



A Right Royal Board

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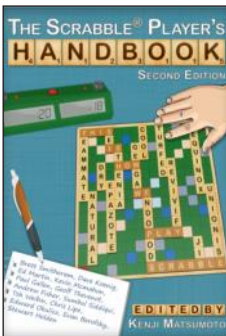
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Editorial

There's nothing like a new baby in the family to bring you down to earth and get you thinking about the basics of life. We were so blessed to have Casper join our family in July this year, the second child in the family of my first child – so tiny, helpless and needy, yet somehow all you want to do is love and cuddle him. I know that's looking at it through the eyes of a grandmother and I'm not the one who has the sleepless nights but sometimes it's just good to get back to the basics – eating, sleeping and cuddles, in this case!



So, I was pleased to get an email from Dylan telling me about the new edition of "The Scrabble Player's Handbook". I haven't read it all, but I'm thinking that I

should. The chapter on *First Moves* that we have printed in this mag is worth reading by everyone. I recommend you download the book and get back to basics. Along the same theme in this issue are the articles by Cathy Casey and Selena Chan.

The other amazing news, recently received, is that I have made the Trans-Tasman team. What this means

is that a lot of our top players aren't going which makes it a pretty scary prospect but also a fabulous opportunity. Although I have been working on learning seven and eight letter words I really think I should spend a bit of time on four and five letter words. The trouble is that I'm not sure of the best way to do this. If anyone has any help in this regard, please contact me.

A huge thanks to Mike Currie for stepping up at short notice and putting together a Word Famous in New Zealand article. He tells me that he usually skips over this article in the mag as he's more interested in the word-based ones. This reinforced a lightbulb moment I had a while ago when I realised that what I was putting together was a magazine. Not many people sit down and read a whole magazine – we pick and choose articles that interest us. The same is true for *Forwards*. In fact Mike is the only person to comment on the *Harmonic Omniarch* article and often comes out with a pair of eights on Monday nights at club. I had thought that article would probably not be appealing to too many people but obviously someone read it!

I'm not saying anything will be accepted for the magazine. There may at times be articles that I don't think are suitable, but I am saying that I am happy to look at a wide range of

articles on a wide variety of subjects for players of all levels. So please don't be reluctant to send me anything you have written or articles you have seen that interest you – they are bound to interest someone else as well.

The latest interesting word I've discovered and that took my fancy is

LAYDEEZ – as in 'ladies and gentlemen'. I haven't played it yet.

L ₁	A ₁	Y ₄	D ₂	E ₁	E ₁	Z ₁₀
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A jocular word for ladies (n)

Happy scrabbling to all.

Val Mills

Words from the Vice President

by Cathy Casey, Mt. Albert

Scrabbling among the Bottom Dwellers with Spongebob Squarepants



Cathy Casey

Now that I am retired from local government, I am very happy to take on the role of Vice President of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble Players (NZASP) and put something

back into the game that has given me so much pleasure over many years.

I must confess at the outset though that I am very definitely a bottom dweller and proud of it. I swim around in the demersal zone with a shoal of others. We play our little hearts out but also enjoy the more social aspects of this fantastic game.

Not for me the heady heights of routine 600 pointers or three or four bingos a game. Nope, my Scrabble is a bit like the golf I used to play, a bit uppy-downy on the fairways and greens, but every game a lovely learning experience and a chance to meet new players. Of course, even us hackers love the post-mortem in the clubhouse after the game is over. If I crack 400, get a bonus word, play my "Z" on a triple both ways or nearly beat Patrick Carter on a Mt. Albert club night, you are liable to hear about it for several days afterwards.

I am delighted that NZASP is welcoming of all playing levels. Within the lower grades the tussle for ascendancy is as fierce as Alastair Richards playing David Eldar for a global crown. We all love to be at the top! I honestly felt like having a street party when I finally got into the top 100 after two years of trying. Except that now that I have reached the dizzying heights of #81, I have the stress of trying to stay there by meeting my expectancy.

As bottom dwellers go, I am definitely more *Spongebob Squarepants* than *Jaws*. I am always looking to absorb clever tricks to improve my game. Tell me your secrets and I will apply them!

That's another reason that I said yes to the role of Vice President. I now get to spend quality time with the four lovely members of the NZASP Committee – all scrabblers much higher up the food chain than I. There's our learned

President Howard Warner (currently at #2 in the New Zealand rankings), then our Treasurer, keen international A Grader Cicely Bruce (at #12) and then NZASP Secretary and legendary big cheese of the rule book Liz Fagerlund (at #17). Also have to mention our webmaster Suzanne Liddall. I really want to know how Suzanne didn't get "the bends" from her meteoric rise all the way up to the clearer waters at #64!

*Anyhoo, I am looking forward to getting up close and personal with all of them. If I listen and watch hard enough, maybe by osmosis I might learn the secrets to better Scrabbling in the shallows.

Until then, I am happy to hang out in

the deeper Scrabble echelons with Patrick Star, Squidward Tentacles, Pearl Krabs, Sandy Cheeks, Plankton and Karen!



.....

Other Weird Definitions

P ₃	A ₁	N ₁	E ₁	I ₁	T ₁	Y ₄
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------

The state of being bread (n
PANETIES)

F ₄	I ₁	S ₁	H ₄	I ₁	F ₄	Y ₄
----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------

(Shakespeare) to turn into fish (v
FISHIFIED, FISHIFYING, FISHIFIES)

Twenty years ago in *Forwards*

From *Forwards* edition 68, September 2002.

After 20 years, John Foster's highest club game score still stands.

The highest tournament game from 20 years ago has been exceeded more than once, and the record is now Dylan Early's 756 from 2019.

It would be great to hear of any other high (700 plus) scores so that we can make a new top 10 list.

The All-Time NZ Top Ten

Our research suggests that these may be the top 10 individual game scores ever achieved in CLUB OR TOURNAMENT Scrabble in New Zealand. Interestingly, six of them were recorded in the South Island and three of the four North Island scores were attained at Hastings.

If you know of any omissions, please send us details. Note that a score of 700 wouldn't even make the list!

1	763	John Foster (MTA)	29.1.93	Mt Albert Club [included a 261-point triple-triple non-bonus word CLAQUERS]
2	751	Jeff Grant (HAS)	2.9.97	Hastings Club afternoon [7 bonus words, score achieved without J, Q, X, Z]
3	726	Peter Sinton (DUN)	12.10.99	Dunedin Club [6 bonus words, the 577 margin (726-149) is current NZ record]
4	725	Karyn McDougall (DUN)	31.8.99	Dunedin Club [6 bonus words, margin 481]
5	719	Nigel Richards (CHC)	30.10.98	Christchurch Club [a club record and the 504 point margin was a NZ record]
6=	717	Mike Sigley (WAN)	24.11.90	Dunedin Open Tournament [6 bonus words, including the triple-triple CAMPLING. The current NZ tournament record.]
6=	717	Nigel Richards (CHC)	2.11.97	Christchurch Club Tournament [6 bonus words, not an open event unfortunately, or it would have equalled the NZ tournament record]
8	713	Karyn McDougall (DUN)	31.8.99	Dunedin Club [4 bonus words, margin 550]
9	710	Lynne Butler (NPL)	10.3.02	Hastings Tournament [included a 194-point triple-triple UNBUCKLES]
10	702	Howard Warner (MTA)	9.3.97	Hastings Tournament [a 167-point triple-triple DONATIVE helped the cause. Especially meritorious, because it was scored against former Masters champion David Lloyd]

Word Famous in New Zealand



by Mike Currie (aka Norbert), Mt. Albert



A young Mike

Mike Currie

I hail from Sunderland in the rain-drenched Northeast of England, so technically I'm a Mackem not a Geordie. Born

on the Wear, not the Tyne. You may know Andy Capp - cigarette in mouth, whippet on lead, cloth cap on head. You wouldn't catch me in a cloth cap. HADAWAY, man!

Scrabble was something that we played on wet weekends in our caravan in the Lake District. Windermere could wait. I'd play with my mum and two sisters while my dad would stand on a ladder and twist the aerial around until he could get some sort of a picture on the black and white TV. Hair still dripping from swimming, Bovril in hand, I'd play something posh like BATEAUX. My sister Sarah would pipe up, "That's not a word, our Michael!" This was pre-Zyzyva. We didn't even have a dictionary in the caravan. "Dad, our Michael's cheating again!"

I studied English language and literature at University College London (UCL) in the early 90s. They kept the stuffed body of Jeremy Bentham in a

glass box in the south cloisters. For me, London meant Aba Shanti-I at The Dub Club in Brixton, the British Museum on tap in Bloomsbury, and kung fu all-nighters at The Scala cinema in Kings Cross, which served beer and chocolate at the box office and used to rattle every time a tube passed underneath.

Halls were Scrabble-free. Chess was our game of choice. I captained the university chess team and blew the budget on a trip to Amsterdam with Dave Hallam, best buddy and aficionado of The King's Gambit. Chess gave us ZUGZWANG and ZWISCHENZUG and the far more useful but unplayable *zeitnot.



The caravan where Mike and his sisters played Scrabble

In 1993, having done a CELTA course in London, I went to Brazil to teach English. After an unsuccessful sojourn in Blumenau, home to Brazil's Oktoberfest, German OOMPAH bands and whitewashed chalets with flowerboxes, I was washed ashore on the coral-spangled coast of Maceio.

I taught in the evenings at a school with a swimming pool and in the afternoon, I tried to sell three-legged stools to Argentinian tourists while practising CAPOEIRA on the beach. (Ed: Remember Lyres' comment a few mags ago that 2 people had tried to play this word against her and both had got it wrong.....come on guys CAPO – E – IRA!)

The beach was always abuzz with surfers, sunbathers, machete-wielding purveyors of COCO *verde (coconut water), and ragamuffins selling peanuts or sunhats, while the URUBUS circled slowly overhead. Every Sunday we SAMBAED in bars, dancing off the soporific FEIJOADA (a black bean and pork stew topped with *farofa, toasted cassava flour) washed down with Antarctica beer and occasionally honeyed CACHACA.

I witnessed the impeachment of President Collor, the death of Ayrton Senna and Brazil winning the World Cup for the 4th time, although at the time I was backpacking through the Pantanal, a swampland the size of France and home to broad-billed TOUCANETS, stork like JABIRUS



Tramping and Camping the Routeburn, 2000



Hiking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu

and the world's largest rodent, the CAPYBARA. At one point our jeep screeched to a halt as the guides and some of the stupider passengers, including myself, lifted an eight metre long, 200 kilo anaconda, outstretched across the raised dirt track, into the marshes below. This trip also took me to La Paz, Lake Titicaca and along the Inca trail to Machu Picchu

No Scrabble for me in Brazil either. Only MAHJONG, beach volley, backgammon and dominoes.

In 1995, aged 26, I returned to London and met Penny, a fiery Jamaican and my first wife, at a club where I was DJing. We travelled a lot together, to Rajasthan's Pink Palace and Kenya's Rift Valley to see The Big Five (lion, leopard, black rhinoceros, elephant, and African buffalo.) We were almost trampled by a herd of waddling hippopotami and saw a pride of honeymooning lions. I felt dwarfed by the giraffes. Even the secretary birds and SHOEBILLS were waist high. But the DIKDIKS, pint-sized antelope, were only the height of my shin.

Our longest trip was to New Zealand. We went whale watching and swimming with the dolphins at Kaikoura, kayaked the Abel Tasman and tramped and camped the Routeburn. 'Wow! An apple!' a fellow camper marvelled on Day three. Returning to London, we decided to emigrate, finally buying a house in Titirangi in 2001. We had our gorgeous girl, Lucia in 2006 and in 2008, after months of arguments, living separate lives and feeling isolated, Penny and I split up. Acrimoniously.

When Lucia was young, I met Gail at a samba party. She was devoted to her pizzeria, Papa's Pizza. When I'd clocked off for the day as a TESOL teacher trainer at Edenz Colleges, I'd clock on at the pizzeria, bartending, writing and running a quiz night every Tuesday and occasionally posing as a giant tomato to attract the rugby hordes. My daughter was treated to a daily GELATO and watched mid-afternoon Pepper Pig in the Godfather Suite. I learnt how to mix a MOJITO, and serve a SAMBUCA, GRAPPA and AMARETTO. At weekends I was a DOUGHBOY and tea towel DHOBWALLAH. The buzz of hospitality was refreshing after the isolation of Titirangi.

In 2011, Gail and I opened a café, Rugby Buildings, with another couple, in a bid to Get

Rich Quick during the Rugby World Cup. The reality was we made a killing on rugby nights but haemorrhaged our profits during the week. With three jobs now, I was getting tired and at one point got pneumonia. On rugby nights Lucia would stay with Star, a former TESOL trainee who had studied how to teach English with me. She had a son, Jonah, who was a little older than Lucia, and they got on famously. Star was her stage name as she used to do children's' shows with her late husband, who had died from cancer. She was Star and he was Fish and together they were known as Starfish Magic.

With children the same age and similar interests, we were spending more and more time together. "When are we seeing Star Fairy again?" Lucia would ask on a regular basis. The inevitable happened. First, Star was my student, then my friend, then my girlfriend and now my wife. It was Star who encouraged me to join Mount Albert Scrabble Club, to play tournaments and to write again. As I wrote in a poem:

'What you've taught me':

*The need for Me You
teatime with you sitting
beside me
and inspiring to find
again the writer inside
me.*



Lucia, Mike and Jonah, 2017

She'd text me anagrams and I'd try my best to unscramble them. MARGARINE MASTS (anagram mistress); RELEGATED TRIMS (lets get married); DUB BAND RETREAT (bread and



Mike and Star

Tea and ginger slice every Sunday at our local café - she does her crosswords, I do my alphagrams. Scrabble, news and dinner together every night. Singing together every other night, Star on guitar,

butter). This last referred to a conjugal comment from a cousin. "It's not sunset over the Serengeti which makes a marriage, Michael. It's the day-to-day, the bread and butter." Star realises this more than anyone, elevating habits to enriching rituals.

me on percussion. Early on, we did some shows together in which I performed as Norbert the Pirate and the King of the Greedies.

We have bought a house in Titirangi together. The kids are now teenagers and thinking about university.

Learning Scrabble:

Helping 'novice' players gain confidence and expertise

by Selena Chan, Christchurch

The eternal challenge of encouraging new players into the NZ scrabble whanau is an ongoing one.

Perceptions of the players affiliated to the NZASP may play a part. In the main, outsiders see 'tournament Scrabble' as being ultra-competitive and reserved only for people who are very good at the game. Therefore, it is important to consider how we can support new people, with an interest and affinity to the game, to gain confidence.

For several years, the Christchurch club tournaments were located at the

local bridge club. I had a chat to several bridge players to find out how the bridge club system works. Bridge is seen to be more 'social'. However, the game is taken seriously and there are many conventions and rules around how bridge is played and conducted. To induct newbies, bridge clubs run 'training sessions'. Players who complete the sessions are then 'graded' and play within their grades when they initially join the club. All potential members are required to complete the training sessions before they are allowed entry and membership.

The need to mandate 'training sessions' before people join a Scrabble club will not work. This is due to the small number of people who are new to Scrabble and the requirement to complete 'training sessions' may be a hindrance. However, an initiation to the culture of Scrabble, does better prepare 'newbies' for the rigours of the game, as it is played at tournament level. Whenever we have accumulated a small cohort of three to four newish players, the Christchurch club has run 'coaching sessions' on an ad hoc basis. These are held at our Thursday evening club sessions in the summer.

An opportunity now arises for expansion of these sessions across the motu. Due to the pandemic, education has had to shift face to face sessions into an online learning environment. Perhaps this could be an approach to explore for Scrabble as well. One post-pandemic offshoot has been increased digital literacy across the general population. Therefore, running online courses, especially with the older demographic who characterise many new scrabblers, is less of a challenge than in the past. Younger potential scrabblers will almost always have sufficient digital skills to cope with online learning. Therefore, it may be a good initiative to consider the provision of an online 'training series' for newbies. Numbers for each intake will need to be limited to around six, so that group discussion is enabled and each participant is able to have

time to ask questions.

In the past, the 'curriculum' for the Christchurch 'newish to Scrabble' sessions have been run over two evenings covering the basics of Scrabble (learning words, practicing strategy etc.). Each session would include a 'duplicate game' whereby all the participants would draw the same letters at each turn. The process of 'making thinking visible' was used to help everyone understand how decisions on rack balance and strategy might be made. The duplicate games provide an interactive activity for shared learning. This learning activity can still be accomplished online, using the usual video conferencing (zoom) technology, screen sharing of an online game played against the computer and each participant using a physical board set up at home.

An additional session to introduce the tournament etiquette and rules will also be useful. Hosting the sessions on the NZ Scrabble site will involve setting up a page that contains links to various resources and the link to each session run on zoom or similar. This is something the NZASP committee may like to think about.

Ed: I think this is a great idea that is worth pursuing. Clubs may only have one or two newbies and this is a great way for them to get some training with others at their level.



Selena Chan

Golden Bay Scrabble Tournament

by Murray Rogers, Independent

This August was 'Word Month' in Golden Bay. The library approached me asking if I was keen to hold a Scrabble tournament. There was an assumption that the participants would be adults. I quickly responded saying that children would be more appropriate because of my past history with the schools. I approached the high school and was able to meet with the principal. Her initial response was "no" because the children had missed so much school in the previous two years. After talking with her colleagues she changed her mind and years seven to nine could participate. I contacted the four primary schools in Golden Bay. Unfortunately, with the 26th of August being the set date, it coincided with Motupipi School's Daffodil Day, an important fundraising opportunity. As a result they did not send anybody even though they had won the six previous primary school tournaments. Collingwood Area School that includes older children was going to



send five students but were unable to come due to the recent flooding and road closures.

On the day there were 14 high schoolers, two home schoolers, and three primary school children. At the beginning of the day I asked the children to line up according to ability with a bit of my prompting. The top four formed A Grade playing each other once for a total of three games. The same format was used for B and C Grades. This left seven students. I needed to creatively come up with a solution to make it work and allow everyone to participate in all games. I teamed up two of the three primary school children each game to play together as one player and rotate them so they had two games with a partner and one game alone. Voila, it worked!

The overall winner was Wirimu Graham, a year seven student who played all three games against year



nines. If you were paying attention you will remember he also won the last two primary school tournaments. Second place was Kahu Birch. Wirimu and Kahu are both Maori (step aside Blue!). Wirimu played the only bingo - SUPERED.



I had worked with many in the past and others were new to me. I think their overall familiarity with me helped to stimulate their interest. It was good to see the focus (each game was

allocated 55 minutes) and the camaraderie despite it being a competition. It was a good day spent by all.

Puzzle Pozzy



Spectacular Plays from the Gladiators WESPA Championship 2021

By Dylan Early, Scrabble Wellington

I've been analysing the games of the top 10 from the Gladiators WESPA Championship 2021 and have found some interesting games. These two in particular, stand out as being exceptionally clever.

Play 1 – No Migraine

Paul Gallen (N Ireland) vs Apirat Choomai (Thailand)

How did Paul score 99 with a rack of EIINORR?

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	→														
2															
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															

E	I	I	N	O	R	R
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Continued on page 15. Answer on page 44.

Medieval Sideswipe

by Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

To rid the wretch'd jongleur

'Tis custom'ry of an ev'ning from higher storey windows in the city of Edinb'rg, for servants to throw their nocturnal evacuations from JORDANS, or chamber pots, with a warning cry of GARDYLOO! or JORDELOO! whereupon alerting th'unsuspecting minstrel, JONGLEUR



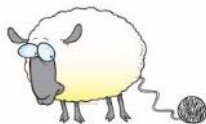
or AUBADE, below th'aforesaid window, lute still in quiv'ring hand, to a sudd'n, local downpour of EXCRETA.

A tenth of your crop shall be paid to the Church.

The medieval VILLEIN, or peasant, would broadcast his seed into plow'd furrow, from a basket of seeds, known as a SEEDLIP, wich tiresome work *demandeth to quench one's thirst from his COSTREL, full of ale, slung over the shoulder, whilst avoiding the watchful eye of the REEVE, who shall in *gud time take each farmer's TITHE for the vicar.

To dye the wool of *sheepe

Wool in olden times was first pluck'd not shorn. Later SHEARMEN trimm'd, FULLERS clean'd and compact'd, and CARDERS

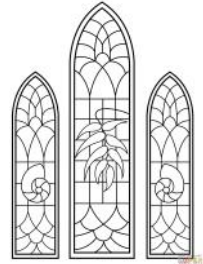


brush'd the wool. Master dyers would *lendeth its hue- WOAD for blue, WELD for green and extract of MADDERS, MINIUM or prostrate PIGWEED for a RUFOUS russet or the heraldic red known as GULES.

In church I see Paradise paint'd and Hell where the damn'd shall broil.

Stain'd glass windows were the picture books of Medieval Christendom. A GLAZIER us'd a STIPPLER to scrape away unwanted highlights on glass,

of ANTIMONY yellow or CELADON green, unwanted glass was then clipp'd with GROZIERS. A space betwixt glass and joint, the CUTLINE, was



thence fill'd with lead and smooth'd with a LATHERKIN. God willing, the panel complete was set in the stone TRACERY of the window. Behold!

Alison Gross, fam'd alewife

Alison Gross was one such BLOWZE, namely a rough red-faced wench, and tavern-keeper, or ALEWIFE of The Drunken Goose. Her meat pie CHEWETS were tasty morsels to company a pot of ale and dress'd in

KIRTLE and WIMPLE, she drew a wand'ring eye but ne'er would this BLOWZY lass serve ALEGAR not even to a drunk'n TOSSPOT, no matter how FUDDLED, FUZZLED or stew'd.

Plainchant and pipes for Pack and Penny day

'Ere the advent of notation mus'cal, 'ere harmony itself, monks recited their psalms in a single key, known as PLAINCHANT or PLAINSONG, perchance with choirboys one octave higher, known as ORGANUM. Small drums, NAKERS, were brought to Christendom by ret'ning crusaders, mimicking the kettledrums of infidels. Festival fanfare was play'd by SHAWMS, loud piercing reed pipes to company WODWOS or wild woodmen, who deck'd in green, would rush at pageants ANYWHEN, thus

causing havoc on Pack and Penny Day, the last day of the fayre.

Infernal fubb'ry

Infernal FUBBERY, the Devil's deception, was perf'rm'd by JARKMEN, wich is to say *clerkes whose office it was to make counterfeit licences or GYBES, seal'd with a JARK, scribes renown'd for their FABULOSITY or deceit. FULHAMS, or false dice were nam'd from Fulham, suburb of London, wich in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was the wick'd'st den for BLACKLEGS, swindlers and sharpers, in all England. And in Newmark't it is said of stableboys to FEAGUE a horse afore sale, that is to put ginger up the horse's fundament to shew him as lively



Puzzle Pozzy

Spectacular Plays from the Gladiators

WESPA Championship 2021 - Continued

Play 2 – Discipline Pays

Paul Gallen (N Ireland) vs Brian Po (Hong Kong)

On move 12, Brian led 355 v 349. It's Paul to play with a rack of DEEIRSS. There were 7 in the bag: ?ACDDEGILNNTWY. What did Paul do?

Answer on page 44.



Welcome to the Scrabble Zoo

by Patrick Carter, Mt. Albert

We are greeted for the tour of the scrabble zoo by the zookeeper Lexicon Luthor. He is accompanied by Bingo his faithful dog. Lex says "Bingo



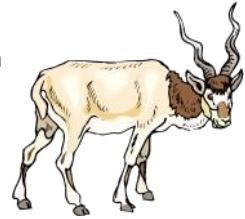
is a **MALTIPOO**. I had to have a dog of his breed because he is the most likely 'designer' dog breed you are able to play as a bonus word.

MALTIPOO The only other ones I can find are **LABRADOODLE**, (too long to be a likely possibility), and **PEKEPOO/PEEKAPOO** or **COCKAPOO**. (Needing PPK or CCK makes it much less likely you will have a chance to play either of these two breeds.) Searching the internet will enable you to find *corgipoo (corgi / poodle) *bichpoo (bichon frise/poodle) *beaglier (beagle/king charles cavalier spaniel) or even the unfortunately named *havapoo (Havanese/Poodle). There are also dogs with shorter names such as *beago (beagle/ golden retriever) but so far the editors of our dictionary have not recognised them or many others too numerous to mention"

Let's start with a tour of the zoo. Unlike Bingo these are all wild animals. There are 15 enclosures on our tour to match the 15 rows and columns of a scrabble board and they are all arranged in alphabetical order.

We start with a very tropical enclosure. it looks like a rainforest but it has a very solid looking animal in it. "Quite petite isn't it?" says Lex. You snort and reply "It must weigh well over 200kg" Lex then explains that the **ANOA** is a dwarf..... a dwarf water buffalo found on the island of Sulawesi.

The second enclosure is a very dry sandy one. There are some antelopes with impressive horns, but there are only a few scraggly shrubs for them to eat. "I hope you keep your animals better fed than this" you say to Lex. "Of course we do" says Lex. "But this is the **ADDAX** enclosure. They are native to the Sahara desert and are used to foraging for whatever desert vegetation they can find."



ADDAX

At least the next enclosure doesn't look so spartan, with many large tropical trees. Out from behind one of them trots what can only be described as a huge pig with large tusks that curl upwards from the side of its face "Wow! What is that?" you exclaim. "Aah, I see you are not familiar with the **BABIRUSA**" says Lex. "It is sometimes called the deer pig and is found in Indonesia."

There are more trees in the next enclosure, but their branches are quite high off the ground. The unfortunate antelopes here have to rear up on their hind legs just to grab a mouthful of a few leaves. "Wouldn't it be better if they didn't have to do that?" you ask. "The **GERENUK** is found in Africa" says Lex "and it normally browses the areas below where a giraffe would feed, but above the areas reached by most other animals"

The next enclosure has a lot of water. Is that a log floating over there? No. It is a large reptile, but the snout is longer and more slender than you expected. "Some sort of crocodile is it?" you ask. "Yes" says Lex. "It is a **GHARIAL**, which is sometimes called the fish-eating crocodile. A very useful animal for scrabble players because the alternative spellings of **GARIAL** and **GAVIAL** can also be used."

Dense vegetation fills the next enclosure. You can't see any animals. The sign explains that this is the **INDRI** enclosure. Even though they are apparently one of the largest lemurs there are plenty of places in the trees for them to hide, because you can't see them today.

We have walked around the block and come around the other side of the addax enclosure. There is a portion closed off to create a separate area and there appear to be several ratlike



KUDU/ KOODOO

creatures that are hopping around more like kangaroos "Another animal from the Sahara?" you ask. "Yes" says Lex.



JERBOA

"But not just the Sahara. The **JERBOA** is also found in several other deserts throughout Africa and Asia"

The next enclosure is interesting. A large expanse of marshland, but enclosed by netting from above. You can't see anything, but a plaintive cry is emanating from somewhere. "That



KILLDEE(R)

will be the **KILLDEER**" says Lex "It is named for what the call sounds like. It is also called the **KILLDEE**".

Another antelope is evident in the next enclosure, but this time there is a bit more vegetation. In particular there are quite a few acacia trees. Apparently they are a favourite of the **KUDU**, well known to scrabble players as a way to get a reasonable score from two U's. The sign on the enclosure indicates that the alternative spelling of **KOODOO** might also be useful.

You are not sure about the next exhibit. Is it an antelope? It looks a bit big. Lex can understand your confusion, but explains that the **NILGAI**

is the largest Asian antelope and that a big male can sometimes be close to 300kg. You are not at all surprised to hear that they are sometimes call Blue Bulls.

Oh! How did we come back to the kudu enclosure? "No" says Lex. "The **NYALA** looks a lot like it, but they are definitely different species and live in completely separate regions of Africa

The next enclosure returns to a rainforest motif, but the animal in it is quite clearly yet another antelope. "What is it with all these antelopes? you ask. "Well firstly" says Lex "the **OKAPI** is not an antelope. It is much more closely related to the giraffe



OKAPI

than any other animal and indeed it is sometimes called the forest giraffe. But to answer your other question - it is

not easy running a zoo and sometimes you need to have a food chain built in to keep the populations of some herds in check. That will make more sense to you when we come to the final exhibit"

Ignoring that slightly troubling comment you catch sight of the monkeys in the next enclosure. "Those are marmosets aren't they?" you exclaim. "That is true," says Lex, but actually they are a specific type of marmoset called a **OUISTITI** or

WISTITI. We had an interesting thing happen last week when the lock to this enclosure became jammed.

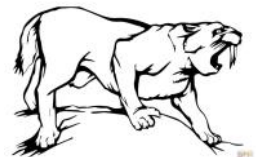


OUISTITI/ WISTITI

When the locksmith arrived he needed to use a specific tool to open it. He had to use an **OUSTITI** to open the **OUISTITI** enclosure!

Tiny kangaroos are in the penultimate enclosure. They remind you of the jerboas from a little earlier. This is the Australian **POTOROO**, which is sometimes called the kangaroo rat.

That just leaves one more exhibit. You cannot believe your eyes. "How did you get a Sabre-Toothed Tiger?" Lex sighs and says "I wish I didn't have to explain to every single visitor that the correct term is Sabre-Toothed Cat. This **SMILODON** is an excellent example of one of those cats. To get one it helps to be a scientist and to have some super acquaintances. This is where the tour ends. Don't feel you have to make a donation now. However we would appreciate any contribution you can make when memories of this tour help you to find one of these words in a game of scrabble"



SMILODON

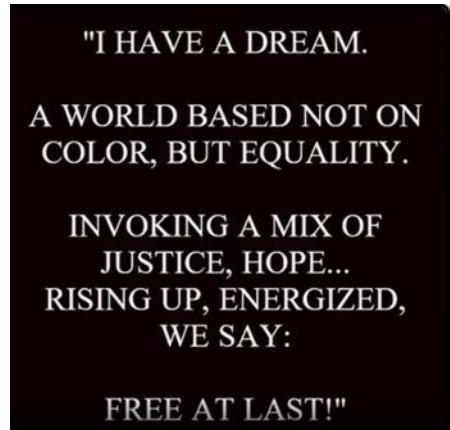
Interesting...

Dave's Scrabblegrams

Submitted by Dylan Early, Wellington

My favourite Scrabble website at the moment is www.davesscrabblegrams.com

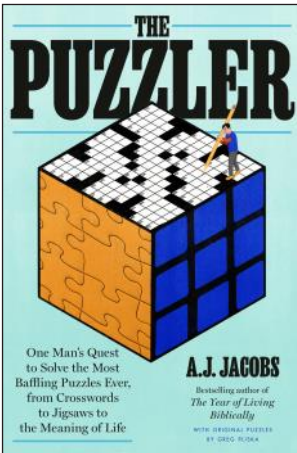
It's a veritable treasure trove of poetic brilliance. Forwards readers might enjoy the website as each Scrabblegram is animated in a nine second video. It's fun watching the letters rearrange themselves into some magical verse. Here is the Scrabblegram for Martin Luther King's famous speech.



The Puzzler, by A. J. Jacobs

Ed: Recommended to me by my brother-in-law, Geoff Pound. [Here is a review:](#)

The Author has 5 tips:



1. Don't get furious – get curious. (Ed: that got me curious about ?URIIOUS words. CURIOUS and FURIOUS are the only sevens with that pattern. SPURIOUS and USURIIOUS are the only eights.)
2. Chop your problem to bits
3. Turn the puzzle upside down, or backwards, or any other way.
4. Be supremely flexible
5. Find the toehold

He says: Little puzzles help you with the big puzzles, so I've always loved puzzles and I never lost my obsession.

The Nationals in Christchurch 2022

by Heather Landon, Tauranga

To the National Champs in Christchurch, we really want to go
But it's so much hassle. We then decide it's, 'No'
I'd need to get a minder. For my good man while I'm away
They'd need to stay at night. And part of every day.



Then later Ruth contacts me, 'Let's go anyway'
A motel, I book on the north edge of town. From the venue is 5 ks away
Too far to walk to Scrabble, or to see any of the sights
So, Ruth then books a rental car along with all her flights.

The family down in Havelock North, are coming here to stay
I make the beds, and tidy the house, and quickly shove my junk away
I write a list of everything, that they'll need to know
Then pack my board and my winter woollies. Now I'm ready to go!

They all arrive, on Thursday night, including Harry, the dog
I'm due to fly out the next day. Forecast's cloudy but no fog
First thing on Friday, the kids, in their work are buried.
They down tools though, and hop in the car, when to the airport I need to be
ferried.

In the plane, next to a young chap I sit. With his model car, he'll compete
He doesn't really want to chat. Going by a photo of the car, it looks rather neat.
On landing at my destination, I meet up with sister Ruth
She's looking rather lost, she couldn't find the rental booth

On finding the booth, to acquire the car, Ruth goes through a rigmarole.
With her finger she scribbles her life away, on an electronic scroll
To be covered should she get into strife, insurance they are selling
So not to be broke and homeless for life, and need to mortgage her humble
dwelling.

Outside a nice man shows us the car, and he sets up the GPS
He doesn't tell us how to use it though. We go on our way nonetheless
I'm trying to help when I hear Ruth's thoughts, 'Oh, Heather, leave that thing
alone'
'If you keep fiddling with the GPS, I'll have to resort to my phone.'

However, we get to the motel okay, and without too much grief
Then sit down and enjoy a cuppa and cake, and heave a big sigh of relief

We walk quite a way to a dairy, where Ruth buys some beans for her dinner
I'd brought my own packet meal from home, as I'm trying to get thinner.

The night before, while still at home, much sleep I hadn't had
And the first night in the motel, it's every bit as bad
After breakfast we bundle into the car. The windows we can't see through
A jug of warm water takes care of that, and now we have a clear view.

The first day I win seven games out of eight, despite feeling a bit of a mess
Ruth maintains I always do better when I'm under stress
The second day, after a good night's sleep, I wake up feeling fine
But I only win four and a half games, out of the total of nine.

The last day is a mixture too. I win two and a half out of five
Now with a total of 14 wins and second in my grade, it's great to be alive.
Back to the motel we go for a cuppa. Then to the uni we head out to see
My oldest grandson, Pacey, who's in the first year of his degree.

To the Pegasus Arms we head one night to dine and unwind
Then we realise why the jolly place we just cannot find
Round the block, in the dark, we drive time and time again
Silly us, we were looking for a road, not a skinny wee lane.



On Tuesday we go to the airport, and park our rental car
Take photos to prove that indeed, we've not a left a scratch or a scar.
We say our goodbyes in the terminal. Then Ruth disappears for her flight
I wait another hour for mine. Fill the time with a coffee and a bite.

Because I'm going on a big plane, I'm subject to an extra check
I have to empty all my pockets. They even take the scarf from my neck
They pull me aside as the scan of me, to them, looks suspicious
Alas, I've left my phone in my pocket! Jeez, the staff are officious.

On arriving at Auckland airport, I now wait for a smaller plane
To carry me to back to Tauranga, where we arrive in the rain
When I get in the terminal I can see, a guy with a beanie and a big grin
Great, it's Dean, my son, waiting for me. Then his ute we both climb in.

Back home to Colston we now go. As usual calm and content
The house is pretty much the same, as it was when I went
A few things lying around it show, someone's been in my workspace
A trail of cut up post it notes, are lying all over the place.

I know who's been at my paperclips again. She never can refrain
My paperclips now, bless Felicity, are all just one long chain.

Off the rack

(what scrabblers have been up to)



From Nola Borrell letting us know what Nick Ascroft has been up to.

Scrabble can pop up anywhere. There's an article by Nick Ascroft called *You Should Play Scrabble* in the middle of Annual 3 (2022). That's a potpourri of a book designed by Kate de Goldi & Susan Paris to appeal to young readers aged 8-13. Nick plays the keep-it-cool-but-highly-competitive-player in a depicted game with opponent 'Murray'. The book is now launched and on sale.

Ed – Congratulations Nick for getting published in this book. Here is part of an advertising blurb that I read about it.

Annual 3 is playful and smart and packed with content – a book for the whole family. Where else would you find a poem about not kissing in church, a pattern for a knitted brain, a kākāpō in a kimono for colouring, an essay about Harry Potter, and a comic about head lice? Not to mention the board game Camp Kūkū and “The Traditional Big Spread of Aotearoa NZ.”

.....
From Clare Wall, Wellington

I have an amazingly talented artist as a colleague at my workplace. Jaymesh Master does it as a hobby and is really starting to make a name for himself. He creates photo-realistic drawings using coloured pencils (you can see examples on <https://www.instagram.com/jaymeshmaster/>). He's shared his work with us over the years and I've always been a big fan.



Last year I decided to do something about it, and commissioned him to draw me something Scrabble-related. I wanted Scrabble tiles arranged roughly, spelling out 'LOVE NZ'. I gave him some wooden tiles to use as examples. A few months later, he presented me with this! I totally love it and it has pride of place in my dining room where I see it every day.

It's almost impossible to tell that it's a drawing as the tiles look so real. When I save up enough money, I'll get him to do me something else!

Only Diminutives: The third and final part

By Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

Omelettes and icicles in the minibar

Last issue we examined the wealth of Spanish words ending in -ito (29) and -ita (42) as well as Italian words ending in -ino (76) and -ina (123). In the Autumn issue we had a good look at -let (268). And this issue we'll be analysing the suffixes -ette (220) and -icle (66) as well as the prefix mini- (198) and as usual restricting our search to sevens and eights. Sad to say that this will bring to an end our Lilliputian lexicon, a paeon to petiteness and all things pint-sized.

While some words already spring to mind – ARTICLE, CUBICLE, VEHICLE, TESTICLE- their etymology may not. Is ARTICLE a little art? CUBICLE a little cube? VEHICLE a little 'v'? TESTICLE a little test? Rest assured, a PARTICLE is still a small part of something, whether in science or language, and ICICLE must mean a little bit of ice.

Because -icle is a Latin suffix, it's found by and large in scientific words. A CAULICLE (small stalk) is the stem of an embryo or seedling whereas a FUNICLE (cord or little rope) is a stalk attaching the seed or OVULE to the placenta of a flowering plant. Your collarbone or CLAVICLE derives from the Latin for 'small key', because of its

shape. Does that make it a 'minor key'? CORNICLES (slight horns) are the dorsal tubes in aphids secreting a waxy fluid. FOLLICLE literally means a 'little bag' or 'small sack' and hence the anatomical cavities on your skin.



SANICLE

A LENTICLE is a tiny geological lens, a MONTICLE a hillock, a PAN(N)ICLE a loose branching cluster of flowers. A PELLICLE is a thin skin CUTICLE. SANICLE is a plant of the parsley family used in medicine for bronchitis and literally translates as 'heals a little' from the Latin '*sanare*' (to heal) as in 'sane', 'sanatorium' and 'SANIFY'. A SILICLE is a minute SILIQUE or seed capsule. An UTRICLE (petite leather bag) is a small cell or sac in an animal or plant. A RADICLE develops into a RADICEL, the former a part of the plant embryo that develops into a root, the latter a ROOTLET. A CALICLE is a cuplike depression, a diminutive of CALIX/CALYX, the Latin for 'cup.'

Many scientific -icles are not where you'd think they'd be. A CAUDICLE is a 'small tail', not on a mammal but on a plant. It is a slender stalk to which

an orchid's pollen masses are attached. 'Cauda' means 'tail' in Latin so a Manx cat is ACAUDAL. DENTICLES translate as 'little teeth' but not in the mouth; they are the dermal DENTICLES found on the body of a shark or the ganoid scales of fish. A RETICLE is 'a small-scale net' but not for fishing, clothing, or mesh fences. RETICLES are the series of fine lines in the eyepiece of a telescope or microscope used to help locate an object. An AURICLE is an ear-shaped pouch but is found in the heart. A PEDICLE is a 'miniature foot' and can be found in the foot but also in the neck and the spine as it is a stem or stalk of tissue that connects parts of the body to each other. A WAVICLE is an entity having



characteristics of a wave and particles, not a small wave, which would be either a WAVELET or a MICROWAVE.

Latin is the language of medicine and science, but it was also the language of the Church. The Bible was written in Latin before King James and masses were given in Latin before the birth of Protestantism. A CANTICLE, literally 'a small song', is a hymn, psalm or other Christian song of praise usually taken from biblical or holy texts. A VERSICLE, however, is a short sentence said or sung by the minister in a church service, to which the congregation gives a response. For example, when the minister sings, "in the name of God," the



TUNICLE

congregation should sing back, "Amen." A TUNICLE is a short vestment worn by the subdeacon over the alb and a VERNICLE is the same as a VERONICA, namely the image of Christ's face on a cloth, as St Veronica supposedly wiped the face of Christ on His way to Calvary with a cloth, upon which His features miraculously appeared.

I found two literary -icles. A LISTICLE is a piece of writing presented as part of a list. Bloggers and content marketers use LISTICLES. And a FASCICLE is a separate published instalment of a book. At the heart of a poetry collection, Emily Dickinson included 40 hand-sewn manuscript books, or fascicles. These manuscripts recorded the variations in word choice Dickinson considered. Unfortunately, they were disbound by the poet's earliest editors.

POPSICLE, by the way, got its name from its creator- 'Frank Epperson's icle'. Children found that a bit of a mouthful, so they rechristened it POPSICLE.



And the name stuck. Epperson got his patent in 1923, when he was only 11, and the Popsicle has been a worldwide summer staple ever since.

Just to return to ARTICLE, CUBICLE, VEHICLE and TESTICLE, an ARTICLE is a small connecting part as in 'articulated', a diminutive of

'*artus*' (joint); a CUBICLE comes from the Latin 'to lie down' as monks' cubicles preceded toilet cubicles. VEHICLE comes from '*vehere*' (to carry) and so is only masquerading as miniature and TESTICLE comes from the Latin '*testes*' (a witness or testament.) TESTICLES, therefore, are a 'tiny testament' to virility, presumably.

The French suffix -ette is even more common in English- DINETTE, GAZETTE, DISKETTE, GALETTE, OMELETTE and of course ROULETTE (little wheel) and the French BAGUETTE (little staff). Lawson Sue once played ROOMETTE and I've also seen AIGRETTE on the Scrabble board (a



Marie-Antoinette with AIGRETTE

headdress consisting of white egret feathers.) An AMUSETTE (literally 'a little amusement') is not the same as an AMUSE BOUCHE. It's a type of light field cannon. An ANISETTE is a high-probability liqueur flavoured with aniseed or ANISE. A VIGNETTE is a miniature vine and is popularly used to describe the illustrations that run along the border of a page in a mediaeval manuscript such as the Book of Kells. Other medieval -ettes are BARBETTE, a medieval headdress and the CHARETTE, the

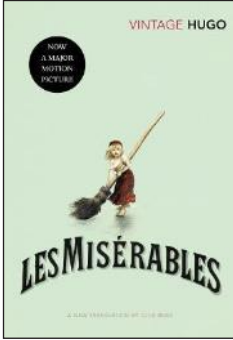
modest cart that carted aristocrats to the guillotine.



CORVETTE

A CREVETTE is a shrimp; a PIANETTE, like a PIANINO, is a miniature piano; and the high-prob NOISETTE is a little nut or a small piece of meat and now is used to describe chocolate made with hazelnuts. Surprisingly, even though Prince sang 'Little Red Corvette / Baby, you're much too fast' a CORVETTE is not a car but a small warship and is a diminutive of the Dutch word CORF, meaning 'basket'. How CORVETTE shifted from a basket to a warship to a car remains a mystery.

-ETTE has also been used throughout history as a female suffix as in SUFFRAGETTE, USHERETTE, BRUNETTE, LADETTE, DUDETTE, BIMBETTE and even PUNKETTE. A COQUETTE is a flirtatious woman, a JOCKETTE a female jockey, a VEDETTE a movie star. A CHAVETTE (derogatory) is a young working-class woman whose tastes, although sometimes expensive, are considered vulgar. Her masculine counterpart is a CHAV. A LORETTE was a French courtesan, as she plied her trade within earshot of the bells of Notre Dame de Lorette. If she also had a day job she was known as a GRISSETTE, after the poor-quality grey ('GRIS' in French) fabric that she habitually wore. She is a stock



character in numerous 19th-century French novels, like *Les Misérables* - a pretty young woman who usually works as a laundress, milliner, or seamstress and

who is an easy sexual conquest. A *GRISSETTE* is also a common edible woodland mushroom with a brown or grey cap.

Diminutives are usually rendered by means of a suffix, but occasionally we

may prefix a word with mini- or nano- or micro-. You can probably think of a handful of minis off the top of your head. *MINISKIRT*, *MINIGOLF*, *MINIBAR*, *MINIDISC*, *MINICAB*, *MINIMART*, *MINICAM*, *MINIVAN*. But other weirder variants include *MINIBIKE*, *MINICAMP*, *MINICAR*, *MINILAB*, *MINIMILL*, *MINISKI*, *MINIPARK* and even a *MINICOM* which is a small electronic typewriter and screen linked to a telephone system, enabling people with hearing or speech difficulties to send and receive messages. Extend smaller words by prefixing them with *MINI-* to, paradoxically, *MINIFY* them.

Show Some Respect for the Letter 'I'

by Jenny Litchfield, Whangarei

Nine tiles in the bag imprinted with the letter 'i' have the power to drive Scrabble players to despair. However, the letter 'i' has a rich and respectable alphabetical ancestry. The descendants of the ancient 'i' gave rise to words such as yod, yodh, iota, grapheme, phoneme, diphthong, digraph and tittle.

The Phoenecian, Semitic, Greek and Latin and other alphabets adopted and adapted the letter 'i' to represent the long vowel sound. Back in the

Phoenician Yodh	Etruscan I	Greek Iota	Latin I
𐤎	Ꞗ	Ι ι	I

day, the letter 'i' may have originated with the Phoenician hieroglyph for an arm. As the tenth letter of the Semitic alphabet, 'i' may be considered an early symbol for hand. The Greeks simplified the yodh as to become the single-stroke letter, iota. The Romans used the single stroke that found its way into the Latin alphabet to act as a



long vowel sound to represent the letter 'i'.

Fast forward to Middle English. The lowercase letter 'i' acquired a dot called a tittle. This dot made the shape of the letter 'i' easier to

identify from the shape of handwritten letters such as 'c' in manuscripts.

During the great vowel shift of the Middle English era, pronunciation of words changed. As people moved, so did the sounds of spoken language. As such, the letter 'i' with its dot being the fifth most common letter in the English language was at the centre of the action. The pronunciation of words changed as diphthongs, digraphs, phonemes and graphemes expressed the sounds of spoken language. The long 'i' sound evolved as the diphthong 'ai' sound, as in the word 'ice'. According to the *Chambers Dictionary of Etymology*, the capitalised 'I' first appeared in about 1250 in the northern and midland dialects of England. Capitalisation of 'I' made it more distinctive to read. In part, the development of the mechanised printing process in 1476 standardised spelling and grammatical protocols in the name of practical efficiency.

Jenny found these relevant quotes at www.inspiringquotes.us:

Whoever dreamed up Scrabble had an exaggerated idea of how many seven-letter words have five i's.

Robert Breault

"We're playing Scrabble. It's a nightmare."

"Scrabble?" He sounds surprised.

"Scrabble's great."

"Not when you're playing with a family of geniuses, it's not. They all put words like 'iridiums'. And I put 'pig'.

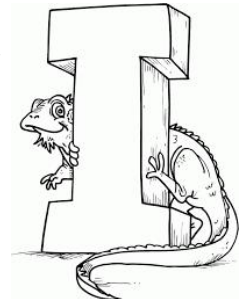
Sophie Kinsella

Ed: A quick look in ULU shows: Words with four I's – no six or seven letter words and only two eight letter words – DIVIDIVI and KILIKITI.

Words with three I's – one five letter word FILII.

Ten six letter words BIKINI, BIMINI, ILIACI, IMIDIC, IRIDIC, IRITIC, IRITIS, MIRITI, NIGIRI, TIRITI.

And 50 seven letter words! Too many to list here but it just shows that three 'I's on your rack is not necessarily a bad thing.



Only on a Scrabble Board



Left: BISTRED played twice in the same game by Cicely Bruce against me at the Tauranga tournament - ED



A-Z
The opening pick-up in a recent game with Pam Barlow



Left:
Opening pick-ups in a recent game with Liz Fagerlund.

A Fascinating Game

In this online game between Dylan Early and Joanne Craig, Joanne was leading 388 to 311. There were 12 in the bag and it was Dylan to play with a rack of EGIOTTW.



The letters unseen to Dylan were: AACEEGHILNPRRRSUVX. The board was not very bonus-friendly, so Dylan decided to set up an audacious nine-timer by playing WIGLET through the L of COLL, hoping for TWIGLETS (108 points).

The ever wily Joanne replied with PAX for 58 blocking the nine-timer. Dylan's new rack was EIORSTV. How did he keep his nine-timer hopes alive?

Dylan played RIP (6 points) onto the P of PAX setting up the almost unblockable RIPT/TWIGLETS (129 points). If Joanne tried to block with GRIP, Dylan would play GRIP/TWIGLETS. CRIP would have blocked, but was not allowed as the lexicon was CSW21.

At this point, there were two tiles in the bag. Unseen to Dylan were ACGHILNRU. Dylan was hoping Joanne would try to block the nine-timer by playing UG/UT in the bottom right corner. In this case he would have responded with VOG setting up the unblockable nine-timer RIPT/TWIGLETS/VOGS (153 points), and probably the win. However, Joanne worked out the endgame carefully and played RUNCH instead, letting Dylan play the 9-timer for 126. Joanne then played out with GLIA and the win.

Final score Joanne 499 – 445 Dylan.

Kudos to Joanne. It takes courage to deliberately let your opponent play a nine-timer.



Ask Liz

by *Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert*

Playing and declaring a blank/blanks

At a recent tournament a player near me played a word using both blanks. The word was started on the board from the last letter up to the first letter of the word. As the first blank was put on the board, this was immediately recorded in the space that said blank 1, the other blank when played was immediately recorded as blank 2. The opponent looked at the results slip where the blanks were recorded and questioned where each one was written and asked that they be changed to represent where they actually occurred in the word played. This involved a discussion afterwards, with the player feeling sure the blank needed to be recorded as soon as it is placed on the board rather than necessarily in the order they occur in the word. It (or they) actually needs to be declared and recorded before finishing the turn (i.e. pressing the clock), not necessarily as soon as you put them on the word before the word has been finished.

This is the wording in our rules –

NZ Rules 6.2. Playing a blank

6.2.1. When playing a blank the player must declare what letter it represents. The blank shall continue to represent the declared letter for the remainder of the game. The player playing a blank

will write the letter that the blank represents on the result sheet that will be used for the game and will ensure that the other player has sighted it. In any case where one or both players are vision impaired the clock will be neutralised and an adjudicator will be called to ensure that the blank is correctly recorded and understood by both players.



Liz Fagerlund

6.2.2. A player who plays a blank must declare it as in the rule above, **BEFORE pressing the timer**. If a player ends the turn without correctly declaring a blank, the opponent may immediately restart that player's timer and demand that the blank be properly declared. Pressing of the timer by the opponent in this instance does not count as a passed turn.

Our rules don't specifically mention anything about how they must be recorded when both blanks are played in the same turn; so I checked rules from other countries, and also the WESPA rules. None of them went into details for playing both blanks in the same turn, however it is logical if you have played both blanks in one word that they are recorded in the order they occur in the word.

The USA Rule regarding playing a blank is very brief – however, there is also a section on the NASPA website called “know the rules” with a specific example of playing 2 blanks in one word and recording them in the wrong order.

Playing the Blank When you play a blank tile onto the board, you must designate its letter value by circling or printing it as a capital letter on an appropriate slip.

And from **NASPA “know the rules”** document containing scenarios illustrating applications of the rules to situations that may arise during play. - Case: William plays the word PRO?I?E using two blanks. He intends the word to be PROMISE. However, on the blank-designation slip, he carelessly prints the S on the line that states “Blank #1” and the M on the line that states “Blank #2”. William announces his score and hits the clock. William’s opponent, Cheryl, challenges the word PROSIME. William says it is obvious he meant the word to be PROMISE and his incorrect ordering of the blanks on the designation slip should not matter. A Director is summoned. What should the ruling be? Ruling: Players must exercise reasonable care when designating two blanks on a single play, making sure they appear in the proper order on the designation slip. William did not do this. The ruling should be that



William played the word PROSIME— not PROMISE—which Cheryl can challenge off the board.

Of course, the reasons for recording the blanks (and in the correct order) are so that your opponent can check according to the blank designation whether they will accept or challenge your play; also, if there is a query later in the game, the recording of blanks can be referred to. If you have played both blanks where they could be interchangeable in the word such as ATOMIse/ATOMIes; LiNTeLS/LeNTiLS; later in the game these could be very justifiably taken in the way not intended by the player. Even if not interchangeable, if later in the game in the word ReTiNAs the opponent played through the S thinking it was E (which was recorded as blank number two on the sheet), and I was asked to rule on it, I would look at the sheet and declare blank number 1 was S, blank number 2 was E, therefore if the opponent made a correct word using an E (which was meant to be S) that play would stand (and the intended S would then remain an E).

Note: If anyone thinks any of our rules are not clear enough or specific enough, please put any suggested alterations to the rules committee for discussion. We are happy to get feedback and ideas for changes and improvements.

Club News

Whangarei Scrabble Club News

August 2021 to August 2022.

By Jenny Lichfield, Whangarei

At Whangarei's AGM in August, we reflected on how the 2021-2022 year has been memorable for both the right and the wrong reasons. Covid ever lurked. As a Scrabble Club, we lurched through mask mandates. We sanitised. We cleaned our equipment. Some of us tested positive and others identified as close contacts. We stayed our distance, mindful of the traffic lights. Life also dealt personal trials and tribulations. But, we stayed cheerful and played on. No doubt in our new Scrabble Club year, we will continue to laugh and lament with each other over life events and tile tribulations. If in doubt, keep on playing Scrabble.

Financial membership grew to twenty-four players during 2021 to 2022. This is a record for our club. We keenly appreciate the continued support of the Whangarei Bridge Club for letting their premises as a venue to WSC.

Several events lightened the year. Visiting players, very welcome, came and went. In July at our annual tournament, thirteen members competed in a field of forty-one entries, a great turnout for the club. We held our first rated tournament open to club members only. Many

thanks to all who helped make it a success, particularly Suzanne Liddall and Peter for the use of their home as a venue. Thanks to Annette Caisley for inputting game scores. An unrated but graded competitive tournament at Cicely's home gave club members a chance to spend an enjoyable springtime Sunday playing Scrabble for a range of prizes. Club stalwarts travelled to tournaments in Auckland, Tauranga, Christchurch and Rotorua. Six club members played in the New Zealand National Scrabble Championships in Christchurch. Cicely and Margie played in the Masters Tournament in Wellington. Whangarei looks forward to hosting Masters at Easter in 2023.

Outgoing committee members were thanked at the AGM. Barbara Derrick for her cheerful and sociable contributions to our birthdays and tournament catering. Cake comfort, cards and cheerful words are how we show we care for each other when birthdays and other life events happen. Suzanne Harding continues to compile club day games' statistics from players' score sheets. Read at afternoon tea, Sue's monthly reports remind us of how well (or not) we have been playing and also our happenings. Cicely Bruce as the Treasurer for her positive direction, members have benefited from low fees and contribution towards the end of year Xmas function. Jenny

Litchfield for being an efficient and conscientious Secretary and keeping our records and communications in order. Jason Simpson for sharing his ever increasing word knowledge and Suzanne Liddall for her support. Anne Scatchard for a sense of continuity, sharing her knowledge of Scrabble in Whangarei.

The WSC committee for 2022-2023: Anne Scatchard, President; Barbara Derrick, Treasurer; Jill Patterson, Margaret Peters, Margie Hurly and Sue Harris as committee members. Pencil in Whangarei Tournament 2023 for Saturday 1st to Sunday 2nd July, on your calendar. Life carries on and whatever else happens, we play Scrabble.

Queenstown Tourney had a special vibe

By Sue Hensley, Dunedin

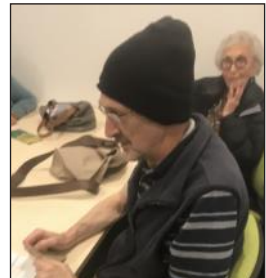
For the Dunedin club it was a great team weekend. We carpoled with people and scrabble equipment. We stayed at the lovely (and discounted) Wyndham Gardens Hotel at Frankton where everything is within walking distance – the restaurants, the supermarket, and best of all you can just roll out of bed and be at the game downstairs in five minutes. The venue is a nice intimate space that fits 28 players nicely, and at the end of the day groups get together to eat. I enjoyed getting to know some fellow Queenstown and Auckland scrabblers over a drink and some good food.

As a relative newbie it seems to me that scrabble tourneys are a well-oiled machine with everyone helping to set up and take down, but I know that organizers like Ruth Groffman are doing the hard yards behind the scenes. Thank you Ruth! A big thank you also to Murray Landon who set up the results software. It is so easy to follow and pretty much dummy proof.

Overall, it really was a relaxing and fun time. Book early for 2023!



*Malcolm Graham,
D grade winner with
Ruth Groffman*



*Paul Freeman,
B grade winner*



*Carolyn Kyle,
C grade winner with
Ruth Groffman*



*Lois Binnie,
A grade winner*

Scrabble Players Handbook

Ed: Dylan Early, Wellington, made me aware of this.

A new version of the Scrabble Players Handbook has been released (<https://www.scrabbleplayershandbook.com/>). It's a fantastic resource for beginners and experts alike. And it's free.

Here is the chapter from the book on first moves.

The First Move

By Brett Smitheram

Few moves in the game of Scrabble have so frequently found themselves both under- and over-analysed more than the opening play of the game. Statistics show that in games between two players of equal ability, the player who has the first move will win 54% of the time, but how do you decide the right play on a completely free board, and what considerations are worth mulling over?

Some major areas of discussion within this topic (rightly and wrongly) include: Vowel placement,

Orientation, Risk of providing floaters, Potential triple-word extensions, and the "Nearly" Rack.

Vowel Placement

The greatest myth surrounding the opening move is the belief that it is worth sacrificing more than

two points in order to avoid placing vowels next to the double-letter squares in columns (g) and (i). A number of books and magazine articles were published around 15-20 years ago which advocated playing a lower-scoring move in order to avoid doing this, but this was in an age where human "gut feeling" was utilised rather than hard data, and human nature recalls those odd occasions where you get stung much more vividly than the majority of occasions when you do not. Computer simulations have now shown that in reality a vowel placed next to a double letter score is only a tiny threat.

If you have a choice between two or three moves of equal score then choosing one which avoids this may be preferable, but factors such as rack leave (investing in the future) are far more important. If in doubt, grab the points on offer rather than attempting to be defensive from the very start.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
7			2L				2L		2L				2L		
8	3W			2L				★				2L			3W
9			2L				2L		2L				2L		

Orientation

As we read from left to right in English, the vast majority of opening plays are positioned horizontally. Whether there is any genuine strategic value to playing vertically is highly debatable. The plays available to your opponent are identical in either case. Some players believe that an “unnatural” vertical positioning can disconcert/disorient the opponent, or make it easier to see an eight-letter play horizontally, but unsurprisingly there is no difference whatsoever if you look at the raw (computer) data.

Risk of providing floaters

While only one rack is able to provide a given seven-letter play, a total of eight different racks can combine with an additional letter on the board to create the same eight-letter play.

Some consideration therefore needs to be given to your opponent’s relative strength (if you are aware of it) and the risk of providing multiple useful floating tiles to enable them to play an eight.

Take for example an opening rack of **AACENTV**. No seven-letter play, but good scoring potential exists in **VACANT** or **VACATE/CAVEAT**. However, consider the merits of **VAC** placed centrally: very few parallel plays are available (only if your opponent has an H to make CH) and only if they have an S can they hook **VAC-S**. Without these, your opponent is restricted to a simple, likely low-scoring play through the V, A or C. Additionally, you are keeping a strong

AENT which may well combine to make an eight with the floaters your opponent will likely give you.

8 vowels, 11 consonants, a comma and an exclamation mark walked into court...they'll be sentenced next week

Of course, if they *do* have a playable bonus then we have sacrificed 14 points to little benefit, but these are the probabilities which need to be considered.

As a rule of thumb, it is probably better to choose the more restrictive play if you believe you are at a significant disadvantage in word knowledge, but if you do get stung, it will hurt more!

Finally, it is worth noting that approximately one in eight opening racks makes a seven-letter word. If you find you have picked a high-probability rack with a blank and have a variety of bonuses to choose from, consider making the blank tile the same as one of the other letters in the word; there’s no point in giving your opponent an extra choice of floating letter to use in reply.

Potential Extensions

This is the concern that an opening play might give the opponent a higher-scoring response by extending the word to the TWS, a risk usually overestimated by weaker players. The issue is best considered with specific illustrations.

Example Rack #1: **CEEKLR**

The word which leaps out at us is CLERK. With this rack there should be no hesitation in putting it down at (h8), taking the 32pts and moving on. “But hang on!”, you cry, “What about the risk of the opponent turning it into CLERKING?”

CLERKING will score 45pts. This is roughly 15-20pts more than you might expect them to score on average. However, in order to avoid this risk, you will need to either choose a different position for CLERK (presumably d8), sacrificing a whopping eight points on the very first move, or play CREEK (h8) which leaves you with an inferior LR vs ER if we play CLERK. Of course SUB-CLERK and CREEK-IER are both valid as well...



The correct position

It is vital to realise that the opponent needs to be sitting there with ING on their very first rack in order for this threat to be relevant. After their first reply you will both have an equal chance of getting the necessary letters. As with the decision to place vowels next to double-letter squares mentioned above, the apparent risks in this situation are usually overestimated by less experienced players. Mathematically, the

probability of an opponent having the letters ING on their opening rack is actually only one in 40. Once again, if in any doubt, just grab the points.

Less clear-cut examples exist among short plays. For example, if you have decided you have to play off the tiles AEFKR from your rack, what would you play?

FREAK (h8) maximises the score with the added bonus of keeping a vowel away from the double letter squares. However, extensions of -IER, -ISH, -ING, -ILY, -ERY, -FUL and -OUT are all potentials. FREAK ending on (h8) sacrifices points, leaves a vowel next to the double letter, and has the potential front extension of ECO-. Finally FAKER ending on (h8) sacrifices points and leaves a vowel next to the double letter.

In fact, computer simulation shows that FREAK beginning at (h8) is the best play, followed by FAKER, winning approximately 1% more games, and 2% more than the alternative positioning of FREAK. It's not a clear cut result if the multiple minor pros and cons are considered, but it does continue to uphold the general rule of thumb.

Summary: On the whole, if you have found a five or six-letter play which reaches a double-letter square, play it. It is not worth sacrificing score in order to position the tiles more defensively.

Example Rack #2: EEEFRRZ

A classic poser. No prizes for spotting FREEZER, but do you play it to double the Z for 108 points and risk your opponent having a huge reply with a simple –S play on the triple word score, or do you sacrifice a massive 12 points by doubling the F instead for 96?

Again, the raw numbers appear to be on your side with the more aggressive play. Your opponent has seven chances out of 93 unseen tiles to have an S or blank. If they don't, then you subsequently have seven shots out of 86 and they are presented with the dilemma of whether to try to block a potentially game winning two-move double whammy and in so doing sacrificing their own score, or maximise their own score and ignore the danger.

Despite this, it would take a brave player indeed, when faced with a 96 point alternative, to take any form of perceived risk at all... although of course there is always the chance your opponent promptly plonks down BUMFREEZER for 78!

In fact, simulation on this occasion favours the more conservative play, showing that it wins just over 3% more games. This is likely to be due to the very high alternative score on offer for the price of 12 points and the extreme nature of the potential risk; but when it comes

to defensive choices on the first move, this is a rare example!

Summary: With two very high scoring alternatives (e.g. those likely to be worth around three average moves or more) there is slightly more room for defensive thinking to avoid moderate risks.

The “nearly” rack

By this is meant racks which require something additional to realise their potential, be it a floater for an 8 (e.g. AAEINRT), or a place to play a high-scoring tile (e.g. JKRRTXZ)

The first thing to make clear is that passing is never the right thing to do. If your opponent has any sense at all they will simply change in order to create a bonus on their own rack – and even if they do play, it is not guaranteed that they will give you the desired floater and you find yourself in the same position, just further behind.

Tournament Calendar 2022-23

Tournament	Location	Dates
World Seniors	Sydney	1-3 November
*Trans Tasman	Sydney	5-6 November
Dunedin	Dunedin	12-13 November
Janniversary	Wellington	21-22 January
Dunedin	Dunedin	25-26 March
*Masters	Whangarei	8-10 April
*Limited entry		

In the first example, the best move is simply to exchange one A. This is because AEINRT is hugely likely to yield a seven or eight with another random tile, and any score (e.g. four points for AI, or 14 for RETAIN etc.) is significantly below what could be achieved with the highly-likely bonus on move two, even if move one scores nothing.

In the second example, it would only take one vowel to give potential high scores from the likes of JERK, RITZ or ZAX/ZEX etc. But bearing in mind the earlier comment on passing, it may surprise you to learn that players have completed games with a total *negative* score by passing in the hope that their opponent (who

subsequently also passes) gives them a high scoring opening, which never appears!

Best play here is again to change. It may feel counter-intuitive to put 'goodies' back in the bag for your opponent, but in reality they will only hold you back. Good options include retention of one or both of the Z/X as they are the most flexible of the high scorers, along with one or both of T/R. It is not, however, advisable to keep more than two or three tiles in total, in order to minimise the risk of another rack full of consonants.

Summary: If it's a "nearly" rack, changing is usually the best choice.

When is a Bird not a Bird?

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

If a child asked you that riddle, "When is a bird not a bird?" what would you answer?



"When it's a **LADYBIRD**," perhaps? Because while it sounds like a bird, it's actually an insect.

Thinking about it a bit longer, you might come up with **DOLLYBIRD** (a young woman who is attractive but not very intelligent), or **JAILBIRD/ GAOLBIRD** (a person who is in

prison, especially one who is in prison repeatedly).

WARBIRD (a vintage military aircraft), **YARDBIRD** (an army recruit), and **HOMEBIRD** (homebody) might not be part of your ready vocabulary, but you'd know those words.



WHIRLYBIRD
(helicopter) is OK, too.

**DICKYBIRD/
DICKYBIRD** is a
child's word for a bird,

but no *particular* bird has that name. It's also the word for a false shirtfront or **DICKY/DICKEY**, which men and women used to wear. (When I was a child, I had a great aunt with a drawerful of assorted **DICKIES**, which she wore under the same suit every day of her working life in a department store).

SONGBIRD and **LOVEBIRD** are words that we use to describe some people, but they *are* actually birds as well.

As you would expect, every -BIRD word takes an S. But apart from the word **BIRD** (to hunt birds, **BIRDING**, **BIRDED**), only one of them can be used as a verb, and that's **BLACKBIRD**. **BLACKBIRD** is, of course, a bird, but it has another now obscure non-bird meaning. A **BLACKBIRD** was a person, especially a Pacific Islander, who was kidnapped and sold into slavery abroad, usually in Australia.



RAILBIRDS at the Foxfield Races, Virginia

Hence **BLACKBIRDING** and **BLACKBIRDED**. (The word – and thankfully, the practice - is now obsolete).

There are only three other non-bird bird-words, and their interesting meanings may be new to you:

BOOBIRD is a noisy home fan at a sporting event who boos a member of the home team, or a person who habitually criticises or jeers.

WOSBIRD is the child of a prostitute, and an offensive word of abuse.

RAILBIRD is a spectator at a horse race who watches from the railings alongside the track – you can imagine them “perched” on the rails, so to speak! See the illustrations. **RAILS** are birds, but they are generally just called **RAILS**, not **RAILBIRDS**.

Thanks to Su Walker, who mentioned this word, which in turn inspired this article.

In the News

Champion Scrabble player explains one misconception everyone has about how to score well



Jess Hardiman



Published 16:39, 05 September 2022 BST

<https://www.ladbible.com/news/scrabble-tips-howard-warner-20220905>

A champion Scrabble player has shared his secrets of the game to help others become stronger opponents – explaining how there's one misconception everyone has about how to score well.

Howard Warner, from New Zealand, is a two-time winner of the WESPA Senior Scrabble Championship who first started playing board games as a kid, before joining a club in his early 20s after moving to a new town.

Speaking to Urbo, he recalled how he became 'hooked' after winning second place in his first tournament around 30 years ago.

Warner, who is also President of the NZ Association of Scrabble Players, revealed that there are a number of 'big' misunderstandings about the game - including one in particular about how to 'score well'.

"The big misconception is that it's about words," he continued.

"Another big misconception is that the only way to score well is to get on the triple word score.

"The fact is there's many, many, many ways of scoring very well in the game of Scrabble, and also many ways of stopping your opponent from scoring well.

"That's the offensive approach and the defensive approach, and a good player combines the two."

Speaking about the misconceptions people have about Scrabble at tournament level, he added: "The main difference, at the domestic level, [is that] people think it's about words.

"I always tell people, 'If you're interested in words as language, write or read.'

"For Scrabble, it's more about letter combinations that are used for scoring points. So it's a very mathematical game.

"And it just so happens that many of the top players are also very good bridge players, chess players, poker players. They're applying the same sort of numerical and strategic approaches to those games.

"The only difference is, instead of working with spots on cards or imitation soldiers, they're working with



Howard Warner

letter combinations."

According to Urbo, the top tournament winners take home upwards of \$10,000 – but those playing at that level inevitably have to invest a great deal of time, graft and practice to get there.

Warner said he plays daily to keep his skills up, and often revises anagrams as a key tool.

"I don't prepare for a tournament," he said.

"I prepare for tournament play, generally, and it's an ongoing thing. It's daily.

"A marathon runner might be clocking up their miles every day, and we're similar. Everyday, I will do my anagram revision.

"I should just explain how we learn words. You generally learn the words from two letters up to five letters by rote, until you just have them all there, just sitting in your memory constantly.

"And you play the smaller words a lot, so they don't need a lot of revision. Once you learn them, they're just there, ready for use. It's the words from six letters to eight

letters long, and sometimes even nine letters long, that you generally learn by anagram combinations.

"You want to be able to recognise the anagram combination as soon as it's on your rack and know all the permutations. There are programs and apps around now that help us refine this learning. I spend around an hour every day just going through all these, revising all my anagrams.

"I'm not learning the words. I know all the words I need now, I'm just revising; anagrams."



Thanksgiving Scrabble board

World of Words – an update

by Howard Warner, Scrabble Wellington

Many of you may be wondering what is happening with the New Zealand and international word lists. As it stands, the Scrabble world (outside of North America) now has two ‘factions’ – still friendly, still playing the same game but using slightly different sets of words.

In New Zealand, we continue to use Collins Scrabble Words 2019 edition (CSW19), under the name New Zealand Lexicon 2021 (NZL21). Other player associations use either CSW19 or the newly abbreviated CSW22.

If any of us want to play overseas in a CSW22 tournament, we will have to ‘unlearn’ a bunch of words and then relearn them when we return home. (A list of those words should be available in our forums soon.)

Here’s a quick history of how we got to this point. It began with Scrabble’s North American brand owner Hasbro foisting onto players an expurgated version of their tournament word list (TWL). Mattel, the rest-of-world owner, followed suit with its diktat to tournament players to adopt a version of CSW purged of some 430 ‘slur words’.

In response, the World English-language Scrabble Players Association (WESPA) tried to force a hasty vote on renaming itself, so it could break out of its restrictive

contract with Mattel. But it failed to get the necessary 75% of votes – despite 100% of member player countries saying previously that they opposed expurgation.

So WESPA went ahead with trying to enforce member countries to adopt a sanitised CSW. It also refused to rate international or national tournaments unless organisers bowed under.

Some player associations took the path of least resistance and accepted ‘the inevitable’. Others that felt strongly about Mattel’s bullying stance – notably New Zealand, Israel, six of Australia’s seven states and Thailand – chose to continue using CSW19. New Zealand resigned our membership of WESPA.

A group of international players set up an alternative, ‘unbranded’ body, called WordGamers International (WGI), to rate tournaments that WESPA wouldn’t rate. WGI has already rated half a dozen tournaments and has several more in the pipeline – including the upcoming World Seniors Champs and Trans-Tasman Challenge.

WGI has had strong involvement of Kiwis. Olivia En is secretary, Nick Ascroft is a member of the ‘Words Group’, Vicky Robertson designed its logo, Michael Hyndman designed the website, and I am the current chair.

Another key aim of WGI is to develop and expand the word source without deleting any words. The Words Group is investigating ways to do this and expects to have a process in place by mid-2023. The result will be a new, player-focussed list called the 'International English Lexicon' (IEL). Note, this is not intended to be a published book or even a dictionary with definitions. It'll be just a word list, for the use of tournament players only.

Of course, if CSW undergoes its traditional five-yearly update and adds many new words, those could come into IEL too. WESPA is banking on CSW25 (or whatever) to bring the Scrabble world back under one roof. However, there are no guarantees about CSW. WESPA no longer has a dictionary committee liaising with Mattel and publisher Collins. And the long-time supremo of Scrabble lexicography, Englishman Darryl

Francis, has resigned from WESPA to throw in his lot with WGI.

So, it's a new, fragmented word-world we're in. Lexicons are in a state of flux. Alliances are shifting. Personally, I'd much prefer that things were as they used to be. But that all changed when the owners allowed their profit-based, multi-national corporate agendas to spill over into our little arcane world of Scrabble play.

Finally, a word about Dylan Early's wonderful word-judge app Zebra. It's already in use on Android devices. Very soon it will be available for iOS (iPhone) and Windows (laptops and desktops) as well. His team of developers has also designed a Zebra tool that can run off a website. The beauty of Zebra is that we can use it with any unexpurgated word source, no matter what happens with other existing apps.

Puzzle Pozzy - What is the Oil Rate?

By Patrick Carter, Mt. Albert



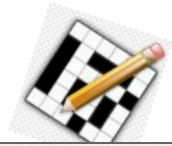
Sometimes you get really common and normally useful letters on your rack, but they do not make a seven-letter word. Every scrabble player must have had *OILRATE on their rack at some time. There are no seven-letter words, but if you can access the right letter on the board there are plenty of eight-letter words you might play.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. B + OILRATE | 6. H + OILRATE | 10. R + OILRATE |
| 2. C + OILRATE
(2 words) | 7. M + OILRATE
(2 words) | 11. S + OILRATE |
| 3. D + OILRATE
(2 words) | 8. N + OILRATE
(3 words) | 12. T + OILRATE |
| 4. E + OILRATE | 9. P + OILRATE
(2 words) | 13. V + OILRATE |
| 5. F + OILRATE | | 14. Z + OILRATE |

Answers on page 44.

Puzzle Pozy Solutions

Spectacular Plays from the Gladiators WESPA Championship 2021—answers *From pages 13 & 15.*



Play 1 – No Migraine

Paul played I(MAGI)NER through MAGI at O8.

Ed: Duh... just got why this puzzle was headed No Migraine – MIGRAINE is the anagram of IMAGINER!

Play 2 – Discipline Pays

Paul had a place for DESIRES and RESIDES onto HUI, however, he declined the bonus. He was mindful that if he emptied the bag and his opponent went out with a bonus, he would lose. So Paul opted to play just one tile. He

played his S to make HAJIS for 16 instead (the best move according to a Quackle simulation!). Brian then bonused with DECALING for 89, emptying the bag. Paul picked an N and was then able to play out with DENIERS/HUIS for 76 and the win. Brian was caught holding ?DGTWY.

Final score: Paul 467 v Brian 444. If Paul had played DESIRES he would have lost.



What is the Oil Rate? - answers *From page 43.*

1. LABORITE - Someone who supports worker's rights
2. EROTICAL - Something pertaining to passion or love
3. LORICATE - To put on a protective coat or to armour something
4. IDOLATER - Someone who worships idols - Also IDOLATOR
5. TAILORED - To fit with clothes
6. AEROLITE - A meteorite
7. FLOATIER - More inclined to float
8. AEROLITH - A meteorite
9. AMITROLE - A herbicide used for controlling weeds in crops
10. ROLAMITE - Two or more rollers connected by a belt
11. ORIENTAL - Something from the East
12. RELATION - An association between people or things
13. TAILERON - A control surface mounted on the tail of an airplane
14. EPILATOR - Something used for removing hair
15. PETIOLAR - describing something that is like the stalk of a leaf

16. *RETAILOR* - To tailor something again
 17. *SOTERIAL* - Something that is pertaining to salvation
 18. *LITERATO* - A man of learning - the

plural is *LITERATI*

19. *VIOLATER* - Someone who violates - also *VIOLATOR*
 20. *TRIAZOLE* - A molecule with three nitrogen and two carbon atoms

Mouse/Mouses/Mice

Submitted by Dylan Early, Wellington

Original article: <https://www.techtarget.com/whatis/feature/If-youve-got-more-than-one-of-them-are-they-computer-mice-or-mouses>

Which is correct?

The office only provided four _____ for the six laptops because they assumed at least a couple of users would be happy with the touchpads.

- a. mice
- b. mouses
- c. mouse

Answer: a.

Explanation:

Mice is the clear winner in a Google poll:

Computer mice: 319,000

Computer mouses: 30,600

(But that's not why we say it's correct.)

There's a lot of discussion about this issue online and, although consensus seems to be for mice, some folks insist that mouses is more correct or even mouse, like the plural of moose (which is moose). Here's a sample argument:

MOUSE is an acronym, and is short for Manually-Operated User-Selection

Equipment. Most people, however pluralise acronyms, and initials in general, by adding a small s, so it would be MOUSEs, which seems a bit silly. Mice is also wrong, as it doesn't stand for anything, but it does make more grammatical sense than calling them MOUSE or MOUSEs. (NB: If a MOUSE was so called because it looked like the animal, then mice would be correct, but that isn't the case, although small body, long tail, who knows...)

We're not sure about that acronym story. It seems to us more likely a backronym, made up with likely words to stand for the letters in the name. Because, after all, everything should be an acronym, right?

The OED lists the plural as mouses. Much as we hate to disagree with the OED, we will do so in this case.

Why do we say with such certainty that the plural of (computer) mouse is mice? We went to the source. Douglas Engelbart, who invented the mouse. He refers to it in the plural as mice. He said the name was chosen for the device's resemblance to its furry namesake — yes, small body, the long tail and maybe the tendency to scamper.



Tournament results

Kiwi

6-7 August 2022

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	11	428	421
2	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	8	542	422
3	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	8	483	414
4	Rosemary Cleary (E)	WAN	8	-202	378
5	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	7	210	413
6	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	7	-317	398
7	Val Mills (E)	MTA	4	-605	395
8	Olivia En (E)	WAN	3	-539	392

B Grade

1	Lynn Wood	IND	9	174	389
2	Jennifer Smith	KIW	8	338	406
3	Jane Walton	KIW	7	98	385
4	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	7	41	401
5	Margie Hurly	WRE	7	-101	399
6	Jason Simpson	WRE	7	-252	382
7	David Gunn	IND	6	-282	392
8	Shirley Martin	KIW	5	-16	389

C Grade

1	Helen Sillis	WTA	9	818	426
2	Barney Bonthron	KIW	9	345	407
3	Mary Gray	MTA	9	-413	382
4	Delcie Macbeth	IND	8	300	389
5	Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	-32	364
6	Su Walker	IND	6	162	393
7	Roger Coates	KIW	4	-327	374
8	Jean O'Brien	IND	3	-853	350

D Grade

1	Glenda Geard	IND	10	338	365
2	Lyn Toka	KIW	8	555	396
3	Samantha Samuels	KIW	8	363	355
4	Anne Scatchard	WRE	8	-10	334
5	Ruth Godwin	ROT	8	-53	341
6	Suzanne Harding	WRE	7	323	371
7	Jacqueline	KIW	4	-623	352
8	Margaret Penniket	KIW	3	-893	332

E Grade

1	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	10	251	344
2	Frances Higham	PAP	10	181	327
3	Dael Shaw	TGA	8	409	336
4	Jillian Greening	KIW	7	324	342
5	Graeme Quinn	WRE	7	111	329
6	Fay Wenzlick	TGA	7	-115	324
7	Karen Stewart	KIW	4	-568	324
8	Margaret Webb	TGA	3	-593	295

Tauranga

20-21 August 2022

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	12	1064	438
2	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	9	304	419
3	Val Mills (E)	MTA	8	202	401
4	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	7	-20	403
5	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	7	-108	403
6	Rosemary Cleary (E)	WAN	5	-204	365
7	Olivia En (E)	WAN	5	-507	389
8	John Foster (GM)	IND	3	-731	365

B Grade

1	Jane Walton	KIW	9.5	435	396
2	Shirley Martin	KIW	8.5	206	412
3	David Gunn	IND	7	208	405
4	Marianne Bentley (E)	TGA	7	-103	398
5	Helen Sillis	WTA	7	-176	384
6	Rosalind Phillips	TGA	7	-277	377
7	Lynn Wood	IND	5	64	385
8	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	5	-357	366

C Grade

1	Stan Gregec	IND	10	741	429
2	Nola Borrell	IND	9	243	402
3	Roger Coates	KIW	8	247	404
4	Jena Yousif	WRE	8	90	402
5	Delcie Macbeth	IND	7	-195	392
6	Betty Eriksen	WAN	5	-133	383
7	Mary Gray	MTA	5	-274	378
8	Bernie Jardine	MTA	4	-719	381

D Grade

1	Heather Landon	TGA	12	697	393
2	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	9.5	377	374
3	Jean O'Brien	IND	8.5	208	374
4	Ruth Groffman	DUN	6	249	372
5	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	-17	367
6	Lyn Toka	KIW	6	-312	367
7	Barbara Dunn	TGA	5	-523	356
8	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	3	-679	348

E Grade

1	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	12	1127	408
2	Suzanne Harding	WRE	9	325	387
3	Glenda Geard	IND	8	80	374
4	Ruth Godwin	ROT	7	-201	337
5	Antonia Aarts	MTA	6	14	364
6	Shirley Morrison	TGA	5	-307	339
7	Rosemary Wauters	TGA	5	-421	332
8	Judy Driscoll	IND	4	-617	342

F Grade

1	Marian Merrin	TGA	13	936	387
2	Dave Higson	TGA	10	484	355
3	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	10	381	353
4	Jacqueline	KIW	8	394	370
5	Rodney Jardine	MTA	7	182	363
6	Anne Scatchard	WRE	7	-120	322
7	Dael Shaw	TGA	6	-340	326
8	Jillian Greening	KIW	4	-139	330
9	Noelene Bettjeman	TGA	4	-447	329
10	Margaret Webb	TGA	1	-1331	275



*Jane Walton and Stan Gregec,
Tauranga B and C grade winners*

Christchurch**3-4 September 2022**

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
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A Grade

1	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	13	1612	461
2	Lynn Wood	IND	8	-6	395
3	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	7	-139	376
4	Lois Binnie	CHC	7	-565	382
5	John Baird	CHC	6	71	403
6	Paul Lister (E)	CHC	6	-199	389
7	Peter Johnstone	CHC	6	-453	376
8	Helen Sillis	WTA	3	-321	380

B Grade

1	Selena Chan	CHC	9	399	409
2	Laura Griffiths	CHC	9	384	410
3	Anne Goldstein	CHC	9	250	391
4	Jean O'Brien	IND	8	11	375
5	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	24	381
6	Mary Gray	MTA	6	-74	380
7	Shirley Hol	CHC	5	-550	372
8	Betty Eriksen	WAN	4	-444	370

C Grade

1	Joanna Fox	CHC	11	770	395
2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	9	128	376
3	Tara Hurley	IND	8	-19	385
4	Mandy Thorogood	IND	8	-90	375
5	Ray Goodyear	IND	7	244	384
6	Marian Ross	DUN	6	-121	375
7	Colleen Cook	CHC	4	-420	357
8	Llane Hadden	NEL	3	-492	345

D Grade

1	Sue Hensley	DUN	11	676	377
2	Malcolm Graham	IND	9	577	370
3	Hanna Dodge	CHC	9	102	361
4	Colleen Link	CHC	8	359	352
5	Noeline Monsef	CHC	8	170	361
6	Tony Charlton	NEL	8	120	350
7	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	7	84	345
8	Megg Hewlett	CHC	7	29	368
9	Madelaine Green	CHC	6	-31	357
10	Sharon McKenzie	CHC	5	-393	330
11	Dale McMillen	TGA	4	-213	338
12	Trish Fox	CHC	2	-1480	256

Queenstown 17-18 September 2022

15 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade				
1 Lois Binnie	CHC	11	812	422
2 Nick Ascroft (E)	WEL	10	1127	438
3 Lynn Wood	IND	7	-41	396
4 Herb Ramsay	CHC	6	-587	384
5 Peter Johnstone	CHC	6	-753	380
6 Karen Gray	DUN	5	-558	366

B Grade

1 Paul Freeman	DUN	10	523	414
2 Yvette Hewlett	IND	8	419	407
3 John Baird	CHC	7	85	407
4 Shirley Hol	CHC	7	54	395
5 Anne Goldstein	CHC	7	-276	384
6 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	6	-805	360

C Grade

1 Carolyn Kyle	IND	11	139	371
2 Karen Miller	IND	10	207	368
3 Ruth Groffman	DUN	8	217	372
4 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	8	147	374
5 Tara Hurley	IND	7	-163	374
6 Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	-108	373
7 Marian Ross	DUN	5.5	-272	364
8 Joanna Fox	CHC	4.5	-167	365

D Grade

1 Malcolm Graham	IND	13	718	386
2 Sue Hensley	DUN	10.5	345	378
3 Steve Wood	DUN	8.5	575	377
4 Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	7	-408	345
5 Sharon Teasdale	DUN	6	-157	365
6 Hanna Dodge	CHC	6	-232	352
7 Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	5	-370	350
8 Noeline Monsef	CHC	4	-471	342

Swisstoher—Saturday 1 October 2022

7 games

Name	Wins	Spread
1 Gil Quiballo	7	606
2 Howard Warner	6	676
3 Stanley Ngundi	5	273
4 Glenyss Buchanan	4	440
5 Dylan Early	4	242
6 Lynn Wood	4	169
7 Lawson Sue	4	168
8 Jane Walton	4	30
9 Olivia En	4	-6
10 Murray Rogers	4	-13
11 Liz Fagerlund	4	-151
12 Tony Charlton	3.5	-554
13 Val Mills	3	156
14 Nick Ascroft	3	57
15 Nola Borrell	3	-217
16 Clare Wall	3	-283
17 Chris Bell	3	-302
18 Judith Driscoll	2.5	-225
19 Betty Eriksen	2	-72
20 Michael Hyndman	2	-337
21 Sheila Reed	1	-313
22 Patricia Bennett	1	-344

Swisstoher—Sunday 2 October 2022

7 games

Name	Wins	Spread
1 Howard Warner	7	923
2 Dylan Early	6	771
3 Stanley Ngundi	5	49
4 Gil Quiballo	4	351
5 Jane Walton	4	349
6 Nick Ascroft	4	213
7 Lynn Wood	4	120
8 Anderina McLean	4	78
9 Olivia En	4	5
10 Sue McRae	4	-202

Name	Wins	Spread
11 Michael Hyndman	4	-300
12 Liz Fagerlund	3	68
13 Val Mills	3	-146
14 Nola Borrell	3	-344
15 Murray Rogers	2	-182
16 Clare Wall	2	-213
17 Betty Eriksen	2	-216
18 Patricia Bennett	2	-271
19 Judith Driscoll	2	-507
20 Tony Charlton	1	-546

Mt. Albert**8-9 October 2022**

14 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
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A Grade

1 Jeff Grant (GM)	IND	12	1017	441
2 Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	9	684	430
3 John Foster (GM)	IND	7	32	402
4 Val Mills (E)	MTA	7	14	404
5 Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	7	-238	401
6 Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	6	3	406
7 Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	5	-171	393
8 Jason Simpson	WRE	3	-1341	356

B Grade

1 Helen Sillis	WTA	11	232	390
2 Lynn Wood	IND	10	330	392
3 Lorraine Van Veen	IND	7	-254	372
4 Mary Curtis	WRE	6	290	404
5 Mike Currie	MTA	6	214	415
6 Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	6	-333	381
7 Margie Hurly	WRE	5	-149	386
8 Stan Gregec	IND	5	-330	385

C Grade

1 Su Walker	IND	10	253	391
2 Jean O'Brien	IND	9	248	404
3 Delcie Macbeth	IND	8	-72	389
4 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	7	-57	379
5 Chris Higgins	IND	6	369	404
6 Karen Miller	IND	6	-126	370
7 Heather Landon	TGA	6	-233	367
8 Lynn Carter	IND	4	-382	376

D Grade

1 Bernie Jardine	MTA	10	555	412
2 Betty Eriksen	WAN	9	252	374
3 Jill Paterson	WRE	8	443	397
4 Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	8	355	380
5 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	7	-46	365
6 Tara Hurley	IND	7	-123	376
7 Cathy Casey	MTA	6	-182	375
8 Barbara Dunn	TGA	6	-280	363
9 Alexander Gandar	MTA	5	-417	365
10 Glenda Geard	IND	4	-557	349

E Grade

1 Suzanne Harding	WRE	11	858	393
2 Rodney Jardine	MTA	10	510	374
3 Antonia Aarts	MTA	8	343	380
4 Ruth Godwin	ROT	8	59	352
5 Jillian Greening	KIW	8	44	342
6 Jackie Reid	MTA	7	-212	350
7 Anne Scatchard	WRE	6	-276	322
8 Judy Cronin	MTA	4	-390	325
9 Junior Gesmundo	PAP	4	-428	337
10 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	4	-508	334



*Heather Landon and
Roger Cole-Baker,
Tauranga D and E grade winners*



*Pam Fulton with Marian
Merrin, Tauranga F grade winner*

Rankings as at 10 October 2022

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Alastair Richards (GM)	2372	443.5	556	80%	37	Helen Sillis	1579	1003	2037	49%
2	Howard Warner (GM)	2258	2557.5	3401	75%	38	Shirley Martin	1552	1197	2405	50%
3	Jeff Grant (GM)	2165	1900	2554	74%	39	Margie Hurly	1551	515	1052	49%
4	Dylan Early (GM)	2158	278	416	67%	40	Jeanette Grimmer	1538	393	797	49%
5	Joanne Craig (GM)	2139	477.5	731	65%	41	Rosalind Phillips	1533	712.5	1394	51%
6	Patrick Carter (GM)	2118	961.5	1504	64%	42	Pam Barlow	1526	943	1874	50%
7	Lyres Freeth (GM)	2091	741.5	1132	66%	43	David Gunn	1525	1582	3226	49%
8	Blue Thorogood (GM)	2078	863	1231	70%	44	John Baird	1522	416.5	776	54%
9	Peter Sinton (GM)	2050	851.5	1216	70%	45	Lorraine Van Veen	1508	1172.5	2381	49%
10	Gil Quiballo	1984	117.5	194	61%	46	Yvette Hewlett	1505	574.5	1184	49%
11	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1939	1106	2081	53%	47	Mike Currie	1502	95	164	58%
12	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1914	1020	1871	55%	48	Vicky Robertson	1502	478	1019	47%
13	Nick Ascroft (E)	1905	333.5	603	55%	49	Paul Freeman	1492	136.5	242	56%
14	Scott Chaput (E)	1903	372	659	56%	50	Mary Curtis	1489	568.5	1090	52%
15	Anderina McLean (GM)	1897	1034	1933	53%	51	Delcie Macbeth	1444	1182.5	2303	51%
16	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	1896	107.5	196	55%	52	Yoon Kim Fong	1423	813	1588	51%
17	Glennis Hale (GM)	1889	1816.5	3328	55%	53	Selena Chan	1422	435.5	866	50%
18	Karen Richards (E)	1884	129	231	56%	54	Anne Goldstein	1413	352	709	50%
19	Lawson Sue (GM)	1879	1339	2480	54%	55	Roger Coates	1410	981.5	2069	47%
20	Paul Richards	1841	65	120	54%	56	Barney Bonthron	1398	164.5	289	57%
21	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1820	1645	3188	52%	57	Su Walker	1392	1396.5	2740	51%
22	John Foster (GM)	1779	1846.5	3311	56%	58	Jean O'Brien	1389	1659	3288	50%
23	Lois Binnie	1767	249.5	493	51%	59	Jena Yousif	1377	730	1456	50%
24	Val Mills (E)	1760	1737	3558	49%	60	Nola Borrell	1369	680	1296	52%
25	Herb Ramsay	1747	327	562	58%	61	Bev Edwards	1350	369	717	51%
26	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1745	991	2120	47%	62	Shirley Hol	1346	914.5	1930	47%
27	Olivia En (E)	1677	1037	2019	51%	63	Mary Gray	1345	890	1793	50%
28	Lynn Wood	1677	2543	5300	48%	64	Clare Wall	1342	422	836	50%
29	Murray Rogers (E)	1674	1239.5	2361	52%	65	Heather Landon	1335	829	1643	50%
30	Paul Lister (E)	1643	935	1712	55%	66	Suzanne Liddall	1329	215	383	56%
31	Jane Walton	1643	319.5	663	48%	67	Chris Higgins	1327	179.5	329	55%
32	Jason Simpson	1641	133	253	53%	68	Dianne Cole-Baker	1326	809.5	1596	51%
33	Marianne Bentley (E)	1620	339.5	755	45%	69	Chris Bell	1320	72	147	49%
34	Jennifer Smith	1615	1437.5	3006	48%	70	Bernie Jardine	1319	360	678	53%
35	Peter Johnstone	1613	366	705	52%	71	Carolyn Kyle	1312	1275.5	2586	49%
36	Karen Gray	1596	355.5	679	52%	72	Jenny Litchfield	1300	248.5	457	54%

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
73 Karen Miller	1295	753	1469	51%	110 Tony Charlton	800	464.5	985	47%
74 Lynn Carter	1270	920.5	1787	52%	111 Marilyn Sinclair	797	266.5	546	49%
75 Betty Eriksen	1225	2057	4085	50%	112 Rodney Jardine	775	302	621	49%
76 Merelyn Fuemana	1220	270	506	53%	113 Steve Wood	763	32.5	60	54%
77 Ruth Groffman	1209	847.5	1724	49%	114 Hanna Dodge	761	304	572	53%
78 Karl Scherer	1180	182	364	50%	115 Dorothy Bakel	707	155	329	47%
79 Lyn Toka	1179	710.5	1367	52%	116 Junior Gesmundo	699	394.5	807	49%
80 Joanna Fox	1157	301	587	51%	117 Margaret Toso	684	202	456	44%
81 Roger Cole-Baker	1149	864.5	1689	51%	118 Tim Henneveld	665	594.5	1295	46%
82 Megan Scherer	1135	55	84	65%	119 Madelaine Green	654	196.5	384	51%
83 Barbara Dunn	1134	394.5	696	57%	120 Anne Scatchard	650	777	1528	51%
84 Tara Hurley	1122	162.5	299	54%	121 Sharon Teasdale	643	76	154	49%
85 Marian Ross	1107	774	1498	52%	122 Noeline Monsef	635	87	194	45%
86 Jill Paterson	1107	140	253	55%	123 Frances Higham	625	383	982	39%
87 Julia Schiller	1104	427	912	47%	124 Jackie Reid	594	192.5	429	45%
88 Cathy Casey	1084	124	226	55%	125 Margaret Penniket	582	89	200	44%
89 Sharron Nelley	1081	160.5	302	53%	126 Anne-Louise Milne	580	226	623	36%
90 Mandy Thorogood	1076	117	211	55%	127 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	572	856.5	1754	49%
91 Alison Holmes	1057	263.5	473	56%	128 Sharon McKenzie	560	76.5	163	47%
92 Michael Hyndman	1057	223.5	423	53%	129 Jillian Greening	551	521	1072	49%
93 Jo Ann Ingram	1046	320	623	51%	130 Janny Henneveld	523	616.5	1277	48%
94 Marcus Henry	1039	14	50	28%	131 Dael Shaw	465	69	135	51%
95 Carole Coates	1037	825.5	1700	49%	132 Annette Coombes	457	983	2143	46%
96 Grant Paulin	1036	99.5	207	48%	133 Graeme Quinn	434	42.5	111	38%
97 Suzanne Harding	1019	799	1574	51%	134 Judy Cronin	419	268.5	647	41%
98 Malcolm Graham	1012	839.5	1678	50%	135 Margaret Peters	418	97	278	35%
99 Sheila Reed	988	397	828	48%	136 Faye Leach	402	187	455	41%
100 Patricia Bennett	978	40	92	43%	137 Lynn Thompson	377	394	933	42%
101 Glenda Gear	969	1335.5	2702	49%	138 Noelene Bettjeman	325	395.5	868	46%
102 Chris Handley	929	478.5	954	50%	139 Fay Wenzlick	317	47	131	36%
103 Llana Hadden	913	106.5	229	47%	140 Cheryl Parsons	245	15.5	88	18%
104 Colleen Cook	892	510	1061	48%	141 Genie Em	233	9	56	16%
105 Sue Hensley	889	76.5	138	55%	142 Karen Stewart	218	58.5	193	30%
106 Ruth Godwin	845	666.5	1400	48%	143 Susan Schiller	6	100	534	19%
107 Antonia Aarts	841	450	951	47%	144 Margaret Webb	0	8	67	12%
108 Megg Hewlett	802	57.5	100	58%					
109 Judy Driscoll	800	398.5	983	41%					

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)	Anne Scatchard	09 435 0137 027 660 1763	annescatchard@yahoo.com	1 pm Thurs

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