



New Zealand Champs

Also in this issue:

Word Famous in New Zealand:
Joanne Craig

NZ National Championships

Palindromes Deified

Ask Liz

In the News

Only Diminutives - part 2

Puzzle Pozy

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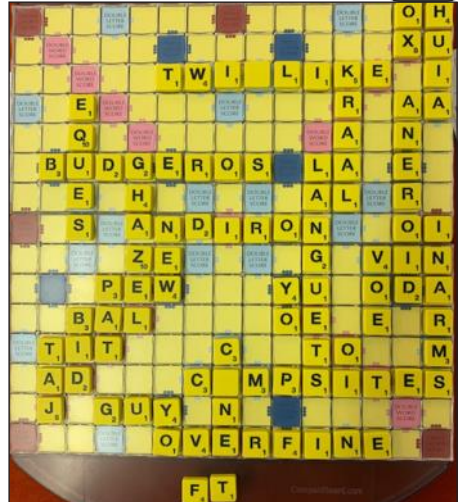
Editorial

So much has happened since the last edition of Forwards that I hardly know where to start this editorial – the Masters, the Nationals, club tournaments, the International English Lexicon (IEL), WordGamers International (WGI)...

I was lucky to be able to play in the Masters this year, which was well run by Nick Ascroft and team Wellington, and held in the Karori Bridge Club. It's great, although terrifying, to play the top players in the country and this is the only tournament that gives me this opportunity.

As we know anything can happen! I started with a nail-biting two point win against Herb Ramsay. Stanley Ngundi was next. He started with DETAINS, I came back with CREMATED, he played AGATISED, I played CLEARING, he played HYE and I played DIALYSED, but even with this hat-trick I couldn't hold on for the win and he beat me 505-442. My best game was against Howard Warner with five bonuses – LA(N)GUETS, CaMP(S)ITE, ANEROID, TWIgLIKE, and OV(E)RFINE. Talk about the luck going my way! Howard got 2 bonuses, including BUDGEROS which I've never seen.

Unfortunately, I wasn't so lucky against Jeff, Blue, Gill, Dylan, Jennifer, John and David who all thrashed me. I managed to finish in the middle of the field.



Val vs. Howard at the 2022 Masters

Big congratulations to the winner Jeff Grant. Great to hear your interview on RNZ and read the newspaper coverage of your win.

The Nationals were held in Christchurch. It was my first time playing the 22 game/double round robin format. I do like getting a second chance against someone that has beaten me in the first round. It was a well run tournament with results being posted online after each game. Thanks to John Baird for this innovation which was greatly appreciated by those not able to attend, and also by those attending. It was a good tourney for me and I managed to gain enough rating points to squeeze into the 1800s. Some of the bonuses I was pleased to find were DEONTIC, MADRONES, PERIGONE, PINTADA, CIGARET,

PLATEMEN, SEVICHE, and DIOXANES.

Congratulations to Joanne Craig on a well deserved, closely contested win. (See Joanne's article on her Nationals, page 12).

There's lots more Scrabble coming up both in New Zealand and Australia. It would be great to see a good contingent of us at the Seniors tournament in Sydney in November.

I have started to make a note of words with crazy definitions. Please send me any that you find, for the magazine.

My latest interesting word find, that I can't believe I didn't know, is GEALOUS – alternative spelling of JEALOUS.

Big congratulations to the latest addition to our scrabble family – ARIEL REBECCA RICHARDS was born on 30 April 2022. Well done Lyres and Alastair.

I'm sorry this magazine will be late coming out. I've been procrastinating as usual. No excuses. Happy reading and thanks for all your contributions.

Val Mills

T, A, G, H, A, I, R, M,

(Gaelic) inspiration sought by lying in a bullock's hide behind a waterfall (n-s)

P, R, E, N, Z, I, E,

(Shakespeare) a word of unknown meaning, possibly a misprint for princely (adj)

*Words with crazy definitions
(Definitions are taken from Zyzzyva)*



Baby Ariel

Words from the President

by *Howard Warner, Scrabble Wellington*

Wordgamers of the world unite

The biggest thing in my Scrabble world lately has been WordGamers International (WGI), an alternative to WESPA.

NSW Scrabble president Bob Jackman and I began planning it earlier this year after WESPA declined to rate the New Zealand Masters. But the need for an alternative players' organisation had become apparent much earlier, when WESPA made it clear they would no longer support Scrabble associations unless they bowed to Mattel's hugely unpopular expurgation diktat.

The main aims of WGI are to:

- keep rating tournaments outside of WESPA's CSW22-only remit
- control decisions about our word source, which we're calling the International English Lexicon (IEL)
- manage the game for ourselves (our motto is "By players, for players").

Our focus is competitive international Scrabble. We'll be rating genuine international tournaments as well as national championships. The first event under the new rating system is the NZ National Champs – you'll already have seen the update. Nice for little old NZ to be able to lead the

world on this. Other events in the pipeline are from Hong Kong, South Africa, Israel and Japan. And we anticipate many more joining the fold.



Howard Warner

WGI has an active 'steering committee' including two Kiwis: myself and Olivia as secretary (and inhouse legal advisor, if needed). The other members are Bob, Evan Cohen (head of Israel Scrabble), Martin Rose (president Tasmania Scrabble) and Graeme Lock Lee (NSW), who's also our webmaster.

Our 'words group' includes New Zealander Nick Ascroft (publishing expert), Englishman Darryl Francis (the former head of WESPA's and ABSP's dictionary committees) and Cohen (a linguistics lecturer). Though IEL will be initially a continuation of CSW19, the words group will be looking into ways to expand – not restrict – our word store.

We are also grateful to Vicky Robertson for her wonderful logo design.

Note the terminology we're using, the absence of words such as 'Scrabble', 'Collins', 'CSW', 'dictionary', 'world' etc. This is to differentiate ourselves from WESPA but also to steer clear of

anything remotely litigable. Besides, we all know what game we're playing!

The coinage 'WordGamers' hints at a modern, techno-driven approach. It also means we can join forces with other word-based games if the opportunities arise. I see this as a bit like the World Athletics Champs, which offers many events and yields many champions.

Comparable 'world champs' in Scrabble produce only one champ.

On membership, we plan to represent Scrabble 'associations' rather than countries. This is especially relevant to Australia, which is run through seven state associations – six of which are anti-expurgation. But it may also provide opportunities for countries such as the UK which are divided by the expurgation issue. We may also be open to individuals.

By the time you're reading this we should have a website in place. Things are moving fast now. I'll keep you updated on progress.

NZASP Executive Moves

I should mention the changes in NZASP's executive. Cathy Casey comes in as vice-president, replacing Cicely Bruce. Cathy is a high-profile Auckland city councillor of 27 years' standing, about to retire. So, she brings valuable governance experience to the NZASP role. She's also a dab hand with a camera and



*Cathy Casey, new
NZASP vice-president,
at the Nationals*

knows her way round social and conventional media. Cicely has moved into the treasurer role vacated by Scott Chaput. A big thanks to Scott for his excellent financial work over the past three years. Liz Fagerlund, Suzanne Liddall and I continue as secretary, webmaster and president respectively.

Results Innovation

John Baird of Christchurch trialled an intriguing innovation at the Nationals. It involved making round-by-round results available online, for the benefit of players at the event, their friends and family, and interested players who couldn't attend. It was in an easy-to-read format. From what I heard, it was very well received. This may yet become the norm for New Zealand Scrabble.



*Verbose T-Shirt
Submitted by Dylan Early, Wellington*

Word Famous in New Zealand



By Joanne Craig, Independent



Joanne Craig winning the NZ Nationals in Christchurch, 2017

Note the same outfit worn on last day of this year's Champs for luck!

I was born in 1959 to farming folk who lived in Springbrook, a small community 15 km south of Timaru between Pareora and St Andrews.

I attended Springbrook School the day before my fifth birthday as my maternal grandmother's funeral fell on the same day. My Dad, Ian Craig, and aunty Audrey's names were inscribed on the Roll of Honour hanging on the classroom wall, both as Dux of School, so I had a reputation to live up to. Although it wasn't difficult with such small class numbers - there were only three of us in my year!

Maths and spelling were my favourite subjects and I took my maths classes

with the year ahead from the time I entered the senior classroom. I helped our teacher mark spelling tests. He was busy teaching classes from Standard one through to Form two. There was a separate prefab classroom (and teacher) for the junior classes.

I attended Timaru Girls High School, biking a couple of kilometres to catch the school bus into town every day. The green bike shed stood at the corner of Pareora River Road and the main road for many years with a row of bikes in it. It's hard to imagine these days that they wouldn't get nicked. I took Latin and French from the third form and added German in the seventh and won the German and maths prize. I was a prefect and Head of House (Rata) in the Seventh Form. I played netball for the Pareora Netball Club and was goal keep as I was tall for my age.

Neither of my parents attended high school let alone university. My Dad went to work at the Pareora Freezing Works from age 15 until he retired at age 60 to make way for younger people seeking jobs. My Mum (nee Seyb) stayed working on the family farm in Claremont with her elder (only) brother after their father died aged 48 in a farming accident, while her sisters left to pursue jobs and marriage. My parents bought a farm in Springbrook



A young Joanne on her horse, Rata

when they married and farmed there until they retired into town (Timaru) in 1989. They worked hard and instilled a strong work ethic in their children.

I had many chores on the farm, particularly after my two elder brothers left home. However, I was lucky to have a horse, named Rata, and attend the Lyalldale Pony Club.

I took piano lessons and passed the theory up to Grade 5 with flying colours but struggled on the practical side as I am tone deaf.

My paternal granny taught me to play Scrabble in my early teens but I was frustrated by her helping me and didn't pursue it until years later - in 1993.

My interest in words flourished in my teens and I asked Mum for a dictionary for my 15th birthday - I still have that Chambers. The Readers Digest "Word Power" quizzes helped improve my vocabulary.

I attended the University of Canterbury from 1978-1981 and

graduated with a BSc (Hons) majoring in Mathematics. My Dad was beginning to wonder if I would ever get a job, but I was lucky as I had several offers as an actuarial trainee in Wellington. I accepted National Mutual's offer and worked for them full time while studying to become an actuary. I transferred with National Mutual to the Sydney Office in 1989 and became an FIAA (Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia) in 1990. I had a fulfilling career in Corporate Superannuation but retired early to pursue other interests.

I was a keen trumper when I lived in Wellington and had many hikes in the Tararuas, and a family hike on the Milford Track with my Mum in 1986. I developed an interest in birdwatching after a trip to the Okavango Delta, Botswana, in 1988. When I moved to Australia I was able to combine bushwalking with birdwatching and was a member of a bird club for many years (until Scrabble took over). I have done quite a few wildlife tours in recent years in conjunction with my Scrabble trips to the US, Africa and



My photo of a sunbird in Nairobi National Park prior to World Champs in Nairobi 2017

India. I have seen toucans in Costa Rica, crowned cranes in Africa and Bengal tigers in India.

I joined the Chatswood Scrabble Club in 1993 and began my Scrabble journey. Bob Jackman was my mentor, and Rod Talbot joined the club at around the same time. I have played around 5500 rated games in Oz but less than 1000 in NZ. I only started competing in tournaments here when my Mum became ill with cancer and I was spending a lot of time caring for her. She was very proud of my achievements, and when I first qualified to represent NZ at the World Champs in Mumbai in 2007 she insisted I attend even though she was very ill. I returned to Christchurch afterwards and she died in January 2008, after which time I returned to Sydney but continued to compete in tournaments in both Australia and NZ.



*World Champs Warsaw 2011
L-R: Joanne, Blue Thorogood,
Howard Warner, Lynne Butler*



*North American Scrabble Championship
2015 in Reno where I defeated Austin Shin in
'best of five games' in the Collins section
Quarter-Finals*

I won my first NZ Championship in 2009, then again in 2017, and was delighted to win for a third time this year in a very close finish with Dylan Early runner-up.

I have only played the NZ Masters once as it clashes with the Australian National Scrabble Championship held at Easter. My best result at the Aussie Nationals is second to Andrew Fisher in Perth in 2009, but I won the Australian Masters (top 20 players) in 2016 and the City of Sydney International Masters in 2010—winning \$A1000 in both instances. I won the NSW Championship in 2012, 2015 and 2019.

I participated in my first Trans-Tasman Challenge in 2002, playing for Australia. In 2004 I narrowly missed out on selection - I was first reserve for both countries! But I played for NZ from 2006 onwards. In 2010 I was the Trans-Tasman Champion on 18/24 wins in

Christchurch and I was the top performing NZ player in 2012 (Melbourne) and 2014 (Wellington).

I have had the honour of representing NZ at World Championships from Mumbai in 2007 to Goa in 2019 with my best results being 34th in 2011 (Warsaw) and 38th in 2017 (Nairobi). I have also represented NZ in the teams event the Causeway Challenge (later Alchemist Cup) run by Michael Tang in Malaysia.

I won the World Seniors in Christchurch in 2017 and was runner up to Esther Perrins in Southport in 2019. I'm looking forward to competing in the next one to be held in Sydney later this year on the 1st to 3rd of November.

I love to travel and have also participated in tournaments in many other countries including England,



Joanne with Nigel Richards at the MSI Scrabble Champions Tournament in London, 2014. Sadly they were wearing pink in honour of the late Mikki Nicholson - former UK Champion.

France (Bordeaux), Malta, Singapore, Thailand and the United States, having played 350 rated games in the US.

I have made many friends through Scrabble and hope to be able to continue playing for many more years to come.

NZ Masters 2022

A selection of photos from the 2022 Masters.



Nick Ascroft with winner Jeff Grant, and first runner up, Dylan Early

Left: Players at the 38th NZ Masters



*Standing, back row L-R:
Jeff Grant, Lawson Sue,
Nick Ascroft*

*Standing, middle rows L-R:
Andrew Bradley, Cicely
Bruce, Val Mills, John
Foster, Olivia En, Jane
Watson, David Gunn,
Anderina McLean, Jennifer
Smith, Lois Binnie, Blue
Thorogood, Vicky Robertson,
Herb Ramsay, Glennis Hale,
Howard Warner, Dylan
Early, Stanley Ngundi*

*Seated L-R: Margie Hurly,
Lynn Wood,
Glenyss Buchanan*



Top 8 place-getters

- 1. Jeff Grant*
- 2. Dylan Early*
- 3. Howard Warner*
- 4. Nick Ascroft – giving his
prize to himself!*
- 5. Gill Quiballo*
- 6. Blue Thorogood*
- 7. Andrerina McLean*
- 8. Stanley Ngundi*

NZ National Championships

My Nationals

By Joanne Craig, Independent

I felt it was going to be a good Nationals when I scored 557 (to 298) and 558 (to 386) in my first two games. I drew both blanks towards the end of the first game and searched for a word through IN to make a nine but it turns out there was only one, M(IN)iTOWER (86), which I didn't know. I played sTORMED for 63 instead. I gained an extra five points each for the challenges of BILEVEL and PLUTOED.

I lost to Scott Chaput by 10 points (464-474), and to Howard Warner (399-494), to end the first day on 6/8 wins. Gil Quiballo was leading the field as he had only lost one game - to me.

On the second day I scored my highest game of the tourney 564-331 in my first game against Paul Richards with five bingos: TRAML(I)NE, CATIONS, RIOTIZe, ROMAN(C)ED and LATENTS. The first three were consecutive. An analysis of my game on Quackle showed that I missed the bingo, WA(T)CHMEN (86), on my fourth move when I played CH(E)W (48), but I played ROMAN(C)ED on my fifth.

Karen Richards took her revenge on me in the following game and I suffered my largest loss 309-461

without so much as a bingo - however I didn't miss any and had low equity loss.

Despite this loss I took the lead at lunchtime when I beat Gil for a second time in game 12 at the start of the second half of the tourney. But I promptly lost the lead after Peter Sinton played an impressive iN(T)R(I)GUED (149) against me after my poor attempt to block two bingo lines in one move failed, and I lost 438-510. I challenged his opening MUNCHER and used a blank for jEUX (76). I also lost to Liz who played three bingos to my BIFOLDS and COINA(B)LE (I exchanged twice) and to Dylan Early who also played three bingos to my lone VaNIT(I)ES (90).

In game 16 Andrew Bradley and I made three bingos apiece, but I prevailed 477-422 with BEVOMIT, eliciting a challenge.

I ended day two with only 4/9 wins after I lost my last game to Scott by an agonising eight points with 475-483. We each drew a blank and I played FURcULA (74) with mine and he played a nice YAWIEST (95). Unfortunately I drew the J and X in endgame and was unable to play them both off. At this stage Scott was leading the field by two games but I was coming second with a large margin despite my losses.

When Cicely Bruce beat me 489-399 in the first game on day three I thought my chances of winning were practically over. However Scott had a run of bad luck and mine improved. By the penultimate game there were four of us on 11 wins, Dylan, Cicely, Scott and I, but Cicely and Scott lost and Dylan and I both won. This meant Dylan and I were leading going into the last round on 13 wins apiece, but I had a superior margin. In the final round Dylan beat Howard and I beat Blue Thorogood (with an opening BESPOKE) to claim the title. Dylan was runner-up and Cicely a creditable third.

My sister Angela, from Wellington, happened to be in Christchurch at the time and came to the presentation which was nice.

It was great to see females winning all 5 grades with Val Mills winning B Grade, Selena Chan C Grade, Lyn Toka D Grade, and Mandy Thorogood E Grade.

The highest game for A grade (and overall) was 592 by Gil in round 19 against Liz Fagerlund, and Liz was also the victim for Cicely's high word word INCUR(V)ED for 190 in the final round.

For those interested in stats, I drew 24/44 blanks, 49/88 esses and 46/88 of the 'heavy' tiles (J, Q, X and Z). I averaged 461 (to my opponents' 412) and played 48 bingos (to my opponents' 40), however Dylan and

I₁ N₃ C₃ U₁ R₄ V₄ E₁ D₂

The high word of the Nationals, scoring Cicely Bruce 190 points in the final round!

Cicely topped the bingo list with 49 apiece.

My thanks to the organisers for a well run tourney and pleasant venue, and to John Baird for the excellent website enabling family and friends to follow our progress.

Welcome Back!

By Howard Warner, Wellington

A surprise entry in the National Champs in Christchurch: one Geoff Vautier of Hawkes Bay, formerly of Wellington. The name may sound familiar – he reviewed the NZASP's annual accounts for a couple of decades until quite recently. He was also a player but dropped out some 15 years ago to concentrate on business and family. This was his first appearance in a tournament since then.

He told me what brought him back to the fold. "When the association gave me a book voucher for my years of service, I had just begun playing online. I spent some of it on a new Scrabble dictionary. That made me realise what I'd been missing. So here I am back again at the Scrabble table."

Geoff scored 7.5 wins in the D grade.

Nationals Prize Winners



A Grade
Joanne Craig,
Championship winner,
Dylan Early - 2nd,
Cicely Bruce - 3rd



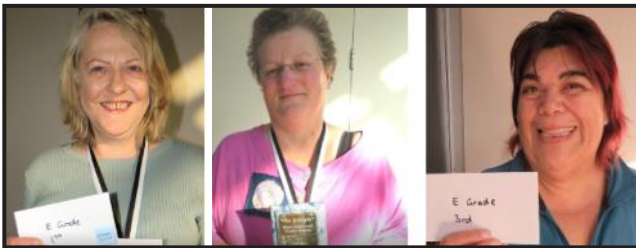
B Grade
Val Mills, *B grade winner,*
Lorraine Van Veen - 2nd,
Herb Ramsay - 3rd



C Grade
Selena Chan, *C grade winner,*
Jean O'Brien - 2nd (no photo)
Clare Wall - 3rd



D Grade
Lyn Toka,
D grade winner,
Heather Landon - 2nd
Joanna Fox - 3rd



E Grade
Mandy Thorogood,
D grade winner,
Megg Hewlett - 2nd
Hanna Dodge - 3rd

Two Letter Word Poems

by Lyn Toka, Kiwi Scrabblers

ZO, ZA, ZE

A zo's a hybrid animal,
Part cow and part a yak.
It is a handy little word
That takes an "a" both front and back.

A za's a pizza: a pie with cheese.
Ze is a pronoun for hes and shes.
Zo and za both take an "s",
But ze does not; it's *plural-less.

JO & JA

Jo is a sweetheart,
Ja is yes.
Neither of them
takes an "s".



ED: more two-letter word poems welcome.

Hall of Fame

Petrel

My name is Peter, St. Peter, Jesus Christ's beloved disciple.

I have given my name to small dark white-rumped seabirds that, when flying, appear to be patting the water alternately with each foot, as though they were walking on it. This flying technique is particularly noticeable during a stormy period – the birds fly so close to the water with their feet hanging down that it would take a sharp eye to see they are not walking.

To ancient seamen, this reminded them of me, St. Peter, because I was

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

believed to have walked on the waters of the Lake of Gennesareth. So, because they are also often seen during stormy weather, the birds became known as stormy PETRELS.



PETREL

Credit: Brian Sullivan

Some people also believe that these birds are the souls of drowned and shipwrecked sailors come to warn them of the approaching storm. So the term is used figuratively for any person whose coming portends trouble or who is argumentative.

The Tale of the HARMONIC OMNIARCH

Submitted by Dylan Early, Scrabble Wellington

The final episode of this tale, featuring pairs of eight-letter words.



They all agreed on one thing – that they were REPULSED by the PRELUDES of CHATTIER and THEATRIC warmup LITANIES recited by an ALIENIST [+LATINISE], who had given his CHATCHKE to a HATCHECK SUBCLERK, put on his BUCKLERS and BACKREST BRACKETS in the pulpit and enshrouded himself in SAMPHIRE and SERAPHIM. This man, the SPACIEST ESCAPIST [+ASEPTICS] ever, had been UNMITRED in a RUDIMENT way – the proclamation of the archbishop had stated: “To anyone who SOLICITS this SCIOLIST: We must be an ENFORCER of this CONFRERE [+RECONFER +RENFORCE], who demands reimbursement for even the CREPIEST of his RECEIPTS. There



**OVERCOAT
(EVOCATOR)**

is no UNSONSIE NONISSUE to SIDESTEP here – each us DESPITES him for his claim to be the leader of the CRUSADED ADDUCERS. Surely this EVOCATOR in an OVERCOAT

REALIZES all his talks are SLEAZIER; he BELABORS a

SORBABLE subject (this leads to ASSAYING GAINSAYS of ETATISMS he cannot help but MISSTATE [+MASTIEST]), and he CLIMAXES and EXCLAIMS to all within EARSHOTS in the HOARSEST [+ASTHORES +HAROSETS] manner ever witnessed by this office.” Nevertheless, no THRENODE could DETHRONE him; he held his own GLIBNESS a BLESSING and even his TECHIEST mannerisms as ESTHETIC. Quoting an AMBIVERT VERBATIM, and using no PRETTIER a PRETERIT, our hero began his impassioned speech to the SERMONIC INCOMERS [+CREMOSIN].

“The domination of the RAPPAREE must cease to REAPPEAR [+APPEARER]! The existence of the HASTIEST ATHEISTS [+STAITHES] and other SHARPIES in the PARISHES DEPLETES the STEEPLD buildings, RARIFIES the FRIARIES and PREDICTS the burning of SCRIPTED books. The CURTNESS ENCRUSTS in their faces, which are OUTDRAWN and UNTOWARD – I have seen them wear their TALEYSIM STEAMILY [+LAYTIMES] and their PEPLOSES in

a most POPELESS manner, as well as using THIONYLS TONISHLY and their SULFINYL SINFULLY. COARSELY our CALOYERS complained in LONESOME voices, and have begun to imbibe OENOMELS. They are no longer EXPOSERS of EXPRESSO, the POLITEST of PLOTTIES [+PISTOLET] – I even saw a few MISTRAIN with MARTINIS and STRUGGLE with GURGLETS, which leaves them with only the bare BONINESS of their BENISONS. And then there's the MONEYBAG BOGEYMAN and the SMARAGDE DAMAGERS [+MEGARADS], who have PROFITED from every PIEDFORT and who always PRESSURE PERUSERS for money, even SMARTING MIGRANTS to get their SLUDGIER GUILDERS and TENESMIC CENTIMES to add to their host of MILLAGES amassed outside of LEGALISM [+MEGILLAS] – these TEARLESS STEALERS [+RESLATES +TESSERAL] have even dared to take the BIOCLEAN COINABLE DRACHMAI from the CHADARIM! Doubtless they will OUTSPEND the UNPOSTED SQUIREEN, who ENQUIRES [+INQUERES], but is never brought up to date on the TANGIEST ESTATING or the EMISSION of SIMONIES [+SIMONISE], which

EMPIRICS always MISPRICE. I intend to DISPROVE that this unwelcome element PROVIDES DEMESNES for any of the SEEDSMEN or TILLAGES for any LEGALIST [+GALLIEST +STILLAGE]. In fact, they have EXPULSED a number of DUPLEXES, with the excuse they had to LEGALISE the GALILEES. And there is no COSINESS in CESSIONS to their VENALITY, which is shown NATIVELY by these SNOOPERS, no matter how much POORNESS [+SPOONERS] can be proved. They have even been stripping unsuspecting WEIRDOES of their DOWERIES and INSUREDS of their SUNDRIES, as well as ENDITING many of the INDIGENT [+TEINDING] – this only further FLUSTERS the TURFLESS and CURELESS RECLUSES who, REFUSING to return GUNFIRES, long ago saw the PASTERNS robbed of their RAPTNESS, causing the current state of EQUINITY INEQUITY.”

Thus his sermon MISBEGUN, and several BEMUSING [+EMBUSING] AUDIENTS SINUATED in and out of the church, while there began the UNIQUEST UNQUIETS ever seen. MENSCHES moved CHESSMEN about and played PINOCHLE with PHENOLIC cards. A CHANCIER CHICANER stopped by



SQUIREEN
(*ENQUIRES, INQUERES*)

to mock the orator, and became an ACHIEVER of CHIVAREE by putting on a BRATTIER BIRRETTA and performing his EUPHORIC, POUCHIER and SNOUTIER ROUTINES [+NITREOUS]. He then showed the ICKINESS of his KINESICS by miming an ALIGHTED GILTHEAD who could OUTSLEEP EELPOUTS [+SLEEPOUT]. SPORTIER PIERROTS, ONCOMING in a GNOMONIC manner, caught on and called TIMEOUTS to act like a TITMOUSE, and like HORNIEST ORNITHES TRAILING a RINGTAIL [+TRIALING] and LASSOING a GLOSSINA. This IMPELLED another to mimic a MILLEPED (the guy that usually BETOKENS a STEENBOK). They copied the WORKLOAD of the WOODLARK, the BROKAGES of the GROSBEAK, the ONERIEST SEROTINE they could manage, FELINITY (FINITELY), and the PAINLESS gallop of SPANIELS



TITMOUSE
(TIMEOUTS)

chasing a LARBOARD LABRADOR. But none of them could OUTDANCE the UNCOATED HUMORIST, who brought THORIUMS and

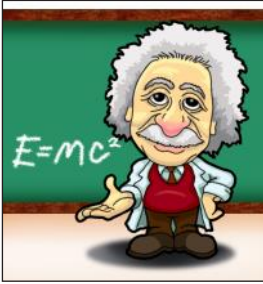
METHANOL from a HOTELMAN on a PALMETTE TEMPLATE. He dramatically POETISED about EPIDOTES, did an APHORISM or two on MORPHIAS and the FELONIES of using OLEFINES, and got CHATTERY and TRACHYTE and the

ESTHESIS of HESSITES, all the while doing clever PARODIES on DIASPORE about the SOLITUDE of using TOLUIDES.



LASSOING
(GLOSSINA)

But this MOTLEYER assortment could not REMOTELY compete with the chaos to follow. TIGERISH RIGHTIES and other SECEDERS RECESSED, called off the PRENAMES of SPEARMEN and RESOUGHT the ROUGHEST, SEEPIEST EPEEISTS – HEATHENS who, while no longer having swords to ENSHEATH, did manage to gather a great STEPDAME STAMPEDE. All this was done to prevent the TRAMLESS LAMSTERS from committing VATICIDE on a CAVITIED [+VICIATED] TEOCALLI LOCALITE, an EDENTATE ATTENDEE (and one of the VEINIEST INVITEES) of the sermon. There was MARGINAL ALARMING as CUFFLESS SCUFFLES ensued, so to BEMADDEN the BEDAMNED, these GRUNTERS were RESTRUNG up by a STORMIER MORTISER at the altar. The FIENDISH task was FINISHED using ASSORTED TORSADES and the SCALIEST ELASTICS [+SALICETS] available. Hoping to DISPLODE his LOPSIDED CARBINES with a mighty BRISANCE, an INFLAMER of a RIFLEMAN took aim.



**EINSTEIN
(NINETIES)**

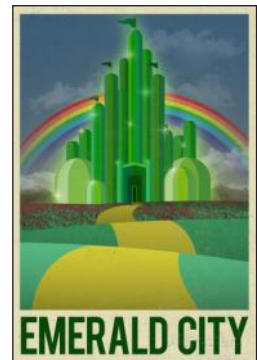
As PLEADERS RELAPSED [+PEDALERS +REPLEADS] and a WELLDOER got ROWELLED in SHIFTING the INFIGHTS, the teeth of the HARMONIC OMNIARCH [+CHOIRMAN] were GNASHING at these HANGINGS – he could allow these HARDCASE CHARADES to go on no longer. Though now only recognized as a NATIVIST VISITANT, he was determined that NONESUCH UNCHOSEN would succeed with so BIOCIDAL and DIABOLIC a plot. Such a BETRAYAL would RATEABLY need a RATIONAL and NOTARIAL action of CANDIDER RIDDANCE in order for him to regain his power. Using a FLATIRON INFLATOR (which had been REDRYING in his GRINDERY), he made TUNGSTIC CUTTINGS with which to hack loose the CHESTIER HERETICS and end this CITATORY ATROCITY, much to the joy and SURPRISE of the silent UPRISERS [+SPURRIES] (who were, at heart, CORDLESS SCOLDERS). The BURRIEST BRUITERS [+BURSTIER] managed to print this story that they had OUTHEARD and then AUTHORED by DECOYING the GYNECOID SPURNERS of the PRESSRUN.

As PLEADERS RELAPSED [+PEDALERS +REPLEADS] and a WELLDOER got ROWELLED in SHIFTING the

Having long felt MALIGNED, the MEDALING which the STUMPIER IMPUTERS [+IMPUREST] soon REMAILED to our hero was quite REMEDIAL, proclaiming him to be the EINSTEIN of the NINETIES. A SHRIEVAL LAVISHER rounded up EXORCIST EXCITORS and several REALTORS to help with the RESTORAL [+RELATORS] of the cathedral, and many a COPARENT raised with PORTANCE could be found saying and RESAYING:

“SYNERGIA is once again abound!”. They could not help but have the MOONIEST EMOTIONS and SALIVATE as the AESTIVAL day arrived – TALLYMEN MENTALLY ALLOTTED and TOTALLED the days! To SUFFLATE the FEASTFUL feeling, an ACTUATOR AUTOCRAT bequeathed a number of DEMERSAL EMERALDS to the HARMONIC OMNIARCH [+CHOIRMAN] as a REQUITAL, as well as adding another whole QUARTILE to his kingdom.

Only the HAPPIEST EPITAPHS [+PEATSHIP] have since been written, and ELEGIACS of these LEGACIES are still sung in every corner of the land.



**EMERALDS
(DEMERSAL)**

Ask Liz

by *Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert*

Timers

After the 2022 National Championships there is an update to rules of play, **rule 3 – Timing**. This update now officially allows for a Smart device to be used as a game timer. I say “officially” as I think there has already been a couple of occasions when they have already been used due to a lack of sufficient clocks.

The new wording is as follows:

3.1. Timers must be used in all official NZASP tournaments.

3.4. Timers in order of preference

3.4.1 Digital timer clocks

3.4.2 Smart device digital timers. The device should be set so that it cannot make distracting sounds or vibrations. Smart devices may only be used if both players agree to its use. All digital timers must continue to show the extra time used once the specified time limit is exceeded and must have a display that is clear and easily read from both sides of the table.

3.4.3 Analogue chess clocks.

Please take note of the rule about the use of **smart device digital timers** – make sure your opponent agrees to the use of one and that they know how to operate it. So that it makes no distracting noises it should be put into

flight mode to ensure no calls, texts or other alerts are coming through while using as a timer.

Make sure your smart device is well charged and will not run out of power part way through the game. Make sure it shows extra time used.

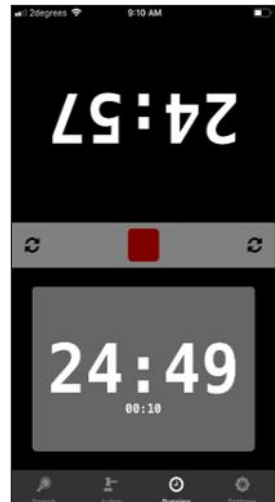
It really is pretty much the same as any digital or analogue clock in that the pressing either side starts the timer on the other side, and there is a central place to pause for challenges, and to reset at the end of the game.

Alongside is a screenshot of the timer on the ULU app. The bottom timer is grey and running. The red button in the middle is to neutralise for a challenge.

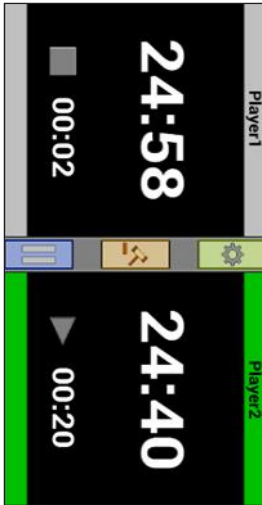
On the LUCK SACK timer, the timer at the bottom is running and shows up in green on the edge. The = sign centre left pauses the timer for a



Liz Fagerlund



ULU timer



LUCK SACK timer

challenge and the green changes colour to yellow when paused (colours can be changed in settings including the font colour but I think white on black is the clearest).

There are possibly other apps other with suitable timers that you may have on your device. I think that if you don't already have ULU downloaded it is unfortunately no longer available.

Milestone Badges

The decision for presenting these to some of our players was made at the online 2020 AGM. Howard Warner announced that the awards would be made at the Nationals each year, to any player attaining 1000, 2000, 3000 etc. tournament games, covering the period from the first tournament after the Nationals to and including the following Nationals.

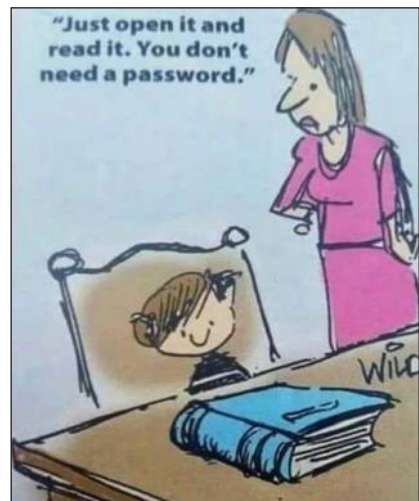
I know some players expressed disappointment with not receiving a badge when they had played over 1000 or 2000 games when we first started these. But as it would have required about 70 badges in total for every player who had played at

least 1000 games, it was decided that the only badges awarded retrospectively would be to those players who had already attained 3000 and 4000 games, plus players who had attained the 1000 and 2000 goal since the previous National Championships.

So far, we have awarded 20 badges - 10 in 2020, five in 2021 and five in 2022.



Gillian Greening receiving her milestone badge at the Whangarei Tournament



Palindromes Deified

by Murray Rogers, Independent

Tattarrattat

Toot, my name is Otto

Hello madam Hannah

I have been going back and forth

Using radar

In my rotor powered racecar

Quicker than a kayak, a kaiak, or a qajaq

Even on a level body of water



Mm, she says, I am baking naan

Ready at noon

My deed for the day and for dad

(and mum, mom, pop, sis, nan, bub, Bob, Ana and Pip)

I ask one anna for the minim one

A halalah for a larger one



Having changed sulus

She takes him for a peep in the garden

I am a reviver and redivider of plants

Nourished by ancient aa flows

Do you eye, or ee, the dewed siris?



I refer you to the marram, which he sees

And my experiments with detartrated soil

Then to the ewe

Good for its oo and its poop

And the denned chicks with many a goog and a boob

She invites him in for a game of lahal

As she is a malam, or mallam

The conversation leads to a particular tenet

I am oppo to seities and the prevalence of seres

Having deked, she discusses her civic duty



Author's stats:

This poem was conceived 02-02-2020

And first presented 12-02-2021

Zzz

Approved by Taco Cat

A Cautionary Tale

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

21 May 2022

I have ***COVID!**

And a little bird (actually, it wasn't a particularly small bird – more like a **CORVID**, or crow) told me that I'm not the only one of the Scrabblers who attended the Mt. Albert



CORVID

tournament in May to be downed by the virus in the following week. My symptoms hit me exactly 24 hours after the last game of the tournament.

Yes, despite our **VOIDance** measures, the virus **CONtrIVeD** to infect those we **CONvIVeD** with or **CONnIVeD** with, including our **CODrIVers**.

At home, I buried myself under the **COVERlid**, only emerging to watch an occasional **VIDeOCam** or **VIDiCON**. Nothing was **CONducIVe** to sleep.

How quickly the evil virus **deVOICeD** me! Once I was **unVOICeD**, the relentless cough began. And my runny nose quickly turned **VisCOID**. My head felt like it was packed with bricks, muscles ached, and my leaden legs felt **VarICOiD**. No medication could have helped: not **OVICiDes**, and (to **DisVOuCh** Donald Trump's claim) certainly not hydroxychloroquine!

As I recover from the worst of it, I have to say I would never have **COncEIVeD** of how completely ***COVID** would knock the stuffing from me -and a doctor at Healthline has **CONvINced** me this weariness could hang around for weeks. The tiniest effort exhausts me. Who'd have thought I'd have to sit down to recover from the effort of mashing a banana, but that's what happened to me this morning.

I sincerely hope that no more Scrabblers will **DisCOVER** these unpleasant things for themselves.

And it's time I **VOICeD** an important confession: I wasn't wearing my mask at the tournament, and many of us weren't. Serves me right for getting complacent. I promise I will not be so stupid at the Nationals.

**WHAT HAS FOUR
LETTERS, OCCASIONALLY
HAS TWELVE LETTERS,
ALWAYS HAS SIX
LETTERS, BUT NEVER
HAS FIVE LETTERS.**

Only Diminutives - part two

By Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

Mojito for the senhorita and tortellini for the czarina!

Last issue let us have a good look at -let as we explored everything from PIGLETS in TOILETS to a two-man bobsleigh (a BOBLET) and a derogatory toddler (SPROGLET). By way of rambling introduction, I mentioned that the Italians and Spanish were near the front of the queue when the lexical gods were parcelling out diminutives. I was referring, of course, to the wealth of Spanish words ending in -ito (29) and -ita (42) as well as Italian words ending in -ino (76) and -ina (123). The more I delved, however, the more I realised that many of these words were neither Latinate nor diminutive.

Most of us are familiar with MOSQUITOS, literally 'little flies'; the small, long-tailed parrot, the PARAQUITO; and perhaps have had a MOJITO or two.

As I mentioned last issue, it is of dubious etymology



MOSQUITO

- possibly 'little sauce', 'a little moistening' (of the lips), or even 'little spell' as in 'he's lost his mojo.' BURRITOS, or stuffed tortilla, translate as 'little donkeys' due to their similarity to the bundles carried by these beasts of burden; a COQUITO (mini coconut) is a Puerto Rican

egg nog; FAROLITOS (little lanterns) are paper lanterns carried by Hispanic people in Christmas processions; and a HORNITO (small oven) is an oven-shaped mound emitting smoke on a volcano.

Other words terminating in -ito aren't diminutives at all. BANDITOS don't have to be pint-sized and a NOPALITO (OPTIONAL) is an edible cactus of ambiguous dimensions.



NOPALITO

VOMITO is a form of virulent yellow fever accompanied by black vomit. There's nothing small or insignificant about that. Some aren't even nouns. FINITO (adjective or past participle) is 'finished' - as in 'I'm three bingos down, this game is FINITO.' SUBITO (adverb) means 'suddenly', although I wouldn't feel comfortable putting it into a sentence. Both are Italian, not Spanish, and neither take an 's'.

Corresponding Spanish words ending in -ita tend to reflect the fairer sex like SEN(H)ORITA, literally 'little lady'; BONITA, 'beautiful' for a girl or occasionally bananas; or pizza MARGHERITA (little Margaret?). This pizza is purportedly named after Margherita of Savoy, Queen Consort of King Umberto I of Italy since the toppings - tomato (red), mozzarella

(white) and basil (green) - represented the colours of its national flag. But of course, all Romance languages are gender sensitive and gender allocation seems arbitrary. The MANZANITA, or 'little apple' tree, has red bark and berries but no apples; a CASITA is a small wooden cabin as in 'mi casita es su casita'; and a COPITA is a little glass or cup, preferably slim-stemmed and bearing sherry. The -ita suffix has wormed its way into Spanish and Italian cuisine as well. A PEPITA is a pumpkin seed. A GRANITA is midway between a sorbet and an Italian gelato. FAJITA (small strip) refers to the thin strips of beef in the eponymous Tex-Mex dish. But my favourite is GORDITA which is a thick, maize flour pancake made with meat and cheese and so aptly translates as 'chubby' or 'little fatty.'



TYROPITA

Again, there are a number of foreign impostors, masquerading as diminutives. TYROPITA is a Greek pie made from layers of phyllo, stuffed with cheese. AMRITA means 'nectar' and also 'immortal' in Sanskrit. Like ambrosia to the Greeks, the nectar of immortality. SHECHITA is the Jewish religious and humane method of slaughtering permitted animals and poultry for food. It is the only method of producing kosher meat. SINCIPITA (PIANISTIC) is the plural of SINCIPUT- the upper part of the skull

or head, especially the forehead, and comes from the Latin for 'half a head.'

It's not surprising, given the Renaissance and the birth of Baroque, how many musical expressions Italian has endowed us with: CONCERTINO, a little concerto; ANDANTINO, a little slower i.e. quicker than ANDANTE or 'walking'; DUETTINO, an unpretentious duet; TENORINO, a midget male opera singer? An OTTAVINO is not eight glasses of wine but a miniature virginal, a sort of harpsichord, pitched one octave higher than its larger version. Val Mills once played PIANINO against me. In the triple lane of all places. It is a miniature piano, also PIANETTE. A mute for an instrument can also be called a SORDINO, literally 'slightly muffled or deaf.'



Italian is also the language of food. All pastas are pluralised- TORTELLINI, little pies; CANNELLINI, small tubes; CAPELLINI, fine hair - and like LANGOSTINO or MARASCHINO cherries, a bit too long for the Scrabble board. I'd feel warm and fuzzy if I could play BABYCINO, a fluffy or frothed-up hot milk, or even CIOPPINO, an Italian stew whose ingredients are 'chopped into small pieces'. Breads, like pastas, pluralise - CROSTINO/CROSTINI; PANINO/PANINI; GRISSINO/GRISSINI- as does PECORINO/PECORINI, a



PECORINO

cheese made from ewe's milk.

*Pecora is 'sheep' in Italian. Hence PECORINO - little sheep or lamb.

Diminutives can often carry overtones of cuteness or affection. An AMORINO, little love, is a cupid or cherub, for example. A BAMBINO (a bit silly) is, of course, a young child. BAMBINI in the plural. Other little -inos include the subatomic particles NEUTRINO and PHOTINO; a small horse or PALAMINO; an earthenware brazier called a SCALDINO, literally 'heated up a bit'; and a light porous volcanic rock formed of small grains of sand and cinders, known as a PEPERINO. Not to be confused with a PEPINO or gherkin which in Spanish is a mini *pepón or pumpkin. A MESTINO (SENTIMO/MOISTEN/MONTIES) literally translates as 'slightly mixed' and refers to mixed race, usually a person of combined European and Indigenous American ancestry. A variant spelling is MESTIZO, which would be a lovely find. A CASSINO, not to be confused with CASINO, is a little house and sometimes a card game, and RACINO is a portmanteau combining a racetrack and a casino. Needless to say, there is nothing diminutive or LATINO about a BURKINI/BURQUINI, a blend of BURQA and bikini. It is a woman's swimsuit that covers the entire body, leaving only the hands, feet, and face exposed.

-Ina, like -ino, can be found at the tail end of many musical terms like

SONATINA, little sonata;

TOCCATINA, little toccata; and the

musical instruments

OCARINA, little goose; and

BUCCINA, little singing cow, which was a huge, curved bugle used to signal an advance for the Roman army. In terms of food, I only found SEMOLINA, literally little bran.

ZEBRINA resembles a little zebra in that it is a genus of trailing herb with striped leaves.

COQUINA is a soft whitish limestone formed of broken shells and corals cemented together and used for building and comes from the Spanish for 'little shell' or cockle.

Oddly, JAVELINAS aren't baby javelins as I suspected. They are a type of wild boar also known as collared peccaries. Neither is a JAVEL for that matter.

Foreign impersonators include

RENDZINA, (Polish) a fertile lime-rich soil;

PASHMINA, (Indian) a shawl

made from goat's wool; CZARINA/

TSARINA, (Russian) an empress of

Russia before 1917; and PUTAMINA,

the plural of PUTAMEN (Latin for

'peanut'), the front of the brain which influences motor skills.

More diminutives next issue in the form of TUNICLE, SAPLING and LUNETTES.



Twenty years ago in *Forwards*

From *Forwards* edition 67, June 2002.

Three of the words on the "disallowed" list are now playable in *Scrabble* – *TOOLIES*, *SPOTTIES* and *COATLIKE*.

Masterly Moves

The 2002 NZ Masters Tournament had many extraordinary features. Top seed Howard Warner had to pull out a few days beforehand; inspirational June Mackwell became the "most senior" Master ever at nearly 79 years young; and tournament winner Mike Sigley won all but two of the 23 games to equal Jeff Grant's record. Mike was only 12 points short of Howard's record spread of +2410, and he and Blue were just three words behind Nigel Richard's record 61 bonus words. Mike at one stage won 15 games in a

row, which may also be a record.

There were some remarkable words played over the three days. Some that spring to mind are Mike's *PIXILATED*; Sheryl Davidson's 158 point *FILATURE*; Lynne Butler's tournament high *SURFABLE* (194 points); Jeff's *WAISTLINE* (no smart comments!); Blue's *OBLIQUEST*; and Denise Gordon's superb *CATCALLING*.

Here are some other unusual words noted by adjudicator Pat Grant at the Masters:-

Allowed			Disallowed	
BIFORATE	RITORNEL	QUONKED	REAUDITS	AGEWISE
SEMUNCIA	FLOWERET	OPORICE	UNERECT	ARCANES
BROUGHS	OUTBRIBE	FOUGADE	ZELOT	WANTABLE
DARKLIER	GHETTOED	HENBITS	TOOLIES	OUTWAGER
OTTERED	VERMINED	TUBAISTS	IMBROIL	ICEBREAK
BACTERIN	PTERION	IXTLES	LEECHER	HEADLICE
ERUDITES	OUTWEARY	WONGA	NESTMAN	KETOS
CLEEPING	QUOOKE	UMPIRAGE	GARLICKS	SEASONY
REPANDLY	DICTIEST	FACTOID	NONDRY	RALLION
MELTITH	FLUSTERY	TUATERA	SPOTTIES	COATLIKE

Interestingly, the words in the first Disallowed column all appear in the big Webster's or Oxford dictionaries, while those in the second Disallowed column don't.

A Good Nursery Rhyme

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

There was a little girl
Who had a little curl
Right in the middle of her forehead;
And when she was GOOD,
She was very very GOOD;
And when she was BAD,
She was HORRID.

Sometimes she was GOOD, and
sometimes she was BAD.

Sometimes she was GOODISH, and
sometimes she was BADDISH.

She was sometimes full of
GOODNESS, and sometimes full of
BADNESS.

Sometimes she was SUPERGOOD,
and sometimes she was SUPERBAD.

Sometimes she behaved GOODLY,
and sometimes she behaved BADLY.

Sometimes she was FEELGOOD,
and sometimes she was FEELBAD.

Sometimes she had the GOODS, and
sometimes she had the BADS.

Sometimes she was a GOODIE (or
GOODY), and sometimes she was a
BADDIE (or BADDY). But although
she could be GOODIER and
GOODIEST, she could never be
described as *BADDIER or
*BADDIEST.



She could be
BAD, BADDER
and BADDEST,
which in her day,
meant exactly

that. (Whereas, a
modern-day girl
described as
BADDER or
BADDEST by her
peers would actually
be considered to be
very GOOD or
excellent. Or perhaps
“naughty” in a very
agreeable sense!
Same as the modern WICKED!)



Despite the fact that *GOODEST is
well understood in colloquial use, the
Scrabble word list agrees with the
little girl’s English teacher who
insisted she had to use GOOD,
BETTER, BEST if she wanted to talk
about degrees of GOODNESS. So,
although she could be GOOD, she
was *never* *GOODER or *GOODEST.

However, she could be GOODY,
GOODIER and GOODIEST; and
GOODLY, GOODLIER and
GOODLIEST.

She was well known for behaving
BADLY, but she was *never* allowed to
behave *BADLIER or *BADLIEST.

What the nursery rhyme doesn’t tell
us, is that sometimes she *sounded*
GOOD, but wasn’t. Sometimes she
was a SCATTERGOOD (spendthrift),
sometimes a SCRAPEGOOD (a
skinflint), and sometimes a

GOODYEAR (devil). In other words, she was sometimes even HORRIDER than the nursery rhyme indicated.

Epilogue

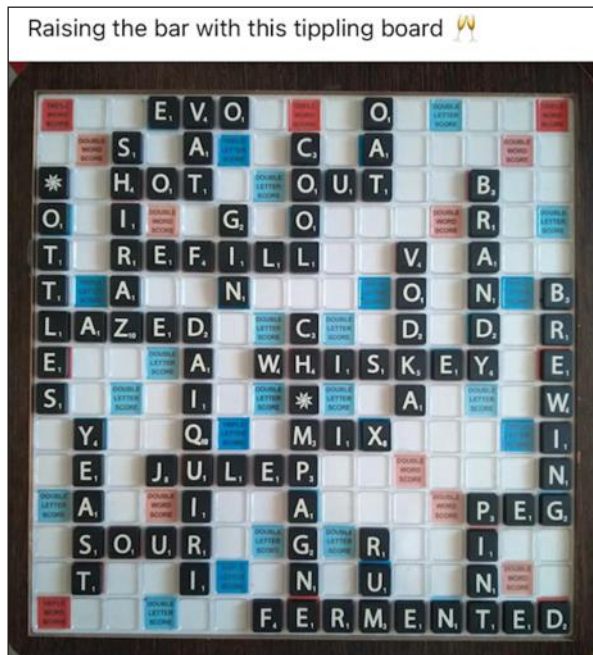
She was a GOODTIME GIRL in her youth, and could have turned out to be a BADASS (difficult person), BADMASH (evildoer) or BADMOUTH (abusive) if she'd married a BADMAN. However, she used hair straighteners to tame that damned annoying curl, and grew up into a beautiful young woman, attracting every GOODSIRE, GOODFELLA and GOODFELLOW from miles around. She married a GOODMAN, and they lived happily ever after.

In her middle age, she had her hair permed to reproduce the lovely curl of

her youth, and took up Scrabble. To change her nursery rhyme just a bit, sometimes she was quite GOOD at Scrabble and sometimes – like most of us – she was very very BAD.



However, she never forgot that if ever she got the letters for *BADDIER on her rack, she could play BRAIDED; if her tiles showed *BADLIER/ *BADLIEST, she could play BALDIER/ BALDIEST or BLADIER/BLADIEST; and if the tiles made *GOODEST, she could play STOOGED.



Trouble Finding Bingos

by Noelene Bettjeman, Tauranga

Note to ED:

If you don't REQUIRE this HELPFUL MESSAGE for our BOOKLET, DISPOSE of CONTENT in GARBAGE.

Scrabble is not USUALLY as COMPLEX as PERHAPS you IMAGINED,

BECAUSE after FILLING your rack and having JUGGLED and CHANGED your LETTERS around on your PLAYING rack, CHANCES are you now POSSESS the SPECIAL tile to form a bingo, and THEREBY OUTJUMP your PARTNERS SCORING. After FINDING this tile, do not DIVULGE it within EARSHOT.

Be MINDFUL that TALKERS DETRACT SERIOUS PLAYERS who are PLAYING for a VICTORY. They DESERVE SILENCE. Their ENTRIES are most WELCOME for the MASTERS if they QUALIFY.

With OUTWARD calm, try your HARDEST to ACHIEVE SUCCESS.

Be SMILING when GETTING THROUGH to DISPLAY your WINNING LETTERS. SOMEDAY when you find your rack OVERRUN by vowels, don't DESPAIR. There are MYRIADS of words to CHOOSE from. The LONGEST is EUOUAES. GETTING PERFECT BINGOES USUALLY DEFINES WINNING RESULTS.



.....
Mt. Albert Tournament Captions (Right page)

1. *Antonia Arts and Tara Hurley, D Grade, 2nd and 3rd respectively on Sunday*
2. *Ruth Groffman, C Grade, 2nd on Sunday*
3. *Patrick Carter, A Grade, 1st on Sunday, Dianne Cole-Baker, C-Grade, 1st on Sunday*
4. *Cathy Casey, D Grade, 1st on Sunday*
5. *Group Photo of Mt. Albert participants*

Club News

Mt. Albert

Anne Munro recently turned 80 at a Monday club night. Happy Birthday Anne!



Anne Munro

Mt. Albert club ran another successful tournament in May this year – albeit that it appears Covid was one unwelcome participant!

Here are photos of some of the place-getters.



Christchurch Tournament

By Peter Johnstone

Our first tournament since last May 2021 was held at the Cashmere Club on the 7th and 8th of May. Due to a few absences, Christchurch Club representation was lower than usual. However we did have many more visitors than last year, which bumped our numbers up to 30. And quite amazingly, in this age of Covid, and weird weather patterns, everyone turned up! (I had mentally braced for late withdrawals).

Although as always I enjoyed the tournament, I'd have to say it was not particularly successful from our club's point of view, since we failed to win a single grade. Also, of our 12 participants, only four had an increase in rating points. I didn't count our star performer Laura Griffiths in that reckoning, since Laura had no rating points before the tournament, but she has opened her account with a most impressive opening ranking of 1235. Laura finished 2nd in C grade with 10 wins from 14 games. Our other placegetters were John Baird who was 3rd in B, and Madelaine Green who was 3rd in D. Our players who gained rating points were Lois Binnie (+1), Herb Ramsay (+5), myself (+34) and Marilyn Sinclair (+12).

Well every cloud has a silver lining, so on the bright side a few of our players have probably made their task at the Nationals next month a little easier.

Some other things of note:

- Betty Eriksen was seeded as the 8th player in B grade, but took the title with 10 wins.
- Marian Ross played exceptionally well to win 13 of 14 games in C grade, in a performance that recalled Ray Goodyear's heroics last year. (And who finished 2nd to Ray then? – none other than Marian!).
- The Thorogood family were dominant once more with Blue taking A grade, averaging 423, with 10 wins. Mandy averaged over 400 with 11 wins in D. Mandy also posted the highest individual game score with 598.
- In A grade, the placings (with just one exception) were completely in line with players opening ratings points. The top seed won, second seed was second, third seed third, fourth seed fourth and the last two seeds were seventh and eight respectively. The only exception was Herb Ramsay and I who “swapped” places. Although that was purely on spread, as we had the same number of wins.
- Herb's performance was also notable, as he had a miserable Saturday, only winning two games, and according to Robyn was somewhat despondent on Sunday morning. Yet on Sunday, he won five of six games, including defeating Blue by eight points.
- Lois also played very well, being one of the few players to average over

400 (410) with 24 bonus words, second only to Cicely Bruce. Lois was also the winner in the highest aggregate game, 977 points with Cicely, who had an exceptionally high losing score of 438.

To finish, here are a few observations from some of my games.

1. **The strength of top players:** I lost all of my games with both Blue and Cicely. But in one of each of my games against them, I managed to assemble late game winning bonuses which would have left them with tiles on their racks and an empty bag. In each case they saw the threats and blocked the danger.
2. **“Have a go, you mug!”:** When I played Murray Rogers on Saturday morning, I had a bit of a shocker, with only 12 vowels in the whole game. This meant I never really turned over enough tiles. Nor did I swap at the opportune time either. Towards the end, I was some 96 points behind, with nothing left in the bag, but my rack made the word UNCARTS. I thought it was so unlikely that I decided not to play it, and was dismayed to later find it's good. I can't really explain why I didn't play it, since I had nothing to lose. I would not have won the game, but would have lost by only two or seven points, depending if Murray challenged (which he suggested he would have). Instead I lost by 82, inflicting serious damage to my spread.
3. **Just one close game:** Usually I have several close games at a tournament, which revolve around the endgame. I only had one this time round, which was my first game against Lois. I was starting to feel that I had the game under good control until Lois came up with the excellent SIDEARM to take a 23 point lead, followed by a 26 point X play, then a final QI for 26. I was really lucky to have two S's, one of which yielded 44 for CREMES, and the other an outplay to win by 23.
4. **Too many “Goodies” not enough Vowels:** So you have a game in which you get both blanks, 2 S's and the J,Q,X and Z (and throw in the K for good measure). It should be an easy win against most players. Well it wasn't against Lois in game 12. For the first seven turns in the game I never had more than one vowel, which pretty much forced my moves. Meanwhile, Lois seemed to be getting good combinations which allowed her to play CRITTER on her first turn, and UNWASTEd on turn five. So despite that fact I scored quite well with ZO, HUP, QAT and FAX, plus a five letter swap on turn three, I was 106 behind after turn five. I got much closer with a bonus featuring both blanks, before trying *ENROLED which Lois challenged off (I thought it could be spelt with one L, but alas no). As Lois later pointed out, we had discussed this at club a while back, but I didn't recall this under pressure. When Lois played ORIGANE in the same spot,

my fate was sealed, and desperate attempts to make something happen, I only donated more points to Lois.

5. Even when you're winning don't fail to challenge: Playing Margie Hurly on Sunday afternoon, I enjoyed a substantial lead, but was somewhat concerned that both blanks were unseen with little left in the bag. Then Margie plays SEZ for 41 and my lead shrinks to 65. Next turn out comes *sPIRATe, joining the S onto my previously played EYEING. This scores 86, meaning I would be behind by four points. This time I invoke the Paul Lister playbook, and challenge both words. The computer comes back with a reassuring red cross. I then play UNLOAD to kill off a G that could be hooked to make a bonus starting with I or U (UPSTAIR or IMPARTS were possibilities). Margie then plays PIASTRe which I can't challenge, but again joins the S to EYEING. God knows why I didn't challenge, since there's at least a 50% chance EYEING doesn't take an S (and it sure doesn't), but given I was going to score at least 37 with the J next turn, I knew I couldn't lose, so relaxed and allowed it. I reckon this was pretty dumb, as it took 75 points away from my spread and pretty much assured a negative spread unless I won my last game. This didn't happen as I ran into the resurgent Herb.



Congratulations Christchurch Club, club team winners at the Nationals - Selena Chan, Megg Hewlett, and Joanna Fox

Rotorua Tournament

By Ruth Godwin

Is it really a year since our last tournament? Covid was affecting our decisions then, and still was this year. Time seems to fly (even if you aren't having fun!) and because we had hummed and *haaaed about having a tournament we decided to book the venue as usual (just pencilled in to be confirmed) in 2021 but didn't actually do anything about the tournament until 2022. A meeting of club members expressed a strong majority in favour of going ahead. Also, the 13 game round robin was strongly favoured, after having tried the double round robin format last year. As in other years, members turned up in force on Friday afternoon to help with the preparation for the weekend.

We were very aware of the fact that the pandemic had taken on a new complexion, which was more serious in some ways, but gave us a little more freedom in others.

The big question was how to keep it a safe tournament as things were changing so quickly in the Covid world. It was great to see so many of you turn up for the weekend.

Thank you to you all for complying with the instructions our Tournament Director, Val Isherwood, provided at the beginning. The guidelines for behaviour within the venue were quite well defined by the Covid Policy but we agonised over how we would present the food. I think most people were happy with how it was done. We were facing managing difficulties as our club has faced a big decline in numbers this year, and the committee member who had taken on the job of looking after the kitchen ended up spending the weekend at the hospital with her husband (not Covid!), so she had more important things to think about. She still managed to make time to pop in and see if everything was OK. Thank you Jenny. Two helpers filled the gap, one not even a club member, and enabled the rest of the club members to concentrate on their games.

Saturday went smoothly until I was recording the results from the last game of the day and my computer suddenly said "I've had enough," and went on strike! Fortunately, we had



Plan B on hand with my sister, Heather Landon, who had brought

her computer in case of such emergencies. I am so grateful to Heather and her support as we used her computer for the rest of the tournament. She also did the task of sending the results to the various destinations required after a tournament — and did you notice she posted a list of 'Results by Club' on Slack? It is always reassuring to have her in the background giving me support. Thank you, Heather!

I was delighted to see that the results showed very even grades with no one losing all their games and no one winning them all either! I do hope you enjoyed the opportunity to play with a wider range of opponents than last year. After all, we are there for the social benefits as well as the trophies.

I hope you all enjoyed the tournament and had a safe uneventful trip home afterwards.

Papatoetoe loses Life Member

By Frances Higham, Papatoetoe

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of our Life Member, May Meads who was 98 years of age.

May was a very supportive member of the Papatoetoe Club, and many members will remember her from the days of her playing in tournaments. She retired from club membership a couple of years ago but still kept in touch with us."

ED: Here is a brief story of May's life taken from notes May wrote and gave to Francis Higham.

May was born in Epsom in 1924 and lived there until she married in 1944. Both her Irish parents had served in the British army, her mother being an army nurse for 12 years. One of her patients was May's dad!

She attended the local convent school which was four houses away and spent her secondary school years at St Mary's, Ponsonby, as a boarder. After a year at Auckand Business College she worked for Motor Specialties and later Wrigleys and Dominion Breweries.

She then worked as secretary to the Commissary Officer (for food) at the American Naval Hospital No. 6, at Avondale. She was the only woman among 80 men. In 1944 she married a sergeant in the American Army, moving to the States with her baby son in 1946 on the Lurline. There were 500 New Zealand and Australian war brides on board. Off Honolulu they struck a tidal wave and only three people went down to dinner that night!

May lived in Connecticut for a year but family at home missed her, so pregnant with her second child, the family all moved back to New Zealand. She had a third son here. Her husband worked at the brewery. They bought a house in Papatoetoe and lived there until her husband died, just nine hours after returning from a trip to the States.



May Meads with Mary Smythe when she retired from the Papatoetoe Scrabble Club

May worked in St John Ambulance for a number of years, and also in the Ladies Auxilliary Division which escorted patients by ambulance and air ambulance all over the North Island.

She attended crochet lessons and became friendly with a lady who unfortunately died just four months after May's husband. May had met her husband, Eric, and ended up marrying him. They were very happy. May gained two daughters.

May kept busy with Probus, SeniorNet and of course Scrabble. She was secretary for the Papatoetoe Scrabble club.

I remember May for her warm hug and kiss on the cheek every time I saw her. She was always interested in what was going on in my life and was very kind to me.

Celebrating the life of Gabrielle Bolt

Christchurch Scrabble Club obituary in the 'The Press' written by Lois Binnie and Christchurch Scrabble Club members.

Christchurch Scrabble Club members are so saddened by Gabrielle's sudden death. Gabrielle was a practical and pragmatic person but very kind and caring with it. She radiated a vitality and energy which meant she approached all aspects of her life with vigour, even Scrabble, probably one of her quietest activities. She was a valued club member who never complained about the tiles she drew out of the bag, whether they were good or bad, and she willingly played any opponent, no matter their ability. She got stuck in and helped when needed and did it without the need for acknowledgement. Gabrielle's quiet presence will be sorely missed.

Colleen Cook

I have played Scrabble with Gabrielle for over twenty years. This was a relationship which developed into a friendship. We travelled to Dunedin together several times to Scrabble tournaments and also to other parts of NZ. We also went together to Norfolk Island Scrabble contests, twice.

She was always great fun to be with. After Gabrielle's terrible accident her daughter gave another long-time friend and I permission to visit her in

hospital. It was a special time as well as a privilege.

Aside from missing her in our club, I will miss her breezing into my house for a coffee and game of Scrabble. Jill Pask, who presented the eulogy at Gabrielle's funeral, asked me how I would describe her in a couple of words. She was a "one off" was my reply.

She will be very much missed.

Selena Chan

Gabrielle was not only a great compatriot through Scrabble, but as a walking companion with the Over Forties Tramping Club. For many years, Gabrielle and I were often on the same Sunday tramp. Long uphill sections and forays on the Port Hills, Banks Peninsula and into the Alps, would be eased and enlivened by conversations Gabrielle and I had on a multitude of contemporary topics. She was well versed with current socio-political themes and we spent many a tramp, trying to solve the woes besetting the world. Gabrielle found great joy in the outdoors. She was also an avid biker, an activity we both enjoyed. We often shared bike routes and techniques. The minister conducting her service shared with the congregation, a list of her favourite



hymns, many of which had outdoor and nature themes.

As a Scrabble player, Gabrielle was always willing to learn new words and practice strategy skills. She was good at picking up on the nuances of the game, often asking searching questions on game play decisions and providing a critical sounding board. She contributed as a committee member on the club for many years and was always welcoming and supportive of new players.

Joanna Fox

I played against Gabrielle at several tournaments and they were always hard fought matches. She was always very generous in her praise of any words that she'd thought I'd played well ... she was very encouraging. Gabrielle was also willing to give advice in a positive way, and discuss different plays, which was really helpful. She had a keen intellect, and we had interesting discussions during breaks. I was in awe of her biking achievements, especially as she didn't have an electric bike but still used to do some mammoth rides. She would share any suggestions of good rides with me. I remember her telling me about the Alps to Ocean ride when I was thinking of doing it. She let me know that despite the name of the ride, it wasn't all downhill, and that there were a few hard climbs to negotiate!

Shirley Hol

Gabrielle loved a good natter and a glass or two of wine. She was an avid reader, and we enjoyed talking about, and sharing books. I got to know her over many years. As a committee member she was valued for her commonsense views and her huge input. Extremely independent, though she would not be put upon. In her book, all club members should do their bit and take a turn. With other scrabblers, we played in each other's homes and shared numerous trips away to tournaments. These trips often had a touch of adventure when Gabrielle was involved. Enroute to Dunedin on one occasion we talked about our love of custard squares, and the best ones made in a tiny place called Pleasant Point, inland from Timaru in South Canterbury. Gabrielle was driving, and her suggestion was followed to make a detour and have coffee and a custard square there. There was dismay when we were served the square with a large dollop of cream, a coulis, and a chocolate stick. The circuitous trip back to the main road was beautifully scenic, but long.

Another adventure was in Richmond at a Nelson tournament. After a sizzling day playing Scrabble, we were of one mind to have a dip in the briny. It was a much longer walk to the beach than we thought, only to discover that the tide was far out, and not swimmable. With little appetite to return by the same route, we clambered up and down many sand



Team Christchurch at the 2018 Nationals: Shirley Hol, Paul Lister and Gabrielle Bolt

hills to a motorway which we crossed with great caution. When she saw my dismay and doubt about tackling the shortish steep incline on the opposite side, she somehow grabbed my arm and pulled me up. So strong!

I also treasure a recent trip to the Wellington tournament with Gabrielle and Colleen. What a happy time we had. From the hotel room was a view of bush clad hill which of course Gabrielle had to climb.

Miss you so much dear kind Gabrielle.

Paul Lister

I'm one of many heartbroken at Gabrielle's early demise, and I know others have mentioned her sterling qualities. But as Gabrielle was first and foremost a Scrabble mate, I will share the memory of one of Gabrielle's best scrabble moments for our Christchurch Scrabble Club. At the 2018 Scrabble Nationals in Auckland, we had been loosely eyeing up the team prize - a

much fought after prize by clubs at the Nationals. On day one, both myself and Gabrielle had a blinder and won all our games. We got together and were thrilled, surely we couldn't do that again on day two. Well Gabrielle did, winning either all her games or all but one, and ditto myself. We got together and realised we had an unassailable lead and didn't even need to put up a big day three to win the team prize. Shirley Hol also got a good share of her games and we three were presented with the team trophy at the awards dinner. That day really belonged to Gabrielle. I and all the Christchurch club miss her so much.

Gabrielle led a rich and stimulating life. As you read from the above, she had diverse interests, many fortunate friends, and shared her enthusiasm for life with all of us. We will all miss her greatly.

Tournament Calendar 2022

Tournament	Location	Dates
Tauranga	Tauranga	20-21 August
Christchurch	Christchurch	3-4 September
Dunedin	Queenstown	17-18 September
Swisstober	Wellington	1-2 October
Mt Albert	Auckland	8-9 October
Whanganui	Whanganui	22-23 October
World Seniors	Sydney	1-3 November
*Trans Tasman	Sydney	5-6 November
Dunedin	Dunedin	12-13 November
*Limited entry		

In the News

SOCIETY June 10, 2022

Hear me out: You should join a Scrabble club

By Alex Casey
Senior writer

SHARE STORY

A really interesting article written by Alex Casey – well worth a read.

<https://thespinoff.co.nz/society/10-06-2022/hear-me-out-you-should-join-a-scrabble-club>

Blind Scrabble master takes on the country's best

Adam Blackwell · 16:30, Apr 17 2022

Article written at the time of the Masters about Olivia En.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300567670/blind-scrabble-master-takes-on-the-countrys-best>

Scrabble legend gets in last word yet again, winning NZ Scrabble Masters for 9th time

Wellington reporter · 21:23, Apr 17 2022

A man known to some as “the Roger Federer of New Zealand scrabble” has done it again – closing out the New Zealand Scrabble Masters for a ninth time.

Hastings scrabble legend Jeff Grant won 18 of his 23 matches at the annual event, which pits 24 of the country’s best players against one another in a round-robin format.

Wellington players Howard Warner and Dylan Early – who was the defending champion – finished second and third respectively, each winning 17 matches.

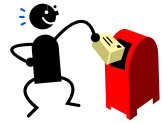
Warner said other scrabble players often likened Grant to tennis great Federer, whose record for winning the most tennis majors was only recently broken.

Read the rest online: <https://i.stuff.co.nz/national/300567838/scrabble-legend-gets-in-last-word-yet-again-winning-nz-scrabble-masters-for-9th-time>

And finally, the link to the interview with Jeff Grant on RNZ after the Masters:

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/afternoons/audio/2018838985/jeff-grant-scrabble-superstar>

Mailbox



ED: In response to Heather's letter in the last edition of *Forwards* I bought up her suggestion at the Management Meeting at the Nationals. Clubs now have time to discuss the matter and it will be voted on at a later management meeting. Hopefully a decision will be made by the time the first magazine in 2023 comes out.

.....
Here are the links to some interesting articles to read, submitted by Dylan Early.

Can You Play the Word Fart in Scrabble?

By Isabelle Pop

The short answer calls on the old adage: your house, your rules. The long answer, investigating the question of exactly which words are valid, is much more interesting.

Read more at: <https://bookriot.com/history-of-scrabble-dictionary/>

In Defense of Scrabble

By Neda Marie Valcheva

One family's 30-year long game and the unavoidable meanings of words.

<https://www.polygon.com/22524397/in-defense-of-scrabble-feature>

On the Insanity of Being a Scrabble Enthusiast

By Oliver Roeder

Oliver Roeder navigates the highs and lows of his stint as a competitive player.

<https://lithub.com/on-the-insanity-of-being-a-scrabble-enthusiast/>

John Chew Offers Inside Look at NASPA and Scrabble Word Lists

By Zac Pricener

<https://wordfinder.yourdictionary.com/blog/john-chew-offers-inside-look-at-naspa-and-scrabble-word-lists/>

Wordsmith learns hard way that being victorious in Scrabble requires more math than spelling

By Hillary Decent

Scrabble is a game of both word knowledge and math skills, as columnist Hilary Decent learned the hard way when she thought she'd easily defeat her husband.

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/naperville-sun/opinion/ct-nvs-decent-column-st-0214-20210212-abaqtnjih5gf7iswp3qhpzw7uy-story.html>

Puzzle Pozzy



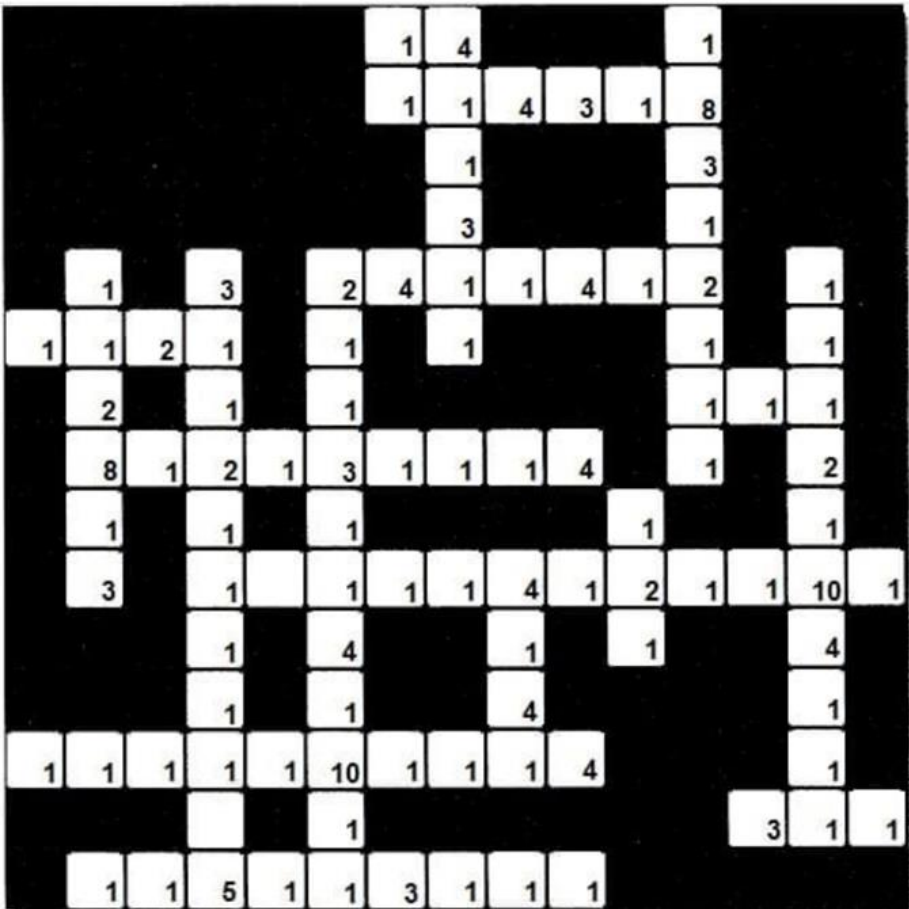
Scrabble Code Breaker

By Alf Smith, reposted from the WESPA Facebook group.

All 100 Scrabble tiles have been played, with the letters removed, leaving just the tile values.

Can you work out what the letters are?

All words are from CSW19. There is a unique solution.



Answers on page 48.

Wood Words

By Dylan Early, Wellington

There are 57 seven and eight-letter words ending with WOOD in CSW19/ NZL21. I decided to make a montage to help me remember them.

See if you can guess the word from the illustration.



Answers on pp. 48-49.

Tournament results

Masters Championship

15-17 April 2022

23 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
1	Jeff Grant (GM)	IND	18	1430	457
2	Dylan Early (GM)	WEL	17	1893	467
3	Howard Warner (GM)	WEL	17	1502	455
4	Nick Ascroft (E)	WEL	15	411	412
5	Gil Quiballo	IND	14	579	430
6	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	14	500	430
7	Anderina McLean (GM)	WAN	14	404	421
8	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	WEL	13	781	447
9	John Foster (GM)	IND	13	343	417
10	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	13	173	409
11	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	12	389	441
12	Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	11	-159	406
13	Val Mills (E)	MTA	11	-167	409
14	Lois Binnie	CHC	11	-250	400
15	Olivia En (E)	WAN	11	-326	394
16	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	11	-711	385
17	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	10	68	410
18	Jennifer Smith	KIW	9	-692	383
19	Herb Ramsay	CHC	8	-830	398
20	Lynn Wood	IND	8	-921	369
21	Margie Hurly	WRE	8	-1040	385
22	David Gunn	IND	7	-1570	376
23	Jane Walton	KIW	6	-1022	375
24	Vicky Robertson	WEL	5	-785	381



Christchurch

7-8 May 2022

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	10	614	423
2	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	9	332	414
3	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	8	209	386
4	Lois Binnie	CHC	7	41	410
5	Peter Johnstone	CHC	7	-109	386
6	Herb Ramsay	CHC	7	-236	376
7	Margie Hurly	WRE	5	-282	385
8	Lynn Wood	IND	3	-569	376
B Grade					
1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	10	167	376
2	Helen Sillis	WTA	9	420	368
3	John Baird	CHC	9	216	378
4	Ruth Groffman	DUN	6	82	375
5	Shirley Hol	CHC	6	36	388
6	Jean O'Brien	IND	6	-15	379
7	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	-373	362
8	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	4	-533	353
C Grade					
1	Marian Ross	DUN	13	801	394
2	Laura Griffiths	CHC	10	614	388
3	Malcolm Graham	IND	7	341	367
4	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	7	308	376
5	Joanna Fox	CHC	6	-89	359
6	Colleen Cook	CHC	6	-351	344
7	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	6	-434	332
8	Noeline Monsef	CHC	1	-1190	321
D Grade					
1	Mandy Thorogood	IND	11	1030	404
2	Sue Hensley	DUN	8	526	377
3	Madelaine Green	CHC	6	-351	344
4	Sharon McKenzie	CHC	6	-399	337
5	Frances Higham	PAP	5.5	-197	338
6	Megg Hewlett	CHC	5.5	-609	337

D Grade

1	Mandy Thorogood	IND	11	1030	404
2	Sue Hensley	DUN	8	526	377
3	Madelaine Green	CHC	6	-351	344
4	Sharon McKenzie	CHC	6	-399	337
5	Frances Higham	PAP	5.5	-197	338
6	Megg Hewlett	CHC	5.5	-609	337

*Left - NZASP President,
Howard Warner, presents Clare Wall
with her Life Membership badge*

Mt. Albert—Saturday**14 May 2022**

7 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	6	674	434
2	Patrick Carter (GM)	MTA	5	278	416
3	Val Mills (E)	MTA	4	-23	393
4	Jason Simpson	WRE	4	-151	364
5	John Foster (GM)	IND	3	104	373
6	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	2	-236	371
7	Jennifer Smith	KIW	2	-319	375
8	Jane Walton	KIW	2	-327	351

B Grade

1	Mary Curtis	WRE	6	345	430
2	Lynn Wood	IND	5	587	447
3	Jena Yousif	WRE	3	73	389
4	Bernie Jardine	MTA	3	-130	381
5	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	3	-155	386
6	Delcie Macbeth	IND	3	-209	389
7	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	3	-241	376
8	Mike Currie	MTA	2	-270	408

C Grade

1	Su Walker	IND	6	212	383
2	Betty Eriksen	WAN	5	391	391
3	Chris Higgins	IND	5	115	379
4	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	4	48	372
5	Cathy Casey	MTA	3	12	368
6	Faye Cronhelm	IND	2	-224	358
7	Ruth Groffman	DUN	2	-287	348
8	Glenda Geard	IND	1	-267	342

D Grade

1	Alexander Gandar	MTA	6	679	413
2	Rodney Jardine	MTA	5	324	380
3	Ruth Godwin	ROT	5	311	360
4	Tara Hurley	IND	5	56	352
5	Anne Scatchard	WRE	5	-127	317
6	Junior Gesmundo	PAP	3	195	352
7	Graeme Quinn	WRE	2	-159	334
8	Jackie Reid	MTA	2	-430	307
9	Alex Casey	MTA	1	-394	314
10	Cheryl Parsons	MTA	1	-455	299

Mt. Albert—Sunday**15 May 2022**

7 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Patrick Carter (GM)	MTA	6	358	424
2	Jason Simpson	WRE	5	493	425
3	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	5	194	418
4	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	4	10	383
5	Val Mills (E)	MTA	3	-56	378
6	John Foster (GM)	IND	2	-322	378
7	Jennifer Smith	KIW	2	-388	380
8	Jane Walton	KIW	1	-289	383

B Grade

1	Lynn Wood	IND	7	638	445
2	Mary Curtis	WRE	4	388	404
3	Mike Currie	MTA	4	288	424
4	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	4	-42	390
5	Delcie Macbeth	IND	3	-16	383
6	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	3	-348	369
7	Jena Yousif	WRE	2	-602	333
8	Bernie Jardine	MTA	1	-306	372

C Grade

1	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	7	442	407
2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	5	174	371
3	Chris Higgins	IND	4	309	398
4	Betty Eriksen	WAN	4	282	376
5	Julia Schiller	PAP	3	-68	368
6	Faye Cronhelm	IND	3	-80	360
7	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	3	-107	351
8	Su Walker	IND	2	-214	350
9	Glenda Geard	IND	2	-252	354
10	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	2	-486	334

D Grade

1	Cathy Casey	MTA	6	473	376
2	Antonia Aarts	MTA	5	595	384
3	Tara Hurley	IND	5	205	354
4	Junior Gesmundo	PAP	5	-37	350
5	Ruth Godwin	ROT	3	9	342
6	Rodney Jardine	MTA	3	-79	351
7	Cheryl Parsons	MTA	3	-252	319
8	Graeme Quinn	WRE	2	-218	317
9	Anne Scatchard	WRE	2	-247	314
10	Jackie Reid	MTA	1	-449	311

Nationals 2022**4-6 June 2022**

22 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Joanne Craig (GM)	IND	14	1081	461
2	Dylan Early (GM)	WEL	14	749	445
3	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	13	840	439
4	Peter Sinton (GM)	DUN	13	61	428
5	Scott Chaput (E)	IND	12	-23	417
6	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	12	-49	403
7	Howard Warner (GM)	WEL	11	549	438
8	Gil Quiballo	IND	11	-103	428
9	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	10	-177	403
10	Karen Richards (E)	OS	8	-567	405
11	Paul Richards	OS	8	-1567	367
12	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	6	-794	394
B Grade					
1	Val Mills (E)	MTA	16	811	424
2	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	13	646	413
3	Herb Ramsay	CHC	13	38	387
4	Margie Hurly	WRE	13	-276	401
5	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	12	-262	388
6	Lois Binnie	CHC	11	31	405
7	Peter Johnstone	CHC	10.5	120	393
8	John Baird	CHC	10.5	27	376
9	Jennifer Smith	KIW	10	-245	383
10	Vicky Robertson	WEL	8	-412	378
11	Helen Sillis	WTA	8	-454	370
12	Jane Walton	KIW	7	-24	382
C Grade					
1	Selena Chan	CHC	14	706	394
2	Jean O'Brien	IND	13	91	382
3	Clare Wall	IND	13	17	385
4	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	13	1	393
5	Nola Borrell	IND	12	-16	378
6	Shirley Hol	CHC	12	-49	377
7	Suzanne Liddall	WRE	11	481	401
8	Anne Goldstein	CHC	10	-100	377
9	Karen Miller	IND	10	-271	370
10	Jena Yousif	WRE	9	-74	377
11	Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	-239	364
12	Ruth Groffman	DUN	7	-547	361

D Grade

1	Lyn Toka	KIW	16	226	383
2	Heather Landon	TGA	14	648	390
3	Joanna Fox	CHC	14	584	388
4	Tara Hurley	IND	13.5	837	393
5	Marian Ross	DUN	13	-64	369
6	Cathy Casey	MTA	12	640	383
7	Llane Hadden	NEL	11	-494	353
8	Grant Paulin	DUN	10	-197	352
9	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	8	-317	349
10	Geoff Vautier	IND	7.5	-653	356
11	Colleen Cook	CHC	7	-176	365
12	Chris Handley	DUN	6	-1034	342

E Grade

1	Mandy Thorogood	IND	19	1614	399
2	Megg Hewlett	CHC	16	912	392
3	Hanna Dodge	CHC	12.5	235	364
4	Ruth Godwin	ROT	12	337	354
5	Judy Driscoll	IND	12	228	349
6	Noeline Monsef	CHC	12	-36	344
7	Madelaine Green	CHC	11	-162	344
8	Sue Hensley	DUN	10	62	357
9	Frances Higham	PAP	10	-504	331
10	Tony Charlton	NEL	9.5	-74	355
11	Anne Scatchard	WRE	9	-370	318
12	Graeme Quinn	WRE	8	-794	325
13	Dale McMillen	TGA	7	-570	332
14	Judy Cronin	MTA	6	-878	318

The following photos are players who received their milestone badges at the nationals.



Vicky Robertson—1000 games

Whangarei**2-3 July 2022**

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	9	538	407
2	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	9	327	397
3	Herb Ramsay	CHC	9	-35	395
4	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	7	146	405
5	Val Mills (E)	MTA	7	-201	406
6	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	6	44	402
7	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	5	-225	393
8	Jason Simpson	WRE	4	-594	396

B Grade

1	Mike Currie	MTA	9	650	430
2	Jennifer Smith	KIW	8	490	407
3	Shirley Martin	KIW	7	2	388
4	Lynn Wood	IND	7	-165	389
5	Jane Walton	KIW	7	-178	379
6	Margie Hurly	WRE	7	-366	380
7	Anne Goldstein	CHC	6	156	407
8	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	5	-589	363

C Grade

1	Suzanne Liddall	WRE	9	285	398
2	Jena Yousif	WRE	9	158	384
3	Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	179	393
4	Jenny Litchfield	WRE	7	299	399
5	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	7	169	376
6	Su Walker	IND	7	-364	386
7	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	5	-506	350
8	Tara Hurley	IND	4	-220	379

D Grade

1	Julia Schiller	PAP	11	739	374
2	Cathy Casey	MTA	10	594	398
3	Suzanne Harding	WRE	7	207	379
4	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	7	88	363
5	Antonia Aarts	MTA	7	-181	341
6	Ruth Godwin	ROT	6	-226	336
7	Margaret Toso	WRE	5	-357	346
8	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	3	-864	336

E Grade

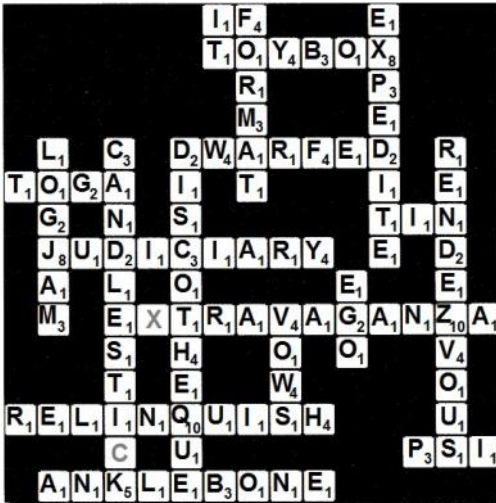
1	Tim Henneveld	ROT	10	356	342
2	Jillian Greening	KIW	9	468	344
3	Anne Scatchard	WRE	9	401	325
4	Janny Henneveld	ROT	9	-81	318
5	Jackie Reid	MTA	8	272	352
6	Graeme Quinn	WRE	7	225	338
7	Lynn Thompson	WRE	7	-140	319
8	Margaret Peters	WRE	6	-304	325
9	Sue McQuade	WRE	5	-497	297

*Margie Hurly—1000 games**Andrew Bradley—2000 games**Colleen Cook—1000 games*

Puzzle Pozzy Solutions

Scrabble Code Breaker

From page 42.



Wood Words

From page 43.—all words are nouns, and take an ‘S’ unless stated.

- 1 BOWWOOD a deciduous tree of America
- 2 PULPWOOD soft wood used in making paper
- 3 PORKWOOD the coarse-grained brownish yellow wood of a small tree of Florida and the West Indies
- 4 LOGWOOD the heavy, red heartwood of a tree native to South America, used in dyeing
- 5 DYEWOOD any wood from which colouring matter is extracted for dyeing
- 6 FATWOOD wood used for kindling
- 7 PEARWOOD the wood of the pear tree
- 8 WORMWOOD the bitter plant *Artemisia absinthium*, formerly used as a vermifuge
- 9 BASSWOOD an American lime-tree or its wood
- 10 BOXWOOD the wood of the box, noted for its fine grain
- 11 BAYWOOD a coarse mahogany
- 12 IRONWOOD a species of Australian eucalyptus, also IRONBARK
- 13 CORDWOOD a wood used for fuel

14	GUMWOOD	the wood of a gumtree
15	HAREWOOD	stained sycamore wood, used for making furniture
16	FIRWOOD	the wood of the fir tree
17	LATEWOOD	the wood formed in the later part of a growth ring
18	LACEWOOD	the wood of the American plane or a similar wood, suitable for ornamental use
19	NUTWOOD	a nut-bearing tree
20	WILDWOOD	natural forest land
21	SOFTWOOD	the soft wood of various trees
22	DAGWOOD	a tall, multilayered sandwich
23	BEARWOOD	a small tree of the genus buckthorn
24	KINGWOOD	a hardwood tree
25	BEEFWOOD	an Australian tree and its red wood, used for cabinetwork
26	CORKWOOD	very light wood e.g. balsa, or alligator apple
27	BACKWOOD	uncouth [adj]
28	SOURWOOD	the sorrel tree
29	DEADWOOD	useless material or personnel
30	MILKWOOD	any of various trees associated with latex
31	FUELWOOD	wood suitable for fuel
32	CAMWOOD	the wood of a West African tree, used in making a red dye
33	SASSWOOD	the bark of a West African leguminous tree, used as an ordeal poison, also SASSYWOOD
34	BARWOOD	a hard red African dyewood
35	CRABWOOD	a tropical American tree
36	INKWOOD	an evergreen tree
37	DOGWOOD	any of various shrubs and trees of genus <i>Cornus</i> , also DAGWOOD
38	BENTWOOD	wood artificially curved for furniture making etc.
39	COLTWOOD	(Spenser) an unidentified plant, perhaps coltsfoot
40	ELMWOOD	wood of the elm tree
41	OVENWOOD	brushwood
42	ROSEWOOD	a valuable cabinet wood of a dark red color
43	BARNWOOD	a wide wood for building barns

Rankings as at 1 August 2022

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Alastair Richards (GM)	2372	443.5	556	80%	34	Jennifer Smith	1600	1429.5	2992	48%
2	Howard Warner (GM)	2229	2544.5	3387	75%	35	John Baird	1569	403.5	747	54%
3	Dylan Early (GM)	2158	268	402	67%	36	Jeanette Grimmer	1567	387	783	49%
4	Jeff Grant (GM)	2142	1888	2540	74%	37	Shirley Martin	1539	1183.5	2377	50%
5	Joanne Craig (GM)	2139	477.5	731	65%	38	Pam Barlow	1526	943	1874	50%
6	Patrick Carter (GM)	2118	961.5	1504	64%	39	David Gunn	1523	1569	3198	49%
7	Lyres Freeth (GM)	2091	741.5	1132	66%	40	Yvette Hewlett	1522	566.5	1169	48%
8	Blue Thorogood (GM)	2051	850	1217	70%	41	Lorraine Van Veen	1520	1153.5	2339	49%
9	Peter Sinton (GM)	2050	851.5	1216	70%	42	Mike Currie	1518	89	150	59%
10	Gil Quiballo	1951	106.5	180	59%	43	Jane Walton	1507	295	621	48%
11	Nick Ascroft (E)	1928	316.5	574	55%	44	Vicky Robertson	1502	478	1019	47%
12	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1918	1089	2053	53%	45	Mary Curtis	1500	562.5	1076	52%
13	Scott Chaput (E)	1903	372	659	56%	46	Delcie Macbeth	1477	1159.5	2261	51%
14	Anderina McLean (GM)	1901	1030	1926	53%	47	Roger Coates	1476	969.5	2041	48%
15	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1899	995	1829	54%	48	Helen Sillis	1474	973	1981	49%
16	Lawson Sue (GM)	1893	1320	2445	54%	49	Yoon Kim Fong	1423	813	1588	51%
17	Karen Richards (E)	1884	129	231	56%	50	Mary Gray	1409	870	1751	50%
18	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1882	1617	3132	52%	51	Clare Wall	1406	417	822	51%
19	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	1868	97.5	182	54%	52	Selena Chan	1393	426.5	852	50%
20	Paul Richards	1841	65	120	54%	53	Anne Goldstein	1393	336	680	49%
21	Glennis Hale (GM)	1829	1791.5	3286	55%	54	Shirley Hol	1385	902.5	1901	47%
22	John Foster (GM)	1826	1836.5	3283	56%	55	Jean O'Brien	1374	1630.5	3232	50%
23	Val Mills (E)	1819	1712	3502	49%	56	Chris Higgins	1354	173.5	315	55%
24	Herb Ramsay	1795	321	547	59%	57	Bev Edwards	1350	369	717	51%
25	Murray Rogers (E)	1742	1226.5	2333	53%	58	Bernie Jardine	1343	346	650	53%
26	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1723	978	2092	47%	59	Lynn Carter	1343	916.5	1773	52%
27	Olivia En (E)	1721	1021	1977	52%	60	Nola Borrell	1333	665	1268	52%
28	Jason Simpson	1707	123	225	55%	61	Jena Yousif	1333	722	1442	50%
29	Lois Binnie	1700	231.5	464	50%	62	Suzanne Liddall	1329	215	383	56%
30	Peter Johnstone	1625	354	676	52%	63	Barney Bonthron	1328	155.5	275	57%
31	Margie Hurly	1623	503	1024	49%	64	Jenny Litchfield	1300	248.5	457	54%
32	Karen Gray	1622	350.5	664	53%	65	Chris Bell	1297	69	140	49%
33	Lynn Wood	1600	2496	5215	48%	66	Su Walker	1296	1380.5	2712	51%

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
67 Betty Eriksen	1295	2021	4000	51%	102 Megg Hewlett	853	50.5	86	59%
68 Lyn Toka	1275	696.5	1339	52%	103 Junior Gesmundo	846	390.5	793	49%
69 Karen Miller	1267	737	1440	51%	104 Hanna Dodge	814	289	543	53%
70 Carolyn Kyle	1261	1252.5	2543	49%	105 Judy Driscoll	804	390.5	955	41%
71 Dianne Cole-Baker	1259	787	1553	51%	106 Ruth Godwin	773	643.5	1358	47%
72 Heather Landon	1238	811	1615	50%	107 Rodney Jardine	737	285	593	48%
73 Merelyn Fuemana	1222	262	492	53%	108 Tony Charlton	733	452.5	957	47%
74 Joanne Morley	1221	213	408	52%	109 Noeline Monsef	726	75	165	45%
75 Marian Ross	1210	762.5	1469	52%	110 Steve Wood	702	24	45	53%
76 Ruth Groffman	1187	824.5	1681	49%	111 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	696	840.5	1712	49%
77 Karl Scherer	1180	182	364	50%	112 Madelaine Green	686	190.5	370	51%
78 Joanna Fox	1174	285.5	558	51%	113 Margaret Toso	684	202	456	44%
79 Megan Scherer	1135	55	84	65%	114 Sue Hensley	676	55	109	50%
80 Julia Schiller	1104	427	912	47%	115 Tim Henneveld	665	594.5	1295	46%
81 Cathy Casey	1101	118	212	56%	116 Sharon Teasdale	648	70	139	50%
82 Sharron Nelley	1081	160.5	302	53%	117 Sharon McKenzie	631	71.5	149	48%
83 Tara Hurley	1059	140.5	256	55%	118 Anne Scatchard	615	756	1486	51%
84 Alison Holmes	1057	263.5	473	56%	119 Dorothy Bakel	604	135	301	45%
85 Sheila Reed	1053	396	821	48%	120 Anne-Louise Milne	596	221	608	36%
86 Jill Paterson	1051	132	239	55%	121 Frances Higham	595	373	968	39%
87 Marcus Henry	1039	14	50	28%	122 Jillian Greening	561	502	1030	49%
88 Carole Coates	1037	825.5	1700	49%	123 Janny Henneveld	523	616.5	1277	48%
89 Grant Paulin	1036	99.5	207	48%	124 Jackie Reid	513	185.5	415	45%
90 Mandy Thorogood	1022	109	197	55%	125 Dael Shaw	472	55	107	51%
91 Patricia Bennett	1006	37	78	47%	126 Graeme Quinn	457	35.5	97	37%
92 Liane Hadden	1000	103.5	215	48%	127 Annette Coombes	457	983	2143	46%
93 Roger Cole-Baker	997	837.5	1646	51%	128 Judy Cronin	433	264.5	633	42%
94 Michael Hyndman	993	217.5	409	53%	129 Margaret Peters	418	97	278	35%
95 Glenda Geard	978	1313.5	2660	49%	130 Faye Leach	402	187	455	41%
96 Suzanne Harding	950	772	1532	50%	131 Lynn Thompson	377	394	933	42%
97 Chris Handley	929	478.5	954	50%	132 Cheryl Parsons	245	15.5	88	18%
98 Colleen Cook	922	506	1047	48%	133 Genie Em	233	9	56	16%
99 Marilyn Sinclair	912	252.5	517	49%	134 Susan Schiller	6	100	534	19%
100 Antonia Aarts	892	436	923	47%					
101 Malcolm Graham	888	817.5	1649	50%					

Club	Club Contact	Phone Number	Email	Meeting Day & Time
Christchurch (CHC)	John Baird	03 332 5996	john@jrbssoftware.com	12.30 pm Wed 6.45 pm Thurs
Dunedin (DUN)	Tobias Devereux	03 453 1108	tobias.devereux13@gmail.com	7 pm Tues
Kapiti (KAP)	<i>In Recess</i>	-	-	-
Kiwi Scrabblers (KIW)	Barney Bonthron	027 466 1970	Barney.Bonthron@gmail.com	1 pm/7 pm Alternate Thurs
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04 569 5433	glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz	7.30 pm Tues
Masterton (MAS)	Sue McRae	027 4490 601	sue.mcrae.nz@gmail.com	1 pm Wed
Mt. Albert (MTA)	Dianne Cole-Baker	021 663 261	drcb@xtra.co.nz	7 pm Mon
Nelson (NEL)	Tony Charlton	03 545 1159	tonycharlton44@gmail.com	7 pm Wed
Papatoetoe (PAP)	Frances Higham	09 278 4595	jambo@actrix.co.nz	1 pm Mon
Rodney (ROD)	Vivienne Mickelson	09 902 9207	vivienne.moss20@gmail.com	12.45 pm Mon
Rotorua (ROT)	Ruth Godwin	07 349 6954	ruthmgodwin@gmail.com	9 am Thurs
Tauranga (TGA)	Fay Wenzlick/ Pam Fulton	021 164 8180 (Fay)	fultonrp@xtra.co.nz (Pam)	9.20 am Tues
Waitara (WTA)	Ngairé Kemp	06 754 4017	ngairelyndac@slingshot.co.nz	1 pm Wed
Whanganui (WAN)	Lynne Butler	027 428 5758	scrabblyllyne@gmail.com	1 pm Mon
Scrabble Wellington (WEL)	Nick Ascroft	-	nick_ascroft@hotmail.com	7 pm Wed
Whangarei (WRE)	Jenny Litchfield	022 106 3857	jen.e.litchfield@gmail.com	1 pm Thurs

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