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Clubs (Nth to Sth)	Contact Person	Phone	Meeting Day/Time	Meeting Place
Rodney (ROD)	Ruth Munnings	09-425-6398	Mon (alt) 1pm & 7.15pm	Totara Park, Warkworth
Nth Shore Bays (NSB)	Marge Dalzell	09-478-6248	Tues 10am	Campbell's Bay Methodist Church Hall
	Allie Quinn	09-483-7806	Thurs 7.15pm	Takapuna Senior Citizen's Hall
Mt Albert (MTA)	Shirley Wyatt	09-828-0989	Fri 7.15pm	Mt Albert Senior Citizen's Hall
Pakuranga/Howick (PAK)	Jeanette Owler	09-534-4453	Thurs 7pm	St Matthias Church Hall, Panmure
Papatoetoe/Holy Cross (PHC)	May Meads	09-278-5155	Mon 1pm	64 Fairview Rd.
Hamilton (HAM)	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	07-846-7422	Tues 7.15pm	Hearing Assoc Building 40 Wellington St
Waikato (WKT)	Pam Robson	07-856-6449	Wed (alt) 7.30pm	St Aidans Church Hall Cnr Heaphy Tce & Thames St Sunningdale Hall
Kiwi (KIW)	Elaine Moltzen	07-843-5108	Thurs 7pm	
Mt Maunganui (MTM)	Ngairi Steel	07-542-1035	Any time - ring	
Tauranga (TGA)	Noel Maisey	07-576-3218	Tues 7.20pm	
Tokoroa (TOK)	Lesley Edgeler	07-886-8374		
Taupo (TPO)	Gwen Robb	07-378-9409		
Waitara (WTA)	Trixie Neil	06-754-8745	Wed 1.30pm	
New Plymouth (NPL)	Helen Sillis	06-758-8001		
New Plym YWCA (NPY)	Doreen Poole	06-751-1710		
Stratford (STR)	Sharon Clarke	06-765-5653		
Hastings (HAS)	Jeff Grant	06-878-6654	Thurs (alt) 7pm	Hastings RSA
Waipukurau (WPK)	Ann Grindrod	06-858-7493		
Wanganui (WAN)	Andrée Prentice	06-344-6343	Mon 7pm	Cosmopolitan Club
Masterton (MAS)	Aliette Hay	06-377-3273		
Avalon (AVA)	Eileen McLennan	04-567-1289	Thurs 1pm	
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04-569-5433	Tues 7.30pm	
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Capital (CAP)	Sue McRae	04-475-7899	Wed 7pm	Turnbull House, Bowen St.
Nelson (NEL)	Pat Johnstone	03-544-1154	Wed 7pm	Golden Links Hall, 93 Vanguard St
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# FORWORDS



Official Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble Players  
**Number 46**  
**March 1997**

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# Editor's Note

With nearly a quarter of the year gone, we have already had successful regional events at Howick-Pakuranga, Wellington, Nelson and Hastings. Bob Johnstone tells me the Nelson tourney went well and the weather was perfect for their popular Saturday night harbour cruise.

There were many highlights at our local two-dayer here in Hastings. On his way to winning the A Grade, Howard Warner (CAP) scored an amazing 702-376 victory over David Lloyd (MTA), while Nigel Richards (CHC) continued his meteoric rise up the rankings with a countback victory over Lynn Wood (WEL) in B Grade. Along the way Nigel bemused his opponents with obscurities like VIDIMUS, DIOECIES, REDOWA, OCELLUS and URINEMIA. The 'hard luck' award went to Gerald Warner (ROD) who made a brilliant play by converting RAG into DRAGONADES. The word is perfectly OK in the Oxford Dictionary, but unfortunately only the double-N version is listed in Chambers.

Next tournament on the calendar is the Masters Championship in Hamilton at Easter. This event will determine the make-up of the team to represent New Zealand at the World Champs in November.

After much consideration and consultation we have decided to revamp the *NZ Scrabble Records* inside the back cover of *Forwards*. All 'lowest' records have been deleted, because it is felt that they serve no useful purpose, and many of the people involved have long

departed the Scrabble scene anyway. Some new categories have been added, so please tell us if you know of any improvements to these. Are there any other records you think could be published regularly in the magazine?

Our thanks to Margaret Lyall (CHC) and Andrée Prentice (WAN) for sending us copies of their excellent club newsletters, and to everyone who sent Christmas greetings. They were all very much appreciated.

Finally, thanks to all our contributors. We would still like more Scrabble photos though, so if you have any that may be of interest, please send them in. As ever, special thanks to our expert layout editor, Glenda, who ensures *Forwards* is always attractively presented.

Closing date for the June issue is 25 May.

Happy Scrabbling,  
Jeff



From  
More Fun  
With  
Scrabble,  
one of the  
very first Scrabble books, published  
USA in 1954.

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# 1997 MAIL BOX

## Scrabble Dream

by Margaret Ham  
Waitara

I dreamt I was playing Scrabble with my husband. He started off with the word LUX, then I used my seven tiles to extend it to LUXURIATES. At this point I was woken with a cup of tea. I placed this word on the Scrabble board and found I would have scored 104 points.

Well, anyone can dream, can't they?

## International Dictionary

by Michael Vnuk  
Queensland

Concerning the International Dictionary (December '96 *Forwards*, p5), I have two comments. I'm worried that there are words out of alphabetical order, eg AAS before AAH, and AALS before AALI. Perhaps the authors wanted to put plurals adjacent to the singular. However, they've done this erratically, and it just doesn't work when the plural has a significantly different spelling, and especially if the plural starts with a different letter. The simplest system, one everyone can understand, is to adopt the standard alphabetical order. I also hope that the entries are checked better. Errors that I spotted are: ARDVARKS, ARDWOLF, ABATTY.

[Michael's comments are valid. The example shown is simply a mock-up page, and all the mistakes noted are typos (fire the proof-reader!). Strict alphabetical order would surely be the

preferred format for such a dictionary. — Ed.]

## EDict to the EDitor (for your EDification)

by Val Worth  
Putaruru

The EDucible news is now reEDucible to the facts deEDucible from the report of the EDile contracted to advise the EDuskunta. A policy to EDulcorate the EDacity caused by EDdies affecting EDaphic conditionas used for growing EDdish and EDdoes will EDify your EDgebone and reduce EDentate animal's EDema without EDifical hindrance or EDitions of sEDition thereby saving the EDelweiss!!

## UN-words

by Paul Lister  
Christchurch

Liz Fagerlund and I often have disputes about words and we have been arguing for a while whether 'uniced' is a word or not. Of course it isn't in the Scrabble dictionaries so I felt I held the higher ground here, but Liz has produced from the side of a cake documentary proof of its existence (Deluxe Uniced Round Xmas Cake)! We both agree that there are often words used or written which are not allowed in

Scrabble, and felt that by submitting them to you in this fashion they might have a better chance of getting there.

[The potential for UN- and RE- words is virtually limitless. It is not practical for smaller dictionaries like Chambers to list vast numbers of them, and even much larger works can never hope for completeness. In fact UNICED doesn't appear in the big Oxford, but it is in Webster's and Random House.

I particularly recall another couple of reasonable, but unallowed UN-words: UNSCORED he dropped the ball and the try went 'unscored'. UNSWABBED Wayne Woods was most indignant when this common racing term was challenged off.

Surely you could have an UNLOANED book or an UNCOOPED hen or UNBINNED rubbish, but where do you draw the line? I'll just away to post my UNTYPED letters. — Jeff]

## New Combined Record

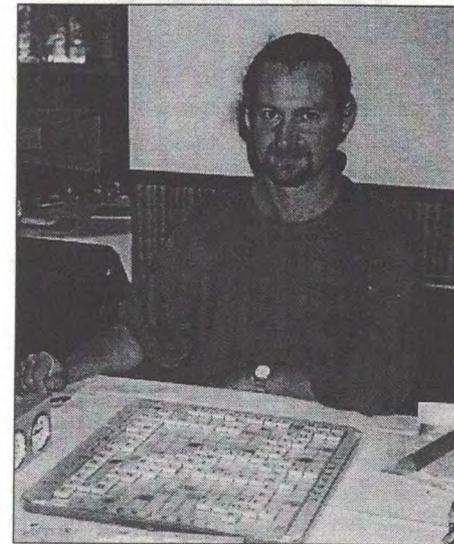
In the last round at Hastings Howard Warner (CAP) beat David Lloyd (MTA) by 702 - 376. The combined score of 1078 is a new New Zealand record, and Howard's massive individual effort is only the second time 700 has been surpassed in tournament play. The board layout for this remarkable game is shown in the adjacent column.



Howard Warner

## High Margin

At the Mt Albert Club on 29 November 1996, Glynis Jennings and Lil Moore had a game that neither of them will ever forget. Glynis won by 679 - 179, with the 500-point margin being a new New Zealand record.



# 4 COMPETITION

CORNER



## Solution: Scrabble Contest No. 45

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. wild child     | 11. strange range |
| 2. free qi        | 12. quick mick    |
| 3. poor whore     | 13. new blue      |
| 4. red fed        | 14. jolly wolly   |
| 5. dwarf wharf    | 15. hazy daisy    |
| 6. penned friend  | 16. major wager   |
| 7. dark ark       | 17. white bight   |
| 8. straight state | 18. fair pair     |
| 9. old mould      | 19. slim crim     |
| 10. evil weevil   | 20. icky biccy    |

Lots of entries this time. We were quite lenient and allowed several plausible alternatives. However, only one totally correct entry was received — congratulations (again!) to Rhoda Cashman of Rodney.

## Scrabble Contest No 46

“There are three words in the English language ending in -gry. Two of them are ‘angry’ and ‘hungry’. What is the third?”

Have you heard this poser before? According to the American wordsmith Richard Lederer it is one of the most outrageous and time-wasting linguistic hoaxes in history. You see, there is no proper answer. Other words ending in -gry exist of course, over 50 in fact (eg

aggry, puggry), but all are either obsolete or obscure.

Courtesy of Mr Lederer, here are some much better puzzlers. All answers are **common** English words. Can you solve them?

The closing date is May 20 and the winner will receive a book prize. Good luck!

Entries to be sent to: Jeff Grant, Waipatu Settlement Rd, RD2, Hastings.

- Name the only common word ending with -mt.
- Name a common word, besides tremendous, stupendous and horrendous, that ends in -dous.
- Name a word that contains the letter-string chsi.
- Name the only common word ending in -inse.
- Nervous, grievous and mischievous are three common words ending in -vous. Name a fourth.
- What is the only common word ending in -sede?
- Manse is not used much these days, but two common uncapitalised words also end in -anse. Name them.
- Suspicion is a common word ending in -cion. Name another.
- Two common words containing the letter-sequence shion are fashion and cushion. Name a third.
- What is the only common word containing a silent p and a silent s?

## Mini-Super Challenge Result

by Jethro Snafflerod

Nigel Richards of Christchurch is a very clear winner. His entry, correctly giving SASSARARAS and ANTITRINITARIAN as the two required words, arrived only about 3 days after *Forwards* was issued. A copy of *The*

*Works* is on its way to Nigel, who confesses to never having heard of Pam Ayers, could you believe?

The second entry was from Michael Vnuk who comments that the ‘first entry received’ condition is unfair on overseas entrants. The point is noted for the future, but I can honestly say that in my natural modesty I had not expected to arouse international interest. Michael’s 15-letter word was SENSELESSNESSES, which may theoretically be an allowable Scrabble word, but can never be played as it requires the use of seven Ss.

Lastly, an honourable mention for Leila Thomson (Lower Hutt) who supplied all of the above three words plus the very clever SLEEPLESSNESSES which nobody else found.

## Scrabblers Crossword Answers

### Across:

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. typto     | 19. congous  |
| 4. hong      | 22. angaria  |
| 6. ecad      | 24. cruve    |
| 10. raoulia  | 25. ectoderm |
| 11. uranism  | 28. abulias  |
| 12. stovaine | 29. triduum  |
| 13. bulla    | 30. osar     |
| 15. accidie  | 31. asci     |
| 17. anurous  | 32. talar    |

### Down

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. tirl     | 16. diolefin |
| 2. prootic  | 18. swad     |
| 3. ollav    | 20. neurula  |
| 4. hyaline  | 21. speises  |
| 5. noumena  | 22. astatki  |
| 7. criollo  | 23. rorqual  |
| 8. dumka    | 24. claro    |
| 9. faubourg | 26. doilt    |
| 14. saic    | 27. omer     |

The first correct entry came from Nigel Richards of Christchurch. Others to solve the crossword were Andrée Prentice (WAN) and Leila Thomson (LOH).

## A Likely Story

Eccentric Scrabble fanatic Albert Lyar would have played 110,877 games of Scrabble during his lifetime. The main trick to this little puzzle is that the year 1900 was not a leap year. Nigel Richards (CHC) collected the prize for first correct entry in. Others to arrive at the right answer were Michael Vnuk (Q’land), Leila Thomson (LOH) and Joan Thomas (HAS).

## Consecutive Consonants

Nigel Richards of Christchurch, winner of the Superchallenge (see *Forwards* 45, p8), has found another allowable Scrabble word with six consecutive consonants — FESTSCHRIFT, a celebratory publication in honour of someone.

## Unusual Words

The first Trans-Tasman challenge in November threw up many strange words, some of which were noted in our last issue (p 33). Other oddities played over the three days included UNCORDS, TURNDUN, PIANISTE, BOTULIN, AEROSAT, SPRITZER, THERIACS, HATTERIA, ADIPOUS, LEAPROUS and DENDRITE.

Special guest Derryn Hinch awarded the prize for Most Unusual Word of the tournament to PERSUES — a decision that was not greeted with universal acclaim among the Scrabblers present. My personal pick would have been Paul Cleary’s GOBIIDS, fish of the Gobiidae family, gobies in other words.

## The Virtual Kitchen Table

### — a Koala's guide to living on the Net

by John Holgate

Once upon a time — when a PC was merely a police constable — I played Scrabble on the kitchen table with my cousins. The kitchen alcove was a familiar spot — it was the centre of my gastronomic universe, the place where I slaved over French composition and the cradle of my crossword addiction. Over the years, when my Scrabble accomplices dropped by for a game they ended up sequestered in the kitchen — emerging only for a call of nature or a 'G'day' to my family exiled to the rest of the house.

However, over the past 18 months the 'real' accomplices have been replaced by Scrabble-playing androids and the denizens of the Internet. The laptop has now usurped the kitchen table. Words like 'The Dooms', 'CeeGeePee' and 'DDBot' have crept into my everyday conversation. My wife wonders whether aliens have captured my brain when she sees me typing BRB IMHO and BTW\* and reading forty electronic messages a day from distant beings called Joelgernaut, Bigdoggy and Zax. [\*Netspeak for Be Right Back, In My Humble Opinion and By The Way]

My cyberlife started on that fateful day in October 1994 when I wandered into MarIDoom and bumped into Adam Logan, John Chew and Stu Goldmann who baptised me with the alias 'Koala' — appropriately, as I felt like I was perched atop some mega gumtree with my paws spanning the Pacific.

Since that time I have taken part in lively discussions on CGP — the Crossword-Games-Pro list server

moderated by Sherrie St. John at M.I.T., booked up some 300 games against players around the globe on MarIDoom (a crossword game server at the University of Toronto), played in online tournaments and set up the World Wide Web Electronic Scrabble Club — and all this from my kitchen table!

Feeling like someone who has escaped from the alien motherhip to tell members of my local Scrabble Club that there is life beyond the church hall, I offer a short guide to the pleasures and perils of internetting.

#### Why I Like Playing Online

Internet games provide a great opportunity to improve your playing skills. Not to have to worry about keeping the score, tile tracking or pressing the clock allows you to focus better on board strategy, finding anagrams and endgame permutations. The absence of chattering neighbours, clattering tiles or other physical distractions is a boon — although gregarious kibitzers can be a distraction during rated games (the 'gag' command is a last resort). By and large Doomsters are respectful of your cyberspace.

The kibbitz (k) command allows you to make comments and analysis on the fly — only spectators can hear them but not your opponent (or if you are spectating only other non-players in the room). I like to soliliquize as I play so those present (potentially 40 million!) can applaud my brilliancies and scoff at my idiocies. Actually I have learnt a lot from comments made by top players

during and after their games.

During a tournament match I can take a peek at other games in progress and see how my competitors are faring. Will Bob find the anagram or make such-and-such a play? Will Adam win by more than a 100 and catch my running aggregate?

Between games I consult with the robot to see which words I missed or to generate specific lists. The SOWPODS (combined dictionaries) program — DDBot — has a vocabulary which includes all WSC playable words. For example, if I wish to find all sevens with 4 A's I use the following command:

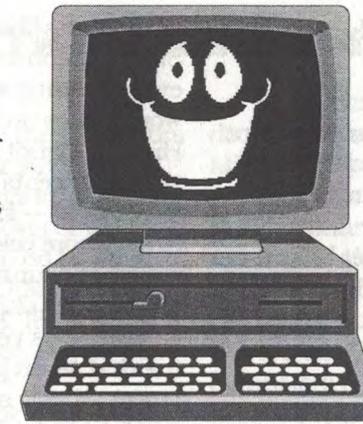
You page DDBot: "w 7 >aaaa"  
DDBot [to jholgate]: "Searching using `7 >aaaa"

DDBot [to jholgate]: "Found two matches."

DDBot says "APADANA ATALAYA"

#### An Online Coach - the Critique Facility

James Cherry has developed an excellent analysis tool which allows me to receive within seconds electronic mail containing an 18-page report of the game I have just played. The critique itemises the best 15 options for each move and provides an 'efficiency ratio' for each player based on choice of moves, rack leave and average tile value. Some of its 'best move' choices are disputable but the ratio does provide a reasonable guide to how well you are playing. You can also submit racks from



Woohoo I win!

'real world' games for analysis. Now if it could also run 50-ply simulations and talk like Nicole Kidman I'd be really impressed.

#### Immediacy

Online play is immediate and convenient — my Scrabble activities are no longer limited by the logistics of travel. I can dial up at 10 p.m. and have a game in the U.K.

with Graeme (Thomas), Kea (Roger Phillips) or The Desperado (Martin Reed) then pop over to Canada and have a pre-breakfast match against Wolf (Zev Kaufman) in Toronto. The ratings for the games are generated automatically. And in international online tournaments there is no jet lag, no expensive plane fares and no V.A.T.!

Well, if you think I'm wired — I mean weird — you should meet a couple I know who have networked their house. They sit up in bed — with separate laptops — and play each other remotely. ("Did the satellite move for you too, honey?") Mm? I wonder what Alfred and Nina Butts would have thought of that?

#### Communication

In Australia I take part in ASPA discussions on rules or committee issues via e-mail, check national and international ratings and results on the Web or CGP. I can also publish more quickly — sending this article to *Forwards* will take a few nanoseconds.

## Is there a downside?

### Cost

Unless you are lucky enough to have a University or company account dialling up through a provider can be expensive (about \$2 per game).

### Lag time

Sometimes lines can get busy and you can get no response when typing in commands or you may get thrown off if the server goes down.

### Surreptitious sneakiness

The invisibility of your opponent means you can never be quite sure if (s)he is looking up words or checking an anagram program — if you are playing a 900 rated player who scores 110 for SHKOTZIM you may get suspicious. OTOH (on the other hand) just knowing all the words won't be enough to beat Boys, Felt or Logan. One possible solution is to allow all players simultaneous access to anagram programs like TEA or robot consultation — a bit like looking up words in postal.

### Addiction

Doomosis can lead to insomnia, retinopathy and divorce (not necessarily in that order). If you find yourself getting out of bed at 3 a.m. to finish your paused game with an anagramming android it is time to seek professional help.

### Information overload

Subscribers to CGP will tell you there is much chaff amongst the wheat — be prepared to use the delete key regularly. It is wise to read your mail offline and to develop a cogent filing system.

## The Future

I am looking forward to improvements in the interface and a leap beyond 'Telnet technology' — I

think that will attract a lot more players. Steve Gordon and John Babina are experimenting with Java objects for word games on John's PioDoom server. His own PioBot is verbose and cheeky with comments like "Woohoo I win!" and "Nice move — for a human". We can expect more colourful and intelligent bots in the future. DDBot recently came fourth in an online tournament and I castigated its performance on CGP — in the next seven games I played against it I received only one blank. Even androids can be sore losers!

Dave Boys has talked about a major Internet-based world games championship (including Scrabble) with the finals physically in Canada in 1998. Who knows? Maybe the WSC in 2001 will be played on a global network of kitchen tables and the winner will announce via Voice Chat to the 60 million spectators "Woohoo I won! My opponents played very well - for humans."

## Some tasty gumnuts:

The Electronic Scrabble Club [<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~aspa>]. Check out the Weird Word of the Day, The Scrabble Trivia House and Hall of Fame, browse the e-zine Tile Talk or visit the Club Room and play globally.

### From a Fellow Addict

I endorse John's comments wholeheartedly. Since playing on the Internet, my game has improved significantly — and you get to meet all sorts of people.

So come on all you Scrabblers with computers! Let's create a NZ impression. If you are not sure how to get connected give me a call on 04-587-0093 or email [fostergb@ihug.co.nz](mailto:fostergb@ihug.co.nz).

**Glenda Foster**

## Two-Letter Words

by Jeff Grant

Two-letter words are the connectors or stepping-stones of our language. They are also the key tools for any Scrabblor. Of the 100 most common words in written English, no less than 24 have just two letters: AM, AN, AS, AT, BE, BY, DO, GO, HE, IF, IN, IS, IT, ME, MY, NO, OF, ON, OR, SO, TO, UP, US, WE.

Let's pretend Scrabble was invented in the mid-18th century. At that time the most popular lexicon was Bailey's *Universal Etymological English Dictionary*, so this would probably have been used as the earliest Scrabble reference. Besides the 24 common twoers listed above, Bailey also has AX, DA, EY, FA, FY, GY, HY, LO, MO, NA, NE, OX, WO and YE, which gives a total of just **38** two-letter words.

Skipping forward a hundred years or so we find a new Scrabble reference — *Chambers's Etymological Dictionary*, first published in 1867. This work contains 29 of the 38 Bailey words (AX, DA, EY, FA, GY, HY, MO, NA and NE are absent), as well as AH, AY, BO, EH, HA, HO, LA and OH, so the two-letter word-base has been reduced to only **37** words.

Into the 1900s, and at last a book that looks similar to one of our current references. *Chambers's 20th Century Dictionary* appeared in 1901, and raised the number of 2-letter words allowed to **63**. Back from Bailey came AX, MO, NA and NE, and the Scots influence was further evident with the likes of AE, EE, JO, KY and UG. The other additions were EM, EX, HI, IO, LI, MA, MI, OB, OD, OS, PA, PI, RE, SI, TI, UR and YO.

Moving forward another five

decades we enter the 1950s with the Mid-Century version of *Chambers*. Scrabble has just started to take off and this dictionary offers players a whole new batch of 2-letter words: AD, AI, AR, CH, DA, EA, EL, EN, ER, FA, GU, ID, KA, MU, NU, NY, OE, OO, OU, OW, OY, ST, TA, TE, UN, UT, XI, YU, ZO. Scrabblers now have **92** two-letter words at their disposal, and the list is beginning to look quite like that of today.

Of course the first dictionary actually used for adjudication at Scrabble tournaments was the good old *Shorter Oxford* in the 1970s and early 1980s. This tome contains within its collection of **98** two-letter words oddities like AC, IK, WA and YT.

So to the present. The American *Official Scrabble Players Dictionary* has joined *The Chambers Dictionary* to produce an impressive corpus of **121** two-letter words for the modern Scrabblor. Obscure terms like AB, HM, GI, KO, OM, XU and QI make it a truly cosmopolitan game.

For more than a hundred years after Bailey's dictionary the two-letter word-stock barely changed, but in the next 130 years it more than tripled! *The Concise Dictionary of 2-Letter Words* lists over 300 terms theoretically usable in Scrabble. As the year 2000 fast approaches we can only wonder what weird and wonderful words will be added in the future.



an ai (and baby)

by Patrick Carter

I recently purchased a program called LeXpert for my personal computer. At a price of U.S. \$79.50 it wasn't cheap, but I'm inclined to think it is worth every penny. Let me tell you about it:

This is not a scrabble playing program, it is a learning tool, with lots of lists on file, but also able to create just about any other list you might be interested in. You can then print that list so that you can study it at your leisure or you can use the computer to help you study. For example you might want to look at 8 letter words with the letters AEINST + two more. This is one list already provided on the program, but you could easily create it if it wasn't. Call up the list and click on OK and you can set it for a quiz on anagrams. Furthermore you can ask it to list the words in alphabetical order so AABEINST would be first (BASANTITE) or you can ask it to list them in random order or even order of probability. If you have created a list with several hundred or even thousand words then putting the list in random order and testing yourself on the first twenty is a good way of testing yourself on fresh words and not going over and over the same ones at the start of the list.

You can also test yourself on hooks. For instance you could call up all the 4 letter words, then ask it to choose only those ones that can have a letter hooked in front, e.g. CHER can have O for OCHER. It will do that in the blink of an eye. You can then set it for a quiz on hooks, arrange the list into whatever order you like and it will now quiz you by showing the proper word, not in

jumbled order, and you can test yourself on what letters can go in front. Not feeling up to a quiz tonight? Then set it for a slide show and the computer will slowly run through your list one at a time printing each word up on screen and, if you wish, showing front hooks. Or set it for an anagram slide show and first the jumbled letters appear, then automatically the proper word(s) are shown a few seconds later.

At the end of this article is a list [abridged for space reasons — layout ed.] I created with LeXpert. I have always liked the idea of starting with a 5 letter word on the left hand side of the board, then later playing 3 tiles in front to reach the triple word square. First of all you ask it to list all 5 letter words. Then you reduce that list by saying choose only words that can have a 3 letter combination in front of them to make another word. As you are unlikely to use an S on the 1st turn, I then reduced the list further by deleting all 5 letter words that had an S anywhere in them. Then further still by deleting all 5 letter words that did not start with at least a 3 point tile, as those words are the ones most commonly played to the left hand side of the board. Sounds like I've done a lot of deleting doesn't it? But as you can see there are still a lot of words left. Final touches were, after viewing the list, to delete WOWED and BABOO because the only hooks needed three Bs or Ws - BOWWOWED, POWWOWED and RUBBABOO.

LeXpert is available from Smartsoft, 28930 Monterey Drive, Southfield, MI 48076. Or Email carolrav@ix.netcom.com.

I'm sure this program will improve my game, even if time constraints will mean that improvement is not as much

as I would like. I will almost certainly regret telling my tournament rivals about this program!!!!

FABLE	BUFFABLE		PREFILED	FOUND	CONFOUND	HADED	UNSHADED
	OUTFABLE		PROFILED		DUMFOUND	HALED	UNSHALED
	REEFABLE	FILER	PROFILER		NEWFOUND	HAMED	BESHAMED
	SURFABLE	FINAL	NONFINAL		OUTFOUND		UNSHAMED
FACED	OUTFACED	FINCH	HAWFINCH		PROFOUND	HANCE	BECHANCE
	PREFACED	FINED	COFFINED	FOXED	OUTFOXED	HARDY	NONHARDY
	SURFACED		CONFINED	FRACT	DIFFRACT	HARED	UNSHARED
FACER	PREFACER		TIFFINED	FRAIL	TAFFRAIL	HATCH	NUTHATCH
	SURFACER	FINER	CONFINER	FRAME	AIRFRAME		UNTHATCH
FADED	PREFADED	FIRE	MISFIRE		BEDFRAME	HAVEN	RESHAVEN
FAITH	MISFAITH		OUTFIRE		MISFRAME		UNSHAVEN
FANON	GONFANON		PREFIRE		SUBFRAME	HAWED	HEEHAWED
FARED	FANFARED	FIXED	CONFIXED	FRANK	PREFRANK		UNTHAWED
	MISFARED		PREFIXED	FREAK	ECOFREAK	HAYED	SASHAYED
	WARFARED		SUFFIXED	FRERE	COWFRERE	HEARD	COWHEARD
	WAYFARED	FLAME	PREFLAME	FRIED	BELFRIED		MISHEARD
FARER	SEAFARER	FLANK	OUTFLANK		PANFRIED		OUTHEARD
	WARFARER	FLIER	RUFFLIER	FROCK	DISFROCK		UPHEARD
	WAYFARER		WAFFLIER	FRONT	BOWFRONT	HEATH	ENSHEATH
FATAL	NONFATAL	FLING	RAFFLING		CONFRONT		INSHEATH
FATED	SULFATED		COFFLING		SEAFRONT	HELED	BUSHELED
FATTY	NONFATTY		CUFFLING	FROTH	SHOFROTH	HELIX	ANTHELIX
FAULT	FORFAULT		HALFLING	FROWN	OUTFROWN	HEMIC	ALCHEMIC
FAUNA	AVIFAUNA		MAFFLING	FROZE	PREFROZE		ISCHEMIC
	EPIFAUNA		MUFFLING	FRUIT	FOGFRUIT		LITHEMIC
FAVOR	DISFAVOR		OUTFLING	FULLY	AIMFULLY		SACHEMIC
FEIGN	MISFEIGN		PIFFLING		ARTFULLY	HENCE	NOWHENCE
FELON	MATFELON		PURFLING		FITFULLY		SITHENCE
FERER	PILFERER		RAFFLING		IREFULLY	HEWED	ESCHEWED
	SUFFERER		RIFFLING		JOYFULLY		RECHEWED
FETED	BUFFETED		RUFFLING		LAWFULLY		UNCHEWED
FEUED	SUBFEUED		SIFFLING		MANFULLY	HEWER	ESCHEWER
FIELD	AIRFIELD		STIFLING		RUEFULLY	HIDED	COWHIDED
	CANFIELD		TRIFLING		SINFULLY		RAWHIDED
	GASFIELD		WAFFLING		USEFULLY	HIRE	OUTHIRE
	HAYFIELD		WOLFLING		WILFULLY	HIVED	ARCHIVED
	ICEFIELD	FLINT	GUNFLINT		WOEFULLY	HIVER	BESHIVER
	MIDFIELD	FLOOR	SEAFLOOR	FUMED	PERFUMED	HOGEN	PATHOGEN
	MISFIELD		SUBFLOOR	FUMER	PERFUMER	HOING	LITHOING
	OILFIELD	FLOUR	RYEFLOUR	FURAL	FURFURAL	HOKED	UNCHOKED
	OUTFIELD	FLOWN	OUTFLOWN	FURAN	FURFURAN	HOI,ED	POTHOLED
	SUBFIELD	FLUID	NONFLUID	FUROL	FURFUROL	HOMED	DISHOMED
	URNFIELD		SUBFLUID	HABIT	DISHABIT		FATHOMED
FIGHT	CATFIGHT	FOCAL	CONFOCAL	HABLE	CASHABLE	HOMER	OUTHOMER
	DOGFIGHT		EPIFOCAL		DISHABLE	HONED	SIPHONED
	GUNFIGHT		NONFOCAL		FISHABLE		SYPHONED
	OUTFIGHT		PARFOCAL		OATHABLE	HONOR	DISHONOR
	PREFIGHT		TRIFOVAL		TITHABLE	HOPED	BISHOPED
FILAR	UNIFILAR	FORCE	PERFORCE		WARHABLE	HORAL	AMPHORAL
FILED	MISFILED		RENFORCE		WASHABLE	HOUGH	ALTHOUGH

HOUND	ELKHOUND FOXHOUND SEAHOUND	QUIRE QUITE	MESQUINE VERQUIRE MESQUITE	YING	UNAVOWED BIVVING CHEVING CHIVYING DIVVYING NAVYYING OUTVYING SAVVYING	BATWOMAN LAYWOMAN MADWOMAN PENWOMAN SEAWOMAN TOYWOMAN AIRWOMEN BATWOMEN LAYWOMEN MADWOMEN PENWOMEN SEAWOMEN TOYWOMEN
HOVER	PUSHOVER	QUOTA QUOTE	NONQUOTA MISQUOTE			
HUMAN	NONHUMAN PANHUMAN PREHUMAN SUBHUMAN	VADED	PERVADED UNEVADED	WAGED WAKED		
HUMID	SUBHUMID	VALET	CHEVALET	WAKEN WATCH	REAWAKED UNAWAKED REAWAKEN DOGWATCH MIDWATCH OUTWATCH	
HUMOR	OUTHUMOR	VALID	NONVALID			
HYLIC	METHYLIC	VALUE	DISVALUE MISVALUE			
HYMEN	BOTHYMEN	VALVE	TRIVALVE UNIVALVE	WATER	CUTWATER EYEWATER POMWATER REDWATER SEAWATER	WOODY WORDY WORLD WORTH
HYOID	OMOHYOID	VARIA	CALVARIA			
JOINT	CONJOINT DISJOINT	VATIC	SILVATIC SYLVATIC			
JORAM	MARJORAM	VAUNT	OUTVAUNT	WAYED	SUBWAYED UNSWAYED UPSWAYED	WOUND WOVEN WRACK WRING
JOYED	POPJOYED	VENGE	SCAVENTGE OUTVENOM			
JUDGE	FORJUDGE MISJUDGE PREJUDGE	VENOM	PARVENUE CONVERGE	WEARY	FORWEARY OUTWEARY	WRITE OUTWRITE SKYWRITE
JUGAL	CONJUGAL	VICAR	SUBVICAR	WEBBY	COBWEBBY	WROTE
JUICE	LOGJUICE VERJUICE	VICED	CREVICED SERVICED	WEIGH WHALE WHEEL	OUTWEIGH NARWHALE BOBWHEEL COGWHEEL FLYWHEEL PINWHEEL RAGWHEEL WEBWHEEL	YCLED YIELD YLIKE
JUROR	CONJUROR NONJUROR	VILLI	PULVILLI			
KAING	POLKAING	VINED	PROVINED SPAVINED	WHERE	ANYWHERE	
KAROO	BUCKAROO JACKAROO	VINIC	OLIVINIC	WHILE	EREWHILE	
KETCH	RESKETCH	VIRAL	NONVIRAL PROVIRAL SUBVIRAL	WHINE	TARWHINE	
KEYED	COCKEYED RAWKEYED JOCKEYED LACKEYED MICKEYED MISKEYED MONKEYED	VITAL	CURVITAL	WHIRL	OUTWHIRL	
KLONG	WEEKLONG	VIVER	SURVIVER	WHITE	BOBWHITE NONWHITE	YOKED
KNIFE	PENKNIFE	VOCAL	NONVOCAL SUBVOCAL UNVOCAL	WHOLE	BLOWHOLE	MISYOKED
KNOWN	MISKNOWN	VOICE	OUTVOICE	WIFED	MIDWIFED	YONIC
KYRIE	VALKYRIE WALKYRIE	VOLED	FRIVOLED	WIGGY	FARWIGGY	ZONAL
QUANT	ALIQUANT	VOLE	COEVOLVE CONVOLVE	WILED	OUTWILED	ZONED
QUATE	ADEQUATE COEQUATE TORQUATE	VOLVE	OUTVOTED	WINED	ENTWINED	ZONER
QUEAN	COTQUEAN	VOTED	NONVOTER OUTVOTER	WIVED	MIDWIVED	ZOOTY
QUIET	DISQUIET	VOTER	REAVOWED	WOKEN	REAWOKEN	ZYMIC
QUILT	BEDQUILT	VOUCH		WOMAN	AIRWOMAN	
QUINE	BASQUINE	VOWED				

**Crossword Fan:**  
**Friend:**

"I've been trying to think of a word for weeks."  
"How about FORTNIGHT?"

## ANAGRAM CORNER

Scrabblers  
are dab  
hands at  
transposing  
letters, for

example MINER to INERM and  
ROMANCE to CREMONA. On a higher  
level can DAILY SEX give you  
DYSLEXIA?

Here are half-a-dozen Scrabblers' anagrams. Keep watching and maybe your name will appear.

NOLA EDWARDS	LEAD ONWARDS
CLYDE TITCHENER	THE RECYCLED TIN
ADRIENNE MCKEOWN	REDO NEW NICKNAME
ELIZABETH WEBB	WHEE, BLITZ BABE!
JANELLE WHEATLEY	NEATLY HALE JEWEL
GORDON PINCHIN	DRONING CHOPIN

### The Most Useless Word?

In the December *Forwards* we suggested challengers for the title 'Most Useless Scrabble Word'. The examples mentioned were all unplayable for various reasons, including an excess of letters. So what is the most useless word that will actually fit on a Scrabble board? If any English dictionary is allowed, a prime contender must be a West Indian dialectic representation of wings flapping listed in the Dictionary of Jamaican English. The 14-letter BUBUBUBUBUBUBU would need no less than **eight** blanks!

### Sex Please

Overheard at an Australian Scrabble club: a rather proper gentleman asked a lady "How much for sex?" He was startled with her reply "I haven't been asked that for ages," but it seems he was merely asking the score for her last play!

*Across the Board, December 1996*

## That's Incredible!

Nigel Richards of Christchurch set all sorts of records at the Pakuranga event in January. On Saturday he won 7/7 in F Grade with an amazing average score of 525 but that was only the curtain-raiser to an even more mind-boggling feat on Sunday when he again won all seven games, this time in E Grade averaging **584!**

Over the weekend Nigel exceeded 600 four times, including a massive 676, the fourth-highest individual game ever in New Zealand tournament Scrabble. He averaged just over three bonus words per game including oddities such as AVULSION, VICINAL, SNUZZLES, UNIDEAED, CHORISIS, ARRIEROS, VOLUTOID and UROPYOGIA. These would be hard to top in anyone's language, but Nigel managed it with the 9-letter curiosities EPULATION and the Maven-like SAPROZOIC!

On the strength of Nigel's incredible performances recently it would be no surprise to see him rise rapidly to the upper levels of competitive Scrabble.

**Dazzling  
Dozen**

It is surprising how often both C's end up on your rack. Here are a dozen unusual double-C fivers to dazzle the opposition.

ACCOY	CASCO	OCCAM
ACMIC	CURCH	RECCO
BOCCI	CYCAS	TICCA
CAECA	ICTIC	YUCCH

## NZASP Rankings as at 10 March 1997

Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%
1 Jeff Grant	2122	666	517.5	78%	49 Isabel Zyp	1548	259	137	53%
2 Mike Sigley	2071	537	409.5	76%	50 Betty Gibb	1544	234	93.5	40%
3 Kendall Boyd	2046	143	110.5	77%	51 Rhoda Cashman	1525	713	330	46%
4 Blue Thorogood	2012	339	230	68%	52 Anna Geange	1520	268	163	61%
5 Howard Warner	1995	261	152.5	58%	53 Paul Lister	1520	227	122	54%
6 John Foster	1994	647	383.5	59%	54 Glenda Geard	1511	583	293.5	50%
7 Patrick Carter	1993	381	238	62%	55 Steven Brown	1507	182	120.5	66%
8 Peter Sinton	1990	186	145	78%	56 Andrew Coombes	1501	124	56	45%
9 Andrew Bradley	1967	310	156	50%	57 Yvette Hewlett	1497	215	99.5	46%
10 Lynne Butler	1959	562	343.5	61%	58 Liz Fagerlund	1490	125	79	63%
11 Glennis Hale	1938	749	433.5	58%	59 Leila Thomson	1483	438	192	44%
12 Lynne Powell	1935	819	449	55%	60 Anne Warner	1479	641	333	52%
13 David Lloyd	1929	196	117	60%	61 Norman Wheeler	1468	434	234	54%
14 Denise Gordon	1916	550	299.5	54%	62 Maureen Holliday	1459	224	127	57%
15 Glynis Jennings	1912	516	245.5	48%	63 David Gunn	1456	570	296	52%
16 Sheryl Davidson	1903	464	276	59%	64 Ruth O'Neill	1443	258	128.5	50%
17 Pam Robson	1893	317	180.5	57%	65 Bill Grigg	1439	203	117	58%
18 Peter Jones	1884	586	304.5	52%	66 Max Aston	1421	160	87	54%
19 Glenda Foster	1856	507	262	52%	67 Jean O'Brien	1419	560	286.5	51%
20 Chris Hooks	1853	482	251.5	52%	68 Marj Baillie	1416	460	229.5	50%
21 Glenyss Buchanan	1827	519	265	51%	69 Lyn Toka	1416	314	169	54%
22 Gerald Warner	1794	836	396.5	47%	70 Yvonne Wilson	1408	109	69	63%
23 Nigel Richards	1776	73	64	88%	71 Karyn McDougall	1402	204	105	51%
24 Lynn Wood	1765	857	426.5	50%	72 Rebecca Freeth	1400	97	67	69%
25 June Mackwell	1754	601	275	46%	73 Lisa McLean	1393	120	75	63%
26 Doreen O'Shea	1740	149	100	67%	74 Margaret Cherry	1389	174	87	50%
27 Rosemary Cleary	1723	310	162	52%	75 Anne Stewart	1388	217	121	56%
28 Jane Walton	1702	243	136	56%	76 Doreen Davies	1386	225	118	52%
29 May Quigley	1696	759	327	43%	77 Mary Carr	1375	246	114.5	47%
30 Margaret Bundock	1695	537	278	52%	78 Correne James	1368	351	157.5	45%
31 Kevin Edgeler	1690	260	104.5	40%	79 Marian Ross	1363	188	89.5	48%
32 Allie Quinn	1687	679	308.5	45%	80 Doreen Ogston	1357	355	154	43%
33 Margie Hurly	1656	280	164	59%	81 Martha Morgan	1352	303	147	49%
34 Sue McRae	1653	283	159	56%	82 Shirley Hol	1352	178	87	49%
35 Fae Olson	1647	884	440.5	50%	83 Lesley Edgeler	1332	178	73	41%
36 Helen Sillis	1647	405	215.5	53%	84 Margaret Lyall	1321	193	87.5	45%
37 Rob Talbot	1645	279	156.5	56%	85 Shirley Wyatt	1290	182	89	49%
38 Valerie Mills	1642	404	218.5	54%	86 Kate Henderson	1289	237	143.5	61%
39 Dave Godman	1640	379	210	55%	87 Anne Hough	1284	54	37	69%
40 Reeve Pearson	1632	895	410	46%	88 Lorraine Van Veen	1279	453	233.5	52%
41 Puti Rowe	1626	516	256	50%	89 Leanne Field	1273	175	107	61%
42 Alan Boyd	1600	394	231	59%	90 Gwen Kaiser	1271	290	153.5	53%
43 Ann Candler	1600	568	253.5	45%	91 Elaine Moltzen	1270	353	173	49%
44 Marj Batchelor	1596	218	98	45%	92 Phyl Wilson	1269	140	78.5	56%
45 Roger Coates	1596	422	207	49%	93 Robert Jones	1266	124	56	45%
46 Eileen McLean	1584	559	310	55%	94 Elsie Malkin	1258	98	52	53%
47 Andree Prentice	1582	497	270.5	54%	95 Joan Pratt	1255	249	141.5	57%
48 Faye Cronhelm	1563	471	228.5	49%	96 Gordon Pinchin	1225	154	80	52%

Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%
97 Marjorie Heads	1210	257	139	54%	145 Trish Hellriegel	823	80	41.5	52%
98 Peggy Wallace	1208	322	151	47%	146 Dorothy Latta	821	148	59	40%
99 Alastair McDougall	1205	128	83	65%	147 Mary Gray	810	117	68	58%
100 Bev Barker	1201	381	179	47%	148 Margaret Garner	809	121	54.5	45%
101 Shirley Martin	1188	218	116.5	53%	149 May Meads	805	152	79	52%
102 Margaret Simpson	1181	393	196	50%	150 Marie Cairns	800	41	25	61%
103 Malcolm Graham	1166	116	56.5	49%	151 Margaret Ham	792	127	66	52%
104 Clare Wall	1158	176	92	52%	152 Sally McNulty	791	46	21	46%
105 Sue Walker	1148	167	91	54%	153 Cecilia Bullo't	778	246	107	43%
106 Betty Eriksen	1147	421	205.5	49%	154 Jill Johnson	778	78	35	45%
107 Margaret Parsons	1146	192	92	48%	155 Dorothy Haining	775	418	210	50%
108 Jan Corry	1129	105	59.5	57%	156 Lil Moore	761	437	205.5	47%
109 Annette Coombes	1117	320	140.5	44%	157 Sue Osborne	756	175	73	42%
110 Hazel Purdie	1111	235	110	47%	158 Letitia Vaitupu	726	79	23	29%
111 Liz Catchpole	1108	166	83	50%	159 Jean Clarke	715	61	33	54%
112 Kim Graham	1105	182	103	57%	160 Julie Giles	713	57	24	42%
113 Kathleen					161 Pam Mayall	701	117	55	47%
Mori-Barker	1077	152	75	49%	162 Ed Olson	679	810	307	38%
114 Dawn Kitzen	1052	247	125	51%	163 Kath James	664	249	110.5	44%
115 Neville James	1052	148	67	45%	164 Dean Riesterer	658	71	43	61%
116 Irene Hague-Smith	1045	466	209	45%	165 Kate Wignall	656	403	197	49%
117 Marianne Patchett	1037	142	79.5	56%	166 Jean McDougall	640	129	66.5	52%
118 Delcie Macbeth	1034	288	155	54%	167 Jacqueline				
119 Margaret					Coldham-Fussell	640	268	124	46%
Schimanski	1026	76	35.5	47%	168 Jillian Greening	632	235	112	48%
120 Val Worth	1019	258	132	51%	169 Adrienne McKeown	621	202	88.5	44%
121 Mary Farmer	1018	66	39	59%	170 Elaine King	620	268	136	51%
122 Elsie Pugh	996	118	67.5	57%	171 Sharon Clarke	606	61	17	28%
123 Carole Coates	981	371	169	46%	172 Angela Brett	603	61	32	52%
124 Margaret Forbes	968	124	60.5	49%	173 Kath Davies	590	119	56	47%
125 Valma Gidman	950	265	134	51%	174 Trixie Neil	579	106	51	48%
126 Sharon Stewart	944	39	22	56%	175 David Sutcliffe	575	128	66	52%
127 Roto Mitchell	935	176	86	49%	176 Shyrlee Ryder	562	58	15.5	27%
128 Margaret Mourant	924	254	136	54%	177 Brian Horsley	548	112	43.5	39%
129 Katrine					178 May Gale	524	203	47.5	23%
Kerr-Renwick	913	208	91	44%	179 Vera Burner	501	251	65.5	26%
130 Daphne Parker	910	203	95.5	47%	180 Sammy Sanders	454	47	14	30%
131 Naomi Gilmore	903	135	71.5	53%	181 Margaret Hanson	429	41	16	39%
132 Lyn Dawson	899	53	34	64%	182 Karen Miller	427	34	11	32%
133 Mary Pinchin	899	190	102	54%	183 Lulu Holt	426	237	108	46%
134 Marie Kingi	893	218	94.5	43%	184 Zelta Old	373	35	12	34%
135 Michael Hyndman	884	48	26	54%	185 Nola Edwards	303	28	12.5	45%
136 June Ward	882	95	47	49%	186 Elvira Steel	264	161	9	6%
137 Jan Wheeler	874	210	96.5	46%	187 June McConnell	104	41	1	2%
138 Penny Irvine	872	104	44.5	43%					
139 Yvonne MacKenzie	871	56	23	41%					
140 Olwen Skelton	865	332	154.5	47%					
141 Pam Barlow	864	69	36.5	53%					
142 Jennifer Smith	857	48	32	67%					
143 Pat Johnstone	853	279	128	46%					
144 Bill Tozer	838	79	36	46%					

### Name Games

The 2nd Pan-African Scrabble Champs held in April last year featured players with the given names Iffy, Sunday, Gold and Mensa!

## A Linguistic Approach to Scrabble

by Gerald Warner

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. This has been and is being done from various angles: historical (philology), comparative, structural, social, psychological as well as the more traditional areas of semantics (meaning), phonetics (pronunciation), and grammar (rules of usage).

As Scrabble players we are mainly concerned with the study of words — to know which words are 'right' and which are 'wrong', and not only because our two bibles say so (or don't!). This scientific study is called **morphology**. Its function is to differentiate between the **lexis** (or dictionary meaning) as such on the one hand and the structural variations a word may undergo and how they affect its meaning on the other. Morphology is for words what syntax is for larger language units, such as sentences.

Thus the smallest units of language are of course the sounds of the spoken language and the letters (or graphemes) of the written. A combination of these which conveys some sort of meaning signals then a larger unit, though not necessarily a word. Take, for instance, the -er as in singer or player, the -ing as in playing or fiddling: if there were a verb 'nart' we would know that a 'narter' was someone who was in the habit of 'narting'. Such a unit which may therefore be of a lower rank than a word is called a **morpheme**.

Some units may of course be both a morpheme and a word: in the word 'playing' -ing then is a morpheme, but so is play; it is part of a word and it has a meaning. On the other hand, the letters *pl*, although part of a word, do

not have meaning and do not form a morpheme. *Play* is a morpheme which can exist on its own as a word: this is called a **free morpheme** while *ing*, which does not exist as a separate word is a **bound morpheme**.

The **meaning** of a word is often inferred by its context. Such meaning is in the first instance **lexical**, ie it possess some sort of generally accepted 'dictionary' meaning. But another kind of meaning which helps to organise morphemes inside words in the same way as words tend to cluster into phrases and sentences, is a **grammatical** or **structural** meaning. The study of meaning in general incidentally is called **semantics**.

To begin with, words which have only structural meaning can usually not be expanded. To this category belong some simple conjunctions (and, or, though), prepositions (with, by, on, under), interjections (heigh, aw, pht), noun determiners or articles (the, a, some), cardinal numbers to ten, etc. These may be expanded by further morphemes, often entailing spelling changes brought about by contraction or other means: na (not) + or = nor; with + in = within; or a far-fetched Old Gothic twa + lif (two left) = twelve. Readers will be able to add innumerable examples of their own.

Grammatical meaning changes in English, as opposed to more highly inflected languages like Latin or German, are fortunately fairly limited — one reason why English is more easily learned by foreigners than other languages are. Thus most **nouns** announce their plural form by adding -s

or, depending on the ending of the singular form, -es. A few, however, undergo an internal change similar to the German umlaut: eg goose > geese; in sheep/sheep modern spelling has lost this original mutation. A small number of archaic plural forms have also survived (children, oxen, cattle).

Grammatical changes for adjectives are also fairly straightforward. There is firstly a basic form (small, great, fine); secondly a comparative form when comparing two: here the morpheme -er is usually added to the basic form unless this ends in -e (smaller, greater, finer); and thirdly, when comparing three or more the morpheme -est is added (smallest, greatest, finest). Other spelling changes occur when the letter 'y' is involved. Again some old forms have survived in modern English; eg good - better - best, bad - worse - worst. Longer adjectives as well as adverbs use the irregular comparative and superlative form of the adverb 'much' and its plural form 'many' ie 'more' and 'most'.

In Germanic languages including English, verbs are divided into weak and strong verbs, the former adding -ed in the past tense and the latter changing internally, eg sing - sang - sung. Nearly all verbs add -s in the third person singular (as contrasted to nouns which add -s for the plural form, one area of confusion not only for Scrabble players), and -ing to form a present participle, which has a great many uses. But

where such a present participle can be used as a noun (or **gerund**), it is capable of being pluralised — always a problem for Scrabble players unless they learn the lot. I personally try to sound the word with a noun determiner in front (the, these, some, etc.) to see whether it makes sense or not, but I'll be the first to admit that this method is far from foolproof.

The foregoing is meant to be only a very cursory overview of what is in fact a highly complicated and sophisticated study, but I hope it will assist Scrabble players to place their respective scientific approaches to the game into some sort of linguistic framework.

Benjamin Franklin was a guest at a dinner party when a question was posed: What condition of man most deserves pity? Each guest proposed an example of a miserable situation. When Franklin's turn came, he responded, "A lonesome man on a rainy day who does not know how to read."



From *Waikato Times* newspaper 12.12.96.  
Submitted by John Foster

# CLUB NEWS

## Hamilton Newsletter

by Pam Robson

Hamilton Club members enjoyed a nice dinner and social occasion followed by their Annual Prize-Giving at Memory Lane Restaurant just prior to Christmas. Club competition results for 1996 were:

<b>Club Champion</b>	Pam Robson
2nd	David Gunn
3rd	Jane Walton
<b>Knock-out</b>	Isabel Zyp
Runner-up	Jane Walton
<b>Pot Luck Trophy</b>	Pam Robson
2nd	Roger Coates
3rd	David Gunn
<b>Ladder Challenge</b>	Shirley Martin
2nd	Isabel Zyp
3rd	Peggy Wallace
<b>Round Robin Gp1</b>	Roger Coates
2nd	Pam Robson
3rd	Alan Boyd
<b>Round Gp2</b>	Peggy Wallace
2nd	Shirley Martin
3rd	Carole Coates
<b>Round Robin Gp3</b>	Clare Wall
2nd	Jennifer Smith
3rd	Pam Mayall
<b>Knock Out Gp1</b>	Pam Robson
Runner-up	Jane Walton
<b>Knock Out Gp2</b>	Peggy Wallace
Runner-up	Isabel Zyp
<b>Knock Out Gp3</b>	Clare Wall
Runner-up	Jennifer Smith
<b>Bonus Words Gp1</b>	Roger Coates
2nd	David Gunn
3rd	Pam Robson
<b>Bonus Words Gp2</b>	Shirley Martin
2nd	Peggy Wallace
3rd	Isabel Zyp
<b>Bonus Words Gp3</b>	Clare Wall
2nd	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell
3rd	Jillian Greening
<b>100 Point+ Word Trophy</b>	Isabel Zyp

2nd  
3rd=

### Pyramid Trophy

2nd  
3rd

### Most Improved Player

### Sportsperson of the Year

### Most Promising New Member

### Monthly Competition Trophy

2nd

3rd=

### Highest Combined Agg Score

### Highest Scoring Indiv Word

### Results of the Hamilton/Waikato Home Challenge Tournament for 1996:

A Grade	1st	Jane Walton
	2nd	Roger Coates
	3rd	David Gunn
B Grade	1st	Shirley Martin
	2nd	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell
	3rd	Clare Wall

One Sunday in November, twelve Ham/Waik/Tok players took part in a mini-tourney of 7 games with the theme being 'Christmas'. Spot prizes were awarded for the highest scoring words, with each game having a specific festive theme, eg Christmas gifts, Christmas fare, holidays, etc. Prizes were all 'Christmassy' things with sufficient under the tree for everyone. A handicapping system had been devised to give all players an equal chance, with the most successful players being those who surpassed their 'expectancy' by the largest margins. Victory went to David Gunn. It was a really super day

Betty Gibb  
Pam Robson  
Jennifer Smith  
David Gunn  
Daphne Watson  
Pam Robson  
Roger Coates  
Shirley Martin  
Clare Wall  
Pam Mayall  
Jennifer Smith  
Pam Robson  
Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell  
Peggy Wallace  
Pam Mayall  
Roger Coates & Shirley Martin  
Betty Gibb

concluding with some Christmas 'cheer'. The general consensus is that we should have another mini-tournament about March with an Easter theme.

In recent months we have been having our club night weekly results published in the 'Scoreboard' section of our local paper. We are hoping this might generate more interest in Scrabble, and perhaps it's an idea that some other clubs might like to follow up too.

At 4am on the 1st of January, Shirley Martin and myself, who with other friends had been celebrating the New Year, had a game of Scrabble! Is this a record for the first game played in 1997? Can anyone better it?

Since the Pakuranga tournament we'd been discussing some of the unusual words played by our up-and-coming (world champ I reckon!) Nigel Richards of Christchurch. One of the words was UROPYGIA, and someone suggested it meant something about a 'woman's nicely rounded bottom'. Well, I guess one could say this definition was reasonably close. We ended up in fits of laughter when we looked up the meaning ... "The humps from which birds' tail feathers grow! ['Callipygian' means 'having shapely buttocks'. The word is misspelt in Chambers. — Ed.]

Finally, our thanks to Jeff and Glenda for their fantastic work with *Forwards*, and our best wishes to John Foster for a long and happy retirement in Whangamata.

## Hastings v Masterton

On Waitangi Day (February 6th) the Hastings team travelled down to Peter and Doreen Davies' home in Masterton to defend the interclub shield competed

for annually by the two clubs.

Masterton steadily pulled ahead over the first four rounds to lead by 14½ - 9½, but Hastings took the fifth round 5-1, reducing the margin to a single point.

In the last round scores were tied 2-2 with just two games to finish. Nola managed to beat Denise, so everything rested on the final game between Doreen (O'Shea) and Marj. It was very close at the end and Marj tried QUOIR. After much agonising, Doreen challenged (successfully), and was able to eke out a narrow win by 416 - 404. This meant that Hastings, somewhat fortuitously, hung on to the shield by 18½ - 17½.

Top performer on the day was Alette with five wins, followed by Jeff, also on five wins, and Yvonne on 4½. Everyone had at least one win, and there were some great words played, including Jill's GENOCIDE and Jeff's LUTEOLIN. The highest-scoring word however was Rose's UNSEXES for 122.

The day was enjoyed by all, and Hastings are looking forward to returning Masterton's hospitality early next year.

## Rodney

by Paddy Glen

We concluded an enjoyable Scrabble year on December 16th with the obligatory AGM followed by prizegiving, an excellent 'pot-luck' meal, and a couple of games of Scrabble.

Prize list is as follows:

<b>Highest Game Score</b>	Gerald Warner (club record)
Runner-up	Naomi Gilmore
<b>Highest Combined</b>	Lynne Powell & Ruth Munnings
Runners-up	Lynne Powell & Margaret Bundock
<b>Highest Aggregate</b>	Rebecca Freeth

Runner-up Gerald Warner  
 Lowest Winning Score Elva Barton  
 Runner-up Jack Miles

### Trophies

**President's Cup**  
 Evening round robin Anne Warner  
 Runners-up Gerald Warner  
 Lynne Powell

### Secretary's Cup

Afternoon round robin Gerald Warner  
 Runner-up Paul Patchett

### Cup for most improved player

Olwen Skelton  
 Runner-up Naomi Gilmore

### Discretionary Cup

Most 3-session wins Gerald Warner  
 Runner-up Lynne Powell

## New Club

A new club has been formed in Hamilton. The group will be known as Kiwi Scrabblers, and their president is Elaine Moltzen, 33 Aloma Way, Glen View, Hamilton, phone 07-843-5108.

## Dunedin Newsletter

by Bill Grigg

### November

Peter Sinton and Kendall Boyd represented New Zealand against Australia in Sydney. Peter finished a very creditable 5th and also had the highest single turn scores of 176 and 140. Kendall finished in 12th place. Our congratulations to both players. Let's hope we can beat the Aussies over here in 1998.

### December

Elvira Steel was thrilled to see her photo in *Forwards*. Kathleen Mori-Barker's son was married. Congratulations also to Jo Burnside (ex-DUN) on her recent engagement.

### Quiz

What words can you make out of the following?

(1) ROOFFAD (2) GRAPETS

(3) WENDLES (4) DOILTYS  
 (answers at end)

### January

Happy Birthday Elvira Steel and Daisy Madden (both just over 21). We had a poor turnout at the AGM and are struggling at the moment. Dorothy Latta (IND) was in town. Welcome to Betty and Ian Pilkington and Duncan Mathieson.

### February

We hope Nelson had a successful first tournament. Elvira Steel represented our club. She wants to play in the Norfolk Island festival this year too. Welcome to Ian Winter. Kendall Boyd hopes to be part of the NZ team at the World Champs, and Peter Sinton would like to qualify too by winning the Masters tournament at Easter.

### Tournaments 1997

Otago Open Champs June 21  
 Dunedin Open November 1-2

### Quiz Answers

(1) AFFOORD (2) PARGETS  
 (3) WEDELNS (4) STYLOID

To all Scrabblers, good health and plenty of good tiles for 1997.

## That Takes the Cake



bomb shelter

From *The Word Book*  
 by Gyles Brandreth

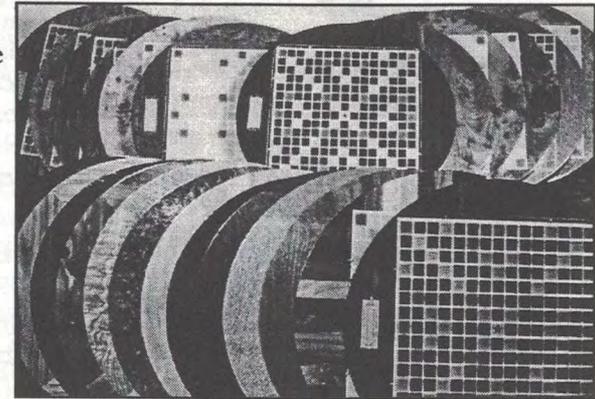
## Exotic Boards

In the September 1995 *Forwards* (p23) we described the special Scrabble boards made by Phil Rosenberg of New Jersey. Basically the sets comprise a modified DeLuxe board placed on a 19 inch circle of exotic boardwood — various types are available. The base is covered with green felt and the board rotates on a zinc and steel ball-bearing. Phil has written to us again:

"I still want to get my boards into your part of the world. What do you think of this offer: if 12 people prepay the same price I sell the boards for here (US\$162 + \$15 shipping, handling and

insurance) I'll pay to ship them to you through the US postal office."

If anybody would like to order one of these boards please contact Jeff Grant.



Phil Rosenberg's Boards

## Filial Fortunes

submitted by Lesley Edgeler

Feeling footloose and frisky, a featherbrained fellow forced his fond father to fork over a few farthings, flew off to foreign fields and frittered his fortune, feasting fabulously with his faithless friends.

Fleeced by his fellows and facing famine, he found himself a feed-flinger in a filthy farmyard. Fairly famishing, he fain would have filled his frame with foraged food from fodder fragments.

"Fooley! My father's flunkies fare far . finer," the frazzled fugitive fussed, frankly facing facts. Frustrated by failure and filled with foreboding, he fled forthwith to his family. Falling at his father's feet, he forlornly fumbled, "Father, I've flunked and fruitlessly forfeited family favour!"

The farsighted father, forestalling

further flinching, frantically flagged the footmen to fetch a fatting from the flock and fix a feast.

The fugitive's fault-finding brother frowned on fickle forgiveness of former folderol.

But the faithful father figured .. "Filial fidelity is fine, but the fugitive is found! What forbids fervent festivity? Let flags be unfurled! Let fanfares flare!"

And the father's forgiveness formed the foundation for the former fugitive's future fortitude!

Author Unknown

[FOOEY isn't allowed in Scrabble, but PHOOEY is. — Ed.]



## Argentina

The Argentine Scrabble Association was formed last year. Their first tournament was held on December 19 1996, with 50 players competing in Spanish. The winners received games, trophies and medals.

## Australia

The 1996 New South Wales Championship was won by John Barker who finished just ahead of Bob Jackman and Joan Rosenthal.

The Spring Marathon in October featured 14 games in a single day. Between 9am and 10pm 42 players fought it out with Joan Rosenthal claiming victory on 12 wins, ahead of Jean McGiffen (11) and John Holgate (10).

Bob Jackman won the 1996 Queensland State Champs, two wins clear of Marianne Bentley. New Zealand's Lynn Wood finished in 4th spot, just 2 points shy of third.

The Essendon Tournament in September attracted 100 entrants. Across the Board editor Sue Kyatt won the event ahead of former 'editor's assistant' Jim Warmington.

The Benteigh Tournament on October 20 was won by Alistair Kane, while Norfolk Island personality Don Marshall took out the 'Advanced' section. Lesley Edgeler's mum Ethel Moss won the 'Recreation' grade on a countback from Pat McClintock and

Don's wife Shirley Marshall.

The top 10 rated Australians as at 3 March were:

- 1 Bob Jackman
- 2 John Holgate
- 3 Esther Perrins
- 4 Roger Blom
- 5 Paul Cleary
- 6 Alistair Kane
- 7 Nick Ivanovski
- 8 Geoff Wright
- 9 John Foley
- 10 Steve Sunter

## Bahrain

Naween Fernando (17) won the 1996 Bahrain Scrabble Cup with a 3-0 victory in the final over Nikhil Soneja (18). The event was held at the Hilton Hotel in December.

It is the fifth time Naween has captured the Bahrain title, having previously triumphed in 1990, 1992, 1994 and 1995. He has also taken out the Gulf Championship on three occasions, competed in Malta, Thailand and Sri Lanka, and gained 23rd place in the last World Champs.

A commerce student at the Global Institute for Management Science, Naween won an air ticket to Kuala Lumpur, where he hopes to take part in a tournament. For the third year in a row, number three spot at the Bahrain event went to Yvonne Lobo, who defeated Orly Cabanting in the playoff.

The Bahrain-Saudi Open was won by Salah Salih on a countback from fellow Saudi player Ishtiaq Chishty, with the Gulf's top-rated player Naween Fernando (Bahrain) managing only 9th place. In fact Saudi Arabia took the top 8 places in the contest to win the team event for the first time in 7 years, the

margin being 67-45.

The visiting Saudi players all received handsome souvenir certificates, as well as a replica of Auguste Rodin's famous statue 'The Thinker', which it was thought aptly expressed a Scrabbler's mode.

from *Scrabble Squibs*, newsletter of the Bahrain Scrabble League

## France

According to the French magazine *Scrablerama*, there are now 21 countries playing competitive Scrabble in French (duplicate style, presumably). These include Spain, Romania, Ivory Coast, Guyana, Zaire, Cameroon, New Caledonia and Reunion Island.

## Nigeria

The 1996 Kaduna Open Scrabble tourney was won against all expectations by Azu Ogbogu, affectionately referred to as 'the gentleman of Nigerian Scrabble'. He won on a countback from Segun Durojaiye, with top-ranked Sammy Okosagah third.

Sammy confirmed his rating as best Nigerian Scrabbler with a win in the Kano Open in November 1996. He finished ahead of 1995 title-holder Segun Durojaiye, with Iffy Onyeonwu third. African champion and runner-up Femi Awowade and Lanre Oyekunle were relegated to 10th and 6th positions respectively. Sammy also clinched the highest single move prize by playing PARAQUET for 275 points, while Moshood Quadri received an honourable mention for his rare feat of a 10-letter word — JETTISONED for 101 points.

The top-rated players in Nigeria as

at October 1996 were:

1. Sammy Okosagah
2. Ayo Fash
3. Segun Durojaiye
4. Iffy Onyeonwu
5. Femi Awowade
6. Lanre Oyekunle

from *SCANews*, the Nigerian Scrabble magazine, December 1996

## Romania

In Romania there are 4 National Championship tournaments each year where players are rated. There are also three additional events played in French and three in English.

Duplicate Scrabble is played in French and there are 4 games per tournament. The Romania Cup and local tourneys are played in Romanian.

The current top player in English is Dan Laurentin Sandhu from Bucharest. No doubt he will be aiming to become Romania's first representative at the World Champs in the USA in November.

Roger Blom in the Australian Scrabble magazine *Across the Board*, December 1996

## Singapore

In our last issue we mentioned the formation of the Singapore Scrabble Association. If anyone would like information on Scrabble in Singapore they should contact the secretary, Mt Tan Kiat Ann, at the following address:

The Scrabble Association  
Block 87  
Redhill Close # 19-588  
Singapore 150087



## Spain

The first Spanish National Scrabble Championship was held last year. Around 450 players took part in regional heats and the finals were held in Madrid on November 30.

Mattel Spain promoted the event which was open only to Spanish nationals over the age of 16.

On finals day 58 competitors had 4 games and then the top two qualifiers played one more game to decide the championship. Anna Genis Lopez of Barcelona emerged victorious with a 437 - 352 win over Ricardo de Arcos Rus from Seville. Anna (33) is a professional crossword compiler who usually plays Scrabble in Catalan rather than the standard Spanish, Castilian. Her prize was 300,000 pesetas (about \$3,500) and a trophy.

The first World Spanish Speaking Scrabble Championship is scheduled for November 29 this year.



## Sweden

In Sweden some competitive Scrabble is played, but so far tournaments have been attended by only 15 or so players. They play in Swedish, not English, with competition rules basically those used in US and Britain. However, the Swedish Language Academy's dictionary is their official reference.



## United Kingdom

The 1996 National Scrabble Final was played at the Swindon Marriott Hotel on October 20.

Devon Dimwits faced London Enterprise, who were going for a hat-trick of wins. Competition was close, but Dimwits grabbed a 4-2 lead going



**Andrew Fisher with winning board**  
**Photo from UK Scrabble Club**  
**News, Jan 1997.**

into the last round when Andrew Davis pulled off a brilliant comeback win against Jackie McLeod with the help of NUMERATES (STEAMER played onto NU) and PTERYLAE.

With the scores 4-4 it all rested on the final game, where Andrew Fisher secured the title for Dimwits, beating Jackie 519 - 342. In the process Andrew played the excellent word GARGANEY — a small duck.

The 1996 British National Scrabble Champs were held in London from November 29 - December 1. Seventy top UK players took part, and the winner was 31-year-old chartered accountant Andrew Fisher who won 14 of the 16 games he played. Terry Kirk was runner-up (losing the final 1-3), with Gareth Williams 3rd and Alec Webb 4th.

As the top Welsh finisher, Gareth qualifies for the World Champs, as does Neil Scott whose 10th place means that he will represent Scotland. Both these players have previously attended the World event, with Gareth coming 4th in New York in 1993.

Other high-profile entrants in the British Champs were Allan Saldanha (11th), John Grayson (12th), Mark Nyman (13th), Russell Byers (15th) and

David Acton (23rd). These five UK players have all been picked for the World Champs, together with Andrew Fisher, Clive Spate and David Webb. The Northern Ireland and Eire representatives will be chosen later in the year.

The prize for the most unusual word at the British Champs went to Mark Nyman for CAPROATE, but the most brilliant move was undoubtedly made by Allan Saldanha — holding ACEELLO, he played COLLEAGUE around a floating GU.

## Mensa Scrabble

The British Mensa Scrabble tournament finished with an 8-player round robin in Birmingham on October 20, 1996. The top two players, Gareth Williams and Joyce Cansfield, played each other in the last round, and although Joyce won, Gareth's higher spread gave him overall victory.



## World Champs Update

The fourth World Scrabble Championship will take place November 20-24 this year at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington DC, just four blocks from the White House.

The event commences with a reception for the players on the Thursday night, followed by three days play, seven rounds each day, paired Swiss style. The top two qualifiers will play off in a best-of-five-games final on Monday, November 24. The other players and interested spectators can watch the games via closed-circuit TV in another room.

Although the official prize structure

has not yet been determined, it is expected that the winner will receive US\$25,000. At this stage, Jeff Grant (HAS) and Mike Sigley (WAN) have been selected to represent NZ in Washington. The other two team members will be chosen after the Masters.

## Allocation of Places

Australia	4
Bahrain	2
Canada	6
Eire	1
France	1
Ghana	3
Hong Kong	1
Israel	2
Japan	1
Kenya	3
Kurdistan-Iraq	1
Kuwait	1
Malaysia	2
Malta	2
New Zealand	4
Nigeria	3
Oman	1
Pakistan	1
Philippines	1
Saudi Arabia	1
Seychelles	1
Singapore	2
South Africa	2
Sri Lanka	2
Thailand	3
Trinidad	1
United Arab Emirates	1
United Kingdom	11
United States	12
World Champ	1
Gulf Champ	1

—

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Four extra countries may also participate. Pending developments, their allocations are:

Guyana	1
Liberia	1
Mexico	1
Romania	1



# Tournament Results



## Pakuranga Club

### 26 January 1997

#### 7 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Score	Avg	B/W
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#### Grade A

1	Glennis Hale	MTA	4	2382	397	4
2	Pam Robson	WKT	4	2280	380	7
3	Lynne Butler	NPL	3	2476	413	9
4	David Lloyd	MTA	3	2386	398	12
5	Lynne Powell	NSB	3	2367	395	10
6	Peter Jones	MTA	2	2261	377	6
7	Chris Hooks	MTA	2	2184	364	5

#### Grade B

1	Sheryl Davidson	PAK	7	2835	405	11
2	Gerald Warner	ROD	6	3025	432	12
3	Helen Sillis	NPL	4	2573	368	7
4	Valerie Mills	PAK	3	2657	380	7
5	May Quigley	NSB	2	2800	400	10
6	Fae Olson	STR	2	2686	384	13
7	Lynn Wood	WEL	2	2571	367	6
8	Allie Quinn	NSB	2	2552	365	5

#### Grade C

1	Puti Rowe	STR	5	2874	411	10
2	Eileen McLean	IND	5	2592	370	7
3	Glenda Geard	IND	4	2938	420	12
4	Ann Candler	NSB	4	2721	389	10
5	Reeva Pearson	STR	3	2718	388	13
6	Margaret Bundock	ROD	3	2596	371	5
7	Faye Cronhelm	IND	3	2509	358	6
8	Rhoda Cashman	ROD	1	2505	358	5

#### Grade D

1	Anna Geange	MTA	5	2800	400	10
2	Maureen Holliday	MTA	5	2754	393	8
3	David Gunn	WKT	5	2678	383	12
4	Margaret Cherry	PAK	4	2629	376	10
5	Karyn McDougall	MTA	3	2592	370	6
6	Rebecca Freeth	ROD	3	2462	352	3
7	Correne James	IND	2	2551	364	4
8	Shirley Wyatt	MTA	1	2419	346	4

#### Grade E

1	Lisa McLean	WKT	5	2908	415	13
2	Sue Walker	MTA	4	2774	396	14
3	Hazel Purdie	MTA	4	2699	386	7

Name	Club	Wins	Score	Avg	B/W
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4	Joan Pratt	MTA	4	2498	357	9
5	Clare Wall	HAM	3	2662	380	7
6	Alastair McDougall	PAK	3	2656	379	14
7	Irene Hague-Smith	MTA	3	2624	375	11
8	Faye Leach	AUS	2	2555	365	5

#### Grade F

1	Nigel Richards	CHC	7	3677	525	19
2	Naomi Gilmore	ROD	5	2698	385	5
3	Pam Barlow	PAK	4	2645	378	7
4	Olwen Skelton	ROD	3.5	2411	344	4
5	Margaret Forbes	PHC	3.5	2375	339	4
6	Margaret Mourant	MTA	3	2308	330	6
7	Trish Hellriegel	MTA	1	2355	336	2
8	Elise Joy	PHC	1	2171	310	4

#### Grade G

1	Kevin Tregunno	MTA	5	2688	384	7
2	Jennifer Smith	HAM	4	2785	398	7
3	Dorothy Haining	ROD	4	2436	348	2
4	Paddy Glen	ROD	4	2435	348	4
5	Jill Johnson	PHC	4	2423	346	3
6	Pam Mayall	HAM	3	2568	367	3
7	Ruth Munnings	ROD	2	2275	325	0
8	Beryl Jones	PHC	2	2269	324	2

#### Grade H

1	Jim Wills	PAK	6	2747	392	8
2	Jean McDougall	PAK	6	2685	384	10
3	May Meads	PHC	5	2836	405	10
4	Elaine King	MTA	5	2674	382	6
5	Hazel Smith	PHC	4	2247	321	4
6	Jacqy Struik	PHC	3	2226	318	3
7	Ed Olson	STR	2	2230	319	4
8	Zelma Old	PAK	2	2128	304	1
9	Vera Burner	PAK	2	2112	302	2
10	June McConnell	MTA	0	1858	265	0

## Pakuranga Club

### 27 January 1997

#### 7 Games

#### Grade A

1	Glennis Hale	MTA	6	3165	452	16
2	Patrick Carter	MTA	4	3050	436	9
3	David Lloyd	MTA	4	2938	420	12

Name	Club	Wins	Score	Avg	B/W	
4	Chris Hooks	MTA	4	2565	366	8
5	Lynne Butler	NPL	3	2739	391	10
6	Peter Jones	MTA	3	2696	385	12
7	Glynis Jennings	MTA	3	2687	384	9
8	Pam Robson	WKT	1	2498	357	9

#### Grade B

1	Gerald Warner	ROD	5	2797	400	6
2	Sheryl Davidson	PAK	4	2991	427	14
3	Allie Quinn	NSB	4	2841	406	14
4	Faye Cronhelm	IND	4	2695	385	7
5	Lynn Wood	WEL	4	2593	370	7
6	Valerie Mills	PAK	3	2569	367	8
7	Fae Olson	STR	2	2615	374	7
8	Helen Sillis	NPL	2	2519	360	6

#### Grade C

1	Puti Rowe	STR	5	2792	399	8
2	Reeva Pearson	STR	4	2806	401	13
3	Margaret Bundock	ROD	4	2740	391	6
4	Ann Candler	NSB	4	2715	388	9
5	Rhoda Cashman	ROD	4	2679	383	8
6	Glenda Geard	IND	3	2742	392	8
7	Anna Geange	MTA	2	2653	379	10
8	Karyn McDougall	MTA	2	2508	358	6

#### Grade D

1	Maureen Holliday	MTA	4	2265	378	8
2	Correne James	IND	4	2261	377	5
3	David Gunn	WKT	4	2125	354	10
4	Alastair McDougall	PAK	3	2242	374	12
5	Clare Wall	HAM	2	2338	390	6
6	Shirley Wyatt	MTA	2	2235	373	5
7	Joan Pratt	MTA	2	2051	342	4

#### Grade E

1	Nigel Richards	CHC	7	4091	584	24
2	Faye Leach	AUS	6	2618	374	7
3	Sue Walker	MTA	5	2560	366	12
4	Hazel Purdie	MTA	4	2654	379	8
5	Irene Hague-Smith	MTA	3	2568	367	7
6	Jeanette Owler	PAK	1	2407	344	2
7	Trish Hellriegel	MTA	1	2340	334	3
8	Daphne Parker	IND	1	2250	321	4

#### Grade F

1	Jennifer Smith	HAM	5	2676	382	5
2	Margaret Mourant	MTA	5	2625	375	7
3	Janice Cherry	PAK	4	2908	415	12
4	Pam Barlow	PAK	4	2508	358	10
5	Olwen Skelton	ROD	4	2504	358	5
6	Dorothy Haining	ROD	3	2521	360	4
7	Pam Mayall	HAM	2	2444	349	5
8	Valerie Holbrook	PAK	1	2350	336	3

Name	Club	Wins	Score	Avg	B/W	
<b>Grade G</b>						
1	May Meads	PHC	7	2870	410	13
2	Mark Wilson	MTA	6	2999	428	13
3	Lil Moore	MTA	6	2570	367	6
4	Jean McDougall	PAK	4	2600	371	8
5	Kate Wignall	MTA	4	2518	360	5
6	Ruth Munnings	ROD	3	2649	378	3
7	Ed Olson	STR	3	2348	335	5
8	Elaine King	MTA	2.5	2496	357	6
9	Vera Burner	PAK	2.5	2042	292	3
10	Sammy Sanders	PHC	2	2301	329	1
11	Margaret Hanson	PHC	1	2351	336	3
12	Karen Miller	PAK	1	2258	323	4

## Wellington Club

### 22-23 February 1997

#### 14 Games

#### Grade A

1	Nigel Richards	CHC	14	6893	492	33
2	Howard Warner	CAP	9	6104	436	23
3	Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	9	5498	393	20
4	Glenda Foster	WEL	6	5490	392	19
5	Rosemary Cleary	WAN	6	5132	367	12
6	Reeva Pearson	STR	5	5084	363	24
7	Fae Olson	STR	4	5252	375	20
8	Helen Sillis	NPL	3	5372	384	19

#### Grade B

1	Andrée Prentice	WAN	11	5680	406	16
2	Liz Fagerland	CHC	10	5435	388	16
3	Eileen McLean	IND	8	5608	401	22
4	Leila Thomson	LOH	6	5495	393	16
5	David Gunn	WKT	6	5421	387	22
6	Alan Boyd	DUN	6	5369	384	19
7	Max Aston	LOH	5	5362	383	16
8	Gaye Norgren	WAN	4	5177	370	17

#### Grade C

1	Norman Wheeler	CAP	11	5472	391	15
2	Kate Henderson	CAP	8	5501	393	14
3	Doreen Davies	WEL	8	5264	376	18
4	Gwen Kaiser	WEL	8	5004	357	7
5	Lisa McLean	WKT	7	5417	387	25
6	Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	4694	335	11
7	Marjorie Heads	WEL	5	4938	353	15
8	Thelma Chisholm	WEL	3	4684	335	6

#### Grade D

1	Anne Hough	NEL	12	5668	405	16
2	Pat Johnstone	NEL	10	5419	387	17
3	Lyn Dawson	NEL	9	5043	360	14
4	Michael Hyndman	CAP	8	5024	359	16

Name	Club	Wins	Score	Avg	B/W	Name	Club	Wins	Score	Avg	B/W
5 Hazel Drew	WEL	7	5140	367	9	9 Lynne Powell	NSB	5	4188	381	16
6 Ed Olson	STR	5	4753	340	7	10 Glennis Hale	MTA	4	4175	380	15
7 Susan Olson	STR	3	4551	325	12	11 Chris Hooks	MTA	3	3952	359	12
8 Brian Horsley	CHC	2	4486	320	7	12 Gerald Warner	ROD	2	4071	370	9

### Nelson Club

#### 1 & 2 March 1997

##### 11 Games

###### Grade A

1 Nigel Richards	CHC	10	5288	481	23
2 Shirley Hol	CHC	9	4389	399	23
3 Doreen Davies	MAS	8	4451	405	12
4 Doreen Ogston	CHC	7	4415	401	19
5 Liz Fagerlund	CHC	6	4448	404	10
6 Anne Hough	NEL	6	4320	393	16
7 Paul Lister	CHC	5	4266	388	15
8 Elsie Malkin	CHC	4	3931	357	12
9 Margaret Lyall	CHC	4	3848	350	11
10 Steve Richards	NEL	3	3979	362	10
11 Gordon Pinchin	CHC	2	3777	343	14
12 Malcolm Graham	CHC	2	3406	310	9

###### Grade B

1 Lyn Dawson	NEL	10	4190	381	12
2 Mary Pinchin	CHC	9	4055	369	4
3 Marc Bonthron	NEL	8	4352	396	15
4 Pat Johnstone	NEL	8	3956	360	7
5 Michael Hyndman	CAP	6	3997	363	5
6 Brian Horsley	CHC	5	4030	366	12
7 Heather Port	CHC	5	3821	347	7
8 Liz Richards	NEL	4	3758	342	8
9 Maree Arps	NEL	4	3493	318	6
10 Iris Boulton	NEL	4	3444	313	2
11 Jack McCartney	NEL	3	3080	280	0
12 Elvira Steel	DUN	0	3042	277	0

### Hastings Club

#### 8 & 9 March 1997

##### 11 Games

###### Grade A

1 Howard Warner	CAP	9	5470	497	27
2 Mike Sigley	WAN	8	4748	432	19
3 Denise Gordon	WAN	7	4676	425	26
4 John Foster	MTA	6	4494	409	14
5 Sheryl Davidson	PAK	6	4485	408	17
6 Pam Robson	WKT	6	4158	378	11
7 David Lloyd	MTA	5	4338	394	18
8 Glenda Foster	WEL	5	4311	392	14

###### Grade B

1 Nigel Richards	CHC	9	5262	478	25
2 Lynn Wood	WEL	9	4615	420	15
3 Margaret Bundock	ROD	8	4408	401	13
4 Doreen O'Shea	HAS	7	4195	381	15
5 Helen Sillis	NPL	6	4295	390	16
6 Reeva Pearson	STR	5	4482	407	22
7 Fae Olson	STR	5	4412	401	16
8 Puti Rowe	STR	4	4231	385	11
9 Valerie Mills	PAK	4	4130	375	11
10 Marj Batchelor	MAS	4	3810	346	4
11 Andrée Prentice	WAN	3	3976	361	4
12 Faye Cronhelm	IND	2	4094	372	12

###### Grade C

1 Eileen McLean	IND	8	4211	383	11
2 Anne Warner	ROD	8	4150	377	10
3 Lisa McLean	WKT	7	4613	419	24
4 Anna Geange	MTA	7	4219	384	16
5 Norman Wheeler	CAP	7	4119	374	17
6 Rhoda Cashman	ROD	6	4084	371	11
7 Glenda Geard	IND	5	4183	380	14
8 Yvonne Wilson	HAS	4	4485	408	14
9 Karyn McDougall	MTA	4	4075	370	12
10 Correne James	IND	4	3984	362	10
11 Marj Baillie	KIW	4	3892	354	7
12 Elaine Moltzen	KIW	2	3839	349	13

###### Grade D

1 Marjorie Heads	WEL	10	4226	384	14
2 Margaret Simpson	PAK	8	4247	386	18
3 Clare Wall	HAM	8	4208	383	12
4 Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	4323	393	14
5 Margaret Parsons	TPO	7	4173	379	14
6 Michael Hyndman	CAP	7	3894	354	7
7 Margaret Warren	HAS	6	3903	355	8
8 Ann Smith	HAS	5.5	3764	342	7
9 Roto Mitchell	WAN	5	3925	357	9
10 Joan Thomas	HAS	5	3555	323	6
11 June Ward	HAS	5	3543	322	4
12 Cecilia Bullo't	WAN	4.5	3901	355	2
13 Delcie Macbeth	IND	4	4062	369	13
14 Ed Olson	STR	3	3731	339	6
15 Jacqueline Coldham-Fusell	HAM	3	3554	323	10

## NZ Scrabble Records

Shown below is the current list of NZ Scrabble records.

If anyone can improve on or correct any of the entries, please let us know.

Record	Tournament Level		Club Level	
	Score	Player (Club)	Score	Player (Club)
Highest Game Score	717	Mike Sigley (WAN)	763	John Foster (MTA)
Highest Losing Score	513	Jeff Grant (HAS)	521	June Mackwell (MTA)
Highest Drawn Game	456	Lynne Butler (NPL) & Glenyss Buchanan (LOH)	482	Margaret Warren (HAS) & Jeff Grant (HAS)
Highest Single Turn	221	Sheryl Davidson (PAK)	284	Sheryl Davidson (PAK)
Highest Single Turn Non-bonus	?	?	261	John Foster (MTA)
Highest Combined Score	1078	Howard Warner (CAP) & David Lloyd (MTA)	1106	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Largest Winning Margin	493	Mike Sigley (WAN)	500	Glynis Jennings (MTA)
Highest Take-off	52	Andrée Prentice (WAN) & Marj Baillie (HAM)	68	Andrew Bradley (MTA)
Most Bonus Words (3 Game Evening)	—	—	13	David Lloyd (MTA)
Highest 3-Game Aggregate	—	—	1805	Nigel Richards (CHC)
Most Consecutive Bonus Words	5	Allie Quinn (NSB)	5	John Foster (MTA)
Most Bonus Words in Game (1 person)	?	?	6	Mike Sigley (WAN)
Most Bonus Words in Game (2 people)	8	Mike Sigley (WAN) & Glenyss Buchanan (LOH)	?	?

Does anyone know of worthy efforts for the new categories?