

For words



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No. 124 Spring 2016



Tauranga Scrabble Enthusiasts get reddy to celebrate

Also in this issue:

Word Famous in New Zealand:

Tony and Gill Charlton

Trans-Tasman coverage

Poetry Corner

Likeable words

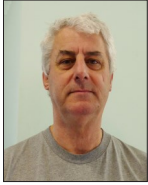
I've been reading:

A Thousand Splendid Suns

The Last Word

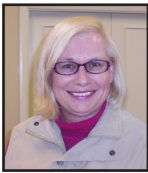
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Editorial

As I write this editorial, I'm sitting on a plane flying home after spending a glorious weekend playing in Kiwi Club's promotion/demotion tournament. I'm typing on my brand new braille computer (called the BrailleNote Touch), an awe-inspiring piece of modern technology that can do practically anything and everything, except perhaps my dishes.

Let me explain that, just before the Rotorua tournament in February this year, I spilled an entire glass of water over my old BrailleNote. This was the braille computer that many of you will have seen me using at tournaments to write down my score and tile track. Incidentally, it was also the device that I used to edit *Forwards* articles, read books, record my children's funny moments, keep track of appointments, and so forth. Unfortunately, with one momentary lapse of attention, my BrailleNote, like Hamlet's Ophelia, went to a watery grave.

Naturally, I hoped that things were not as dire as they first appeared, and that perhaps it could be fixed at a reasonable price. Sadly, the specialists in Christchurch declared my BrailleNote officially dead. It could only be resurrected with the application of around NZ\$4,000 (no, that number of zeros is not a misprint!). However, I was assured by the experts that it would be much more advisable to buy an entirely new unit, since any repairs would be temporary, lasting me only 12-18 months at best. However, the price tag on a new BrailleNote was a whopping NZ\$6,700. My insurance company was adamant that it would only cover the NZ\$4,000 repair bill.

So, there I was, unable to read (and any book-lover knows how devastating that is), unable to play Scrabble properly (scoring and tracking being integral parts of playing Scrabble), and doing a barely adequate job of editing *Forwards*, using a borrowed dinosaur of a computer that couldn't even read Word documents.

It was all looking a bit grim, but this is where the Scrabble part of my editorial comes in. Denise Gordon, one of my clubmates from Wanganui, suggested that I could try raising the necessary funds on GiveALittle.co.nz, a website that helps people with crowdfunding for personal projects. I decided to try her suggestion, not holding out much hope that I'd actually get the full amount I needed on top of the insurance payout to buy a brand new BrailleNote. However, I thought that, even if I raised NZ\$500, that would be better than nothing.

So I wrote up my sob story for my GiveALittle page, allowing four weeks for the project to run, as I thought it would take at least that long to achieve my modest goal of NZ\$500.

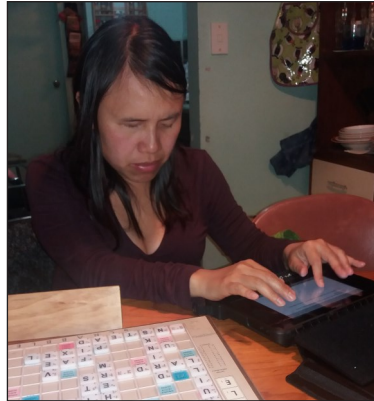
But, to my utter astonishment, I achieved the target of the full NZ\$3000 within the first 36 hours. Not only that, but the donations kept coming in even after the target had been reached so that, eventually, I received a total of NZ\$4200! What was particularly heartwarming to me was the fact that the majority of those donations came from Scrabblers, both familiar and unknown to me. Donations came in from people from Singapore, the US, and Australia, and from all over New Zealand of course.

I was simply overwhelmed, not only by the number of donations, but by the lovely messages that often accompanied them. In general, I'm proud to call myself a Scrabbler, and I relish telling people that I play competitive Scrabble, if only to hear them stumbling over how to respond. But it's times like this that I realise just how blessed I am to be part of such a kind, caring, and generous community. Scrabble has not only given me a great deal of pleasure and intellectual challenge since I joined a club 15 years ago, but it has given me so many fantastic friends.

So thank you everybody for helping me get back on my technological feet. Thank you Denise for coming up with the GiveALittle idea in the first place; thank you to everyone who posted my plea on their social media accounts;

and thank you to everyone who donated. At a time when I really needed the help, you all turned up; and that, Zyzzyva, is the definition of good friends.

Olivia Godfrey



Olivia and her BrailleNote



Congratulations to Lynn Wood, who achieved 4000 tournament games at the recent 11th hour tournament

President's report

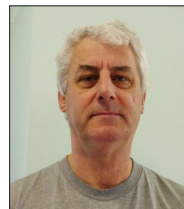
Exciting times lie ahead, with Christchurch confirmed to host the World Senior Scrabble Champs on 21-23 November 2017. We are in the early stages of organisation, but I encourage NZASP members 55 years of age or over to enter - this is the most high-profile tournament New Zealand will host since the Trans-Tasman Challenge in Wellington 2014 (so, arguably ever!), and we'll be endeavouring to ensure that it doesn't slip under the radar.

We are also looking to set up a Bay of Islands tournament in 2017, thanks to benefactor/ sponsor Paul Rowland of the Bounty Motel, Paihia, who is enthusiastic about hosting a NZASP-sanctioned tournament. Our VP Ruth Groffman has liaised initially with Paul and everything looks promising - there'll be more info once we have firmed up the details.

Some outstanding performances, both upcoming and recent:

- In her 15th game at the recent 11th Hour Tournament being hosted by Liz Fagerlund and Lyres Freeth in late November, Lynn Wood achieved 4,000 tournament games. Lynn is one of the kindest and most supportive NZASP members, and has competed come hell or high water in so many tourneys over the last 30 years. In her most recent display of devotion to the cause, at considerable personal expense, Lynn stepped into the NZ team for the Trans-Tasman, after another team member was forced to withdraw at the last minute.
- One of our youngest top-raters, Lyres Freeth, played with distinction at the Trans-Tasman, finishing only

a half game off first place. The top spot was taken by Australia's excellent Alastair Richards (the baby-faced veteran, or as I prefer to call him, the baby-faced assassin!). Lyres is tipped as NZ Scrabble's possible first-ever "Mistress" (that's the as-yet-hypothetical female winner of the Masters Holdson Shield).



Paul Lister

I have been adjudicating at some recent tournaments, and still find shortfalls in my knowledge. In both the Nationals at Rotorua (countback rule or no countback rule?) and the Canterbury Open (clock malfunctioned halfway through game unnoticed by either player), I've had sticky situations where I'm by no means certain that my adjudication was correct. In the end, an agreed and signed results slip has to be given to the scorer, but I need to spend more time clarifying rules and their interpretations with Liz Fagerlund!

We're always looking to grow the player base for Scrabble in New Zealand and it was pleasing to be approached by Nick Ivanovski, the Chair of Promotions at WESPA, to whom we intend to submit our ideas on how to best engage grassroots players.

Big thanks to Whangarei, Tauranga, Kiwi, and Wellington clubs for well-run tournaments in recent months. My last tournament for the year was Mt. Albert, which took place on 1-2 October. It seems a long time till the next one, but I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again at tournaments in 2017.

Word famous in New Zealand



Tony and Gill Charlton

A week after the Nationals, Tony and Gill Charlton spent a few days in Auckland prior to embarking on a 10-day cruise to New Caledonia and Vanuatu. They were kind enough to invite me to interview them during this time. Over decadent hot chocolates and luscious desserts, we talked non-stop for almost three hours, to be able to present Forwards readers with the following profile.

Tony was granted New Zealand citizenship when, in the early 1980s, he was invited to join a NZ mountaineering expedition to Tibet, which had been closed for a long time due to the Chinese occupation. Recalling this adventure he says, "Our peak was just under 8,000ft. They gave us a picture of the mountain, but they weren't very forthcoming with maps. We used a combination of an old Survey of India map, a satellite photo, and a map we found in a Japanese alpine club report. We had to explore for several weeks to find a route up, because nothing was known about how to climb this peak.



Tony and Gill Charlton on the Hauraki Rail Trail

We didn't use porters, but we did have yaks to carry our supplies - but only up to our Advanced Base Camp, a good day's walk from Base Camp". Tony was one of the eight climbers to reach the summit.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlton both hail originally from England, he from Yorkshire and she from Surrey. They met in NZ at a U3A (University of the Third Age) study group on 'writing your life story'. Gill had been a participant for some time, and describes waiting one day for the last newcomer to arrive: "We could hear this funny 'bang bang bang' noise coming up the stairs..." It turned out to be Tony, recovering from hip replacement surgery and still on crutches. As the group shared their stories, Gill recounted a tramping experience, and mountaineer Tony pricked up his ears. Later, over morning tea, Tony mentioned that he was going for a walk to the Centre of New Zealand (which apparently is a perfectly rational claim when you're in Nelson - it's the name of a hill which was used as the geographic centre when New Zealand was first mapped). He invited others to join him and Gill accepted. As she put it, "the fact that he was just off his crutches meant that he walked slowly, and that gave us plenty of time to talk and get to know each other".

Since that first leisurely walk, the couple have progressed to many more strenuous forms of exercise together, such as square dancing, round dancing, and cycling, including a two-week ride from Adelaide to Melbourne.



Tony and Gill dressed up for the Great Gatsby party on their cruise, June 2016

Tony himself has completed the Coast to Coast multisport challenge a total of four times. This is a two-day event starting at Kumara beach on the West Coast and finishing at Sumner beach in Christchurch, and it incorporates running, cycling, and kayaking. In his first year, Tony felt he was too amateur a kayaker, so he invited an acquaintance to do that leg of the race for him. During the following year, Tony worked on his kayaking to bring himself up to speed for the next race. He was the fifth place-getter in the “veteran” category that year, and by finishing the event inside of fifteen hours, he qualified to enter the one-day event the following year, which he also successfully completed.

Both Tony and Gill are experienced Science teachers. Newly arrived from England to a post at Southland Girls’ High School, Invercargill, Tony was surprised to discover that, in addition to his specialty, chemistry, he was also expected to teach general science and, even worse, mathematics!

Another occupational link between the couple is that both were employed by Mitre 10 during the summer in which they became engaged.

Gill was a long-term part-time employee in the garden centre while Tony was filling a seasonal vacancy. She describes how her coworkers, thrilled with the couple’s happy news, announced over the in-store intercom, “Gill’s just gotten engaged... to Father Christmas!”

Tony has also worked as the chief chemist for a freezing works in Southland. While there he developed a process for extracting glycosaminoglycans from sheep placentas. Glycosaminoglycans contain ingredients that are important in the cosmetics industry, but perhaps more interesting to Scrabblers is the fact that the abbreviation, GLYCAN/S, is allowable.

Before his move to NZ, Tony also spent two years teaching in an English-medium boys’ school in an outer suburb of Nairobi, Kenya, for a British aid agency. The work was not as stressful as teaching in England or NZ because the students were motivated learners, and the pay was good, as his local currency salary (equivalent to what the local teachers were paid) was also topped up in tax-free pounds sterling by the UK government. But, best of all for an outdoor person like Tony, were the mountains.



Tony and an amorous emu at the Corrumbin Wildlife Sanctuary

He has climbed Mt. Kenya about 13 times, by 13 different routes, as well as Kilimanjaro, and many of the cliffs a bit closer to Nairobi. On his first attempt on Kilimanjaro, he ended up camping in the bush, with a fierce leopard prowling around for most of the night!

Imagine Tony's delight when, at his first-ever Scrabble Nationals in Wellington, he met a Kenyan lady. She was happy to share with him her knowledge of allowable Scrabble words from her country, where Swahili is widely spoken. These words included JOMO (the nickname of the first president of Kenya); MZEE (a term of respect for an older person, which was widely used for that first president); UHURU (meaning freedom) and MWALIMU (meaning a teacher).

Tony's love of Scrabble began, like so many of us, with playing with his family in his youth. Later he participated in the non-affiliated Invercargill Club. After that disbanded, the IT teacher at the school where Tony worked set him up to play Scrabble against the computer. In 2001, having moved to Nelson to buy the lease on a motel, Tony was on a holiday in Norfolk Island which just happened to coincide with their Festival of Scrabble. He couldn't resist going along to check out the tournament, and managed a few games against people who were having a bye. He got chatting to Jeff Grant about his interest in Scrabble, and was given a copy of *Forwards*, which gave him the contact details for the Nelson Club, and he has been there ever since.

Relative newcomer Gill claims she's not as energetic about Scrabble as her husband, but she's gradually slotting it in around her existing hobbies (which include singing in a choir, playing violin in an orchestra, and watercolour painting). "I'm too much of a teacher, always wanting to help people improve,

I'm not competitive enough", she tells me. Her first tournament was an anxious experience, with her hands shaking so badly she found it difficult to pick up tiles. For Gill, Scrabble has been "not exactly social", but she is motivated by seeing her average score increasing each time.

Citing an example of a time when an opponent refused to deduct a time penalty because "I have to score over 300!", Gill would like to see rules clarified for newbies by the Director before each tournament starts, or perhaps a printout available from the website on "What you need to know before your first Scrabble tournament". Gill gratefully acknowledges the assistance of her friend Ruth Groffman with sorting out discrepancies in scoring, rules interpretation, and club management. She was a little less appreciative of the advice offered to her by her opponent at the end of her first tournament game: "you just have to learn to put the big letters on the premium squares!"



Tony and Mt. Ngauruhoe on the Tongariro Crossing

The Trans-Tasman Challenge 2016

At the beginning of August, 10 intrepid Kiwis journeyed to Adelaide for the Trans-Tasman Challenge. The draw this time was a single 25-game round robin, with the idea being that as Australia's home team advantage would be considerable, they should have to play against each other as well as us weaker flightless birds from across the ditch. Regardless of format, it did not go well for New Zealand; as I recall Australia's win (ultimately 96-64 of the "us vs. them" games) was unassailable by approximately three quarters of the way through the tournament. See <http://scrabble.org.au/events/16TT/index.html> for player profiles, action photos, and round-by-round results, and read on for three NZ players' accounts of their experiences in South Australia.

From the turncoat

by Nick Cavenagh, Kiwi

Maybe it's the sense of mild treachery (as I'm an Australian citizen), but I have very much enjoyed the three Trans-Tasman challenges I've played. I'd never been to Adelaide before - my expectations weren't high, but I found it to be a delightful city. The centre is beautifully laid out in a grid fashion, with sweeping East-West views up to the Adelaide hills. With wide pavements, roads and girded by parks, the CBD is relaxed and yet lively.

It might be different if New Zealand started winning the competitions again, but my old Aussie comrades are fun to catch up with at these events. I asked Trevor Tao whether he was related to the famous Australian mathematician Terry Tao — surely not, but in fact they are brothers. Terry is arguably Australia's most prominent mathematician, but he didn't grab all the good genes; as well as being a top-ranked Scrabble player, Trevor is number one in South Australia in chess, and has a PhD in mathematics to boot.

Trevor pointed out to me that all the anagrams of COAT can be arranged to form a 4x4 grid so that each row and column is a word and each letter appears once in each row and once in each column.

Like a sudoku puzzle, this is a type of Latin square, which is what I research as an academic! So here you go:

**TACO
ATOC
COAT
OCTA**

Can it be done with five letters??

I thought I was doing well to play UNDERSTANDS for a bonus around TAN which was already on the board, then Daniel Piechnick (I think) told me how he once extended CILL already on the board to OSCILLATION. Never to be outdone, the flamboyant Russell Honeybun told me he had played UNCOMPUTERIZED (extending computer I suppose but I'm not sure), making a 14-letter word which is a record.

When you challenge a false bonus *ZONATE off the board while Esther Perrins is your opponent, you realise it is important to forgive yourself for mistakes. However it was poor of me not to realise that I could block OZONATE / ENTOZOA on her next move by placing down one tile. Never mind, I won another game later in the tournament by playing OZONATED.

I was proud to find some rare (for me) bonuses like TSOORIS and DORMERS, less proud to play *ETS, and the doubly unappetising *PIDE and *PINO against Lawson!

Although the Australian team had impressive word knowledge, some gave away too many points in challenges, or allowed us to get away with phonies. Many Australian tournaments are not played with five-point challenges, so the NZ team's familiarity with that rule conferred a small advantage. Well done to the Aussies though; they beat us very solidly and were an impressive team, very challenging and rewarding to play.

Lynn did a marvellous job for NZ by being a last-minute replacement for poor Joanne who was sick. Moreover, she came up with not one but two draws, and certainly held her own at the tournament. The Kiwi star of the three days however was my hero Lyres, who came second overall on a remarkable 19.5 wins, just half a game behind the overall winner Alastair Richards.

From the sacrificial virgin

by Anderina McLean, Mt. Albert

It has taken me two weeks even to be able to contemplate writing up my inaugural Trans-Tasman Challenge experience. During that interval I have been indulging in the worst sulk of my Scrabble career, a period during which I wondered whether I would ever again feel that special frisson that only the jiggle of *protiles can generate. Initially I was irked that my high school friends had chosen for their wedding date the same weekend as the Kiwi tournament (one weekend after the Trans-Tasman); by the end of my time in Adelaide, I was glad I had a watertight excuse *not* to play more Scrabble in the foreseeable future. It's probably a good thing I had already entered for the Tauranga tournament (in which I redeemed myself a fortnight later) before I left for Australia, otherwise I might never have found my way back into the saddle.

Why the pout-pout face? In case you missed it, I finished last. Dead last. The very bottom of the heap.



Trans Tasman players. L-R: John Holgate, Rocky Sharma, Stephen Mooney-Pursell, Nick Cavenagh (behind), Nick Ivanovski, Lyres Freeth, Trevor Tao, Murray Rogers (behind), Lawson Sue, Howard Warner, Lynn Wood, Ron Baginski, Patrick Carter, Liz Fagerlund, Adam Kretschmer, Daniel Piechnick, Glennis Hale, Alastair Richards (hidden), Russell Honeybun, Karen Richards, Esther Perrins, Victor Tung, Anderina McLean, Tony Hunt, Bob Jackman. Absent: Michael Cameron

So far down below every single one of my 25 co-competitors that, when the final results were projected onto a screen in the breakout room, my name was lost among the murky shadows outside of the spotlight area.

I won five out of 25 games (a mere 20%), with more than half of those wins being against my fellow Kiwis (cheers for that, oh teammates with names beginning with L who are older than me!). After my first taste of Aussie blood, I endured a losing streak almost as long as an entire typical NZ tournament. And my losses tended to be whoppers: only eight out of 20 were by margins smaller than a hundred, and half of the remainder were by margins within ten points of 200 (and as often as not, on the undesirable side of 200 at that)! In a New Zealand tournament, my average score is typically between 395-410. In the 2016 Trans-Tasman Challenge, I attained the distinguished mean score of 355.4, with a median of just 333.5.

45 bonus words were played against me, and not that many of them were actually unfamiliar to me (BRIGALOW, FLIVVER, USTULATE). I managed to play a mere 29 bonus words, a quarter of which contained no E, as possibly the number one thing that went wrong with my tournament was that I could not pick up useful vowels. I did try to do all the right things: keep turning over tiles, maintain a positive attitude (“so I only won one game on Day One? That’s OK, there’s still 17 more games to go, the only way is up!”) But I defy anybody to find a silver lining when you’ve lost nine games in a row, and the first rack you draw to start the next game is BCGLMQS. Literally not a single play possible. Change six, keep the S. Opponent replies with REPLIES for 72. True story.

I had had a couple of weeks off work prior to the tournament, plus several hours of solo flight and transit time to get to Adelaide, so I had been doing heaps of preparation in the lead-up to the tournament. Of course I hadn’t covered *everything* I would have liked to revise, but I had made a decent attempt to cover many bases: high-probability seven- and eight-letter words; five-letter words containing J, K, Q, X, Z; front- and back- hooks onto all three-letter words starting with vowels... yet I don’t think there was a single instance in the tournament when I thought, “huzzah! I know that for certain because of all the study I did last week”. Confident knowledge of high-probability words doesn’t count for much when your rack consistently has no E’s.

OK, enough moping. So I had a downer. I don’t mean to suggest that my inaugural Trans-Tasman experience was entirely negative. There were many good points: from the customs guy who high-fived me at Auckland airport when I told him I was off to compete in Australia, to the complimentary FruChocs (official icon of South Australia since 2005!)

I even received a nice souvenir pen to mark the occasion. Also, I was delighted to be staying with good friends in Adelaide, who did an excellent job of distracting me from my despondency during the evenings.

I also need to make a brief mention of the well-attended side tournaments during the weekend. Mary Grey from Mt. Albert was the only New Zealander to take advantage of this opportunity for some more international Scrabble experience. While we Trans-Tasman competitors were all frightfully focussed and serious, the side tournament players contended for spot prizes with words beginning with each of the letters K, I, W, O, L, A.

The *KIWOLA is the hypothetical hybrid of KIWI and KOALA, and thus a fitting mascot for the Trans-Tasman challenge.

As ever, the major highlight for me will be getting to know more people. Karen and Alastair Richards have become familiar, thanks to their occasional visits to New Zealand tournaments during the last few years. Then there were a few I had played in the Open grade in Perth last November, and other bright stars I had seen shining in the Championship grade. Still, many of the Australian team were only names to me when I joined the NZ team, whereas now I can put a face to those names. I was actually quite pleased, going into the Trans-Tasman, that I didn't know many of the Australian players, so I wouldn't be intimidated by their reputation. So maybe I didn't show them exactly what I was made of this time, but that'll make me a good "secret" weapon for the next time we meet, when my luck must surely be better.

From the star

by Lyres Freeth, *Independent*

When the Trans-Tasman team was announced, I was one of the first Kiwis to confirm my availability and encourage other qualifiers to attend. Because I missed out on going to the Worlds in 2015, this was to be my first overseas Scrabble tournament, and I was both excited and apprehensive about how it would go.

The first two days after arriving in Adelaide involved seeing the local attractions before the three-day tournament got underway. This included sampling the local food market, catching the tram to Rundle Mall, and the art gallery. A group of us also hired a car for a day trip to explore the surrounding countryside to the north of Adelaide.

The one disappointment for me was finding out that Adelaide is just as cold as New Zealand in winter.

As far as the Scrabble went, Day One resulted in a very

tough draw for me, paired against the top four Australians and top two Kiwis. By the end of the day I survived with five wins out of eight games, which I was definitely pleased about.

On Day Two I managed to win all of my games against Australian players. It was two of my games against Kiwi players that gave me grief that day. I lost to Liz Fagerlund by one point, then drew with Lynn Wood in the final game of the day. As it turns out, I was quite pleased with a draw, as I came from behind to bonus out with VENTINGS (68) which I wasn't sure of but Lynn didn't challenge. If she had challenged I would have got five extra points to win the game, as VENTINGS is correct.

Going into Day Three I was placed fourth, but I thought I might have a chance of finishing well as a few of the people ranked above me had yet to play each other. Again, I managed to win all my games against Australian players, and the one game I lost was to a Kiwi – Murray Rogers. It was encouraging to see my name near the top of the leader board after every game. At first I was just aiming to be one of the highest-finishing Kiwis, but I never imagined that I would end up in second place by the end of the tournament. Overall the 2016 Trans-Tasman was a fantastic experience and I was proud of having the opportunity to play for New Zealand.



NZ's star performer: 2nd place winner Lyres Freeth

Learning from darts

by Selena Chan, Christchurch

Over the course of several recent tournaments, I have been observing what players concentrate on as they ruminate through their turn. Being a wordy person, I tend to work my rack for combinations of possible words. I take into account rack balance and the possibilities afforded by the board as to what word to play, and only then do I work out scoring possibilities and strategic implications. On the other hand, the numbers-focused Scrabblers seem to work through scoring possibilities first as they churn through word combinations. I often observe players mentally counting off, as they work through which word to play and where to place it. Their formula is "HIGH SCORE plus VALID WORD", whereas my formula is "GOOD WORD plus WHATEVER SCORE EVENTUATES".

Therefore, one of the crucial skills of Scrabbling is the ability to undertake competent arithmetic. However, if you struggle with Scrabble arithmetic, spare a thought for people who play darts. Here is an intriguing study on how darts players learn and apply arithmetic to their game: <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10649-014-9536-4>. The article is titled "*Making abstract mathematics concrete in and out of school*". I came across the article as I was working on writing a journal paper on "*Situated learning and trades-based numeracy*". It's a longish read, so I suggest that you skim through the first three sections to get a gist of the later discussion. Section Four on 'Calculating at the oche: Darts in leisure and work' is the interesting bit. The authors argue for the importance of intrinsic motivation (which they term "scientific motivation") as the key factor in ensuring people become good darts players.

The following are important:

- Firstly, an awareness that the darts players are quite good at maths.
- Secondly, a recognition of the darts players' need to go beyond just being good, but to learn the specific darts-playing arithmetic required. Often, a "breakdown" moment occurred, i.e. finding out they did not know how to proceed at crucial moments in competitions. Doesn't it all sound familiar to us Scrabble players?

Therefore, innate ability and learning by "osmosis" can only get one so far. As the demands of high-level play increase, there is a real need to "up one's game". In the article, the authors state that, in the context of perfecting darts playing, "mathematics must be personally and individually tailored and mastered to achieve a high level of competence".

I think the same advice for darts players applies to Scrabblers. To be a really good Scrabbler means bringing together both word knowledge and arithmetic fluency. Your arithmetic skills need to be agile and accurate, as the ability to quickly total the score of your own turns and check the score of your opponent becomes crucial in high-level play.

It looks like I need to work on my mental arithmetic much more, as my scoring efforts are often corrected by other players. I must thank the kind souls who continually increase my score for me 😊 when they rectify my inaccurate scoring. I have now downloaded a few basic arithmetic apps on to my iPad to practise adding up and multiplication. What I need to work on is speed and accuracy, followed by application to Scrabble play.

Poet's Corner



Poetry seems to be the order of this year's spring. As well as the clerihews contributed by Lyn Toka (see p. 25) and the Tauranga limericks (see pp. 17-18), other poets have been sharpening their pens for your reading pleasure.

First up we have Nick, a published poet of some acclaim. When contributing this item, Nick commented, "I wrote this the other week, and looking back on it, it has the subtle glory required of a Forwards limerick".

The Onus to Bonus

by Nick Ascroft, Wellington

A Scrabbler of dubious class,
with your clock near the end of its glass,
though your letters spell ENFRAME,
you choke on the endgame,
too afraid to not bonus or pass.

Next comes Jeff, who tells us that he was motivated to write these couplets after reading "a series of limericks by Bill Brandt in the August 2016 issue of Word Ways, the Journal of Recreational Linguistics" (which I've contributed to for nearly 40 years)." Let's all hope that Jeff contributes to Forwards for another 40 years too.

A spell of bad luck

by Jeff Grant, Independent

It's over now, I'm feeling fine:
DYSENTERY was first in line.
Next came DIARRHOEA, which was rough,
Followed by PHTHISIS – very tough.

ECZEMA and PTOMAININE weren't so bad,
but MELANCHOLIA made me sad.
HAEMORRHOIDS became a strain,
Then TINNITUS was such a pain.

HIDROSIS made me sweat,
But PERTUSSIS I didn't get.
CATARRH and ASTHMA knocked me back,
and BORBORYGMUS joined the attack.

PORPHYRIA, PLEURISY and PSORIASIS;
Then EMPHYSEMA and SCHISTOSOMIASIS.
HYPEREMESIS made me retch,
and ACROMEGALY was a stretch.

*CREUTZFELDT-*JAKOB drove me mad...
Worst spelling test I ever had!

And finally, we have Nola Borrell, who has obviously been inspired by her Tauranga 2016 experience. Her play with “red” words is truly awe-inspiring.

Reddy? (or not)

by Nola Borrell, Wellington

Tauranga Ruby Scrabble Tournament, 2016. A prize was offered for the best “red” word.

Why, yes, rubies are red
and red’s for magic,
love, and energy too;
it’s luck for Chinese
beauty to Russians
bravery for Greeks.

But red’s the colour of fire,
of blood and of mayhem,
plunder and murder,
and the bull’s red rage.
(If blood is to be spilt,
let it not be mine.)

I want a REDOUT to OUTRED;
a REDDIER word, something

RADDER – REDEYES,

or REDEAR or REDBACK,

REDDLES or RUDDLES.

... But! I am REDUCED to REDOUBT.

I should have known better:

the Cat-in-the-Hat¹ is here
befuddling me with *zlock
and *squitsch and *obsk.

I’m ‘headed, I fear,
toward a most useless place’.²

.. I call for REDRESS! A REDRAW!
I’m OVERRED.



The Cat in the Hat

Definitions:

REDDY: somewhat red. Also
REDDIER.

REDOUT: condition in which blood
is driven to the head.

OUTRED: to surpass in redness.

RADDER: rad - radically trendy.

REDEYES: railroad danger signal.

REDEAR: sunfish.

REDBACK: poisonous spider.

REDDLES, RUDDLES: to colour
with red dye.

REDOUBT: to fear. [A **REDOUBT** -
similar to **REDUIT** - is also a
fortification.]

OVERRED: to paint over in red.

¹ Roto Mitchell wore the tall red and white striped hat of The Cat in the Hat (Dr Seuss).

² ‘The Waiting Place’, Dr Seuss, *Oh, The Places You’ll Go*

“You can get so confused
that you’ll start in to race
down long wiggled roads at a break-necking pace
and grind on for miles across *weirdish wild space,
headed, I fear, toward a most useless place.”

Club News

Ruby brought us all to town

This is the first time in our editorship (11 issues and counting!) that we have featured a picture from an individual club's tournament on the cover of Forwards. But Tauranga's Ruby Anniversary tournament certainly was a special occasion. There were so many extra touches adding to the atmosphere of celebration, from the extra spot prize for the best "red" word (won by Glenda Geard for, would you believe, RUBY!) to the limericks about the players read out before each game (see pp. 17–18 for a sample).

Long-term Tauranga competitors were acknowledged in a brief ceremony on Saturday. Val Mills and Glenda Geard have attended every Tauranga Tournament in the past 20 years. John Foster missed only one of those, on account of having the chicken pox that year. ("You'd have fit in well here this weekend, John", someone quipped. "We could have put him on the spot prize table!" someone else added.)

The cake on the cover was made by current club president Barbara Dunn, and cut by Shirley Morrison, who joined the club in 1976. Read on for Shirley's report of the weekend and the people that contributed to its organisation.

Roses are red...

by Shirley Morrison, Tauranga

Roses are red... and so too was the Ruby Anniversary Tournament held at the Tauranga Bridge Club the weekend of Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th August.

Back in April, the Committee met to brainstorm ideas for the upcoming celebration.

On 31st May, a 'Ruby' morning tea was held for previous and present club members. It was lovely to see the likes of Maurine Sullivan, who was an A grade member way back last century, and who had introduced Shirley Bonthron and myself to our first tournament in Hamilton.

Prior to the event, we gained publicity from our local newspapers, headed 'Heady World of Competitive Scrabble', quoting Barack Obama, Mel Gibson, and mentioning that even the Queen dabbles in Scrabble!

A field of 74 competitors, familiar and new faces alike, joined in the Ruby tournament. The Bridge Club building was decorated with red balloons and streamers, and we were delighted to see so many players also turn up wearing red. After Barbara welcomed everyone, there was the 'Ruby Year Tauranga Scrabble Club Song', presented by Heather Landon, Ruth Godwin and Chris Ingram with their ukuleles accompanied by the two 'Shirleys', to the tune of *Ruby, don't take your love to town*.

Morning and afternoon teas consisted of, you guessed it, red based food! Limericks written by Chris Day, about some of the players present, brought many a laugh. Barbara our President is to be congratulated for her wonderful organisational skills: she oversaw photo boards, memorabilia going back 40 years, making the anniversary cake, as well as hosting a billet. Of course the rest of the Committee did a wonderful array of jobs as well. Well done team!

TAURANGA CLUB TURNS 40

Ruby Year Tauranga Scrabble Club Song

*We've painted up our wrinkled lips, and curled our tinted hair.
Our Ruby anniversary is the reason we're all here
The red balloons on the wall, tell us why we're renowned
Oh Ruby you've brought us all to town.*

*It's forty years since we began, to play this crazy game
We are proud to be the first, that's our claim to fame
And yes it's true, we're never blue, as we used to be
Oh Ruby, you've given us company.*

*It's hard to stay away from the game we idolise
It fills the needs of any age, that is no surprise
We're glad to see you gathered here
We need you all around
Oh Ruby, you've brought us all to town
Oh Ruby, we're all on common ground.*



Almost-founding member Shirley Morrison cuts the anniversary cake.

Jeff Grant, of Scrabble folklore,
Knows bingos will increase his score
I'm sure he'll be buzzin'
With bingos by the dozen
So to beat him, you'll need to get more.

A Rotorua Scrabbler named **Janny**
Said, "I win a few games, but lose many.
It has to be reckoned
English language is second
I'd be champ in Holland or Germany."

Barbara Dunn plays Scrabble for pleasure
And runs our club for good measure.
So much time given freely
For the good of all. Really
She now deserves a break for some leisure.

Smart **Rosalind's** a Scrabbl'er of skill
 Played endlessly till she fell ill.
 The doctor predicted
 she's Scrabble addicted!
 - Not something that's cured with a pill.



Scrabble with **Pat Hardman** is fun
 She laughs before play has begun.
 Then again at the start
 And right up to the part
 Where she giggles and tells you she's won.

*Seeing red... Tauranga really, well,
 painted the town red with their
 decorations, and most competitors were
 only too happy to follow suit.*

A frazzled young Scrabbl'er named **Val**
 Said, "I've just played a game straight from hell
 My letters were rotten,
 My brain's turned to cotton.
 On such games it's best not to dwell."



*Competitors from this year who also attended
 Tauranga's Decade tournament in 1986 (L-R):
 Annette Coombes, Roger Coates, Lynne Powell,
 John Foster (behind), Lyn Toka, Carole Coates,
 Shirley Morrison, Lynn Wood.*

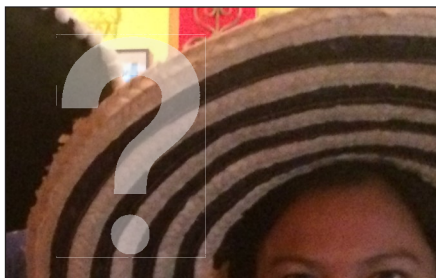
*A closeup of one of many
 delectable red treats to eat
 provided by the club.*

Guess Who??

During Wellington's Swiss Draw tournament in mid-September, a number of contestants elected to dine out. The chosen venue was a delightful Mexican restaurant nearby in Newtown. Can you spot which familiar gringos' faces are hidden beneath these impressive sombreros?

Answers on p. 35.

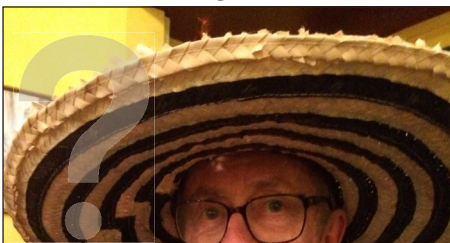
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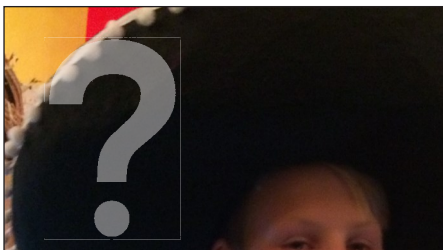
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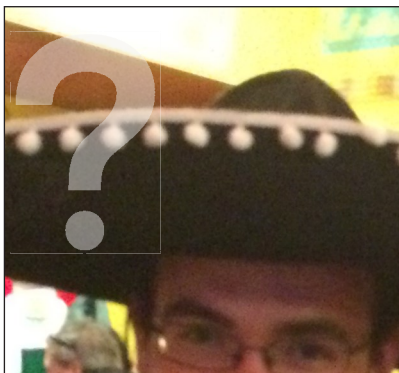
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6



7



Likeable words

O₁

Has anybody noticed how the word “LIKE” has recently morphed into a filler syllable? Once upon a time “LIKE” used to be a word that one used to express a general feeling of approbation, as in “I LIKE coediting *Forwards* with Anderina”, or to compare one thing to another as in “Producing an issue of *Forwards* is LIKE giving birth; it involves a lot of labour”. More recently, it is a verb used to describe the

action of acknowledging a friend’s post on Facebook (note, though, that you can “LIKE” a post even when it’s actually not particularly good news, for instance, “OMG, my opponent just beat me by 400 points!”).

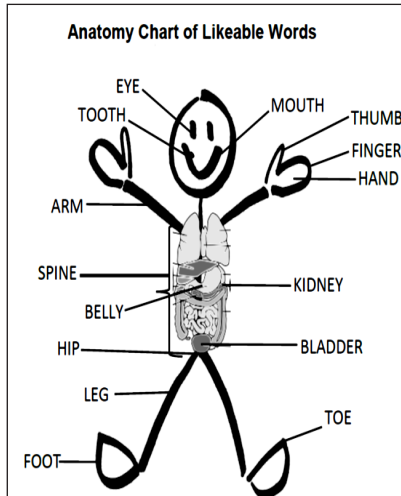
Nowadays, however, people seem to be using “LIKE” in the way you might use the words “UM” and “ER”, as in “I was, LIKE, working and he, LIKE, comes up behind me and, LIKE, pulls my ponytail!” I have to admit that I have always rather snobbily scoffed at “LIKE” being used this way but, much to my mortification, I recently caught myself saying “There were, LIKE, only two tiles left in the bag...”.

Now, on the grounds that one ought to take it like a woman and admit when something has you beaten, I’ve

decided to embrace the word “LIKE”, and what more fitting way to like “LIKE” better than to make it work for you in Scrabble? So I looked up all the words that end in “-LIKE”, such as CHILDLIKE, and GHOSTLIKE, and so forth. I was astonished to discover that there are, in fact, over 600 words that follow this pattern. A good 10 percent of those are related to animals.

Besides ANIMALLIKE and BEASTLIKE, all domesticated animals can be likened, so if CAT, DOG, COW, OX, SHEEP, HORSE, ASS (that’s the HORSELIKE creature, not the body part that you cover with your knickers), CAMEL, COCK (I am assuming here the BIRDLIKE creature, not the body part), HEN, GOAT, or PIG are on the board, you can -LIKE them all. Additionally, wilder creatures such as CIVETS, LIONS, TIGERS, WHALES, WOLVES, SPIDERS, WORMS, and so many others can be -LIKED.

I realise that, so far, I’ve poured cold water over liking a couple of body parts but, rest assured, you can -LIKE most of the external organs of your body. Just check out the diagram of the human body and you’ll see what I mean. Internal organs are a bit more hit and miss so, while you can have BLADDERLIKE, BLOODLIKE,



GLANDLIKE, GUTLIKE, KIDNEYLICK, RIBLIKE, SINUSLIKE, SPINELIKE, AND WOMBLIKE, you can't, for example, -LIKE your BRAIN, HEART, LUNGS, or LIVER.

While fauna is by far the largest category of likeable nouns, floral words are pretty likeable too. It is perhaps not too surprising that you can have FLOWERLIKE, STEMLIKE, and TREELIKE, but for the life of me I can't understand why you would need to get so specific as to describe something as being LILYLIKE, PLUMLIKE, SPINACHLIKE, or TULIPLIKE.

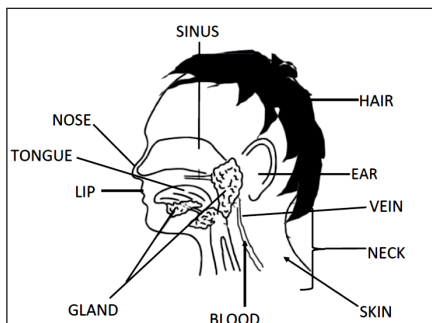
Perhaps even more interesting than the words you can -LIKE are the ones that you can't. For instance, you would have thought that the reason nouns such as ARROW, GLUE, and TOMB can be likened is because they are particularly distinctive in shape, characteristic, or function (glue is peculiarly sticky, arrows are not only uniquely shaped but are distinctively fast and mono-directional, and you only ever use a tomb for one thing). But if being distinctive is the rationale for making a word likeable, why wouldn't you allow for something *GIRAFFELIKE, *ELEPHANTLIKE, or *ZEBRALIKE? After all, there's nothing quite like an elephant's trunk, a giraffe's neck or a zebra's stripes.

Then there are the words UNCHRISTIANLIKE, and UNSCHOLARLIKE which, inexplicably, don't have a positive equivalent, implying that neither a Christian nor a scholar are likeable. Incidentally, while we're on the subject of likeable nouns that you can't have, it seems that you can both be WIFELIKE and UNWIFELIKE, but

you can only be HUSBANDLIKE, apparently it's not possible to be unlike a husband. In a similar vein, you can -LIKE your son but not your daughter.

There is one more category of likeable words that I find particularly interesting, and this is what I call the human function category. These are words that compare something (or more likely someone) to a person with a particular job or function. Again, as with all these likeable words, what professions you can -LIKE seems to be quite unpredictable. Thus, you can be ALDERMANLIKE (though, strangely, not *MAYORLIKE), COURTIERLIKE, DETECTIVELIKE, POETLIKE, and SAILORLIKE, amongst other things. Given that these professions are likeable, let's hope that those who are lucky enough to find employment in these fields actually like their jobs.

And finally, I can't conclude this article without pointing out something very important to our readership. When you're stuck for inspiration, look around at your equipment and recall that BAG, BOARD, CLOCK, and TILE are all likeable, but you can never ever -LIKE your RACK!



Likeable words of the head

Hall of Fame

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi

Hi.

I'm Lorena, and I'm an unusual subject for the *Hall of Fame*, in more ways than one. For a start, I'm still alive. Most *Hall of Fame* subjects are well and truly dead – not many eponyms get to become acceptable Scrabble words in their person's lifetime!

I was born in Ecuador in 1970, and from the age of 19, I was married to a brute of a man for six years. We lived in Virginia in the USA. In that time, John subjected me to sexual, physical and emotional abuse, flaunted his infidelities, and even forced me to have an abortion.

One night in 1993, I reached the end of my tether. Just a few hours after he had drunkenly raped me, I got out of bed, went to the kitchen and grabbed a knife. When I came back into our bedroom, I hacked off his entire penis at its base.

You can imagine what the newspapers made of this! "While John lay bleeding on the bed", I "roared off" from our apartment with what they called John's "severed body part". After a while, I opened the car window and "hurled" it into a field "for the buzzards to find". It was "a cut felt around the world".

When I had calmed down a bit, I realised the severity of my crime, and stopped and called 911. John's penis was found after an exhaustive search, and it was reattached in the hospital where he was being treated, in an operation that took nine and a half hours.

I was arrested, needless to say. The police taped my initial interview, where I said: "He always have orgasm, and he doesn't wait for me to have orgasm." Of course, that wasn't the real reason, but the incident struck a chord with the public, which lapped up every lurid detail. The legal case that followed ran from 1993 to 1994, during which time our relationship was constantly in the headlines.

Within days of the incident, anti-domestic violence advocates and some feminist groups rallied around me, and I became a symbol for abused wives everywhere, focusing national attention on the issue of marital rape and domestic violence. John denied my abuse claims, of course, and he was later acquitted of rape, but he so turned off the jury that they needed just seven hours to find me not guilty of malicious wounding by reason of insanity. I was ordered to attend a mental hospital for 45 days to be assessed.

Meanwhile, our case sparked a flurry of jokes, limericks, T-shirt slogans, advertising gimmicks and an urban legend that I had been killed in a car accident because "some prick cut her off".

Most men at that point would have crawled into a hole to hide. But John Wayne Bobbitt was not "most men"!

After the incident, he attempted to generate money from his renown by forming a band, *The Severed Parts*, to pay his mounting medical and legal bills, but the band was unsuccessful and failed to generate enough money.

He later appeared in two porno (so-called “adult”) films, *John Wayne Bobbitt: Uncut*, and *John Wayne Bobbitt's Frankenpenis*. Interviewed on the set, John said he was determined to “basically show everybody that I’m healed and fully functional.”

He moved to Las Vegas where he worked as a bartender, limo driver, mover, pizza delivery driver, tow truck operator, and even had a stint serving at a wedding chapel as a minister of a Universal Life Church.

But he continued to treat women like crap. He served two weeks in jail in 1994 for beating up his then fiancée, and a decade later, he was convicted of abusing the third woman who was foolish enough to marry him. He was busted a half-dozen times for everything from assault to grand larceny. In 2014, he was severely injured when he broke his neck in a vehicle accident.

After the trial, I tried to keep a low profile by using my maiden name. Unfortunately, I blotted my copybook, and made news when I was charged with assault for punching my mother.



But I was found not guilty, and Mom continued to live with me. I currently work as a hair stylist in Virginia.

I suppose I was not “most women”, either! As *The Daily Mail* described me, I was “a frustrated Virginia housewife” who “grabbed a kitchen knife and turned the name Bobbitt into a verb by slicing off her drunken husband’s penis”.

That’s another thing that’s different about this Hall of Fame: most eponymous words are nouns – for example (from previous articles), clerihew(s), graham(s), fagin(s), gamp(s), curie(s), judas(es), titian(s), etc. – but I’ve been the inspiration for a verb that means to cut off the penis of a lover. You can play BOBBITT, BOBBITTS, BOBBITTED and BOBBITTING. Please remember me when you do.

[The name “Bobbitt worm” was coined in the 1996 book *Coral Reef Animals of the Indo-Pacific*, in reference to the scissor-like jaws of an aquatic predatory worm dwelling at the ocean floor. The animal buries its long body into an ocean bed where it waits until it senses prey. Armed with sharp teeth, it is known to attack with such speed that its prey is sometimes sliced in half. The common supposition from the name that the females cut off the males’ penises is baseless, as the worms in fact lack penises entirely. *BOBBIT is not a Scrabble word, though.

One more thing that you may find useful: should you one day have enough things on your rack to almost make BOBBITT, except you have an A instead of an O, you can play BABBITT, a soft anti-friction alloy tin.]

Mailbox



Suzanne Harding (Whangarei) responded to editorial pressure, and kindly provided the following write-up of her experiences of this year's unrated Pakuranga Mall tournament:

An early getaway was needed on the foggy morning of Saturday 18 June. With Cicely at the wheel, and Anne Scatchard and myself as passengers, we left Whangarei just before 7:45a.m. South of Warkworth the fog disappeared, but Auckland looked grey and we thought it was a good day for Scrabble in the Pakuranga Mall.



Suzanne Harding

With Val Mills at the helm the tourney was well-organised, and upon our arrival we had plenty of time to meet and greet, arrange our boards, and get ourselves in order. I counted 20 players in all. Mt. Albert, Pakuranga and Papatoetoe Clubs were well-represented. Additionally there was one independent, two members of the public, and the three of us.

We began by playing two games starting at 10:45a.m., stopped for a lunch break, and finished off with three games in the afternoon. Passersby stopped to watch, and one or two came into our roped-off area to observe games more closely. The adjacent food hall enticed some of us, and we three enjoyed our Indian lunch with freshly-made naan bread very much.

The Mall donated the prizes, which were \$400 worth of vouchers for each day's competition. Our Cicely topped the prize list on that Saturday with five wins and the best spread. John Foster, also with five wins, came second, Pam Barlow was third on another five wins, Lawson Sue was next with four wins, and Su Walker was fifth with another four wins. Anderina had the day's best word – JUICERS for 112 points. Flicidad won a prize as the highest-scoring non-rated player. After the prize-giving Anne and I had time to look around while Cicely used her winning voucher at Farmers.

We drove away from the Mall about 5:30p.m. A good trip back to Whangarei, the time passing (as other Scrabblers will understand) with much discussion about our games, the words we used or should have used, and the challenges made. Overall it was a good day's Scrabble, and the Pakuranga Mall's publicity and backing should certainly have aroused some interest about our fascinating game.



Players at the Pakuranga Mall Tournament

In our previous issue, we published some examples of clerihews (and we trust that none of our readers can ever forget that word now!). We noticed that we were lacking in South Island examples, and our perennial contestant from Kiwi Lyn Toka has contributed a few more:

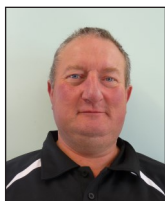


Lyn Toka

Ruth Groffman
Is often
Promoting youth Scrabble in malls
Or school halls.

Malcolm Graham
Says "When straying
To Christchurch, by car or airborne,
For the Nats, come to the Sherborne".

.....
And speaking of Malcolm Graham (of Christchurch, who did not arrive at the Wanganui tournament as expected), on the Sunday of Labour weekend he sent the editors the following email, with the heading How to make a tit of yourself without really trying:

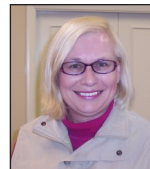


Malcolm Graham

I have a little advice for Scrabblers planning to attend away tournaments: When you intend to attend a tournament in a far-flung location and you've booked and paid for your airfares and accommodation, don't forget to send in your entry to the bloody tournament.

Likewise, speaking of Ruth Groffman (Dunedin), she sent a report on her recent youth Scrabble events:

After a year's break, Scrabble For Fun took place again this year in May, with 60 students in attendance. Believe it or not, this was the same number of students I had the year I started, 18 years ago!



Ruth Groffman

As usual, the students were very enthusiastic, with the ones from Middlemarch (who had the furthest to come) arriving before I did. This year Mo Wetere, Bev Allen, and Michael Groffman were my helpers, and some of the parents were coopted as well.

Two dictionary games of 50 minutes duration were played, with morning tea (kindly provided by the library) in between the two games.

This year we had the sponsorship of the University Bookshop, as it now contains a large children's section. A beautifully illustrated thesaurus was donated as one of the prizes, and the person in charge of the new children's section came along to present it. In addition I asked one of the Library staff, Mike Collett, to be the presenter, and between the two of them they did a wonderful job of giving out the spot prizes, (Cadbury's chocolates) and the prizes to the team winners.

During the morning a reporter and a photographer from *The Otago Daily Times* came to do an interview, as did *Channel 9 Dunedin TV*. Here is the link to the YouTube clip for the Channel 9 interview: <http://www.channel39.co.nz/news/students-test-word-skills>

As a result of the above, I decided to organize a Scrabble Challenge in July. This time, the students were to play challenge games with clocks. Three schools responded to the invitation, with 18 students eventually participating. The aim was to actually finish a game, with all the tiles used, no matter how long it took. Well, it was certainly a challenge for these players, and quite a steep learning curve too.

In all, three games were played. The most frustrating time for me was when a boy put a blank against an I, called it a Q, and scored one point!!! The first, second, and third place-getters received book vouchers donated by the Dunedin Public Library.

After these events I offered Scrabble workshops, and one school responded - Middlemarch. (Middlemarch is a small Central Otago town 80km west of Dunedin city.) I visited the school on my way back from a few days' visit to Wanaka. I spent most of my time checking their knowledge of the two-letter words.

The ultimate aim of Scrabble For Fun is to get students to participate in rated tournaments. We also aim to foster an interest in words and spelling. I am proud to say that one of our student players, Samuel Thompson, (who has played in Dunedin and Christchurch tournaments) was a finalist in the new television programme *Spellbound*, (a spelling bee competition) which screened on Sunday 23 October.

Cartoon (opposite) from The Far Side by Gary Larson

At the beginning of this year, John Foster (*Independent*) sent us the following puzzle (see pp. 30-31 for answer and ensuing correspondence):

Can you quickly spot the commonality shared by the following 12 words?

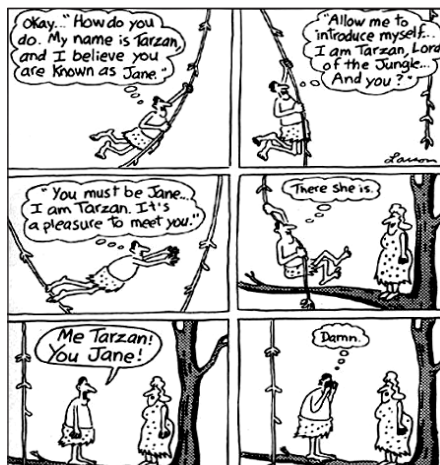
ASEITIES	ASSESS	BANANA
DRESSER	GRAMMAR	MANANA
POTATO	PREFER	PRESSER
RECCE	REVIVE	UNEVEN

The average time for Scrabble players should be less than 30 seconds, considerably less if your name happens to be Jeff or Howard.

.....
And speaking both of Howard, and of material we intended to publish sooner, he wrote:

In her 'Monkey business' feature in the Autumn issue (pp 5-6), Olivia wrote of TARZAN: "What a sexist word list we have – why can't we have a *Tarzana?"

Because you have AMAZONS, Olivia – that's why. (You also have a JANE, but that's something else — US slang for a woman or girl.)



Twenty years ago in *Forwards*

by John Foster, *Independent*

My selection from *Forwards* 44, Sept 1996 is a short article by Jeff Grant in response to a query from myself about a word that had cropped up on *Fair Go*. VOG, which he used as an example of a portmanteau word that was not then allowed, has recently made an appearance in our lexicon, while *SCRUD remains stuck around the rim of the washing machine bowl. The other example of Jeff's, *SLITHY, is still not allowable but FRABJOUS, which comes from the same piece of Lewis Carroll doggerel, has been allowed for years. Go figure.

Page 9

A Load of SCRUD

John Foster writes: "Did you see *Fair Go* the other night? An interesting word emerged — SCRUD — which is apparently a widely accepted term in the washing-machine industry to describe a buildup which occurs when fabric softeners are used with detergents. Suggest you make a note of it for possible future submission (to the Scrabble dictionary editors)."

Yes, I did see the programme. SCRUD sounds like a portmanteau word, maybe a combination of *scungy* or *scum* + *crud*. Lewis Carroll loved coining these terms — SLITHY for example (not allowed in Scrabble!), a blend of *slimy* and *lithe*. A couple we can use are SMAZE (*smoke* + *haze*) and MOOK (*magazine* + *book*).

The word VOG appeared during the recent rumblings of Mt Ruapehu. It describes an atmospheric mixture of volcanic ash and *fog* (compare SMOG, *smoke* + *fog*).

It is doubtful whether SCRUD or VOG have gained a usage widespread enough to be considered for inclusion in a general dictionary yet. If they do prove popular, who knows what may happen in time. That is how words get started!

Jeff

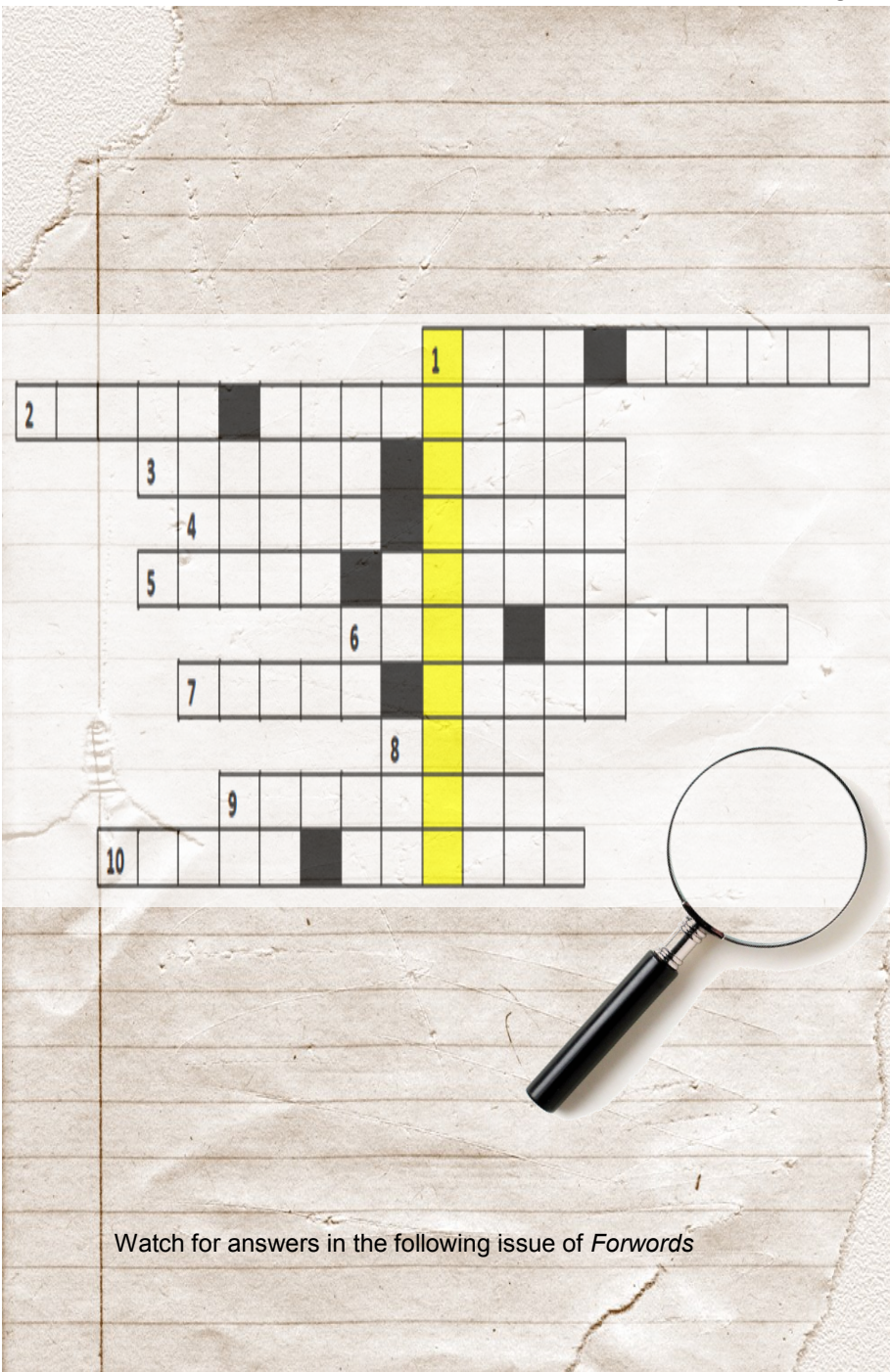
Whodunnit?

A reader sent us a contribution of Scrabble trivia gleaned from her *Forwards* collection, which dates from July 1989. Take this quiz to see how well you know your New Zealand Scrabble history, and if you get the answers lined up correctly, our contributor's name will appear in the highlighted row.

Clues

1. Who became a life member of the NZASP at the Nationals in 2000?
2. Who won the Hamilton tournament in 1998?
3. Who won the Nationals in 2009?
4. Who held the office of Secretary to the NZASP for the longest time?
5. Who held the office of *Forwards* editor in between Jeff Grant and Jennifer Smith?
6. Who is widely believed to have set up NZ's first official Scrabble club in 1976 and was awarded the first NZASP life membership?
7. Who was *Forwards*' editor in July 1989?
8. Which club commenced in March 1997?
9. Which club held its double decade tournament in August 1996?
10. Who placed second in Rodney tournament's G Grade in 1999, at ten years old?





Watch for answers in the following issue of *Forwards*

The continuation of John Foster's mailbox contribution (see p. 26)

ALINDROMES  INBOX

From: "John Foster" <jethrosnaf@***.co.nz>
To: "Anderina McLean" <anderinamclean@***.com>, "Olivia Godfrey" <olivia.awhi@***.com>
CC: "J & P Grant" <ardra1109@***.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 11:40 AM

They are all *ALINDROMES, which is a word I have just coined to describe words whose remaining letters form a palindromic sequence after the first letter is removed. I freely grant Collins permission to incorporate this word in the next edition.

PALINDROM?  INBOX

From: "J & P Grant" <ardra1109@***.com>
To: "John Foster" <jethrosnaf@***.co.nz>
CC: "Anderina McLean" <anderinamclean@***.com>, "Olivia Godfrey" <olivia.awhi@***.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2016 3:42 PM

Along similar lines, maybe a word that becomes a palindrome when the last letter is removed could be called a *PALINDROM, for example REVERB, TARTRATE and the classic SENSUOUSNESS.

ALINDROM?  INBOX

From: "John Foster" <jethrosnaf@***.co.nz>
 To: "Olivia Godfrey" <olivia.awhi@***.com> , "Anderina McLean"
 <anderinamclean@***.com>
 Sent: 8 February 2016 at 12:15 PM

By logical extension, PREVERB could be considered an
 *ALINDROM.

Editors' challenge  INBOX

From: "Anderina McLean" <anderinamclean@***.com>
 To: "Forwards readership list"
 CC: "Olivia Godfrey" <olivia.awhi@***.com>
 Sent: 23 October 2016 at 8:37 PM

How low can you go? Can anybody find an example of, say, a *LINDRO, where the middle letters of a word form a palindrome after two or more letters have been taken off both ends of the word? To make it a bit more of a challenge, let's say that the palindromic section must be three or more letters long. After all, it's reasonably easy to come up with an example like FROTTAGE where the double T's in the middle of the word could form an *INDR.

(How convenient that, apart from one cluster of consonants in the middle, the word PALINDROME alternates consonants and vowels in such a way that we can keep neologising pronounceable terminology simply by shaving off one letter at a time from either end of the original word!)

Ask Liz

by Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert

It has been a little while since we've "asked Liz" and published some of the finer points of her adjudications. Here's a general observation she has made, plus her answers to three specific questions.

Here's something I have had to adjudicate on twice already since the new rules came into force:

A player has played their turn, announced their score, pressed the clock, recorded their score and cumulative score on their scoresheet, and taken their tiles. The opponent has then wanted to challenge, and I have been called over to sort it out. In both cases, the player of the word was correct and the opponent was too late to challenge, as they had neither said "hold" (indicating the player cannot take tiles as they are considering issuing a challenge) or "challenge" (meaning they are definitely issuing a challenge). The player had not flash drawn (drawn tiles before recording the score and cumulative score), therefore the turn stayed and no challenge could be issued.

One of the reasons the word "hold" is to be used if considering a challenge is to take away ambiguity. After a game in one tourney, I did talk to a player from the table right next to mine. When a word was played, I heard one of the players say, "I'll have to look at that". The player who played the turn took that as the opponent intending to challenge (I saw them moving to neutralise the clock



Liz Fagerlund

themselves). The statement was completely ambiguous: the player who said it actually meant that they were considering the word played, and clearly "hold" was the correct thing to say here (there was no challenge issued in the end).

Q: *When sorting out a discrepancy between the scores totalled by each player, when should the clock be stopped? By whom? And when should it be restarted again?*

A: It is quite clearly stated in rule 6.7 as follows:

6.7. If there is a dispute in respect of the score for the turn, clocks will be neutralised until the dispute is resolved. It is the responsibility of the player whose clock is running to neutralise the clock, and the responsibility of the player waiting for his/her opponent to move to restart the clock.

Q: *When is it appropriate to recount a score? e.g. if your opponent tells you that the move s/he made three turns previously should have scored 45 points rather than the 35 declared at the time, are you obliged to now award them the additional 10 points?*

A: This sort of scenario seems to have caused some debate recently, as we don't have an allowance for recounts in our rules. However, in countries where it is allowed, a recount is when the scores are close at the end – within 20 points in WESPA rules – then every turn must be recounted. If the tourney is being delayed as a result of the recount, the tournament director may halt the recount if they believe it to be frivolous or taking too long.

My opinion on your question is, yes, if the game is not over and results sheets not signed, then the player whose score has been miscounted should be awarded the additional points. It is the player's responsibility to add and announce their score; also I believe that it is the opponent's responsibility to check at the time. So many players just accept the score their opponent announces without even checking. Either that, or maybe sometimes the opponent may have checked the score, and chosen not to advise the player that they got a different total?

You could look at it this way too – if the player of a word advises some turns later that the score should have been only 35 points, not 45 points,

would you really say, "oh no, you must have those extra points you gave yourself?" I don't think so – I think you would happily adjust it back! Personally I advise my opponents if I find that they have given themselves either too many or too few points.

Q: *My opponent put down some tiles, then changed his mind and decided to play elsewhere. After he had announced his score, pressed the clock, and drawn his tiles, I saw an isolated V on the board (a remnant from his first attempt). This meant he had seven tiles on his rack, in addition to the V that should have been returned to his rack. My opponent and I treated this as a straightforward overdraw. However, another player who was observing our game later suggested that my opponent's turn had been invalid, as the tiles had not been played in a single straight line. Who was right?*

A: I think treating this as an overdraw is the appropriate action to take – if you noticed the extra letter (as opposed to your opponent noticing) then you should see *all* his tiles and elect which one to return to the bag.

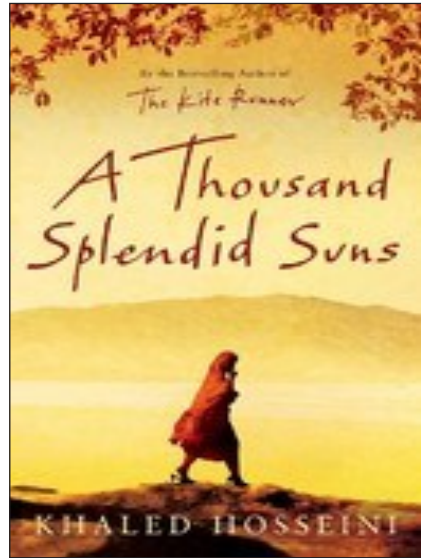
I've been reading...

by Howard Warner, Independent

***A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini**

This is the second novel by Afghani Khaled Hosseini, following the surprise bestseller *The Kite Runner*. He writes about the terrible repressions and privations his people have suffered through a succession of barbaric regimes. In the 1980s a young Hosseini fled with his family to the US.

Though the main languages of Afghanistan are Farsi and Pashto, the majority of people are Muslim, so there is an inevitable Arabic influence in the words used. Many of these words appear in our Scrabble dictionary. In the following list I've included all spelling variations, except where they are simply too numerous to list.



ADHAN - the Muslim call to prayer (also AZAN)

AFGHANI - a monetary unit

AGHA - a military officer

ALEF: an Arabic (and Hebrew) letter (also ALEPH)

ALMIRAH - a cupboard for sacred vessels

BACHA - a young child (also BACHCHA)

BADMASH - an evildoer (also BUDMASH)

BUZKASHI - a polo-like sport using a headless goat (or a goat's head) in place of a ball

DAAL: a spicy lentil dish (also DAHL, DAL, DHAL)

DHOL: a large, cylindrical drum

GAZAL - a Persian or Arabic verse form (also GHAZAL, GHAZEL)

HALWA - a sweet dish

HARAMDI - an illegitimate female (also HARAMZADI)

HEJAB: a Muslim woman's face covering (also HIJABB)

IFTAR - a meal eaten by Muslims to break their fast after sunset during Ramadan



Jalebi

INQILAB - revolution

JALEBI - a syrup-covered, deep-fried doughnut (also JALLEBI)

JINN - a supernatural being in Muslim mythology (there are another nine different spellings)

JIRGA - a council of tribal headmen

MADRASA - Muslim college (also MADRASAH, MADRASSA, MEDRESE)

MALAM - a Muslim scholar (also MALLAM)

MULLA: a Muslim religious leader or teacher (also MULLAH)

NIQAAB - a veil worn by Muslim women (also NIQAB)

NIKAH - in Islamic marriage, the contract between bride and groom

NUMDAH - embroidered felt rug

POSHTTEEN - a sheepskin coat (also POSTEEN, POSTIN)

RUPIAH - a monetary unit

SAHEB - a term of respect for men (also SAHIB) (note - a female form, SAHIBA, is allowed in Collins, but never used in this novel — not surprising, given that its main theme is the total *lack* of respect shown to women in Afghanistan)

SHEHNAI - A double-reed instrument (also SHENAI)

SALAAM: to greet with a low bow

SURA - a chapter of the Koran (also SURAH)

TAMBOURA - A stringed instrument (also TAMBUR, TAMBURA)

TANDOOR: a clay oven

TASBIH - An Islamic prayer that involves repeating short sentences glorifying God



Shehnaï

Answers from p. 19.
1. Lyres Freeth 2. Lawson Sue
3. Roger Cole-Baker 4. Nick Cavenagh
5. Howard Warner 6. Lewis Hawkins
7. Alastair Richards

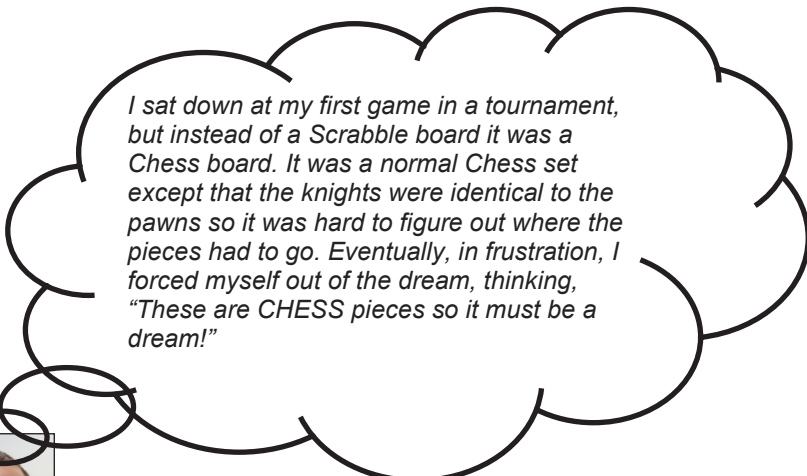
Photographs and concept by
Dianne Cole-Baker

Ask And-dream-a

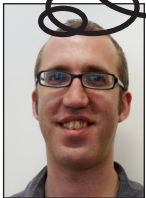


Recurring dreamer

Nick Cavenagh, whose dream was the first I interpreted, has sent in another morsel from his nighttime musings:



I sat down at my first game in a tournament, but instead of a Scrabble board it was a Chess board. It was a normal Chess set except that the knights were identical to the pawns so it was hard to figure out where the pieces had to go. Eventually, in frustration, I forced myself out of the dream, thinking, "These are CHESS pieces so it must be a dream!"



And-dream-a says

There is a general perception that, among competitive board games, Scrabble is Chess's poor cousin. Much of the educated public is aware that competitive Chess is 'a thing'. Although an equally intellectual discipline, the idea of Scrabble tournaments is often surprising to people. Our favourite game incorporates elements of luck, which people sometimes seem to feel cheapens it somewhat. People write stage musicals about Chess as a metaphor for Cold War politics, while titles of publications about Scrabble

are characterised by words like "addict" and "freak".

Your dream is clearly a depiction of empowerment. You have charged to glory on a shining steed (which your subconscious, by confusing knight with pawn, is still suggesting *could* be insignificant). You have taken control of the situation, faced down any detractors, and forcefully asserted that Scrabble is, to yourself at least, a far more worthy cause for your championship than mere Chess.

I dreamed a dream in time gone by...

In the Winter issue of *Forwards*, we published a dream dreamed up by our specialist dream interpreter, And-dream-a. Two readers have been kind enough to venture forth their interpretations for our current publication.

Murray Rogers' interpretation:

I could interpret all the different aspects of the dream, but I feel there is a common theme represented Thorough (intentional misspelling), which I hope does not leave you feeling Blue. I don't know your Scrabble history with Blue, but I know he is beatable, even though he does exude confidence. What I sense from the dream is either a lack of confidence when playing Blue, or a knowledge that your skill level is not the equal of his, or a combination of the two. When you successfully challenged off a word of his near the beginning of the dream, you were reliving the moment in the real game, but unfortunately the feeling derived from that was short-lived. All the events in the dream reflect your seeming inability to take personal control of the situation, and the one concerning Marianne Patchett confirmed this to be true. A long shot with the use of the word THOROUGH is either a play on Blue's name and/or his thinking process, while STEMMING emphasises the need to know many stems of words, and MMM refers to the importance of thinking.

Jennifer Smith's interpretation:

It doesn't take a dream-reader, psychologist, psychiatrist, or any other expert to interpret Anderina's dream.

Jeff Grant, Lynne Butler, Jennifer Smith, or anyone else who has ever been an editor of a magazine, all know that such dreams are brought on by extreme anxiety or stress. The trigger is an empty in-tray!

And so the mind, which for 90% of the day (and night) is focused on finding material for the magazine, solves the problem by producing its own material! Two pages of dream could – hopefully – produce many pages of analytical discussion.

There is a simple cure for such dreams. Keep your contributions rolling in, folks, and then Anderina (and Olivia) will sleep more restfully at night!



The Last Word

by Jeff Grant, Hastings

The last word can often win an argument, a court case, or a game of Scrabble. Here are the last allowable Scrabble words for each letter of the alphabet. Because of their ultimate position, many of these terms are unusual and handy for Scrabblers. Note that most of these “last words” are plurals, and only two are over eight letters long.

AZYMS

plural of AZYM, variant of AZYME, unleavened bread; also AZYMITE, AZYMOUS.

BYZANTS

plural of BYZANT, same as BEZANT, a gold coin first struck at Byzantium or Constantinople; also BYZANTINE.

CZARS

Russian emperors; other forms include CZAREVI(T)CH and CZAREVNA, the son and daughter of a CZAR, also CZARINA and CZARITS (or CZARITZA), a Russian empress, as well as CZARDOM, CZARISM, and CZARIST.

DZOS

hybrid domestic cattle found in the Himalayas; also spelt DSO, DZHO, ZHO, ZO.



Jynx

EZINES

plural of EZINE, a magazine available only in electronic form, for example on the internet.

FYTTES

plural of FYTTE, an archaic term for a song, or a division of a poem, a canto.

GYVING

fastening with GYVES, fettering, shackling.

HYTHES

plural of HYTHE, same as HITHE, a small haven or port, especially a landing-place on a river, now obsolete except in historical use or in place names.

IZZATS

plural of IZZAT, public esteem, honour, reputation, prestige (Anglo-Indian).

JYNXES

plural of JYNX, a wryneck bird (related to the woodpecker), which twists its head around strangely when surprised.

KYUS

plural of KYU, one of the six novice grades in judo; a novice in one of these grades.

LYTTAS

also LYTTAE, plural of LYTTA, a fibrous band on the underside of the tongue in carnivores, especially the dog, in which it was once thought to cause LYSSA, or rabies.

MZUNGUS

in East Africa, white persons; an MZEE is an old person (both from Swahili).

NYSTATINS

plural of NYSTATIN, an antibiotic used to treat fungal infections like candidiasis.

OZZIES

plural of OZZIE; no, not an Australian, but supposedly northern English slang for a hospital.

PZAZZES

plural of PZAZZ, a combination of flamboyance, panache and vigour; also BAZAZZ, BEZAZZ, BIZAZZ, PAZAZZ, PIZAZZ, and various unplayable versions with four zeds.

QWERTYS

plural of QWERTY, a standard English language typewriter keyboard; also QWERTIES.

RYUS

plural of RYU, a Japanese martial arts school.

SYZYGYS

conjunction or opposition; the period of new or full moon; also SYZYGAL, SYZYGIAL, SYZYGATIC.

TZURISES

plural of TZURIS, variant of TSURIS; grief, trouble, woe; also TSOORIS, TSOORES, TSORIS, TSORRIS, TSOURIS.

UXORIOUSNESSES

plural of UXORIOUSNESS, the state of being UXORIOUS, excessively fond of a wife; also UXORIOUSLY.

VYINGS

plural of VYING, a competition or contest; also VYINGLY.

WYVERNS

in heraldry, fictitious monsters, winged and two-legged, combining features of the dragon and griffin; also WIVER, WIVERN.

XYSTUS

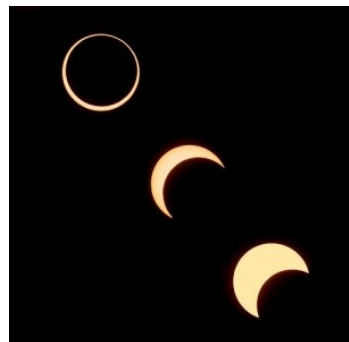
plural XYSTI, a covered portico used by ancient Greek athletes for their exercises; also XYST, XYSTOS (plural XYSTOI).

YWROKE

old past participle of the verb WREAK, to effect, bring about or cause (harm, havoc, damage, etc.).

ZZZS

not the plural of ZZZ, which is an interjection used to suggest snoring, but a variant of ZEDS, slang for 'sleep', as in 'catch a few ZZZS'. A lexicographer's cunning way of surpassing ZYTHUMS, ZYZZYVAS, and ZZZ for the last word.



Syzygy

If anybody has been wondering what happened in the World Scrabble Championships this year, it did indeed take place. Here is an article reprinted from The Guardian reporting on this event. Thanks to Vicky Robertson for bringing it to our attention.

Braconid: Briton wins Scrabble world title with 181-point word

The new world Scrabble champion has described his elation after a word for a type of wasp secured victory in an all-British showdown.

Brett Smitheram, 37, from Chingford in east London, was crowned the winning wordsmith after beating Mark Nyman, 49, from Knutsford in Cheshire, in the World Scrabble Championship 2016 final at the Grand Palais in Lille.

After his win, recruitment consultant Smitheram said his opponent, a former producer on Channel 4's Countdown, was one of his "Scrabble idols" when he was growing up.

Smitheram told the Press Association: "He used to be the producer of Countdown and he got me on Countdown when I was 17, 20 years ago now. I was on Countdown about 10 or 12 times.

"So he's known me for 20 years, and at the time when he interviewed me for Countdown he said 'What's your biggest aspiration?' and I said 'I want to win the Scrabble World Championship'.

"And today I beat him in order to do it. Quite a story behind it."

Smitheram triumphed after three rounds when he produced the crucial word braconid, meaning a parasitic

wasp. It scored him 176 points, but he then got an extra five points due to a failed challenge by his opponent.

Smitheram, who has won €7,000, said: "It's absolutely amazing. I'm still speechless. I had to come back from behind to qualify for this."

He said he was "absolutely thrilled" to have won, and described Nyman as a "very impressive opponent to play".

The winner said he spent up to two hours a day revising words and playing games against a computer ahead of the competition.

Other strategic words played in the final round included: periagua, meaning a dugout canoe used by American Indians, scoring 76 points; variedly, meaning in a varied manner and scoring 95 points; sundri, a tree native to eastern India, scoring 28 points; and gynaecia, meaning a flower, scoring 95 points.

Smitheram became UK champion in 2000 and was quarter-finalist in the 2014 world championship.

.....
(Read the original article online at <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/sep/05/braconid-british-world-scrabble-champion-181-point-word>)

Tournament results

Trans-Tasman Challenge

5-7 August 2016

25 Games

Team Results

	Wins
Australia	96
New Zealand	64

Individual Results

	Name	Country	Wins	Spread
1	Alastair Richards	AUS	20	2090
2	Lyres Freeth	NZ	19.5	1487
3	Daniel Piechnick	AUS	18	1025
4	Howard Warner	NZ	17.5	1292
5	Esther Perrins	AUS	17	1037
6	Trevor Tao	AUS	17	626
7	Ron Baginski	AUS	16.5	258
8	Russell Honeybun	AUS	15	1060
9	Bob Jackman	AUS	15	338
10	Nick Cavenagh	NZ	15	185
11	Tony Hunt	AUS	13	335
12	Patrick Carter	NZ	13	110
13	Adam Kretschmer	AUS	13	-64
14	Michael Cameron	AUS	13	-91
15	Lawson Sue	NZ	12	61
16	Nick Ivanovski	AUS	11.5	-65
17	Karen Richards	AUS	10	-421
18	Rocky Sharma	AUS	10	-503
19	John Holgate	AUS	10	-511
20	Stephen Mooney Purse	AUS	10	-781
21	Murray Rogers	NZ	9	-1080
22	Victor Tung	AUS	7	-733
23	Glennis Hale	NZ	7	-1284
24	Liz Fagerlund	NZ	6	-1201
25	Lynn Wood	NZ	5	-1260
26	Anderina McLean	NZ	5	-1909



Nick Cavenagh

Kiwi Promotion Demotion

13—14 August 2016

15 Games

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	Nick Cavenagh	14	1113
2	Shirley Martin	10	328
3	Julie Atkinson	10	327
4	Shirley Pearce	10	-4
5	Jillian Greening	9.5	324
6	Sharron Nelley	9	495
7	Leanne Field	9	199
8	Barney Bonthron	9	143
9	Faye Leach	8.5	74
10	Lyres Freeth	8	704
11	Karl Scherer	8	114
12	Roger Coates	8	84
13	Lynn Wood	8	-77
14	Bernie Jardine	8	-148
15	Malcolm Graham	8	-149
16	Lorraine Van Veen	8	-228
17	Jennifer Smith	8	-342
18	Rodney Jardine	7.5	-494
19	Carole Coates	7	215
20	Patrick Carter	7	143
21	Pam Robson	7	-199
22	Jena Yousif	7	-202
23	Liz Fagerlund	7	-276
24	Betty Don	6.5	-218
25	Yoon Kim Fong	6	243
26	Olivia Godfrey	6	62
27	Joan Thomas	6	-101
28	Jacqueline C-f	6	-327
29	Lyn Toka	6	-337
30	Anna Hough	4	-556
31	Karen Stewart	4	-895

Tauranga 27-28 August 13 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
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A Grade

1	Anderina McLean	MTA	10	700	437
2	Lawson Sue	PAK	10	513	431
3	Nick Cavenagh	WKP	8	450	412
4	Cicely Bruce	WRE	8	143	406
5	Vicky Robertson	WEL	8	-29	402
6	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	7	348	403
7	John Foster	IND	7	235	412
8	Jennifer Smith	KIW	7	-121	388
9	Jeff Grant	IND	6	261	428
10	Pam Robson	IND	6	-387	386
11	Glennis Hale	IND	4	-419	363
12	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	4	-660	374
13	Lynne Powell	IND	3	-441	390
14	Lynn Wood	WEL	3	-593	367

B Grade

1	Olivia Godfrey	WAN	11	1220	447
2	Lois Binnie	CHC	10	973	432
3	Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	9	296	394
4	Anna Hough	NEL	8	256	400
5	Roger Coates	KIW	8	-158	382
6	Val Mills	PAK	7	450	410
7	Ruth Lilian	TGA	7	273	399
8	Delcie Macbeth	IND	7	-9	407
9	Hazel Purdie	MTA	6	33	406
10	Rosalind Phillips	TGA	6	-197	372
11	Heather Landon	TGA	5	-941	347
12	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	3	-770	358
13	Glenda Geard	IND	3	-888	351
14	Shirley Martin	KIW	1	-538	365

C Grade

1	Shirley Pearce	KIW	9	431	401
2	David Gunn	WKP	8	521	391
3	Lyn Toka	KIW	8	18	376
4	Nola Borrell	WEL	7	215	392
5	Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	71	392
6	Lynn Carter	IND	7	35	373
7	Leanne Field	IND	7	16	387

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	
8	Chris Day	TGA	7	3	371
9	Joan Thomas	HAS	6	246	398
10	Faye Cronhelm	IND	6	68	390
11	Suzanne Harding	WRE	6	-112	368
12	Barney Bonthron	KIW	6	-387	368
13	Bernie Jardine	PAP	4	-422	370
14	Tei Ngatai	TGA	3	-703	337

D Grade

1	Barbara Dunn	TGA	11	532	374
2	Malcolm Graham	CHC	9	977	407
3	Roto Mitchell	WAN	9	405	377
4	Junior Gesmundo	PAP	8	130	366
5	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	7	108	353
6	Shirley Morrison	TGA	7	-13	368
7	Geoff Bonser	TGA	7	-131	353
8	Carole Coates	KIW	6	190	367
9	Joanne Morley	ROT	6	-95	353
10	Antonia Aarts	MTA	6	-182	344
11	Ruth Godwin	ROT	5	-442	322
12	Sandra Cowen	TGA	4	-375	346
13	Catherine Henry	TGA	4	-422	335
14	Janny Henneveld	ROT	2	-682	338

E Grade

1	Bev Henderson	TGA	12	708	359
2	Pat Wood	TGA	10	390	358
3	Rodney Jardine	PAP	9	558	370
4	Noelene Bettjeman	TGA	8.5	86	323
5	Betty Don	NEL	8	687	372
6	Annette Coombes	WKP	8	180	359
7	Judy Driscoll	KAP	8	59	338
8	Pauline Smeaton	TGA	7	-18	346
9	Tim Henneveld	ROT	6.5	172	343
10	Jacqueline C-F	KIW	5	16	358
11	Lynn Thompson	WRE	5	-166	318
12	Valerie Scott	TGA	5	-198	333
13	Phil Andrews	ROT	5	-378	333
14	Ray Young	TGA	5	-384	306
15	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	4.5	-213	340
16	Anne Scatchard	WRE	4	-73	315
17	Merilyn Anderson	TGA	3.5	-595	311
18	Pat Hardman	TGA	3	-831	308

Canterbury Open**10-11 September****14 Games**

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Blue Thorogood	IND	11	703	425
2	Lois Binnie	CHC	8.5	372	411
3	Murray Rogers	IND	7.5	53	402
4	Lynn Wood	WEL	7	110	400
5	Lewis Hawkins	CHC	7	18	391
6	Anna Hough	IND	6	106	400
7	Irene Smith	CHC	6	-535	369
8	Peter Johnstone	CHC	3	-827	349

B Grade

1	Selena Chan	CHC	11	732	409
2	John Baird	CHC	10	876	403
3	Shirley Hol	CHC	10	403	403
4	Herb Ramsay	CHC	7	-157	370
5	Lyn Dawson	CHC	6	-277	371
6	Anne Goldstein	CHC	5	-249	365
7	Betty Eriksen	WAN	4	-682	328
8	Marian Ross	DUN	3	-646	367

C Grade

1	Nola Borrell	WEL	9	481	398
2	Colleen Cook	CHC	9	76	375
3	Ray Goodyear	CHC	8.5	150	382
4	Gabrielle Bolt	CHC	8	358	391
5	Barney Bonthron	KIW	8	220	390
6	Allison Torrance	CHC	5.5	-288	370
7	Bernie Jardine	PAP	5	-208	374
8	Yvonne McLaughlan	CHC	3	-789	337

D Grade

1	Joanna Fox	CHC	10.5	850	387
2	Kathleen Mori-Barker	CHC	9.5	398	398
3	Hanna Dodge	CHC	9	446	362
4	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	9	327	359
5	Phyllis Paltridge	CHC	8.5	313	370
6	Mandy Thorogood	IND	8	215	360
7	Rodney Jardine	PAP	7	-557	338
8	Madelaine Green	CHC	6	1	348
9	Joan Beale	PAP	6	-204	352
10	Judith Bach	CHC	5	-149	345
11	Frances Higham	PAP	4.5	-293	330
12	Trish Fox	CHC	1	-1347	283

Wellington Swiss**17-18 September****15 Games**

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	Alastair Richards	13	1458
2	Lawson Sue	11	1067
3	Howard Warner	10	586
4	Lyres Freeth	9	360
5	Cicely Bruce	9	159
6	Nick Ascroft	8	413
7	Anna Hough	8	343
8	Glenda Foster	8	187
9	Nick Cavenagh	8	102
10	Val Mills	8	-22
11	Liz Fagerlund	8	-375
12	Anne Goldstein	8	-415
13	Lynn Wood	7	-22
14	Lewis Hawkins	7	-53
15	Nola Borrell	7	-73
16	Vicky Robertson	7	-247
17	Murray Rogers	7	-283
18	Yvette Hewlett	6	-138
19	Pam Barlow	6	-166
20	Judith Thomas	5	-447
21	Roger Cole-baker	5.5	-563
22	Dianne Cole-Baker	5	-212
23	Sheila Reed	3.5	-872
24	Judy Driscoll	3	-648
25	Lynley Jenness	1	-139



Alastair Richards. First at the Wellington Swiss tournament

Mt. Albert
1-2 October
13 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1 Lyres Freeth	IND	13	1206	470
2 Nick Cavenagh	WKP	10	422	417
3 Lawson Sue	PAK	9	626	426
4 Jeff Grant	IND	8	182	414
5 Glennis Hale	IND	8	42	401
6 Paul Lister	CHC	6	67	392
7 John Foster	IND	6	-98	377
8 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	6	-108	405
9 Andrew Bradley	MTA	5	17	394
10 Jennifer Smith	KIW	5	-245	395
11 Cicely Bruce	WRE	5	-307	403
12 Val Mills	PAK	4	-410	388
13 Margie Hurly	WRE	4	-436	390
14 Lorraine Van Veen	IND	2	-958	366

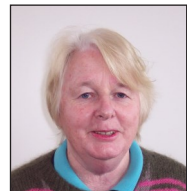
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
B Grade				
1 Lynn Wood	WEL	11	629	419
2 Olivia Godfrey	WAN	9	824	421
3 Karl Scherer	IND	8	183	410
4 Roger Coates	KIW	8	82	394
5 Anne Goldstein	CHC	8	-227	373
6 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	167	415
7 Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	7	77	401
8 Delcie Macbeth	IND	7	-87	385
9 Heather Landon	TGA	7	-117	375
10 Shirley Martin	KIW	5	288	400
11 Pam Barlow	PAK	5	-281	387
12 Mary Gray	MTA	4	-160	375
13 Jean O'Brien	IND	4	-513	353
14 Shirley Pearce	KIW	1	-865	335

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
C Grade				
1 David Gunn	WKP	9	421	400
2 Su Walker	MTA	8	808	423
3 Ruth Groffman	DUN	8	349	380
4 Glenda Geard	IND	8	102	381
5 Lynn Carter	IND	7	578	411
6 Betty Ericksen	WAN	7	131	377
7 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	6	65	384
8 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	6	57	391

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
9 Jena Yousif	WRE	6	-61	382
10 Faye Cronhelm	IND	6	-220	343
11 Bernadette Jardine	PAP	6	-361	372
12 Julia Schiller	MTA	6	-381	337
13 Junior Gesmundo	PAP	5	-540	346
14 Suzanne Harding	WRE	3	-948	340

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
D Grade				
1 Ruth Godwin	ROT	11	531	376
2 Josie Parkin	TGA	10	34	355
3 Carole Coates	KIW	9	467	376
4 Jenny Litchfield	WRE	9	158	371
5 Antonia Aarts	MTA	7	88	353
6 Pat Wood	TGA	5	192	358
7 Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	5	-94	356
8 Judy Cronin	MTA	3	-218	337
9 Rodney Jardine	PAP	3	-576	329
10 Janny Henneveld	ROT	3	-582	332

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
E Grade				
Jacqueline Coldham-				
1 Fussell	KIW	11	337	376
2 Tim Henneveld	ROT	10	343	346
3 Jillian Greening	KIW	9	660	381
4 Anne Scatchard	WRE	9	362	355
5 Lynn Thompson	WRE	6	-390	323
6 Frances Higham	PAP	5	-28	344
7 Joan Beale	PAP	5	-190	348
8 Susan Schiller	MTA	5	-687	312
9 Val Smith	MTA	4	-395	315



*L-R: David Gunn, 1st in C grade,
 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell, 1st in
 E grade at Mt Albert*

Wanganui**22-23 October 2016****13 Games**

Name	Club	Win	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1 Howard Warner	IND	11	1705	487
2 Anderina Mclean	MTA	10	1093	454
3 Lewis Hawkins	CHC	9	504	422
4 Mike Sigley	WAN	8	289	430
5 Olivia Godfrey	WAN	8	-253	385
6 Lynne Butler	WAN	7	254	409
7 Denise Gordon	WAN	7	-388	405
8 Vicky Robertson	WEL	6	-122	396
9 Rosie Cleary	WAN	5	226	415
10 Glenyss Buchanan	LOW	5	-84	403
11 Jennifer Smith	KIW	5	-545	384
12 Clare Wall	IND	4	-1093	367
13 Anna Hough	IND	3	-753	367
14 Helen Sillis	WTA	3	-804	354

B Grade

1	Jean O'Brien	IND	12	1281	420
2	Nola Borrell	WEL	11	872	402
3	Leila Thomson	LOW	10	574	382
4	Barbara Dunne	TGA	9	554	403
5	Betty Ericksen	WAN	8	564	375
6	Sandra Cowen	TGA	7	-312	342
7	Judy Driscoll	KAP	7	-364	337
8	Jean Boyle	WAN	6	-127	358
9	Sheila Reed	WEL	5	-237	352
10	Josie Parkin	TGA	5	-464	337
11	Judith Thomas	IND	4	-241	354
12	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	4	-329	351
13	Suzanne Ford	WAN	2	-768	336
14	Robyn Stansfield	WAN	1	-1070	284

Tournament Calendar 2016 - 2017

Tournament	Location	Dates
Almost Christmas Promotion Demotion	Auckland	10 December
Pakuranga	Auckland	28-29 January
Wellington	Wellington	4-5 February
Rotorua	Rotorua	25-26 February
Bounty Motel Bay of Islands	Paihia	18-19 March
Dunedin	Dunedin	8-9 April
# Masters	Auckland	14-16 April
South Island Championships	Christchurch	6-7 May
Nationals	Christchurch	3-4 June
# Restricted entry		

Rankings list as at 23 October 2016

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Howard Warner (GM)	1944	2043.5	2726	75%	49	Peter Johnstone	1432	179	342	52%
2	Joanne Craig (GM)	1942	375.5	568	66%	50	Clare Wall	1432	319	611	52%
3	Lyres Freeth (GM)	1933	360.5	548	66%	51	Shirley Hol	1424	707	1524	46%
4	Nick Cavenagh (GM)	1873	410.5	682	60%	52	Rosalind Phillips	1417	591	1138	52%
5	Blue Thorogood (GM)	1868	659.5	930	71%	53	Heather Landon	1396	571	1115	51%
6	Lawson Sue (E)	1852	885	1622	55%	54	Pam Barlow	1369	745.5	1488	50%
7	Anderina McLean (E)	1843	751.5	1374	55%	55	Jean O'Brien	1367	1192.5	2343	51%
8	Jeff Grant (GM)	1841	1698	2251	75%	56	Yvette Hewlett	1355	482.5	1006	48%
9	Peter Sinton (GM)	1828	740	1036	71%	57	Herb Ramsay	1354	181	296	61%
10	Mike Sigley (GM)	1808	1004	1451	69%	58	Shirley Martin	1342	960.5	1901	51%
11	Lynne Butler (GM)	1757	919.5	1510	61%	59	Nola Borrell	1328	481.5	881	55%
12	Glennis Hale (GM)	1746	1502.5	2716	55%	60	Leila Thomson	1318	602.5	1313	46%
	John McNaughton					61	Margaret Bullen	1301	133.5	235	57%
13	(GM)	1744	157	248	63%	62	Mary Gray	1295	600.5	1216	49%
14	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1741	854	1625	53%	63	David Gunn	1285	1323	2690	49%
15	John Foster (GM)	1706	1583.5	2778	57%	64	Yoon Kim Fong	1284	607	1210	50%
16	Denise Gordon (E)	1699	735.5	1525	48%	65	Fran Lowe	1277	143.5	272	53%
17	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1690	1238.5	2353	53%	66	Shirley Pearce	1263	110	221	50%
18	Lewis Hawkins	1688	203	318	64%	67	Su Walker	1258	1061	2085	51%
19	Paul Lister (E)	1680	832.5	1494	56%	68	Carolyn Kyle	1249	878	1789	49%
20	Nick Ascroft	1679	181	335	54%	69	Lyn Toka	1247	574.5	1092	53%
21	Cicely Bruce (E)	1678	498.5	898	56%	70	Glenda Geard	1245	1097.5	2248	49%
22	Steven Brown (GM)	1673	919	1724	53%	71	Paul Freeman	1224	81.5	153	53%
23	Scott Chaput (E)	1662	249	423	59%	72	Bev Edwards	1221	263.5	501	53%
24	Olivia Godfrey	1659	791	1502	53%	73	Joan Thomas	1203	1129	2276	50%
25	Vicky Robertson	1642	367.5	742	50%	74	Mary Curtis	1199	337	635	53%
26	Lois Binnie	1637	84	165	51%	75	Lynn Carter	1195	732.5	1430	51%
27	Pam Robson	1635	581.5	1268	46%	76	Chris Handley	1192	399.5	782	51%
28	Murray Rogers (E)	1623	871.5	1649	53%	77	Mo Wetere	1187	37.5	59	64%
29	Alex Leckie-Zaharic	1620	166	290	57%	78	Colleen Cook	1184	380.5	767	50%
30	Jennifer Smith	1617	1109.5	2290	48%	79	Leanne Field	1182	179	331	54%
31	Val Mills (E)	1614	1326	2738	48%	80	Ruth Groffman	1173	553	1111	50%
32	Lynn Wood	1607	1916.5	3985	48%	81	Gabrielle Bolt	1162	462	885	52%
33	Glennys Buchanan	1565	696.5	1503	46%	82	Barney Bonthron	1159	30	52	58%
34	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1560	809	1756	46%						
35	Katy Yiakmis	1534	199	411	48%						
36	Lorraine Van Veen	1532	906	1799	50%						
37	Anna Hough	1524	736	1481	50%						
38	Glenda Foster (E)	1524	1081.5	2179	50%						
39	Irene Smith	1520	207	423	49%						
40	Jeanette Grimmer	1502	174.5	319	55%						
41	Roger Coates	1501	800	1681	48%						
42	Karl Scherer	1493	83	137	61%						
43	Selena Chan	1481	337.5	659	51%						
44	Anne Goldstein	1477	136	258	53%						
45	John Baird	1461	250	455	55%						
46	Allie Quinn	1459	1096.5	2236	49%						
47	Delcie Macbeth	1439	947.5	1807	52%						
48	Hazel Purdie	1434	1148.5	2345	49%						



Hazel Purdie

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
83 Dianne Cole-Baker	1158	552	1081	51%	132 Annette Coombes	646	787	1701	46%
84 Barbara Dunn	1158	342.5	587	58%	133 Marilyn Sinclair	646	94.5	201	47%
85 Betty Eriksen	1155	1471.5	2900	51%	134 Jacqueline				
86 Geoff Vautier	1155	125	331	38%	Coldham-Fussell	641	646.5	1339	48%
87 Marian Ross	1140	598.5	1163	51%	135 Noelene Bettjeman	625	341.5	736	46%
88 Faye Cronhelm	1137	882	1774	50%	136 Valma Gidman	594	711.5	1424	50%
89 Roger Cole-Baker	1136	587	1146	51%	137 Madelaine Green	593	121.5	228	53%
90 Ernie Gidman	1104	422	847	50%	138 Betty Don	590	247.5	528	47%
91 Karen Miller	1101	571	1142	50%	139 Janny Henneveld	586	497	1048	47%
92 Jena Youusif	1094	495	982	50%	140 Joyce Mowbray	582	20	60	33%
93 Bernie Jardine	1091	57.5	135	43%	141 Jillian Greening	578	354	746	47%
94 Tei Ngatai	1076	45.5	82	55%	142 Dorothy Bakel	578	35.5	104	34%
95 Julia Schiller	1073	270	597	45%	143 Rodney Jardine	577	51.5	121	43%
96 Allison Torrance	1068	460	889	52%	144 Judy Cronin	568	110.5	319	35%
97 Jean Boyle	1043	583.5	1105	53%	145 Anne-Louise Milne	555	150	449	33%
98 Malcolm Graham	1038	472.5	937	50%	146 Anne Scatchard	544	415.5	827	50%
99 Junior Gesmundo	1035	127.5	252	51%	147 Judith Bach	506	171.5	315	54%
100 Tony Charlton	1028	293	589	50%	148 Ray Young	489	30	95	32%
101 Roto Mitchell	1019	784.5	1564	50%	149 Phil Andrews	485	14	41	34%
102 Suzanne Harding	1013	455.5	901	51%	150 Dorothy Latta	437	158	385	41%
103 Ruth Godwin	978	363.5	803	45%	151 Gill Charlton	437	53	186	28%
104 Jill Paterson	972	92	158	58%	152 Lynn Thompson	376	294.5	687	43%
105 June Mackwell	958	852	1874	45%	153 Joan Beale	373	273	546	50%
106 Jo Ann Ingram	956	263	516	51%	154 Frances Higham	372	200	562	36%
107 Judith Thomas	955	240.5	486	49%	155 Jamie Adams	338	8	79	10%
108 Geoff Bonser	951	98	176	56%	156 Susan Schiller	324	36	219	16%
109 Sheila Reed	947	281.5	586	48%	157 Valerie Smith	292	42	182	23%
110 Andree Prentice	947	954.5	1903	50%	158 Bev Allen	140	59.5	241	25%
111 Sandra Cowen	943	79.5	162	49%	159 Trish Fox	104	36	275	13%
112 Yvonne									
McLaughlan	942	516.5	1065	48%					
113 Shirley Morrison	939	192	404	48%					
114 Judy Driscoll	926	217	560	39%					
115 Joanna Fox	897	125	229	55%					
116 Jenny Litchfield	897	68	120	57%					
117 Joanne Morley	894	64.5	108	60%					
118 Carole Coates	890	677.5	1401	48%					
119 Agnes Rowland	850	124	241	51%					
120 Antonia Aarts	800	273.5	575	48%					
121 Sharron Nelley	796	56	104	54%					
122 Kathleen									
Mori-Barker	783	387	780	50%					
123 Phyllis Paltridge	751	82.5	183	45%					
124 Sam Thompson	749	78.5	166	47%					
125 Tobias Devereux	747	34	51	67%					
126 Hanna Dodge	717	107.5	222	48%					
127 Merelyn Fuemana	688	20	54	37%					
128 Pat Wood	677	147.5	276	53%					
129 Stephanie Pluck	677	90.5	207	44%					
130 Margaret Toso	665	111	251	44%					
131 Tim Henneveld	655	487.5	1066	46%					



Tim Henneveld

Club	Club Contact	Phone Number	Email	Meeting Day & Time
Christchurch (CHC)	John Baird	03 332 5996	john@jrbssoftware.com	12.30 Wed 6.45 Fri
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	chris@redheron.com	7pm Tues
Hastings (HAS)	Yvonne Wilson	06 878 8229	-	1pm Tues
Kapiti (KAP)	Judy Driscoll	04 904 2049	judyd@paradise.net.nz	7pm Mon
Kiwi Scrabblers (KIW)	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussel	07 846 7422	scrabilfuss@xtra.co.nz	1pm/7pm Alternate Thurs
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04 569 5433	glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz	7.30pm Tues
Mt. Albert (MTA)	Judy Cronin	09 626 6390	bjjac@ihug.co.nz	7pm Mon
Nelson (NEL)	Tony Charlton	03 545 1159	tonycharlton44@gmail.com	7pm Wed
Pakuranga (PAK)	Jeanette Owler	09 534 4453	cliffordo@xtra.co.nz	12.30pm Tues 7pm Thurs
Papatoetoe (PAP)	Frances Higham	09 278 4595	jambo@actrix.co.nz	1pm Mon
Rodney (ROD)	Linda Moore	09 425 4959	colin.linda@clear.net.nz	1pm Mon
Rotorua (ROT)	Diane Pascoe	07 347 0269	razzledone@outlook.com	9.15 Thurs
Tauranga (TGA)	Barbara Dunn	07 544 8372	dunn.barbara44@gmail.com	9am Tues
Waitara (WTA)	Ngairie Kemp	06 754 4107	ngairelynda.c@xtra.co.nz	1pm Wed
Wanganui (WAN)	Lynne Butler	0274 285 758	scrabblyn@clear.net.nz	1pm Mon
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04 387 2581	lynn.wood@iag.co.nz	7pm Tues
Whangarei (WRE)	Bev Edwards	09 430 2832	bevhola@xtra.co.nz	1pm Thurs

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