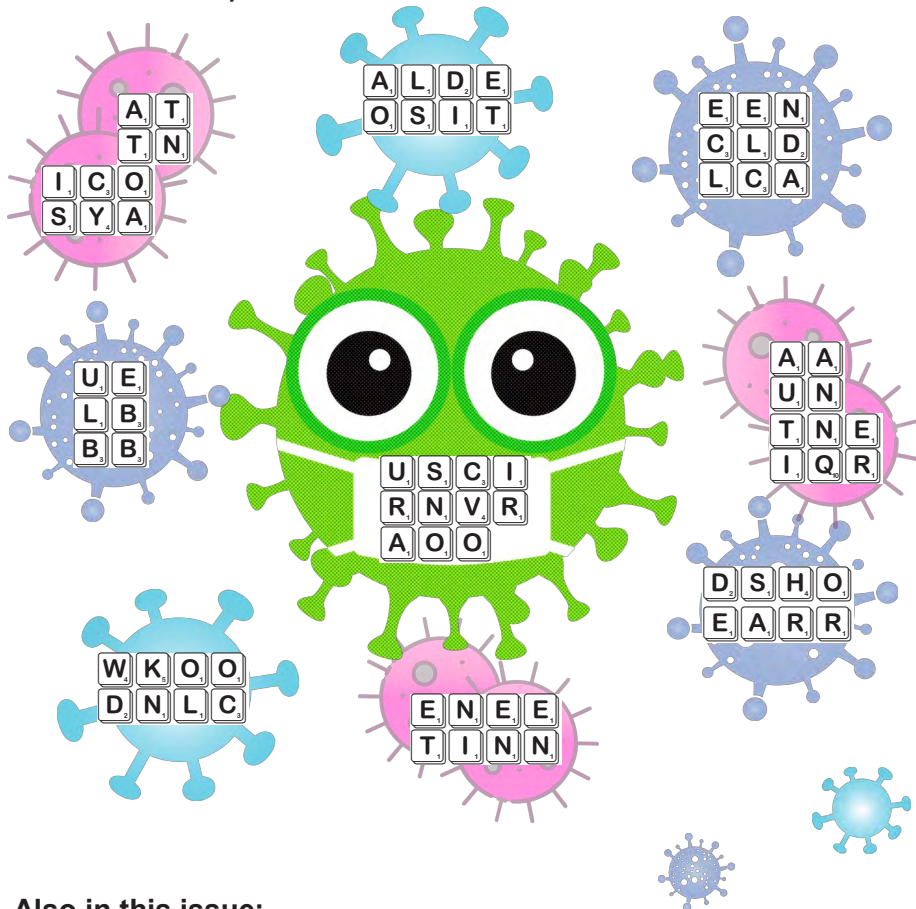


for words



Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players
No. 137 Summer 2019/20



Also in this issue:

Word Famous in New Zealand:

Pam Robson

The lovely (shape of) bones

The story presenting front hooks

Return of the dinosaurs

A slip of the pen

Word famous recap

NZASP Executive

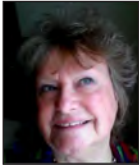
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Editorial

Hitherto, Olivia and Anderina have always alternated who would have responsibility for contributing each issue's editorial. Not surprisingly, we found we both wanted to stand up on this soapbox one last time, so we've each typed a contribution for this, our last issue as coeditors.



Since commencing our joint editorship at the beginning of 2014, we have produced 24 issues of *Forwards* (including this one; if you're reading it, I can assume we got it to print). We have always likened this process to making babies together; not the fun part at the point of conception, but rather the long buildup and the final harrowing push to just get the thing out. So, please raise a glass to Olivia and Anderina's two dozen paper offspring!

In the time we've been doing this, my coeditor and I have, between the two of us:

- Undergone a 50% increase in our number of humanoid offspring
- Almost doubled our hours of paid employment per week
- Endured one separation and divorce
- Bought two houses (without selling any)
- Moved our households a total of 456.2 km
- Planned and executed eight overseas trips

It's a wonder we've managed to attend any Scrabble competitions at all in that time, let alone achieve any kind of familiarity with the two major dictionary updates that have also occurred on our watch.

What have I learned from this endeavour? I would like to claim that I have learnt hundreds and hundreds of great Scrabble words, but, alas for me, I am lucky if one or two new bits of vocab per issue stay with me. I have learned a few things about personal organisation, Kiwi characteristics, and titles. I have learned that Wikipedia isn't actually evil. Obvious as it may seem, it took me at least a year or two to learn that nobody will miss content that isn't there. I learned that everybody (yes, even Jeff and Howard!) makes errors now and then, with regard to which words are allowable and which are not. And I hope that by now I have learned that, if I'm going to take a photo of a board, then for the love of Scrabble I must note down 1) why I took the photo and 2) who was playing whom, and when!

I learned that it's "raring to go" not "rearing to go", and that while "nerve-racking" and "nerve-wracking" are both in use, the variant without the W is more common. I learned that UNDOUBTABLY is not a word in writing (use UNDOUBTEDLY, INDUBITABLY, or, to be completely on the safe side, UNQUESTIONABLY). Who knows? This could be the very issue wherein it finally sinks in for me that *prizegiving is not allowable as a single word.

Of course I have learned a fair bit about my coeditor, too. Most significantly that, despite the naysayers, we CAN do this together, without any lasting negative impact on our friendship. Although we have very occasionally disagreed about editorial matters, we have, wherever necessary, agreed to disagree. Overall, however, our level of synchrony has come as a welcome surprise to me. Reflecting on our time as coeditors, there are certainly times where I must say we made more work for ourselves by working together. But I can also say with conviction that I could not have created half as good a magazine by myself.



O₁ Over the six years that I've been making magazine babies with Anderina, I've learned a whole lot of useful and not-so-useful stuff. When we first set out on this endeavour together I had no idea, for example, that you can't just produce a booklet for printing with any old number of pages. For some reason that has never been properly explained to me, the number of pages

must be a multiple of four. This immutable requirement of printing came as a bit of a shock to me when we went to publish our first issue of *Forwards*. After we had painstakingly edited the contents and emailed it to Glenda Foster, our layout editor at the time, she came back and informed us that we had two blank pages to fill in. I couldn't understand the problem; why not just take out the blank pages and publish 50 of them? That was when I discovered that it is ok to produce for publishing 32 pages but not 34; 48 or 52 pages, but not 50. Thus, we either had to fill in two more pages or take something out. And, again, it might seem as if the answer is simple; why make more work for yourself trying to find something to fill up blank pages when you could just whip something out and hold it over for next time. Well, it's not that simple at all, because sometimes the articles are all either one or three pages long, or if they are the right number of pages, they still can't be held back because they contain news or discuss topics that would be outdated or irrelevant by the time the next issue is to be published. Who would have thought that page numbers could cause such a headache?

I've also learned a whole bunch of weird and wonderful words. Unlike my co-editrix, I maintain that I would not have retained many of these words in my memory bank so well if it wasn't for the fact that I had to work with them in the *Forwards* context. And I confess to a definite feeling of delight when I find myself playing a word that I learned through *Forwards*.

In saying this, though, I've learned that I may be unusual among the

ranks of *Forwards* editors in my retention of Scrabble words discovered while writing/editing *Forwards*. I remember an amusing incident during a tournament game with Jennifer Smith, the editor immediately preceding my and Anderina's tenure. Some six months or so before the game in question, Jennifer had submitted for publication in *Forwards* a wonderful bit of poetry highlighting some interesting words related to birds. One of those words was TURDINE, which I didn't know until I edited Jennifer's *birdy contribution. Much to my astonishment, Jennifer challenged TURDINE when I played it against her. As we were entering the word into the adjudication computer, I asked Jennifer why she was challenging, since it was she who had taught me that word herself in her contribution. She told me that she often doesn't remember the words she writes about!

Talking of former editors, I've also learned how invaluable it is to have people like Jennifer on board, even in an informal way. She, along with another past editor, Jeff Grant, have contributed numerous features, fillers, and Mailbox items to our 24 issues. So too has Dylan Early who, while he hasn't edited *Forwards* (yet), used to edit its South African counterpart. At any given stage when content seemed a bit thin on the ground, Anderina and I could always rely on these people (as well as our other regular contributors such as Selena Chan, John Foster, Liz Fagerlund, and Howard Warner), to come through with something thought-provoking or funny or fascinating for us. Thank you so much, all of you, for

helping us with our content time and time again; sometimes on demand but often enough without us even asking.

And finally, one of the most rewarding things I've learned while editing *Forwards* is how interesting our readers are. One of the first regular columns that Anderina and I introduced as soon as we took over the editorship was "Word Famous in New Zealand". In 24 issues of *Forwards*, I believe that there have only been two issues which did not contain a Word Famous profile of a New Zealand Scrabbler. Through these profiles, I've learned about so many amazing people who have all done fascinating things in their lives quite apart from Scrabbling. If I hadn't edited *Forwards*, I might never have learned, for example, that Lorraine Van Veen has been to every continent on earth, that Lyn Toka has buny jumped, that Juliet Schiller has visited Death Row in America, that Bernie Jardine is an amazing caterer, or that Jenny Litchfield worked as a schoolteacher in the Middle East. What a truly fascinating and diverse bunch of people *Forwards* readers are! Thank you for letting me get to know you, and thank you for reading my and my co-editr's ramblings over these last few years.

So now it's time to say "au revoir" from both of us. It's not goodbye, of course, because now we're both looking forward to helping the new editor Val Mills out, by contributing articles and features as former editors have helped us.

Anderina and Olivia

STOP PRESS!



Since we handed over the content of this issue to our layout editor in late February / early March, global events have overtaken our country and the Scrabble-verse. Of course all our readers will know what we're talking about: the C word. We didn't think we should go to print without at least acknowledging that Covid-19 is a thing; that for the first time in the editrices' memories (and probably the first time ever) the Masters and Nationals have been cancelled, as have all club tournaments for the foreseeable future; and that you lovely people will all be reading this issue from within your isolation bubbles.

We want to acknowledge that, for many of us, this is a sad, stressful, and scary time. Given the demographic of the New Zealand Scrabble community, many of us will be among those categories of persons considered to be at most risk of serious complications should they contract this CORONAVIRUS (yes, by the way, CORONAVIRUS is allowable in CSW19). Perhaps some of you will be wondering about your jobs, worrying about vulnerable family and friends, dealing with loneliness, going stir crazy in LOCKDOWN (again, an acceptable word), or experiencing terrible Scrabble withdrawal. After all, not all of us can play Scrabble online, or find it particularly satisfying even if we can.

From a personal standpoint, I'm finding this enforced bubble existence to be both a curse and a blessing. It's definitely hard work being stuck at home with three primary-school aged children and a 1-year-old baby. I was

never cut out to be a home-school teacher, and genuinely have no idea why anyone would choose that option if they don't have to. On the other hand, it really is lovely not having to rush kids here, there, and everywhere to attend their various extracurricular activities. The slower pace of life means that I'm able to bake cakes, make proper homemade desserts again, and play a full game of Scrabble (very slow Scrabble) with the children. I've been motivating the older two with promises of money: 20 cents for every word they manage on their own that's five letters or more, 50 cents for every word that scores over 20 points, \$1 for a bingo with Mummy's help, and \$2 for an unassisted bingo. So far I haven't had to pay out too much, but the children's enthusiasm for Scrabble is growing; they're mercenary little souls it seems. The baby, meanwhile, is enjoying trying to eat the tiles.

I'm definitely suffering pretty badly from Scrabble withdrawal though. As far as I can tell, nobody has yet developed an app or program that enables blind people to play online Scrabble, so I can't even get my fix that way. So if there are any app developers out there who are bored in LOCKDOWN, talk to me, baby, yeah!

Like me, I know that my coeditor is also finding this bubble business a mixed blessing. She tells me that there seems to be so much more time in her day even though she's at home with two children (her husband's an essential worker) and trying to do a full time job from home herself.

Not having to rush to get herself to work and kids to school is a boon, and they get to go out bike riding every day but, she tells me, she can feel her Scrabble muscles atrophying a little in spite of the fact that she can play online games. [*Anderina: At the time of writing, we are less than a week away from what should have been the start of my 10th Scrabble Masters tournament. Thanks to so many consecutive evenings at home with Zyzzyva and Aerolith, I feel really well-prepared... I have a hunch I won't feel the same a week before next Easter!*]

We've promised each other that, when we see each other again on the other side of *Covid, we're going to celebrate the end of both the pandemic and our editorship by leaving the children to their other parents, going out for a fancy dinner, and playing endless games of real live Scrabble. In the meantime, I'm hoping to take this chance to swat up a gazillion words so I can spring back onto the Scrabble scene like some kind of undiscovered genius... well, maybe I'll just revise a few of the

words that fell out of my head like an unstoppered piggy-bank when my last baby was born... or maybe I'll just play Scrabble with my kids and see how much money I can lose to them.

So write in and tell us what you have been doing in CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN. Since there won't be much club activity or tournament news to report on for a little while, I'm sure that your new *Forwards* editor Val Mills will be delighted to receive your contributions from your bubble-worlds. Perhaps you're one of those lucky people who happens to be sharing a bubble with another Scrabble enthusiast? Or maybe you're discovering online Scrabble for the first time? However you're filling your days, let us know about it. And remember that, even if we can't play our beautiful game face-to-face right now, it will be there waiting for us on the other side of this Covid business. Meanwhile, enjoy this issue, and we hope that if you're feeling a bit sad or hopeless or alone, these pages will brighten up your bubble just a little bit, by reminding you that your Scrabble family is still here.

Since the last issue of *Forwards*, the world has changed in unimaginable ways. The effect of COVID-19 on our Scrabble has been massive: an end to all tournaments (in New Zealand and overseas) for the foreseeable future, and even club meetings. We've had to be resourceful in finding ways to keep playing and to keep in touch with our fellow Scrabblers.

Meanwhile, we farewell Anderina and Olivia, who have done such an amazing job editing *Forwards* for many years. Spare a thought for incoming editor Val, who has to chart her own path through these difficult times. Stay safe and well, everyone. Take every precaution. Look in on your fellow Scrabblers, particularly the most vulnerable. And see you all on the 'other side' of lockdown.

Howard Warner

Words from the President

by **Howard Warner**



Howard Warner

Here's a scenario. Someone (let's call her NP – for New Player, Nice Person, whatever) comes to a Scrabble club night for the first time. NP is nervous: it's very different from playing at home or among

friends. Everybody is playing one on one, not in groups. They know lots of words she's never heard of or seen before. They seem awfully fast. And confident; challenging each other loudly and triumphantly. NP is matched up with a more experienced player. She plods along, trying not to appear stupid. Her opponent is clearly getting bored and frustrated, and keeps trying to tell her what to play.

NP intends to return the following week. But she can't quite bring herself to. It's the idea of exposing her limitations (again) to all these smarty-pantses. Nobody calls her afterwards to ask how she felt. The next week something else comes up. So gradually she lets the Scrabble thing slide. She still loves the game, and occasionally plays with friends and family. Maybe she tries another activity (Bridge, tennis, cross-stitch?) where there are more people at her level and pace. Scrabble's loss!

Who knows what lengths NP went to in order to find a Scrabble club, let alone pluck up the courage to try it out? If only there'd been more newbies it might have been less nerve-racking.

This is probably a familiar scenario at all Scrabble clubs – including those that simply ran out of members and died. It's one that the NZASP aims to address with our 2020 promotional programme. We recognise that if Scrabble is to survive, let alone grow, it needs a massive nationwide push. Occasional nervous one-offs to a club won't crack it.

We -the Executive- have brainstormed the problem and come up with plenty of ideas. Making them happen is another thing. It's a huge undertaking. We may bring in someone external with specialist expertise. (It helps having some funding from Ryman specifically for this purpose.) But we will still need local on-the-ground support from players and clubs around New Zealand.

So please, if you are concerned about New Zealand Scrabble's future and have a bit of time to spare, put your hand up. Contact any member of the executive to register your interest. As the old warmongering Uncle Sam posters used to say, "We need YOU!".

On another note, I am absolutely delighted that our wonderful, top-drawer magazine will continue. HUGE thanks to Val Mills for stepping up to the plate.

See Howard's letter on page 33 about what *Forwards* meant to him personally 30-odd years ago.

Word Famous in New Zealand



Thank you to Jennifer Smith for taking care of this issue's Word Famous column for us. Jennifer procured and interviewed Pam, and wrote up the profile. This is the first time that we've got someone outside of the editing team or the subject themself to write up Word Famous. Why did it take us till the very last issue under our editorship to think of doing this?

Pam Robson



I've lived in Hamilton ever since I was six years old. Dad had been the musical director of the NZ Kiwi Concert Party that

entertained troops during WWII, and when he returned from the war, he was asked to move from Auckland to provide a dance band for the Riverlea Cabaret in Hamilton.

We lived in an older area of Hamilton on the fringe of the hospital grounds. In those days, it was quite rural; our playground was a gully. I was educated at Hamilton West Primary School, Maeroa Intermediate, and Hamilton Girls' High School until I left school at age 15 to work in the office of Waikato Wines and Spirits. I married young, at age 19, but worked there for nine years until I left to start my family at age 24.

I have three children, two of whom are living overseas, and five grandchildren, but only one of them lives here in the Waikato.

I've led a busy life supporting my children on every committee, from Plunket to kindergarten and school, as they grew up, and then on committees of my own interests, such as golf, Five Hundred, Bridge, and eventually Scrabble clubs. I used to go to Bridge tournaments all around the country, and was not too bad at it.

When my husband of 30 years died, I bought a lease on a small motel and ran that for a couple of years. This curtailed my freedom, of course, so I had to give up Bridge. My sister, Leanne Field, was playing Scrabble in Auckland at the time, and she told me about Scrabble clubs in Hamilton. I joined, and throughout the 1990s I was President of one club (Hamilton) and Secretary of the other (Waikato).

I used to run tournaments for both clubs, and have run Masters and Nationals for the Association. It was at one of the early tournaments that my daughter Linda, a mathematics teacher, worked out the first method of calculating expectancies, which has led to the system we have today.

Both of those clubs are now defunct, but we are lucky to still have the Kiwi Scrabblers in our city. I'm a staunch member, though my health limits what I can do physically.

I have emphysema as well as other chronic lung conditions.

One of my abiding interests was giving 20 years of voluntary service for the NZ Police, operating NZ's first Community Patrol Group, where I was secretary / trainer / fundraiser / liaison person / you-name-it. I was sad to have to give that work up a couple of years ago, due to my declining health, but thoroughly enjoyed those 20 years driving night patrols around the city in my own car (early years), or a plain clothes police car (in recent years).

There was never a dull moment on patrol. I remember one instance of a sergeant chasing a transvestite in high heels – and failing to catch her! There were always funny moments, as the police seem to be able to maintain their sense of humour in most situations. An alert was issued one night for all personnel to look out for an elderly man, described as being completely nude and carrying a bucket. An officer called in to ask comms what colour bucket the man was carrying.

It was during those years that I started listening to the police band on the radio and, to this day, it's the only radio I listen to, so I'm usually well-informed about local crime, and hear the names and activities of known offenders. One day a woman came to my door asking for money, and I recognised her immediately as a known burglar. To her surprise, I said, "You're Margaret, aren't you?" She was even more surprised when I told her to **** off! (I also rang the police.) I was always able to remember the numberplates of stolen cars, for example, and have notified police

when I've been off-duty and spotted one. I once followed a stolen car for some kilometres until the police could get a patrol out in response to my call.

I have always enjoyed overseas travel. I've been to USA four times (to visit my son in California, and including Las Vegas and New York), several times to Australia (to visit my daughter), and on many cruises, my favourite type of holiday. But that all came to an end when my current partner, Al, got sick with Alzheimer's. He has been in long-term care since 2018, and I visit him regularly, taking him for drives, coffee, etc., but he's in a world of his own. What a cruel disease it is! He was such an intelligent, sociable person.

I'm grateful for the sociability of Scrabble. It's a great community of like-minded people, and I have made many friends over a Scrabble board. I'm grateful to be able to play Scrabble, even on those days when I am struggling for breath. Placing tiles on a board and moving from table to table is considerably easier on a weakened body than swinging a golf club and negotiating a golf course! These days, considerate tournament directors make sure I don't even have to move from table to table.

I have played in 11 Masters Tournaments (but have qualified for a few more that I couldn't attend for one reason or another, like distance or health), and I just squeaked in to this year's Masters. I have been as high as the 1800s in the rankings, but I'm slipping downwards now. That fact may not come as a surprise to people who study conscientiously. I don't

swot, I don't learn words, and I never look at the four-letter word list – ever!

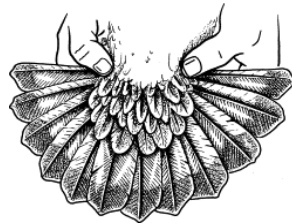
But I do have a good memory, not just for stolen cars and crims. I remember words that people play against me, and I can usually remember who it was who played the word, too.

I can still remember the word Nigel Richards played against me the only time I ever played him before he left for overseas: UROPYGIA. And I even remember the meaning he told me while we were waiting for the challenge slip to come back from the adjudicator. (The part of the rump that supports the tail feathers of a bird.)

And that brings me nicely to one of my proudest achievements in Scrabble. I am the proud owner of a T-shirt that announces:



I believe there are only about five of us New Zealanders who qualify to wear such a shirt for beating him in a tournament in the days when he was shooting up the rankings in New Zealand. I beat him despite his clever UROPYGIA.



UROPYGIUM
(pl. **UROPYGIA**)

I've been so proud, as we all are, of Nigel's successes on the world stage. However, for the first time in public, I have to admit to being the *teeniest* bit disappointed in Nigel. Here's why:

Even before Nigel went to his first World Championship (I think it was the 1999 tournament), I was sure he was heading to the top, but nobody overseas had heard of him. I discussed it with Clare Wall, who was in our club at the time, and between us, we decided to put our money where our mouth was. We bet 50 pounds (25 each) with William Hill, bookmaker, for Nigel to win. We gave them Philip Nelkon's name, as at the time he was the liaison person between Mattel and UK Scrabble, so William Hill could get more info to set the odds, which (if we remember correctly) they set at 100 - 1.


We were very gutted when Nigel didn't win! (What a pity you hadn't become World Champion one world tournament earlier, Nigel! The odds against you winning would/will never be as high again.)

the sTORY pRESENTING fRONT hooks

A weakness I long ago identified in my Scrabble play is that my brain apparently isn't wired to see hooks. Even if I well know a word and its extended version (e.g. UNTIE and AUNTIE), I often will overlook a hooking opportunity. Or, worse, I'll deem a play safe in my head because e.g. "both H's are already on the board, and I have the last remaining L", while suppressing the knowledge that my play can also take alternative front hooks of six or seven other consonants.

In an effort to address this weakness, half a decade ago I began compiling a list of what I thought of as "unhooked words", i.e. allowable plays that appeared incomplete without a hook. (I think this may all have started much earlier in my Scrabble career, when I challenged the word PENI, on the basis that "I'm familiar enough with the plural, but I've never heard of that as a singular!")


So now, at last, I have woven some of the words I've collected into a narrative of sorts. Every capitalised word in the following text is an allowable Scrabble play, but it requires an additional single-letter front hook to make the best sense in this story. In the interests of readability, only words that started out four letters or longer have been 'beheaded' here.



It was a NOWY day, and the crystalline structures hanging off the OOF ERE LISTENING RIGHTLY. I peeled myself a ANANA and TARED out through the LINDS, EARNING for the AYS of summer to RING ROQUET back to the neighbouring AWN.

As a AGNATE in my OTHER's musical HEATER empire, my work would typically entail ASKS as diverse as LAYING the ARMONICA, SOLATING hazards, liaising with the LEANING staff, QUIPPING offices, or just OTTERING BOUT ROM OOM to OOM to HECK everything was going KAY.

But on HAT NOWY day, my ASK was to REATE costumes. By way of REFACE, I should mention that this SED to be the job of a young LOKE ROM PAIN, a WANKY HAP with a



receding AIRLINE. He had recently EEN accepted into the AIN ANCE ROUP and was now busy rehearsing for a production of EST IDE TORY, plus had OLD me he had his YES on the AIN OLE in ILLY Elliot later in the EAR.

So, we ERE EFT without a EWER for our matinee, a EPRISE of the CONIC HOW The ION ING. We now needed LOTH to OVER twelve UMBO STRICHES, EVEN BISES, and several TRIPY GUANAS. To my HAME, not a INGLE TITCH had yet EEN TARTED, and I was in serious ANGER of forfeiting my ALARY if I didn't produce a minor miracle of REPARATION forthwith.



My OTHER, you see, was ORE HAN a little RONE to ANTRUM-throwing. How can I ESCRIBE my ARLING OTHER, SABELLA? A large-REASTED, IGNIFIED AME with a OUD OATLIKE LEAT of a AUGH. While it would be RONG to say I did not DORE her, she was not as LOSE a ELATION as you might imagine, our INSHIP having passed its zenith ANY EARS ago, somewhere between RESCHOOL and UBERTY. She was certainly ELL past ABYING me if my OOR work impeded the ROWTH of her business' profits. She REEDILY expected a HOPPING HARE of my ARD-earned AGES VERY EEK, as payback for her AKING ARE of me HEN I was a HILD.

My ADDY, on the other AND, was a EMURE SLANDER by the AME of IMMY HOE. He initially worked as a RUGAL ONEYER, but HANGED his mind and took to the high EAS as a AVIGATOR on a IRATE HIP, and hasn't EEN EARD ROM since. Why, oh why couldn't he AVE just become a ARISTA, AKING RINKS at a nearby coffee HOP instead?

In a OVEL WIST on the usual TORY, HERE the LOKE EBAUCHES the HICK, it is certain that SABELLA initiated HEIR ALLIANCE, and lead

IMMY on. In ACT HERE is some doubt as to how HEY ERE able to OCREATE me; How ADDY managed to maintain his RECTION long enough to get AMA REGNANT...



IRATE HIP

© Can Stock Photo

but you don't ANT to EAR any ORE BOUT HAT!



As I ROTE HAT last bit, I EARD AMA OLLER at me. Already EELING HASTENED, and unwilling to ACE further ENSURE, I am SHAMED to say I quickly SCENDED the back staircase. I OPED to find a LACE to IDE, but the EST I could manage was to LATTEN my body GAINST a ALL.

My AMBIT AILED; she POTTED me. I had to OWER while AMA glared OINTED AGGERS at me. She was ABID. I could do nothing but ROSTRATE myself before the IRADE of her RATH. She ENOUNCED me as a LAKY LUTZ, the OOSIEST NAVE HAT ever was, SHAWING at any attempt I made to INDICATE myself. ONE of it made a UNCE of difference, not even a ARTICLE of difference. But the ORE HOUTING she did, the RATER I became...

OUR UNSHOTS ERE EARD in HAT ARK ALL HAT afternoon. AMA SABELLA met her EATH at my own AND, and her HEATER has seemed so ONELY ever since. So why AVE I CRIBBLED OWN these AGES, instead of URNING the matter over to the ROPER authorities? Well, no doubt you're familiar with the NANE LATITUDE HAT "The HOW must go on"?



A slip of the pen

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

It's fun to discover unusual words that are almost the same as ordinary words you know, with the only difference being one letter. Learning them as a pair helps them stick in the memory. For example, TALENT (special natural ability) becomes TALANT (hooked finger or talon) by changing the E to an A with the stroke of a pen.



Here are a few such pairs, presented to you as a puzzle. The capitalised word is the wrong one, but one which you probably recognise. You need to change just one letter to get a different word that fits the sentence meaning, and is perhaps unknown to you before now. (I'm not talking to you, Nigel!)

Answers on page 40.

1. The patient was suffering from ACADEMIA.

(This one's for you, Alastair!)

2. The surgeon discovered growths on the patient's PELORUS.
(And this!)



3. If you SUCCESS the bottle of beer, it will spray everywhere when you open it.

4. The last three answers are terrific, but this one's even PLATTER.

5. We would expect Patrick to win if he played Chess against a PANZER.



6. AFGHANS are edible, but they're not a biscuit.

7. That short, broad, muscular fellow is PICNIC.

8. Australians should put water on the AISLE when the barbecue's finished.



9. If you're a Catholic you wouldn't ABLEGATE what the Pope says.

10. The miller AGONISED the flour.

11. The whirlpool made a VERTICAL of ripples on the water.

12. Elephants in India roam on an open MAIDEN.

13. She didn't want any REGRETS nailed to the walls of her new house.

14. Noah used the Ark as a VICARY.

15. In Italy, they used to pay for goods in ZUCCHINI.

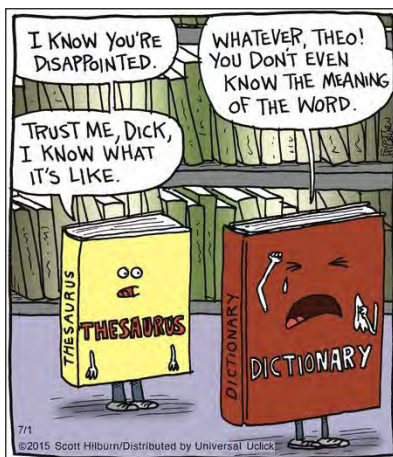
16. The wine cask was sitting on a STALLION – was it on a STELLION?

17. The heckler SMASHED the politician from the audience.

18. She dyed her fabric with INSULIN, because blue is her favourite colour.

19. She liked to CELIBATE her wine.

20. You'd need lots of ROYALS in Saudi Arabia to bribe someone to procure alcohol for you.



Club News

By now many of you will already have heard the sad news that Glenda Foster, a huge stalwart of NZ Scrabble and Life Member of our Association, passed away recently. Glenda was the first layout editor with whom Anderina and I worked when we first began our Forwards journey. When she stepped down from layout editing in 2016, we published a list of the many and varied jobs that Glenda undertook as layout editor (see p. 7 in Forwards issue 123). When Glenda stepped down from the NZASP executive in 2019, Liz Fagerlund wrote a tribute detailing Glenda's many years of service to the NZ Scrabble community (see pages 12-13 in Forwards issue 134). And below is a further tribute to Glenda, penned by her friend Nola Borrell. It speaks volumes of her that, in the six years we have edited Forwards, Glenda has warranted so many tributes. Glenda, you will leave a huge hole in the NZ Scrabble scene and in our Scrabble family.

A tribute to Glenda

by Nola Borrell, Independent

On Friday 28 February Glenda Foster fell from her mobility scooter and suffered a brain aneurism. Sadly, she was not expected to recover from her injuries, and she died at Hutt Hospital on Sunday 1 March.

Ironically, Glenda cherished that scooter, her chief form of transport after she sold her car at the end of 2018. I remember her sitting four-square on it, wearing a beanie, and looking mildly adventurous.

The Scrabble Community has lost a long-term, hard-working and committed member. NZASP has been stronger for Glenda's loyal contribution. And I – and many others – have lost a friend.

Glenda had a long and distinguished history in NZASP: ratings officer, webmaster, *Forwards* layout editor, vice-president, tournament director, and much else. It was through Glenda's initiative that



Glenda Foster

NZASP formed a relationship with Ryman Healthcare and started to receive funding from Ryman last year. And, of course, she was a veteran of tournaments, including the Masters (competing 34 times, I believe). For most of her Scrabble-playing years, she was an A grade player.

She enjoyed problem-solving. Computer glitch? Printer breakdown? Best place and best letters given state of the board and nature of opponent? She remained calm. And always practical, realistic. Any imaginative / what if / flippant comments of mine were always swiftly grounded by Glenda.

For 10 years I was a passenger in her car to Wellington Scrabble Club. What luck! Not only a ride but also a ready

source of Scrabble lore from a pro. [Huh! When I typed 'pro', the predictive text came up with 'problem-solver'. For once, computer's interference is useful.] She took delight in 'solving' ABDELOSW, DEELLORTY, ABEGGMOS, and suchlike.

That car took me further afield than Wellington— even to Auckland Nationals. During our car trips it became a ritual to quiz Glenda on challenged words in my games. And our friendship spilled over to other things, including Chamber music concerts, occasional lunches, and dinners.

In March 2018 Glenda sold her central Lower Hutt home. She bought a well-appointed apartment in Bob Scott Retirement Village, Petone. I unpacked while she directed, unsure whether I would unwrap a family heirloom or a potato masher. While I had depressing thoughts (“moving house”, “her life in boxes”, “downsizing, especially her library by one whole bookcase!”), Glenda was upbeat. From her La-Z-Boy, she dealt calmly with phone calls, visitors, delays, questions. She was in charge.

Glenda greatly enjoyed the at-hand social life at Bob Scott, and looked happy. She was unable to stand for long (back pain), had restricted walking mobility, and had to rest for much of the time, but still got involved. She became very involved with SeniorNet Lower Hutt, her chief outside interest – apart from Scrabble. Now and again we would play Scrabble in her apartment, sometimes with Lynn Wood and Liz Fagerlund.

During the time I knew her, Glenda had a series of medical challenges: knee replacement, broken patella, damaged Achilles tendon, fractured scapula ...but she always just kept going. For the March 2014 Wellington Scrabble tournament Glenda, with a broken patella and on crutches, still billeted Anna Hough and Joan Thomas. On the Thursday before the

2019 Nationals in Wellington, Glenda emailed: ‘I had a fall at home last night and I have a fractured shoulder blade. I need to wear a collar and cuff arm sling and take pain killers, but otherwise ok and mobile.’ With the help of chauffeur Judy Driscoll and me as computer equipment porter, she still made it. There’s commitment for you.

At her very last tournament (Nelson, in February), there was Glenda, sorting results at the computer while the rest of us relaxed. She was such a hard worker!

One of her finest hours took place before my time. At a Whanganui tournament Glenda arrived with only five minutes left on her clock. Glenda, an avid cricket fan, had stayed up most of the previous night watching a cricket match, and had slept in. She won! Zero to 505 points in five minutes (see p 42 in *Forwards* issue 133 for full details).

Glenda had a daughter, Ruth, a nurse who lives in Petone with her husband Leon. She had two brothers: Trevor, now in full care in Canberra, and Tony (deceased). She timed her visits to Trevor so they coincided with a Canberra Scrabble Tournament (always practical and always keen to get some Scrabble in).

I have Glenda's old cellphone. But any texts to Glenda will have to be imaginary. Sorry, practical Glenda.

autumn rain
a pansy appears
in the patio

Vivienne Moss, secretary of the Rodney Scrabble Club, sent in this report way back in November 2019. However, her report arrived just a few days after we had sent all the content of the Spring 2019 issue to our layout editor, so it could not be included at that time. We apologise for the fact that, consequently, this report is now a little out-of-date. However, better late than never, right?

Rodney 2019 Tournament report
by Vivienne Moss, Rodney

Rodney Scrabble Club held its biennial tournament on Saturday 9th November at the Snells Beach Community Hall. We welcomed 44 players from as far away as Christchurch, Tauranga, and Whangarei. The entrants included six former NZASP presidents! The players were divided into six grades so we could cater for the entire range of playing abilities. Of course, Alastair Richards won the A Grade, while his beautiful wife Lyres Freeth (a former Rodney Club member) came in second. They were both extremely popular winners!

Our club President, Sandy Garman, ran a friendly ship, controlling the tournament itself, as well as the catering core, which consisted of our “willing ladies”. All the food was made and provided by our members, and a varied and delicious spread was available for lunch and game breaks. This was fortunate as the timetable allowed for plenty of these (game breaks that is), so people could socialise.



Lawson’s tribute at the Pakuranga tournament

Special thanks go to Jeanette Grimmer. She filled in for our treasurer, who was sailing the high seas at that time. Jeanette not only handled all entries and finances, but trained the scorers in the use of the tricky computer scoring programme as well. We know she spent many hours in these endeavours.

Our raffles were many and varied. We were particularly pleased to have garnered support from Warkworth New World, who provided us with a large box raffle.

We were also very proud to receive the positive comments from one of our visitors on the suitability of the hall and its facilities.

Our club hopes to see you all again in two years’ time for some more Scrabbling fun.

.....

After 35 great years, the Pakuranga Scrabble Club has now disbanded. Lawson Sue, loyal member of that club for almost two decades, compiled an online photo book tribute for the club’s final night. In it, he included captioned photographs of the club’s players, venues, tournaments, and so on. Tribute was paid to Pakuranga’s founding member, Margaret Cherry, and also to the numerous contributions made by Val Mills and her whānau over the years. Several tournaments in the nearby Pakuranga Mall were also remembered fondly. If you would like to view the entire presentation, contact Lawson to arrange access.

Scrabble in Schools

by Murray Rogers, Independent

Golden Bay, a rural community two hours from Nelson, held its fourth primary interschool Scrabble tournament in November last year. Three of the four primary schools in the area participated

- Motupipi, Takaka, and Collingwood, with seven, six, and seven players respectively, aged 9-11.

During the year I had worked quite regularly with the first two schools, the majority of time being spent with Motupipi, and none at all with Collingwood which is located further away.

The players were ranked as best they could within their own school. Using a Swiss-Draw format, I created a draw for the initial game whereby a player played someone slightly differently ranked. The next two games were based on wins and spread, but one always had to play someone from a different school, mainly to get exposure to others and to represent a true competition between the schools.

The final results were: Motupipi 18-3, Takaka 9.5-8.5, and Collingwood 2.5-18.5, (obviously lopsided). There was one bonus word played, from the rack ?ADILPR (see p. 40 for answer), which I thought was an amazing find for an 11-year-old boy. The D was added to an existing four-letter word



Kids at play

with both the D and P on triple letter squares, scoring 83 points altogether.

My intention is to have Collingwood upskilled this year. I am acquainted with the teacher aide who helped on the day,

and who had also worked with the students leading up to the tournament. I will give her the rough draft template I have created for working with children in schools. Maybe I will go there periodically this year and do longer split sessions - the distance and my availability is a factor.

All in all, it was a good tournament. The children were focused and the parent helpers were very helpful. It was good to see the parents observing their children's involvement and it was a great opportunity for the children to get out and do something different and to meet others.



Team Motupipi with their trophy

Twenty years ago in *Forwards*

by *Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert*

Right now the New Zealand Scrabble Association Executive have been talking to members about ways to promote Scrabble and get more people involved in our wonderful game. Twenty years ago, in preparation for the 1999 World Scrabble Championship in Melbourne, this fun promotion of extreme Scrabble (playing in unlikely and rather dangerous places) was launched by Mattel.

Maybe this is something we can look at in New Zealand to get some daredevil Scrabblers on board!

Page 6

Fishing For Words

Playing Scrabble underwater with an audience of sharks was one of the daredevil feats performed recently to renew interest in the world's leading word game.

To promote Scrabble, the game's maker Mattel hosted the first Extreme Scrabble Challenge in Melbourne, coinciding with the fifth World Scrabble Championships from November 3-7. Scuba divers at Manly Underwater World launched the campaign, playing Scrabble in the shark tank, and the next extreme adventure was Suspended Scrabble—played by two contestants hanging upside down from a dizzy height.

Mattel Australia's marketing manager David Gibson said interest had been overwhelming. "It was a concept we came up with a while ago," he said. "The key thing from the consumer's perspective is that you can enjoy Scrabble anytime, anywhere.

Mr Gibson said that although sales for Scrabble were gradually picking up, people were not playing it as often. The 51-year-old game was not appealing to people aged 15-26, he said. "They see Scrabble as a bit daggy and prefer to go outdoors doing other things," he said. "We get them back when they're a bit older."

Mattel invited Australians to devise their own forms of Extreme Scrabble, from playing while skydiving to playing while trapped with animals at the zoo.

from a Sydney newspaper, sent to Pam Robson (WKT) by her daughter in Australia

Photos from Mattel website



Hall of Fame

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

How do you do? I was a British army officer who lived from 1761 to 1842. A month after my 18th birthday I began a lifelong military career with the Royal Artillery.

I had an inventive mind, so it wasn't long before I began experimenting with exploding shells. In 1784 I perfected, at my own expense and in my own time, my "spherical case" ammunition, a hollow cannonball filled with shot. Other people had tried to produce such a device before, but mine had a delayed action fuse. This enabled the shell to stay intact until it reached the enemy lines 1100 metres away, where it detonated above the heads of the enemy troops with devastating effect. No longer did you have to hit someone directly in order to kill them!

By 1799, I had seen action in Gibraltar, the West Indies, and Europe, and achieved the rank of Captain. I also presented my (by now) 15 years of intermittent design work to army officials, but they weren't enthusiastic. They only adopted my invention in 1803!

Yet, when they used my invention to capture Surinam in 1804, I became an overnight celebrity - and a Lieutenant Colonel. Then the Duke of Wellington found it effective against Napoleon's army at several engagements, which resulted in me being promoted even further.

Many military experts believe that my device was one of the decisive factors at the Battle of Waterloo. Indeed, at one stage Napoleon ordered a search of the battlefield for any unexploded cannonballs, so that his ordnance specialists could examine the shells and determine how they worked.

My device continued to prove effective around the world. British gunners testified to its power, and the navy was quick to realise its potent capabilities in sea battles. For instance, it was very efficient at clearing the decks of enemy ships.

Finally, in 1814, the government awarded me a lifetime annual stipend of 1200 pounds. (This may sound generous, but I had already spent several thousand pounds of my own money developing the device!) Yet fame and fortune in the main eluded me. The primary reason, paradoxically, was due to the importance of my invention - the Duke of Wellington ordered that it be kept secret.

I was very disappointed when William IV died before giving me the baronetcy he had promised. I retired from the rank of Major General after 46 years of active service. However, I continued experimenting and inventing, working on improvements in howitzers and mortar, and taking out patents.



You will have long since realised that my name is Henry Shrapnel. Remember me when you play SHRAPNEL/S, which these days does not just refer to my particular explosive invention, but to fragmentation from any artillery shells, and fragmentation in general. Quite honestly, I'm particularly happy that in today's present climate my name refers to a handful of small coin -

perhaps more praiseworthy than being remembered for inventing a murderous weapon.



Henry Shrapnel

Ask Liz

by Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert

NZASP's favourite adjudicator comments on some recent scenarios she encountered.

1. Self-adjudication via smart device.

Recently I observed a smart device being used, and the player who didn't initiate use of the device said they would have preferred to not use it, but to go to the laptop instead. Players must remember that the rules on this say that the use of a smart device must be agreed to by both players. There is also a rule that says it is preferable for players to agree to the use of a smart device before the start of the game.

I very often see a challenge done incorrectly on a personal device. The worst scenario is where one player (often not the challenger) picks up their phone or tablet, types the word in, and executes the adjudication command, only then showing it to the other player. This is not advisable because, for instance, the player using the device could be utilising the wrong function (e.g. 'search' instead



of 'judge'), they could have typed the word/s incorrectly, or they could have their device set to the incorrect dictionary.

Players need to note these rules in particular, with regard to self-adjudication:

- While in use the screen must be visible to both players;
- The challenger types the word/s into the adjudication programme;
- The opponent verifies that the word/s are correctly typed, then gives verbal consent for the challenger to execute the adjudication command.

It really isn't a bad idea to get up and go to the designated laptops instead of continually staying in your seat - at Scrabble tourneys we spend all day sitting - exercise those legs even just a little bit!

2. Scoring errors discovered later during the game.



A player realised they had mis-scored their previous turn - the score was higher than they had first announced. The

opponent did not want to alter the scoresheet to reflect the correct score, thinking that the score had to stand regardless of whether it was found to be incorrect.

Of course, under the old rules, an opponent could no longer challenge once they had written down a player's score - that was the player's acceptance of the opponent's move - it didn't mean (and still doesn't mean) that the score is then set in concrete and can't be changed to reflect a corrected calculation.

I feel very sure that, if a player said they had added their turn incorrectly and given themselves too many points, the opponent would not tell them they couldn't correct their score and have fewer points as it's already written on the scoresheet!

Players should be checking their opponent's score as well as their own - I would always let my opponents know if they have underscored their turn, just as readily as I would tell them they have overscored their turn.



The lovely (shape of) bones

by Howard Warner, Independent

This follows Olivia's delightful and thought-provoking article about bones in the last issue. I've always liked that so many bones are named after the shape of (mostly) everyday objects. For example, a CLAVICLE (collarbone) is shaped like a small key and a MALLEUS like a hammer. There are a few more obscure ones as well, my favourite being PHALANX. This tiny finger bone is named after the might of an infantry formation in the ancient Macedonian army (not the other way around).

Here is my personal collection of bone (or bone-related) words, plus the shapes they are named for.

Note, all take -S or -ES plural, except where I've noted an irregular plural (though some of those take a regular form as well), or an adjective.

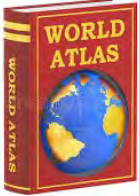


ACETABULUM, pl. ACETABULA: vinegar cup

ANTRUM, pl. ANTRA: cave (a cavity in a bone)

ASTRAGALUS, pl. ASTRAGALI: knucklebones as used in a child's game

ATLAS, pl. ATLANTES: in Greek mythology, one who supported the heavens; figuratively, one who bears a heavy burden (the topmost vertebra, which supports the skull)



CAPITATE: head (actually a wrist bone, not a head bone!)

CAPUT, pl. CAPITA: head (the knob at the head of any large bone)

CLAVICLE, CLAVICULA, pl. CLAVICULAE: small key

COCCYX, pl. COCCYGES: cuckoo's bill

CONCHA, pl. CONCHAE: shell

CORACOID: raven's beak

CORNU, pl. CORNUA: horn

COTYLOID: cup

CRIBRATE, CRIBROSE, CRIBROUS: perforated like a sieve (adj. used of bones)

CUBOID: cube



CUNEIFORM: rune, wedge

ETHMOID: sieve

FIBULA, pl. FIBULAE: brooch

FONTANELLE: fountain

FORAMEN, pl. FORAMINA: to bore a hole (an opening or passage in a bone)

FURCULUM, pl. FURCULA / FURCULAE: little fork (the 'wishbone' in birds)

HAMATE, HAMULUS, pl. HAMULI: hook

HUMERUS, pl. HUMERI: just means upper arm bone, but is colloquially misnamed the 'funny bone' because of its coincidental similarity to 'humorous'

HYOID: upsilon (letter U)

ILIUM, pl. ILIA: flanks, entrails

INCUS, pl. INCUDES: anvil

JUGAL: yoke

LACRIMAL: teardrop

LUMBUS, pl. LUMBI: loins (more commonly used in the adjectival form LUMBAR)

LUNATE: crescent moon



MALLEUS, pl. MALLEI: hammer

MANUBRIUM, pl. MANUBRIA: haft or handle

MODIOLUS, pl. MODIOLI: nave of a wheel

NAVICULAR,
NAVICULARE:
little ship



PARIETAL: wall

PATELLA, pl.
PATELLAE: shallow dish

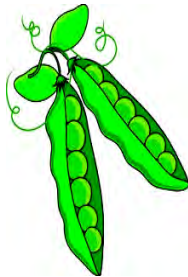
PETROSAL: stone, rock

PHALANX, PHALANGE: a formation
of ancient
Macedonian
infantrymen

PISIFORM: pea

PTERION, pl.
PTERIA: wing

RADIUS, pl. RADII:
ray, spoke



SACRUM, pl. SACRA: sacred bone

SCAPHOID: boat

SCAPULA, pl. SCAPULAE: to dig
(because of its flat shape, like a
spade or trowel)

SELLA, pl. SELLAE: (Turkish) saddle

SESAMOID: sesame seed

SPHENOID: wedge

STAPES, pl. STAPEDES: stirrup

TALUS, pl. TALI:
a die used in
gambling
games

TEMPORAL:
temple

THORAX, pl.
THORACES:
breastplate, cuirass, corslet

TRAPEZOID, TRAPEZIUM, pl.
TRAPEZIA: table

TRIQUETRUM*, pl. TRIQUETRA, pl.
TRIQUETRAE: three corners or
angles

TROCHANTER: to run
(a roughness on the thigh bone)

TYMPANUM / TIMPANUM, pl.
TYMPANA / TIMPANA: drum
(hence 'eardrum' in colloquial
English)

ULNA, pl. ULNAE: ell, a measure of
the forearm from elbow to wrist

UNCIFORM: hook

VOMER: ploughshare

ZYGOMA, pl. ZYGOMATA: yoke

*A tiny wrist bone that I'd never heard
of until I broke mine in a cycle
accident last year!



Credit: Victoria Roberts



Return of the dinosaurs

Having featured both my older daughters wearing their favourite onesies in articles published in the two preceding issues, I was firmly told by my son Callum (aged “almost 10 Mummy”) that it would be unfair of me not to write another article so that he could showcase his favourite onesie too. Why should the girls get to be fashion models but not he? Fair enough, but that left me in the rather sticky position of having to manufacture something Scrabbly about dinosaurs, since a dinosaur-ish onesie is his current fave (he insists it’s a dinosaur anyway but this may be an eye-of-the-beholder thing).

“Why sticky?” I hear you ask... Well, you see, the problem is twofold. First, despite the fact that Callum has tried to educate me on several occasions, nothing much about dinosaurs has ever stuck with me, and that includes their multisyllabic names. And second, the above-mentioned multisyllabic names, while generally allowable in CSW19, are impractical for playing purposes. The thing is, most dinosaurs end in –SAURUS, which already takes up six letters and, as SAURUS is not an allowable word in CSW19, it’s not at all likely that you’ll be able to extend any words on the board into dinosaurs. The only remotely playable word ending in –SAURUS is the nine-letter THESAURUS and, as Callum would



Callum in his dino onesie

scoffingly tell you, that’s not a dinosaur at all!

There are some dinosaurs that, for some unfathomable reason, don’t go all the way, and are named something –SAUR. These foreshortened dinosaurs are a little more useful for us Scrabblers, but there are still not that many of them. In fact, there are eight eight-letter

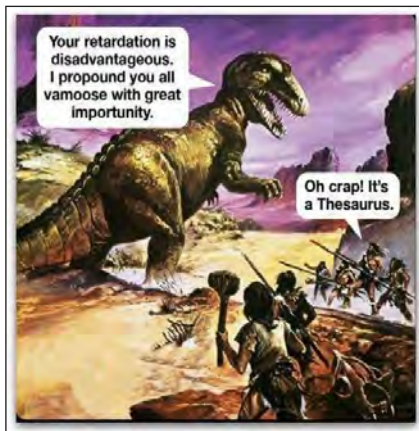
words ending in –SAUR: ALLOSAUR, BALISAUR, BAROSAUR, DINOSAUR (of course), MAIASAUR, MESOSAUR, MOSASAUR, and PLIOSAUR. (Despite its name, a BALISAUR is neither extinct nor a dinosaur. It is actually a badger-like animal from India.)

Like the *SAURUS before us, SAUR is also not a stand-alone word (if you must play those four letters, try RUSA, SURA, or URSA instead). But at least you have a chance of emptying your rack in a *dinosaur way, if there happens to be a convenient UR on the board with seven spaces in front. If these conditions are met, then you have nine dinosaur words to choose from: APATOSAUR, ARCHOSAUR, CARNOSAUR, DEINOSAUR (actually just a variant spelling of DINOSAUR), HADROSAUR, PTEROSAUR, STEGOSAUR, SUPERSAUR, and TELEOSAUR.

So then, what can you do if you find yourself with half or three-quarters of a dinosaur on your rack, and you're simply not *Nigelian enough to slap down ICHTHYOSAURUS or ARCHAEOPTERYX? My advice is pretty prosaic really: you'll just have to play something else. But your half-dinosaurs can still come in handy as stems to help you remember other, more useful words. So here are some options, based on some dinosaurs that I'm sure even the least Jurassic-ally interested of us will have heard of.

If you find yourself with *BRONTO on your rack, perhaps you'll be lucky enough to play the seven-letter word BIOTRON. Failing that, there are eight eight-letter words featuring the BRONTO stem: ABORTION, BIOTRONS, BOWFRONT, BOXTHORN, BROWNOUT, ISOBRONT, ROBORANT, and TROMBONE.

Don't despair if *TYRANNO turns up. Find a D on the board and you can still make mincemeat of your



ARCHAEOPTERYX

Credit: Bridgeman images

opponent by offloading your rack with the word DYNATRON.

Alternatively, look for a P and you can play NONPARTY. By the way, NONPARTY does not mean, as you might expect, a gathering of fogies drinking tea and knitting, and therefore not really a party at all. Nor does it mean, as an

ex-lawyer such as myself might infer, someone who is not a party to a contract. Collins reports, rather confusingly, that it's an adjective meaning "not connected to any political party". The confusion arises because, despite it supposedly being an adjective, Collins allows NONPARTIES (customary plural for a noun) but not *NONPARTIER or *NONPARTIEST (surely logical extensions for an adjective).

If the thing on your rack is a partial BRACHIOSAURUS, remember to look for another M, N, or O. These letters will, respectively, allow you to play CHORIAMB, BRONCHIA, and BORACHIO. While BORACHIO takes the usual -S plural form, note that CHORIAMB can be pluralised using either an -S or an -I; while BRONCHIA is a plural form already, so takes no -S. If you must hook something, stick a L on the end, as in BRONCHIAL tubes. Or, if your BRACHIOSAURUS is even more misshapen than you first thought, ditch the A and play BRONCHI. Again, BRONCHI is already a plural (singular is BRONCHUS), so don't go putting an -S on that one, either.

And now for some half dinosaurs that don't end in the -SAURUS suffix...

First up is the TRICERATOPS, well-known for its three horns and large neck frill. While most of us know that ATOP is a word, *ATOPS is definitely not allowed, so you're going to be hard-pressed to play TRICERATOPS under most conditions. I mean, even if you had the seven letters TRICERA on your rack and an ATOP was fortuitously available, you still can't play *TRICERATOP, because that dinosaur really needs its -S (plural is TRICERATOPSES). But if you do happen to have TRICERA, you have two seven-letter options, CIRRATE and ERRATIC. Whatever you do, do not play *CARTIER! Oh, and one more interesting point about our friend the TRICERATOPS; its anagram is TETRASPORIC. This anagram would actually be much more practical for Scrabble purposes, since TETRA is an allowable word, so it could conceivably be extended.



TRICERATOPSES

Now to the VELOCIRAPTOR, a dinosaur whose rather musical-sounding name literally means "swift killer". Of course, if a RAPTOR is already on the board, you could well play this dinosaur in full. But if you're not that lucky, look for any of these eight-letter words with the VELOCI stem instead: ARVICOLE, COVERLID, LOCATIVE, LOVESICK,



PROCLIVE, VELOCITY, VIOLENCE, VOCALISE, VOCALIZE, and VOICEFUL. It rather tickles my fancy that a creature with such a violent name can be used to make the word VIOLENCE.

And finally we have DIPLODOCUS. A *DIPOD on its own isn't going to do very much for you, but if you happen to have an I on the same rack, then you can play DIPLOID. DIPLOID can be pluralised with the -S, but it can also take a -Y (DIPLOIDY). And if you're looking for some other eights that include the first half of a DIPLODOCUS, try for DIPLOPOD, DISPLODE, IMPLODED, LOPSIDED, PLODDING, or PODDLING.

So there you have it; six dinosaur halves and a quick and dirty guide for how to make them useful in Scrabble. And now I can legitimately squeeze Callum and his onesie into this issue. The things we parents do to keep the peace with our children!



How to play Scrabble better by “unlearning”

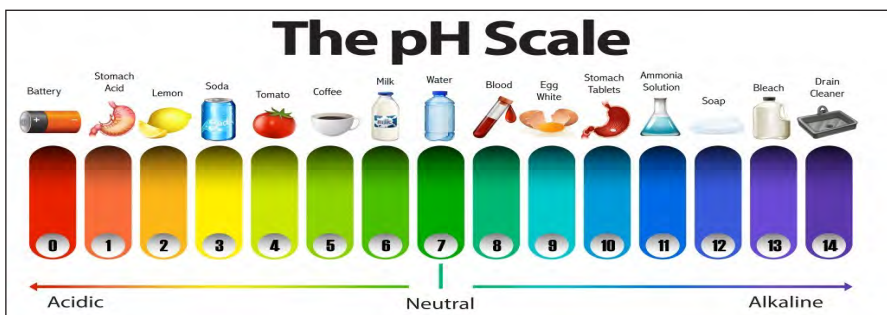
By Selena Chan, Christchurch

For many of us, learning new ways to do things often comes naturally. However, to continually improve, we not only have to evaluate which new **knowledge / attitudes / or skills** (KAS) are required to be adopted, learnt, and practised; but also decide on which ‘bad habits’ or redundant KAS we need to unlearn. As always, the substance of the unlearning dictates how difficult or challenging the task will be. Unlearning unproductive habits (i.e. attitudes or dispositions) can be much more difficult than unlearning ‘**knowledge**’.

In Scrabble, the knowledge component involves our arsenal of words. After dictionary updates, removing words from one’s mental filing cabinet is held to be more achievable, as it is simply a matter of not accessing the item in your memory, or in the case of deep-rooted knowledge, putting in a caveat around the item. For example, unremembering words deleted from the dictionary may be as simple as removing the word from one’s word lists, whether it be digital or physical.

This way, the word is eradicated and never reinforced when we revise. This works especially well for words that are not used very often. Some useful but no longer allowed words, like the much-lamented pH, may require the use of a learnt response to cement their non-existence. It might take the form of “drat, I wish I could play a P there on to that H (pH) to hook my bonus word but I know I cannot”. This easily reinforces the fact that playing pH is a no-no.

The proviso to the above is that shifting actions based on a form of ingrained knowledge, called **tacit knowledge**, is a more difficult and ongoing challenge. Tacit knowledge is our inbuilt common sense, attained through our life experiences, study / learning, and relationships with people within our own specialised socio-cultural-historical-political milieu. Tacit knowledge allows us to make decisions by drawing on our intuition. One of the challenges of tacit knowledge is that we are often unable to describe what it is, and sometimes do not even know that it exists and is





Selena Chan

influencing us. The key is to learn how to identify and unravel our tacit knowledge before being able to actually address the issues and

challenges presented. If you are interested in this aspect, have a look at this paper:

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Karin_Sirec/publication/220626322_Fostering_innovation_by_unlearning_tacit_knowledge/links/5665dfe608ae4931cd626405.pdf

Some of our tacit knowledge is also enmeshed into how we approach our lives. Examples include why humans are prone to adoption of ‘groupthink’, and our susceptibility to advertising and propaganda. Hence, much of the literature on unlearning is on **attitudes and dispositions**, as these are often deep-rooted traits which are woven into the fabric of our lives. Educators have a whole arsenal of strategies for shifting individuals’ mindsets on various issues. Good education should challenge our worldviews and help us change our perspectives.

Some of the difficulties in overcoming strong attitudes to various issues comes from our inbuilt cognitive bias. This means that the way in which our brains work causes us to make ‘intuitive’ or ‘fossilised’ decisions which are often flawed. See this video on Youtube produced by the BBC for a summary:

<https://www.bbc.com/ideas/videos/is-your-brain-your-own-worst-enemy/p068vb09?playlist=the-body>

The video lists the following as categories of cognitive bias:

1. Self-serving bias: We favour things that protect our ego. For example, caffeine users will prefer to believe that coffee does not cause cancer because this means that they can continue with their indulgence. An example in Scrabble is when we deliberately play an unusual word (sometimes despite the fact that it might score a bit less than a well-known word) to goad our opponent into challenging. In doing so, we not only gain an extra five points but we also achieve self-affirmation.
2. Fundamental attribution error: An example of this in Scrabble play is the tendency to place blame on internal rather than external causes. For instance mulling on one’s own failings too much, when the tile fairies have genuinely showered our opponents with all of the goodies and, statistically, winning the game was actually more difficult for us. Conversely, we might blame our loss entirely on our opponent getting all the “good” tiles, rather than acknowledging that we could have made better decisions at particular points during the game.
3. Confirmation bias: We tend to confirm hypotheses rather than disprove them regardless of the ‘facts’. In Scrabble, this often occurs when we become fixated on a particular strategy. For instance, we might hone in and work on a bingo to fit one available hook on the board, regardless of the fact that the game is dynamic and

requires the continual retention of a whole-board-view approach.

4. G.I. Joe fallacy: This is when “knowing” is one thing, but ingrained habits prove to be stronger than knowledge. Here, even if we know what NOT to do, we still do it! Therefore, emotional knowledge often pips rational knowledge. In Scrabble for instance, we might hold on to that Q or (more especially) that S, when we know that it is better to play it off to enhance our bonus word building efforts.

In **skills** learning, the role of deliberate practice is one approach to bringing about change. For this to work, two items are of particular importance. First, the skill to be unlearned and replaced requires careful definition. Second, targeted, persistent, and continuous practice has to be undertaken to embed the new skill. This all takes time. Even the best and most natural athletes will require many hours of sustained practice to master a new way of moving or doing. Witness how long golfers take to come back up to speed after considering a change in their golf swing. Lydia Ko and Tiger Woods may not have achieved their latest technical shift, even after several years!

The take-home message is that it is important to think through what needs to change, and then work hard on the replacement skill. I recently had to deal with this challenge when I wanted to change how I tracked my tiles. I used to go through each letter of a word in order, which meant that I was constantly moving between the



vowels at the top of the tile-tracking sheet to the consonants at the bottom and back again. The ‘craftsperson’ attribute within me was perturbed by the inefficiency of continuing on with this tile tracking method. Therefore, I set out to improve my technique by firstly tracking the vowels, and then the consonants. Alas, this was easier said than done! I found that my accuracy and speed of tile tracking dropped dramatically for many weeks. As the original (and more inefficient) tile tracking method could be done without thinking, I had to unlearn that habit and “relearn” the new method. I had to sort the word that I wanted to track into vowels and consonants, or into an *alphagram, before the letters could be tracked. Only after several months of practising this ‘new method’ did my tile tracking become fluent, accurate, and automatic again.

It was hard work, but worth it. And that’s often the case in situations when you are unlearning old, inefficient habits so that you can replace them with better, more productive ones.

Mailbox



Jeff Grant, Independent, wrote this response to our Spring issue (specifically, regarding p. 28), noting that none of these are original, with one example being dated to 1797!

In the field of recreational linguistics (*logology), an anagram usually refers to an appropriate rearrangement of letters. One that doesn't relate (e.g. DYSLEXIA - DAILY SEX) is simply called a transposal or transposition.

The modern term *synanagram was coined by American wordsmith Murray Pearce in 1971. A very common short example is PAT - TAP, which can both mean 'a light touch'. There are also the three words referring to 'birth' - PRENATAL, PATERNAL, PARENTAL.

Here are some longer well-known *synanagrams:

ENDEARMENTS - TENDER NAMES

MOTHER-IN-LAW - WOMAN HITLER

A SET OF HARNESS - FASTENS A HORSE

A SENTENCE OF DEATH - FACES ONE AT THE END

And even the anagrammatical answer to an old riddle:

THE CHICKEN CROSSES THE ROAD - SHE CHECKS CORN AT OTHER SIDE

Finally, for Scrabblers:

ALPHABETICALLY - I PLAY ALL THE ABC

The term *antigram, where the transposal means the opposite, probably originated in the 19th century. It is mentioned in a book called *A Key To Puzzledom*, which was published in 1906.

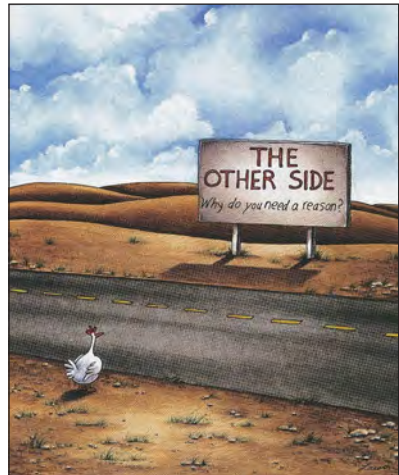
Some further examples of this type of contrary transposal:

FUNERAL - REAL FUN

INFERNOS - NON-FIRES

LEMONADE - DEMON ALE

ANTAGONIST - NOT AGAINST.



Howard Warner, Independent, sent us the following reflection:

I couldn't be more delighted that *Forwards* has had an 11th-hour reprieve. In a way, if it weren't for *Forwards*, I might not be playing Scrabble now... Or at all over the past three decades.

In the late 1980s, after a couple of years' working in London, I returned to New Zealand and got a job in Wellington. Not knowing anyone in the city, I thought I'd join a club, some kind of activity I enjoyed. I asked at the local Citizens' Advice about the card game 500, which I'd always enjoyed playing with family, friends and workmates. No such club existed! Backgammon then? Same thing. It was all very disappointing. Scrabble was my third choice. Bingo!

I started at the Wellington Scrabble Club, intending to go just once in a while – if there was nothing better happening. I was persuaded to play in a tournament, and loved it. I played for four years (including a two-year stint in Melbourne, where there were loads of Scrabble clubs).

Then I dropped out to focus on my work and all but forgot about Scrabble.

Some three years later, I was visiting my parents in Rodney. They had taken up club Scrabble a couple of years before me, though quite independently. I picked up their copy of *Forwards*, and was so impressed that I decided to give the game another go. Nothing has stopped me since. Scrabble has taken me all over New Zealand and the world. I have forged many strong friendships through the game.

And all because of this one little magazine. Over this time I have watched *Forwards* grow from strength to strength under successive editors (or co-editors). I've eagerly opened each new issue – whether in printed form or latterly digital – as soon as it arrives in my mailbox. And I've heard overseas recipients/subscribers of the mag claim to be dead jealous of what we New Zealanders have.

So, long may *Forwards* continue to flourish. And hopefully it'll influence a few other indifferent game-players to stick with Scrabble.

Joanne Craig was surprised with this splendiferous cake for her 60th birthday, made with loving care by her sister Angela and nephew Luke.



Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers, contributed the following observation:

I discovered GALABEA (an Arab cloak) can be spelt with one L or two. And that you can put an H on the end of both words. You can also spell it GALABIA, with one L or two, and also put an H on the end of each of those. That's another four versions!

And you can spell it GALABIYA, with one L or two, and put an H on the end of those words, too. We're now up to 12 spellings. But the GALLABIYAH in that last group of four can also be spelt GALLABIYEH. So that makes 13. [A bit of an inconsistency here – GALLABIYEH is the only G-version that can't be spelt with a single L.] And then there's GALABIEH and GALLABIEH. That makes 15 versions



starting with G.
But wait . . . there's more.

We Scrabblers are probably more familiar with spellings that use a J: DJELLABA and DJELLABAH.

[No single L this time.] We're up to 17 now. But we can drop the initial D, and just use JELLABA and JELLABAH. [Both double L, with or without a final H but, again, no single L.] That gives us 19 versions.

In real life, I'd stick with the simplest version, JELAB, which makes the 20th version and, incidentally, the only J-version that can be spelt with a single L.

I challenge you to find a word that beats 20 for the number of different ways it can be spelt!

.....
Howard Warner, Independent, also sent the following photos:

A couple of photos of the "memorial Scrabble board" at an afternoon tea for Glenda, at the Bob Scott Retirement Village in Petone. It was Glenda's own board and tiles. Attendees were invited to play a word, ideally one that reflected Glenda in some way. A lovely touch.





Ask And-dream-a

Although Anderina will no longer be editing *Forwards* after this issue, her alter ego remains fascinated by Scrabble dreams, and will be happy to continue her dream interpretation service for the Scrabble community. If you dream a Scrabbly dream, and want to Ask And-dream-a about it, please record as much detail as possible, as soon as you can after you wake up, and email it either to Anderina, or to the current magazine editor to forward to her.

As previously established, it does not fall to the dreamer to interpret the inner workings of her own subconscious mind. So, one last time, I have dreamed a dream, and consulted my co-oracle as to its hidden meaning.

Anderina's Dream:

I was playing a young man, in what I presume was an international tournament. I didn't recognise any of the people featured in my dream, or the venue.

Throughout our game we kept having to call the adjudicator for various reasons, and every time the adjudicator came to our table, it was a different person. Regardless of which adjudicator turned up, the rulings were always unsatisfactory to me.

I was not winning the game, and it kept getting worse and worse for me. Frustratingly, my opponent appeared much less flustered than I was.

Earlier, after our first adjudication, a small interested crowd had gathered, and I had asked them to go away while we finished our game. They only backed up one collective step. I kept asking them to go away before I'd resume playing, with increasing urgency and decreasing pleasantness.

Some time into our game, we also began to experience increasing trouble with mixed tiles. Our 'original' set had been like a cross between Boggle cubes and Upwords tiles; big 3-D things, but made of a somewhat transparent material. There were now about six bags piled up high on our table. I wanted to find the bag with the fewest remaining tiles, and just go with that one....

I was certain this was a small box, about the size of a dental floss container, which had only a few flat orange tiles in it. However, my unflappable opponent was adamant that we had to call the adjudicator... again!

The adjudicator decided that we had to count the tiles on the board, and make a mixed bag from all the bags on the table. They counted, and announced that there were 55 on the board, i.e. this interminable game was barely half over! I was determined to find this little box, so that it could be included in the final mix, but I couldn't see it anywhere, so I started feeling in all the available bags. Despite finding all sorts of other objects, I never found that particular box.

There were two old ladies sitting close beside us now. One of them pointed at an adjudicator and said, "He's quite good-looking now, isn't he?" "So's my opponent", I whispered back, then clarified to the now very shocked old lady "Nice body"...

Then I woke up.



Olivia's interpretation:

It is safe to say that this is one of the more complex and symbolically crowded dreams that I have ever been asked to interpret. However, after some in-depth consultation of the ancient tomes and discussion with other practitioners of the dream-sight, I can confidently state that this dream is extremely positive in nature. Now this may seem at odds with the fact that you describe your dream self as feeling flustered and inferior (the game wasn't going well for you and your opponent was "unflappable" compared with you), dissatisfied

(none of the adjudicators' rulings were agreeable to you), frustrated (why won't those watchers back off?), and trapped (why won't this interminable game end?), but bear with me...

It is striking that your dream is full of so much strangeness. By strangeness I do not mean that your dream is simply weird (most dreams are disjointed and odd, of course) but that everything in it is unfamiliar to you. You are playing in a venue you have never been to before. Your opponent is unknown to you, as are the people watching you and the parade of

adjudicators. The tiles you are playing with are different from the usual kind which you would use.

Not only this, but things that in a real-life game of Scrabble would remain the same once decided upon (e.g. which tiles will be used and who will adjudicate throughout a tournament) keep changing. For example, in your dream you start out with one set of tiles but by the end there is a plethora of bags piled up and you are being asked to create a whole new set by mixing and matching the ones from these different bags. And again, every time you ask for an adjudicator, a different one appears.

Clearly, all of this mixing and matching and unfamiliarity represents some major changes you are experiencing in your life at present. Have you, perhaps, recently been subjected to some changes at work or in your family? These changes need not be bad and, indeed, the abundance symbolised by the piled up bags of tiles suggests that these changes are extremely positive. Have you perhaps recently been given a major promotion or pay rise at work? Perhaps your family finances have improved markedly as a result. Or maybe you have recently moved from a single-income household to a double-income one? Have you come into an inheritance or won a major lottery prize?

Whatever the good fortune that has befallen you (and obviously such fortune might not be financial in nature), your brain is still trying to process your altered circumstances. The fact that you are constantly calling an adjudicator over to provide rulings regarding bizarre situations

that would never arise in a real Scrabble game indicates that, subconsciously, you are still questioning whether your improved circumstances are genuine. You aren't satisfied with the adjudicators' rulings because, perhaps, you feel that such good things cannot possibly last. And you say that the game is not going well for you, that your opponent seems much less flustered than you, but this is simply your subconscious wondering whether you even deserve the good fortune that has come your way.

Your dream self wants this game to be over, you want the watchers to go away, and you are determined to find that little dental floss-sized box with only a small number of orange tiles inside. But do not be concerned; this is just your fear talking. You want to return to the familiar, even if "the familiar" is small and confined, as represented by that little flat box.

But ultimately your dream sorts it all out for you and tells you that everything is ok. Strange as things may seem right now, your new and improved life is here to stay and you deserve every bit of it. This is represented by the fact that those watchers hold their position despite your pleas, a messenger in your dream is telling you that at least one of the numerous and unfamiliar adjudicators is quite good-looking, and you acknowledge yourself that your previously unknown opponent has a "good body". Most telling of all, you never find that constrained, flat little box that you were so determined to locate, because a flat, narrow life with very little in it is not your destiny.

Word famous recap

One of the first regular features that Anderina and I introduced when we first took on this Forwards editing gig was "Word famous in New Zealand". Over six years and 24 issues we have profiled more than 20 New Zealand Scrabblers. It has been fascinating finding out the weird, wonderful, amazing, and sometimes unbelievable things that have gone on in the lives of so many of our readers. For our final issue, we've put together a quiz featuring some of the many things we discovered about people in our Scrabble community. Test yourself and see how much you can remember about folks from our Scrabble family. Note that only one question has been asked about each of the profiles that we've printed over the years, so if you find that a name crops up in relation to more than one question, you might have to do some rethinking. See answers on page 40.

1. Who lived in Rarotonga for 12 years and raised three daughters there?
2. Who grew up in apartheid South Africa and worked as a lecturer in the University of Durban Westville?
3. Who, as a child, in the absence of worthier opposition used to play Scrabble with teddy bears (and always beat them)?
4. Who was born in Northern Ireland and became an orphan at the age of three?
5. Who has written and published books titled "From the author of" and "Nonsense"?
6. Who was instrumental to the construction of the TV mast on Mt. Te Aroha?
7. Who used to ride a pony to school?
8. Which avid cruciverbalist favours the cryptic crosswords published in *The Telegraph*?
9. Who has completed the Coast to Coast Multi-sport Challenge four times?
10. Who grew up as a country kid in Matarangi and attended a school with only 19 kids, but grew up to travel the world and do more than 18 cruises?
11. Who drove from London to Bombay in a VW Beetle?
12. Who worked with a number of patients in Papua New Guinea who were suffering from leprosy?



13. Who, while working in a pharmacy as a teenager, provided a customer with Gossamer hair spray when what he actually wanted was Gossamer condoms?
14. Who learned English from reading newspapers, watching *Coronation St.*, and, inevitably, playing Scrabble?
15. Who worked as a senior adviser to Jim Anderton, New Zealand's deputy prime minister at the time?
16. Who turned up to their first ever Scrabble club night a week too early and walked into a Euchre meet instead, carrying a Scrabble set?
17. Who, with the former family epithet of "brainy", has memorised poetry by Tennyson and Browning?
18. Who made a Scrabble set out of scrap paper after getting stuck in a log cabin during a blizzard?
19. Who spent a summer learning German at the Goethe Institut in Göttingen, Germany?
20. Who once won a game with a "desperation play" of FIGJAMS, defined by Zyzzyva as "A bighead: Forsooth I'm Good, Just Ask Me"?
21. Who spent 44 years working in the printing industry?
22. Who started off as a nurse but changed career to become a teacher?

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Answers

A slip of the pen (*from pp. 14-15*)

1. ACIDEMIA: increased acidity in the blood
2. PYLORUS: opening between stomach and duodenum
3. SUCCUSS: to shake violently
4. PHATTER: PHAT, excellent
5. PATZER: a weak Chess player (why is it named after you, Patrick?)
6. ARGHANS: plants of the agave family
7. PYCNIC: being short, broad, and muscular
8. AIZLE: hot ashes
9. ABNEGATE: renounce
10. AGENISED: bleached (flour)
11. VERTICIL: whorl
12. MAIDAN: open plain
13. REGLETS: a type of moulding
14. VIVARY: a place for keeping live animals (also called a VIVARIUM)
15. ZECCHINI: an old Italian gold coin
16. STILLION: a cask stand
17. SNASHED: talk abusively
18. INDULIN: a blue dye
19. DELIBATE: to sip
20. RIYALS: monetary unit of Saudi Arabia

Scrabble in schools (*from p. 19*)

The bonus word played was LIPREAD.

Cover solutions on p. 45

Word Famous recap (*from pp. 38-39*)

1. Lyn Toka (see Winter 2016).
2. Chris Handley (see Spring 2015).
3. Olivia Godfrey (see Autumn 2014).
4. Hazel Purdie (See Autumn 2017).
5. Nick Ascroft (see Summer 2015).
6. John Foster (see Winter 2015).
7. Ruth Godwin (see Autumn 2018).
8. Carolyn Kyle (see Spring 2014).
9. Tony Charlton (see Spring 2016).
10. Lorraine Van Veen (see Winter 2017).
11. Nola Borrell (see Winter 2014).
12. Joanne Morley (see Spring 2018).
13. Lynn Wood (see Summer 2016).
14. Tim Henneveld (see Autumn 2015)
15. Cathy Casey (see Autumn 2019).
16. Malcolm Graham (see Spring 2017).
17. Jeanette Grimmer (see Summer 2014).
18. Dylan Early (see Summer 2017).
19. Julia Schiller (see Spring 2019).
20. Anderina McLean (see Autumn 2014).
21. Rodney Jardine (see Winter 2018).
22. Jenny Litchfield (see Summer 2018).

Tournament results

Rodney

9 November 2019

7 games

Name Club Wins Spread Ave

A Grade

1	Alastair Richards (GM)	IND	7	1041	492
2	Lyres Freeth (GM)	IND	6	361	448
3	Patrick Carter (GM)	MTA	5	87	412
4	John Foster (GM)	IND	3	-334	389
5	Jennifer Smith	KIW	2	3	403
6	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	2	-217	388
7	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	2	-619	351
8	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	1	-322	385

B Grade

1	Pam Barlow	IND	6	335	414
2	Paul Lister (E)	CHC	5	268	393
3	Val Mills (E)	PAK	4	320	433
4	Shirley Martin	KIW	4	-2	381
5	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	3	90	404
6	Mary Curtis	IND	3	-562	356
7	Mary Gray	MTA	2	-103	373
8	Lynn Wood	IND	1	-346	340

C Grade

1	Jason Simpson	WRE	5	600	439
2	Jenny Litchfield	WRE	5	399	413
3	Joanne Morley	ROT	4	107	386
4	Lynn Carter	IND	4	-184	352
5	Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	3	67	391
6	Betty Eriksen	WAN	3	-143	367
7	Bev Edwards	WRE	2	-398	364
8	Jena Yousif	WRE	2	-448	355



***Rodney winners -
Pam Barlow, Suzanne Harding
& Margaret Peters***

D Grade

1	Suzanne Harding	WRE	6	401	399
2	Suzanne Liddall	WRE	6	312	390
3	Junior Gesmundo	PAP	4	38	364
4	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	4	-10	365
5	Ernie Gidman	ROD	3	-111	356
6	Sala Jones	ROD	3	-116	328
7	Anne Scatchard	WRE	1	-235	309
8	June Dowling	WRE	1	-279	342

E Grade

1	Tricia Kenyon	ROT	6	456	352
2	Elvie Perrin	ROD	5	23	320
3	Linda Moore	ROD	4	69	329
4	Jackie Reid	MTA	3	-162	306
5	Valma Gidman	ROD	2	-87	311
6	Eveline Seddon	ROD	1	-299	280

F Grade

1	Margaret Peters	WRE	5	455	369
2	Kate Leslie	ROD	5	291	328
3	Vivienne Mickleson	ROD	5	289	343
4	Noreen Harvey	ROD	3	1	320
5	Pam Bosch	ROD	3	-340	308
6	Pam Ellender	ROD	0	-696	255

Tournament Calendar 2020

Tournament	Location	Dates
Unfortunately all tournaments are now on hold due to government restrictions.		

11th Hour

10 November 2019

9 games

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	Alastair Richards	8	881
2	Lynn Wood	7	598
3	Mary Gray	6	274
4	Betty Eriksen	6	171
5	Liz Fagerlund	6	75
6	Karen Miller	5	233
7	Junior Gesmundo	5	167
8	Barney Bonthron	5	59
9	Lynn Carter	4	79
10	Roger Cole-Baker	4	5
11	Dianne Cole-Baker	4	15
12	John Foster	4	32
13	Lyres Freeth	4	69
14	Lawson Sue	4	-129
15	Jennifer Smith	4	-132
16	Julia Schiller	4	-142
17	Roger Coates	4	-301
18	Val Mills	4	-317
19	Frances Higham	4	-419
20	Joan Beale	3.5	-74
21	Sala Jones	3.5	-155
22	Shirley Martin	3	6
23	Yoon Kim Fong	3	-241
24	Su Walker	3	-254

Dunedin

16-17 November 2019

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Lynn Wood	WEL	10	327	389
2	Paul Freeman	DUN	8	-87	397
3	Carolyn Kyle	IND	7	127	388
4	John Baird	CHC	7	120	384
5	Ruth Groffman	DUN	7	-285	360
6	Jean O'Brien	IND	6	-202	366

**11th Hour winners -
Alastair Richards, Lynn Wood
& Mary Gray**

B Grade

1	Joanna Fox	CHC	11	636	405
2	Grant Paulin	DUN	10	309	375
3	Malcolm Graham	CHC	9	532	390
4	Chris Handley	DUN	6	-546	350
5	Michael Hyndman	DUN	5	-263	366
6	Marian Ross	DUN	4	-668	359

C Grade

1	Tobias Devereaux	DUN	12	1342	417
2	Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	10	248	351
3	Sharon Teasdale	DUN	10	157	368
4	Michael Groffman	DUN	8	674	379
5	Hanna Dodge	CHC	8	234	369
6	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	6	19	339
7	Tara Hurley	IND	6	-547	325
8	Mark Wehi	DUN	0	-2127	255

Wellington

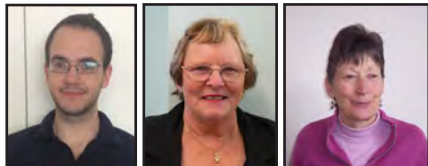
18-19 January 2020

14 games

	Name	Wins	Spread
A Grade			
1	Howard Warner	11	714
2	Alastair Richards	10	761
3	Joanna Craig	9	370
4	Dylan Early	9	-152
5	Lyres Freeth	6	-90
6	Lawson Sue	6	-282
7	Stanley Ngundi	3	-315
8	Murray Rogers	2	-1006

B Grade

1	Steven Brown	11	768
2	Liz Fagerlund	8	423
3	Nick Ascroft	8	170
4	Vicky Robertson	8	-176
5	Scott Chaput	7	-115
6	Glenda Foster	6	-213
7	Glenyss Buchanan	4	-310
8	Val Mills	4	-547



C Grade

1	Lynn Wood	9	387
2	Anne Goldstein	8	193
3	Jean O'Brien	8	24
4	Anna Brouwer	7	375
5	Helen Sillis	7	-35
6	Carolyn Kyle	7	-414
7	Leila Thomson	6	221
8	Nola Borrell	4	-751

D Grade

1	Betty Eriksen	10	844
2	Gabrielle Bolt	9	355
3	Chris Bell	8	281
4	Judy Driscoll	8	-25
5	Trish Bennett	8	-111
6	Sheila Reed	7	321
7	Tony Charlton	4	-509
8	Awhina Taikato	2	-1156

Pakuranga

25-26 January 2020

14 games

	Name	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1	Lyres Freeth (GM)	11	989	461
2	Patrick Carter (GM)	11	758	436
3	Howard Warner (GM)	9	575	446
4	Lawson Sue (GM)	8	205	415
5	Cicely Bruce (GM)	7	-183	423
6	John Foster (GM)	5	-707	388
7	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	4	-765	384
8	Glennis Hale (GM)	1	-872	382

B Grade

1	Lynn Wood	10	407	408
2	Jennifer Smith	9	284	397
3	Shirley Martin	9	145	414
4	Rosemary Cleary (E)	7	59	391
5	Lorraine Van Veen	7	-72	397
6	Pam Barlow	6	-272	382
7	Val Mills (E)	5	95	402
8	Clare Wall	3	-646	360

C Grade

1	Carolyn Kyle	11	704	400
2	Stan Gregec	9	796	407
3	David Gunn	8	-214	361
4	Karl Scherer	7	-227	366
5	Dianne Cole-Baker	6	-45	371
6	Jean O'Brien	5	-26	365
7	Mary Curtis	5	-439	373
8	Mary Gray	5	-549	354

D Grade

1	Yoon Kim Fong	11	636	412
2	Chris Higgins	9	726	416
3	Joanne Morley	8	-40	380
4	Roger Cole-Baker	7	-149	370
5	Jena Yousif	7	-186	368
6	Heather Landon	6	-295	365
7	Betty Eriksen	4	-79	365
8	Su Walker	4	-613	364

E Grade

1	Merelyn Fuemana	11	575	398
2	Suzanne Liddall	10	444	404
3	Bernie Jardine	10	314	384
4	Karen Miller	8	693	409
5	Suzanne Harding	7	450	400
6	Annette Coombes	4	-773	350
7	Junior Gesmundo	3	-813	344
8	Julia Schiller	3	-890	331

F Grade

	Jacqueline			
1	Coldham-Fussell	11	973	379
2	Ruth Godwin	10	531	356
3	Judy Cronin	9	335	350
4	Jackie Reid	9	232	349
5	Anne Scatchard	8	457	333
6	Jillian Greening	8	104	329
7	Awhina Taikato	8	47	329
8	Faye Leach	6	-307	326
9	Lynn Thompson	5	-287	320
10	Cheryl Parsons	5	-597	303
11	Valerie Smith	4	-600	303
12	Susan Schiller	1	-888	296



Nelson 15-16 February 2020

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Murray Rogers	IND	12	1024	421
2	John Baird	CHC	8	308	389
3	Lynn Wood	IND	8	-16	372
4	Glenda Foster	IND	6	-380	360
5	Carolyn Kyle	DUN	6	-548	360
6	Jean O'Brien	IND	5	-388	369
B Grade					
1	Nola Borell	IND	10.5	1060	429
2	Gabrielle Bolt	CHC	9	117	376
3	Malcolm Graham	CHC	8.5	122	378
4	Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	-19	377
5	Marian Ross	DUN	6	-181	374
6	Chris Day	TGA	4	-1099	330
C Grade					
1	Tony Charlton	NEL	13	849	365
2	Llane Hadden	NEL	9.5	233	346
3	Hanna Dodge	CHC	9	325	346
4	Barbara Cornell	NEL	8	50	334
5	Phyllis Paltridge	CHC	7	227	346
6	Judy Driscoll	KAP	7	-4	358
7	Gill Charlton	NEL	4.5	-392	306
8	Genie Em	NEL	2	-1288	292



*Above: Nelson winners -
Murray Rogers, Nola Borrell
& Tony Charlton*

*Left: Photos from the final Pakuranga
Scrabble Club tournament*

- 1. Lorraine Van Veen delivering morning announcements*
- 2. Cake for afternoon tea*
- 3. Pakuranga Club members share cake cutting duties*

Rotorua

28 February - 1 March 2020

13 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Howard Warner (GM)	IND	13	1553	469
2	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	9	930	442
3	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	9	651	418
4	Lawson Sue (GM)	PAK	9	573	436
5	Stanley Ngundi	WEL	9	541	433
6	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	8	938	435
7	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	8	227	409
8	Lynn Wood	IND	5	-347	377
9	Rosalind Phillips	TGA	4	-544	376
10	Shirley Martin	KIW	4	-614	374
11	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	4	-896	359
12	Delcie Macbeth	IND	4	-1299	353
13	Roger Coates	KIW	3	-743	364
14	Carolyn Kyle	IND	2	-970	337

B Grade

1	Jean O'Brien	IND	10	578	407
2	Lyn Toka	KIW	9	495	404
3	Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	9	476	417
4	Jason Simpson	WRE	9	364	405
5	David Gunn	WKP	8	215	387
6	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	8	-144	370
7	Helen Sillis	IND	7	295	396
8	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	6	168	396
9	Bernie Jardine	MTA	6	-82	387
10	Mary Curtis	IND	6	-177	394
11	Betty Eriksen	WAN	5	-342	372
12	Carole Coates	KIW	4	-519	363
13	Suzanne Harding	WRE	4	-677	348

C Grade

1	Joy Jones	WTA	11	942	377
2	Glenda Geard	IND	10.5	979	394
3	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	9	108	352
4	Sharron Nelley	KIW	8	398	346
5	Jill Paterson	ROT	8	285	376
6	Ruth Godwin	ROT	8	-6	350
7	Annette Coombes	WKP	7.5	-399	339
8	Shalisha Kunaratnam	IND	7	162	373
9	Rodney Jardine	MTA	4.5	-302	356
10	Janny Henneveld	ROT	4.5	-550	324
11	Judy Driscoll	KAP	4	38	356
12	Anne Scatchard	WRE	4	-333	328
	Jacqueline				
13	Coldham-Fussell	KIW	4	-514	344
14	Tim Henneveld	ROT	1	-808	313

D Grade

1	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	11	595	362
2	Phil Andrews	ROT	10	581	362
3	Judy Cronin	MTA	9	593	356
4	Aaron Peries	IND	9	272	354
5	Val Isherwood	ROT	8	547	366
6	Awhina Taikato	WAN	8	67	339
7	Faye Leach	KIW	7	195	342
8	Jillian Greening	KIW	7	193	334
9	Tricia Kenyon	ROT	7	131	346
10	Jackie Reid	MTA	7	23	346
11	Noelene Bettjeman	TGA	6	135	340
12	Chris Pasco	ROT	6	-349	297
13	Anne Larkin	ROT	4	-779	297
14	Susan Schiller	MTA	3	-494	298
15	Margaret Webb	TGA	2	-1060	273

Cover page answers:

Top row (L-R): STAYCATION, ISOLATED (DIASTOLE, SODALITE, SOLIDATE), CANCELLED

Middle row (L-R): BUBBLE, CORONAVIRUS (CARNIVOROUS), QUARANTINE

Bottom row (L-R): LOCKDOWN, NINETEEN, HOARDERS



Rankings as at 22 March 2020

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Alastair Richards (GM)	2397	366	455	80%	41	Irene Smith	1529	266	546	49%
2	Howard Warner (GM)	2282	2395.5	3189	75%	42	Delcie Macbeth	1528	1091	2103	52%
3	Lyres Freeth (GM)	2163	674.5	1017	66%	43	Peter Johnstone	1527	274.5	516	53%
4	Joanne Craig (GM)	2147	452.5	687	66%	44	Margie Hurlly	1526	402	817	49%
5	Dylan Early (GM)	2144	160	245	65%	45	Pam Barlow	1519	914	1809	51%
6	Patrick Carter (GM)	2115	911.5	1432	64%	46	Rosalind Phillips	1517	694.5	1358	51%
7	Jeff Grant (GM)	2105	1822	2442	75%	47	Carolyn Kyle	1490	1150	2321	50%
8	Blue Thorogood (GM)	2100	776	1099	71%	48	Allie Quinn	1480	1208	2480	49%
9	Peter Sinton (GM)	2010	827.5	1172	71%	49	Stan Gregec	1472	217	406	53%
10	Stanley Ngundi	1984	23	42	55%	50	Roger Coates	1455	928	1947	48%
11	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1980	997	1873	53%	51	David Gunn	1453	1508	3068	49%
12	Lawson Sue (GM)	1955	1197	2197	54%	52	Selena Chan	1440	399.5	795	50%
13	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1948	830.5	1511	55%	53	Clare Wall	1436	378	740	51%
14	Lynne Butler (GM)	1940	997.5	1659	60%	54	Jason Simpson	1422	31	47	66%
15	John Foster (GM)	1868	1774.5	3151	56%	55	Anne Goldstein	1414	266	532	50%
16	Anderina McLean (GM)	1847	933	1748	53%	56	Yoon Kim Fong	1406	769	1503	51%
17	Steven Brown (GM)	1841	981	1835	53%	57	Dianne Cole-Baker	1406	713	1390	51%
18	Glennis Hale (GM)	1840	1685.5	3072	55%	58	Jean O'Brien	1401	1499	2960	51%
19	Lewis Hawkins (E)	1832	314	523	60%	59	Chris Higgins	1398	144	257	56%
20	Murray Rogers (E)	1822	1127	2146	53%	60	Karl Scherer	1390	144	264	55%
21	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1813	1513	2908	52%	61	Roger Cole-Baker	1388	766	1491	51%
22	Paul Richards	1807	43	76	57%	62	Jeanette Grimmer	1384	325.5	662	49%
23	Nick Ascroft (E)	1785	253	468	54%	63	Paul Freeman	1383	107.5	197	55%
24	Jennifer Smith	1772	1325.5	2744	48%	64	Yvette Hewlett	1362	535.5	1119	48%
25	Scott Chaput (E)	1765	336	592	57%	65	Helen Sillis	1361	832	1707	49%
26	Lois Binnie	1719	178	361	49%	66	Shirley Hol	1350	819.5	1742	47%
27	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1715	947	2027	47%	67	Mary Gray	1348	810.5	1644	49%
28	Olivia En (E)	1691	957	1850	52%	68	Joanne Morley	1345	203	380	53%
29	Paul Lister (E)	1685	913.5	1662	55%	69	Ruth Groffman	1336	738	1490	50%
30	Herb Ramsay	1673	239	388	62%	70	Jenny Litchfield	1327	188.5	325	58%
31	Val Mills (E)	1655	1566.5	3222	49%	71	Leila Thomson	1322	657.5	1422	46%
32	Vicky Robertson	1645	447	922	48%	72	Lynn Carter	1314	869.5	1687	52%
33	Lynn Wood	1637	2287.5	4801	48%	73	Nola Borrell	1312	626.5	1186	53%
34	Karen Gray	1588	320.5	604	53%	74	Joan Thomas	1289	1245	2503	50%
35	Pam Robson	1588	655.5	1424	46%	75	Barney Bonthron	1285	121.5	211	58%
36	Shirley Martin	1581	1139.5	2285	50%	76	Mary Curtis	1270	459	887	52%
37	John Baird	1568	363	667	54%	77	Lyn Toka	1242	649.5	1253	52%
38	Lorraine Van Veen	1559	1037	2100	49%	78	Barbara Dunn	1237	377.5	654	58%
39	Glenyss Buchanan	1554	765	1659	46%	79	Carole Coates	1233	798	1642	49%
40	Anna Brouwer	1539	906.5	1842	49%	80	Merelyn Fuemana	1232	186	344	54%

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
81 Heather Landon	1229	763	1522	50%	122 Judy Driscoll	792	328.5	817	40%
82 Shirley Pearce	1225	154	315	49%	123 Judith Thomas	791	268.5	575	47%
83 Bev Edwards	1224	327	637	51%	124 Llana Hadden	789	61.5	137	45%
84 Jena Yousif	1222	637	1280	50%	125 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	771	797.5	1620	49%
85 Gabrielle Bolt	1219	576.5	1119	52%	126 Janny Henneveld	769	597.5	1224	49%
86 Betty Eriksen	1212	1820.5	3602	51%	127 June Dowling	764	107	196	55%
87 Bernie Jardine	1196	237	455	52%	128 Anne Scatchard	743	643.5	1257	51%
88 Su Walker	1190	1272	2507	51%	129 Awhina Taikato	739	57.5	133	43%
89 Malcolm Graham	1186	719	1441	50%	130 Anne-Louise Milne	721	191	536	36%
90 Grant Paulin	1180	66.5	125	53%	131 Dorothy Bakel	714	96	224	43%
91 Chris Bell	1178	44	91	48%	132 Rodney Jardine	706	188.5	399	47%
92 Faye Cronhelm	1178	980	1968	50%	133 Phyllis Paltridge	704	179	376	48%
93 Lyn Dawson	1165	437.5	847	52%	134 Kathleen Mori-Barker	669	433	877	49%
94 Joanna Fox	1160	238.5	463	52%	135 Aaron Peries	628	31	51	61%
95 Suzanne Liddall	1135	139	249	56%	136 Joan Beale	616	405.5	797	51%
96 Allison Torrance	1134	536.5	1038	52%	137 Judy Cronin	610	231.5	541	43%
97 Joy Jones	1112	29.5	41	72%	138 Sharon McKenzie	600	51.5	108	48%
98 Colleen Cook	1099	469	961	49%	139 Marilyn Sinclair	587	190.5	407	47%
99 Chris Handley	1086	443.5	872	51%	140 Tim Henneveld	560	554	1229	45%
100 Karen Miller	1086	686	1352	51%	141 Margaret Toso	543	176	399	44%
101 Glenda Geard	1067	1263.5	2568	49%	142 Frances Higham	540	308.5	815	38%
102 Ray Goodyear	1060	280.5	583	48%	143 Joyce Mowbray	530	89	208	43%
103 Jo Ann Ingram	1060	308	595	52%	144 Jan Kite	528	67.5	136	50%
104 Sheila Reed	1058	374	779	48%	145 Valma Gidman	522	760.5	1551	49%
105 Marian Ross	1044	674.5	1332	51%	146 Jillian Greening	504	454	942	48%
106 Tony Charlton	1039	405	837	48%	147 Joan Stanners	474	109.5	241	45%
107 Suzanne Harding	1037	693	1381	50%	148 Dael Shaw	458	33	66	50%
108 Sharron Nelley	994	137.5	252	55%	149 Jackie Reid	449	141.5	294	48%
109 Wendy Anastasi	953	113.5	183	62%	150 Pam Fulton	445	35	76	46%
110 Antonia Aarts	951	375	806	47%	151 Faye Leach	418	173	429	40%
111 Julia Schiller	920	372	819	45%	152 Noelene Bettjeman	399	384.5	840	46%
112 Shalisha Kunaratnam	907	26	53	49%	153 Tara Hurley	394	17	41	41%
113 Ruth Godwin	884	565.5	1194	47%	154 Lynn Thompson	366	373	880	42%
114 Cathy Casey	878	37	72	51%	155 Bruce Weatherall	197	10.5	41	26%
115 Noeline Monsef	855	57	115	50%	156 Bev Allen	150	66.5	298	22%
116 Rosemary Wauters	850	191	395	48%	157 Valerie Smith	137	91.5	371	25%
117 Sandra Cowen	842	125.5	270	46%	158 Trish Fox	23	46	355	13%
118 Hanna Dodge	838	228	434	53%	159 Cheryl Parsons	17	7	58	12%
119 Annette Coombes	803	932.5	2021	46%	160 Susan Schiller	0	92	496	19%
120 Junior Gesmundo	799	295.5	618	48%					
121 Sharon Teasdale	797	38	67	57%					

Club	Club Contact	Phone Number	Email	Meeting Day & Time
Christchurch (CHC)	John Baird	03 332 5996	john@jrsoftware.com	<p>**Unfortunately all club activities are now on hold due to government restrictions.**</p>
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