



Who is this Man?

Also in this issue:

Word Famous in New Zealand:
Judy Cronin

A-Z of Animals

Lexophiles

A Time for Everything

Club News

Puzzle pozzzy

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Editorial

Inspiration

I've been thinking about inspiration and how great it is when ideas, answers and solutions just seem to come to you out of nowhere. I remember getting inspiration for a present for my Dad's 70th birthday in the middle of the night. He lived at Hillsborough Heights retirement village and being the great gardener that he was, decided to plant out and develop a very messy and steep bank along the side of his unit. Gradually, just with cuttings and plants given to him, it became a riot of colour and a thing of beauty. The idea that came to me was a sign for the bank - "Bob's Bank, Deposits Welcome, Plenty of Interest". I had a signwriter make it and up it went on a pole on the bank – a tribute to his hard work.

Unfortunately, inspiration doesn't come easy to me and more often than not I have to have a long think about something. Each week I have to write a small paragraph in French for my group French lesson. It gets quite hard to think of something to write about each week, even though it doesn't really matter what we write. It could be just about what I bought at the supermarket as it's got more to do with the exercise of getting something down. But this week I took inspiration from Selena's article, on social learning that had just arrived in my inbox. How does this affect my learning of French? Our classes have

all been on Zoom, we're not able to meet and chat, we can't go to the French Market or shops where we know French people work and don't mind us practising on them, but worst of all we can't travel. It's amazing what a couple of weeks in France can do for picking up the language. So, I tried to write about how much I was missing my weekly meet-ups with my French classmates.

Jennifer Smith was telling me how she woke at three in the morning with the idea for the article on TIME words in this issue. She said she had to get up and start writing down her ideas immediately. Even so, it took hours to get to the final version. This brought home to me just how much work goes into the articles that make up this magazine. I am continually surprised, amazed and ever so grateful for the contributions that are sent to me for *Forwards*. I want to acknowledge work involved in each of them. It's just as well there are others out there in our Scrabble community acting on their inspirational ideas, because if it was left to me there wouldn't be much of a mag!

Big THANKS to all the regular contributors to this edition.

Val Mills

Words from the President

by Howard Warner, Scrabble Wellington

It's a mad mad techno world



Howard Warner

I'm probably the wrong person to be writing about this, given that I'm the ultimate techno-challenged fogey. But we can't ignore it for too long. Since

COVID has shut the world down, many Scrabble-playing countries and communities have been ramping up their online resources. Virtual tournaments and leagues are springing up all over the place. And WESPA has just announced the resumption of its flagship event, the two-yearly world championships, now rebranded as the Gladiators WESPA Cup. This is essentially the same as previous models except virtual.

In a very short period, we've seen major advances in playing technology, live streaming, and in-depth strategic and statistical analysis. And other aspects I don't fully understand. There's also a much greater level of connectedness via social media platforms.

This is the future – whatever we think about the joy of facing an opponent across a table, of travelling from tournament to tournament. In fact it's the present, it's already arrived. Unfortunately, we're a long way

behind in New Zealand. This is partly because of our geographical isolation; our relative freedom (notwithstanding Auckland's recent woes) to continue face-to-face activities; and the average age of our members.

Another factor in Kiwis resisting the virtual Scrabble revolution has been the potential for cheats to prosper. However, the leading countries as well as WESPA have been rapidly developing anti-cheating technology and protocols. On the flip side, the auto-drawing of tiles stamps out bag manipulation – a most insidious form of cheating.

An obvious benefit of online Scrabble tournaments for both players and organisers is that there are no exorbitant travel costs. And with the



common 15-minute time limit, you can get through your games more quickly – or squeeze in more games.

As I said before, technology is not my comfort zone. But I am becoming aware of how important it is for us Kiwis to embrace this brave new world. Otherwise we risk slipping further behind – until we become like those world maps that leave New Zealand off altogether.

With this in mind, I'm calling on any Kiwis who have an interest in the developing technology to raise their hands. We need you to set things up for the rest of us Luddites, and to guide us through the confusing techno-maze. Please get in touch with someone on the executive if you'd like to be involved in any way.

Stop Press! Another Richards from NZ takes out World Champs title

by *Howard Warner, Scrabble Wellington*



Alastair Richards

New Zealand now has its second World Scrabble Champion – and they're both called Richards.

Alastair Richards, the 29-year-old doctor at North

Shore Hospital, won a nail-biting finish in a best-of-seven final series with Australian David Eldar. Going into the final match at 3-all, the pair swapped the lead constantly. Eventually, Alastair prevailed 406 to 393, making a crafty parallel play of ENURE for his penultimate move that enabled him to go out in two turns. The strategic play

from both players was of a standard we rarely see.

The Gladiators WESPA World Championship, held online for the first time, ran over three weekends from mid-November. All participants played 32 rounds. Then the top eight finishers played a knockout series. Alastair, who had finished 5th on 22 wins out of 32, then overran each of his quarterfinal and semifinal opponents 3–0.

Going into the tournament, Alastair was ranked 11th in the world to Eldar's 2nd. That's sure to change soon.

The next highest Kiwi finisher was Howard, at 15th with 20 wins. Blue, Lyres (the woman behind the throne), Dylan and Stanley all finished midfield.

Who is this man?...*Murray Landon*

Ed: We go to tournaments, play our games, fill in our result slips, smile at the scorer as we put them on the table. The results appear after each game for us to look at and at the end of the tournament there's a big rush to get a printed copy of the results – but do we give a second thought to how this all happens? Have you thought about the person who developed the scoring software we use and rely on at most of the tournaments we go to? In this article we get to meet the man, Murray Landon, the developer of the Elixs scrabble scoring software.



Murray Landon

Tell us a bit about yourself

I live in Tauranga with my wife Bridget and son Ethan. Bridget is an investment advisor at Craigs Investment Partners. Ethan is 16 and has one more year to complete at Otumoetai College.

I was born and grew up in Tauranga, leaving to go to university in Hamilton and then Auckland. I studied engineering, gaining a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) degree. I have since worked in multiple places in Australia and New Zealand.

Bridget is from Melbourne, so we lived there for a couple of years prior to moving to Tauranga. We usually try to get back reasonably often to see family and friends. If possible, we plan our visits so we can go to the

Australian Open tennis tournament. Last trip we also got to see the Wellington Phoenix football team play in Melbourne, as Ethan is a keen footballer.

What do you do for work?

After graduating from university, I worked mainly in project management and mechanical design. My first job was for a company in Australia that manufactured equipment for the mining industry. I was based in Sydney; however, I spent a lot of time at mines around Australia including Charters Towers, Chillagoe, Mt Isa and Kalgoorlie.

I remember my first couple of days well. I flew from New Zealand to Sydney, then the next day flew to Townsville with a colleague. On exiting the plane, I was surprised at how hot it was. Having not flown much, I thought it was heat from the engines, but the heat never went away! We then drove inland to a mine site at Charters Towers where it was even hotter!

I have always been interested in software, including studying it as part of my degree, and writing applications to assist with my engineering work. My first full-time role as a software developer was for Shell Australia in Melbourne, in the late 1990's.



Murray with son, Ethan, and wife, Bridget

For the last 20 years I've been self-employed developing software applications for a variety of clients. Applications developed include the following:

- ProjectQuote – Project Pricing application for the engineering industry
- Membership – Easy to use membership application
- Food Manufacturing – For manufacturing (schedule, recipes and testing) of food products
- Forensic Investigation - Analysis of Point-of-Sale data for atypical transactions, to check for and clarify extent of fraud.

You may view my website at:

www.landonsoftware.nz.

How did you get involved in Scrabble and writing a scrabble scoring program?

My mother is Heather Landon from the Tauranga Scrabble club, so it was hard not to be exposed to Scrabble, with her love for words and the game. Heather has always liked to play with words. In my younger days, when I

was searching for an idea for a duck shooting themed party, Heather came to the rescue, and I went as a Quack!

Heather was (and still is) involved with scoring for the Tauranga Club Tournaments. After speaking with her I could see how the process could be improved, so in 2007 I started writing Elixs (as it is now known).

Elixs was first used by the Rotorua club in 2008 and has been used extensively since. I have spent a lot of time working on this application over the years, including a complete rewrite a couple of years ago to simplify and add more features.

I appreciate the support of the NZASP in the development and use of Elixs. It has been rewarding to write and to receive such positive feedback from many clubs and users.

What do you do in your free time?

I enjoy a quite a few outdoor activities with my family and friends. Bridget, Ethan, and I all enjoy snow skiing. Last year we got to go skiing at Hakuba in Japan, which was great, getting home a few weeks before the lockdown. We were surprised by how many Australians were there, and the availability of non-Japanese food. There was even a Subway at the café on the ski field, much to Ethan's relief!



Is there anything else you'd like to say?

I know it has been difficult for you all lately with so many tournaments being cancelled but here's hoping things will change soon and clubs can get back to running face to face tournaments again.

Ed: Well, thanks Murray for giving us the background to the development of the Elixs scoring program and telling us a bit about yourself. You have always gone above and beyond in offering support to those using your program, especially for technophobes like me. With on-line tournaments becoming more prevalent now, who knows how you might be able to help us in the future. Thank you!

I've competed in the North Island Masters ski race a couple of times at Mt. Ruapehu. I also enjoy water skiing, mountain biking, tennis, hiking and running.

I also have an interest in astronomy and like to attend the local observatory (Tauranga Astronomical Society) for their monthly meetings.



Tournament Calendar 2022

Tournament	Location	Dates
Janniversary	Wellington	22-23 January
Auckland Optimists	Auckland	29-30 January
Nelson	Nelson	19-20 February
*Masters	Wellington	15-17 April
*Restricted entry		

Word Games: Lexophiles

submitted by Dylan Early, Scrabble Wellington

"Lexophile" describes those that have a love for sentences such as, "You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish," and, "To write with a broken pencil is pointless."

An annual competition is held by the 'New York Times' to see who can create the best original lexophile. Here are this year's submissions:

- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore.
- I know a guy who's addicted to drinking brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- When the smog lifts in Los Angeles U.C.L.A.
- I got some batteries that were given out free of charge.
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.
- Did you hear about the fellow whose entire left side was cut off? He's all right now.
- A bicycle can't stand alone; it's just two tired.
- The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine last week is now fully recovered.
- He had a photographic memory but it was never fully developed.
- When she saw her first strands of gray hair she thought she'd dye.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done. That's the point of it.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- When chemists die, they barium.
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- Those who get too big for their pants will be totally exposed in the end.

A-Z of Animals

by Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

Not a lot'll spot AXOLOTL from ALLOOTX on their rack

And what a lot'll never know is its eyes and limbs grow back.

BOMBYX is the silkworm, now domesticated

Whose eggs, to help them hatch, are slowly incubated.

CIMEX is the bed bug, of which it's often said would

Feast on unsuspecting skin as you slumber, dead snug.



DIKDIK

There is a dwarven antelope in Kenya called the DIKDIK

And a paddling New Zealand grebe AKA the DABCHICK.

There is a green and toxic newt, known elsewhere as an EBBET

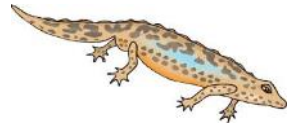
Though Scrabblers would know it best as EWT or EFT or EVET.

A FIREBACK is a pheasant with a turquoise, red and black back

And a FLATWORM is a flat worm with a flat head and a flat back.

I have three bestial bingos that begin with G:

GUANACOS, airborne GODWITS and GUNNELS in the sea.



EBBET

HYRAXES are like guinea pigs, DASSIES or rock rabbits

That dwell in stony outcrops and have aggressive habits.

I, now, is for IBEX which also ends in 'X'

Like BOMBYX, CIMEX, HYRAX and of course MUREX.

There's a long-necked, black-billed stork known as a JABIRU

Whose feet while facing forward, can swivel back at you.

And what would you do if you chanced on a KUDU



JABIRU

With its horns like corkscrew? Use your 'noodoo'*? Try some voodoo?

LACEWINGS and LAPWINGS are nice, methinks

But who could OUTWILE a bobcat or a LYNX?

What connects a turtle to the Waikato?

Or the Lord of the Rings with the Orinoco?

A movie is the former; a river is the latter

Yet a turtle and a township are both called MATAMATA.

There are some that think that NUMBATS are declining rapidly.

Yet others say that Zimbabwe has NYALAS plenteously.

The OLDWIFE and the OXEYE are both species of fishes

But the OLDSQUAW is a sea duck whose long black tail swish-swishes.

The POTOROO's a rat kangaroo and famous for four O's.

A PEKEPOO plays peek-a-boo. A POLLYWOG's just a tadpole.

Play QUETZAL in the triple lane then that bird would score a whopper.

But with a Q and 2 K's it's hard to play the cat-sized QUOKKA.

The REEBOK was an antelope before it was a shoe

And RHEA was a goddess before a bird, like an emu.

It takes less than a second for an ugly mole

To gobble worms and insects down and it's known as the STARNOSE.

The TARSIER often tarries. He could fit inside your hand. He's

Smaller than all TOUCANETS from the lowlands to the Andes.



NUMBAT



QUETZAL



STARNOSE



TARSIER

Found in Bohol, The Phillipines

A type of New World monkey has the reddest face by far. He's

A native of the Amazon. They're known as the (O)UKARIS.

The VIZSLA is, for Scrabblers, not unlike the PULI,

A friendly, fun, four-legged friend like KUVASZ or SALUKI.

A portmanteau and hybrid, there is of course, the WHOLPHIN,



WHOLPHIN

Which is, just as it says it is, half killer whale, half dolphin.

A XERUS is a ground squirrel in grasslands and savannah,

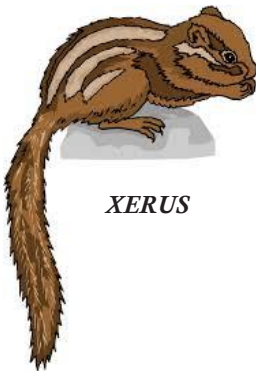
Whose habitat extends from Namibia to Botswana.

YAPO(C)K was the only Y I could find (apart from YAK).

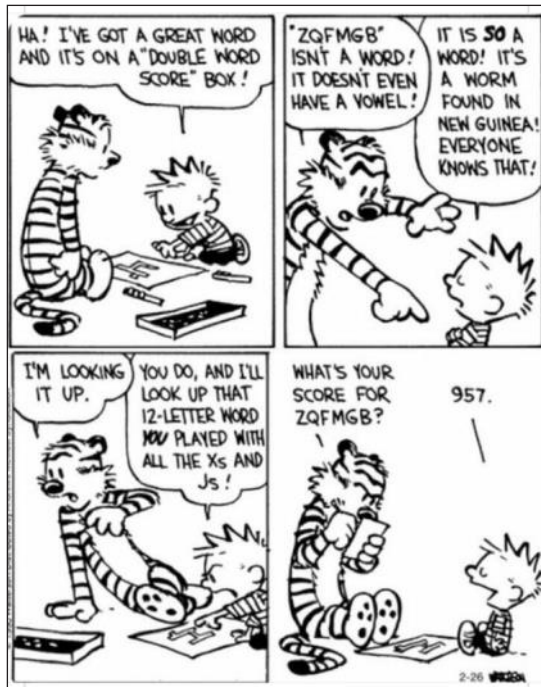
A web-footed marsupial that swims upon his back.

And, of course you've heard the final word, whether weevil or an app

Is ZYZZYVA and is by far the 'amen' so that's that.



XERUS



Word Famous in New Zealand



By **Judy Cronin, Nelson**



Jody Cronin

My childhood was unusual in that when my brother (six years younger than me) and my sister (ten years younger than me) were born, my mother and I spent a year living in Inglewood with my maternal grandparents. We then shifted to Gisborne and later Reporoa and Rotorua. This meant that I changed schools eight times. When I went to boarding school for my last two years of schooling, my brother was eight and my sister four. I worked in Auckland after I left school, and they by then lived in Awhitu, so I was like a distant relative to them.

I worked for a year in the Bank of New South Wales in Queen Street and then went to Auckland Training College. During my PA year of teaching I was living in a hostel in Remuera and teaching in Glen Innes. There was no public transport so I rode my trusty bike. (It is a pity I hadn't kept on biking, because the people in the village I live in now think nothing of a 30km bike ride.)

After teaching for several years in Howick, where there was only farm land between Howick and Panmure, I married Brian in 1962 and moved to

Blockhouse Bay. We had four children, two girls and two boys.

When my youngest was four, I started relieving at my daughter's school and this led to a short period of relieving at St. Marys in Avondale. I did a retraining course where people were told that there was no way they would find a permanent job. However, I was still at St. Mary's where I stayed for twenty four years. During that time I culled the library where the books were way out of date - even a book saying that man may one day walk on the moon! Then I was presented with a new building and told it was to be



Above: Childhood photos; family portrait & Judy with her father

the new library so, as I had attended a number of meetings in other school libraries and knew what would be suitable, I purchased the shelving and furniture. Then I was presented with a computer and told to automate the library. I had already added a considerable number of new books to the collection. I made the barcodes and put the books on the computer, all in my spare time as I still did Reading Recovery in the morning and a class in the afternoon. Each year I had to prepare a library budget and perform a stocktake.

When I retired I worked all around West Auckland for various agencies and then basically at two schools



Judy playing Scrabble with a group of school children who come to the village do to activities with residents every Friday

where I did a year and a couple of terms - even starting a new entrants class in the third term when I was seventy.

When Brian had long service leave, I took leave as well, and we stayed with our daughter in London. This was the



Above: Judy on her wedding day & family photo with Brian and children

start of our travelling days. Thereafter we did several cruises – Alaska, the Pacific Islands, a circumnavigation of Australia and LA to Auckland. We also were fortunate to stay with our son in LA.

When Brian died in 2009 my son Gerard and I kept on travelling each year. We cruised, but also spent time in different destinations. We visited such places as Hong Kong, Tokyo, Nagasaki and Guam. On a Baltic cruise we visited Oslo, Helsinki, Copenhagen, Berlin and spent two days touring St Petersburg. Another time we explored Egypt, Alexandria, Cairo, Luxor and the Valley of the Kings where we went down into Tutankhamen's tomb. We cruised around the British Isles and Canada and New England, along the Danube and through Spain. Our last two

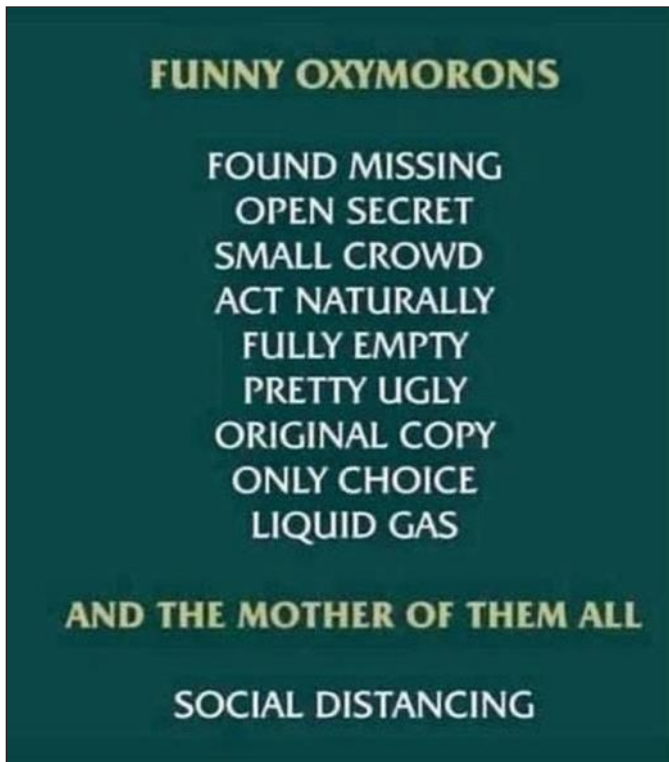
cruises before Covid struck were to South America and Central America.

When I stopped teaching at school, I taught English to migrants a couple of afternoons each week at the Blockhouse Bay Community Centre and continued to do this until I shifted. Maryanne Patchett's group at the Community Centre got me interested in Scrabble and when the Community Centre became unavailable I started a Wednesday afternoon group at my place. I also had a U3A Scrabble group at my place once a month.

For many years I was a delegate to the National Council of Women and

took an active part in their activities. In Blockhouse Bay I enjoyed Probus, Tai Chi, aerobics and Zumba.

Now I have shifted into Arvida Plains retirement Village in Richmond, Tasman, as a couple of my children are close by. As I mentioned before, the residents are very active. I have become involved in reorganising the library, the walking group, book group, exercise group, line dancing, Rummikub and Mah Jong. Out of the village, I attend Tai Chi, swing poi, conversational French (U3A) and the Nelson Scrabble club.



Submitted by Dianne Cole-Baker

A Time for Everything (even fake news)

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

Breaking news: parts of the Bible were written by a Scrabbler!

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 'A Time for Everything,' is a cherished Bible passage often quoted at funerals and memorial services. Tradition tells us that the book of Ecclesiastes was most probably written by King Solomon (or maybe a preacher of the time), toward the end of his reign (about 970 to 931 BC).

However, recent work by scholars has revealed that parts of it, at least, could have been written by a keen Scrabble player. A close study of the passage revealed the common practice among keen Scrabble players of inventing mnemonics to help them learn groups of words. According to the experts, the writer was clearly using his writing to revise words that can take an end hook of -TIME.

For people wondering how something written more than 2000 years ago can

have any relevance to the world today – just note the prescient references to cruise ships, television, and even video conferencing!



Moreover, after anthropologists uncovered a previously unknown stela that was engraved in the same handwriting with the words: "I'm here for a GOODTIME not a LONGTIME", they concluded the writer may have been ahead of their time. The discovery has rocked social networks – until now, language experts had assumed this saying originated in bios on Tinder, *Grindr and other modern dating apps.

Following the discovery, scholars have produced a new and improved translation of the relevant biblical passage. It is published as a world first, here in *Forwards*:

For everything there is a season (SPRINGTIME, SUMMERTIME, WINTERTIME - but alas, **not** *AUTUMNTIME), and a time (ANYTIME, SOMETIME) (DAYTIME, NIGHTTIME, NOONTIME) for every activity (PASTIME) under heaven.

A time to live (LIFETIME) and a time to die (LAYTIME).
A time to love (BEDTIME) and a time to hate (MEANTIME).

A time to plant (SEEDTIME) and a time to harvest (HARVESTTIME).

A time to tear down (DOWNTIME) and a time to build up (UPTIME).

A time for war (WARTIME) and a time for peace (PEACETIME).

A time to remember the past (AFORETIME, BEFORETIME, FORETIME) and a time to plan for the future (AFTERTIME)

A time to sing (SHOWTIME) and a time to dance (RAGTIME).

A time to sleep (DREAMTIME) and a time to take action (REALTIME).

A time to eat (CHOWTIME, DINNER TIME, LUNCHTIME, MEALTIME, SUPPERTIME, TEATIME, UNDERNTIME) and a time to refrain from eating (BETWEENTIME).

A time to work hard (OVERTIME) (not *WORKTIME, but TIMEWORK) and a time to take it easy (UNDERTIME).

A time to pause (HALFTIME) and a time to finish (sadly, not *FULLTIME and not *ENDTIME).

A time to study (SCHOOLTIME, TERMTIME) and a time to play (BREAKTIME, PLAYTIME, SHIPTIME).

A time to be proud (BIGTIME) and a time to be humble (SMALLTIME).

A time to go with the flow (FLEXITIME, FLEXTIME) and a time to stay on schedule.

A time to take part (INTIME) and a time to stand aside (not *OUTTIME, but TIMEOUT).

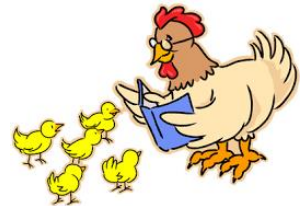
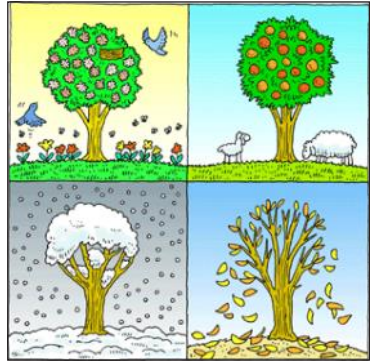
A time to be sociable (TALKTIME) and a time to be on your own (SPACETIME, ZONETIME).

A time to read (STORYTIME), and a time to listen (AIRTIME)

A time to speak (CALLTIME, FACETIME), and a time to watch (PRIMETIME)

A time to get it right (OPTIME) and in good time (BETIME), and a time to get it wrong (MISTIME) and do it again (RETIME).

A time to do everything ONETIME, but no time to do anything *TWO TIME.



[Amen]



The 5000 Game Woman

by Lynn Wood, Independent

It was with great joy I played my 5000th game of competitive Scrabble at the Nationals in Hamilton in June 2021. I had been counting down the days for some time, and after tournament cancellations, the 5000th game was scheduled for the last of day one. The game was a tough tussle against Shirley Martin, and was won by just nine points.

On Sunday morning Howard presented me with my gold badge for these 5000 games, and it was a truly memorable moment, equalling that of my life membership badge some years earlier.

In 2009 I was told my life was near the end, information I couldn't digest and thank goodness I didn't. I would never have seen my 3000th game against Steven Brown or my 4000th game against Lorraine Van Veen and these too were winning games.

I'm picking 2026 will be the year for my 6000th game, so bring it on. Covid has disrupted my schedule greatly, here's hoping 2022 with all the *vaxed New Zealanders, will lead me on this quest.

I've been playing competitive Scrabble since 1985 when I went to the Cosmopolitan club in Takapuna and met Lynne Powell. Sadly Lynne no longer plays Scrabble at club or



Lynn Wood was presented her 5000th game badge at the NZ Nationals in June 2021

tournament level, as she has been very unwell. Lynne encouraged me to learn to play in a competitive environment, and when I returned to Wellington in 1985 I started the Wellington Scrabble club. This too is now a closed chapter of my life, but Nick Ascroft has formed Scrabble Wellington and is doing a fantastic job promoting the game.

Come on all scrabblers and aim for your milestone badges, and join me in the celebration of a lifetime of great friends, great words and great fun. The day that Scrabble ceases to be fun, is the day you will have joined the huge club in the sky. Trust me.

Two Letter Word Poems

Ed: Following on from the review of the 101 Two-Letter Words book in the previous Forwards, and my request for poems about the two-letter words that are not in that book, here are five poems that I have received. And more will be gratefully accepted for the next magazine.

By Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

GU

A gu is a loose judo suit
For breakfall or tai *otoshi
But if you fail to tie it tight
Your bits fall out. O *goshi!

FY

Fy is 'fie'. Fee-fie-fo-fum
As Jack climbs down the beanstalk.
(Archaic) To express outrage, disgust
In succinct Scrabblese talk.

ZO

"How now, brown cow?"
Zo asked dzo in the highest
Himalayas.
"Abused," said zho and down-
Right overused by Scrabble players.

and by "Another Handle"

ZE

The ZE am a useful word
Ze scrabble player said
'Cos you can use ZE though absurd
Or add a 'D' and call it ZED.

KY

KY is a Scottish word for cows
That roam on highland and in valley
Before in the dictionary I did browse
I thought that it was jelly.



Connect Three (1)

What do the words CUBE, MANE and ZINE have in common?

Answer on page 22.



Expurg-educ-ation

by Anderina McLean, Whanganui



Anderina McLean

Eighteen months ago, when the NZASP Executive requested of its members “your thoughts on the concept of dictionary censorship”, I made my response in

emphatic opposition to the idea of the removal of “offensive” words from our lexicon.

As readers will likely recall, the Executive received a whopping number of responses to their request, and the overwhelming majority were, like me, opposed to this concept of dictionary censorship. I am very grateful to our Exec, and other Association members, for the steps that they have undertaken in the meantime, to ensure that New Zealanders can continue to play with the full wordlist to which we have become accustomed.

In conclusion to my submission to the Exec last July, I said this:

I would be quite happy for Scrabble dictionaries, apps etc. to include a disclaimer-type statement to the effect that “The Scrabble community are opposed to all forms of discrimination and hate speech, and to the use of language to make any person of any race or creed feel inferior in any way. The inclusion of such terminology in

our word sources is not to be taken as an endorsement of such practices” or, you know, whatever. I still think this would be a sensible idea.

And while I’m on the subject of disclaimers... In the remainder of this piece of writing, it is necessary for me to make examples of some words that could be deemed “offensive” to certain people. Please understand that, just as on the Scrabble board, I am not using such words to be intentionally derogatory to anyone.

Disclaimer #2: No words have been removed from the dictionary we use for Scrabble play in NZ since, I believe, 2012, and I am not aware of any plans for any words to be removed in the foreseeable future. The discussion which follows relates to the 2021 expurgated list, which the NZASP does not endorse.

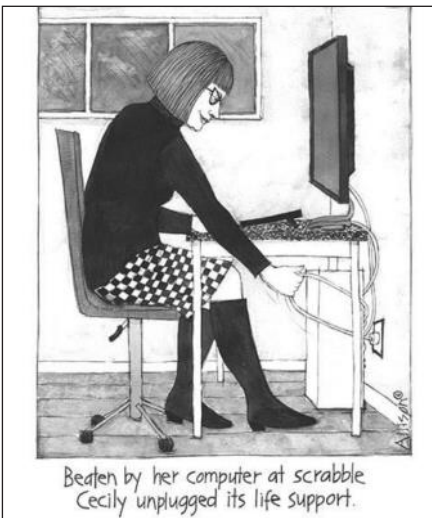
I am an avid user of the online Scrabble GO app. This app is licensed by Mattel, and as such, it is subject to Mattel’s whims, including changes to the word list. With no notification or explanation to the app users, one day some words which had previously been acceptable were suddenly no longer acceptable. One frustrated user posted an example online of an ongoing game



in which a word was already on the board, but when s/he went to play the same word in a different turn the following day, it was disallowed.

So now, with face-to-face games difficult to come by in the current COVID climate, against my will I find I am playing the majority of my Scrabble with the expurgated word list. I do not know which words have expurgated, until I try to play something and find that the play is disallowed. Then I start to doubt myself: "isn't that a word? I am sure it's a word!" ... until eventually I realise that my intended play is not only a sequence of letters with points values assigned, it is an example of language, and someone has deemed that this particular example could be offensive.

Unsurprisingly, the expurgated words I miss most tend to be three-letter words. Those plays I have had rejected include ABO, GOY, JEW, LES, and YID. While I would never,



ever, use any of those words to describe a person myself, it doesn't tax the imagination



too much to see how these could be deemed offensive. (Though I don't know about GOY. I remember looking it up in the dictionary after I read it in a Judy Blume book as a child, because it was a completely unfamiliar word to me then. Its usage there did not appear to be derogatory, and to this day I don't believe I've ever encountered the word anywhere but there, and in Scrabble).

I find I particularly mourn being unable to play ABO. My best analysis as to why I feel this one's absence most keenly is not because the population base to which the word is most usually applied is rather closer to home than that of the Jewish people. Rather, I assume it is because AB and BO are common two-letter plays, and the vowels which hook onto either of those words to turn them into ABO are also very common in Scrabble. In other words, it's a matter of composition; it's convenient for me to be able to place those tiles on the board in that order, and conversely, it's inconvenient for me not to be able to. However, in light of the number of times in recent months that I have experienced the sting of that inconvenience while playing online, I had no idea how frequently I utilised ABO in my Scrabble play.

David Hockney- The scrabble game, Jan 1, 1983.



In addition to these threes, there's another group of expurgated words that interest me. Since I started taking note of my plays that were being rejected, I have come across two words that I didn't even know were used to refer to people, and one for which the definition I had in my head was completely accurate, but I had no idea that it was deemed offensive.

Just like ABO, to me DAGO was a Scrabble word comprised of common letters and easy to create by hooking. Every definition of the word I have read consistently indicates that it is a racial slur; I had no idea. YINCE is more of a mystery; Zyzzyva simply defines it as an adverb meaning "once". urbandictionary.com, surely the modern world's most varied source of offensive language, has but one definition of YINCE, and while it does appear to be used in a derogatory way, the definition itself is unclear, and people's responses to it seem to indicate that this usage is not very common. And then there's SQUAW. Apart from "many Scrabble points", I assume that the image in

your mind when you read or think of the word is very similar to that in mine. So... that's problematic? Apparently so.

My point is simply this: playing with the expurgated word list is forcing me to think less casually about some of the nouns in my Scrabble vocabulary. I'm questioning things; I'm looking up definitions; and I am seeing words from different perspectives.

I'm learning. It's not like I'm now fully converted. I'm not about to start agitating for our dictionary to be expurgated, too. But I'm no longer so vehemently opposed to the elimination of 'hate speech' from our word lists; I no longer think it is true that "no good can come of this idea". I do tend to feel that raising awareness on any issue, but particularly those relating to minority groups, can hardly be a bad thing.

So, if we eventually decide that the inconvenience of maintaining a separate dictionary for New Zealand outweighs our sense of outrage at them messing with our game, I'll happily console myself that at least I've become a more aware citizen along the way.

Connect Three (1) solution

From page 19.

They all take an end hook of B.

CUBEB berry of a shrub in the pepper family.

MANEB a powder for killing fungi.

ZINEB organic fungicide.

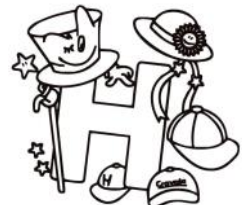
Pop in an H

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

Like most Scrabblers, I would have played EVOE hundreds of times in my Scrabble lifetime. But I was surprised to suddenly notice you can pop an H into the middle of it: to get not just EVHOE, but EVOHE as well! (Same meaning).

Here are some samples of common smallish words which can have an H added somewhere. The ones labelled # don't even change their meanings when the H is added!

- A ACING, ACHING; ALCOOL, ALCOHOL; APACE, APACHE
 B BANG, BHANG; BHEL, BELS; BAT, BHAT
 C CAMPY, CHAMPY
 D DHAK, DAK; DOOLY, DHOOLY#; DINGY, DINGHY
 E EVOE, EVHOE#, EVOHE#
 F FEME, FEHME
 G GRUMPY, GRUMPHY; GRAPED, GRAPHED; GAZAL, GHAZAL#
 H HYDRANT, HYDRANTH; HUMPED, HUMPEDH; HALVA, HALVAH#
 I INCASE, INCHASE; ICED ICHED
 J JAGIR, JAGHIR#
 K KADI, KHADI
 L LAMED, LAMEDH; LATER, LATHER; LYTE, LYTHE
 M MUST, MUSTH; MANE, MANEH
 N NANDU, NHANDU#
 O OGAM, OGHAM#
 P PAGE, PHAGE; PANG, PHANG; PATER, PHATTER
 Q QUOTA, QUOTHA
 R RIME, RHIME#
 S SADE, SADHE#; SAMBAR, SAMBHAR#
 T TAR, TAHR; TAKI, TAKHI#
 U ULAN, UHLAN#
 V VUGS, VUGHS#
 W WIST, WISHT
 X OXIDE, OXHIDE; EXAMINE, HEXAMINE
 Y YODS, YODHS#; YOGURT, YOGHURTH#
 Z ZIBET, ZIBETH#



High Single-Turn Scrabble Scores

by Jeff Grant, Independent

The highest legal first move possible in a Scrabble game is MUZJKS, Russian peasants, for 128 points. Other high scores include BEZIQUE, CAZIQUE and TZADDIQ, all 124, and QUARTZY and SQUEEZY for 126.

Jesse Inman scored 126 with MuZJKS (blank for U) starting a game at the 2008 American National Scrabble Championships. However, another American player once opened a tournament game (presumably not in A grade!) with the illegitimate 8-letter double-triple play of GALAXIES for 194 points. His opponent, apparently disillusioned after a run of losses, walked out in disgust. The play wasn't challenged, so technically it could be considered the highest opening move ever.

The highest single-turn Scrabble score in a real game is 392 points achieved by the late Karl Khoshnaw (UK) on 11 April 1982 when he played the triple-triple (nine-timer) CAZIQUES, West Indian chiefs. Another less-heralded 392 score was gained more recently by Malta's first national champion Godfrey Magri Demajo with the triple-triple MEZQUITE, a North American shrub.

The highest triple-triple playable, if restricted to eight letter words, is QUIZZIFY (blank for one Z), to cause to look odd, which would score 419 points.

In the realm of theoretical Scrabble, a 15-letter word can be placed covering three triple-word squares to form a triple-triple-triple or '27-timer' (3x3x3). The highest known legitimate move of this type uses the term OXYPHENBUTAZONE, an anti-inflammatory drug, plus additional hook-ons to score 1785 points. (*Forwards*, Sept 2007)

Even higher scores can be achieved using larger dictionaries. The chemical word *BENZOXYCAMPHORS (Webster's 2nd New International Dictionary) helped Ron Jerome and Darryl Francis score 1961 points for a single move to win a competition in the November 1972 edition of the British Games and Puzzles magazine.

With the use of terms found in any published work, still higher scores are possible. *SESQUIOXIDIZING, converting into a sesquioxide, anchors a 2064-point move, and its variant spelling *SESQUIOXYDIZING yields a 2152-point play (*Word Ways*, the Journal of Recreational Linguistics, May 2010).

Straining credibility even further, the contrived chemical term *BENZHYDROXYQUIN, the 'trivial' name of a colourless, crystalline solid called 5-benzyl-8-hydroxyquinoline, has been used to score 2278 points for a single move. The word was apparently coined by analogy with existing chemical compounds *benzhydrol and *diiodohydroxyquin. (Word Ways, Nov 1979)

Occasionally 15-letter words appear on Scrabble boards, but they are invariably formed by extending shorter words. A legitimate 27-timer is pure fantasy.



The Role of 'Osmosis' Learning

by Selena Chan, Christchurch

A recent article from the BBC <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20211004-the-problem-with-losing-osmosis-learning> caused me to think more about how we learn best with and from others. The article argued that for many people in the UK, the almost two years of working from home (WFH) caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, has been to the detriment of organisational and professional learning. The main reason posed is that WFH removes the many informal interactions workers have with their colleagues. These 'corridor'/'water cooler/photocopier encounters have been understood for many years, to contribute much towards workplace cohesion, organisation wisdom maintenance and distribution, and impromptu brainstorms leading to problem solving and innovations.

Humans are social animals and much of educational psychology maintains the need to ensure sociocultural learning (i.e. learning with and from others) is enabled and supported. The social aspects of Scrabble were studied and disseminated in a 2007 paper - <https://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://scholar.google.co.nz/&httpsredir=1&article=1003&context=lrq> – by E. Okulicz (an Australian scrabbler) and others. The paper summarised the ways the Scrabble community of practice (CoP) form relationships, develop a specialised 'curriculum' and shared knowledge and strategies through continued practice and communications between players.



Selena Chan

'Zoom' fatigue is now a phenomenon studied by social scientists. One hypothesis is that online communication requires greater concentration due to the screening of the subtle 'body language' we rely on for effective interaction. Therefore, many nuances we pick up when playing Scrabble f2f (face to face), are absent when playing online. There is also the very real loss of manual arithmetic and tile-tracking skills when the computer does this work for us.

The importance of having club f2f Scrabble playing sessions is supported by the above observations. The opportunity to indulge in playing many f2f games each week adds incrementally to our learning. Much of this learning becomes subsumed into our tacit knowledge. That is, we learn and know but are often unable to identify specifically what it is we know and why we make certain decisions which often have implications on each game's trajectory. One of the important aspects of f2f Scrabble, is the ability to gauge the body language of our opponents. Some people have attributes which allow them to understand the body language of others innately. For many others,

these skills require constant interaction to acquire. All scrabblers tend to become comfortable with playing their club members over many years. One of the challenges of tournament play, is the need to become conversant with the demeanour, pace of play and word/strategy knowledge of people you only play intermittently. Therefore, the 'social' aspects of Scrabble playing, extend beyond normal day to day interactions. Some indications of peoples' online personality may be gathered even when much play occurs online. For instance, speed of play and word knowledge. However, the 'humanness' of f2f play, with its opportunities to increase friendship and mutual respect, are much more difficult to replicate when playing shifts to online platforms.

The above support the need for f2f Scrabble clubs as more players shift to playing virtual games with online platforms or apps. We need to promote the camaraderie and lifelong bonds which build amongst club members through the shared love of the game.

Connect Three (2)

What do the words POTHER, PROVER and SUPER have in common?

Answer on page 29.



Filk

by *Olivia En, Whanganui*

To the tune of 'Hallelujah' by Leonard Cohen

Many thanks to Anderina McLean for helping me with a few of the lines and rhymes.



I heard there was
A secret word
That Nigel played
And it blocked the board,
But you don't really care
For Scrabble, do ya?
It goes like this:
A blank, an ess;
It ends in ing
Or did that come first?
Still baffled! P'raps disposing
Will outdo ya.

Chorus:

Hallelujah, hallelujah,
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Your faith is strong
But you need a fluke;
You see her playing
MAMELUKE,
So now you know
That she again outdrew ya.
You're sweating in
That wretched chair;
She'll break your run,
It isn't fair.
And from your lips
She drew that hallelujah.

Chorus.

Baby, we might
Have a draw.
I've seen it
End this way before.
I used to play online
Before I knew ya.
I've seen your spots
On the sticker charts.
Win! That's all that's in
Your heart of hearts.
It's a cold, but it's
The only hallelujah.

Chorus.

Maybe there's
A god above,
But all I've learned
Is to try it, love,
Cos if it's there
Then this word might just screw ya.
It's not a challenge
That I'm sure is right;
It's my only play
When the board's so tight.
But, yes, it's there!
Oh, yes, it's hallelujah!

Chorus.

Only on a Scrabble board

COURANTO

By Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

Throughout this last lengthy Lockdown, lasting three months, a full season, one quarter of this *annus horribilis*, RACCOON (or CORONA) Scrabble has provided me with sanity, several games, loads of laughs, some chatty catchups and vital contact with my online Auckland Scrabble community, AKA Liz Fagerlund, Su Walker, Val Mills and of course Captain CORONA himself, Lawson Sue (with an 'e'). And so it was, one dreary Sunday in September, armed with two sets of tiles each, we WhatsApped and faced off.

Requirements - one bag of tiles and another set laid out in alphabetical order. One board (each). Tiles are drawn for kick off and seven tiles removed from your bag to allow for your opponent's rack. Play then continues with each player spelling his word aloud and announcing not just his score but also where he has played it on the board. Each time your opponent plays, you should remember to take out the number of tiles he has played and pop them in another bag (or better still lay them face down beside your board. Your opponent's words are spelt out with the overturned tiles. Sometimes screen swivelling is recommended to be sure you have lain the tiles down correctly.



Raccoon Scrabble game

Scrabble allows full disclosure. Unlike chess, where boards change dramatically, in Scrabble you can see the opening and endgame *post mortem*. Raccoon Scrabble also highlights who played what, at a glance. So, if you're viewing this online, I'm red; Lawson's blue. If you're viewing this in the magazine my letters are white and his are black.

We were sitting at one game apiece with this, the decider. I'd managed LEAFIER under his DONAH and LIGNOSE, perpendicular, to take an early lead but he'd pulled back with WARLO?D (the only seven in that rack) and surprised me with HEBRAISE (bingo+TWS+challenge), to claw back. With WIDE on L15, he'd inadvertently given me an opening for ISOBARE and I'd also been lucky enough to get QUOTE (or TOQUE)

on a TWS for 45, so seemed to be sitting smugly with a misfit rack and Lawson to play, having the last seven tiles on his rack.

This was when Lawson started thinking aloud. This often happens when we play face-to-face. He lays his tiles on the table and we collaborate on a move. He had ANORTU? He'd seen SANTOUR, OUTEARN and OUTRANG but the board was such that he had to play out through the Q, U or O of my QUOTE or slot in a snug seven under my ISOBARE. I was familiar with the rack 'SANTOUR + blank' and so outlined other options, feeling safe with my lead but checking nevertheless, to see if they would fit first on that bottom triple lane: COURANT, OUTRANK, RAINOUT, ROMAUNT, ROTUNDA.

To my horror, he went ahead and played COURANT, sticking it in front

of my 'O' from QUOTE. COURANTO?! I was so sure it was utter codswallop and a last ditch attempt that not even pausing to think about it, I challenged it. COURANTO was fine (as was RUNABOUT through the 'U' we discovered later.) 'Co(u)rantos' were early informational broadsheets, precursors to newspapers. Not to be confused with 'courante', a 16th-century court dance or 'courant' which means 'represented as running' heraldically. A white horse courant. Well, with the bingo, the challenge and the points left on my rack, we reached the unlikely event of a draw. 1.5 games each. I'm glad it ended like that and wasn't kicking myself (much).

Ed: With the help of ULU I see that TURNCOAT could also have been played on the T of QUOTE.



Left: A board for the season



Connect Three (2)

solution From page 26.

They all take an end hook of B.

POTHERB herb used as seasoning.

PROVERB a familiar true or moral saying.

SUPERB of excellent quality.

Woogles

by Dylan Early, Scrabble Wellington

The first time I heard the name “Woogles” I thought it was a new type of candy or perhaps the latest dance craze sweeping the internet. As I don’t have a sweet tooth and I’m not given to the vagaries of social media, I put it out of my mind.

However, it kept popping up in conversation and so I decided to look into it. Boy, am I glad I did!

Several years ago, a group of eight innovative Scrabble players got together and created Woogles, a new online platform for playing our favourite wordgame. To quote their website on the genesis of the project, “Let’s face it, the status quo is pretty bad. After so many years of being inured to “average”, we realise change will only start at the grassroots level. We’re a group of techy word gamers with big dreams, and while it’ll take time to achieve them all, we believe we can get there”.

Woogles is basically ISC (Internet Scrabble Club) v2.0. On steroids.

It’s a website (<https://woogles.io/>) where you can play friends, strangers or one of the many bots in realtime. It does everything ISC does but in a more user-friendly manner and combines the analytical abilities of Quackle to give you a rich set of features you’ll soon become addicted



to. The creators include expert Scrabble players, software developers and professional product designers. It’s the online platform the Scrabble world has been waiting for.

I created a profile and started playing within five minutes. There are no downloads or installations; just a browser and off you go. There is a comprehensive quick start guide that is easy to follow and if it doesn’t answer all your questions, you can email support and they will respond quite quickly. I particularly like the ability to analyse my games immediately afterwards. If you’re a serious player, it allows you to download a GCG file to import into Quackle (or similar engine) where you can run a full simulation.

If you haven’t already, I highly recommend you check out Woogles. It’s free and fantastic and appears to have a very promising future.

Ask And-dream-a

The Phantom has sent in this dream:

I had a dream other night. We (NZ) were hosting the World Scrabble Championships. All was going well until suddenly there was a commotion. In the middle of the room there was a table empty of players. They were on the ground fighting each other, so I pried them apart. It was Pakistan vs India???



And-Dream-a replies:

As one of few nations actually able to play any face-to-face Scrabble competitions, New Zealand is a not unreasonable choice for a dreamtime World Championship. Naturally all would go well; we can offer world-class venues, experienced adjudication, and of course the legendary "Kiwi Hospitality".

Similarly, there is nothing surprising about conspicuous conflict between representatives of India and Pakistan. Indeed, when the WESPA Championship was hosted in India two years ago, not only did Pakistan not attend the event, but participants even from as far away as NZ were required to answer on their visa applications whether they, their parents, or grandparents had ever been in Pakistan. It seems an affirmative answer to this question could well have translated to a negative answer to the visa application.



So, what can be deduced about you, the dreamer, from this dream? Perhaps your mind is preoccupied with a long-standing conflict in a familiar setting? Or it could be simply that the idea of "a table empty of players" at a world Scrabble championship (e.g. because of the travel restrictions imposed on us all by COVID-19) makes your subconscious mind want to punch something!

In the News

Here are some Scrabble related headlines that have been in the news over the past few months since the last edition of *Forwards* was published.

READER REPORT

Covid-19: Getting vaccinated is an act of love - and it will save lives 🌈

Great to see Olivia in the news again!

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff-nation/126684724/covid19-getting-vaccinated-is-an-act-of-love--and-it-will-save-lives>

Monday, 18 October 2021

Spreading the word



Credit: Guy Williams

Lynn Wood, of Wellington, lays out a word during a two-day Scrabble competition, hosted by the Dunedin Scrabble Club, which began in Queenstown on Saturday.

The tournament involved 24 players from throughout the country, and was held at the Wyndham Garden hotel in Remarkables Park.

<https://www.odt.co.nz/regions/queenstown/spreading-word>

Red-letter weekend for Scrabble in Queenstown

October 15, 2021

Another Article on the Queenstown Tournament

<https://www.scene.co.nz/queenstown-news/red-letter-weekend-for-scrabble-in-queenstown/>

Club News

Scrabble Wellington

*By Howard Warner,
Scrabble Wellington*



Juno, 9, (left) and Devon, 10, do battle at Scrabble Wellington club night.

Here's a photo of a couple of newbies at our club. Juno is the daughter of

Summer, a pretty keen newish member of the club. Juno often comes along with her. Last week she brought her friend Devon. The two girls entertained each other quietly for a while. Then I looked up at one stage and saw they had started a game by themselves, clock and all. They were doing pretty well too – all legit words, and even the odd parallel play. Apparently Juno plays a bit at home with her mum and Devon plays Bananagrams with her family.

Hopefully they'll play again. But we don't mind either way, because they're very sweet and very well-behaved girls.

Report on Queenstown Tourney

By Lois Binney, Christchurch

Twenty two players attended the recent Queenstown tournament with Ruth doing a great job managing at a late stage to replace those entrants from Auckland and Northland who had booked but had to cancel because of lockdown. Ten players hailed from Dunedin, six from Christchurch, and three could almost count as locals including Cindy Hurley from Tarras who was playing in her first tournament. A couple of incomers from the North Island made it with both Betty Erikson and Lynn Wood flying in to play. Incidentally Lynn Wood tells me that Covid is playing

havoc with her quest to reach 6,000 games of tournament Scrabble because too many tournaments are being cancelled.

Even though some of us don't raise our heads from the Scrabble board during a tournament, it was an inspired idea to organise a tournament in Queenstown, truly a gorgeous location to visit. It worked well with the location being convenient and the Scrabble playing venue, although tight in size, working well with the adjoining café providing quick coffee and lunches. Those who stayed at the venue, the Wyndham Garden Hotel, were very happy with the accommodation and the inspiring views of the Remarkables.



Taken at lunchtime with our players enjoying the sunshine and ambience of the area.

Foreground L-R: Anne- Louise Milne, Sharon Teasdale & Sue Hensley

Background L-R: Marian Ross, Karen Gray and the back of Hanna Dodge.

A Grade had only four players in it so those of us in the top grade had the novel experience of playing each of the other three opponents five times. The other three grades each had six competitors, so they didn't get quite so giddy.

In A grade Karen Gray's performance was truly 'Remarkable'. Starting bottom of the grade she came through to win the tournament overall with 11 wins. I managed to beat her only twice with the tightest of margins both times, four points in one game and 11 points in the other. These were truly hard-fought wins.

In B Grade Yvonne Hewlett won with 11 games and a great spread of 839. Long time Dunedin player Marion Ross also had a 'Remarkable' tournament with 12 games and was a convincing winner of C grade. Another Dunedin player Steve Wood won D Grade with 10 wins.

Players enjoyed playing in a new location and it was a lovely weekend. Many thanks to tournament organiser Ruth Groffman.

And From Yvette Hewlett.

Thanks for a great tournament Ruth. It was amazing to have such an experience in Queenstown.

I learnt a lot of new things like not to count out loud and always independently check the status of the scrabble bag, at the end of a game.

I also never realised how big the range of chocolate bars were in the Cadbury franchise. They were a great idea for the spot prizes.

Thanks for all your hard work and positivity. Enjoy a hard earned rest now it is over.

Awhina Taikato

By Lynne Butler, Whanganui

Awhina passed away on 25 October 2021 after a courageous struggle with cancer. Awhina was passionate about her scrabble and loved attending club and as many tournaments as she possibly could, She was prolific on Scrabble Go too, often making moves in the wee small hours. Awhina was always very upbeat even over the last few months of her illness. Always a smile. Always respectful, Rest in peace, Awhina

More words from Liz Fagerlund:

Any of those who have met Awhina at tournaments will attest that she is a



Awhina Taikato at the 2021 NZ Nationals

Credit: Naomi Johnston

lovely person with a wonderful heart and care for others, and quite a character.

It was great that she featured in Alex Casey's great article about the Nationals. She will be missed in the Scrabble community especially by those in the Whanganui club

and Cathy Casey:

Awhina Taikato from the Whanganui Scrabble club died recently. She was one of my Scrabble mates. We shared a passion for the game that drew the two of us together. We could be found playing sneaky extra games during the lunch hour at the Nationals. We also played Scrabble daily online. A few moves in the morning and a few moves at night. In the same grade, we were always neck and neck. I didn't know about the cancer and was so shocked to hear of her death. In our last game, she was thrashing me 439 to 324 but she never got to play her last four tiles. That win would have drawn us level in wins again. I know that my app will tell me shortly that Awhina has "abandoned the game". But I know she would never do that. Rest in Peace Awhina.

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rymanhealthcare.co.nz



Hall of Fame

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

Pandemic of the past

Hi. My name Daniel Elmer Salmon.



Daniel Elmer Salmon

*I was the
veterinary
pathologist who
ran the United
States
Department of
Agriculture
(USDA)
microorganism
research
program in the*

1800s. Together with Theobald Smith, I found the bacillus in the abdominal lymph nodes of hogs that succumbed to the disease known as hog cholera, and the bacillus was named **SALMONELLA** after me.

Remember me if ever you play **SALMONELLA** – perhaps you'll extend SALMON, MON, ONE or ELL to make a decent score from it one day.

SALMONELLA (the bacillus) can cause SALMONELLA (an infection with salmonella bacteria, commonly caused by contaminated food or water). Symptoms of salmonella, you're probably very aware, include diarrhoea, fever, chills and abdominal pain. And it can be very severe.

However, the link between the fish and the bacteria is, in my opinion, an

unfortunate coincidence. You can get salmonella from *anything* meat or vegetable that has allowed the *salmonella* bacteria to incubate in it. Although salmonella *can* incubate in salmon, it's much more likely to incubate in chicken!

So that's my eponym, SALMONELLA - actually, not very interesting. You won't ever remember me, Daniel Salmon for that, I bet. However, let me tell you about someone who will be remembered in connection with **SALMONELLA**. And she has given the language a much more interesting eponymous expression.

* * * * *

Her name was Mary Mallon, and she lived from 1869-1938. At the age of 15, she immigrated to the United States. She lived with her aunt and uncle for a time and worked as a maid, but eventually became a cook for affluent families. Moving from household to household, Mary caused several typhoid outbreaks (caused by **Salmonella Typhi**), always vanishing before an epidemic could be traced back to the particular household she was working in.

In 1907, almost 3,000 inhabitants of New York had been infected by typhoid, with Mary probably being the main reason for the outbreak. Due to a lack of antibiotic treatment and no

immunisation option at the time, the dangerous source had to be restrained. Police intervened and Salmonella was found in Mary's stool, so she was transferred to North Brother Island to Riverside Hospital, where she was quarantined in a cottage.

As she was the first known healthy carrier of typhoid fever in the United States, she did not understand how someone healthy could spread disease, so she tried to fight back. The New York Supreme Court dismissed her petition for release, but the city's new health commissioner took pity on her and released her on the promise that she would never again work as a cook. Nevertheless, she was later found to be working as a cook, which was again causing typhoid outbreaks. She was sent back to North Brother Island, where she lived until her death in 1938 - after a total of nearly 30 years in isolation.

Mary represents the first known case of a healthy carrier in the United States and was proven responsible for the contamination of at least 122 people, five of whom died as a result of the infection.

There is still much speculation regarding the treatment that Mary received at the hands of the New York's Department of Health. Instead of working with her to make her realise she was a risk factor, the state quarantined her twice and turned her into a laboratory animal/specimen. This case is often cited as an example

of how the health care system can provoke prejudiced social attitudes towards disease carriers.

Even apart from the enforced isolation, she *was* treated appallingly, including being sat upon to be restrained, being forced to give samples, not being allowed to use the bathroom on her own, having to fight to prevent her gallbladder being removed, and being given a terrible label in medical textbooks.

Mary's eponymous phrase is particularly interesting in the light of the current Covid pandemic: "Typhoid Mary" is a colloquial term for anyone who, knowingly or not, spreads disease or some other undesirable thing. (TYPHOID and MARY are both acceptable Scrabble words).

Understandably, Mary Mallon hated the nickname and wrote in a letter to her lawyer: "I wonder how the said Dr William H. Park would like to be insulted and put in the Journal and called Typhoid William."



Mary Mallon as "Typhoid Mary" in a local newspaper of the era

Looking at the Scrabble Board through Salmon-Tinted Glasses

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

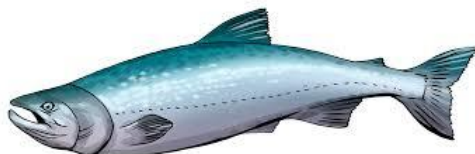
Ed: And following on with the “Salmon” theme...

Did you know that NZ is the largest producer of farmed king salmon in the world? It's expected that salmon exports will be earning us a billion dollars annually in exports by 2025. In fact, we supply over half the farmed **KING SALMON** consumed by the world - only one other country farms that particular species of salmon.

That being the case, don't you think NZ Scrabble players should be armed with a large vocabulary of **SALMONY** words? The **SALMONOID** world provides many useful small words, and some uncommon bonuses.

There is only one species of salmon found in the Atlantic Ocean, but it's endangered in the wild, so any Atlantic salmon consumed is farm-raised. Atlantic salmon are variously known as **OUANANICHE**, bay salmon, black salmon, **CAPLIN**-scull salmon, fiddler and silver salmon. Some of them, like the gigantic **TOGUE**, are landlocked in lakes.

Species of **SALMONID** (and two closely connect trout, **STEELHEAD** and **CUTTHROAT**) native to the North Pacific are:



- **MASU:** A Japanese salmon, ranging along East Asia, through Korea, Taiwan, and Japan.
- **PINK:** Aka **HUMPBACK** or **HUMPY/HUMPIES** for the hump they develop on their backs when they spawn. It has a light, **SALMONY**-coloured flesh.)
- **CHUM:** Aka **KETA**, or dog salmon. The flesh of this salmon is **SALMONIER** - a light to medium colour – and is renowned for its roe (salmon caviar), which is big and tasty.
- **SOCKEYE:** Aka **NERKA**, **KOKANEE**, **REDFISH** or **BLUEBACK**. Has red/orange flesh (the **SALMONIEST** colour!).
- **COHO/COHOE:** A smaller fish with a silver skin, often cooked whole.
- **CHINOOK:** The common name is derived from the Chinookan peoples of North America. Aka **QINNAT**, **KING**, spring salmon, and **TYEE**.

CHINOOK is the salmon we farm in NZ, that we usually call **KING SALMON**. Repeated efforts were made around 1900 to farm a variety of salmon in the South Island, but the only species that survived and thrived was the **CHINOOK**, which was introduced here in 1901. A commercial salmon breeding programme has been operating in NZ for over 25 years – the longest-running breeding programme in the world, with freshwater pens in hydro canals, and seawater pens in Marlborough, Stewart Island and Canterbury.

CHINOOK/QINNAT/KING is the largest salmon, but it doesn't grow as big in New Zealand as its 20kg relation (which spends more time at sea) does in Alaska. However, it's the largest NZ freshwater sports fish, growing up to 16kg or more, and is found in several larger South Island rivers.

Compared to a typical freshwater or marine fish, the life cycle of salmon is very interesting. They have six stages: **EGG, ALEVIN, FRY, PARR, SMOLT,** and **ADULT**. Salmon are **ANADROMOUS**, meaning they spend most of their entire life in the ocean, but migrate to rivers and streams to spawn.

In the wild, eggs are laid in areas of rivers called **RIFFLES**, where the water is shallow and fast flowing, with a gravel or stony bottom. Young salmon hatch in about three months to feed on the egg yolk for several weeks.

Young salmon or **SAMLET** are given various names. At hatching, they are called **ALEVIN/S**, and they're about 3cm long. From 5-10 weeks, they're called **FRY**, and



from then until they're several months old and 12cm long they're called **PARR**. (Sometimes, **FRY** and **PARR** are referred to as **SKEGGER**.) This stage is when some species develop vertical fingerlike markings on their backs which give rise to the name **FINGERLINGS**. A salmon in its second year might be called a **SPROD** (or, if they have a blue-spotted head, they might be called a **BLUECAP**), but usually they're called **SMOLT** until they're 1-3 years old and head out to sea.

Their adult years are spent at sea – anything from one to seven years, depending on the species. (If they should return to the river early, before they're fully grown, they are called **JACKS** or **JENNIES**; and if they return to fresh water after just one winter at sea, they're called **GRILSE/GRILSES**.) At sea, they develop the markings, colouring and characteristics of their species.

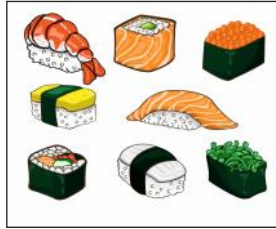
When they return from sea for their spawning runs they're called **SPAWNERS**. At this time, in some species, the males develop some sex characteristics such as an enlarged or elongated head, or the **KYPE**, a hook

on the lower jaw. In summer, both sexes stop feeding, and use their stored energy for the effort of their upriver migration. And this is when the salmon fishing season starts – it runs from early October (spring) through to late April (autumn) in New Zealand.

Until a hundred years ago (in the UK), salmon were caught at river mouths in ranks of narrow-necked woven baskets called **PUTCHERS** or **PUTCHEONS**, but **PUTCHER** fishing declined during the latter part of the 20th century as salmon stocks dwindled and strict quotas were brought in to control catches.

Salmon that evade today's fishing lines return to their breeding pools to **SPAWN**. The **BAGGIT**, a ripe female salmon bulging with eggs, uses her tail to hollow a nest in the riverbed called a **REDD**; the male fertilises them; and within two weeks, both male and female die.

Salmon are **SEMELPAROUS**, which means they reproduce or breed just once in a lifetime (like many insects, but not so many animals), probably because of the enormous physical effort the spawning run involves. A salmon that has just spawned and not yet dead, but is weak and emaciated, is called a **KELT**, and



*Examples of **SUSHI**, **SASHIMI** and **NIGIRI***

the adjective describing its condition is **SHOTTEN**, which indicates it's now less desirable as food.

And so the life cycle begins again. Meanwhile, humans smoke or cure their salmon in a **CORFHOUSE** (if they're

Scottish); or prepare their dishes of **GRAVLAX/GRAVADLAX**,/ **GRAVLAKS** (if they're Scandinavian), **LOX** (if they're Jewish); **SUSHI**, **SASHIMI** or **NIGIRI** (if they're Japanese); salmon **ROULADE** (if they're French); and bagels with smoked salmon and cream cheese (if they're Polish).

*[With all that mention of food, please don't make the mistake of thinking that **SALMONELLA** has got its name because of the salmon fish. The two are sometimes linked, though. Read Hall of Fame in this issue to find out more.]*



Mailbox



Feedback from Jeff Grant

Well done on another excellent Scrabble magazine! I've read only 10 pages so far but am thoroughly enjoying it. I particularly liked Dianne and Roger's mutual interview.

Amazing what we don't know about our fellow scrabblers.

Raven Black by Anne Cleeves sounds like an interesting book. I have read quite a few Scottish books and there are usually plenty of unusual Scots words, including ones used in the offshore islands.

According to the English Dialect Dictionary, *cru* is a Shetland and Orkney Islands variant of *crew* (e, a small yard or enclosure; or a pen, fold for cattle, sheep, etc; or a straw-yard for cattle. So you are correct with your definition.

A related term allowed in Scrabble is *cruive* (also *crue*, *croove*), defined in Chambers



Dictionary as 'a pen or sty', from the Scots *cru*, sheepfold, of Celtic origin.

Also submitted by Jeff Grant

Minimal Scrabblegram

In the last *Forwards* we exhibited some amazing Scrabblegrams by American David Cohen.

A Scrabblegram is constructed using just the 100 Scrabble letters, including both blanks. The minimum number of words required to accomplish this feat is seven. Here is a 'minimalist' Scrabblegram verse containing five 14-letter words and two 15-letter words.

This *Scrabblegrammatical set of long words was found by American Dan Stock after running a search program for 30 hours. [NASPA News, July 21, 2021 - NASPA is the North American Scrabble Players Association]

Acknowledgedly,
Unconquerables' improvisations
Overexaggerated justifiability;
Dehumanizations weatherproofed!

(The blanks are an extra D and S).

Connect Three (3)

What do the words COOM, NEEM and SCRAM have in common?

Answer on page 43.



Ed: I received this email from Wendy Wethey. One of her cryptics is in the Puzzle Pozzy (page 44) and her contact details are here for anyone that wants to purchase her book.

NZ Cryptic Crossword Book

I've been setting cryptic crosswords for the four main Australian Sunday newspapers for the past year and have now compiled them into a book of 52, none of which have been published in New Zealand. Scrabble players often enjoy doing cryptic crosswords so I'm wondering if you would like to have a crossword of mine to put in your newsletter, in return for mentioning my book.

The cryptic crosswords we get here in New Zealand are often sourced from the UK, which is fine, but not as good as home-grown, in that often British insider knowledge is needed to get the last two or three sticky clues solved. For that reason, I think mine will be popular with New Zealanders.

NZ Cryptic Crossword Book • Book of 52 cryptic crosswords, available early November 2021 • NZ-originated cryptic crossword books are usually hard to come by • Price \$25, or \$20 each for 3 or more (plus postage).

Contact details: Wendy Wethey

Mobile: 021 179 0540

Email: cryptangler@gmail.com

PO Box 12223, Christchurch 824

More on Cryptic Crosswords

By John Foster, Independent



John Foster

Reading Val's editorial and Selena's article in *Forwards* edition 143 has got me motivated to recount my own experience with

cryptics and offer some tips on getting started. My journey started some 65 years ago, when still in my late teens, with the weekly cryptic in the NZ Listener compiled by RWH (the late Ruth Wallace Hendry). Only limited success to start with but each week, by working through the clues the following week with the answers provided before starting on the new

one, I quickly got better and began to solve it quite quickly. The only snag was the Shakespearean references she tended to scatter in the clues and I lashed out and purchased a hardback volume of Shakespeare's complete works. I still have this book and see from the price on the flyleaf that I paid the extravagant sum of fifteen shillings and ninepence for it.

Next I turned to the daily cryptic in the *NZ Herald*, which I still do every day, a bit of a step up from RWH but manageable. Then I took a quantum leap to the daily cryptic in the *Auckland Star*. This was originally the one published in *London's Daily Express* and it was some months before I actually completed it without reference to the solution. Then there



was the weekly cryptic in Wellington's *Evening Post* for which four prizes were awarded, one

of which I won on ten occasions including seven Parker pens and a millennium jigsaw puzzle.

Now to the present day. My weekly treat is the *Saturday Herald* which contains two excellent challenges, the 'Observer Everyman' and the 'Kropotkin'. I have had them both solved by 10 am but more often one or both take me a lot longer, sometimes even lasting into Sunday, and sometimes a handful of clues completely escape me.

So my advice to newbies is to start with the daily cryptic in your local paper. Most papers will have one like the *Herald*. Get as far as you can and then work through the answers the following day until you do not need them anymore. Until you can finish in 10 minutes or less you are not ready to move on to the next level such as Everyman and Kropotkin. When you do move up be aware of where the compiler is based. Everyman lives in England and if I get stumped on a clue it is generally because it contains a local geographic reference. He also sprinkles in spoonerisms which can be very difficult. Kropotkin, on the other hand, is a New Zealander, and his puzzles contain quite a few NZ place names and Maori words. I tried to explain some of these to

Australians at a Trans Tasman without much success. I daresay I would have similar difficulties with an Australian based puzzle.

So my answer to Selena's question is yes, I believe fluid intelligence can be learnt. The RWH puzzles I started with would seem ridiculously easy now and I could never then contemplate even starting with the ones I now solve.



Finally, do not be disappointed if you do not understand a clue even after seeing the solution because it is simply something you do not know. An example of this in today's Kropotkin is After typhoon, poor Tony's bowler blew away – those at the other end?(5). The solution is Tyson, simple to someone like myself who remembers 1955 when Frank (Typhoon) Tyson was one of the English bowlers who blew the NZ cricket team away for a total of 26, still a record although South Africa have come close to expunging it four times with scores in the thirties. Unless you are a cricket follower you will be trying to make some sense out of hats blowing away in a strong wind.

Connect Three (3) solution

From page 41.

They all take an end hook of B.

COOMB short, deep valley.

NEEMB East Indian tree, producing oil used as a pesticide or fungicide.

SCRAMB scratch with claws or nails.

Puzzle Pozzy



Christmas Scrabble Anagrams

Find the Christmas related anagram in these allowable scrabble words.

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. TSAR | 9. CLAROS | 18. TENORMAN |
| 2. SELD | 10. GLEANS | 19. SPUDDING |
| 3. RETE | 11. THAWER | 20. STRIMMING |
| 4. PEIN | 12. ENGRAM | 21. REGESTING |
| 5. BRITH | 13. HYALOID | 22. COORDINATE |
| 6. CHERE | 14. SERPENT | |
| 7. LANCED | 15. SMITTEN | |
| 8. LISTEN | 16. ORACLING | |
| | 17. RECOATED | |



Some of the following make one Christmas word, others a Christmas phrase

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 23. MISS CHATTERER | 28. TOSSING EAGERNESS |
| 24. WOLF SNAKES | 29. TOTEMS LIE |
| 25. YETI DUEL | 30. BOOT GANG |
| 26. STATION PIE | 31. OLE UGLY |
| 27. STARFISH REMATCH | Answers on page 47. |



Cryptic Crossword

The cryptic crossword on the following page was kindly submitted to *Forwards* by Wendy Wethey. See page 42 for more information.

Answers on page 46.

Across

6. Percolated lattes are the most recent fad (6)

7. Peter refused to when exhorted to be more mature (4,2)

10. Less than courageous before a party but puts on a bold front (7)

11. Summer pants shortened for Italian island (5)

12. Renowned gynaecologist shows tendency to push boundaries (4)

13. Being the one to do the stitching up can be a drain (5)

16. Ecclesiastical property can be situated by a ruin (5)

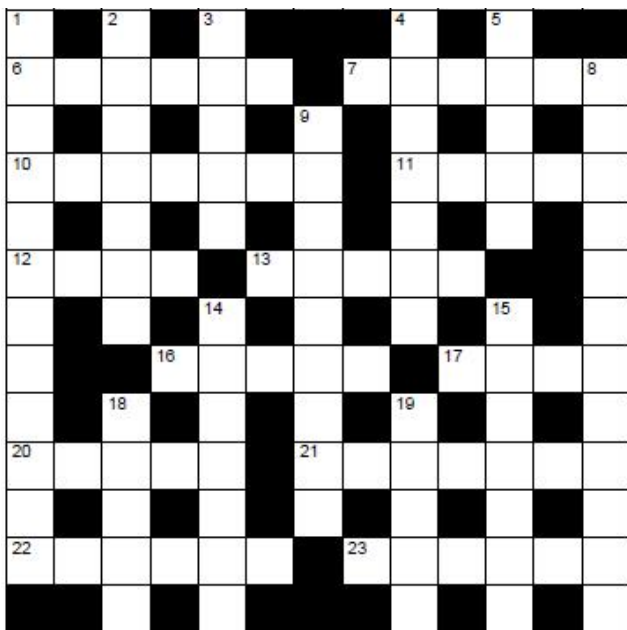
17. Matted wool in disarray around ewe's head has existed for a long time (4)

20. With us, using a lot to start with became pretty normal (5)

21. Roster is altered so there's nothing in it for early riser who disturbs sleepers (7)

22. Covering up humiliating defeat (6)

23. Be opposed to drinking to the Queen of England but has a punt (6)

**Down**

1. Both a bumbler in a muddle and indiscreet (12)

2. Out there unrestrained, mostly (2,5)

3. Composition might be extremely efficacious, say (5)

4. Hooked on handicraft? (7)

5. Using phone, wipes out unwanted suitor, or not (5)

8. Hardline reps turn out to be Casanovas (12)

9. Grandparents add new protagonist when reading Goldilocks story aloud? (9)

14. Rating on his own finds sea snail (7)

15. Push for a way to move dirty clothes around (7)

18. Famous miss scared by arachnid when eating these (5)

19. Fashion at fifty may be an example to follow (5)

Twenty years ago in *Forwards*

Ed: How money was raised for Scrabble in the past!

Scrablathon 2001

Thanks to all of you who contributed to our World Champs Fund by participating in the Scrablathon in July.

Your endeavours raised a total of \$3,213 which will help enormously towards sending Howard, Jeff, Kendall and Peter to Las Vegas in December.

Mount Albert raised \$671 and wins a copy of the Chambers OSWI. Well done!!

Lynn Wood raised \$215 and won the individual prize. Correne James came a close second, raising \$210. Our special thanks to these two members whose contribution is always superb.

Members of the Hamilton Club set up games in a local shopping mall, with plenty of crowd interest.



Puzzle Pozy Solutions - Cryptic Crossword

From page 45.

Across: 6. Latest, 7. Grow up, 10. Bravado, 11. Capri, 12. Edgy, 13. Sewer, 16. Abbey, 17. Aged, 20. Usual, 21. Rooster, 22. Hiding, 23. Better.

Down: 1. Blabbermouth, 2. At large, 3. Essay, 4. Crochet, 5. Swipe, 8. Philanderers, 9. Forebears, 14. Abalone, 15. Agitate, 18. Curds, 19. Model.

Off the rack

(what scrabblers have been up to)

Dylan Early is barking/biking up a new tree in Wellington.



I thought you might like to see a pic of my new puppy and cycling buddy; a golden doodle called Archie. We got him at two months and soon taught him to go cycling with us. He's quite big now (5 months, 23 kg) and still rides majestically in his wagon through the streets of Wellington, eliciting smiles and giggles from all and sundry. Here's a picture of Archie on Oriental Parade, Wellington, just after a swim in the sea.



Puzzle Pozy Solutions - Christmas Scrabble Anagrams

From page 44.

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. STAR | 14. PRESENT | |
| 2. SLED | 15. MITTENS | |
| 3. TREE | 16. CAROLING | 26. POINSETTIA |
| 4. PINE | 17. DECORATE | 27. FATHER |
| 5. BIRTH | 18. ORNAMENT | *CHRISTMAS |
| 6. CHEER | 19. PUDDINGS | 28. SEASONS |
| 7. CANDLE | 20. TRIMMINGS | GREETINGS |
| 8. TINSEL | 21. GREETINGS | 29. MISTLETOE |
| 9. CAROLS | 22. DECORATION | 30. TOBOGGAN |
| 10. ANGELS | 23. *CHRISTMAS | 31. YULE LOG |
| 11. WREATHE | TREE | |
| 12. MANGER | 24. SNOWFLAKES | |
| 13. HOLIDAY | 25. YULETIDE | |



Tournament results

Queenstown

16-17 October 2021

15 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1 Karen Gray	DUN	11	537	413
2 Lois Binnie	CHC	9	217	407
3 Anne Goldstein	CHC	5	-217	397
4 Lynn Wood	IND	5	-537	369

B Grade

1 Yvette Hewlett	IND	11	839	410
2 Betty Eriksen	WAN	9	115	377
3 Carolyn Kyle	IND	9	102	378
4 Shirley Hol	CHC	6	-132	380
5 Ruth Groffman	DUN	6	-324	348
6 Joanna Fox	CHC	4	-600	352

C Grade

1 Marian Ross	DUN	12	722	394
2 Michael Hyndman	DUN	8	152	386
3 Hanna Dodge	CHC	8	52	381
4 Chris Handley	DUN	6	-262	365
5 Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	6	-574	354
6 Malcolm Graham	CHC	5	-90	352

D Grade

1 Steve Wood	DUN	10	311	359
2 Tara Hurley	DUN	9	668	374
3 Sharon Teasdale	DUN	9	163	354
4 Sue Hensley	DUN	8	233	348
5 Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	7	-117	342
6 Cindy Hurley	DUN	2	-1258	293

Dunedin

13-14 November 2021

15 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1 Lois Binnie	CHC	10	846	421
2 Murray Rogers	NEL	9.5	149	383
3 Lynn Wood	IND	8.5	105	383
4 Karen Gray	DUN	8	153	399
5 Peter Johnstone	CHC	6	-403	375
6 Anne Goldstein	CHC	3	-850	367

B Grade

1 Helen Sillis	IND	10	712	390
2 Shirley Hol	CHC	9	303	387
3 Ruth Groffman	DUN	7.5	161	377
4 Jean O'Brien	IND	7	214	395
5 Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	-574	354
6 Carolyn Kyle	IND	5.5	-816	347

C Grade

1 Joanna Fox	CHC	10	547	374
2 Marian Ross	DUN	8	-30	374
3 Gabrielle Bolt	CHC	7	147	360
4 Chris Handley	DUN	7	-19	358
5 Grant Paulin	DUN	7	-323	360
6 Michael Hyndman	DUN	6	-322	362

D Grade

1 Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	11	631	390
2 Sue Hensley	DUN	10	362	365
3 Hanna Dodge	CHC	9	473	381
4 Tara Hurley	IND	9	210	375
5 Steve Wood	DUN	8	-351	346
6 Malcolm Graham	CHC	6	39	361
7 Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	4	-537	337
8 Sharon Teasdale	DUN	3	-827	338

Connect Three (4)

What do the words
ACER, DEMO and
ZEBU have in
common?



(You will have caught on by now! The meanings of the newly formed words are: bitter and sour, short for demobilisation, and an insect in Ethiopia.)

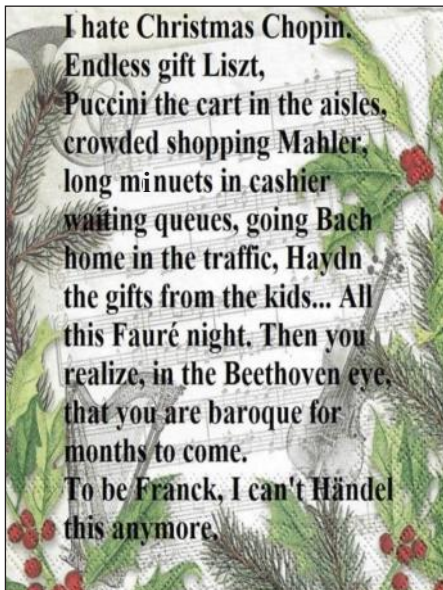
Whangarei**14 November 2021**

7 games

	Name	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1	Jason Simpson	6	521	447
2	Margie Hurly	5	149	415
3	Cicely Bruce	4	0	408
4	Allie Quinn	2	-182	402
5	Jenny Litchfield	2	-183	382
6	Bev Edwards	2	-305	370

B Grade

1	Suzanne Liddall	7	1291	461
2	Suzanne Harding	6	441	390
3	Margaret Toso	4	-67	326
4	Anne Scatchard	4	-93	308
5	Margaret Peters	3	-296	314
6	Graeme Quinn	2	-135	322
7	Lynn Thompson	2	-419	304
8	Louise Hosking	0	-722	256

**The whole truth***Submitted by Jennifer Smith***Registrar of the court (to the witness):**

Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Witness (a keen Scrabble player):

I will tell all the **TRUTHS**.

Nothing I say will be **TRUTHLESS**.

TRUTHFULLY, I'm a **TRUTHFUL** person.

I know the court is a **TRUTHLIKE** environment – not a **POSTTRUTH** environment, where facts are viewed as irrelevant, or less important than personal beliefs and opinions and emotional appeals are used to influence public opinion.

All my evidence will be **TRUTHY**; nobody is **TRUTHIER** than me – I'll be the **TRUTHIEST** witness ever.

I'm not a **TRUTHER** who doubts the generally accepted account of an event and believes that official conspiracies conceal the true explanation, so my **TRUTHINESS** can be trusted.

I swear I will not tell a **MISTRUTH**, a **NONTRUTH** or an **UNTRUTH**, **because TRUTH** is all-important to me, Your Honour.

Judge:

Thank you . . .but a simple "I do" would have been enough.



Rankings as at 1 December 2021

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Alastair Richards (GM)	2372	443.5	556	80%	37	Margie Hurly	1578	452	916	49%
2	Howard Warner (GM)	2342	2487.5	3301	75%	38	Jason Simpson	1564	88	162	54%
3	Dylan Early (GM)	2185	230	343	67%	39	John Baird	1562	384	711	54%
4	Patrick Carter (GM)	2152	944.5	1476	64%	40	Glenyss Buchanan	1554	765	1659	46%
5	Blue Thorogood (GM)	2134	816	1158	70%	41	Shirley Martin	1540	1176.5	2363	50%
6	Joanne Craig (GM)	2133	463.5	709	65%	42	Anna Brouwer	1539	906.5	1842	49%
7	Jeff Grant (GM)	2092	1859.5	2503	74%	43	Rosalind Phillips	1527	705.5	1380	51%
8	Lyres Freeth (GM)	2091	741.5	1132	66%	44	Delcie Macbeth	1521	1149.5	2234	51%
9	Peter Sinton (GM)	2031	838.5	1194	70%	45	David Gunn	1510	1562	3175	49%
10	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	1937	75.5	132	57%	46	Jeanette Grimmer	1502	373	756	49%
11	Anderina McLean (GM)	1933	1005	1876	54%	47	Pam Barlow	1498	935	1860	50%
12	Lawson Sue (GM)	1926	1280	2367	54%	48	Helen Sillis	1491	925	1888	49%
13	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1910	1049	1981	53%	49	Roger Coates	1476	969.5	2041	48%
14	Karen Richards (E)	1908	121	209	58%	50	Stan Gregec	1472	217	406	53%
15	Gil Quiballo	1906	74.5	121	62%	51	Yvette Hewlett	1453	557.5	1155	48%
16	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1898	929.5	1707	54%	52	Paul Freeman	1434	126.5	227	56%
17	Nick Ascroft (E)	1888	298.5	544	55%	53	Anne Goldstein	1432	314	630	50%
18	Steven Brown (GM)	1869	995	1857	54%	54	Lorraine Van Veen	1402	1112.5	2262	49%
19	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1849	1591	3082	52%	55	Bev Edwards	1397	368	709	52%
20	Paul Richards	1847	57	98	58%	56	Yoon Kim Fong	1393	793	1552	51%
21	John Foster (GM)	1839	1811.5	3232	56%	57	Mary Gray	1391	862	1737	50%
22	Scott Chaput (E)	1836	360	637	57%	58	Clare Wall	1391	402	793	51%
23	Glennis Hale (GM)	1805	1753.5	3208	55%	59	Mary Curtis	1379	536.5	1035	52%
24	Herb Ramsay	1779	284	474	60%	60	Su Walker	1373	1353.5	2657	51%
25	Murray Rogers (E)	1761	1206.5	2297	53%	61	Jenny Litchfield	1368	234.5	422	56%
26	Lois Binnie	1716	202.5	405	50%	62	Chris Higgins	1368	158.5	287	55%
27	Olivia En (E)	1714	1005	1940	52%	63	Nola Borrell	1367	650	1232	53%
28	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1706	968	2078	47%	64	Bernie Jardine	1359	327	609	54%
29	Jennifer Smith	1665	1387.5	2892	48%	65	Jean O'Brien	1357	1586.5	3139	51%
30	Paul Lister (E)	1659	929	1698	55%	66	Shirley Hol	1357	867.5	1836	47%
31	Val Mills (E)	1659	1647	3388	49%	67	Jena Yousif	1353	673	1343	50%
32	Jane Walton	1642	272	548	50%	68	Carolyn Kyle	1346	1226.5	2485	49%
33	Karen Gray	1622	350.5	664	53%	69	Ruth Groffman	1344	794.5	1601	50%
34	Peter Johnstone	1602	326.5	625	52%	70	Lynn Carter	1343	916.5	1773	52%
35	Lynn Wood	1595	2431	5079	48%	71	Betty Eriksen	1332	1955	3865	51%
36	Vicky Robertson	1586	465	974	48%	72	Barney Bonthron	1328	155.5	275	57%

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
73 Chris Bell	1328	63	126	50%	111 Cathy Casey	835	69	136	51%
74 Leila Thomson	1322	657.5	1422	46%	112 Rosemary Wauters	835	196	409	48%
75 Selena Chan	1303	412.5	830	50%	113 Michael Groffman	812	311	634	49%
76 Karen Miller	1257	727	1418	51%	114 Antonia Aarts	812	407	876	46%
77 Dianne Cole-Baker	1246	750	1477	51%	115 Tara Hurley	810	103	192	54%
78 Merelyn Fuemana	1238	234	438	53%	116 Ruth Godwin	800	612.5	1295	47%
79 Suzanne Liddall	1229	183	326	56%	117 Jacqueline				
80 Joanne Morley	1221	213	408	52%	Coldham-Fussell	781	837.5	1698	49%
81 Heather Landon	1209	791	1580	50%	118 Malcolm Graham	751	794.5	1608	49%
82 Lyn Toka	1209	680.5	1317	52%	119 Sue Hensley	751	30	60	50%
83 Joanna Fox	1191	265.5	522	51%	120 Megg Hewlett	736	29	50	58%
84 Karl Scherer	1180	182	364	50%	121 Joan Beale	708	415.5	811	51%
85 Faye Cronhelm	1170	987	1982	50%	122 Steve Wood	702	24	45	53%
86 Marian Ross	1147	720.5	1406	51%	123 Anne Scatchard	685	714	1404	51%
87 Megan Scherer	1135	55	84	65%	124 Tim Henneveld	681	580.5	1269	46%
88 Gabrielle Bolt	1125	610.5	1207	51%	125 Dorothy Bakel	654	130	288	45%
89 Colleen Cook	1100	486	997	49%	126 Rodney Jardine	627	264	553	48%
90 Roger Cole-Baker	1090	792.5	1571	50%	127 Margaret Penniket	624	86	186	46%
91 Sharron Nelley	1081	160.5	302	53%	128 Margaret Toso	612	193	434	44%
92 Grant Paulin	1074	83.5	170	49%	129 Sharon Teasdale	564	63	127	50%
93 Alison Holmes	1057	263.5	473	56%	130 Jillian Greening	544	495	1018	49%
94 Joy Jones	1052	33.5	55	61%	131 Margaret Peters	539	91	257	35%
95 Patricia Bennett	1051	30	64	47%	132 Anne-Louise Milne	538	215	596	36%
96 Carole Coates	1037	825.5	1700	49%	133 Janny Henneveld	520	605.5	1252	48%
97 Glenda Geard	1036	1310.5	2646	50%	134 Frances Higham	517	354.5	920	39%
98 Julia Schiller	1021	413	891	46%	135 Dael Shaw	508	51	94	54%
99 Chris Handley	1006	464.5	917	51%	136 Judy Cronin	507	253.5	599	42%
100 Michael Hyndman	993	217.5	409	53%	137 Pam Fulton	504	43	90	48%
101 Junior Gesmundo	991	377.5	766	49%	138 Annette Coombes	457	983	2143	46%
102 Sheila Reed	989	386	807	48%	139 Jackie Reid	454	162.5	364	45%
103 Jill Paterson	985	125	231	54%	140 Faye Leach	402	187	455	41%
104 Suzanne Harding	952	759	1510	50%	141 Noelene Bettjeman	346	391.5	854	46%
105 Judy Driscoll	930	372.5	919	41%	142 Lynn Thompson	301	386	913	42%
106 Marilyn Sinclair	909	238.5	481	50%	143 Karen Stewart	282	54.5	179	30%
107 Shalisha Kunaratnam	907	26	53	49%	144 Cheryl Parsons	158	11.5	74	16%
108 Tony Charlton	904	437	921	47%	145 Susan Schiller	6	100	534	19%
109 Llane Hadden	894	83.5	181	46%					
110 Hanna Dodge	886	268.5	508	53%					

Club	Club Contact	Phone Number	Email	Meeting Day & Time
Christchurch (CHC)	John Baird	03 332 5996	john@jrbssoftware.com	12.30 pm Wed 6.45pm Thurs
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	chris@redheron.com	7pm Tues
Kapiti (KAP)	<i>In Recess</i>	-	-	-
Kiwi Scrabblers (KIW)	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	027 304 8061	jjcoldham-fussell@hotmail.co.nz	1pm/7pm Alternate Thurs
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04 569 5433	glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz	7.30pm Tues
Masterton (MAS)	Sue McRae	027 4490 601	sue.mcrae.nz@gmail.com	1pm Wed
Mt. Albert (MTA)	Liz Fagerlund	027 627 6089	scrabbliz@inspire.net.nz	7pm Mon
Nelson (NEL)	Tony Charlton	03 545 1159	tonycharlton44@gmail.com	7pm Wed
Papatoetoe (PAP)	Frances Higham	09 278 4595	jambo@actrix.co.nz	1pm Mon
Rodney (ROD)	Vivienne Mickelson	09 902 9207	vivienne.moss20@gmail.com	12.45pm Mon
Rotorua (ROT)	Ruth Godwin	07 349 6954	ruthmgodwin@gmail.com	9am Thurs
Tauranga (TGA)	Barbara Dunn	07 544 8372	dunn.barbara44@gmail.com	9am Tues
Waitara (WTA)	Ngairé Kemp	06 754 4017	ngairelyndac@slingshot.co.nz	1pm Wed
Whanganui (WAN)	Lynne Butler	027 428 5758	scrabblylne@gmail.com	1pm Mon
Scrabble Wellington (WEL)	Nick Ascroft	-	nick_ascroft@hotmail.com	7pm Wed
Whangarei (WRE)	Jenny Litchfield	022 106 3857	jen.e.litchfield@gmail.com	1pm Thurs

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