "new" braille Scrabble board, which cost, in Tim's words, "very little".

Howard Warner's sister found the original board in a rubbish skip in Sydney. She gave it to Howard, who in turn gave it to Tim to do up for Olivia because her existing board was getting tatty.

The new board took Tim some weeks to make. To start with, he had to do some repairs to the rescued board, which had some of its ridging missing and its plastic surface lifting off in places.

Then he had trouble finding a half-millimetre drill piece to fit his drill. He was unable to find one in New Zealand or overseas shops, but it turned out his next door neighbour, a watchmaker, had one! Tim used it and an acrylic template to drill the



She's smelt it! Olivia also enjoys the smell of the wood on her new braille board.



She's felt it! Olivia is obviously delighted with her new board and custom-made container that Tim is giving her.

more than 400 little holes into the board to mark the premium squares.

He had expected to have to cut dressmaking pins to make the braille dots on the board, but, miraculously, the watchmaker neighbour had just the thing – some tiny 6mm pewter nails, now unobtainable, that were used about 60 years ago for ornamentation on pewter objects like fire screens. It was another miracle that he had enough nails for the whole job!

After painstakingly inserting the nails, Tim then made a turntable base, and finished the job with a custom-made mahogany carry-box, which has a specially designed tray to hold the tiles during games.

As often happens with projects, one job has led to another. Unfortunately, Olivia's existing tiles, made by Vicky Robertson (Wellington) a few years ago, wobble on their new board. So it looks like the drill and the pewter nails will have to be put to use again to make a new set of tiles.

Brain power

Scrabble contest no. 106

You start the game with GUE (G on centre square) for 8, then your opponent plays HIPPIES/GUES for 83. Your rack is now AEEQSTU. What is the best move?

The winner will receive a book prize. Send entries by mail or email to: Jeff Grant, 'Ardra', 1109 Allenby St, Hastings 4122. Or: ardra@clear.net.nz Closing date is 26 May 2012

Solution: contest no. 105

Fourteen of the twenty Roman numerals from I to XX appear in Scrabble words.

Correct entries were received from Leila Thomson (LHT), Lyn Toka (KIW), Glennis Hale (IND), Joan Thomas (HAS) and Jennifer Smith (HAM).

Lyn loved one word that she found: LIXIVIATE. It contains 11 Roman numerals (50,51, 59, 1, 9, 10, 11, 14, 4, 5, 6) and ends with a homophone for 8!

Joan worked her answer into a little verse:

He had a fit of anger
And fed his wife conline
Then he dialled 111
And dobbed his rival in
He gave a good descripion
He had a devious mind
Then he heard the sylviine song
Some sixteen merry trills
He faxed his love to make a date
How vexing was the distance
Soon he was taxiing not to be late
His thoughts were reflexive
He had no sexvalent power
And suffered from poxvirus
But could still dance the maxixe.

A draw was held and the first name out of the hat was Jennifer, whose epic entry follows. Well done, a superb effort!

Christmas with Roman numerals

On the **Ist** day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

A PARTRIDGE in a pear tree.

On the **IInd** day of Christmas, my true love sent to me

Two DENAR \underline{II} – he's Italian, don't you see.

(I wasn't very impressed –

I'd hoped he'd send a W<u>ii</u>.)

On the **IIIrd** day of Christmas, he failed to send a gift

I sent him a terse text, telling him I was miffed.

On the **IVth** day of Christmas, my gift arrived by truck

It was four BEEH<u>IV</u>ES a-buzzing.

That present really suck'd -

Angry at the move, the bees used their wings

To dive-bomb me in protest –

And I'm allergic to their stings!

On the **Vth** day of Christmas, my true love showed some sense

He sent some antihistamine $SAL\underline{\mathbf{V}}E$

To make recompense.

I was thrilled to receive, on the following day,

<u>VI</u>BURNUM, <u>VI</u>OLA and <u>VI</u>OLET

In a beautiful bouquet

With \underline{VI} NCA, \underline{VI} RGINIA, and \underline{VI} RGIN's bower.

For the **VIth** day of Christmas

He gave me six kinds of flower.

On the **VIIth** day of Christmas his gift was SYL**VII**NE,

A sylvia songbird - its singing was divine.

Day **VIII** dawned fine and clear And a gift failed to appear.

On the \mathbf{IXth} day of Christmas, three $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{\underline{IX}}$ IES appeared at my door

One of them carried a note – I thought the logic poor:

"A PIXIE for the ninth day, a PIXIE for the tenth,"

And (to add insult to injury) "A PI**XI**E for the eleventh."

Three gifts for the price of one What a cheapskate he'd become!

On the **XIIth** day of Christmas, my love came TA**XII**NG,

And to prove he isn't cheap

He brought twelve different gifts

He wanted me to keep.

The **XIIIth** day of Christmas was sure to be unlucky –

When I opened the gunk called L **IX IV** IUM

I thought it looked quite yukky.

I was sure he'd lost his marbles His madness was hard to ignore...

But my true love had done his maths And XIII *is* IX plus IV.

The **XIVth** day saw yet another chemical He'd found in his science books I assure you, dear readers, SE**XIV**ALENT Sounds a lot more sexy than it looks! On the **XVth** day he again sent

SEXVALENT,

Just to make a point He thinks it's cute that it can be spelt both ways -

He didn't mean to disappoint.

Courting with all this scientific stuff He continued this unromantic way And POXVIRUS is what he gave me On the XVIth day.

The infection laid me low - his gifts were getting worse -

I hoped that on the **XVIIth** day He'd send me a competent nurse! But two days passed without a gift ... I was starting to feel better, So I propped myself up on my pillows And wrote him a loving letter.

I suggested rather pointedly

('Cos I was feeling somewhat frantic)

"How about ladies dancing and lords a-leaping,

Or something more romantic?

Even the traditional drummers and pipers

Wouldn't be pedantic."

On the **XIXth** day the hint paid off.

He took me to a ball ...
We talked and laughed
And drank some rums,
Danced and leaped
To pipes and drums –
And as we danced the romantic

MAXIXE,

He gave me the *perfectest* gift in weeks – A gold and diamond piece of bling A nineteen carat engagement ring!
On the **XXth** day of Christmas,
After the night described above,

I sent him shares in EXXON
Because he's my one true love.

FORWORDS AUTUMN 2012

Cat dictionary

Val Flint, Hamilton

A friend gave me a cat dictionary for 2011 Xmas - here are some (edited) extracts, and I've added a few of my own. (Yes, they're all valid words!)

CATABATIC Batik fabric with a cat pattern

CATABOLIC Describes s cat's internal chemical process that enables cats to function catisfactorily

CATACLASM Sheer sexual ecstasy following a bit of all-right



CATACOMB Fur grooming implement

CATALASE What cats do to relax around the pool during the holidays

CATALEPSY A cat's altered mental state after taking too much **catnip**



CATALOG A wooden club used in defence against troublesome dogs

CATALYST The posture of a cat with one leg shorter than the other three legs

CATAMARAN A twin-hulled vessel for sailing across the Catlantic Ocean



CATAMENIA A person obsessed with cats

of cats that find the world way too complicated

CATAPULT A weapon that can hurl those troublesome dogs far distances

CATARACT A hypochondriacal state of a cat looking for sympathy

CATARRH A stringed instrument played at night to accompany the CATERWAUL

CATASTROPHE A punctuation mark to indicate a missing letter - e.g." Cats can, dogs can't"



CATATONIA A comatose state induced by overdosing on a **CATATONIC**

CATCALL A visiting cat just dropping by from another neighbourhood

CATECHISM A deep fissure in the ice liable to swallow unwary mountaineering cats

CATECHIST Cockney rhyming slang for an inebriated cat

CATECHIZE To accidentally overturn an unstable **CATAMARAN**

CATFALL This occurs before the cat slips into **CATATONIA**

CATGUTA cat's beer belly or material used for the strings of the **CATARRH**

CATHEAD Top cat

CATJANG A shrub a topiarist has shaped in cat form

CATKIN A cat's whânau

CATNIP A small measure of a cat's favourite alcoholic beverage

CATSPAW A cat that was framed to take the blame whilst it was **CATNAPPING**

CATSUP A cat stuck high in a tree

CATWALK Where model cats show off the latest in collars, ribbons and bows that can be purchased by their staff



"The strings are catgut"



Hall of fame (or infamy)

Greetings, mortals.

I am a Greek goddess, the daughter of the famous Aeolus. What? You haven't heard of my father, the god of wind? You might not realise it, but he was the source for one of the words you Scrabblers like to play when you have a rack full or RACKFUL of vowels: AEOLIAN, pertaining to the wind.

My name, Alcyon, was also the source of a wonderful word, but I think you will find my word more interesting than Father's.

When I married a mortal man, Ceyx, the king of Thessaly, Zeus, our ruler, was so angry he did his usual trick of throwing a thunderbolt - this time, at a ship in which my beloved husband was sailing. I was so distraught that Ceyx had drowned that I threw myself into the sea to end my life, and the wind (probably Father looking out for me) carried me to Ceyx.

Zeus took pity on us, bless him, and turned us both into birds. (Is there *anything* that deity can't do?!!) We became the legendary Alcyon* birds (not in your word list) that are usually identified with the shining kingfisher.

We Alcyon could skim along the surface of the water and make our nests on the sea's surface. But the sea is not a safe place for little ones, so this is where my powerful father, my chicks' grandfather, came in useful. Because he was god of the winds, he calmed the seas so I could safely

hatch them. This gave rise to the legend that seas stay calm for seven (some say 14) days a year to allow the female kingfisher to brood her eggs on a floating nest.

This period when the sea is supposed to be free of storms is called HALCYON days – generally regarded in the northern hemisphere as beginning on the 14th or 15th of December.

... oh, you are wondering about the H? I think the H was added to my name because of my association with the sea, which is "hals" in Greek.

In popular use, HALCYON days can also mean an earlier time remembered as idyllic, or simply a calm and stress-free period.

The expression has remained in English consistently – Shakespeare used the word in Henry VI, Part I and in King Lear. But its origin has a curious flaw: kingfishers do not float their nests on the sea – they nest in holes they have burrowed in banks.

Remember me when you see that seemingly impossible combination of letters, ACHLNOY, on your rack.



The shining kingfisher

The creator of Cluedo

Cluedo is one of the most popular board games in the world, selling millions in over 40 countries and spawning a film, stage play and TV series. And yet, its creator remains a much bigger mystery than the game is to solve. Unlike his multi-millionaire contemporaries who invented Monopoly and Scrabble, Anthony Pratt, from Kings Heath, died without fame or fortune in 1994.

His idea was to create a board game came about during the war when he was missing being able to socialise. It was based on his love of murder mysteries and set in an English country house. With his wife Elva sketching out the floor plan and Anthony developing the eccentric characters and range of weapons, the couple spent 18 months perfecting the game.

In February 1945 Anthony demonstrated the game to the managing director of Waddingtons, who immediately saw the winning formula of the game and, after a few minor modifications, decided to go ahead and manufacture it. It was Waddingtons who renamed the game 'Cluedo' (a combination of the words 'Clue' and 'Ludo', a Latin word meaning 'to play').

But unfortunately material shortages in post-war Britain meant the game didn't go into production until 1949. The first Cluedo





game went on sale in 1949. The original game was called 'Murder' with the artwork for the board itself being designed by Elva.

Anthony had registered the patent for Cluedo in 1945 but he made his mistake in 1953, when the game was on the shelves – he signed over the royalties from overseas sales for £5,000. The money enabled him, a keen musician, to leave his job as a solicitors' clerk and the family, now with a daughter called Marcia, moved to Bournemouth.

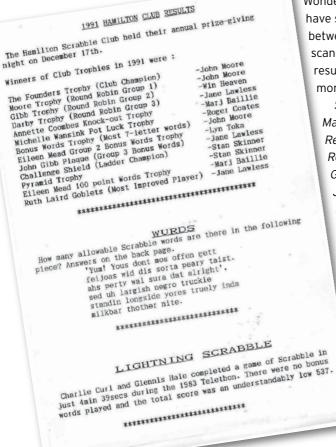
But, by the end of the decade, the British patents expired, and there was no more income from Cluedo sales. Moving to a smaller house and eventually returning to work as a solicitors' clerk, Anthony could only watch as his invention made millions - and he received nothing.

In 1980, the family returned to Birmingham. Elva died soon after and Anthony developed Alzheimer's. He spent his last years in a care home and died in 1994 aged 90.

In a graveyard in Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, is a simple headstone, with the inscription: "A Very Dear Father. Anthony E Pratt. Born 10 August 1903. Died 9 April 1994. Inventor of Cluedo. Sadly missed."

Twenty years ago

John Foster, Independent



This time

I have selected an entire page from Forwards 26 with three separate articles, on each of which I have some comments to make.

The first is a report of Hamilton club fewer than 10 words that he thought were results wherein I spotted three names which were not included in either the original list of my challenge in *Forwards* 104 or the current fewer than 10 words that he thought were not several to the time, but are now allowable in 1992 and the words subsequently allowed are

list of 24 which was found by Lynn and Joan.

The additional names are Win Heaven,

Jane Lawless and Ruth Laird, after

whom one of the trophies is named.
Wondering how many others might
have slipped through the cracks
between the two lists, I quickly
scanned my file of old tournament
results and came up with quite a few
more, as follow.

Sue Marrow, Jo Fleming, Joy Maxwell, Doris Shearer, Ann Reeves. Jenny Kniaht, Lily Shorter. Rob Talbot, Hazel Smith, Paddy Glen, May Meads, Ralph White, Jill Johnson, Beryl Jones, Vera Burner, Mary Farmer, Mary Carr, Mike Miller, Sammy Sanders, Ann Smith, Carl Gray, Tony Turner, Pat Grant, Robin Sun, Jenny Reed, Ken Morgan, Roger French, Betty Price, Mescal Kelly, Daphne Hick, Isabel Morris, Sue Foster, Sue Underwood, Tony Warren. I should also mention that Sue Walker cropped up many times before she dropped the E from her forename which meant

she was not included in the latest list.

The second article 'WURDS' is not attributed, but I believe it is probably the work of Ron Bunny, as I detect similarities to his literary style in other works. The article is really quite prophetic as it contains no fewer than 10 words that he thought were nonsense at the time, but are now allowable. Lists of the words allowable in 1992 and the words subsequently allowed are

on page 32. Have a go at making your own lists and see how many you get right.

Finally a mention of the 1983 Telethon. Former NZASP president, the late *Charlie Curl* must be added to the list above. He was on the rating list in 1991 but *Charlie* did not become a legal word until some years later.

The Telethon was a lot of fun. Members of the Mt Albert Club had a stand at one of the venues and relays of players played continuously on the one board for the full 24 hours. A total of 116 games were played with an average score of 665 for a total tally of 77176 points.

I was actually the scorer for the 4 min 39 sec game and would definitely not vouch for its accuracy. Glennis and Charlie were going all out to beat their own record of 5 min 08 sec set in the previous game and were almost flopping out tiles on top of each other's hands and shouting out scores at the same time and the whole scene was just a little chaotic. As I said, a lot of fun. Pity Telethons have passed their use-by date.

Eating your words

Forget about learning lists of words containing three Is or two Us. Here's a wonderful way to get rid of those excess I and U tiles on your rack — edible tiles. No longer would you have to search cheats' pockets and sleeves for missing tiles — their chocolate-stained lips would give them away.

Andie's Specialty Sweets (USA, where else?!) makes edible Scrabble tiles and racks, so you don't have to clean up after you play the game – just stuff everything in your mouth. (Not the board though.)

The tiles and racks are made from pure vanilla and real chocolate and made to look like real wood using natural colouring. Check out the picture to see just how appetising they look.

They may make the tastiest Scrabble set in the world, but it won't be the cheapest. For \$US58 you get two tile racks and 12 tiles (you can choose the letters); additional tiles will cost you \$2.60 (USD) each. Thus, a complete set would cost \$US286. That's \$US286 per game if you want to play your game and eat it too!



Ideal for the wedding cake of two Scrabble fans, though.

(Can be ordered through etsy.com, in case you're interested.)



I've been reading

Vicky Robertson, Wellington

Fry Chronicles, by Stephen Fry.

This is the second book in Stephen Fry's trilogy of memoirs. It spans the period of his Cambridge University days from his late teens through to his 30s. It covers his stage, screen-writing and acting career, working with Hugh Laurie, Ben Elton and Rowan Atkinson and finishing with his involvement in the Blackadder series. The third instalment has yet to be printed.

Stephen Fry is fascinated with all of life's quirks and oddities. He loves to see curiosity in others too. He likes to use words that send you scurrying to your dictionary, the selection below occurred in the space of just a few pages.

FELID a member of the cat family

NEVI a birthmark

SYNTAGMATIC a collection of statements or propositions

ESCHATOLOGY the branch of theology concerned with the end of the world

EXEAT formal leave of absence

PENTAMETER a verse line consisting of five metrical feet

OCCLUSION obstruction

ARCADIA a place of simple pleasure and guiet

He also loves anagrams that go together neatly, his example: ESOTERIC/COTERIES.

Stephen Fry always has lots to say as we've seen recently with his comments of New Zealand's broadband deficiencies. However he makes valid points and is always humorous. Looking forward to his third instalment.

I've been reading

Howard Warner, Mt Albert

Just finished reading Bruce Chatwin's delightful novel *Utz*, about an eccentric collector of Meissen pottery in Communist-controlled Czechoslovakia. Lots of lovely words that I've never seen outside of a Scrabble lexicon:

NARWHAL an arctic while, or its spiral tusk

BEZOAR a gastric mass, such as a hairball

VITRINE a glass showcase for art objects

CHEVRON a V-shaped pattern (also

CHEVERON)

DENATURE to deprive of natural qualities

CANAILLE the common people, mass,

hoi-polloi

MISSAL a prayer book

CARAPACE a hard protective covering, such

as a tortoise-shell (also CARAPAX)

MEUNIERE cooked in brown butter

MUSCA a fly genus (also MUSCID)

DEMIURGE an ancient Greek magistrate

MALACCA a cane from the Asian rattan palm

ENFILADE a burst of gunfire along a line of

troops (used figuratively in an architectural sense: "an enfilade

of glittering chambers")

SLIVOVIC a plum brandy

NEREID a sea nymph

VICHY a mineral water with curative

properties

QUENELLE a fish or meat dumpling

CERVELAS a smoked sausage (also

CERVELAT)

TRUFFE a truffle

BOLETUS an edible fungus

SCAPULAR a sleeveless outer garment worn

by monks

COWRIE a glossy seashell, used as

currency in certain cultures (also

COWRY)

ARCANUM a profound mystery (plural

ARCANA refers to a division of a pack of

tarot cards)

AURUM alchemist's gold BURDOCK a coarse weed

KNAPWEED a purple-flowered meadow plant

LARKSPUR a spiky flowering plant

RETICULE a woman's handbag

HAWSER a mooring rope

MANTILLA a lace headscarf

CROZIER a bishop's staff (also CROSIER)

JAFAS and more

Patrick Carter, Mt Albert

I am sure you are all familiar with the term JAFA which has been allowed at scrabble for a while. It stands for:

Just

Another

F*****

Aucklander.

And we now have RONZ which stands for:

Rest

 $\mathbf{O} f$

New

Zealand

As well as a RONZER who is obviously someone who comes from the Rest of New Zealand.

I was playing bridge on Friday night and someone jokingly called somebody else a Jafa, so I mentioned about Jafas and Ronzers and one of the other people said that South Islanders were called Jamjars. I said Jamjars would also be a word as a jar for jam, but they said no. They said they were saying JAMJAA, which stands for:

Just

Another

Mainlander

Jealous

About

Auckland

Now that isn't currently allowed in Scrabble, but perhaps it will be included in the next dictionary review!

I will grant you that JAMJAA doesn't look too attractive to play as a 6 because you would have to waste a blank for that second J, but you might imagine that it would be a great bingo word if your rack was: AAAJMS-Blank.

You might very well think that, but amazingly there are already three different 7-letter words you could play with that rack. I find it just as surprising that there are also three words of 8 letters you could play if you found the right letter to play through. To get one of those you would need to find a C, D, G, R or U on the board.

See if you can find any of those six words, 3 words of 7 letters and 3 words of 8 letters. Answers on page 32.

Short story/ verse competition

Jennifer Smith, Editor

From ABOIDEAUX to ZEX

Max Nouveaux

For Christmas I was given a complete set of magnetised Scrabble tiles. Now, whenever I don't feel like doing housework, I can stand in the kitchen and fiddle with the tiles on my fridge to make up new stories.

Trying to use all 100 tiles to tell a story – hard!

My best prose and verse efforts so far: *My ITO school said:*

Math - quite good.

English - print OK.

Behaviour - below ave.

Jennifer was lazy.

I expect a finer undergraduate!!

(ITO - Dairy Industry Organisation)

I love every unusual word (People find it quite absurd): MATTIFY, GIO, RETSINA EXOMION, GOOG, KACHINA...

Jeez! What a Scrabble nerd!

So I issue a challenge: can you write a "short story" or "poem" using exactly the 100 letters of a Scrabble set (blanks whatever you wish, of course, and free use of punctuation). Tip out a set of Scrabble tiles on your table, and get composing! Send your entry to the Editor, and we'll publish the best.

Do it anywhere

Glennis Hale, Independent, reported seeing an elderly husband and wife playing Scrabble during the interval of a Ronan Keeting and Sharon Corr concert.

Glennis said, "Had to be seen to be believed. Words on the board didn't quite match the stunning concert though." There are lots of short Scrabble words ending in X, such as OX, RAX, TEX, MUX and PYX. These are often used to gain high scores. Long words like ARCHAEOPTERYX and PNEUMOTHORAX are not so useful, although the latter would be an impressive extension if THORAX was on the board.

It's time to INTERMIX the linguistic GATEAUX. Without being too PROLIX, here is an A-Z of interesting words ending in X.

AIRPROX a near collision between

planes in flight.

BOSTRYX in botany, a cymose inflores

cence in which each lateral axis arises on the same side (cyclically) of its parent axis.

COTURNIX a small European quail.

DISTRIX the splitting of the ends of

hairs.

ECONOBOX a small economical car.

FORFEX the pincers of an earwig.

GIAMBEUX armoured leggings for below

the knee.

HARUSPEX one who tells fortunes by

inspecting animal entrails.

IMPOSEX superimposition of male sex

traits onto female gastropods.

JANITRIX a female janitor.

KICKBOX to box in a style that allows

kicking.

LARNAX an ancient Greek terracotta

coffin.

MIREPOIX sauteed, diced vegetables u

sed for making sauces.

NARTHEX a vestibule between the

church porch and the nave.

OPOPANAX a medicinal gum resin

obtained from a Persian

parsnip.

PRINCOX a jocular, grotesque or ironical

endearment.

QUADPLEX a building with four units.

RESEAUX fine-meshed backgrounds for

lacework.

SUPERMAX of a prison, designed to hold

the most dangerous inmates.

TETTIX a cicada-shaped ornament for

the hair.

UNMIX to separate from a mixture.

VITRAUX stained glass (plural).

WOADWAX an ornamental shrub, also

called dyer's-greenweed.

XEROX to copy on a xerographic

copier.

YUNX the wryneck, a woodpecker-

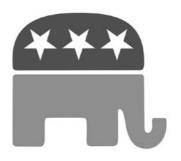
like bird.

ZELATRIX a nun whose duty it is to keep

an eye on the younger nuns in a convent, or on the mother

superior.





Scrabble in politics

So what if Mitt Romney won the popular vote? Like the Scrabble player who boasts about the quality of words he is making and yet loses the game, this is simply not how the game of our politics is played.

Charles C Johnson, writing on biggovernment.com

The Republican party is playing Scrabble with lousy letters and should sit out the November election, says *New York Times* columnist Thomas Friedman.

He said that the party's inability to come up with a candidate who can "offer constructive conservative proposals on the key issues and is ready for strategic compromises" has meant that it shouldn't even try to dethrone President Barack Obama.

Writing the day after Governor Mitt Romney won in the party's primaries in Maine, Freidman stated, "You know how in Scrabble sometimes you look at your seven letters and you've got only vowels that spell nothing? What do you do? You go back to the pile. You throw your letters back and hope to pick up better ones to work with.

"That's what Republican primary voters seem to be doing. They just keep going back to the pile but still coming up with only vowels that spell nothing."

Scrabble for young players or My ZINEB beats your SLUT

Karen Richards, Chair, Youth Committee, WESPA

This article was first published in the Pakistan Association's newsletter, and Karen has kindly allowed us to reproduce it in Forwords. This issue, she talks about her son, Alastair: his introduction to Scrabble and his progress to a world class player.

Part I

When my son Alastair was five years old, he begged to play Scrabble at home, then later at a club. He didn't win many games at that stage, but worked hard to improve so he could compete in tournaments. In Australia, there were no school tournaments. We were ruthless parents. He was made to play game after game against the computer until he averaged nearly 300, and could play 8 or more games in a day, before we let him compete against adults. He received his first trophy at the age of seven.

When he was very young, he had an annoying habit of being "bouncy", often standing up during the game. In hindsight, we realise that he could not see the board properly from where he sat, just peering over the top of the table. For anyone starting a very young player, take a tip from Anand (Australia's youngest player, also seven when he started) – bring a stool to tournaments, so the child can sit at the correct height to see all the board!

In the 1990s it was rare to have children playing in adult tournaments anywhere in the world.



There were some funny incidents. When he was eight, his opponent played SLUT, and Alastair challenged because he had never seen that word before. The very next move, he played ZINEB, and she challenged, as she had never seen that word either.

We also had some not-so-funny incidents, such as when he first beat both parents. This happened in the same tournament. He was ten.

The tournament was the West Australia State Championship. When he beat his father for the first time, I thought it was hilarious. On the last game of the tournament, I was coming third. I had to win the last game to stay in third place. After playing all the hard opponents, I was ready for an "easier" final game. My opponent was Alastair, Alastair started with two consecutive bonuses, then closed the board while he was 100 points ahead, as he had been taught. I never had a chance. Alastair had knocked me out of third place! I was unsure whether to be mad at him for costing me prize-money, or proud of him for demolishing both parents in the same

tournament. Eventually I chose "be proud of him".

A few unethical adults took advantage of his size and inexperience, and found new ways to cheat or bluff him, things which they would not have tried on an adult opponent. Eventually he found the courage to start calling the Tournament Director when they did nasty things.

As an example, one opponent was late back from lunch, so her clock had been started. When she arrived at the table, she said, "I don't like the clock on that side", and switched it to the other side. Of course, the five minutes she had lost on "her:" clock was now showing as a loss on Alastair's time instead!

Most people were tolerant of playing a child, but a few did not like being beaten by someone who could barely see over the table. In 2000, Alastair competed in the Australian Championship. TV crews came to interview the "cute kid". He had just beaten an older gentleman, and the TV interviewer asked this chap how it felt to lose to a 7-year-old. His response was that it felt horrible, and he would never play Scrabble again. Sadly, he never did play again.

When Alastair was young, he played extremely fast (too fast for best results). Some players found his speed disconcerting. One man went well over time, losing 50 points on time penalties. To add to his indignity, everyone was watching them play. The final result was 485 to 190. This man began campaigning to have children banned from adult tournaments.

As you all know, Alastair continued to play – by the age of 18, he reached number 22 ranking in the world. In 2009, he was

runner-up at WTSC, behind Ong Suanne, his fellow veteran youth competitor.

Alastair was home-schooled, allowing him the freedom to travel the world when he was young. However, since he started university (three years younger than his peers) he has been restricted in how many tournaments he can play. He just turned nineteen, and is about to embark on postgraduate study, which will limit his playing even more. However, I am certain that he will stay with Scrabble for life, since he loves the social aspect of meeting interesting new people from all over the world, as well as the mental challenge. He also enjoys travelling the world, encouraging more young people to strive for excellence, and extend their brains by playing Scrabble.

Continued next issue, when Karen will talk about her own role in world Scrabble, of promoting it to youngsters, and encouraging them in their chosen interest.



permission of Allan Simmons, UK

Weird words

Jennifer Smith, Hamilton

I came across this fantastic word, Oulipo, but was disappointed to find it's not in the Scrabble word list. Pity – it would be a great vowel dump. But Oulipo is a notable word otherwise.

Oulipo stands for the *French Ouvroir de littérature potentielle*, a group founded in 1960 of (mainly) French-speaking writers and mathematics who create works using constrained writing techniques.

Constraints are used as a means of triggering ideas and inspiration. As well as established techniques, such as lipograms (that's a Scrabble word!) and palindromes, the group devises new techniques, often based on mathematical problems.

The group as a whole began to emerge from obscurity in 1973 with the publication of *La Littérature Potentielle*, a collection of representative pieces.

An example of Oulipian writing is Perec's novel *La disparition*, a 300-page novel written without the letter E. *La disparition* is an example of a lipogram, writing that excludes one or more letters. The English translation, A Void by Gilbert Adair, is also a lipogram. The novel is remarkable not only for the absence of E, but it is a mystery in which the absence of that letter is a central theme.

Prisoner's or Macao's constraint is a type of lipogram that omits letters with ascenders and descenders (b, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, p, q, t, and y).

One of the most popular OULIPO formulas is "N+7", in which the writer takes a poem already in existence and substitutes each of the poem's substantive nouns with the noun appearing seven nouns away in the dictionary. Care is taken to ensure that the substitution is not just a compound derivative of the original, or shares a similar root, but a wholly different word. Results can vary widely depending on the version of the dictionary one uses.

I tried it on Wordsworth's Composed upon Westminster Bridge:

Earwax has not anything to show more fair:

Dull would he be of soup who could pass by

A signal so touching in its maker: This civilisation now doth, like a

garrison, wear

The bedbug of the morrow; silent, bare, Shit, townees, dominions, theism, and tenancies lie

Open unto the fifes, and to the slab; All bright and glittering in the smokeless alb.

Or Hamlet might wonder:

To be or not to be

That is the quicksand.

Another OULIPO exercise uses the "snowball" technique, where the first line is one word long, the second line has two words, and so on. A snowball poem can also be made up of lines comprised of progressively longer words, in which two lines might read:

I am far from happy Mother reduced A no-fly zone using yellow ribbons.

If the results of these formulas are strange, unintelligible, or seem too drastic, the Oulipo artists would argue that for generations poets have set structural constraints on themselves, from the sonnet to the sestina.

Poems for Scrabble

Nola Borrell, Wellington

I recommend the Tel Aviv Scrabble Club website, http://www.scrabble.org.il/poems.
htm. It includes skits/ "verses" which can help us to learn the words.

For example:

New words

In the RONZ, the NGAI use the UMU
Wear AIDA and FLOX silk with ZARI
They shun FIGH and feast on GOJI
A GAW appears, they play the QIN
And put GAK and TIK in their TIAN.
ronz acronym for rest of New Zealand
ngai a Maori tribe
umu a Maori oven
aida a cotton fabric

flox floss

zari gold thread

figh Islamic jurisprudence goji berry of Chinese plant

gaw imperfect rainbow

qin Chinese zither

gak cocaine tik a drug

tian a vegetable gratin

MUN-NUM words

Invited to the YAMUN a KHANUM
Was asked to solve an ARCANUM:
Does MUNDUNGO MUNIFY a MUN?
Is a NUMBSKULL a sort of NUMPTY?
Can a MUNTU become a MUNSHI?
yamun residence of a Chinese official

khanum lady's title of rank in Middle

East

arcanum mystery

mundungo foul-smelling tobacco

munify to fortify mun man numbskull1a dunce

numpty an idiot muntu black African

munshi an Indian secretary

Question to ask Collins

Joan Thomas

Our dictionary includes many foreign currencies. Why does it not include the Egyptian coin qirsh which is one-hundredth of the Egyptian pound?

The word qirsh is also widely used for currency throughout the Middle East.

Another potentially useful Q word without the U.

Best trivia question ever

Jeff Grant, Independent

The quiz column from the newspaper Hawkes Bay Today of 12 December asked the following question:

New Zealander Nigel Richards is the 2011 world champion in which board game?

Tiles from hell

Joan Thomas, Hastings

I was playing Olivia Godfrey at the Rotorua tournament when I had the most extraordinary set of tiles – SSSSTTY.

I planned to change several at my next turn but found that I could play STY for 23 points against Olivia's move. I thought that that might be a sufficient turn-over to get a better balanced rack. No such luck – I picked up BJK !!!!!!! Wow, what a combination – BJKSSST.

The case of the moonlighter

(a small example of how so many English words can have different meanings)

Val Flint, Hamilton

On a cold winter's day in the old part of town, a young man, of rugged good looks, lav on a couch in his flat, rugged up to keep out the chill. Ashes from last night's fire were in the grate and pair of **bellows** lay on the hearth. The radio quietly played band music in the background. The young man had been employed until recently at the local factory, but he was workshy, and had been given the sack for taking frequent sickies and for non-compliance with the company's policy on clothing standard. He was constantly ragged by his workmates for the **ragged** clothes he wore. Now he was deeply in debt and the landlord was due today and when he arrived he was not a happy man.

"You're six weeks behind with the **rent** and here you are lazing when you should be working" and his **bellows rent** the peaceful atmosphere.

"Can't you see I'm sick, an **invalid**" whimpered the young man.

"That claim is **invalid**," the landlord managed to retort, a tight **band** of anger constricting his throat. "Only yesterday you were seen up a ladder, **flat** out cleaning



windows and I want no **part** in this deception. I'll not **couch** this in soft words – I demand your **rent** be paid by tomorrow or you're out. I'll be back." And he **left.**

As soon as he had gone, our 'invalid' leapt off the couch, reached under with his left arm and pulled out a large sack of money and stuffed it into a case. He knew he had been rumbled – he did not want to part with any of his hoard, but knew that he must or face eviction, so he jumped into his old banger and rumbled down the cobbled street to the landlord's office to pay his dues.

Today the young man has a successful window cleaning business and a **handsome** sum of money in the bank, but he has not totally changed his old ways – so, if you ever see a **rugged**ly **handsome**, **left**-handed window cleaner clad in **ragged** clothes – he could be the hero of this story!



Scrabble secrets

Little Book of Scrabble Secrets Mark Nyman

Reviewed by Jennifer Smith, Hamilton.

Mark Nyman, who is the only British person to have ever won the Scrabble World Championships, has shared his top tips in a pocket-sized guide called *The little book of Scrabble Secrets*. Scrabble Secrets entered Amazon's online book chart at 60,000 and at its peak it rose thousands of places to 185th.

Mark said, "I'm absolutely delighted that it's selling well. I want it to improve people's games but it's quite light-hearted so I'm hoping that people will get a chuckle out of it."

Yes, it does have a few chuckles. For example, in discussing the arguments for and against knowing meanings, he says, "... don't sneer at your opponent if they don't know a definition unless you think they'd do the same to you."

And "don't be put off at the thought of having to learn 100,000 new wordsthere are only a handful of people close to knowing the lot – and they definitely need to get out more..."

It's light-hearted, but not light on wisdom:

"A common error among players is to spend all their time looking at their rack rather than the board ... You're far better off spending 90% of your time focusing on the board and its possibilities."

With just 105 tips, it may seem a little book, but it's packed full of useful words, facts and information, all in manageable "bites" with punning headings – a perfect book to keep beside the bed. It has a useful addition of a piece of elastic to mark your place or keep the book neat. It would make a lovely gift, because it looks good, too! I bought mine online from Amazon, £5.99.

Top 10 game news stories

The Purple Pawn website says it covers games played around the world by billions of people every day.

In its Top 10 game news stories of 2011, it includes Scrabble in ninth place:

"Between accusations of fraud, the request for a strip-search, and a new world record, 2011 was an exciting year in the world of Scrabble. Over the summer, the Nigerian National Scrabble Federation saw its president brought before the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, nine of the top-ranked players kicked out in retaliation but then reinstated by the National Sports Commission, and the president of the Federation replaced by the former chairman of the board.

"In October, a New Zealander became the first player ever to win the World Scrabble Championship for the second time. While in stranger news from the same tournament, when a letter tile went missing during a game, one of the players demanded that the other be strip-searched for it!

"In December, Joel Sherman of the Bronx set a new world record score in tournament scrabble_with 803 points and seven bingos."

Helpful	words	MWAH	Sound of a fake kiss. And MOOBS, as in man boobs, has
only Brit to Champions	man, from Cheshire, is the win the World Scrabble hip. He won in 1993.	NUDZH OUISTITI	just come in. To nudge – "nudzh nudzh, wink wink." A type of monkey.
secrets, he	ok, <i>Little book of Scrabble</i> gives an A to Z guide of unusual elp you win a Scrabble battle:	PHWOAR QI	Expression of sexual attraction. Life force, energy – the most
AA	volcanic lava, as in "AA some AA has just landed on my		useful word in Scrabble (Q without a U).
BRR	foot!" Shivering. BRRR is even	RUBABOO	Soup, as in, "Waiter, there's a fly in my rubaboo."
CEZVE	allowed if it's getting colder. A small metal coffee pot that has poured its way into the	SNOWBIRD	A cocaine addict – not as Christmassy as you may have thought.
DACK	latest dictionary. To forcefully remove trousers! (Australian slang, yes slang is allowed.)	TAGHAIRM	A way of seeking divination in the Western Scottish High- lands by lying in a bullock's hide under a waterfall. Highly
ETAERIO	A fruit and the most likely seven-letter 50-point bonus word to come up.	UHURU	recommended – try it! National independence – not the woman in Star Trek.
EUOI	A cry of drunken frenzy – great for solving irritable vowel syndrome.	VAV	A Hebrew letter, great for getting rid of the worst letter in the Scrabble set.
FIREFANG	To overheat through decomposition – not as	WOSBIRD	An illegitimate child, not a dodo.
GRRL	interesting as it sounds. A young woman who enjoys aggressively feminist punk rock	XU	Vietnamese coin. X goes with all the vowels to make two- letter words – AX, EX, OX, XI and XU.
HRYVNIA	Ukraine's monetary unit – get them ready for the European	YABA	Yet Another Bloody Acronym – yes, really!
IWI	Championships. A Maori tribe. There are many Maori words so it helps if you're from New Zealand.	ZO	A Tibetan breed of cattle formed by crossing a yak with a cow. The zo has ten other relatives – DSO, DSOBO,
JAXY	Buttocks!		DSOMO, DZO, DZHO, JOMO,
KERCHOO	Atishoo and not to be sneezed at!		ZHO, ZHOMO, ZOBO and ZOBU – which you may never have
	Stupid person.		herd of!

UR, you were saying ...?

Chris Guthrey, Independent

Recently a question was asked on an online discussion website: "I just had to convince my 14-year-old cousin that UR is not a real word."

A participant, Albin Jonsson, gave an interesting reply attesting that UR is indeed a real word. He has kindly given permission for it to be submitted to *Forwords*.

(Article has been extensively edited for length -Ed.)

Indeed it is a real word! UR is an old and proud Germanic prefix, where the word Ursprung is composed of UR ("original") and SPRUNG, a word very closely related to the English word sprung or sprang. Thus, in this context it means "from where something sprang up"; hence Ursprung means, simply, "source".

(Hold your horses! There's a twist coming!)

Since it is such an old Germanic prefix, you'd expect to find it in English. And indeed we occasionally do see it, in for instance the word URTEXT, ("original text" – it's a valid Scrabble word), but it is quite rare. Most often it's used form pseudo-pretentious silly neologisms, like "Film is the ur-medium, your digital cameras and inkjet printers are not nearly as good".

(By the way: most English words beginning with ur, like urban, have nothing to do with the Germanic ur- used as a prefix.)

So where is the English ur- then? Did it just disappear?

No! We do have the ur- prefix, but when it made its journey to Old English, it had morphed! It became... drumroll please... or-!

(That was the twist, in case anyone missed it)

Time, however, has not been kind to or-. In Old English, it was a common prefix, but in Modern English you pretty much only see it in one modern English word: ORDEAL.

(But wait! There's another twist!)

You might be thinking: "Hey, wait a minute: I know an English word that begins with orthat means roughly "original". It's ORIGINAL!" But there's where you're wrong! Original is not a Germanic word; we got that from French and ultimately Latin. It has nothing to do with the or- prefix. It's a complete coincidence that the ancient English prefix meaning "original" and the English word original are spelled almost the same!

As Julia Schiller pointed out to me: "UR is an acceptable word in Scrabble, so it's more than just a prefix. It's also an interiection."

Solutions

Twenty years ago (on page 19)

The allowable 'WURDS' in 1992 were SURA, ALRIGHT, SED, LARGISH, NEGRO, YORES, THOTHER.

And the words that have since come into being are YUM, YOUS, MOS, FEIJOAS, DIS, SORTA, AHS, UH, TRUCKIE, NITE.

JAFAS and more (on page 22)

PAJAMAS a different spelling of pyjamas

JAMAATS Arabic assemblies

UJAMAAS villages like kibbutzes

JACAMARS tropical birds (needs a C or R

to play through)

JAMADARS Indian policemen (needs a D

or R to play through)

MAJAGUAS tropical trees (needs a G or U

to play through)

World teams

Howard Warner, Mt Albert

After the latest World Scrabble Champs, I did an analysis of the team standings. Makes for some interesting comparisons.

Mattel obtained these rankings by averaging out the placings of each team. The top eight countries (which includes six 'teams' and two 'single-player countries') gain an extra place at WSC 2013. The bottom eight teams (but not single-player countries) lose a place.

This is how it panned out (country, average placing, number of players they had this year), together with a bit of commentary:

Top six countries (gain a place)

Northern Ireland	18 th	2 players
Australia	25^{th}	7 players
New Zealand	27 th	4 players

(ultimate winner Nigel, who had his own place as defending runner-up but would otherwise have been representing us, replaces Lynne)

Scotland	27 th	4 players
England	31 st	10 players
Malaysia,	34.5 th	2 players

So we obviously feel pretty happy as the equal third best team. And a little surprised. But it was the barnstorming finish by Joanne and Blue that really sealed it. I'm also delighted that we finished so close to Australia (grrrr*!), who had three players in the top 10.

Interestingly, Northern Ireland was playing for only their second time. Last WSC, their sole representative finished 17th and gained them a second spot. This time, he couldn't make the team, because their

player strength had risen so high in the interim.

Top single-player countries: (gain a place)

Philippines	21 st
IIΔF	23 rd

Bottom eight countries (lose a place)

USA	44 th	15 players
Canada	45 th	8 players
Thailand	47 th	7 players

(third-placed Pakorn, in the field as defending champion but normally representing Thailand, replaces their bottom player, who finished 87th)

Malta	47 th	2 players
South Africa	63 rd	3 players
Kenya	68 th	3 players
Israel	80 th	2 players
Wales	92.5 th	2 players

Probably the biggest surprises here was Thailand, which has such great depth at international level; and Malta, which had gone desperately close to gaining a third place after their effort in 2009, but are now down to one.

The team countries in the middle – Singapore, India, Ghana and Pakistan – stay the same. So do all other single-player countries.

Poland, normally with a single allocation, ended up with four players: two extra for being the host country, plus the alternate for if someone pulls out on the eve of the tournament. But they can only count their first-choice player's performance. As it happened, this player, Rafal Dominiczak, finished 55th out of 106. Two places higher and he would have been in the top half, and Poland would have gained an extra place as of right. So

they are probably the unlucky loser in the placings battle.

So, roll on WSC 2013, wherever it may be held. We'll now have six Kiwis playing. Not bad for a country whose base of competitive players has been falling (and ageing) over the last couple of decades.

Fashion Scrabble

Fashionistas are coming up with new ensembles every day, The Times of India reports. "It is time to play Scrabble with innovative designs and ideas, and revamp your wardrobes with the latest mix-n-match items."

Here is their list [all non-Scrabble words] of some style items that have been made using two different things:

- Jorts (Jeans and shorts) Denim shorts are completely in vogue. And now, they have got a new name. Go to a store and ask for Jorts and you will no longer meet faces with raised eyebrows.
- 2. Nanatals (Nana and sandals) Ever paid attention to the sandals your Nana (Grandpa) wears? Open toes and comfortable. These flat chappals [OK Scrabble word] have become the latest rage amongst people who want to stay ahead when it comes to fashion.
- Watchlettes (Watches and bracelets)
 Girls are now sporting wrist watches with fancy belts which can be mistaken as a bracelet.
- 4. Murse (Man purse) Men are also sporting purses these days. Made of leather and other material, Man Purses, aka Murses have become the latest hip accessory for men.

What a biggie!!

At the Causeway Challenge in November, the prize for the longest word went to the Malaysian, Markus Loke. This is what Phillip Edwin-Mugisha wrote in the Australian newsletter, *Across the Board:*

Markus Loke is a winner. Markus who? This 18-year old Malaysian wunderkinder won the prize for the longest word, the mind-bending 13-letter **CRENELLATIONS**. When I was 18 I could barely write my own name, this chap is playing **CRENELLATIONS**.

Heaven help us! He broke Albert Einstein's Laws of Physics on the Scrabble board.

Salute to British champ

Scrabble champs are not lovers of language, not burgeoning Oscar Wildes. They are word sponges, sucking up useless but high-scoring combinations of letters.

But rather than deride these swots of dictionary corner as the verbal equivalent of trainspotters, I find something quite heroic about it. I have always admired the dogged pursuit of specialty skills, and the more futile the mission, the more poignant the dedication.

Let's face it, much general knowledge is equally useless, and yet I find myself hankering after it on a regular basis as a pub quizzer.

And so, from one seeker after useless knowledge to another, I salute Wayne Kelly, an etymological Wayne Rooney, a bard of the obscure, a man with a brain full of words no one will ever speak, a chap who knows the true value of a "z".

Paul Taylor, writing in the Manchester Evening News

Sydney tournament

Glenda Foster, Wellington

I attended the City of Sydney International Masters Tournament at the end of January. This tournament was first held as an international event in 1999 when it was won by Nigel Richards. I last attended five years ago when I placed 18th.

Going into the tournament I was seeded in about 15th place based on my Australian rating. I had the aims of achieving a top 10 finish and taking home the prize for the best international competitor. There were three other international players – Glenn Dunlop of Canada, Kunihuko Kuroda from Japan and Mary Morgan from Ireland. Of those, the highest rated was Glenn. There were 20 games played over the two days so it was full-on Scrabble.

I arrived on the Friday night before the tourney after having difficulty in reaching Bankstown (in the western urban sprawl) by taxi after a train ride from the airport. The following morning a short walk took me to the venue. I noticed at the table where I sat before the first game an interesting tile layout – see April Fool on page 41.

I had a relatively easy win in the first game against one of the lower rated players, but then found myself up against Joanne Craig who won by a large margin. This was followed by a couple of large victories before lunch.

Playing at one of the top tables, I met Peter Kougi who trounced me by 181 points. Another loss to Anne Drew followed before I managed to pip Simon Walton by 8 points. This was followed by two comfortable wins before dinner. I then met up with one of the youngest players in the tournament – Cameron Farlow from Queensland. I was really impressed by both his standard of play and courteous behaviour, but I trounced him by 185 points. I finished the day with 6 wins from 11 games feeling reasonably happy. In the meantime the closest international player, Glenn, had sneaked ahead by one win.

Day 2 started with a rematch against Cameron which he won by 95 points. Two comfortable wins followed before I had a rematch with Anne Drew which she won by 395 points to my miserable 291. A 3-game winning streak followed, including a 19-point win over another younger player in Kitty-Jean Laginha.

A loss to Bob Jackman followed and I was wondering whether I could achieve my aims. Glenn and I were both on 11 wins and I had a slightly higher margin so we were both in contention for the best international player. I didn't have a lot of confidence in my ability to reach the top 10 as I would have had to win by a huge spread to do that.

In the last game I had a very lucky run of tiles and managed to beat my opponent by a healthy 298 points - my best score and win for the tournament. Glenn lost heavily so I ended up the winner of the best international player prize of \$AU200, but in 12th place on 12 wins from 20 games with a spread of 201. In the end there were eight players on 12 wins ranging from 5th to 13th place so I thought I was pretty close to achieving both my aims.

At the top end of the competition David Eldar and Chris May were fighting it out. However David got the upper hand with a

high spread before the last game so Chris had to be content with second prize.

I was very impressed by the overall standard of play and the welcoming attitude of the Australian players.

Of course I blew the prize money and more at Sydney airport on the way home on the Monday by buying a new electronic gadget.

More Zyzzyva (strange) definitions

NHANDU - South American ostrich, also NANDU, NANDOO. (*Zyzzyva*)

According to every other reference book I can find, a nhandu is a tarantula. However, NANDU is the smaller of two tall fast-running flightless birds similar to ostriches but three-toed; found from Peru to Strait of Magellan.



The bird NANDU and the tarantula NHANDU could hardly be more different!



Who's playing Scrabble? Royalty, that's who!

Lord Frederick Windsor proposed to his wife with a Scrabble set.

The son of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent married actress Sophie Winkleman at Hampton Court Palace in 2009. She has revealed his unusual proposal:

"We went for a picnic and Freddie bought a Scrabble set along because we were very into it at the time. He said, 'I'll unpack the picnic and you unpack the Scrabble.' When I unfolded the board I saw he had spelt out a marriage proposal."



Sporting legend to become Scrabble legend?

Jeff Grant, Independent

On reading through the list of new words I noticed a number of sporting terms, such as FUSBALL/FUSSBALL, KICKOUT, KITEBOARD, LEGSIDE, LEGGIES and SHOWJUMP.

My favourite new 'sporting' word though has to be TIGERWOODS!

[Showy tiger-striped woods used in cabinetmaking. -Ed.]



Overseas news

Australia

Australian Championships

- 1. Trevor Halsall
- 2 Julian McKail

Czech Republic

Czech National Championship

- 1. Katka Rusa
- Pavel Podbrdsky (defending champion)
 Katka is the only female champion in the history of the event. She also won in 2003.

France

Francis Desjardins from Quebec is the new World French Speaking Champion (Duplicate Scrabble), beating two former champions into second and third places.

- 1. Francis Desjardins, Canada
- 2. Antonin Michel
- 3. Franck Maniquant

The Classique version of Scrabble (played like ours) was won by Jean Francois Ramel, from France.

India

Annual iGate International Scrabble Tournament in January

- 1. Nigel Richards, New Zealand
- 2. Akshay Bhanddarkar, Dubai
- 3. Alistair Richards, Australia

Pakistan

A two-day Scrabble Showdown in Karachi at the end of February attracted 460 participants. The event was organised by the Pakistan Scrabble Association, and there were six categories for students ranging from junior sections to university levels.

The Express Tribune reported that it was the children who stole the show by putting up a tough fight against senior players.

Karachi Grammar School's Javeria Arshad Mirza, 15, came in first in the 'open' category, beating people who had taught her how to play.

[Exciting to me to see Javeria's name at the top. I played her twice in the Causeway Challenge, and she won both games. A gorgeous girl, and an excellent player. - Ed.]

Singapore

Singapore Championships

- 1. Toh Weiben
- 2. Ricky Purnomo
- 3. Andy Kurnia

Thailand

Thai Princess Cup

- 1. Nigel Richards, New Zealand
- 2. Conrad Bassett, US
- 3. Komol Panyasoponlert, Thailand

UK

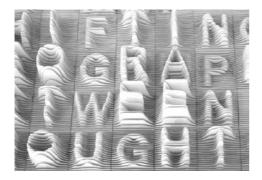
Currently, there are 251 listed clubs within the UK movement.

The final of the 40th National Championships in November was played with a live commentary for about 150 people elsewhere is the building. The final was decided in the fifth game.

- 1. Wayne Kelly, from Warrington
- 2. Gary Oliver, from Southampton

USA

In mid-April, 9-14 year-olds will compete for a whopping first prize of \$US10,000 in the National School Scrabble Championship in Orlando. The huge field will include 29 students with official North American SCRABBLE® Players Association (NASPA) ratings.



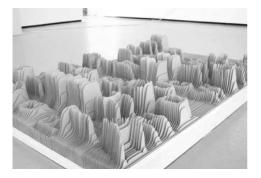
Alphabet topography

As every Scrabble player knows, the points each letter is worth is related to how frequently each member of the alphabet is used in the English language. That frequency is what created "Alphabet Topography", a piece from Yale graduates Caspar Lam and YuJune Park of the Synoptic Office design studio.

In the piece, each letter's relative height is determined by how often a letter is used. The graduates used the University of Cambridge Computer Laboratory's data of letter usage. Each letter has a height difference of 0.23 inches, with the most-frequently used letter reaching a peak of six inches.

The laser-cut boards offer an intriguing look at the English language from the Y mound to the towering heights of the E.

- source: theverge.com



Quotes from Scrabble greats

Edward Okulicz

"Attack at the start, defend as the margin goes up or as the number of tiles goes down."

"People who shrink from challenges are fools and they will be kicked around by better players . . . It stings far worse to have let a phony through - which I have done too often as well, because I felt sure the word was right."

"Fast players who slow down, improve."
- from SA News, Singapore

Adam Logan

"I have won a number of games in which my opponent was ahead and devoted all of his or her attention to preventing me from playing a bingo, but in doing so scored so few points as to lose without me playing one."

- from SA News, Singapore

Stefan Fastsis

Learning Scrabble words is "arming yourself with an arsenal of words", in the same way that memorising a huge number of opening moves helps a chess player.

Scrabble is "not a game of who knows more words."

"Scrabble uses words in a way that's beyond communication, beyond speaking, beyond writing and beyond daily usage."

"Scrabble is cool. It gives me the opportunity to use so many words I don't get the opportunity to use in everyday life."

from an interview with Lexicon Valley, episode No6. (may not be verbatim)

Mark Nyman

"Enjoy the moment. When you spot a fantastic word or a game-winning move, just take a minute or two to savour the satisfaction, rather than play it immediately. The uplifting feeling will seep through you – just sit back and relax in your good vibe."

- from his Little book of Scrabble secrets

April Fool

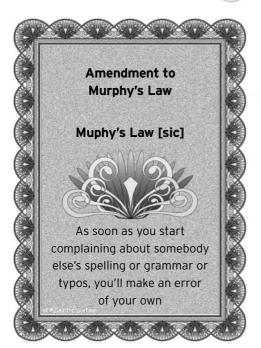
Glenda Foster, Wellington

At the NZASP AGM in June a remit will be proposed as follows:

Amend rule 15.5.1 second sentence to read "For the first game of the tournament tiles must be set out on a sheet of squared paper or directly on the board in a 10x10 square. In three quadrants of the square, tiles must be placed so that they form a 5x5 word square consisting of legal Scrabble words reading left to right and top to bottom. In the bottom right quadrant there must be 5 words reading left to right."

Two examples of this layout are shown on the right.

You are urged to seriously consider this proposal. Just think how much fun you can have dreaming up your favourite layout and impressing other players.







I'VE GOT ALL THE WORDS I NEED FOR MY NOVEL, IT'S JUST A CASE OF PUTTING THEM IN THE RIGHT ORDER NOW!



Shakespeare

by Bernard Levin, 1963

If you cannot understand my argument, and declare 'It's Greek to me',

you are quoting Shakespeare;

if you claim to be more sinned against than sinning,

you are quoting Shakespeare; if you recall your salad days, you are quoting Shakespeare;

if you act more in sorrow than in anger, if your wish is father to the thought, if your lost property has vanished into thin air,

you are quoting Shakespeare;

if you have ever refused to budge an inch or suffered from green-eyed jealousy, if you have played fast and loose, if you have been tongue-tied, a tower of strength, hoodwinked or in a pickle, if you have knitted your brows, made a virtue of necessity, insisted on fair play, slept not one wink, stood on ceremony, danced attendance (on your lord and master), laughed yourself into stitches, had short shrift, cold comfort or too much of a good thing, if you have seen better days or lived in a fool's paradise – why, be that as it may, the more fool you, for it is a foregone conclusion that

you are (as good luck would have it) quoting Shakespeare;

if you think it is early days and clear out bag and baggage, if you think it is high time and that that is the long and short of it, if you believe that the game is up and that truth will out even if it involves your own flesh and blood, if you lie low till the crack of doom because you suspect foul play, if you have your teeth set on edge (at one fell swoop) without rhyme or reason, then – to give the devil his due – if the

truth were known (for surely you have a tongue in your head)

you are quoting Shakespeare;
even if you bid me good riddance and
send me packing, if you wish I was dead as
a door-nail, if you think I am an eyesore,
a laughing stock, the devil incarnate, a
stony-hearted villain, bloody-minded or a
blinking idiot, then – by Jove! O Lord! Tut,
tut! For goodness' sake! What the dickens!
But me no buts – it is all one to me, for
you are quoting Shakespeare.

Where I have and have not been

sent in by Ruth Lilian, Kiwi

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognises you there. I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity any more.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often. I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older. One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

But one place I don't ever want to be is in Continent.

World record

Howard Warner, Mt Albert

Behold the massive new world-record game score and margin recorded in Northern Irish Championships (a WESPA international tournament) in January.

Toh Weibin of Singapore scored 850 points against Rik Kennedy's 259 – a margin of 591.

The previous word record was 739, set by Mark Kenas (US) in 2008 World Players Championship (his opponent Sam Dick-Onuoha got 285).

American Mark Landsberg had dined out for years on his 770 game in a domestic tournament. Many thought that mark to be unsurpassable, and it is still the official record for a domestic tournament.

To put it into further perspective, New Zealand's highest tournament score is Mike Sigley's 717, and our highest tournament margin is Mike's 493 (from the same game, I presume). Even the 1109 combined score of the Northern Irish game surpasses our long-held record of 1078 (by David Lloyd and myself). But it's short of the world record.

I know Toh Weibin as a polite, goodnatured young man of about 20 – a real gentleman. He first showed his potential when winning the 2007 World Youth Championship. Rik Kennedy is no slouch either, having come 17th in the 2009 World Championships.



Weibin with his winning board

[I read a claim that in a club tournament the American Joel Sherman set a new World Record for the highest game score, with an 803-285 win in December last year. If that's the case, poor Joel – his new record was short-lived. -Ed.]









Record take-off

In game 4 of the Wellington Tournament on Saturday 10 March 2012, Lawson Sue was left with a rack of FJNQTUW when his opponent, Jeff Grant, went out with a bonus word.

Lawson's 58 points added to Jeff's score is a new NZ tournament record.

There has been some doubt about the meaning of the record take-off, so to clear up the confusion, the wording of the category in the list of records (published until now on the inside back cover of every issue of *Forwords*) has been changed from "Highest Take-off" to "Highest Add-on", since this is technically what it is.

Jeff is the person to whom this tournament record is attributed - he is the one who made the clever play that caught Lawson with that rack. The corresponding record at club level is held by Andrew Bradley, whose opponent had to give him 68 points.



Changes to the publication of records

You'll notice some further, bigger changes to the Scrabble Records that follow.

1. Inclusion of dates

In connection with the above article, Andrew can't remember when his "add-on" record was set, but says "it has to be at least 20 years ago".

That comment has prompted me to introduce another change to the records page. From now on, we will record the date with any new records, as it is interesting to see how long a record has stood.

If you happen to know the dates (M/Y or just Y) that any of the existing records were set, please let me know and we'll add that information to the page.

2. Extra categories

I have long felt that we could include more categories to this list of records, many of which are kept by other Scrabble associations. We are expanding the categories at the club, tournament and Masters levels, and introducing completely new categories at the international level – you will see for yourself what categories are to be included from now on (and more may be added as time goes on.).

Some of these categories are labelled "Since 2012", as it may not be possible to resurrect and/or verify old information (and if it were possible, it may not be fair to others who can't resurrect/verify).

Two categories have been scrapped, the "highest 3-game aggregate" and the "most bonus words (3 game session)", because they are outdated and irrelevant. Before these records disappear for good, we have paid them due homage. (See the box, right.)

Except for the Club records, where it is relevant, we no longer list the person's club at the time when they set the record - people move clubs in their career or play at more than one.

You may have other ideas as to which records we should keep. Please feel free to suggest them, but think carefully about the practicality of obtaining (and verifying) the information before making your suggestion. For example, "highest average spread" is being used rather than "total spread", because tournaments vary in the number of games played. The player will need to calculate the average before submitting.

The new records waiting to be claimed are: oldest and youngest player at Nationals and Masters tournaments, highest opening play and longest word (club and tournament), highest average spread (tournament) and most games won (Nationals). None of this information can be pre 2012, so YOU could have a record-setting play this year!

Because these records are new, they will be established by submission, so to speak. If you think you are entitled to have your name alongside a record, let us know, and we will publish it provisionally, and it will stand unless somebody else can claim the record. All information must be verified.

Thereafter, as with all records, the person setting/breaking them, or the secretary of the club where the record was set, needs to send us the information.

3. Frequency of publication

I have also long felt that publishing the records every issue is too often. Sometimes records can go for months or even years without changing. Our readers barely look at this page – I know, because of how long a typo is perpetuated before it is picked up!

Highest 3-game aggregate and most bonus words (3 game session)

The "highest 3-game aggregate" record has been around for a very long time, certainly pre-1995. In *Forwords* at that time, Glenyss Buchanan held the record with 1761 points. In December 1996 Nigel superseded this with his 1805 - the write-up in the same magazine says it was set on 22 November 1996 with scores of 618, 531 and 656. Wow!

The "most bonus words in a 3-game session" record has also been going for a long time. Jeff holds this record with an impressive 14 words. Wow again!

These categories will no longer be kept as records, because not all clubs play 3 games in a session these days.

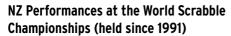
New records will receive due mention as they occur, but the complete list of records will only be published once a year, as a double-page feature, in the first edition of the new year (that is, this issue!). That way, you can look forward to checking the new records each time, and it will give you something to aim for throughout the following year.

However, please send any new records as they happen, because the file will be updated behind the scenes in preparation for publication, and we will continue to mark the occasion with a little article in the body of the magazine.

Please be tolerant of any errors in the newly recorded categories in this issue. We've done our best, but we're relying on you to correct us where we are wrong. The facts should "settle" after this first year.

Now, read on and enjoy!

NZ Scrabble Records



World Champion		Nigel Richards Nigel Richards	2007 2011
Most frequent competitor	10 times	Jeff Grant	1991 – 2009
In the top 10 (other than 1st)	3rd	Jeff Grant	1995
	6th	Kendall Boyd	1997
	8th, 2nd	Nigel Richards	1999, 2009

NZ Performances at the World Youth Championships

Most frequent competitor	1 time	Alex Leckie-Zaharic	2011
Highest Place	42nd/84	Alex Leckie-Zaharic	2011

Trans-Tasman Challenge

Challenges won by NZ	3	1998, 2000, 2010
Individual winners	Peter Sinton	1998
	Kendall Boyd	2000
	Howard Warner	2002
	Joanne Craig	2010

Masters Tournament (held since 1984)

Most games won	21/23	Jeff Grant Mike Sigley	1993, 1997 2002
Highest aggregate	11,103	Nigel Richards	1999
Most bonus words	61	Nigel Richards	1998
Highest Spread	+2428	Howard Warner	2011
Most times winner	9	Howard Warner	2000-2001 2003-2004, 2006 2008-2011
Most frequent competitor	28/28	Glennis Hale	1984-2011
Youngest competitor ¹	Age xx		
Oldest competitor ¹	Age xx		



Highest 10 on International (WEPSA) rankings 2012

Nigel Richards	1st
Howard Warner	48th
Jeff Grant	64th
Joanne Craig	92nd
Patrick Carter	108th
Mike Sigley	127th
Blue Thorogood	128th
Debbie Caldwell	160th
Peter Sinton	192nd
Steven Brown	212th

As at 31 March 2012

Notes

Records with no dates were set pre 2012, dates unknown

- Since 2012
- Provisional information
- On current NZASP
 Rankings list
- 4 Provisional category.

 As soon as somebody
 achieves a clean sweep for
 a tournament, the heading
 will change to "winners of
 all games", and everyone
 who achieves this will be
 listed.

The Nationals (began 1990)

Most games won ^{1,4}			
Most times National Champion	16	Jeff Grant	1990-91, 1993-96, 1998, 2000-01, 2007-08
Youngest competitor ¹	Age xx		
Oldest competitor ¹	Age xx		

Tournament records

Highest game score	717	Mike Sigley	
Highest losing score	514	Pam Barlow	
Highest drawn score	487	Lynn Wood & Debbie Caldwell	
Highest single turn	302	Lynne Butler	Oct 2011
Highest single turn, non-bonus	135	Ruth O'Neil	
Highest combined score	1078	Howard Warner & David Lloyd	
Largest winning margin	493	Mike Sigley	
Highest add-on	58	Jeff Grant	Mar 2012
Most consecutive bonus words	5	Allie Quinn	
Most bonus words in game (individual)	6	Nigel Richards Yvette Hewlett Paul Lister Howard Warner	Aug 2010
Most bonus words in game (combined)	8	Mike Sigley & Glenyss Buchanan Nigel Richards & John Foster	
Highest average in a tournament	584	Nigel Richards	
Highest average spread in a tournament ¹			
Highest opening play ¹			
Longest word ¹			
Most tournament games played ³	2943	Lynn Wood	
Most tournament games won³	1508	Howard Warner	

Milestones

2000 tournament	
games played³	22.42
Lynn Wood	2943
Glennis Hale	2364
John Foster	2332
David Gunn	2203
Betty Eriksen	2125
Howard Warner	2092
1000 tournament	
games won³	
Howard Warner	1546.5
Jeff Grant	1497
Lynn Wood	1396.5
John Foster	1332
Glennis Hale	1319.5
David Gunn	1093.5
Betty Eriksen	1083
500 international ga	mes
(WEPSA-rated)	
Nigel Richards	1700
Howard Warner	625
Joanne Craig	506
Jeff Grant	502

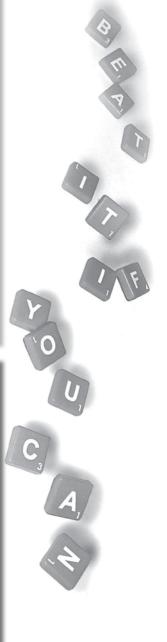
As at 31 March 2012



Club records

Highest game score	763	John Foster	Mt Albert	
Highest losing score	521	June Mackwell	Mt Albert	
Highest drawn score	482	Margaret Warren & Jeff Grant	Hastings	Mar 1994
Highest single turn	347	Neil Talbot	Wellington	
Highest single turn, non-bonus	261	John Foster	Mt Albert	
Highest combined score	1106	Dawn Kitzen & Chris Hooks	Papatoetoe & Mt Albert	
Largest winning margin	590	Paul Lister	Christchurch	
Highest add-on	68	Andrew Bradley	Mt Albert	
Most consecutive bonus words	5	John Foster Patrick Carter Paul Lister	Mt Albert Mt Albert Christchurch	
Most bonus words in a game (individual)	7	Jeff Grant	Independent	Sep 1997
Most bonus words in a game (combined)	8	Dawn Kitzen & Chis Hooks	Papatoetoe & Mt Albert	
Highest opening play ¹				
Longest word ¹				

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR 2012							
*entry restricted to qualifiers							
Tournament	Place	Dates					
Dunedin Open	Dunedin	31 March – 1 April					
Masters*	Wanganui	7 – 9 April					
Hokianga	Opononi	14 – 15 April					
Kapiti Coast	Kapiti	21 – 22 April					
South Island Champs	Christchurch	5 – 6 May					
Rodney	Warkworth	6 May					
Nationals	Auckland	2 - 3 June					
Kiwi	Rotorua	23 June					
Whanagrei	Whangarei	7 – 8 July					
Hamilton	Hamilton	4 – 5 August*					
Tauranga	Tauranga	25 – 26 August					
Canterbury Open	Christchurch	8 – 9 September					
Mt Albert	Auckland	29 – 30 September					
Norfolk Island	Norfolk Island	7 – 14 October					



Rankings NZASP Rankings

	NZASP Rank	ınas				71	Aille Quillii	1373	JL4.J	1761	40 /0
	is at 31 Marc	The second secon	2			42	Pat Bryan	1584	177	304	58%
						43	David Gunn	1568	1093.5	2203	50%
Ra	nk Name	Rating	Wins (Games	%	44	Margie Hurly	1567	297	572	52%
1	Howard Warner	2058	1546.5	2092	74%	45	Joan Thomas	1564	831	1675	50%
2	Blue Thorogood	1976	455	659	69%	46	Scott Thiemann	1540	45	95	47%
3	Jeff Grant	1944	1497	1974	76%	47	Irene Smith	1522	125.5	239	53%
4	Kristian Saether	1937	107	168	64%	48	Cicely Bruce	1519	211.5	356	59%
5	Mike Sigley	1892	887	1264	70%	49	Pam Robson	1519	499.5	1085	46%
6	Peter Sinton	1884	571.5	789	72%	50	Selena Chan	1511	231	437	53%
7	Joanne Craig	1883	271	411	66%	51	Hazel Purdie	1511	879.5	1802	49%
8	Patrick Carter	1863	699	1116	63%	52	Leila Thomson	1502	500.5	1117	45%
9	Glennis Hale	1862	1319.5	2364	56%	53	Yvette Hewlett	1495	400.5	840	48%
10	John Foster	1860	1332	2332	57%	54	Scott Chaput	1476	125.5	207	61%
11	Rogelio Talosig	1844	399	672	59%	55	Lynn Wood	1472	1396.5	2943	47%
12	Andrew Bradley	1833	748	1429	52%	56	Shirley Martin	1470	728.5	1402	52%
13	Lynne Butler	1831	834.5	1357	61%	57	Anna Hough	1470	510	1039	49%
14	Lawson Sue	1829	447.5	870	51%	58	Pam Barlow	1464	561	1118	50%
15	Nick Cavenagh	1810	175	299	59%	59	Lorraine Van Veen	1459	774.5	1508	51%
16	Rosemary Cleary	1795	638	1369	47%	60	Su Walker	1451	828.5	1637	51%
17	Chris Hooks	1788	899.5	1839	49%	61	Yoon Kim Fong	1435	470	904	52%
18	Glenda Foster	1746	874.5	1736	50%	62	Lyn Toka	1419	461.5	879	53%
19	Liz Fagerlund	1743	879	1706	52%	63	Maureen Holliday	1414	598	1169	51%
20	Debbie Raphael	1733	536	880	61%	64	Roger Coates	1395	614.5	1307	47%
21	Steven Brown	1733	826	1526	54%	65	Kaite Hansen	1392	269	484	56%
22	Murray Rogers	1729	589	1126	52%	66	Peter Johnstone	1387	95.5	174	55%
23	Katy Yiakmis	1688	121	247	49%	67	Shirley Hol	1376	535.5	1182	45%
24	Denise Gordon	1686	649	1342	48%	68	Herb Ramsay	1373	120	185	65%
25	Paul Lister	1679	732.5	1299	56%	69	Chris Higgins	1369	90	152	59%
26	Jennifer Smith	1674	840.5	1715	49%	70	Mary Gray	1357	389.5	762	51%
27	Val Mills	1670	944	1997	47%	71	Ernie Gidman	1355	355	699	51%
28	Janice Cherry	1664	352	670	53%	72	Jean O'Brien	1352	912	1789	51%
29	Glenyss Buchanan	1663	596.5	1266	47%	73	Dianne Cole-Baker	1347	324	611	53%
30	Marianne Bentley	1658	274	617	44%	74	Clare Wall	1337	235	456	52%
31	Lynne Powell	1654	855.5	1711	50%	75	Karen Gray	1329	199	368	54%
32	Vicky Robertson	1641	204	389	52%	76	Ruth Groffman	1325	401.5	832	48%
33	Anderina McLean	1637	412.5	755	55%	77	Heather Landon	1297	356	684	52%
34	Tim Anglin	1637	30	55	55%	78	Ray Goodyear	1293	200	407	49%
35	Karyn McDougall	1634	624	1193	52%	79	Glenda Geard	1271	913	1860	49%
36	John Baird	1626	140	243	58%	80	Rosalind Phillips	1264	446.5	857	52%
37	Shirley van Essen	1620	351.5	682	52%	81	Allison Torrance	1262	301.5	579	52%
38	Olivia Godfrey	1606	520	947	55%	82	Margaret Cherry	1259	430.5	872	49%

39 Ian Patterson

Allie Quinn

40 Helen Sillis

1606 210

1600 677

1595

399

1343

924.5 1921

53%

50%

48%

83 84	June Mackwell	1239	693.5	1558	45%	126	Jacqueline	836	520	1091	48%
85	Lynn Carter Carolyn Kyle	1229 1217	501.5 586.5	962 1163	52% 50%	127	Coldham-Fussell Kathleen Mori-Barker	021	312.5	626	50%
86	Faye Cronhelm	1215	749	1503	50%		Pat Wood	829	92	167	55%
87	Lyn Dawson	1200	354	650	54%		Annette Coombes	803	567	1272	45%
88	Rhoda Cashman	1184	749.5	1547	48%		Mary Curtis	800	163.5	311	53%
89	Delcie Macbeth	1162	737.5	1410	52%	131	Ruth Godwin	784	157	399	39%
90	Karen Rodgers	1157	118	298	40%		Judy Driscoll	782	70	217	32%
91	Jena Yousif	1150	341.5	663	52%		Antonia Aarts	763	104	222	47%
92	Marian Ross	1149	462	916	50%		Maria Clinton	748	191	397	48%
93	Malcolm Graham	1139	312	641	49%		Richard Cornelius	716	52.5	101	52%
94	Alison Holmes	1125	189.5	340	56%		Yvonne McLaughlan	712	412.5	882	47%
95	Ann Candler	1123	647.5	1372	47%		Michael Groffman	695	209.5	449	47%
96	Colleen Cook	1103	251	511	49%		Kaye Hubner	687	39	89	44%
97	Steve Richards	1103	211	444	48%	139	Jean Craib	648	335	712	47%
98	Sheila Reed	1101	177	346	51%	140	Judith Bach	645	75	146	51%
99	Betty Eriksen	1098	1083	2125	51%	141	Janny Henneveld	637	323	685	47%
100	•	1069	851	1661	51%	142	Madeleine Green	633	41.5	87	48%
101	Barbara Dunn	1064	194.5	340	57%	143	Joan Beale	632	69	136	51%
102	Gabrielle Bolt	1063	317.5	615	52%	144	Chris Guthrey	610	10	46	22%
103	Nola Borrell	1056	229.5	410	56%	145	Suzanne Harding	605	219	434	50%
104	Marianne Patchett	1052	263.5	511	52%	146	Valma Gidman	604	613.5	1230	50%
105	Elaine Moltzen	1025	523	1045	50%	147	Tim Henneveld	600	293.5	689	43%
106	Roger Cole-Baker	974	346	662	52%	148	Lynn Thompson	596	178.5	402	44%
107	Margaret Bullen	966	29	41	71%	149	Anne-Louise Milne	592	78	295	26%
108	Pam Muirhead	963	74.5	129	58%	150	Maggie Bentley	588	62	110	56%
109	Bev Edwards	963	163.5	307	53%	151	Julia Schiller	584	73	190	38%
110	Jean Boyle	943	434.5	827	53%	152	Noelene Bettjeman	575	222	487	46%
111	Fran Lowe	942	47.5	99	48%	153	Margaret Miller	543	108.5	281	39%
112	Judith Thomas	925	149.5	277	54%	154	Anne Scatchard	536	206.5	404	51%
113	Jo Ann Ingram	923	165	336	49%	155	Anthea Jones	527	156.5	320	49%
114	Catherine Henry	922	382.5	727	53%		Margaret Toso	522	12.5	40	31%
115	Carole Coates	914	532.5	1089	49%		Betty Don	520	13	83	16%
116	Agnes Rowland	913	84	154	55%		Pauline Smeaton	493	304.5	585	52%
117	Karen Miller	886	434.5	880	49%		Alan Henley	474	40	94	43%
118	Roto Mitchell	871	596	1174	51%		Naveen Sivasankar	469	10	42	24%
	Rosemary Wauters	869	121	240	50%		Christina Linwood	462	84.5	183	46%
	Tony Charlton	862	176.5	361	49%		Frances Higham	383	37	126	29%
121	Chris Handley	859	327	621	53%		Stephanie Pluck	355	34.5	100	35%
	Philippa Medlock	852	67.5	128	53%		Penny Irvine	323	82.5	206	40%
	Alex Leckie-Zaharic	851	39	57	68%		Sue Mayn	315	159	393	40%
	Liz Richards	849	214.5	442	49%		Trish Fox	178	21	135	16%
125	Leighton Gelling	844	66	127	52%	16/	Susan Milne	0	18.5	92	20%



Pakuranga Tournament Day 1, Saturday 28 January 2012







Vicky Robertson 3rd in C Grade

GRA	ADE A	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE.
1	Howard Warner	MTA	7	759	490
2	Patrick Carter	MTA	6	389	428
3	Debbie Raphael	IND	3	227	433
4	Nick Cavenagh	HAM	3	-116	419
5	Glennis Hale	MTA	3	-334	397
6	John Foster	NSB	2	23	395
7	Lawson Sue	MTA	2	-355	397
8	Andrew Bradley	MTA	2	-593	389

GR/	ADE C	CLUB	WINS	SPREAL) AVE
1	Joan Thomas	HAS	5	278	406
2	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	4	158	378
3	Vicky Robertson	WEL	4	10	384
4	Helen Sillis	NPL	4	-31	390
5	Cicely Bruce	WRE	3	24	388
6	Scott Thiemann	MTA	3	-15	398
7	Jennifer Smith	HAM	3	-137	360
8	Pam Barlow	PAK	2	-287	378



Howard Warner

1st in A Grade



2nd in A Grade



Debbie Raphael

3rd in A Grade



1st in D Grade





Rosalind Phillips Clare Wall

2nd in D Grade 3rd in D Grade

GRA	DE B	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Chris Hooks	MTA	5.5	496	427
2	Lynn Wood	WEL	4.5	136	414
3	Val Mills	PAK	4	45	395
4	Murray Rogers	NEL	4	-113	394
5	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	3	252	407
6	Olivia Godfrey	WEL	3	-205	387
7	Anderina McLean	MTA	2	-224	389
8	Allie Quinn	WRE	2	-387	388

GRA	ADE D	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Hazel Purdie	MTA	6	248	402
2	Rosalind Phillips	PAK	4	275	396
3	Clare Wall	WEL	4	31	390
4	Roger Coates	HAM	4	-163	378
5	Maureen Holliday	HBC	3	29	384
6	Jean O'Brien	IND	3	-29	383
7	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	2	-136	371
8	Lorraine van Veen	IND	2	-255	364



1st in B Grade



2nd in B Grade



Val Mills 3rd in B Grade







Heather Landon 2nd in E Grade



3rd in E Grade

GRA	DE E	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	June Mackwell	NSB	5	318	387
2	Heather Landon	TGA	5	102	371
3	Pat Bryan	MTA	4	217	432
4	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	4	97	376
5	Chris Higgins	MTA	3	67	386
6	Ruth Groffman	DUN	3	-70	361
7	Su Walker	MTA	2	-178	351
8	Glenda Geard	IND	2	-553	345







1st in F Grade

Delcie Macbeth 2nd in F Grade

Lynn Carter 3rd in F Grade

GRA	ADE F	CLUB	WINS	SPREA	D AVE
1	Ernie Gidman	ROD	7	439	394
2	Delcie Macbeth	IND	5	554	398
3	Lynn Carter	WEL	5	308	395
4	Jena Yousif	KIW	3	-161	365
5	Rhoda Cashman	HBC	3	-217	340
6	Carolyn Kyle	DUN	2	-161	355
7	Margaret Cherry	PAK	2	-444	348
8	Elaine Moltzen	KIW	1	-318	341







Betty Eriksen 1st in G Grade

Roger Cole-Baker 2nd in G Grade

Roto Mitchell 3rd in G Grade

GRA	DE G	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	401	396
2	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	5	314	390
3	Roto Mitchell	WAN	5	41	353
4	Julia Schiller	IND	4	161	359
5	Catherine Henry	WRE	3	86	376
6	Bev Edwards	WRE	3	18	360
7	Tim Henneveld	ROT	1	-510	315
8	Jacqueline Coldham- Fussell	KIW	1	-511	316



GRA	ADE H	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Leighton Gelling	HAM	6	148	359
2	Alison Holmes	WRE	5	180	358
3	Ruth Godwin	ROT	5	87	342
4	Mary Curtis	MTA	4	140	368
5	Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	3	19	349
6	Janny Henneveld	ROT	3	-39	370
7	Suzanne Harding	WRE	2	-233	336
8	Valma Gidman	ROD	0	-302	335







1st in I Grade

Lynn Thompson **2nd in I Grade**

Anne Scatchard 3rd in I Grade

GRADE I		CLUB	WINS	SPREAD) AVE
1	Antonia Aarts	MTA	6	452	368
2	Lynn Thompson	WRE	6	339	369
3	Anne Scatchard	WRE	5	366	346
4	Joan Beale	PHC	4	90	336
5	Frances Higham	PHC	4	21	319
6	Margaret Toso	WRE	4	-36	317
7	Margaret Miller	HBS	4	-108	328
8	Patricia Wareing	PAK	3	392	381
9	Judy Cronin	MTA	3	-335	288
10	Alan Henley	NSB	2	-149	322
11	Susan Milne	MTA	1	-643	272
12	Valerie Smith	MTA	0	-389	313

Pakuranga Tournament Day 2, Sunday 29 January 2012







John Foster 2nd in A Grade



Glennis Hale

3rd in A Grade

GRA	DE A	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Howard Warner	MTA	5	414	450
2	John Foster	NSB	5	305	429
3	Glennis Hale	MTA	4	73	429
4	Rogelio Talosig	NSB	4	-243	387
5	Debbie Raphael	IND	3	13	444
6	Nick Cavenagh	HAM	3	-72	419
7	Patrick Carter	MTA	2	-184	394
8	Lawson Sue	PAK	2	-306	377



Andrew Bradley
1st in B Grade



Murray Rogers

2nd in B Grade



Liz Fagerlund

3rd in B Grade

GRADE B		CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Andrew Bradley	MTA	6	428	403
1	Murray Rogers	NEL	6	428	423
3	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	5	243	418
4	Chris Hooks	MTA	5	165	406
5	Olivia Godfrey	WEL	3	-48	389
6	Anderina McLean	MTA	2	-188	386
7	Lynn Wood	WEL	1	-353	365
8	Allie Quinn	WRE	0	-675	341



Vicky Robertson 1st in C Grade



Val Mills
2nd in C Grade



Katy Yiakmis 3rd in C Grade

GR/	ADE C	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	A VE
1	Vicky Robertson	WEL	5	347	398
2	Val Mills	PAK	5	321	401
3	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	4	176	404
4	Cicely Bruce	WRE	4	162	408
5	Pam Barlow	PAK	3	-267	365
6	Hazel Purdie	MTA	3	-315	395
7	Joan Thomas	HAS	2	8	383
8	Jennifer Smith	HAM	2	-432	375



Pat Bryan **1st in D Grade**



Rosalind Philips **2nd in D Grade**



Heather Landon

3rd in D Grade

GRA	ADE D	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD) AVE
1	Pat Bryan	MTA	5	108	389
2	Rosalind Phillips	PAK	4	30	381
3	Heather Landon	TGA	4	-103	352
4	June Mackwell	NSB	3	114	372
5	Clare Wall	WEL	3	51	388
6	Maureen Holliday	HBC	3	44	375
7	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	3	-74	353
8	Jean O'Brien	IND	3	-170	377







Delcie Macbeth

2nd in E Grade



Ruth Groffman **3rd in E Grade**

GRADE E		CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Lorraine van Veen	IND	6	217	389
2	Delcie Macbeth	IND	5	654	444
3	Ruth Groffman	DUN	5	295	390
4	Chris Higgins	MTA	5	165	390
5	Glenda Geard	IND	2	-13	380
6	Su Walker	MTA	2	-42	382
7	Rhoda Cashman	HBC	2	-574	309
8	Lynn Carter	NSB	1	-702	342







Jeanette Grimmer Betty Eriksen 1st in F Grade

2nd in F Grade

Carolyn Kyle

3rd in F Grade

GRA	DE F	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	6	267	388
2	Betty Eriksen	WAN	5	275	385
3	Carolyn Kyle	DUN	5	245	391
4	Roto Mitchell	WAN	3	150	386
5	Bev Edwards	WAN	3	66	380
6	Catherine Henry	TGA	2	-229	353
7	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	2	-295	337
8	Julia Schiller	IND	2	-479	333







Mary Curtis 1st in G Grade

Janny Henneveld 2nd in G Grade

Alison Holmes 3rd in G Grade

GRA	DE G	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Mary Curtis	MTA	6	210	359
2	Janny Henneveld	ROT	4	153	371
3	Alison Holmes	WRE	4	46	356
4	Shirley Pedersen	PAK	4	-41	341
5	Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	3	-16	342
6	Ruth Godwin	ROT	3	-84	325
7	Suzanne Harding	WRE	2	-124	343
8	Tim Henneveld	ROT	2	-144	342







Margaret Miller 2nd in H Grade



Joan Beale 3rd in H Grade

GRA	ADE H	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Anne Scatchard	WRE	5	232	354
2	Margaret Miller	HBS	4	55	321
3	Joan Beale	PHC	4	32	334
4	Lynn Thompson	WRE	4	-16	361
5	Patricia Wareing	PAK	3.5	36	335
6	Margaret Toso	WRE	3.5	-151	311
7	Sue Mayn	0	2	-80	330
8	Antonia Aarts	MTA	2	-108	321



GRADE I		CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Alan Henley	NSB	5	557	359
2	Judy Cronin	MTA	5	141	303
3	Chris Guthrey	IND	5	78	319
4	Frances Higham	PHC	3	-20	307
5	Valerie Smith	MTA	2	-322	289
6	Susan Milne	MTA	1	-434	271

Rotorua Tournament 18 - 19 February 2012









1st in A Grade

Katy Yiakmis 2nd in A Grade

Nick Cavenagh 3rd in A Grade

GRAD	E A	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Howard Warner	MTA	13	1489	465
2	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	9	510	405
3	Nick Cavenagh	HAM	8	389	424
4	Val Mills	PAK	8	349	394
5	Janice Cherry	IND	8	29	392
6	Jennifer Smith	HAM	7.5	449	404
7	Olivia Godfrey	WEL	7	38	397
8	Joan Thomas	HAS	6.5	-106	394

9	Lawson Sue	PAK	6	-336	377
10	Shirley Martin	HAM	5	-482	373
11	Lynn Wood	WEL	4	-374	386
12	Cicely Bruce	WRE	4	-681	378
13	Hazel Purdie	MTA	3	-671	356
14	Mary Gray	MTA	2	-603	349







Lorraine Van Veen
1st in B Grade

Lyn Toka **2nd in B Grade**

Roger Coates **3rd in B Grade**

GRAD	DE B	CLUB	WINS	S SPREA	D AVE
1	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	10	364	392
2	Lyn Toka	KIW	9	558	411
3	Roger Coates	KIW	8	311	406
4	Jean O Brien	IND	7.5	85	381
5	Rosalind Phillips	MTA	7	111	381
6	Su Walker	MTA	7	-194	379
7	Margaret Cherry	PAK	6.5	-130	366
8	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	6	-46	380
9	Faye Cronhelm	IND	6	-165	386
10	Delcie Macbeth	IND	5	276	407
11	Glenda Geard	IND	5	31	390
12	Lynn Carter	IND	5	-304	382
13	Heather Landon	TGA	5	-337	377
14	June Mackwell	NSB	4	-560	352







Andree Prentice
1st in C Grade

Jena Yousif **2nd in C Grade**

Barbara Dunn **3rd in C Grade**

GRAD	E C	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Andree Prentice	WAN	10	1199	421
2	Jena Yousif	KIW	10	437	395
3	Barbara Dunn	TGA	9	607	394
4	Chris Day	TGA	9	468	383
5	Betty Eriksen	WAN	9	299	369
6	Jean Boyle	WAN	8	-157	362
7	Mary Curtis	MTA	7	148	380
8	Carole Coates	KIW	6	80	376

9	Jacqueline Coldham- Fussell	KIW	5	-460	360
10	Roto Mitchell	WAN	4	-278	334
11	Janny Henneveld	ROT	4	-654	334
12	Tim Henneveld	ROT	4	-661	320
13	Linda Moore	ROD	3	-363	349
14	Ruth Godwin	ROT	3	-665	328







Margaret Bullen 1st in D Grade

Antonia Aarts **2nd in D Grade**

Suzanne Harding

3rd in D Grade

GRAD	E D	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Margaret Bullen	TGA	12	1291	392
2	Antonia Aarts	MTA	10	580	364
3	Suzanne Harding	WRE	9	733	374
4	Maggie Bentley	ROT	9	277	344
5	Judith Kuchler	ROT	8.5	196	340
6	Anne Scatchard	WRE	8	241	332
7	Philippa Medlock	IND	7	368	349
8	Alan Henley	NSB	7	117	321
9	Pauline Smeaton	TGA	7	1	330
10	Allison Maclean	ROT	6	-73	328
11	Merilyn Anderson	TGA	6	-394	295
12	Val Isherwood	ROT	4	-100	326
13	Sue Mayn	ROD	4	-193	326
14	Ray Seddon	TGA	4	-246	307

Nelson Tournament 25 - 26 February 2012







1st in A Grade

Murray Rogers **2nd in A Grade**

Anna Hough

3rd in A Grade

(GRADE A	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Lynn Wood	WEL	11	939	419
2	Murray Rogers	NEL	10	233	396
3	Anna Hough	CHC	9	373	405
4	Herb Ramsay	CHC	7	144	382

Karen Rodgers	IND	7	-422	368
Steve Richards	NEL	4	-270	377
Malcolm Graham	CHC	4	-406	366
Carolyn Kyle	DUN	4	-591	353
	Steve Richards Malcolm Graham	Steve Richards NEL Malcolm Graham CHC	Steve Richards NEL 4 Malcolm Graham CHC 4	Steve Richards NEL 4 -270 Malcolm Graham CHC 4 -406







Alison Holmes

2nd in B Grade



Jo Ann Ingram

3rd in B Grade

4	Vicky Robertson	WEL	8	204	406
5	Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	7	-24	390
6	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	6	141	382
7	Lynn Wood	WEL	6	-26	381
8	Joan Thomas	HAS	2	-1263	345



Val Mills 1st in B Grade



Olivia Godfrey **2nd in B Grade**



Jennifer Smith

3rd in B Grade

GRAI	DE B	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
1	Nola Borrell	WEL	12	954	403
2	Alison Holmes	WEL	11	512	379
3	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	9	405	374
4	Tony Charlton	NEL	7	228	362
5	Liz Richards	NEL	7	-113	348
6	Maria Clinton	NEL	6	-288	348
7	Judy Driscoll	KAP	3	-546	327
8	Betty Don	NEL	1	-1152	311

GRA	IDE C	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE.
1	Leila Thomson	LOH	10	707	416
2	Anna Hough	CHC	9	462	413
3	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	8	139	400
4	Su Walker	MTA	7	-243	383
5	Jean O'Brien	IND	6	-74	387
6	Mary Gray	MTA	6	-503	365
7	Clare Wall	WEL	5	-163	378
8	Hazel Purdie	MTA	5	-325	395

Wellington Tournament 10 - 11 March 2012

GRA	DE A	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD) AVE
1	Jeff Grant	IND	11	1071	440
2	Joanne Craig	CHC	8	347	430
3	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	8	24	385
4	Rosemary Cleary	WAN	7	134	391
5	Lawson Sue	MTA	6	-172	398
6	Murray Rogers	NEL	6	-379	377
7	Glenda Foster	WEL	5	-424	390
8	Steven Brown	KAP	5	-601	380



Jeff Grant 1st in A Grade



Joanne Craig **2nd in A Grade**



Liz Fagerlund

3rd in A Grade

ADE B	CLUB	WINS	SPREA	D AVE
Val Mills	PAK	9	546	418
Olivia Godfrey	WEL	9	281	396
Jennifer Smith	HAM	9	141	398
	Val Mills Olivia Godfrey	Val Mills PAK Olivia Godfrey WEL	Val Mills PAK 9 Olivia Godfrey WEL 9	Val Mills PAK 9 546 Olivia Godfrey WEL 9 281



Leila Thomson 1st in C Grade



Anna Hough **2nd in C Grade**



Yoon Kim Fong 3rd in C Grade

DE D	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE
Carolyn Kyle	DUN	10	542	388
Karen Rodgers	IND	8	301	386
Malcolm Graham	CHC	8	-5	380
Alison Holmes	WEL	8	-357	360
Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	169	379
Andree Prentice	WAN	6	44	369
Nola Borrell	WEL	6	-106	362
Jean Boyle	WAN	3	-588	340
	Carolyn Kyle Karen Rodgers Malcolm Graham Alison Holmes Betty Eriksen Andree Prentice Nola Borrell	Carolyn Kyle DUN Karen Rodgers IND Malcolm Graham CHC Alison Holmes WEL Betty Eriksen WAN Andree Prentice WAN Nola Borrell WEL	Carolyn Kyle DUN 10 Karen Rodgers IND 8 Malcolm Graham CHC 8 Alison Holmes WEL 8 Betty Eriksen WAN 7 Andree Prentice WAN 6 Nola Borrell WEL 6	Carolyn Kyle DUN 10 542 Karen Rodgers IND 8 301 Malcolm Graham CHC 8 -5 Alison Holmes WEL 8 -357 Betty Eriksen WAN 7 169 Andree Prentice WAN 6 44 Nola Borrell WEL 6 -106



Carolyn Kyle 1st in D Grade



Karen Rodgers **2nd in D Grade**



Malcolm Graham

3rd in D Grade

GRA	DE E	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	AVE	14	Debbie Raphael	IND	7	-10
1	Sheila Reed	WEL	13.5	924	390	15	Kim Yoon Fong	KIW	7	-257
2	Agnes Rowland	KAP	10	528	375	16	Su Walker	MTA	7	-449
3	Tony Charlton	NEL	9	277	354	17	Olivia Godfrey	WGN	6	-74
4	Judith Thomas	IND	9	178	361	18	Pam Barlow	PAK	6	-158
5	Mary Curtis	MTA	8.5	391	389	19	Shirley Martin	HAM	6	-335
6	Judy Driscoll	KAP	8	-101	340	20	Chris Higgins	MTA	6	-551
7	Tim Henneveld	ROT	6	-187	339	21	Lynn Wood	WGN	5	33
8	Julia Schiller	IND	6	-258	329	22	,	IND	4	-573
9	Betty Don	NEL	5	-388	338	23	Heather Landon	TGA	4	-666
10	Janny Henneveld	ROT	5	-457	338				-	
11	Chris Guthrey	IND	4	-893	297	24	Rosalind Phillips	PAK	2	-887



Sheila Reed

1st in E Grade



Agnes Rowland

2nd in E Grade



Tony Charlton

3rd in E Grade

Glenda Geard

1st in B Grade





June Mackwell Lynn Carter

2nd in B Grade 3rd in B Grade

Mt Albert Memorial Tournament 17 – 18 March 2012



A (GRADE	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD	
1	Howard Warner	MTA	13	1772	
2	Lawson Su	MTA	12	656	
3	John Foster	IND	10	842	
4	Patrick Carter	MTA	10	253	
5	Chris Hooks	MTA	9	561	
6	Katy Yiakmis	MTA	9	158	
7	Pat Bryan	MTA	9	121	
8	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	8	398	
9	Anderina McLean	MTA	8	26	
10	Joan Thomas	HAS	8	-40	
11	Hazel Purdie	MTA	8	-192	
12	Scott Thiemann	MTA	8	-230	
13	Val Mills	PAK	8	-398	

ВО	GRADE	CLUB	WINS	SPREAD
1	Glenda Geard	IND	12	821
2	June Mackwell	NSB	11	975
3	Lynn Carter	IND	11	530
4	Faye Cronhelm	IND	10	583
5	Delcie Macbeth	IND	9	496
6	Marianne Patchett	MTA	9	193
7	Margaret Bullen	TGA	9	169
8	Pat Wood	TGA	9	-86
9	Philippa Medlock	IND	9	-203
10	Mary Curtis	MTA	8	703
11	Ruth Godwin	ROT	8	-25
12	Antonia Aarts	MTA	8	-229
13	Leighton Gelling	HAM	7	204
14	Joan Beale	PHC	7	140
15	Kaye Hubner	TGA	7	-372
16	Janny Henneveld	ROT	6.5	-90
17	Richard Cornelius	TGA	6	-132
18	Tim Henneveld	ROT	6	-263
19	Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	6	-407
20	Margaret Miller	HBC	5.5	-195
21	Alan Henley	NSB	5	-358
22	Julia Schiller	IND	5	-576
23	Frances Higham	PHC	5	-756
24	Judy Cronin	MTA	1	-1122

Contact Information

Clubs (north to south)	Contact Person	Phone	Email	Meeting day/time	
PLEASE CONTACT THE CONTA	CT PERSON TO FIND O	UT THE MEETING	VENUE		
Whangarei (WRE)	Bev Edwards	09 430 2832	bevhola@xtra.co.nz	Thurs 1pm	
Rodney (ROD)	Linda Moore	09 425 4959	colin.linda@wave.co.nz	Mon 1pm	
Hibiscus Coast (HBC)	Joan Pratt	09 426 4521	jopra@xtra.co.nz	Mon 12.45pm	
Nth Shore Bays (NSB)	Ann Candler	09 444 8411	anncan@clear.net.nz	Tues 10am	
Mt Albert (MTA)	Dianne Cole-Baker	09 309 5865	drcb@xtra.co.nz	Fri 7pm	
Pakuranga/Howick (PAK)	Jean Owler	09 534 4453	cliffordo@xtra.co.nz	Tues 12.30 Thurs 7pm	
Papatoetoe/Holy Cross (PHC)	Frances Higham	09 278 4595	jambo@actrix.co.nz	Mon 1pm	
Hamilton (HAM)	Jillian Greening	07 843 7652	jillian.greening@yahoo.co.nz	Tues 7pm	
Kiwi (KIW)	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	07 846 7422	scrabilfuss@xtra.co.nz	Thurs 7pm/1pm alt	
Waikato Phoenix (WKP)	Annette Coombes	07 855 9970		Alt Weds 7pm	
Tauranga (TGA)	Barbara Dunn	07 544 8372	dunnz@kinect.co.nz	Tues 9am	
Rotorua	Ruth Godwin	07 349 6954	rgodwin@xtra.co.nz	Thurs 9am	
Waitara (WTA)	Ngaire Kemp	06 754 4017		Wed 1pm	
New Plymouth (NPL)	Lynne Butler	06 755 2134	scrabblyn@clear.net.nz	Saturday	
Pukekura (PUK)	Mary Waite	06 757 8654		Thurs 9.45am	
Stratford (STR)	Sharon Clarke	06 765 5653	sharontc@xtra.co.nz		
Hastings (HAS)	Yvonne Wilson	06 878 8229	wilsonpad@paradise.net.nz	Tues 1pm	
Wanganui (WAN)	Rosemary Cleary	06 347 1837	rosecleary@hotmail.com	Wed 7pm	
Masterton (MAS)	Hilda Scott	06 378 2663			
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04 569 5433	glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz	Tues 7.30pm	
Kapiti (KAP)	Graeme Brown	04 297 0720	geb@clear.net.nz	Wed 7pm	
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04 387 2581	lynnwood@paradise.net.nz	Tues 7pm	
Nelson (NEL)	Tony Charlton	03 545 1159	tony.charlton@yahoo.co.uk	Wed 7pm	
Christchurch (CHC)	Margaret Lyall	03 332 5963	noelrealest@hotmail.com	Fri 6.45pm Wed 12.45pm	
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	ruthgroffman@hotmail.com	Tues 7pm	
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