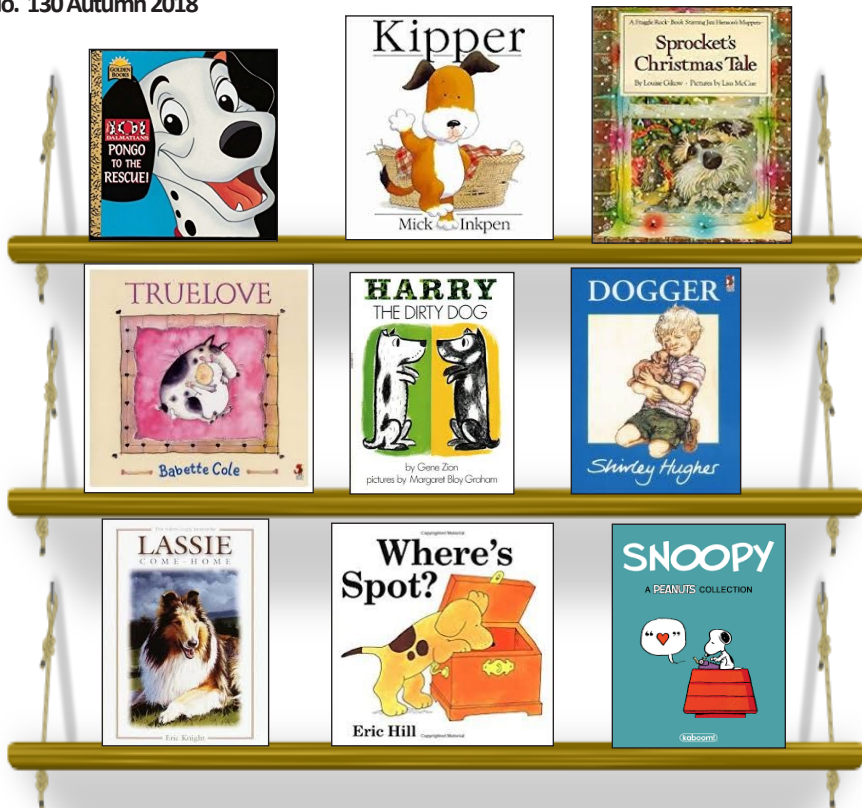


For words



Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players
No. 130 Autumn 2018



Read up on Scrabble words you could name your dog

Also in this issue:

Word famous in New Zealand:

Ruth Godwin

Scrabble as a therapeutic activity

On the hunt for antelope

Val's Woman's Weekly experience

2018: Year of the Dog

Obituary for Hazel Purdie

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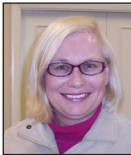
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Editorial

As many of us do in the sober post-Christmas period, I've been thinking rather a lot recently about money, or, more accurately, the lack of it. As a stay-at-home, single mother-of-three trying to finish her Masters degree, the lack of money is a constant concern, but it has become even more so since I bought my house last August.

Now, I know you'll be wondering what filthy lucre has to do with Scrabble. Quite a bit, as it turns out, when you consider that the costs involved in playing in a tournament (travel, accommodation, entry fees, and so forth) are far beyond any prize money that you might ever receive. Certainly, even the most generous tournament prizes in New Zealand wouldn't come close to recouping your outlay to play in that tournament. With this game, we play for love, not money.

And here I come to what has really been weighing on my mind. This year, the New Zealand Masters is being held in Nelson. Now don't get me wrong, Nelson is a lovely place, I've been there a few times to play in the Nelson tournament myself. However, it is an awfully expensive place to get to, especially for those of us living outside of Auckland. I confess that, apart from parenting responsibilities, the cost of getting to Nelson was a principal reason why I chose to forego my place in the Masters this year. And I know I'm not the only one. I have now heard several people say that their main reason for not entering the Masters this year was because it simply cost too much to get to Nelson. Now I know that Nelson isn't the only

centre that suffers from the high-cost-of-travel problem. In the past, for example, I've heard of people turning down invitations to play in the Masters because it cost too much to travel to Dunedin, and even Whanganui. So, please, Nelsonians, don't think I'm just targeting you.

So my question is, when decisions are being made about where events like the Masters (or indeed other flagship tournaments such as Nationals or the Trans-Tasman) are to be held, should consideration be given to the cost for players to get to these centres? I'm not sure either way. On the one hand, there is the very valid argument that clubs like Nelson, Dunedin, Whanganui etc., are affiliated to the Association, and all of them contribute by putting on tournaments at least once a year. As contributing members of the Association, they deserve their time in the sun too; they should be able to host important tournaments just as Auckland or Wellington or Christchurch can and do.

Additionally, if a small centre is given the opportunity to host these events, perhaps enticing people to come to these centres who would normally not do so, they might be inspired to return for that centre's annual tournament. And, quite rightly, those people who live in these smaller centres might argue that they always have to foot the bill for expensive travel whenever the tournaments are held in centres like Auckland and Wellington, so it's only fair that they get a break from paying the big bucks once in a while.

All of the above are good and valid arguments, but money is a big obstacle. Is it OK that people don't come to things like the Masters simply because they can't afford to do so, even though they would love to be there and their ratings say that they should be there? Suppose we acknowledge that money is a major issue, but we still want to give smaller centres their chance to host these events. Should the Association have some funds set aside to which people can apply for grants to help get them to more far-flung places? Of course, that's probably pie-in-the-sky thinking, but I hold the view that if you don't suggest something, the answer will always be no.

I admit that, after putting some thought into this over the past few weeks, I'm still torn. How would you support smaller centres to host tournaments like the Masters, but also make those tournaments financially accessible to a population of players who are generally at the lower range of the income band? Do you think supporting these smaller centres should even be a priority? If you have an opinion, a slam-dunk argument either way, a solution, or a money-tree growing in your backyard, please, write in and tell us all about it.

Olivia Godfrey

A call for nominations

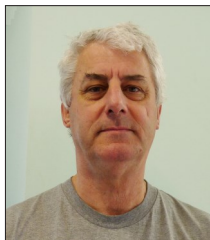
Nominations are invited for all roles on the NZASP Executive. These roles will be elected at the AGM on Saturday 2nd June. The current president and treasurer are not seeking reelection. While the incumbent officers for the other roles are standing again, any current member of NZASP is eligible to put their name forward for nomination.

The roles are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Webmaster.

Written nominations indicating the position(s) for which you are standing must be received by the NZASP secretary, Ruth Groffman, no later than Wednesday 25th April 2018.

President's report



Paul Lister

As I write this report, I'm still reeling from the news of the death of Mt. Albert Club's Hazel Purdie. For me, Hazel represents the backdrop to my Scrabble life dating right back to the 80s. This was during the halcyon days when the Mt. Albert Club was under the presidency of the brilliant Glennis Hale. I remember Hazel turning up with a horde of other Scrabble players to compete each Friday night.

Talking of hordes, I'm pleased to say that numbers have been up during the Wednesday night sessions at the Christchurch Club of which I'm the president. In fact, numbers have increased so much that we've had to move our playing venue from the Rex Lester Lounge to the main room of the Sydenham Community Centre.

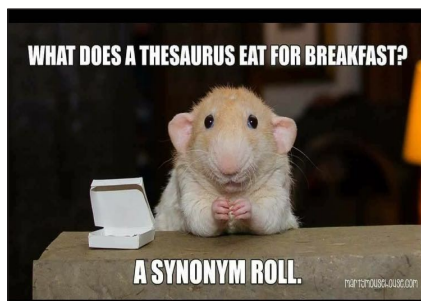
Lynley Jenness is doing a fantastic job at fostering and promoting youth Scrabble here in Christchurch. Lynley has been running children's sessions at the Christchurch Club throughout the summer. As a result, as well as the growing adult numbers, there has been an increasingly lively vibe at the club.

In June, I will be standing down from the presidencies of both the Christchurch Club and the NZASP. Personal circumstances mean that, by then, I could well be without job, phone, computer, and home (EQC willing), and on a working holiday in

Aussie. I hope to reemerge as a player later in 2019 once I've reset myself. Dianne Cole-Baker, our excellent treasurer, will also be standing down, so we are looking forward to new office-bearers taking over after the AGM in June.

At the time of writing, there are many exciting tournaments still to come on the year's Scrabble calendar. Nationals will be taking place in Auckland and the NZASP is anticipating big numbers to turn up to that one. Masters with a bit of a different flavour will be hosted by Nelson. I very much look forward to seeing many of you at the Nationals in June.

So then all there is left to say is goodbye. This is the last *Forwards* report I'll write as president. My time has been full of challenges and learning curves, but also lots of fun. I've had the chance to lead an excellent organisation and work with brilliant people who are all so passionate about Scrabble. Thank you to everyone on the executive team and others who've helped me along the way.



Supplied by Jennifer Smith

Word famous in New Zealand



Ruth Godwin



Ruth visiting her daughter in Perth

Word famous? I don't think so, but here is my story anyway.

I was born in Morrinsville in June 1940. I had two older brothers and when I was born, one of my uncles said "Knock her on the head; she's a stray!" as I was the first girl born to the Gatland family for four generations. My sister Heather was born four years later. My parents were farming in the Walton district, running a 'mixed farm' which carried several hundred sheep and about 40 cows.

The house we lived in was a small cottage. There was a kitchen, which also served as the dining room and the living area; two bedrooms; and a bathroom which contained nothing but a bath – no such luxuries as hand basins or showers. A small pantry contained the kitchen sink, and through the wall was the washhouse with wooden tubs and a copper.

A sunroom had been added, and this was where Heather and I slept.

It wasn't fully enclosed, having nothing but a canvas blind to keep out the wind and rain on the east-facing side, so we needed many blankets and thick eiderdowns in the winter!

School was three miles away, which required travelling halfway on a rough metal road before we even got to a sealed road. As our mother did not drive our big 1934 Chevrolet, we had to find our way to school ourselves, so from an early age a bicycle was our form of transport – no buses were available. The route had many steep hills and the trip was both challenging and sometimes scary when the cattle on the neighbour's farm would run after us along the other side of the roadside fence.

I preferred to ride the pony to school, as it was much warmer in the winter time. We were able to leave our ponies in the horse paddock adjacent to the footy field.



The house in which Ruth grew up

One highlight of my childhood that I remember was the day I came home from school to find Dad had cut a hole in the wall between the pantry and the washhouse. We were getting a refrigerator and this was the only way he could fit it in!

When it was time for me to start secondary school I was sent to Matamata College. It was a big shock for me. Having to wear footwear all the time was a major adjustment as I had always preferred bare feet. For many years I had bad dreams about making the mistake of going to school barefooted. Also, at almost 400 pupils, the school seemed huge compared with what I was used to. Getting there was not too difficult, as a school bus came up our road quite close to home, but getting home was another story. The bus dropped me off at the end of the metal road and I had to walk from there – usually loaded with heavy textbooks – getting home at 5:00p.m.

The farm I had to walk past on my way home also contained the Walton Golf Club. On club days the cattle were taken off the relevant paddocks so the golfers only had sheep to contend with. The greens were not fenced, and in springtime the lambs would run around the holes, making putting more luck than skill. I started playing golf while still going to secondary school, as going to play netball (then known as basketball) in



*Ruth, a friend, and Heather,
ready for raspberry-picking*

Matamata was not an option.

My teacher training college years at Ardmore were pretty special. We formed such close bonds, as every student had to live on campus. We still have annual reunions to keep in touch.

During this time I had three particularly memorable holidays with friends from training college. One was a hitchhiking trip around the South

Island, including a guided walk on the Milford Track. Another was a trip to Tapawera in the Nelson region to do raspberry-picking. Our fare to get there was paid by the government, and after working the required season, we had earned just enough money for our fare home. No profit in the venture but a great experience all the same. The third trip we went up North, where we did the usual touristy things and also drove into the backblocks to visit the last gum-digger at his shack in the gum-fields.

My first appointment as a qualified teacher was to Waharoa, and, following my first year there, I applied to stay on as I was very happy. Since I was boarding in Matamata I had to get my own transport and bought my first car, a 1946 Austin 10 which I named Suzy Wong. It served me well, and had its own air conditioning with great gaping holes in the floor by the gear lever. Puddles were to be avoided as the water splashed up into the car.

While teaching at Waharoa I met my husband, and we married about five years later. We applied for adoption, and nine months after we were married we became the proud parents of a beautiful little girl. A couple of years later we applied to adopt again, and were delighted that another beautiful girl became available quite quickly. We now had a precious family of two boys (from his previous marriage) and two girls, and we felt life was complete.

Then, in April 1968, my parents were aboard the *Wahine* when it sank. We received a telegram from them which said “survived the wreck”, but we had no idea whether they were in hospital, or where they might be. My brother and I made a frantic trip to Wellington, but the place was in chaos with people queueing for information. As many people were there regarding deceased relatives, we felt it would be selfish to press for information about our parents, whom we knew were alive, so we turned around and drove home again. Meanwhile, our parents had been making their way home by train, bus, and taxi. Heather and Colston were at the house when they arrived home, and Colston said to Heather, “Who are these old people coming up the drive?” The experience had basically aged them overnight.

It was about this time that my husband began to have headaches and small accidents. We were soon to learn that he had a brain tumour, and we had to leave the farm and our cows and move to Auckland, where he had surgery for its removal. Unfortunately, the surgeon informed us that our farming days were over, as the tumour would likely come back again.

We bought a house in Albany and my husband, determined to continue to support the family, got a job as a greenkeeper at the North Shore Golf Course, where he worked for seven years. During this time I played golf there, and taught at Browns Bay primary school, while my husband had two more surgeries for the removal of the tumour, plus radiation treatment. In spite of his continued ill health, his good nature and positive attitude meant we have many happy memories of our time as a family there. Unfortunately, the tumour finally got the better of him, and he passed away when we had been married for less than ten years.

About a year later, I moved to Tauranga with my two daughters (the boys were both committed to jobs in Auckland), and soon went back to teaching – first of all relieving, then being accepted into a full time position at Tauriko school.



Ruth and her first husband added a Samoyed puppy to their family when they moved to Albany, because they missed the farm animals. They joined the Samoyed club and became involved in the Dog Show circuit. This is “Shaila”.



Ruth with the Z-class yacht in which she learned to sail, during summer holidays at The Mount

A while later I met Bob, and we were together for over 30 happy years. Bob was like a father to my children, as they can barely remember their own father.

After a few years in Tauranga, Bob and I moved to Auckland for his work, and I went to work for a medical publishing business. We produced publications not only for all the doctors, hospitals, and pharmacies in New Zealand, but also for many countries around the world. I loved the work there, and there was a special atmosphere where everyone felt so esteemed that they all put their best into their work.

We had been in Auckland for over 10 years when we suddenly went crazy and bought a lakefront section in Rotorua and built a house there, which meant selling up in Auckland and making a permanent move back to the Bay of Plenty. Encouraged by Heather, I soon joined the Scrabble

group organised by the Hennevelds, and so my Scrabble journey began. I went to my first Nationals in Wellington in 2007, and in 2008 was winging my way with other enthusiasts to Norfolk Island to enjoy the experience of playing against our mates from across the Tasman.

Some time after moving to Rotorua, Bob was diagnosed with prostate cancer and went to Hamilton for radiation treatment. Unfortunately, he was so charmed by a lady at the cancer lodge where he stayed that he was ultimately enticed away from Rotorua to join her in Hamilton. I was absolutely shattered by this, but have the support of my family (which now includes 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren). Since then, I have moved to accommodation more suited to my present needs, joined a ukulele group (once again Heather encouraged me to do this), a walking group, enrolled with Jenny Craig to shed some surplus kilos, taken up table tennis and, needless to say, played more Scrabble!

But I'm still not word famous!



Ruth (center) with friends from Adis International

On the hunt for antelope

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

I'm sitting down to look at my scoresheets after the Pakuranga tournament, because I need to check a few things.

Help me, please Zyzzyva:

1. *Could I have played anything else when there was no spot for SAILING?*

I needed a word where the second to last letter was an I, to hook onto an X. **NILGAIS**. Oh, of course NILGAIS. Damn! I knew that word. It's got half a dozen spellings (NILGHAI, NILGAU, NILGHAU, NYLGHAI, NYLGHAU). Wonder what it means?

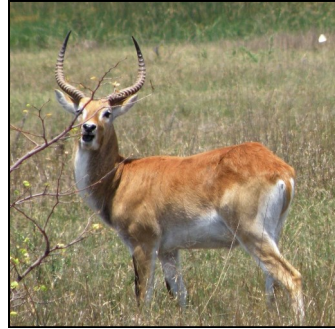
It's an antelope.



NILGAI

2. *I wonder if there is an anagram for WELCHES? Unlikely. (I couldn't play it because *EW is not a word.)*

There is an anagram: LECHWES. And I could have played it! (I note the W crops up in a strange place in the word.) What on earth is a LECHWE?
It's an antelope, too.



LECHWE

3. *And what about the weird rack B-E-E-E-S-S that I got right at the end of a game?*

I can't imagine that would have spelt a word, even with the help of various other letters on the board.

TSESSEBE. Oh, really? TSESSEBE??? You're kidding me. What's a TSESSEBE, for goodness sake? I don't believe the answer: **An antelope. It's also called SASSABY.** (I suppose that indicates how TSESSEBE should be pronounced.)

What a coincidence! Three out of three, all antelopes. Is the universe trying to tell me something?

I already know BOK, IMPALA, RHEBOK, GAZELLE, and GNU. Perhaps I should look to see if there are any other types of antelope. Hello, Google. Tell me about antelopes, please.

There are 91 species of antelopes.

Ninety-one! And I do know some more of their names; I just didn't always know their meanings: INYALA/NYALA, ELAND, ROAN, KUDU, ORYX, SABLE, MOHR/MHORR, as well as some longer -BOKS.

Tell me words that end in -BOK, please Zyzzyva. **Nineteen antelope names end with BOK.** (JAMBOK/SJAMBOK is not an antelope, but a verb in South Africa meaning to beat with a whip.) I can see 10 valid words that would take a suffix of BOK: BOS-, BOSH-, DUIKER-, GEMS-, JAM-, REE-, SPRING-, STEEN-, STEIN-, STEM-. Hmm, could be useful to know.

Some BOK words end alternatively with BUCK. How many antelope names end with BUCK altogether, Zyzzyva? **Thirteen.** A JUMBUCK is not an antelope, but Aussie slang for sheep. Neither is a ROEBUCK – it's a male Eurasian deer.

Oh, really? So what's the difference between a deer and an antelope? Back to Google!

I learn that antelope have permanent horns of bone that grow out of their head. They're not branched, they don't stop growing, and they don't drop off. Female antelopes have horns too. Deer antlers are a soft tissue, and they do drop off. The only deer species where the female have horns are reindeer. (That could be useful in a quiz one day.) And there is no antelope that's native to America.

Wait a minute, Google, what about the American song, *Home on the range*, "where the deer and the antelope play"? **That animal is a PRONGHORN.** And it's not considered

to be an antelope, even though it's known as the American or prairie antelope.

Wow! This impromptu safari looking for antelope has taken me a lot further than I would have expected. While I'm with Google, I suppose I should try to learn a few more antelope names: GERENUK, ORIBI, CHIRU, ADDAX, GORAL, CHIKARA/CHINKARA, and DUIKER/DUYKER could all be useful.

But I digress. Back to the task in hand. One more rack to check.

4. Zyzzyva, did I have any words with A-A-D-M-O-U-blank?

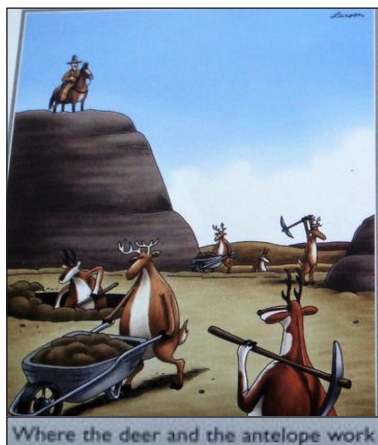
AMADOU/S, a tree fungus, useful for starting fires. . .

I'll remember that – it's a bit like *AMADEUS (associated with Mozart) – but I probably won't remember its meaning. . .

. . . **and MADOQUA.**

MADOQUA? MADOQUA?????

I should have guessed what a MADOQUA would be.



Cartoon by Gary Larson

New Rating System – A worked example, part 1

by Steven Brown, Kapiti

Given recent changes to the new rating system in response to the system's application to the World Seniors tournaments, I thought I would provide a worked example of exactly how new ratings are worked out using the system as it is now.

To do this, I'll be 'rating' a dummy tournament between four players, A, B, C, and D. In this example Player A has an established rating of 1550, Player B has a provisional rating of 1500 (and has previously played seven tournament games), Player C has an established rating of 1450, and Player D is a new player.

In this small tournament, the players have each played five games – A and C have played each other once, and each of the others twice, and B and D have also played each other once. A has gained two wins out of five, B has zero out of five, C has five out of five, and D has three out of five.

First pass - Provisional ratings

Players who start the tournament with a provisional rating (because they have played fewer than 30 NZ tournament games) all have their new ratings calculated using the provisional formulas, before the new ratings are calculated for any players with established ratings. If the number of games in the current tournament takes a provisionally-rated player up to 30 or more games, their new rating will be treated as an established rating in their next tournament.

A provisional rating is calculated by taking the average of the player's opponents' ratings and applying a ratings gain or loss to it. The ratings gain is calculated from the player's win rate using this formula:

$$-\log(1/\text{win rate} - 1) * 313$$

(where log is the natural (base e) logarithm – LN(x) in Excel)

Given that a win rate of zero (i.e. zero wins out of five games) would give a division-by-zero error in this formula, and a win rate of one (i.e. five wins out of five) would give an infinite rating gain, the actual win rate is scaled using this formula:

$$((\text{wins-games}/2) * (\text{games-2})/\text{games}+(\text{games}/2))/\text{games}$$

This formula scales the win rate to between one game out of the total number of games and one less than the total number of games. So, zero wins out of five becomes one win out of five (or a win rate of 0.2 rather than zero), 2.5 wins out of five stays as is, and three wins out of five becomes 2.8 wins out of five (or a win rate of 0.56 rather than 0.6).

Given these formulas, the initial provisional ratings would be worked out as follows:



Supplied by Lynne Butler

For B— the win rate of zero becomes 0.2 under the second formula, then, under the first formula, $1/0.2 = 5$

$$\rightarrow 5 - 1 = 4$$

$$\rightarrow \log(4) = 1.386294361$$

$$\rightarrow 1.386294361 * 313 = 433.910135$$

$$\rightarrow 433.910135 * -1 = -433.91013$$

The average (mean) of the opponents' ratings is (twice A's rating + twice C's rating + D's rating) / 5 games
 $= (1550 + 1550 + 1450 + 1450 + 0) / 5 = 6000/5 = 1200$

Adding the ratings loss gives $1200 - 433.910135$, for an initial provisional rating of 766.090.

For D, the same calculations go as follows:

Raw win rate: 3 out of 5 = 0.6, scaled to 0.56

Then: $1/0.56 = 1.785714286$

$$\rightarrow 1.785714286 - 1 = 0.785714286$$

$$\rightarrow \log(0.785714286) = -0.241162056$$

$$\rightarrow -0.241162056 * 313 = -75.48372367$$

$$\rightarrow -75.48372367 * -1 = 75.48372367$$

$$(1550 + 1550 + 1450 + 1450 + 1500)/5 = 1500$$

$$1500 + 75.48372367 = 1575.484.$$

We then replace B's start rating of 1500 with 766.090, and replace D's start rating of 0 with 1575.484, and rerun the calculations until these initial provisional ratings stop changing significantly.

Name (# of previous games)	Rating	Status	Games	Wins	Win rate	Scaled	Diff	Prov1
A	1550		5	2	0.4			
B (7)	1500	(prov)	5	0	0	0.2	-433.910	766.090
C	1450		5	5	1			
D (0)	0	(new)	5	3	0.6	0.56	75.484	1575.484

Name	Prov2	Prov3	Prov4	Prov5	Prov6	Prov7	Prov8
A							
B (7)	1081.187	1051.830	1064.434	1063.260	1063.764	1063.717	1063.737
C							
D (0)	1428.702	1491.721	1485.850	1488.371	1488.136	1488.237	1488.227

At this stage, the final provisional rating for new players is averaged out with the pre-tournament provisional rating for provisionally-rated players, according to the number of games played before the tournament and during the tournament. So, for B: $(1500 * 7 + 1063.737 * 5)$ is divided by 12 (being seven games before plus five games during) giving 1318.224. D remains on 1488.227.

Continued on page 46.

Sweet as NZ word search for new Kiwi Scrabble game

Brad Flahive, Stuff

Readers might remember that, in the Spring 2017 issue of Forwards, we printed a news article about an Australian version of Scrabble that was about to land on Australian shelves. Well, it appears that the New Zealand market is about to be hit with a similar Kiwiana-themed word game. Adapted below is an article from Stuff detailing the introduction of Kiwi Scrabble to take place later this year. Thank you to Glenda Foster from Wellington for drawing our attention to the original article which can be found at: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/entertainment/games/101435053/the-warehouse-want-to-know-new-zealanders-favourite-kiwi-words>

CUZZIES will be able to score points for common Kiwi terms as well as standard Scrabble words.

Baches around the country might have a new addition to the games cupboard later this year — a New Zealand Scrabble version is on its way to Aotearoa.



Toy retailer Mattel are teaming up with The Warehouse to create Kiwi Scrabble, said to be a homegrown twist on the popular board game that

celebrates words with a New Zealand flavour. The new version will give players access to a glossary of Kiwi terms to choose from alongside the standard list of Scrabble words. To help populate the new glossary, the makers are calling on New Zealanders to submit their favourite Kiwi terms, including Te Reo Maori words at the Warehouse's Facebook page by February 22. However, the announcement is not welcomed by all wordsmiths — president of the New Zealand Scrabble Association Paul Lister said he finds it an "abhorrent" adaptation.

"Speaking for myself, as a long-standing Scrabble purist, I have stuck with a dictionary that is played worldwide and is valid in all countries," Lister said. "The whole point of the world Scrabble body WESPA is that the Collins Scrabble dictionary is played at all Scrabble tournaments, and immediately an Aussie or NZ Scrabble version was used, it would

nullify this and our ratings system would be invalid."

He said there was already a massive Te Reo component and many Aussie-isms and Kiwi-isms within the Collins dictionary. "There's no need for any new words — with the exception of JANDAL they're pretty well there already."

But Jenny Epke of The Warehouse said they are thrilled to be making a board game that the whole country has a part in creating.

"We're excited to see it come to life and see what words people come up with — I know that I for one am keen to take back PAV from the Aussie version," she said.

The new, wordier version is set to roll out exclusively across all Warehouse stores and online later this year and will be the second of its kind — Australia launched an Aussie version in September last year.

Jacinta Whitehead, senior manager of marketing for Mattel said the company was excited to bring Kiwi Scrabble to life.

"New Zealanders are such proud, patriotic people, and we look forward to seeing all the localised word suggestions that are put through. Australia had over 20,000 word submissions, so we are looking forward to New Zealand surpassing that — the challenge has been set."



Mailbox



The other side of the table

by Sheila Reed, Wellington

Paul Lister's President's Report published in the last issue of *Forwards* mentioning the Seniors Champs in Christchurch brought back such happy memories for me. Well, that is until I came to the following sentence: "On Day two, Japan's John Ozag slept in, arrived for game 11 with seven minutes still on the clock, yet still managed to win by 200 points!" Here is a brief note from the poor unfortunate on the other side of the table in that game!

Bearing in mind that the first game of that day was actually Game 10, John Ozag's first opponent of the day had already got a bye. Therefore, by the time there were only seven minutes left in Game 11, I felt pretty confident of a bye for me too, thus nicely bumping up my number of wins.

But then, out of the corner of my eye I suddenly saw that he had turned up. In very leisurely fashion he arrived at the table and, without a word of apology or trace of embarrassment, sat down. My mother's voice came out in me and, like Mrs Mo in *Mo's Monster*, I thought "How rude."

Still feeling OK about things, I picked up my first tiles – a horror rack involving a lot of I's. I changed, and he played a bonus. Ditto my second rack: low score followed by his high one. "Why is the Tile Fairy doing this to me?" I thought.

I remember very little after this except that it was a nightmare versus a dream run, and I have a feeling my Scrabble manners might have deserted me by the end of the game. (Again I hear my mother telling me off for this!)

However, Lynley Jenness' excellent morning tea and a little walk round the delightful garden allowed me to recover my composure, and I lived to fight another round.

.....
Lyres Freeth, Independent, writes:

While holidaying on the beautiful island of Niue, I came across this artwork involving Scrabble tiles and computer keys. It is part of a larger installation called 'Sale's Fare', at Hikulagi Sculpture Park. It is composed of many recycled parts, created by the local Niue community in memory of former art teacher Charles Jessop.



Rosemary Cleary, Whanganui, writes:

This was my game against Leila Thomson at the Wellington tournament in January. I played four consecutive bingos for turns 3-6: NORMALS, UNLOOSE, WAITERED, and BONDAGE. My fifth bonus word was STRANGE, which I played in my penultimate turn, slotting it in nicely with several hooks.



Pam Robson, Kiwi Scrabblers, writes:

I'm wondering if someone can please enlighten us if there is a uniform size for a tile bag? I've noticed at tournaments lately that they are appearing in all shapes and sizes. I think when I first joined a club the size for the tile bag was based on the size of the old square board, and the bag was meant to be half the width of the board and the same length.

Liz Fagerlund, NZASP rule expert, replies:

Very simple answer as per rule 5.1 of our rules (which has never changed in the time I have been playing):

All bags should be approximately seventeen (17) by thirty four (34) centimetres in dimensions.

As you can see this gives approx. not exact but should ideally be pretty close to this.

Pam continues...

I recently enjoyed taking part in the Rotorua Tournament. In this tournament there were four pairs of sisters competing: Jillian Greening

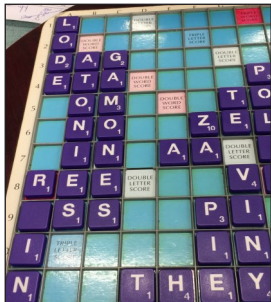
and Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell, Glenda Geard and Delcie Macbeth, Jeanette Grimmer and Merelyn Fuemana, and Leanne Field and Pam Robson. Quite unique really! I'm wondering if this could be a first.

Ed note: It seems that, like us, Pam was unaware that Ruth Godwin and Heather Landon are also sisters, bringing the grand total of sisters playing together at the Rotorua tournament to 10!

Since receiving Pam's contribution, we've been reflecting on Scrabble families (three other sisters played together at the 2017 Nationals; their photo featured in Forwards issue 127). There are several Scrabble marriages, and occasional parent/child combos, but are there still other relationships we don't know about? If you have a relative in the New Zealand Scrabble scene, we'd love it if you could send in a photo of the two of you together, (or find Lyres or Anderina at a tournament and we'll take one), and we'll compile a collage of the whole big happy Scrabble family.

Howard Warner, Independent, writes:

I had the joy of scoring a bingo with seven hooks at the recent Pakuranga tournament. I haven't achieved this feat since my very first year of Scrabble, some 33 years ago. However, it still didn't win me the game – my opponent Val Mills was too far ahead after scoring 190 for REINJECTS followed by the ATONIES to which my play ran parallel.



mnemonic for the set of consonants preceding EME(S): "Do Fairies Have Lots More Silver Teeth?" We'd love to share a compilation of such examples from our readers in our next issue, so please send in your favourite one/s. Priority will be given to contributions presented in a visually memorable format e.g. illustrated by the contributor (or your children or grandchildren).

.....
Lynne Butler, Whanganui, sent us this "true story" from an Internet blog:

From the diary of a Preschool Teacher:

My five-year old students are learning to read. Yesterday one of them pointed at a picture in a zoo book and said, "Look at this! It's a frickin' elephant!"

I took a deep breath, then asked..."What did you call it?"

"It's a frickin' elephant! It says so on the picture!"

And so it does...

Hooked on phonics! Ain't it wonderful?

.....
Suzanne Harding, Whangarei, writes:

I know that some Scrabblers enjoy using mnemonics as much as I do, so while shut indoors as cyclone Hola drops heavy rain on Northland I have made up three mnemonics and a list:

The 14 letters that precede INK(S) are: "TWO BOKS PLOD FROM JOG"

Thirteen consonants precede OLE(S) they are: "JuMBo iMPRoVeS DiTCHiNG"

The seven consonants that precede OMA(S) are in the word "BLaNCHeRS"

AW can be preceded by almost every consonant. The four unusable ones are B, Q, X, and Z.

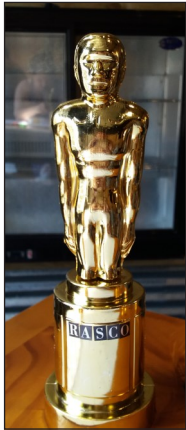
Ed note: Does the mention of mnemonics stimulate your synapses? We know they're out there, especially for hooks for short words (as in Suzanne's examples). I always associate with Hazel Purdie the



Ed note: FRICKING is an allowable play in Scrabble. No other forms of the word are acceptable.

The inaugural Wellywhanger contest

by Nick Ascroft, Wellington



The much-coveted trophy

A casual interregional Scrabble skirmish has fallen into place up the west coast of the lower North Island. Every couple of months (or whenever someone gets up the energy to organise it) two teams of Scrabblers gather, one from the Wellington region and the other from Whanganui-Kapiti-Manawatu, (or whoever can be

coerced). The format is an evolving process, but at the inaugural event, it was an unrated head-to-head, with every team member playing every opposing team member once.

This inaugural matchup was held in February at the Otaki pub. Originally, the Otaki RSA had been booked, but the person who was supposed to turn up with a key didn't, and after half an hour of kicking our heels and enjoying the sunny (but Scrabble-less) car park, we thought pah. Fortuitously, one of our party just happened to wander down to the Otaki pub to see if the locals could tell us how we might contact the missing key-bearer. The publican didn't know, but upon hearing our tale of woe she offered us space in her establishment.

She and her staff were incredibly hospitable and friendly, setting us up

in a spacious back room with good-sized tables. Not only were we offered this space free-of-charge for the six or so hours we were there (we did in fact pay them a small amount to acknowledge their amazing generosity) but, unasked, they provided us with free and unlimited water, juice, tea, and coffee.

Otaki was chosen as the venue because it is nearly halfway in drive-time between Wellington and Whanganui. Lynne Butler disputes this. Maybe we will be nudged more towards Levin in future.

Both teams had six players. On paper the Wellington region team looked the stronger, but early on it was neck and neck: three all after the first round, then six all and, at the halfway point, nine all. There was to be no Hollywood ending for the Whangers though. Welly took the trophy (called Rasco, a meaningless phony anagram of OSCAR) 22 wins to 14.

Teams were as follows: Wellington region: Dylan Early, Howard Warner, Clare Wall, Nick Ascroft, Nola Borrell, and Joanne Craig



Like all the locals, the pub's dog was somewhat bemused by our presence, but amiable enough.

(Joanne just happened to be visiting from Australia and staying in Waikanae); Whanganui invitational: Lynne Butler, Olivia Godfrey, Anderina McLean, Suzanne Ford, Yvette Hewlett, and Betty Eriksen.

I loved the team-on-team format. When I played in the UK there were a few regional team leagues, and the games were rated too. I'm not going to hit the AGM with a remit or anything as I am too lazy, but it's a thought, right? Loosening up the whole rateable game definition? Getting some fast-and-loose tournaments added on a whim? No?

Anyway, I can't get to too many tourneys or club nights these days, now that I am in domestic servitude to my new son, so I relished the January

Wellywhanger. My goal at the meet was to beat either Lynne or Anderina (the two highest-rated Whangers), not both, that would be rude. I failed. And Olivia (the third-rated Whanger) thrashed me with a 600+ game that I have already almost desperately forgotten. So actually no, I've changed my mind — let's not rate these silly, unimportant, it's-just-a-game-anyway non-tournaments.



The jubilant winners. Standing, L-R: Howard, Dylan, Clare, Nola, Joanne, with the author seated in front.

March Marathon madness in Palmerston North!

by Clare Wall, Independent

I was one of the keen (mad) Scrabblers who leapt at the chance to take part in the March Marathon tournament in Palmerston North on 10/11 March. Olivia Godfrey had advertised it late in 2017, and her brilliant idea was to attract those hardy souls who thrill to the idea of playing nine tournament games a day, for two days. How fried would our brains get? Who would succumb to the pressure? Is it true that the Tile

Fairy can desert a player for 18 games on the trot? (No, this didn't happen!)

So, on that mad weekend we all turned up to test those theories, all 34 of us. As expected (cough), PN turned on a weekend of brilliant sunshine. The temperatures were a little chilly in the early mornings, but increased nicely as the days went on.

I'm not sure that the format has a name, but it seemed to me to be a Swiss draw/King of the Hill hybrid. We played blocks of three games, with a reset happening at the end of each block.

One of the huge benefits of this format for me is that I got to play others with ratings quite far removed from mine, whom I never normally get to play in standard, graded tournaments. So I was delighted to face across the board Dylan Early (a large defeat for me), Anderina McLean (my closest game, she pipped me by seven points), Liz Fagerlund (my most resounding loss), Judith Thomas (my online Scrabble buddy), Bernie and Rodney Jardine (delighted to meet them for the first time), and Valma Gidman (twice!), along with others who didn't give any quarter.

Although the tournament was billed as 'no frills', it was in fact quite frill-ful. Olivia's friend Hamish produced a succession of delicious items for morning and afternoon tea, ably assisted by other non-players. The venue (a school hall) was perfect, with plenty of room and good facilities.

After an intense effort on Day One, everyone turned up on Day Two with



Marathon-themed lucky number chart

brain cells mostly intact. At the end of the day, Alastair Richards took out top honours with a fantastic 17 wins out of 18 games and +2154 spread.

Dylan had the highest game, a whopping 678, and Lyres Freeth played the highest word, BEDDINGS for 158.



*Olivia Godfrey,
tournament organiser*

There was also a special prize for the player who challenged off the most words played by opponents. Anderina took that prize by correctly identifying nine duds - don't commit these to memory: ZITES (ouch - mine!), UIT, REROUSED, SAUCINGS, ABAGAILS, RESETTLINGS, TEPEEING, JANTEES, and FLAIRING.

I was pretty happy with my 14th place, although I did slip a little in the ratings. I thoroughly enjoyed the large number of games, and the opportunity to play opponents I don't normally get to play. Olivia had naturally thought of everything and the tournament ran very smoothly, with assistance from quite a few other players.

As a Palmy girl, it was lovely to see a tournament in my home town. I encourage all of you to enter next time (there will be a next time, right?) for a great feast of Scrabble.

Meeting with the media

by Val Mills, Pakuranga

At the time of the World Seniors Championship in Christchurch, the NZASP (or maybe Howard Warner) contacted a large number of media outlets in NZ to see if they would be interested in covering the event. As you are already aware, they did a wonderful job. There was a great article in the *Herald*, and numerous radio interviews. The *Woman's Weekly* responded saying they would like to interview someone and Dianne Cole-Baker asked if I would do it. After trying unsuccessfully to palm it off on to others, I reluctantly agreed. I then heard nothing for a few weeks, but in December I was contacted by a reporter. She sent me a list of questions which were:

Why Scrabble?

First game?

Your first competition? Nerves?

How do you prepare for competitions?

Your highest scoring word?

How often do you play? Who do you play against? Chefs will often say they don't get invited out to dinner because people feel intimidated cooking for a professional – is it the same with Scrabble; do some people refuse to play you?

A bit about your background – age, where you grew up, family, work/hobbies (aside from Scrabble, although is it a hobby or something more?) etc.

Other talents – is it just something about words or do you have a knack with numbers as well?

Are you a reader / a curious person? Were you one of those kids who would read a dictionary for 'fun'?

Where has Scrabble taken you – ie Nairobi etc.?

Is it a dying 'art'? Having said that I am thinking of the physical game – and there are now online versions!

Are there differences in the way women and men play?

So I was thinking, "Great, she actually wants to know about Scrabble". She called and we went through the questions and then ended up just chatting as we found we had quite a bit in common... maybe it is not such a good idea to do this with a reporter! She then emailed me wanting quite a bit more personal information:

"As discussed can you give me the names of your kids, and ages (WW always asks) and the grandkids' names and ages. It would be good to get a bit more info about your parents as well - you said they met at language school, but were they there to do missionary work at that stage? - along with their names and your grandmother's given she taught you how to play Scrabble. I will be asked to ask you if I don't include it."

She then said they wanted to do a photo shoot, and would send a photographer and makeup person around to my place. This was her brief to the photographer, and my styling brief:

Photography brief: Shoot for a double page spread and possible inset. Portrait shots of Valerie on a plain background, as well as shots of her with her Scrabble board and tiles. Have some fun with these shots. Please also get some great shots of Valerie outside in her orchard. In all setups please include closeup, mid, and full length shots. A variety of poses, and include lovely candid moments too, with vertical and horizontal options.

Styling brief: Two smart casual looks. Light and bright block colour that will pop on the page. No black, dark colours, busy patterns or prints please. (Dark colours on bottom OK, ie jeans, pants).



This was arranged for a Saturday, and I thought I had done quite a good job of keeping things to myself. Then my daughter and 12-year-old granddaughter arrived unexpectedly about half an hour before the photographer, so that was the end of trying to keep it quiet! While the lovely Claudia from Brazil was giving me a fabulous makeover, my daughter and Sarah the photographer scrummaged around in my wardrobe trying to find something suitable for me to wear. They then proceeded to rearrange my lounge, moving plants, furniture, pictures, and other items so there would be a suitable place for photos to be taken.

I have to say it was fun, though I laughed when I saw the reporter had said she wanted photos in my 'orchard'! Anyone who has been to my place will know that I have about two metres of land around my house and that's about it! Though, into those two metres I have planted quite a lot of fruit trees and veggies. She had asked me what I liked to do and I said I had an edible garden and proceeded to list all the fruit trees I had... she deduced from that I had an orchard!

No one contacted me to let me know when it would be published, so the first I knew about it was when I was having a few days over on Rangitoto after Christmas. I received an email from Barbara Dunn saying she never buys the *Woman's Weekly* but just had, and there I was!

It has been interesting just who and where people have read it. I got a Facebook message from someone I knew when I was 12 in Tauranga, saying how nice it was to read about my Mum and Dad, and how good they

had been to her. One of my yoga teachers said he saw it when he was holidaying with his mum in Wellington. Two elderly clients mentioned they had seen it, my assistant at work saw it in a coffee shop, and then Heather Landon said she had read it while getting fish and chips!

As for the article itself... I hated the headline, didn't realise it would be so much about me, and wished I hadn't said some of the things I did say... but at least it did talk about Scrabble and get it out there, which was the point of doing it.

So from being a page 29 pinup girl to the fish and chip shop... that's my brush with the *New Zealand Woman's Weekly*.



The article about Val featured on pages 28-29 of the January 8th 2018 issue of the New Zealand Woman's Weekly. If you're desperate to read it (and/or to see those photos!), we recommend inquiring at your public library.

Twenty years ago in *Forwards*

by John Foster, Independent

Finding this article in *Forwards* issue 50, I was somewhat surprised that it was only 20 years ago that dialogue was beginning over unification of dictionaries and challenge rules. This has now largely been achieved (except for the Americans, of course).

The following is a glossary for the terms used in the article which may be less familiar to those readers who have joined our ranks within the last two decades.

OSPD: Official Scrabble Players Dictionary. Still the only reference used in the USA, with Webster's for longer words.

OSW: Official Scrabble Words. Affectionately known as Oswald. The main source dictionary was Chambers English Dictionary (CED), affectionately known as Cedric.

Double Challenge: Loss of turn by challenger if challenged word was correct.

Single Challenge: No penalty for challenger if challenged word was correct.

Dingle Challenge: No penalty for first unsuccessful challenge but loss of turn for subsequent unsuccessful challenges. Used for first four Trans-Tasman Challenges until replaced by five-point challenge.

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Which Dictionary and Rules?

From Scrabble FAQ on Internet

The following is a summary of which dictionary and challenge rules are used in competitive English language Scrabble play in various countries.

OSPD is the American reference, OSW is UK's, and a combination of both is termed SOWPODS.

Under single challenge, a turn is lost only by a player making an invalid word that is challenged, so challenges are free. Double challenge has a challenger also risking loss of turn if the word is valid. Under Singapore's unique rule, the maker of a bad challenge loses five points.

There is a move afoot, especially strong among top players who have played or have some prospect of playing in the World Champs (at which SOWPODS and single challenge are presently used), toward merging the rules. Most suggestions centre on using SOWPODS and some kind of middle-ground challenge rule, such as Singapore's or one penalising a challenger only for the second and succeeding bad challenges in a game (dingle challenge). However, there is not general agreement on this.

Here is a breakdown of references and challenge rules for various countries.

	OSPD	OSW	SOWPODS
Double-challenge	Canada Israel Malta Mexico Thailand US		New Zealand
5pt-challenge			Singapore
Single-challenge		Ireland UK	Australia Malaysia Philippines Sri Lanka
Unknown			African nations Bahrain Bermuda Qatar

2018: The Year of the Dog

Five years ago, Val Mills came up with the idea of a *Forwards* article on the topic of the Year of the Snake. Each subsequent Autumn issue has featured something about the animal representing the incoming year according to the Chinese zodiac. Some of these animals have been easier to write up than others (I'm frankly dreading what we'll come up with for the Year of the Ox, though that's three years away yet so we have a little time to think about it). So, imagine my relief, this January, when I consulted the almanac and found that 2018 is the Year of the Dog.

In previous years, we have featured, for example, names of breeds of the ascendant animal; compound words featuring the animal fore or aft; and even diseases from which the year's prominent animal suffers. We've considered idiomatic uses of the word. Any of these approaches would be applicable to our canine companions. However they just seemed to be marking out the same territory over and over again, which felt a bit like barking up the wrong tree, so we've



decided to see whether old dogs *can* be taught new tricks by using the Year of the Dog to examine what dogs are named.

When I consider my Scrabble friends, I have to confess that I am uniformly disappointed by what they have chosen to name their dogs. While they mostly meet the primary criterion that they are at least legitimate Scrabble words, most of them are fairly pedestrian names for these dignified creatures. It seems to me that a great opportunity has been wasted here. Even if you do no systematic study for Scrabble whatsoever, if you give your pet a name that is allowable in Scrabble but not a common English word, you are surely giving yourself an advantage?

As an alternative to naming your dog BLUEY or MIDNIGHT, consider less common substances of similar colours, such as plants, foods, or minerals. Would not LAVANDIN, MYCELLA, TURKOIS, or HAUYNE be more becoming? Or consider the nobility implicit in a dog named GRENACHE, NIELLO, or ONYX.

Obviously it would be wise to steer clear of names with meanings that have negative connotations. For example, while generating material for this feature, I did a search for words that might be reminiscent of "canine" in sound. While I found some appealing options, e.g. CINCHONINE, BUFOTENINE, THREONINE, they all seem to mean poisonous chemicals, so probably not ideal choices.

But I was rather taken with the flowering shrub called NINEBARK! Alternatively, I discovered CANICULAR (pertaining to the Dog Star), which to me is suggestive of the ultimate sidekick, perhaps for a performing magician?

Or what about using an anagram to generate your dog's name, such as SPLENIA the SPANIEL, or SOMEDAY the SAMOYED, or LARBOARD the LABRADOR? (As we are not here dealing with cats, we are spared the awkwardness ensuing from MISEASE the SIAMESE).

New Zealand Scrabble's most renowned BOWWOW, Olivia's Hershey, and her predecessor Awhina (Awhi), are not allowable Scrabble words. Awhina is Maori for "help(er)", and has one allowable anagram, HANIWA, defined by Zyzzyva as "Japanese clay sculptures" (no -S plural). Should you find yourself with *AWHINAS on your rack, have a look around the board for the eighth letter to make CHAINSAW, RAINWASH, or TANIWHAS.

However, if you do want to name your new best friend in te reo, you have plenty of worthy options that *are* allowable in Scrabble. Who cares if they're actually species of fish (ARAARA, HAPUKU, PARORE), or birds (RIRORIRO, RURU, HUIA)? Some of these would be delightfully onomatopoeic or otherwise expressive when applied to a dog. Or if your pet is more venerable, you might choose RANGATIRA (chief/ly) or TOHUNGA (priest/ly).

If you feel you must use a 'real' name for your pooch, at least let it be one with a little pomp to it, such as

BENEDICK, ICHABOD, ZILLAH, or PRUNELLA. But there are so many other Scrabble words just begging for a little more airtime. It's not a problem if you don't know how to pronounce these words, because nobody else does, either. Until now, these words have been exclusively employed within the Scrabble universe, and now for the first time, you're going to choose one to bring out into the real world. What you call your pet is up to you, and so too is how you say it.

Here's a few of the other Scrabble words I've collected as possible names for the dog I may never have:

BARKHAN	SHANTIH
ZIZYPHUS	BANZAI
WOLFRAM	BANDARI
SYRINX	KYOGEN
BOWYANG	HARIJAN
KLYSTRON	TOFUTTI

Have you ever met a dog (or other pet) with a *Scrabtastically significant name? What interesting Scrabble word would you like to name your pet? We'd love to include some examples (ideally with photos!) in the next issue of *Forwards* to be published in 2018, the Year of the Dog.



Cartoon by Murray Ball

Puzzles and diversions

Anagrams in Context

Lorraine Van Veen, Independent, shared the following anagrammatical quiz, which was part of a quiz event in which she participated on a recent cruise.

Unscramble and reassemble the underlined letters in each sentence to find out who or what the sentence is about.

1. Although most people agree that he died in 1977, a few hopeful fans still believe that he lives. (5)
2. No matter how much someone may dislike bugs, they always like to see one of these flutter by on the wind. (9)
3. Some people think this actor's big ego adds a cool energy to his performances. (6, 7)
4. People in this country are often more slender than those in other countries because they like to ride their bikes a lot. (11)
5. While somewhat straight when drawn on a map, the true shape of this river is quite complex. (9)
6. Although Leo was still a relatively new star, when cast in this film he proved he could act in it. (7)
7. At the animals' bath time, zookeepers don't have to reach up too high in order to tip the shampoo onto the back of this beast. (12)
8. This space-bound explorer might require a tutor to help with the advanced math used at NASA. (9)
9. Each year, many families search for one of these to set in their homes and trim with decorations. (9, 4)
10. The backpacker decided to roam all over China, funding his travels only by stopping to busk on this instrument. (9)
11. These scientists predict that in the distant future when the universe grows cold, there will be no more stars. (11)
12. This towering sculpture didn't stay where it was built; it was sent to the land of the free. (6, 2, 7)
13. No matter how many greetings the space explorers sent into this mysterious gateway, they never heard a hello back from the other side. (5, 4)

14. A great film to show the many virtues of Connery acting as agent 007, or James Bond. (4, 6, 4, 4)
15. The distance this 17th Century explorer sailed turned out to be so much shorter than the public had anticipated. (11, 8)
16. Harrison Ford, the real star of this film, is ok at doing his own stunts. (7, 2, 3, 4, 3)
17. The budding young astronomer used only his amateur radio set to track the movements of this potentially dangerous celestial object. (8)
18. On an overnight expedition to find an example of this rare type of animal, the ornithologists paid for air beds so they wouldn't have to sleep on the ground. (4, 2, 8)

Answers on page 44.

What would you do?

In a recent online game between Dylan Early and Steven Gruzd, the following board position arose after Steven played AR at 5N for two points. It's Dylan's turn to play. How did he score 98 points and tick off one of the words on his bucket list of all-time favourites?

	Dylan Early (to play)
Rack	GEKOOP?
Score	412
	Steven Gruzd
Rack	DEILORT
Score	370



Howard Warner asks:
What do the following three words have in common?

ADDEEMS FACETIOUSLY FORTY

Answers on page 44.

Scrabble as a therapeutic activity

by *Joanne Morley, Rotorua*

At last year's Rotorua tournament, I was asked what work I did. On replying "I am an occupational therapist", that person asked if I had ever used Scrabble as a therapeutic occupation / intervention. She challenged me to write an article about how I have used Scrabble as a therapeutic activity in my working life.

I am passionate about Scrabble; my colleagues would argue that I am addicted (their view may have some merit as I changed my working days so I could attend club). However, the point we all agree on is that Scrabble can be used as a therapeutic activity. Here are some examples of how Scrabble has been incorporated into my working life.

1. Jack's wife Rose was diagnosed with a rapidly deteriorating condition and a short prognosis. Jack was a very social man who loved his wife dearly. He wanted to be home with her. However, he was missing the social contact that was so essential to his wellbeing. As he was computer literate, we looked into computer activities that would provide him with some social contact. He selected Scrabble. Together we set him up to play in the Internet Scrabble club. He played daily until his wife's passing.

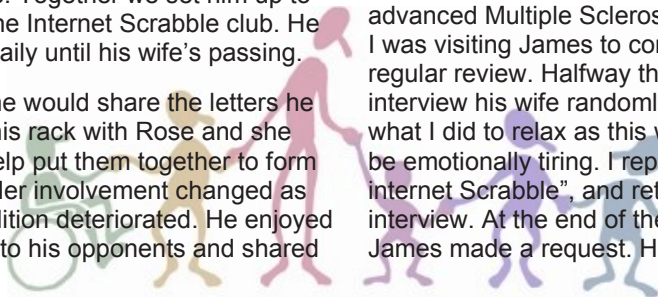
Initially he would share the letters he had on his rack with Rose and she would help put them together to form words. Her involvement changed as her condition deteriorated. He enjoyed chatting to his opponents and shared

these conversations with Rose. Following her death he discontinued playing Scrabble. The playing had helped him through a tough period of his life.

2. Vanessa had very limited movement due to advanced rheumatoid arthritis. Her ability to get out and about was limited to times when she could arrange transportation. Her treatment goal was to increase social contact. An activity she identified as a favourite was Scrabble. She enjoyed learning words and their meanings, and she described the handling of tiles as being therapeutic for her hand dexterity.

The goal she set for herself was to arrange friends and contacts to join her at home to play Scrabble. She announced her request for players at one of her social groups (Probus). When I last had contact with Vanessa, she told me that she had four regular players participating in Scrabble games in her home.

3. James was a full time wheelchair user. He could only control his wheelchair with his head due to his advanced Multiple Sclerosis. One day, I was visiting James to complete a regular review. Halfway through the interview his wife randomly asked me what I did to relax as this work must be emotionally tiring. I replied, "I play internet Scrabble", and returned to the interview. At the end of the interview James made a request. He explained



that he also liked Scrabble, and asked if I could show him this internet Scrabble thing now. Together we set up an account, and I gave him a few brief instructions on how to use the site, then left.

A week later I got a call from James to say “Joanne, I need therapy, can you come and visit?” Puzzled, I queried, “Therapy?” He responded “Yes, there is more to Scrabble than making words; I need some pointers”.

On arriving at his home his wife greeted me with a hug and thanked me for introducing James to Scrabble. Apparently James had taken to playing in the evenings, and as a result she was able to watch programmes that she enjoyed, not just the ones James preferred. It seemed that Scrabble was helping James’s wife as well as James himself.

During that therapy session I explained some of the Scrabble techniques I knew. James played with a mouth stick, which he used to tap the keyboard letters.

A year later at his next review, he excitedly told me about an American woman with whom he played regularly. Apparently she had booked a cruise to New Zealand, and had a day in Tauranga. She had emailed him the day trip options, and he had been able to provide comments and advice on all of them. She had subsequently made her choice of day trips with his recommendations in mind.

James played Scrabble till he was admitted to hospital at the end stages of his life. When I visited his wife after his passing, her first question was,

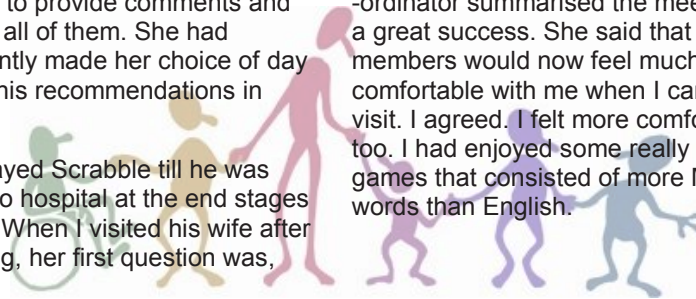
“How do we let his Scrabble friends know?”

4. My last story is about the unexpected Scrabble opportunity. I was asked to do a presentation to a local kaumatua group on what occupational therapy is. I arrived with a brief speech in my bag and a couple of regularly-used items of equipment that can be issued to enable people to continue with activities within the home.

On my arrival, to my surprise the co-ordinator asked me if I wanted to play Flag 500 or Scrabble? (Is there a choice?) I was informed that they allow Māori words to be played (I now know that all the words they used were probably valid Scrabble words anyway).

During the games, seven members came up to me. Two of them, whom I had previously visited, asked if they could be placed on the wait list, as they had some new functional concerns to discuss. The others asked about the equipment on display either for themselves, family members, or a friend. Everything was very relaxed, and I believe this was due to the fact that we were playing Scrabble, a game we all loved regardless of our cultural differences.

At the conclusion of the games, the co-ordinator summarised the meeting as a great success. She said that the members would now feel much more comfortable with me when I came to visit. I agreed. I felt more comfortable too. I had enjoyed some really good games that consisted of more Māori words than English.



Hall of Fame

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi



Hello, there!

My name is Jack Foley, and I'm willing to bet you've never heard of me. I'm also willing to bet you've not even heard of the thing named after me.

Yet my name has probably featured on more film credits than Christopher Lee or Susan Sarandon, and even a name like Walt Disney. My name is in the credits of almost every film ever produced since movies got sound. That's a big clue for you, if you're trying to guess what I'm famous for.

However, although I worked in cinema for 40 years, my name didn't often appear in film credits *then*. But nowadays, you probably won't see a list of movie credits where my name is not listed!

I was born in New York State in 1891, the son of Irish immigrants. Over my lifetime I was a clerk on the docks, worked for a phone company as an accountant, was a cartoonist, a stuntman and movie double, a semipro baseball player, a film director, a writer, and an oil painter. But I lived for baseball. My wife shared my love of athletics (she was a champion ocean swimmer), so in

1914 we moved to California for our sport.

It was there that I started in the motion picture business. My first job was as a double and stuntman. But I've also directed silent films and written scripts for Universal Studios, and directed close-up inserts (e.g. a hand picking up a gun) which are not bothered with during normal shooting.

All that was in the silent picture era, but exciting times were to come when, overnight, the industry converted to sound moving pictures . . .

Universal Pictures' main competitor was Warner Bros., and in 1927 they released their film, *The Jazz Singer*, which features characters speaking and singing. We, on the other hand, had just finished a silent movie of the stage musical *Show Boat*. We had to do something to keep up! And fast!

So we borrowed some scarce audio recording equipment and organised an orchestra to play the score as the musicians watched the movie on a screen. No-one was experienced with sound, so on the strength of my short stint with a phone company, I, as assistant director, had to assemble a team to add incidental sounds like clapping or cheering to be recorded at the same time. Thus, we "saved" our movie.

Most of the other studios had the same dilemma. Their immediate response was to bring their films to us for similar post-production treatment.

And so sound effects were added to picture after picture.

After *Show Boat*, I put all my efforts into the new horizons of sound, forging a new technique where the sound is recorded and “glued on” afterwards, post production, in the editing room.

You would think that as all studios got audio recording equipment, the demand for manmade sound effects would have lessened. Not so. Microphones at the time could not pick up more than dialogue. Although recording technology has progressed since then, microphones on a movie set are primed to pick up actors’ voices, and therefore do not adequately record incidental sounds like the pages turning in a book, or silverware tapping on china. Sounds still need to be replaced or enhanced because, very often, the original sounds captured during shooting are obstructed by noise or are not convincing enough to underscore the visual effect or action. Also, as studios began to distribute films internationally, dubbed in foreign languages, all sound effects recorded at the time of the original dialogue had to be replaced.

I always aimed to create the perfect sound that would fit the personality of the character we were filming the scene for – we were also genuine performers. I never considered my job to be just about footfalls, even though I must have “walked” hundreds of miles on small patches of dirt or gravel, eyes glued to the screen in front of me, to get the timing exactly right. I’ve created footsteps and body movements for Laurence Olivier, Kim Novak, Sandra Dee, Rock Hudson,

Marlon Brando . . . all of whom had their own distinctive walk.

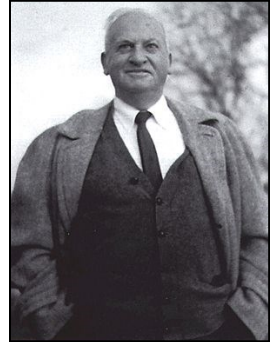
Movie folklore delights in stories about my behind-the-scenes work.

The movie *Spartacus*

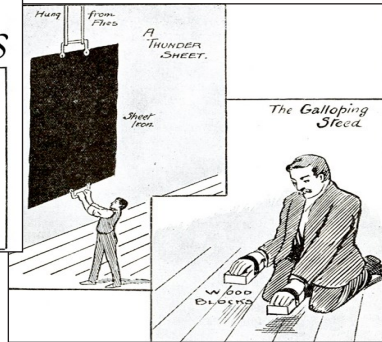
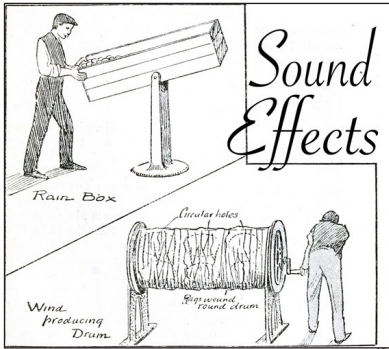
showed scenes of slaves walking in leg chains. The director was all set to return to Italy and restage the scene to capture the sound effects, but I was able to produce a convincing sequence using footsteps and key chains. It was not only easier and less expensive, but **better and more effective** than the real thing.

Perfect timing and physical agility are the skills of a good foley artist – many are ex-dancers. I trained and worked with dozens of sound effects and props people, and I’m proud that they give me credit for developing the unique method of performing sound effects that is widely used today. I didn’t invent sound effects in film, but they say I developed the best way to make them work.

So that’s why you will see phrases like foley stage, foley artists, foley art, foley studio, foley sheets, foley reels, foley walker, foley editor, etc. I’m so proud of all the foley artists who create the sound effects you hear in films and television today, and pleased that the way they do it is the same way I did it — by standing in front of the microphone watching the screen, synchronising sound to actions and emotion.



Jack Foley



Foley artists in action

Then immerse yourself again into the film with sound effects so convincing, you would never normally notice them at all.

Stay and watch the film credits and see the list of FOLEY artists. And think of me again when

Remember me, Jack Foley, the next time you're at the movies. When you hear car tyres shrieking in a car chase, just reflect for a moment that the sound is made by dragging a hot water bottle over damp kitchen floor tiles in a foley room that looks like a junkyard.

you play the useful five-letter word FOLEY (commonly called the footsteps editor) in a Scrabble game. It pluralises to FOLEYS.

Tournament Calendar 2018		
Mt. Albert Winter Warm Up	Auckland	12-13 May
Nationals	Auckland	2-3 June
Whangarei	Whangarei	30 June -1 July
Midwinter Madness	Wellington	14-15 July
Kiwi	Hamilton	11-12 August
Tauranga	Tauranga	25-26 August
Canterbury Scrabble Open	Christchurch	8-9 September
Papatoetoe	Auckland	22-23 September
Mt. Albert	Auckland	6-7 October
Whanganui	Whanganui	20-21 October
# Trans Tasman Challenge	Dunedin	16-18 November
Dunedin	Dunedin	17-18 November
# Restricted entry		

WESPA Whispers

by Howard Warner, Independent

Alchemist conjures up spot for NZ

New Zealand has been invited to a world premier team event, the five-day Alchemist Cup, in early December.

This event replaces the Causeway Challenge, which was held annually in Johor Bahru, southern Malaysia, until a few years ago. Now organiser Michael Tang is resurrecting it under a new, personalised name – ‘Alchemist’ is his online handle. The Cup is also shifting to Penang, Malaysia’s foodie capital in the north.

The 10 teams of five players each are Australia, England, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Singapore, Thailand, USA, Rest of Asia, and Rest of World. Participants play 45 games, once each against all players from the other nine teams. Luckily for us, Nigel Richards, a former individual winner of the Causeway, has opted to play for New Zealand rather than Malaysia.

The Causeway Challenge began as an annual ‘test’ between Singapore and Malaysia. It expanded to include other Asian countries, then Australia, before settling on the current 10-team format. New Zealand competed in the event three years running, with players such as Nigel Richards, Jeff Grant, Blue Thorogood, Joanne Craig, Patrick Carter, and Liz Fagerlund playing. Its crowning glory was the year when every single match was annotated and made available for viewing online. In the last couple of years of Causeway, an open tournament was run alongside, with up to 400 players competing in three fields.

This year’s event will be the team format only. The prize pool and fine details will be announced shortly.

Loosening Thais with North America

The Thai Crossword Game Association has decided to switch Scrabble play from the American TWL (Tournament Word List) lexicon to the international CSW (Collins Scrabble Words).

This is a major move. Not only is Thailand a power in world Scrabble, but it was also the last country outside of Canada, USA, and the Independent Republic of Niger to have players regularly competing in the North American Champs.

Thai players have performed with distinction in North America over the years. Not that they’ve done poorly in WESPA (world) events. Three different Thais have won the World Championship, and one of those, Pakorn Nemitrmansuk, has been a finalist three times. But in recent years, many Thai players have had to choose one circuit or the other because of the difficulty of mixing word sources and challenge rules.

The North America Scrabble Players Association (NASPA) says it has no intention of following Thailand. NASPA is a licensee of Hasbro, the North American owner of the Scrabble brand; TWL, produced by dictionary publisher Merriam-Webster, is also commercially linked to Hasbro.

Obituary for Hazel Purdie from Mt. Albert Club

As mentioned by Paul Lister in this issue's President's Report (see p. 5), Hazel Purdie from Mt. Albert Club has recently passed away. She has been a long-standing member of the Scrabble community and will be greatly missed. Regular readers of Forwards will recall that Hazel was profiled in our "Word Famous in New Zealand" column (see issue 126, pp. 6-8). Following are tributes written by some of Hazel's Mt. Albert clubmates.



Hazel Purdie

Hazel Purdie, a beloved, longtime member of the Mt. Albert Club, passed away on Tuesday 13th March after a battle with cancer. She didn't let the diagnosis of cancer spoil the last year or so of her life. She had made the decision to turn down treatment, and preferred people not to know too much about her illness. In particular, she didn't want sympathy or a fuss made of her; she just wanted to fully enjoy the time she had left with her family, and to continue engaging in the varied hobbies that she loved. We know Hazel loved Scrabble, but she also played tennis regularly, and belonged to an embroidery group. She told friends she'd had a great life and was determined that she would continue to enjoy it to the end.

Hazel's no-fuss attitude was exemplified by her not wishing to have a funeral. Her family respected her wishes, instead holding a private family cremation. After the cremation

there was a chance for friends and relatives to pay their respects at Hazel's home in Royal Oak, Auckland. Many Scrabblers attended and got to talk to friends and family members who were clearly impressed with Hazel's ability and successes in Scrabble. They admitted that they didn't want to play her – she was too good! Apparently members of the family at the cremation took turns in reading out parts of the "Word Famous in NZ" column featuring Hazel, which was printed in last year's Autumn issue of *Forwards*.

Hazel was a much-loved and respected member of the Mt. Albert Scrabble Club. Her membership of the club dates back to the early 1980s, when the club had been in operation for only a few weeks. Her last visit to the club was on 5th February this year. At the time of her passing she was the longest-standing club member, and had been a keen tournament player.

Recent tournament successes include second in B Grade at the Mt. Albert tournament held last October. The last tournament Hazel played in was the World Seniors Scrabble Champs in Christchurch which took place in November 2017. In that tournament, Hazel won the trophy for the top

80±-year-old player. She also gained a special prize for the best word to describe New Zealand – PANORAMA – a word that also encapsulates Hazel's full, interesting, and colourful life.

Hazel, you never had a bad word to say about anyone, and the club members and Scrabble community will have many fond memories of you. We will all miss you.

Tribute to Hazel

by Su Walker, Independent

It's hard to remember a time when I didn't know Hazel and enjoy her company. It was a 25-year friendship that developed over time across the Scrabble board. We usually managed to get together about twice a month on the weekends. Until a few years ago when I began working a night shift in my library job, we also met at the Mt. Albert Club regularly.

Hazel often spoke of her family members, in particular her grandchildren, one of whom was the same age as my son Luke. We often had stories to swap and giggled together over them.



Hazel Purdie, Seniors World Champion (over 80), & Wellington Jighere, 2015 WESPA World Champion. Photo by Lawson Sue, who describes Hazel as "A real lady of Scrabble, and a real lady for life".

Each time we met up at Hazel's home, she'd tell me she didn't cook in the weekends, and off we'd go to the fish 'n' chip shop, or further on to the local roast shop. And each time I'd leave I'd comment on what a lovely dinner we'd had and compliment her on it. This was always met with a huge grin from her and a giggle from me... every time.

I was looking back over my calendar from last year and saw Hazel's name mentioned, as I say, a couple of times a month. It made me realise that she really has left a big gap in my life; I can't believe we won't ever play again. But I'll be doing my best to at least catch up to where she left off in the ratings. No matter how long it takes, I'm determined to get to my goal. From 63rd place to 37th place, and 1363 to 1554; here I come!

Hazel Purdie: my special memories

by Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert

For the last two or three years Hazel and I would get together on a Thursday early afternoon, after I had finished my line-dancing class nearby and she had been to tennis. I'd ring to see if she was available, and we would have an enjoyable two to four games of Scrabble.

Hazel became too unwell to play in the Pakuranga tournament in late January this year and had to withdraw her entry. However, I know she had a few games with friends at her home after that, and proceeded to beat every visitor in every game.

Most Thursdays this year when I called her, she was not able to play. However, when I phoned her on 22nd February, she said she was tired but I should call round. I told her she didn't need to play Scrabble; we could just chat. However, when I arrived, the Scrabble board, clock, scoresheets, and Hazel were all ready for action.

We had just one game — Hazel's last game — which she won in style (474 to 423). She played three bonuses, including a triple-triple through a G, OUTREIGN which scored 145 with the extra five points for the challenge. Hazel was the queen of the Scrabble board that day! At the gathering at her house after the private family cremation, her family members were telling me that Hazel had told them all about that game and the wonderful triple-triple play she had made!

I will remember Hazel with much love, and fond memories of friendship, kindness, and great Scrabble.

Lovely memories

by Mary Curtis, Hastings

After moving away from Auckland, I had the pleasure of billeting with Hazel several times. When I would arrive up on the Friday afternoon before a tournament, the Scrabble board would be already out, and after the preliminary cuppa, the games would begin.

Hazel always had a chuckle when she played what I believe was one of her favourite words.

But there's no doubt that when it came to our favourite game Hazel was no EEJIT!

Not your average little old lady

by Anderina McLean, Whanganui

When I first joined the Mt. Albert Club more than a decade ago, it seemed to be full of old ladies, with old-lady names, and I thought I would never learn to tell them apart. But Hazel's big smile and soft accent set her apart soon enough.

I remember when Julia Schiller wanted to interview a stereotypical Granny for a board game she was designing. I suggested Hazel, and Julia's eyes lit up; yes, that was just the look she had in mind. "She collects donkeys, you know", I couldn't resist adding. Julia was over the moon that the perfect character for her project would exhibit this additional idiosyncrasy.

Despite outside appearances, Hazel was not your typical little old lady. She was active, independent, and could be emphatically opinionated. I was gobsmacked once to see her lose her temper over a perceived injustice at the club; although she stormed out that night, she was very embarrassed by the incident, and spent the next several months apologising about it.

In the first trimester of a then-undisclosed pregnancy, I stayed a night in Hazel's spare room, so that we could get an earlier start on our shared road trip to a Scrabble tournament in Hamilton the next day. I was prone to 'morning' sickness, and may not have slept at all that night, entreating any and all deities that I must please not spew in Hazel's loo. I didn't, but I was less than thrilled by driver Hazel taking a 'shortcut' off the main highway, and was more than a

little peaky when we arrived at our destination. Later, when I did announce my pregnancy, and Hazel came to congratulate me, I recalled to her that weekend, and although she said she'd had no idea, I always suspected she had guessed.

Although it was never explicitly stated, I'm sure Hazel knew that she was being interviewed for our Word Famous column 'before it was too late'. It took us a few tries to set up a mutually suitable date for the interview to take place, and we decided to do it at a local cafe rather than at home. It was a glorious day, and Hazel insisted on treating me, despite the fact that she was doing me a favour already. She even insisted on buying me a piece of cake to take home to share with my family, after I was already full.

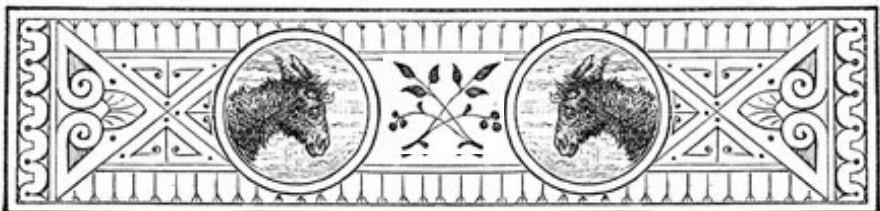
This experience showed me another facet of Hazel. She told the story she wanted to tell. She didn't want to talk about her prognosis; that was completely off-limits. Some questions I asked her were skilfully deflected, while others she was happy to elaborate on. I also remember her response to the draft of the article I sent to

her: "One thing keeps nagging at me, the word 'gotten' is not in my vocabulary, please change it to 'got'."

As others have said, it is unfathomable to think I'll never play another game of Scrabble with Hazel. But I know she'll stay in my thoughts, not only over the tiles, but whenever I bake scones, whenever I see a particularly kitsch donkey ornament, and whenever I hear an Irish accent. I hope that one day, when I'm a little old lady at a Scrabble club, and some bright-eyed bushy-tailed 20-something comes along, I'll be able to make as significant an impression on them as Hazel has made on me.



*Hazel always loved dogs. Here she is pictured alongside Buddy Cole-Baker.
Photo by Liz Fagerlund*



Club News

Nelson Club held their annual tournament during the second weekend of February. Tony Charlton provided us with the following report on that tournament:



*Photo credit: MARTIN DE RUYTER/
STUFF*

I got our tournament dates onto the website in good time late last year, in the hope of attracting a few more competitors, after the low turnout in 2017.

A week before the deadline we had 12 entries, which looked good for a triple round robin with two grades. However, during that week I received one more surprise entry. I set about trying to get another three entries to make up 16, so that we could play a double round robin. I exchanged a few more emails and got the 16, a number we hadn't managed to get for a few years. Sadly, I received an email only two days before the tournament was due to start letting me know that two of the Christchurch competitors were not able to come because of illness.

As a result of the late withdrawals, we were down to 14 players. I was advised to change the format to a triple round robin for the A Grade with six competitors playing 15 games, and a double round robin for the B Grade with eight competitors playing 14 games. Fortunately Glenda was able to redo the draw for the new format at very short notice.

The venue we had used for the last couple of years at Founders' Park had proved ideal for our tournament, but the price had gone up and I felt that we were unlikely to get the numbers to cover the cost this time. I set about looking for a new venue. In early December I was invited to a Christmas performance by the Songbirds Choir, of which my wife, Gill, is a member, and this was held in the Community Lounge at one of the local retirement villages where they have their weekly practices. I noted that this lounge would be ideal for our Scrabble tournament. After some enquiries, I was delighted to be told that the lounge would be available, and at a very reasonable cost.

At our club night the week before the tournament, I had a surprise offer from Paul Harvey, one of our newer members, to help out with the running of the competition. He turned out to be computer literate and was happy to operate the computer for recording the scores. This made things a lot easier for me, as I had been the one to operate it for the last couple of years, between games. Gill had decided not

to compete this year, and was happy to do the catering for morning and afternoon teas.

With the new format in place, I found myself at the bottom of the A Grade, competing against people with a much higher rating, and with an expectancy of 2.1 games. I was not too hopeful of making that expectancy, but I had managed to beat some of them in the past when I had been very lucky with the tiles. I was absolutely hammered in my first game, only drawing the Z out of the big four with no S's or blanks, so things didn't look too good for winning my measly 2.1 games. When it came to game four against Murray Rogers however, I started drawing much better tiles and managed to narrowly beat him. I was lucky again in game five against Malcolm Graham, so I had my two games quite early on at least.

On the first day in Grade A, John Baird shot to the top, after winning his game against Malcolm with a spread of 220, and there he stayed for the rest of the day. Meanwhile in Grade B, Hanna Dodge won her first game against Karen Brookes with a spread of 138, putting her into first place, where she also stayed for most of the day, only being briefly passed by Phyllis Paltridge after game 10. Hanna had actually been demoted from Grade A, after two competitors had dropped out, and the number in Grade A was reduced to six. She was happy to be demoted, because it gave her the chance to win first prize in the lower grade, with Phyllis and Madelaine Green in second and third places respectively.

We had an extra game to play on Sunday, as Grade A had a total of 15 games while Grade B had 14. I had expected the Grade A players to be completing their games more quickly, but by lunchtime on Sunday none of us had played more than 12 games, so it was decided that we would have a very short lunch break to enable us to fit in the extra game. As it was raining heavily, no one was very keen to walk to the shop or café for lunch anyway, and Gill was able to supply extra sandwiches and dips for those who hadn't brought their own lunch.

I had been hoping to win another game on Sunday and had a few close calls, but no more wins. By game 11, against Anna Brouwer, I was starting to get rather tired and beginning to make a few mistakes. I was in the lead for most of this game but accidentally picked up an extra tile. Anna took two tiles as per the rule, and they just happened to include an S, so she naturally put the S back in the bag, hoping to pick it up next turn, which she did. This helped her to gain a high score by putting it on XI, on a double word square, and she ended up beating me by quite a small margin. In the second to last game, which I played against Murray, I was in the lead for much of the game again, but not bothering to rotate the board probably cost me the game. I accidentally put my X on the wrong line and making a nonword. However, Murray cleverly chose not to challenge it as its placement enabled him to get a higher score than he otherwise would, and thus win the game.

In my final game, against Malcolm, we had an interesting sequence of bonus words. Malcolm played one on his second turn, for 83 points, and I replied with another one PLAINER, for 72. Malcolm got a shorter word for 31, then I played SUNNIEST for 68, followed by Malcolm's ROOSTING for 71. After that I tried another bonus, but Malcolm challenged it off, and he then played his third bonus word for 60. This meant that there was a total of **five bonuses** in rapid succession!

On Sunday there were a few changes of leadership in Grade A. John lost game nine, while Murray won his seventh game putting him into first place. Murray stayed at the top for the next couple of games but was passed by Anna after game 12. John was back in first place after game 13, and was passed again by Anna after game 14. Lynn Wood had a very good game 15 however, and shot up from fourth to first place with 10 games and a spread of 634, narrowly beating John with the same number of wins and a spread that was only four below Lynn's. Anna came in third, also with 10 wins, and a spread of 208.

We were all happy with the new venue, and hope to play there again next year. There will be room for quite a few more. Please put 9th and 10th February in your tournament calendar, and book a Grab-a Seat flight to Nelson. We would love to see you here, and I'm sure the weather will be perfect.

Tony also featured recently in the Nelson Mail. You can read that article at:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/our-people/101035804/memory-boost-from-the-game-of-life>

.....
Scott Chaput from Dunedin Club sent in the following news:

At our most recent AGM on the 27th of February, Chris Handley was unanimously voted in as a Dunedin Club life member. He becomes our fourth life member, coming in after Marian Ross, Bill Grigg, and Daisy Madden.



Chris Handley

.....
The secretary of the Pakuranga Club, Jeanette Owler, sent in this interesting item about how Pakuranga Club has managed to make its influence felt overseas:

The Tuesday afternoon Scrabble session at Pakuranga has up to 16 attendees. One of the most enthusiastic is a Japanese gentleman, Mr. Nishiyama Masa. Masa spends six months each year in Japan and six months in New Zealand.

When he returned to Japan last April, he took several Scrabble boards with him and set up a group in Abashiri Hokkaido, a Northern area of Japan. They now have between six and 10 players and they meet monthly. Masa reports that some of the members are coming to New Zealand in May this year, and we in the Pakuranga Club are all looking forward to meeting them and enjoying some good Scrabble games.

Finally, the president of Rotorua Club, Joanne Morley, sent in this report focusing on the recent Rotorua tournament.

Rotorua Tournament: teamwork at its best

The most recent Rotorua tournament took place on 24-25 February. In her thank you speech Val Mills acknowledged the teamwork that was so evident at the Rotorua yearly tournament. We're delighted that this fact was noticed and acknowledged, because everyone in our club pulls their weight when it comes to organising this tourney.

The tournament this year attracted 67 players who were placed into five grades (14 players in A, B, and C grades, 12 in D, and 13 in E). This is a pretty large number of players for a club-run tourney, so we all had to work together to assure the smooth running of the event. Here are some of the roles that committee and club members undertook:

- Ruth Godwin, our secretary, collated entries, sorted grades, finalised the draw, printed booklets, and completed many other of the background preparation work. She was also our tournament director.
- Wendy Anastasi, our treasurer, managed all the financial matters, collection of the fees and entries, and sorting the prize money.
- Val Isherwood, our vice president, used one of her many talents as MC for the weekend.
- Jan Kite's organisational skills were put to good use co-ordinating the kitchen. We'd particularly like to thank Jan's granddaughter who did a stellar job helping out in the kitchen. Jan commenced some early sweetening of the Tauranga players with the delivery of ice

creams (we're thinking ahead and preparing for the Battle of the Gorge competition).

- Tim Henneveld was our chief of the raffles and Janny Henneveld presented the prizes to those receiving one.
- Diane Pasco was our accurate and diligent scorer.
- Two club members, Chris (Saturday) and Marge (Sunday) provided competition for the person in E Grade with the bye.
- Other club members helped set up and reorganise the Bridge Club rooms, and provided food for the morning and afternoon teas.
- I was assigned the task of writing a report for *Forwards*.
- We would also like to give a special thanks to Jennifer Smith from Kiwi Scrabblers for being the adjudicator, and for the good, clear explanations provided.

At our last committee meeting, we reflected on the tournament. Following discussion we have voted to keep the 13-game round robin format for 2019. In doing this we acknowledged the support from our closest club, Tauranga. Fifteen players from Tauranga participated, and many of these players travelled over each day. We also considered the needs of our own club.

Finally, we are proud to say that last year six of our members completed their first tournament, and over our last four tournaments we have had eight players (seven from Rotorua and one from Tauranga) use our tournament as a stepping stone to greater involvement in the tournament environment.

Puzzles answers

In the previous issue of Forwards, we published recent immigrant Dylan Early's mnemonic Political Bonuses (pp. 36-40). Just in case you haven't already looked them up on Zyzyva, here are the answers:

**ARDERN +1: "GOSSIPY KIWI
BIGWIG"**

BRANDER, REBRAND, GNARRED,
GRANDER, DRAINER, RANDIER,
KNARRED, ADORNER, READORN,
PARDNER, DARNERS, ERRANDS,
SNARRED, REDRAWN, REYNARD

**ENGLISH +1: "WILL FAILED,
PETERS PREVAILED"**

HEALINGS, LEASHING, SHEALING,
HINDLEGS, SHINGLED, HEELINGS,
SHEELING, FLESHING, SHELFING,
SHEILING, SHIELING, SHELLING,
HELPINGS, GHRELINS, HERLINGS,
SHINGLER, SHINGLES, ENLIGHTS,
LIGHTENS, SHELING, WELSHING

**PETERS +1: "CAME UP WITH A
SHREWDLY EXPERT PLAN"**

EPATERS, REPEATS, RETAPES,
RECEPTS, RESPECT, SCEPTER,
SCEPTRE, SPECTER, SPECTRE,
PRESTED, ESTREPE, STEEPER,
HEPSTER, PETHERS, SPERTHE,

THREEPS, PESTIER, RESPITE,
PELTERS, PETRELS, RESPELT,
SPELTER, TEMPERS, PENSTER,
PRESENT, REPENTS, SERPENT,
STEPPER, PRESTER, PESTERS,
PRESETS, PERTEST, PETTERS,
PRETEST, PERTUSE, REPUTES,
PEWTERS, EXPERTS, SEXPERT,
RETYPE

**GREENS +1: "MOTIVATED BY
VOTES"**

ENRAGES, BERGENS, GENDERS,
RENEGES, GREISEN, GERMENS,
ENGORES, NEGROES, NEGRESS,
GERENTS, REGENTS, VENGENS,
GYRENS

VOTERS +1: "ELIGIBLE CIRCLES"

OBVERTS, CORVETS, COVERTS,
VECTORS, ESTOVER, OVERSET,
REVOTES, GROVETS, TORSIVE,
REVOLTS, TROVERS, STOVERS,
VOTRESS



Supplied by Vicky Robertson

Answers to Anagrams in context (from pp. 28-29):

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Elvis | 8. Astronaut | 14. <i>From Russia with love</i> |
| 2. Butterfly | 9. Christmas Tree | 15. Christopher Columbus |
| 3. George Clooney | 10. Harmonica | 16. <i>Raiders of the lost ark</i> |
| 4. Netherlands | 11. Astronomer | 17. Asteroid |
| 5. Euphrates | 12. Statue of Liberty | 18. Bird of paradise |
| 6. <i>Titanic</i> | 13. Black hole | |
| 7. Hippopotamus | | |

**Answer to What would you do? (from page 29):**

Dylan used the blank as an F and played OPGEFOK at H2 for 98 points.

OPGEFOK is a vulgar South African term meaning badly damaged (similar to FUBAR), which was an apt description of Steven's chances after that.

**Answer to Howard's question (from page 29):**

They're all forms of *alphagram – words with letters arranged in alphabetical order.

ADDEEMS is one of the few Scrabble-allowable seven-letter words that's a pure alphagram.

FACETIOUSLY contains all six vowels (A, E, I, O, U, and Y) in alphabetical order.

FORTY is the only number that is spelled out *alphagrammatically.

New Rating System – A worked example, part 2

by Steven Brown, Kapiti

Continued from page 14

Second pass - Established ratings

Now that the provisional ratings have been worked out for new and provisionally-rated players, they can be used to work out the new ratings for players with established ratings.

This is done by summing the expected win rate against each opponent (worked out from the difference between the two players' starting or provisional ratings) to give an expected number of wins out of all the games played. A fixed number of points (the k-factor, which you can think of as the importance of the current games being rated to the player's overall rating) is added or subtracted according to the difference between the player's wins and their expectancy.

The formula to work out the expected win rate for a single game is:

$$1 / (1 + \text{Exp}(\text{player_rating} - \text{opponent_rating}) / -313))$$

The Exp() function here gives e to the power of its argument.

So, to work out A's expected win rate against C for a single game:

$$\begin{aligned} 1550 - 1450 &= 100 \\ \rightarrow 100 / -313 &= -0.319488818 \\ \rightarrow \text{exp}(-0.319488818) &= 0.726520326 \\ \rightarrow 1 + 0.726520326 &= 1.726520326 \\ \rightarrow 1 / 1.726520326 &= 0.579199668 \end{aligned}$$

To work out C's expected win rate against A for a single game:

$$\begin{aligned} 1450 - 1550 &= -100 \\ \rightarrow -100 / -313 &= 0.319488818 \\ \rightarrow \text{exp}(0.319488818) &= 1.376423981 \\ \rightarrow 1 + 1.376423981 &= 2.376423981 \\ \rightarrow 1 / 2.376423981 &= 0.420800332 \end{aligned}$$

You may notice that $0.579199668 + 0.420800332 = 1$. If A and C were to play each other 100 times (without their ratings changing during that time), A would

be expected to win almost 58 games, and C would be expected to win just over 42 games. This is the same in the new system for any two players whose ratings are 100 points apart.

A's expectancy against B is 0.632542918, and against D is 0.549179832, so, as A plays B and D twice each, and C once, A's total expectancy is $0.632542918 + 0.632542918 + 0.579199668 + 0.549179832 + 0.549179832 = 2.942645168$ out of 5 games.

C's expectancy against B is 0.603724947, and against D is 0.469505049, so, as C plays B and D twice each, and A once, C's total expectancy is $0.420800332 + 0.603724947 + 0.603724947 + 0.469505049 + 0.469505049 = 2.567260324$ out of five games.

The formula for the k-factor is: $(3000 - \text{rating}) / 1000$ * games played.

So, A's k-factor = $((3000 - 1550) / 1000) * 5 = 7.25$

C's k-factor = $((3000 - 1450) / 1000) * 5 = 7.75$

The rating change is then given by multiplying the difference between the player's wins and their expectancy by their k-factor.

For A: $(2 - 2.942645168) * 7.25 = -6.834177471$

For C: $(5 - 2.567260324) * 7.75 = 18.85373249$

Final steps

There are only two other matters to consider.

First, did any of the established players earn accelerator points?

Under the current scenario, no. The cutoff for earning accelerator points is to win more than 3 1/3 games more than your expectancy. Here, C wins 2.432739676 games more than their expectancy – not quite enough.

If, however, C had started with an established rating of 450 rather than 1450, and everything else remained the same, B and D's provisional ratings would work out as 1109.891 and 988.228, A and C's expectancies out of five would become 4.292422821 and 0.549346253, the k-factors would remain the same, and A and C's rating changes would become -16.62006545 and 56.74583528 respectively.

Under this scenario, C's five wins would exceed their 0.549346253 expectancy by 4.450653747 – well above 3 1/3 wins. Accelerator points are calculated by doubling the points in excess of the cutoff. If C had exceeded their expectancy by exactly 3 1/3 games, their rating change would have been 42.5, so the accelerator points are $56.74583528 - 42.5 = 14.24583528$.

Feedback points are then awarded at a rate of 1/20 of the accelerator points for each game played against the player who gained the accelerator points. Provisional players are not eligible for accelerator points (as they do not have an expectancy defined) but will still receive feedback points for each game played against a recipient of accelerator points. In this scenario, A would receive 0.712291764 points for having played C once, and B and D will each receive twice this (1.424583528) as they each played C twice.

Second, participation points are added at a rate of 1 per 3 games played. All players here played five games, so they each gained $5/3 = 1\ 2/3$ participation points. The rating change, accelerator and feedback points, and participation points are then added to the final provisional rating, which is rounded to the nearest integer, and any sub-zero ratings are brought up to zero.

Name	Prov	Expected	k-factor	Change	Accel/FB	PPS	Total
A	1550	4.292	7.25	-16.620	0.712	1 2/3	1536
B (7)	1109.891				1.425	1 2/3	1113
C	450	0.549	12.75	56.746	14.246	1 2/3	523
D (0)	988.228				1.4246	1 2/3	991

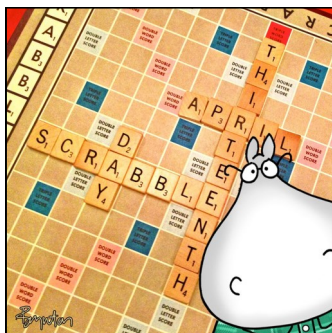
Editors' note: The editors' skills do not extend to editing mathematical formulae. If any reader should spot a mistake in the mathematical examples contained in the above article, please address them to Steven Brown in the first instance.

Did you observe April 13th?



At that point in the publication process where we suddenly realise we need another page or so of material for this issue, (had you ever noticed that the length of every issue of Forwards is a multiple of four pages? No? As you were ...) the glory of the interweb has served up for us –wait for it – Scrabble Day.

April 13th is the anniversary of the birth, in 1899, of Alfred Mosher Butts, the inventor of our beautiful game. www.timeanddate.com suggests celebrating this occasion in any of the following ways:



Cartoon copyright Sandra Boynton, used by permission

- Gather around with your family and friends and play Scrabble.
- Throw a Scrabble-themed party. Play a game of Scrabble or two. Whoever wins takes home a thesaurus or a dictionary.
- Like baking? Whip up a batch of Scrabble tile cookies to serve at your Scrabble party.
- Have some extra Scrabble tiles lying around? Use them to make some Scrabble jewelry for the Scrabble lovers in your life.
- Don't have time to play a real game of Scrabble? Download one of the many Scrabble word game apps out there and play while you are out and about. Just remember not to play when driving or operating heavy and dangerous machinery or when in a meeting.

Children's author / entertainer Sandra Boynton posted on Facebook that "April 13th is SCRABBLE DAY! It's a great day for a great game." Her post received over 8,000 'likes', and below is a selection of some of its over 400 comments.

Gwen: *I love playing by myself - seeing if I can use all the tiles and make interesting words. I had a board in my elementary classroom to practice spelling words or new vocabulary. Two nine-year-old boys who wanted to be doctors covered the board in medical terms.*

Kathie: *I would love to use Triskaidekaphobia for a triple word score, unfortunately it's my bad luck that there are too many letters to get it done.*

Victoria: *OMG! I'll have to scrabble around to find my board! (It's also my birthday.)*

Rumblefish: *never play scrabble with jay z.... he makes up words like "jazizzle" and uses a sideways N as a Z....*

Andy: *Only one day? I'm at a loss for words!*

Melissa: *Playing Scrabble with my mom is a requirement every time we are together. We've had some of the best conversations over a Scrabble board. When one of us has a really high score, she'll write the date and score inside the box lid. As the years have gone by, the knowledge of words that she's given me has meant that my name is in that lid a lot more than hers... Instead of being upset, she takes it as a point of pride. Now, that is the definition of a great parent.*

Susan: *I LOVE Scrabble! But no one in my family will play with me anymore. May I play Scrabble with your hippo Sandra? He looks like a worthy opponent.*

Donna: *We used Scrabble too, after outgrowing the magnetic letters on the fridge, but you need two sets to spell "Mommy". It's fun to play as adults with a little wine.*

New Zealand Scrabble Records

as at 1st January 2018

NZ Performances at the World Scrabble Championships (held since 1991)

World Champion	Nigel Richards	2007, 2011, 2013
In the top 10 (other than 1st)		
7th	Mike Sigley	1993
3rd	Jeff Grant	1995
6th	Jack Dymond (Kendall Boyd)	1997
8th, 2nd, 3rd	Nigel Richards	1999, 2009, 2017
Most frequent competitor		
11 times	Jeff Grant	1991-2015

NZ Performances at the World Youth Championships

Highest place	7th / 120	Lewis Hawkins	2014
Most frequent competitor			
4 times	Lewis Hawkins	2013-2017	

Trans-Tasman Challenge

Challenges won by NZ	3	1998, 2000, 2010
Individual Winners		
	Peter Sinton	1998
	Jack Dymond (Kendall Boyd)	2000
	Howard Warner	2002
	Joanne Craig	2010

Highest 10 on international (WESPA) rankings

Nigel Richards	2nd
Alastair Richards	12 th
Howard Warner	41st
Joanne Craig	73rd
Lyres Freeth	163rd
Patrick Carter	164 th
Nick Cavenagh	168 th
Dylan Early	171 st
John Foster	224 th
Blue Thorogood	247 th

500 international games

(WESPA-rated)

Nigel Richards	3391
Alastair Richards	2042
Joanne Craig	1268
Howard Warner	1034
Betty Eriksen	604
Liz Fagerlund	545
Jeff Grant	534

Masters Tournament (held since 1984)

Most games won	21/23	Jeff Grant Mike Sigley	1993, 1997 2002
Highest spread	2493	Howard Warner	2017
Most times winner	11 times	Howard Warner	2003-04, 2006, 2008-13
Most frequent competitor	34/34	Glennis Hale	1984-2017
Youngest competitor	12 yrs, 104 days	Lewis Hawkins	2017
Oldest Competitor	84 years, 288 days	June Mackwell	2008

The Nationals (held since 1980)

Most times

National Champion	16 times	Jeff Grant	1990-91, 1993-96 1998, 2000-01, 2007-08
Youngest competitor	8 years, 151 days	Lewis Hawkins	2013
Oldest competitor	88 years, 359 days	June Mackwell	2012

Tournament Records

Highest game score	752	Howard Warner	Feb 2017
Highest losing score	514	Pam Barlow	Jun 2010
Highest drawn score	487	Debbie Raphael & Lynn Wood	Feb 2004
Highest single turn	302	Lynne Butler	Oct 2011
Highest single turn non-bonus	135	Ruth O'Neil	Nov 1998
Highest combined score	1078	David Lloyd & Howard Warner	Mar 1997
Highest winning margin	493	Mike Sigley	Nov 1990

Highest add-on	58	Jeff Grant Lynn Wood	Mar 2012 May 2015
Most consecutive bonus words	5	Allie Quinn	Jun 1989
Most bonus words in a game (individual)	6	Nigel Richards	Aug 1998
	6	Yvette Hewlett	Nov 2001
	6	Howard Warner	Aug 2010
Most bonus words in a game (combined)	8	Mike Sigley & Glenyss Buchanan	Pre 1997
	8	Nigel Richards & John Foster	Aug 1998
	8	Paul Lister & Shirley Hol	May 2013
Highest average in a tournament	584	Nigel Richards	Jan 1997
Most tournament games played	4256	Lynn Wood	
Most tournament games won	2171	Howard Warner	

Milestones

4000 tournament games played		2000 tournament games won	
Lynn Wood	4256	Howard Warner	2171
3000 tournament games played		Lynn Wood	2039
Betty Erikson	3105		
2000 tournament games played		1000 tournament games won	
John Foster	2923	Jeff Grant	1729
Val Mills	2901	John Foster	1661
Howard Warner	2886	Glennis Hale	1560.5
David Gunn	2823	Betty Eriksen	1550.5
Glennis Hale	2822	Val Mills	1398
Liz Fagerlund	2587	David Gunn	1395
Hazel Purdie	2514	Liz Fagerlund	1360
Jennifer Smith	2502	Jean O'Brien	1264.5
Jean O'Brien	2484	Hazel Purdie	1242.5
Joan Thomas	2398	Jennifer Smith	1200
Allie Quinn	2379	Joan Thomas	1194
Glenda Geard	2359	Glenda Geard	1162.5
Jeff Grant	2300	Allie Quinn	1161
Glenda Foster	2290	Glenda Foster	1139.5
Su Walker	2226	Su Walker	1138.5
Shirley Martin	2062	Mike Sigley	1013

Club Records

Highest game score	763	John Foster	Mt. Albert	Jan 1993
Highest losing score	521	June Mackwell	Mt. Albert	Jan 1989
Highest drawn score	482	Jeff Grant & Margaret Warren	Hastings	Mar 1994
Highest single turn	347	Neil Talbot	Wellington	Oct 2003
Highest single turn, non bonus	261	John Foster	Mt. Albert	Jan 1993
Highest combined score	1106	Chris Hooks & Dawn Kitzen	Papatoetoe & Mt. Albert	Mar 1992
Highest winning margin	590	Paul Lister	Christchurch	Nov 2008
Highest add-on	68	Andrew Bradley John Foster	Mt. Albert Mt. Albert	Pre 1990 Apr 1992
Most consecutive bonus words	5	John Foster Patrick Carter Paul Lister	Mt. Albert Mt. Albert Christchurch	Apr 1992 Apr 2003 Aug 2010
Most bonus words in a game (individual)	7	Jeff Grant	Independent	Sept 1997
Most bonus words in a game (combined)	8	Chris Hooks & Dawn Kitzen	Papatoetoe & Mt. Albert	Mar 1992

Grand Masters

Alastair Richards	Lynne Butler
Andrew Bradley	Lyres Freeth
Anderina McLean	Mike Sigley
Blue Thorogood	Nick Cavenagh
Cicely Bruce	Patrick Carter
Glennis Hale	Peter Sinton
Howard Warner	Rogelio Talosig
Jeff Grant	Steven Brown
Joanne Craig	
John Foster	
John McNaughton	
Lawson Sue	
Liz Fagerlund	

Experts

Chris Hooks
Debbie Raphael
Denise Gordon
Glenda Foster
Karen Richards
Lynne Powell
Marianne Bentley
Murray Rogers
Olivia Godfrey
Paul Lister
Rosemary Cleary
Scott Chaput
Val Mills

Tournament results

Wellington

20-21 January 2018

15 games A-B, 14 games C

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Jeff Grant	IND	12	932	440
2	Howard Warner	IND	9	907	440
3	Lawson Sue	MTA	8	-55	400
4	Dylan Early	IND	7	-306	407
5	Joanne Craig	IND	7	-308	415
6	Anderina McLean	WAN	2	-1170	354
B Grade					
1	Nick Ascroft	WEL	13	988	421
2	Glenda Foster	WEL	11	197	391
3	Rosemary Cleary	WAN	8	538	393
4	Leila Thomson	LOH	6	-298	373
5	Lynn Wood	WEL	4	-682	359
6	Jean O'Brien	IND	3	-743	352
C Grade					
1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	10	695	396
2	Malcolm Graham	CHC	10	550	376
3	Carolyn Kyle	IND	10	435	383
4	Agnes Rowland	KAP	7	-63	367
5	Sheila Reed	WEL	6	233	384
6	Judith Thomas	IND	6	-497	352
7	Tony Charlton	NEL	5	-485	336
8	Judy Driscoll	KAP	2	-868	321



*Rosemary
Cleary and
Leila
Thomson
at the
Wellington
tournament*

Pakuranga

27-28 January 2018

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Lyres Freeth	IND	13	674	433
2	Howard Warner	IND	11	885	465
3	Patrick Carter	MTA	11	630	436
4	John Foster	IND	8	-53	391
5	Val Mills	PAK	7	-57	406
6	Liz Fagerlund	MTA	6	-20	389
7	Cicely Bruce	WRE	6	-147	412
8	Lawson Sue	MTA	6	-172	402
9	Olivia Godfrey	WAN	4	-740	376
10	Murray Rogers	IND	3	-1000	359
B Grade					
1	Jennifer Smith	KIW	12	947	431
2	Pat Bryan	MTA	11	789	416
3	David Gunn	WKP	10	260	396
4	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	9	389	391
5	Stan Gregec	IND	8	120	394
6	Pam Barlow	IND	8	21	387
7	Paul Lister	CHC	8	-63	398
8	Shirley Martin	KIW	7	-185	374
9	Pam Robson	IND	6	40	391
10	Allie Quin	WRE	6	-68	384
11	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	6	-77	384
12	Lynn Wood	WEL	6	-203	372
13	Glenda Geard	IND	6	-265	379
14	Roger Coates	KIW	6	-347	377
15	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	6	-571	362
16	Mary Curtis	HAS	5	-787	372

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
C Grade					
1	Mary Gray	MTA	11	833	400
2	Su Walker	IND	11	823	413
3	Heather Landon	TGA	10	2	384
4	Jean O'Brien	IND	9	290	387
5	Delcie Macbeth	IND	8	377	403
6	Joan Thomas	HAS	8	249	388
7	Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	141	372
8	Anne Goldstein	CHC	8	-324	366
9	Carolyn Kyle	IND	7	399	385
10	Ruth Groffman	DUN	7	127	370
11	Joanne Morley	ROT	7	-545	368
12	Jena Yousif	WRE	6.5	144	381
13	Suzanne Harding	WRE	6	-435	368
14	Shirley Pearce	KIW	6	-616	350
15	Carole Coates	KIW	4.5	-822	352
16	Faye Cronhelm	IND	3	-643	367

D Grade

1	Barney Bonthron	KIW	13	1433	433
2	Bernie Jardine	PAP	12	803	407
3	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	10	599	379
4	Josie Parkin	TGA	10	182	367
5	Antonia Aarts	MTA	9	340	374
6	Karen Miller	IND	8	354	370
7	Junior Gesmundo	PAP	8	179	369
8	Annette Coombes	WKP	8	-114	358
9	Ruth Godwin	ROT	7	-423	344
10	Rodney Jardine	PAP	6	-464	365
11	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	5	-70	367
12	Wendy Anastasi	ROT	5	-443	325
13	Joan Beale	PAP	5	-551	360
14	Julia Schiller	IND	5	-586	353
15	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	5	-749	329
16	Sandra Cowen	TGA	4	-490	359



Lawson Sue and Murray Rogers at the Pakuranga tournament

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
E Grade					
1	June Dowling	WRE	14	1252	395
2	Margaret Toso	WRE	11	353	341
3	Anne Scatchard	WRE	10	505	341
4	Joan Stanners	PAP	10	415	350
5	Judy Cronin	MTA	9	582	353
6	Jackie Reid	MTA	8	117	349
7	Lyn Blaker	PAK	8	-25	334
8	Hannah Roberts	PAP	8	-186	335
9	Jillian Greening	KIW	7	279	337
10	Joyce Mowbray	PAP	7	141	349
11	Susan Schiller	MTA	7	-158	318
12	Fay Wenzlick	TGA	7	-221	313
13	Patricia Wareing	PAK	5	-222	337
14	Frances Higham	PAP	5	-289	331
15	Valerie Smith	MTA	4	-725	312
16	Cheryl Parsons		0	-1818	239



Wellington winners: Jeff Grant, Nick Ascroft, and Betty Eriksen

Nelson**10-11 February 2018****15 games A, 14 games B**

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Lynn Wood	WEL	10	634	389
2	John Baird	CHC	10	630	396
3	Anna Brouwer	IND	10	208	378
4	Murray Rogers	IND	9	834	396
5	Malcolm Graham	CHC	4	-867	354
6	Tony Charlton	NEL	2	-1439	312

B Grade

1	Hanna Dodge	CHC	9	417	376
2	Phyllis Paltridge	CHC	8	320	358
3	Madelaine Green	CHC	8	293	357
4	Barbara Cornell	NEL	8	259	362
5	Llane Cornell	NEL	8	-189	344
6	Judy Driscoll	KAP	6	20	346
7	Betty Don	IND	6	-225	329
8	Karen Brookes	NEL	3	-895	298

Rotorua**24-25 February 2018****13 Games**

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Val Mills	PAK	10	833	419
2	Jennifer Smith	KIW	9	117	404
3	Pam Barlow	PAK	8	352	401
4	Marianne Bentley	TGA	7	171	404
5	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	7	132	401
6	Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	7	-65	398
7	Lynn Wood	WEL	6.5	-219	366
8	Lawson Sue	PAK	6	111	390
9	Olivia Godfrey	WAN	6	77	398
10	Shirley Martin	KIW	6	-89	382

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
11	David Gunn	WKP	6	-123	385
12	Cicely Bruce	WRE	5	-245	398
13	Pam Robson	KIW	4	-431	365
14	Nola Borrell	WEL	3.5	-621	370

B Grade

1	Delcie Macbeth	IND	10	590	395
2	Mary Curtis	HAS	9	285	421
3	Roger Coates	KIW	8	665	420
4	Barney Bonthron	KIW	7	112	398
5	Heather Landon	TGA	7	29	376
6	Glenda Geard	IND	7	-14	379
7	Su Walker	IND	7	-93	378
8	Jena Yousif	WRE	7	-105	389
9	Barbara Dunn	TGA	7	-167	372
10	Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	-5	374
11	Suzanne Harding	WRE	5	-160	380
12	Joanne Morley	ROT	4	-153	372
13	Carole Coates	KIW	4	-359	369
14	Margaret Bullen	TGA	3	-625	353

C Grade

1	Jenny Litchfield	WRE	10	767	402
2	Faye Cronhelm	IND	10	514	386
3	June Dowling	WRE	8	35	342
4	Leanne Field	IND	8	-41	368
5	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	7	264	369
6	Tei Ngatai	TGA	7	154	372
7	Junior Gesmundo	PAP	7	28	373
8	Geoff Bonser	TGA	6	39	375
9	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	6	-23	369
10	Annette Coombes	WKP	6	-216	364
11	Josie Parkin	TGA	6	-234	366
12	Bernie Jardine	PAP	5	35	390
13	Rosemary Wauters	TGA	3	-363	341
14	Tim Henneveld	ROT	2	-959	311

March Marathon 10-11 March 2018

18 Games

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	Alastair Richards	17	2154
2	Dylan Early	15	1548
3	Lyres Freeth	14	1053
4	Howard Warner	12	546
5	Lawson Sue	11	353
6	Jeanette Grimmer	10	624
7	Helen Sillis	10	447
8	Anderina McLean	10	443
9	Val Mills	10	320
10	Nola Borrell	10	189
11	Rosemary Cleary	10	-477
12	Liz Fagerlund	9	480
13	Mary Gray	9	164
14	Clare Wall	9	54
15	Betty Eriksen	9	2
16	Yvette Hewlett	9	-87
17	Murray Rogers	9	-180
18	Olivia Godfrey	9	-214
19	Suzanne Ford	9	-366
20	Joan Thomas	9	-479
21	Vicky Robertson	8.5	118
22	Jean O'Brien	8.5	-191
23	Lynn Wood	8.5	-215
24	Janice Cherry	8.5	-630
25	Bernie Jardine	8	-208
26	Malcolm Graham	8	-221
27	Carolyn Kyle	7	-197
28	Margaret Cherry	7	-240
29	Sheila Reed	7	-552
30	Ernie Gidman	6.5	-477
31	Tony Charlton	6	-961
32	Rodney Jardine	4.5	-1039
33	Valma Gidman	4	-867
34	Judith Thomas	4	-894

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
D Grade					
1	Sandra Cowen	TGA	9	356	353
2	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	8	275	347
3	Suzanne Liddall	WRE	8	55	350
4	Wendy Anastasi	ROT	7	294	348
5	Pat Wood	TGA	7	249	356
	Jacqueline				
6	Coldham-Fussell	KIW	7	116	358
7	Judith Kuchler	ROT	7	-17	345
8	Janny Henneveld	ROT	6	113	343
9	Anne Scatchard	WRE	6	74	330
10	Rodney Jardine	PAP	6	-286	350
11	Ruth Godwin	ROT	5	-338	322
12	Noelene Bettjeman	TGA	2	-891	306

E Grade

1	Judy Cronin	MTA	11	577	365
2	Val Isherwood	ROT	11	554	358
3	Beth Laugesen	TGA	10	482	341
4	Frances Higham	PAP	9	348	350
5	Tricia Kenyon	ROT	8	-18	328
6	Jan Kite	ROT	7	200	336
7	Pam Fulton	TGA	7	-134	320
8	Ananda Anandan	ROT	6	-21	328
9	Jackie Reid	MTA	6	-174	341
10	Joan Stanners	PAP	5	-179	312
11	Jillian Greening	KIW	4	91	348
12	Susan Schiller	MTA	4	-483	309
13	Fay Wenzlick	TGA	3	-593	298



Players at Pakuranga tournament

Rankings list as at 12 April 2018

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	
1	Alastair Richards (GM)	2302	199.5	243	82%	42	Rosalind Phillips	1489	635	1240	51%
2	Howard Warner (GM)	2242	2224	2956	75%	43	Pam Barlow	1476	821.5	1627	50%
3	Joanne Craig (GM)	2129	415.5	622	67%	44	Helen Sillis	1467	758	1534	49%
4	Lyres Freeth (GM)	2128	503.5	748	67%	45	David Gunn	1460	1416	2874	49%
5	Dylan Early	2102	68	97	70%	46	Nola Borrell	1456	543	1006	54%
6	Peter Sinton (GM)	2078	813	1135	72%	47	Glenyss Buchanan	1449	709.5	1540	46%
7	Jeff Grant (GM)	2014	1755	2338	75%	48	Shirley Martin	1445	1048.5	2090	50%
8	Patrick Carter (GM)	2010	836	1324	63%	49	Selena Chan	1430	354.5	702	50%
9	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1976	654.5	1171	56%	50	Pam Robson	1428	624.5	1370	46%
10	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1968	913	1718	53%	51	Julie Atkinson	1427	283.5	539	53%
11	John Foster (GM)	1909	1683	2960	57%	52	Mary Gray	1426	697.5	1408	50%
12	Blue Thorogood (GM)	1885	711.5	1011	70%	53	Allie Quinn	1420	1167	2394	49%
13	Nick Cavenagh (GM)	1873	410.5	682	60%	54	Roger Cole-Baker	1414	679.5	1311	52%
14	Lynne Butler (GM)	1851	962.5	1585	61%	55	Roger Coates	1402	860	1799	48%
15	Lawson Sue (GM)	1800	1012	1864	54%	56	Clare Wall	1390	341	658	52%
16	Karen Richards (E)	1791	91.5	165	55%	57	Shirley Hol	1388	761	1634	47%
17	Glennis Hale (GM)	1780	1569.5	2845	55%	58	Delcie Macbeth	1386	1007.5	1933	52%
18	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1778	1375	2619	53%	59	Mary Curtis	1374	406	770	53%
19	Scott Chaput (E)	1765	305	526	58%	60	Leila Thomson	1366	618.5	1342	46%
20	Nick Ascroft	1757	200	364	55%	61	Robert Springer	1365	20	45	44%
21	Steven Brown (GM)	1755	949	1784	53%	62	Su Walker	1363	1156.5	2254	51%
22	Anderina McLean (GM)	1753	849.5	1586	54%	63	Peter Johnstone	1357	221	423	52%
23	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1734	871	1878	46%	64	Glenda Geard	1352	1175.5	2387	49%
24	Lois Binnie	1733	137	268	51%	65	Jean O'Brien	1352	1285	2532	51%
25	Lewis Hawkins	1732	244.5	398	61%	66	Dianne Cole-Baker	1348	639.5	1246	51%
26	Jennifer Smith	1729	1221	2530	48%	67	Heather Landon	1338	667.5	1319	51%
27	Glenda Foster (E)	1724	1161.5	2328	50%	68	Joan Thomas	1331	1211	2431	50%
28	Val Mills (E)	1699	1435	2970	48%	69	Yvette Hewlett	1323	502.5	1051	48%
29	Pat Bryan	1670	293	538	54%	70	Yoon Kim Fong	1323	687	1356	51%
30	Murray Rogers (E)	1633	995.5	1897	52%	71	Anne Goldstein	1322	190	379	50%
31	Olivia Godfrey (E)	1620	882	1703	52%	72	Lynn Carter	1315	804.5	1558	52%
32	John Baird	1602	314	566	55%	73	Betty Eriksen	1313	1601.5	3166	51%
33	Margie Hurly	1589	360	711	51%	74	Jena Yousif	1286	567.5	1140	50%
34	Irene Smith	1565	244	490	50%	75	Lyn Toka	1281	603.5	1153	52%
35	Anna Brouwer	1558	816.5	1638	50%	76	Ruth Groffman	1269	629	1263	50%
36	Paul Lister (E)	1554	892.5	1626	55%	77	Carolyn Kyle	1264	988	2001	49%
37	Vicky Robertson	1546	409	847	48%	78	Bev Edwards	1263	276.5	529	52%
38	Lorraine Van Veen	1542	970	1954	50%	79	Barney Bonthron	1226	78	134	58%
39	Jeanette Grimmer	1519	253	488	52%	80	Marian Ross	1212	625.5	1222	51%
40	Lynn Wood	1499	2074	4332	48%	81	Suzanne Ford	1206	240	443	54%
41	Karl Scherer	1490	112	192	58%	82	Shirley Pearce	1205	127	262	48%

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
83 Mo Wetere	1183	76.5	132	58%	125 Tim Henneveld	747	521	1149	45%
84 Lyn Dawson	1173	402	763	53%	126 Mandy Thorogood	747	62	127	49%
85 Barbara Dunn	1164	353.5	613	58%	127 Valma Gidman	741	746.5	1509	49%
86 Joanne Morley	1147	127	233	55%	128 Rosemary Wauters	740	160.5	343	47%
87 Joanna Fox	1147	178	340	52%	129 Rodney Jardine	728	141	288	49%
88 Margaret Bullen	1145	151.5	287	53%	130 Wendy Anastasi	725	40.5	72	56%
89 Chris Handley	1142	420.5	827	51%	131 Barbara Cornell	723	76.5	174	44%
90 Ernie Gidman	1127	461.5	932	50%	132 Sharron Nelley	717	62	130	48%
91 Suzanne Harding	1124	560	1117	50%	133 Ruth Godwin	715	434	967	45%
92 Faye Cronhelm	1119	937	1883	50%	Jacqueline				
93 Colleen Cook	1103	417.5	853	49%	134 Coldham-Fussell	713	707	1457	49%
94 Carole Coates	1088	729	1506	48%	135 Anne-Louise Milne	711	168	491	34%
95 Malcolm Graham	1077	595	1205	49%	136 Kathleen Mori-Barker	706	412	837	49%
96 Jenny Litchfield	1072	102	180	57%	137 Joan Beale	704	352.5	693	51%
97 Leanne Field	1058	194	370	52%	138 Margaret Toso	702	143	327	44%
98 Tei Ngatai	1056	77.5	137	57%	139 Llane Hadden	698	22	66	33%
99 Merelyn Fuemana	1055	86.5	156	55%	140 Janny Henneveld	697	546	1131	48%
100 Ray Goodyear	1046	259.5	541	48%	141 Phyllis Paltridge	696	124.5	278	45%
101 Jean Boyle	1043	583.5	1105	53%	142 Anne Scatchard	658	509.5	1007	51%
102 Bernie Jardine	1038	147	302	49%	143 Judy Cronin	651	165.5	416	40%
103 Karen Miller	1028	593	1185	50%	144 Judy Driscoll	636	250	645	39%
104 Sheila Reed	1025	320	670	48%	145 Betty Don	631	283.5	610	46%
105 Gabrielle Bolt	998	493	967	51%	146 Marilyn Sinclair	574	122.5	271	45%
106 Shirley Morrison	995	201	417	48%	147 Judith Bach	527	178.5	330	54%
107 Antonia Aarts	986	325.5	687	47%	148 Jan Kite	524	38	70	54%
108 Junior Gesmundo	984	193	372	52%	149 Noelene Bettjeman	503	362.5	787	46%
109 Allison Torrance	980	506	983	51%	150 Lyn Blaker	493	24	43	56%
110 Josie Parkin	972	104	204	51%	151 Lynn Thompson	484	343	798	43%
111 Julia Schiller	963	294	646	46%	152 Jackie Reid	469	45	90	50%
112 Jo Ann Ingram	960	275	542	51%	153 Frances Higham	457	273.5	740	37%
113 Geoff Bonser	955	111.5	202	55%	154 Ray Young	448	35	108	32%
114 Annette Coombes	936	852	1849	46%	155 Joan Stanners	442	64.5	141	46%
115 June Dowling	899	62.5	92	68%	156 Jillian Greening	440	402	838	48%
116 Yvonne McLaughlan	862	525.5	1094	48%	157 Dorothy Latta	432	170	424	40%
117 Tony Charlton	860	335.5	703	48%	158 Tricia Kenyon	429	21	50	42%
118 Judith Thomas	857	258.5	532	49%	159 Hannah Roberts	421	31.5	79	40%
119 Hanna Dodge	834	153.5	305	50%	160 Joyce Mowbray	406	41	108	38%
120 Madelaine Green	827	148.5	278	53%	161 Karen Brookes	258	34	151	23%
121 Sandra Cowen	812	104.5	229	46%	162 Fay Wenzlick	250	23	64	36%
122 Suzanne Liddall	785	36	65	55%	163 Margaret Peters	195	52	189	28%
123 Pat Wood	770	174.5	328	53%	164 Susan Schiller	194	63	321	20%
124 Dorothy Bakel	748	63	157	40%	165 Valerie Smith	127	68	284	24%
					166 Trish Fox	44	38	303	13%

Club	Club Contact	Phone Number	Email	Meeting Day & Time
Christchurch (CHC)	John Baird	03 332 5996	john@jrsoftware.com	12.30 Wed 6.45 Fri
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	chris@redheron.com	7pm Tues
Hastings (HAS)	Joan Thomas	06 878 2418	thomas.joan@xtra.co.nz	1pm Tues
Kapiti (KAP)	Judy Driscoll	04 293 8165	judydriscoll5@gmail.com	7pm Mon
Kiwi Scrabblers (KIW)	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	07 846 7422	jjcoldham-fussell@hotmail.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)	Ruth Godwin	07 349 6954	ruthmgodwin@gmail.com	9am Thurs
Tauranga (TGA)	Barbara Dunn	07 544 8372	dunn.barbara44@gmail.com	9am Tues
Waikato Phoenix	David Gunn	07 855 9970	-	-
Waitara (WTA)	Ngair Kemp	06 754 4017	ngairelyndac@slingshot.co.nz	1pm Wed
Whanganui (WAN)	Lynne Butler	0274 285 758	scrabblyllyne@gmail.com	1pm Mon
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04 387 2581	lynnypinny49@gmail.com	7pm Wed
Whangarei (WRE)	Bev Edwards	09 430 2832	bevhol@xtra.co.nz	1pm Thurs
Ratings Officer	Steven Brown	021 164 4641	sgbrown@mac.com	
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