

## Contact Information

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 (KIWI)	Elaine Moltzen	07-843-5108	Thurs 7pm	
Mt Maunganui / Papamoa (MMP)	Ngair 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)	Shirley Tozer	06-758-2936		
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)	Audrey Plaire	06-347-9360	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	
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04-387-2581	Tues 7.30pm	5 Tully St, Kilbirnie
Capital (CAP)	Sue McRae	04-475-7899	Wed 7pm	Turnbull House, Bowen St.
Nelson (NEL)	Ann Hough	03-546-8977	Wed 7pm	Golden Links Hall, 93 Vanguard St
Christchurch (CHC)	Margaret Lyall	03-332-5963	Fri 7pm	Sydenham Community Centre
Dunedin (DUN)	Marian Ross	03-473-8579	Tues 7pm	Otago Chess Club, Maitland St.

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# FORWORDS



Official Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble Players  
**Number 49**  
**December 1997**

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## NZASP National Executive

<b>President</b>	John Foster PO Box 99402 Newmarket Auckland	<b>Vice- President</b>	Gerald Warner 65 Willjames Ave Algies Bay Warkworth Ph 09-425-5570
<b>Secretary</b>	Allie Quinn 26 Melba St Birkenhead Auckland 1310 Ph. 09-483-7806	<b>Treasurer</b>	Bev Barker PO Box 163 006 Lynfield Auckland 1030 Ph. 09-626-6830

# Editor's Note

The 4th World Scrabble Championship was a marvellous experience. Eighty of the world's top players, from 36 different countries, competing for honour and glory (and \$US50,000 prize money!). Ages ranged from 16 to 67 (average about 38), and occupations included scientist, housewife, TV producer, metallurgist, truck driver, nurse, comedian, logologist and retired croupier — quite a mixture!

New Zealand again performed well, with Kendall's 6th place a superb achievement in such high-class company. **Thanks a bunch** for all your support. The stack of good-luck cards, phone calls, faxes and e-mail messages was a great boost to Mike, Lynne, Kendall and me. Thanks also to Lynn Wood, David Lloyd and Pat Hutchison, whose 'special' contributions were much appreciated too.

On the local front, Christchurch, Mt Albert, Wanganui and Rodney hosted their popular tourneys recently, and Fae Olson (STR) is poised to become the first player to achieve 1000 rated games, ending the year on a tantalising 999.

The Marlborough Sounds Scrabble Week planned for February has been called off. It is disappointing for those who wanted to go, and also for Gerald who did all the groundwork. Despite this setback, the concept is good, so maybe we can try again some time in the future.

Christchurch phenomenon Nigel Richards competed in 14 tournaments during the year, winning 13 of them, including the National title at his first attempt. His average score over the 123 games played was a mind-blowing 490! Nigel is aiming to attend the big international event in Bahrain next May. We all wish him good luck!

The Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival

in September was once again a brilliant success, thanks in no small part to the efforts of organisers David and Dorothy Pinner and the folk at the Travel Centre. Next year is the **10th** Festival and we are planning to make it something special, so if you fancy 8 days of Scrabble, word puzzles, cheap shopping, island tours, tennis, golf, bowls, fishing, socialising, relaxing, or whatever else you want to do, then this is the place for you. Start saving now!

The word is that Mattell will issue a commemorative Scrabble set next year to mark the 50th anniversary of the game, and, on a lighter note, did anyone else see the 'strip Scrabble' game on TV1's *Hamish McBeth*, where an article of clothing was removed for each **syllable** in the opponent's word?

Thanks to all who contributed to *Forwards* during the year. Please keep sending any material you think may be of interest.

As always, a big thanks to our Executive — John, Gerald, Bev and Allie — also to our publicity officer, Howard. They all do an excellent job.

Finally, particular thanks to Glenda for all her work with the magazine preparation and layout which help make *Forwards* unique. We had many compliments from people in Washington, and several new subscribers have signed up, including World Champ Joel Sherman.

Have a safe and restful festive season. As usual, I'll be swapping the Scrabble tiles for a tennis racquet until Pakuranga at the end of next month. See you there!

**Merry Christmas and  
Happy Scrabbling in '98**  
Jeff

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## Raffle Winner

by **Caroline Dunlap, Wellsford**

**winner of the World Champs raffle**

Thank you for your note and the very welcome cheque! I don't know if you are aware that Gerald (Warner) has been trying to phone me, but I was not in and he went to the police to contact me. I came home to find a fax from the police, so I thought, "Oh dear, what have I done wrong?"

Anyway, I am thrilled to bits with this wonderful surprise, so just felt I would send you a note of thanks. I really feel that I am on cloud nine!

Thank you very much again.

## Tiger of the Tiles

by **Lionel O'Neill**

In the last *Forwards* it was mentioned that Nigel Richards of Christchurch had been described as the Scrabble equivalent of golfer Tiger Woods. It is interesting to note that the middle three letters of both forenames are identical, and if you move Nigel's first and last letters forward six spaces in the alphabet, N becomes T and L becomes A. Hey presto, NIGEL changes into TIGER!

## Record Take-Off

Lisa McLean (IND) got stuck with the letters IVXYZ when playing Doreen O'Shea (HAS) at the Mt Albert tournament on October 4. This means Lisa had to give Doreen a record **54** points!

## The Computer's First Christmas Card

jollymerry	Jerryjolly
hollyberry	bellyboppy
jollyberry	jorryhoppy
merryholly	hollymoppy
happyjolly	Barrymerry
jollyjelly	Jarryhappy
jellybelly	happyboppy
bellymerry	boppyjolly
hollyheppy	jollymerry
jollyMolly	merrymerry
marryJerry	merrymerry
merryHarry	merryChris
hoppyBarry	ammerryasa
heppyJarry	Chrismerry
boppyheppy	asmerrychr
berryjorry	ysanthemum
jorryjolly	
moppyjelly	
Mollymerry	

**Edwin Morgan**  
in *Nothing Solemn*

## Scrabble Max?

Action man Mel Gibson has mellowed much more drastically than we'd have thought possible. Word has spread that Mel is hooked on Scrabble. He can't get enough of the board game apparently, and even carries around a dictionary to check all spellings. What a turn-on.

from *Woman's Day*,

**October 20, 1997,**

**submitted by Lisa McLean,**  
**Hamilton**

## Sensibl Speling

This item is causing some concern in England since the final decisions about the new language were announced in the major, and therefore reliable, newspapers throughout Europe.

"The European Commission has just announced an agreement whereby English will be the official language of the European Community, rather than German, which was the other possibility. As part of the negotiations, Her Majesty's government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a 5 year phase-in plan that would be known as 'EuroEnglish':-

In the first year, 's' will replace the soft 'c'. Certainly, this will make the sivil servants jump with joy. The hard 'c' will be dropped in favour of the 'k'. This should klear up the konfusion and keyboards can have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome 'ph' will be replased

with 'f'. This will make words like 'fotograf' 20% shorter. In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling can be ekspekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible. Governments will enkourage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling.

Also, al wil agre that the horrible mes of the silent 'e's in the language is disgrasful, and they should be ignord. By the 4th yar, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing 'th' with 'z' and 'w' with 'v'. During ze fifz yar, ze unesesary 'o' can be dropd from ozer kombinations of lettrs. After ze fifz yar, ve vil hav a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubls or dificultis and everivun vil find it ezi to understand ech ozer.

*Ze drem vil finali kum tru!'*

**submitted by Ann Candler (NSB),**  
**who was given it by another club**  
**member**

[Enuf of zis nonsens! — Ed.]

## Och, aye, Miss Jo!

from *Scribble*

by **Michael Vnuk, Queensland**

Due to popular demand, our favourite Scottish sweetheart is back where she belongs — on page 3. And isn't she a bonnie lassie! Pretty enough to charm the Loch Ness monster out of the loch. We won't say anything about what's under Jo's kilt, but you must admit she's got some nice curves. Och aye!

Little Jo sure gets around. There are not many Scrabble games where Jo doesn't make an appearance. When asked why she doesn't take an S, Jo said, in that delightful accent of hers, "It would go against my Scottish upbringing." But Jo will take B, E, G, R, T, W and Y. Beat that Miss Qi!

[We featured Miss Qi in the December 1996 *Forwards*. — Ed]



# COMPETITION

O  
R  
N  
E  
R



## Solution Scrabble Contest No 48

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1 holy home  | 11 tern test    |
| 2 beat beau  | 12 twin twit    |
| 3 tomb tome  | 13 neat nebs    |
| 4 punk puns  | 14 suid suit or |
| 5 deep deer  | boar boas       |
| 6 foul four  | 15 talk tall    |
| 7 lion lips  | 16 moki moko    |
| 8 much muck  | 17 baby bach    |
| 9 numb nuns  | 18 gala gale    |
| 10 push puss | 19 zero zest    |
|              | 20 toey toff    |

Correct solutions were received from Rhoda Cashman (ROD), Nigel Richards (CHC), Dorothy Haining (ROD) and Hazel Purdie (MTA). First name out of the hat was Hazel. Well done!

## PL8 Speak Answers

- Pest Exterminator (are you bugged?)
- Urologist (weewee doctor)
- Apiarist (bee man)
- Tennis Coach (tennis anyone?)
- Judge (law king, Latin)
- Dentist (tooth repair)
- Policeman (Cu = copper)
- Pilot (aviator)
- Ophthalmologist (doctor for eyes)
- Furniture Movers (move it, mirror image)

Lyn Toka (KIW) was the clear winner with eight correct, just half a point ahead of Rhoda Cashman (ROD).

## A Mathematical Word Game

Two people scored 100% in this puzzle — Nigel Richards (CHC) and Michael Vnuk (Qld). Close behind were Lyn Toka (KIW) and Lesley Edgeler (TOK) who missed only FABRIC for R. A draw was held and Nigel's name emerged. Congratulations!

## Scrabble Contest No 49

Contest 48 was so popular we've decided to have another similar one. This time the clues indicate two consecutive words on the three-letter word list. For example, 'large container' leads to the phrase BIG BIN, and 'strike sailor' to TAP TAR.

Here are 20 clues leading to similar descriptive 2-word phrases found on the official 3-letter word list.

Closing date is February 20 and the winner will receive a book prize. Good luck!

Entries to be sent to:  
Jeff Grant  
Waipatu Settlement Rd  
RD 2, Hastings

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 metal dump        | 11 bath agent         |
| 2 soil cup          | 12 sick child         |
| 3 hotel dessert     | 13 marsupial twaddle  |
| 4 ventillate sloths | 14 porcine footwear   |
| 5 humour expert     | 15 pixillated beast   |
| 6 carriage spirit   | 16 consume water      |
| 7 best hill         | 17 frozen fish        |
| 8 silence female    | 18 vital Greek letter |
| 9 Aussie muscles    | 19 Honda civet        |
| 10 archer's case    | 20 weird single       |

## More Word Maths

by Alan Boyd, Dunedin

Using number values for letters (A=1, B=2, ... Z=26), the lowest scoring Scrabble word is AA (1+1=2), followed by ABA and BAA (3). At the other end of the scale, YU (25+21=46) is the highest scoring 2-letter word and ZUZ is the highest three. Can you find the Scrabble word with the highest total? Is it TUMULTUOUSNESS (240)? Answer in next issue.

# High Theoretical Single Turns

In the June 1994 *Forwards* Chris Hooks (MTA) showed how a score of 1690 is possible for a **single** move with the base-word PSYCHOANALYZING. This was a modification of previous efforts using terms from OSPD and Chambers, as allowed in New Zealand Scrabble.

In America, the OSPD backup dictionary is Webster's Collegiate, 10th edition, which lists OXYPHENBUTAZONE, an anti-inflammatory drug. Dan Stock of Ohio has devised a single move worth 1778 points using this word and others allowed in American Scrabble.

With a combination of British and American Scrabble references, as used at the World Champs, the board can be rearranged so that three extra points are gained when playing the seven tiles O, Y, P, B, A, Z, E. The final words formed are OPACIFYING (63), YELMS (10), PREINTERVIEWED (26), BLITHESOMENESS (63), AQUIVER (19), ZInKED (29), EJACULATING (63), and the 27-timer

OXYPHENBUTAZONE (1458). Add the 50-point bonus and you have a total of 1781 points.

The record for a theoretical single turn using terms from any source is 1970 points. Key to this move is the base-word BENZOXYCAMPHORS, found in Webster's unabridged 2nd edition.

Single turn scores of well over 2000 have been achieved with the inferred participle SESQUIOXIDIZING.



## Anagram Practice

Practice anagramming at any time there are words around you whose meaning you do not need to concentrate on. This will soon take over your life so that even reading the newspaper, SENATOR will translate to TREASON and ATONERS, deeply affecting your world view.

— Steve Alexander, US

# 1998 SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

## JANUARY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## FEBRUARY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

## MARCH

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## APRIL

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## MAY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## JUNE

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## JULY

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## AUGUST

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## SEPTEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## OCTOBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## NOVEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## DECEMBER

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

TOURNAMENT	DATE	TOURNAMENT	DATE
Howick-Pakuranga	24-25 January	New Plymouth	18 July
Kiwi (Hamilton)	7-8 February	Stratford	19 July
Nelson	14-15 February	Waikato	8 August
Hastings	7-8 March	Hamilton	9 August
Capital (Wgtn)	28-29 March	Canterbury Open	12-13 September
NZ Masters	11-13 April	Norfolk Island	20-27 September
Dunedin Open	18-19 April	Scrabble Festival	
North Shore Bays	25 April	Mt Albert	3-4 October
South Is Champs	16-17 May	Wanganui	24-25 October
Christchurch		Otago Open	7 November
NZ Nationals	30-31 May	Rodney	14 November
Papatoetoe/Holy Cross	4 July	Trans-Tasman (Auck)	November

## Best Fruit Cake Ever

The following recipe was supplied by Shyrlee Ryder of Christchurch. You can decide for yourselves whether to try making it or not!

1 cup butter	1 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon salt
4 large eggs	lemon juice
1 cup dried fruit	1 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder	nuts
1 or 2 quarts whiskey	

### Method

Before you start, sample the whiskey to check the quality.

Good isn't it? Now go ahead.

Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check the whiskey again as it must be just right. To be sure the whiskey is of the highest quality, pour 1 level cup into a glass and drink it as fast as you can. Repeat.

With an electric mixer, beat 1 cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon of thugar and beat again.

Meanwhile make sure the whiskey is of the finest quality. Cry another tup. Open second quart if necessary.

Add 2 arge leggs, 2 cups of fried druit and beat till high. If druit gets stuck in beaters, just pry it loose with a screwdriver. Sample the whiskey again, checking for tonscisticity.

Next, sift 3 cups of salt or anything, it really doesn't matter. Sample the whiskey.

Sift ½ pint lemon juice. Fold in chopped butter and strained nuts. Add 1 babblespoon of brown sugar, or whatever colour you can find, and mix well. Grease oven and turn cake pan to 350 gredees. Now pour the whole mess into the coven and ake. Check the whiskey again and go to bed.

Best of luck — hope you sober up in time for Christmas.

From Christchurch Scrabble Club Newsletter, Dec 1996

### Marlborough Sounds Scrabble Week

Unfortunately, the above  
event has been cancelled due  
to lack of entries.

### Onth a Month?

Is there a word in English that rhymes with 'month'? Michael Vnuk of Queensland reckons he searched through one hundred different dictionaries, but only found a rhyme in the one hundred and one-th.

S <sub>1</sub>			1	9	9	8			
C <sub>3</sub>	<p><i>Attractive Computer Produced Calendars Made To Order Designed Especially For You!</i></p> <p>We can produce any printwork required to personalise your calendar. Birthdays, anniversaries, nicknames etc., can be included if you give us details.</p> <p>Dates of all Scrabble Tournaments will be shown, along with other important dates, such as Anzac Day, Easter, Mothers Day etc.</p> <p><i>An ideal gift for any Scrabblers!</i></p> <p>Order your 1998 Scrabble Calendar now. Only \$16.00 (includes postage) will ensure your delivery by mid-January.</p> <p>All orders and inquiries to: Clive Stevens, 2/440 Madras Street, St Albans, Christchurch 8001</p>							S <sub>1</sub>	
R <sub>1</sub>								C <sub>3</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>								R <sub>1</sub>	
B <sub>3</sub>								A <sub>1</sub>	
B <sub>3</sub>								B <sub>3</sub>	
L <sub>1</sub>								B <sub>3</sub>	
E <sub>1</sub>								L <sub>1</sub>	
	C <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>

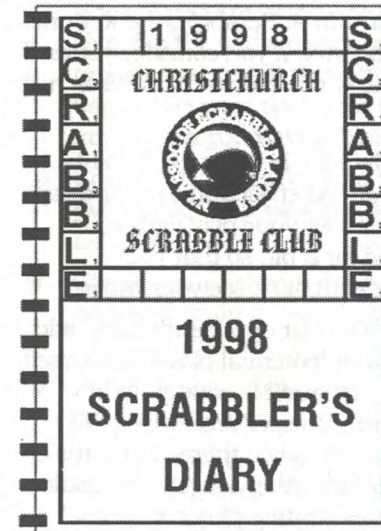


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## New Tactics for Better Scrabble or Rattling Your Opponent

by David Lloyd, Mt Albert

There are many tactics, ploys and skills used to win at Scrabble, the key ones being word knowledge, rack balancing and board control. If you consider yourself inept at these, don't despair, there are other ways to win ... [**Warning:** This is *not* to be taken seriously! — Ed.]

- ☹ During your opponent's play, and while pretending to think hard, take a tile from your rack, and use it to tap the table with. This works well with a (heavily) furrowed brow. If there is no response, bang a little harder. Furrow your brow more.
- ☹ If you hold a blank, reveal it to your opponent, but make it look like an accident by pretending to fumble. This will rattle your opponent and compel him to score low while blocking potential bonus plays on the board. You can achieve a similar, albeit less effective result by fumbling an 'S'.
- ☹ During your opponent's turn, count across or down on an empty area of the board with your finger to see if your 'bonus' fits. Of course you don't have a bonus, but the ploy is quite intimidating. For good measure, count across several areas of the board to indicate that you have a number of places to play.
- ☹ If you suspect that your opponent has a bonus play, and particularly if it is playable only in one place, take a devil of a long time to make your move. With tiles in your hand, waver between that place and another. Try placing letters on the board, pause, then take the tiles up again. Do this several times and
- ☹ finally take his spot for 6 points. For added effect and further delay, hover over your play with your hand for a bit, so that your opponent can't see your move.
- ☹ During your opponent's turn, add up your 'potential plays' to yourself, but just audible enough to be heard. Whisper scores like: "73 hmm, 80 down there, 63 on the triple" etc. Alternatively you could mutter: "satine plus a d, hmm."
- ☹ Constantly gaze out the window. Mention there is a stalker in the park across the road.
- ☹ Get a cold and sniff and blow a lot. Put a box of tissues on the table.
- ☹ Become a sad case. Explain that you recently lost your home, got fired, lost your wife, and your mother disowns you. Admit that one more failure will positively be the last straw. Keep anti-depressant drugs on the table beside you.
- ☹ When you turn the board around, knock your opponent's tiles off his rack. If they fall on the floor precious time will be used in retrieving them.
- ☹ Near the end of a game you think you will lose, act clumsy and knock the board off the table (a vigorous turning of the board will achieve

this) and force a rematch. Disagree with any solution of board reconstruction.

- ☹ Some Scrabble sets contain blanks which appear the same on both sides. If you are using one of these sets, flip the odd tile over several times as you draw them from the bag to give your opponent the impression you have a blank.
- ☹ Comment on how you think that two blanks on a rack is a waste. Ditto 'S'.
- ☹ Clench your fist with excitement now and again as you draw one or two tiles from the bag.
- ☹ Rattle the bag excessively. Drop it on the table even.
- ☹ Play a word containing, say an 'X', then take it back. Play something else instead. This will upset and restrict your opponent from playing around the premium squares.
- ☹ Ask your opponent if 'tarnies' is a word.
- ☹ In full view of your opponent, write your rack combinations on your score sheet. Fib of course, and write

something like 'ditans?' or 'santer+o' or 'ieoszxy' even.

- ☹ If you draw too many tiles from the bag, ask your opponent to draw from your rack and put them back in the bag. If he believes you have a blank (see above) he will dither, wondering where the blank is likely to be. As his hand hovers over your rack, clench your teeth periodically. Appear anxious. When he finally draws the letter, breathe an enormous sigh of relief.
- ☹ Accidentally hit your opponent's clock button.
- ☹ In a very close game, put your tiles on the table, say you will change seven, pause, then play a bonus.
- ☹ When your opponent is tracking off played tiles, talk incessantly. Speak the letters of the last word played out of sync with his tracking.
- ☹ Put something like a mouse or a weta in the tile bag.
- ☹ If you lose, insist on a rematch because your opponent acted unethically.

### Down to Earth

At the Hastings Club's Tuesday afternoon session following his clean sweep at the Mt Albert tourney, Jeff Grant was brought down to earth with a thud. He lost four out of six games and had two 9-letter words played against him in the process — Doreen O'Shea got DEFROSTED (ED on the board), and Pat Hutchison found REBELLING (through LI). It's a funny old game.

### Huge Six-Letter Play in US

Karen Merrill of Portland, Oregon recently played the highest-scoring non-bonus word ever recorded at an American club. She used OR on the board to make RORQUALS on a triple-triple for an astounding 243 points. This is just short of John Foster's unofficial world record of 261 for the word CLAQUEURS.

## New Tactics for Better Scrabble or Rattling Your Opponent

by David Lloyd, Mt Albert

There are many tactics, ploys and skills used to win at Scrabble, the key ones being word knowledge, rack balancing and board control. If you consider yourself inept at these, don't despair, there are other ways to win ... [**Warning:** This is *not* to be taken seriously! — Ed.]

- ☹ During your opponent's play, and while pretending to think hard, take a tile from your rack, and use it to tap the table with. This works well with a (heavily) furrowed brow. If there is no response, bang a little harder. Furrow your brow more.
- ☹ If you hold a blank, reveal it to your opponent, but make it look like an accident by pretending to fumble. This will rattle your opponent and compel him to score low while blocking potential bonus plays on the board. You can achieve a similar, albeit less effective result by fumbling an 'S'.
- ☹ During your opponent's turn, count across or down on an empty area of the board with your finger to see if your 'bonus' fits. Of course you don't have a bonus, but the ploy is quite intimidating. For good measure, count across several areas of the board to indicate that you have a number of places to play.
- ☹ If you suspect that your opponent has a bonus play, and particularly if it is playable only in one place, take a devil of a long time to make your move. With tiles in your hand, waver between that place and another. Try placing letters on the board, pause, then take the tiles up again. Do this several times and finally take his spot for 6 points. For added effect and further delay, hover over your play with your hand for a bit, so that your opponent can't see your move.
- ☹ During your opponent's turn, add up your 'potential plays' to yourself, but just audible enough to be heard. Whisper scores like: "73 hmm, 80 down there, 63 on the triple" etc. Alternatively you could mutter: "satine plus a d, hmm."
- ☹ Constantly gaze out the window. Mention there is a streaker in the park across the road.
- ☹ Get a cold and sniff and blow a lot. Put a box of tissues on the table.
- ☹ Become a sad case. Explain that you recently lost your home, got fired, lost your wife, and your mother disowns you. Admit that one more failure will positively be the last straw. Keep anti-depressant drugs on the table beside you.
- ☹ When you turn the board around, knock your opponent's tiles off his rack. If they fall on the floor precious time will be used in retrieving them.
- ☹ Near the end of a game you think you will lose, act clumsy and knock the board off the table (a vigorous turning of the board will achieve

this) and force a rematch. Disagree with any solution of board reconstruction.

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## 9th NORFOLK ISLAND

by English Lane (aka Glennis Hale)  
Mt Albert Club, Auckland

Yet another successful Norfolk Island Festival has come and gone.

Barney Duffy's was once again the venue for the Introductory Dinner. It was a great night where the Aussies and Kiwis wined and dined in a very relaxed atmosphere amid lots of jokes and fun word games.

Monday morning arrived all too soon for some. However 30 Aussies and 15 Kiwis arrived on time at the Sirius Room at the Colonial Hotel where David and Dorothy Pinner were busily organising the first day's Scrabble. Sadly, Ethel Collins of Australia had to withdraw from the festival, due to illness. I'm sure, though, we'll see her back in the future as she has been once before and knows how much fun it is to take part.

The 45 players were divided into 5 grades with the Anson Bay and Ball Bay grades playing 21 games (3 round robins) and the Cascade Bay, Duncombe Bay and Emily Bay grades playing a total of 18 games (2 round robins).

At the conclusion of the first session people dispersed in all directions — some to the shops, some to knockout games, some on Island tours and others just home to relax after a very busy morning's play.

Word puzzles were handed out to all the contestants who wished to take part, either

individually or as a team. These were then handed in daily and replaced with the next day's set. David and Dorothy did an excellent job setting these fascinating puzzles and many people gained a lot of pleasurable hours pondering over the solutions. I do believe the local library even had a few visitors during the week. More than once I overheard contestants pleading with David to accept their alternative solution in the hope that they might gain a few extra valuable marks. (It worked on the odd occasion too!)

Play was spread over 5 days, some morning sessions and others in the afternoon to allow for shopping, tours and various other activities.

The knockout games were played outside these times in people's motels or at the venue at the conclusion of the day's play. A great way to get to know each other with lots of laughter and friendly banter along the way. Many of the results were very close showing that the handicapping was once again right



David & Dorothy Pinner, organisers (left) with Jeff Grant, 1st in Anson Bay Grade

## SCRABBLE FESTIVAL 1997



Lorie Ewings (Qld)  
1st Duncombe Bay grade

on the button. I was removed from the competition by the eventual winner, Jill Johnson, of Auckland. Imagine my thoughts — over 150 behind at the start and the first word down was a very good scoring bonus, and that wasn't the only one either.

Congratulations Jill — a great game. Incidentally Jill was the only person to go through the week unbeaten. A superb effort!!

Friday night at the South Pacific Hotel saw all the contestants and their friends gathered together for the Prizegiving dinner and presentation.

Before dinner Agnes Hain and Janelle Taylor from the Travel Centre presented each participant with a souvenir file which included photographs and results. Thanks from all of us!

All the winners were presented with beautiful trophies, medals and superb prizes. Everyone was given a prize, even the many friends who were such a welcome part of this festival.

One of the most anxiously awaited

awards of the Festival is the winner of the Teams Trophy. The wins of the best 5 performers from each country are added together. This year it was won by New Zealand. Well done, Kiwis!

Next year is the 10th Festival and it promises to be a 'special' one. I've been to every one, along with Jeff Grant and Correne James, and we are already looking forward to 1998!

### Results

#### Anson Bay (21 Games)

Name	Wins	Points	Ave	B/W
1 Jeff Grant	NZ	17	9534	454 42
2 Glennis Hale	NZ	13	8462	403 33
3 Alistair Kane	VIC	13	8356	398 33
4 Sue Kyatt	VIC	10	8002	381 28
5 Marie London	TAS	9.5	7938	378 20
6 June Mackwell	NZ	9	7874	375 31
7 Richard Farrington	NSW	6.5	7657	365 20
8 Fae Olson	NZ	6	8001	381 28

#### Ball Bay (21 Games)

1 Alison Rae	ACT	17	8280	394 23
2 Patricia Warren	NSW	11	7933	378 29
3 Kristine Logan	NSW	11	7863	374 15
4 Susan Flack	NSW	11	7755	369 14
5 Rene Chelton	NSW	11	7693	366 21
6 Cheryl Michler	NSW	11	7445	356 18
7 Betty Foreman	NSW	7	7297	347 16
8 Fay Grose	QLD	5	7398	352 13

#### Cascade Bay (16 Games)

1 Shirley Martin	NZ	11	6290	393 22
2 Jean Walsh	NZ	10	6129	383 23
3 Correne James	NZ	10	5781	361 17
4 Angela Farrington	NSW	9	6098	381 16
5 Silvia Stephens	WA	9	5742	359 19
6 Marianne Patchett	NZ	7	5641	353 12
7 June Stephenson	NSW	6	5614	351 10
8 Eileen Seaborn	SA	5	5785	362 8
9 Judy Hay	NSW	5	5671	354 10
Ethel Collins	NSW		Withdraw	- sickness

**Duncombe Bay (18 Games)**

Name	Wins	Points	Ave	B/W
1 Lorie Ewings	QLD 15	6706	373	6
2 Eileen Knox	NSW 12	6446	358	7
3 Netta Dowe	QLD 11	6480	360	6
4 Shirley Philbey	SA 10	5983	332	1
5 Winifred Akhurst	SA 8	6162	342	8
6 Jean David	ACT 8	6099	339	7
7 Jo Small	QLD 7	5760	320	6
8 Audrey Plane	NZ 6.5	6016	334	5
9 Joan Murphy	QLD 6.5	5765	320	3
10 Susan Olson	NZ 6	5880	327	13

**Emily Bay (18 Games)**

1 Jill Johnson	NZ 17.5	6827	374	9
2 Margaret Hanson	NZ 12.5	6614	367	15
3 Ed Olson	NZ 11	6258	348	9
4 Gill Russell	QLD 10	5542	308	5
5 Vera Burner	NZ 9	5868	326	3
6 David Etherington	NSW 9	5815	323	8
7 Noeline Thoma	QLD 9	5686	316	2
8 Dorothy Clark	QLD 7	5332	296	3
9 Elvira Steel	NZ 3	4857	270	3
10 Daphne Paton	QLD 2	4780	266	1

**Handicap Knockout**

- 1 Jill Johnson
- 2 Audrey Plane

**Sportsperson Award**

Correne James

**Word Puzzles**

**Individual**

Silvia Stephens



**Jill Johnson (NZ) 1st Emily Bay grade, handicap knockout winner**

**Group**

- 1 Correne James & Glennis Hale
- 2 Rat Lane Liners (Alison Rae, Pat Rae, Jean David)

**Teams — International Shield**

New Zealand 71      Australia 68

**The Norfolk Experience**

by Audrey Plane

Most of you will know that Jean Walsh, Vera Burner and I recently attended the Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival. NZ players took top placing in three of the five grades, and everyone gave a good account of themselves. NZ had only 15 players and Australia 30, but we managed to win the Shield played for between the two countries. Well done Kiwis!

Jean had been to Norfolk before but it was my first visit. It was a great week, with Scrabble in either the morning or afternoon, leaving the other half day free to do whatever you wanted. We certainly managed to fill our day with no trouble. Jean went horse-riding one afternoon, but I passed on that! We did the usual things like the half-day tour of the island, breakfast walk, the Sound and Light show, a horse and carriage ride, the glass-bottom boat excursion and also fitted in some shopping. We managed to visit the cemetery and a museum, play some mini-golf, as well as do some general sight-seeing. We found the locals all very friendly and helpful, and would definitely recommend this Scrabble week to anyone wanting an enjoyable break away.

from the Wanganui Scrabble Club  
Newsletter, October 1997

**10th  
Norfolk Island**



**Festival**

**20 - 27 September 1998**

The 1997 Festival was a huge success. Next year's should be even better! Join in the fun at the Scrabble® Festival whilst spoiling yourself with an 8 day holiday on beautiful Norfolk Island. It's all here waiting for you to enjoy .....

**Special Discounted**

**Airfare and accommodation packages available from - The Travel Centre**

PO Box 172, Norfolk Island 2899. Or contact us by phone or facsimile.

*(Be sure to first dial the international code (00) before dialling Norfolk Island's country code and The Travel Centre's number.)*

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*Plus*

a special Scrabble® Registration Fee of \$100.00 per person if booking your travel arrangements through The Travel Centre.

**The Scrabble® Festival**

The Scrabble® Competitions will include an International Tournament and a Word Puzzle competition. Excellent trophies and prizes are promised. Norfolk Island warmly invites you to participate in this fascinating holiday.

**Register Now**

You can be eligible for the special discounted registration fee of \$100 per person. Simply book your holiday to Norfolk Island through The Travel Centre.

For further information on our Special Discounted Holiday Packages, please fill in this form and return it to: The Scrabble® Festival, c/- The Travel Centre, PO Box 172, Norfolk Island, 2899.

SURNAME ..... FIRST NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

PHONE..... FACSIMILE.....



The Travel Centre

Come along and celebrate with us!  
*The 10th Anniversary*  
of the Norfolk Island Scrabble® Festival.

## Redwood Scrabble Word List

By now many of you will either own or have seen a copy of the *Redwood Scrabble Word List*, International Edition. This book contains all allowable Scrabble words from 2-9 letters in length, based on both the American and English dictionaries.

This work is a step forward from the *Griffon Word List*, and should prove invaluable to Scrabblers throughout the world. However, care is needed, as

the *Redwood* has incorporated a small number of changes which won't be officially adopted until 1998, and it also includes 9-letter base-words found only in *Websters 10th Collegiate*, the American backup dictionary, which we don't currently use in New Zealand.

Here is a list of the *Redwood* amendments which will be adopted next year:

### Words Added

BACKDROPT	DECLAWED	MAGLEVS	REDTAIL
BACKSTAB	DECLAWING	OVERDRIED	REDTAILS
BACKSTABS	DECLAWS	OVERDRIES	RHYTONS
BASSETT	ESTHETICS	PETRALE	SMOOTHES
BASSETTS	IGNORAMI	PETRALES	SPAETZLES
BEDSIT	ILLER	PINEALS	TENIASES
BEDSITS	ILLEST	PREMIXT	UNSELL
CHEMO	LATTE	PYROLIZE	UNSELLING
CHEMOS	LATTES	PYROLIZED	UNSELLS
DECLAW	LEPIDOTES	PYROLIZES	WHINGING

### Words Deleted

DES	LICENTI	STRID
HANGULS	PLAYWEARS	TOWNWEARS
KEV	SKIWEARS	VON

Perhaps in the meantime *Redwood* owners could highlight the words added (which we can't use yet), and write in the words deleted, so that it is clear they are still acceptable. They can be crossed out when the amendments are adopted next year.

### PCist

Pat Hutchison got top word of the night at the Hastings Club on October 2 with 115 points for SIZEIST. This is an example of our desire to categorise various forms of bias. James Finn Garner states in his introduction to his book *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories*:

"If, through omission or commission, I have inadvertently displayed any sexist, racist, culturalist, nationalist, regionalist, ageist, lookist\*, ableist\*, sizeist, speciesist, intellectualist, socioeconomicist\*, ethnocentrist\*, phallogentrist\*, heteropatriarchalist\*, or other type of bias as yet unnamed, I apologise."

Other terms of this ilk include FATTIST\*, CLASSIST, COLOURIST and HETEROSEXIST. (\*Not allowed in Scrabble)

## ANAGRAM CORNER

Scrabblers are dab hands at transposing letters, for example HINGE

to NEIGH and EARFLAP to PARAFLE. On a higher level, you could say of TELEVISION NEWS that IT'S NOW SEEN LIVE.

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

MARY CASSE	MAY CARESS
TONY TURNER	ENTRY TO URN
JOAN THOMAS	HOT, NO 'JAMASI
MARGARET HANSON	SHORTEN ANAGRAM
MARK WILSON	MORAL WINKS
MARY GRAY	GYM ARRAY

### American Double Dictionary Debate

There has been much recent discussion in American Scrabble circles on the possibility of adopting both the English and American dictionaries as the official word source some time in the future.

A survey was carried out and replies received from over 1000 members of the American Association. Among those who replied, 27% were not in favour of the 'combined dictionary', but a surprising 23% said they would be in favour if a single challenge rule was introduced. Another 16% said they would be in favour if new words were 'gradually introduced' into tournament play. The largest group — 34% — were still undecided.

The National Scrabble Association forsees considerable debate on the subject at clubs, tournaments and on the Internet. There are still many obstacles to 'double dictionary' Scrabble in America, but it is encouraging to see such active debate taking place. The issue may ultimately get down to a future referendum among Scrabblers.

## Mind Sports Olympiad

Over 2000 contestants from more than 60 countries attended the 1st Mind Sports Olympiad in London on August 18-24. There were 39 different games contested, and sixteen world champions competed, including Scrabble's Mark Nyman of England.

Two separate Scrabble tournaments were held, the Monday to Friday event being won by Evan Simpson (England), ahead of Harshan Lamabadusuriya (Sri Lanka) and Martin Thompson (England).

The standard of the weekend competition was very high, with the first three place-getters all British National Champions. Phil Appleby (1991 champ) was 1st, Allan Simmons (1993 champ) 2nd, and Andrew Fisher (1997 champ) 3rd.

### Raffle Results

1st	Caroline Dunlop, Wellsford
2nd	J M Rowe, Stratford
3rd	Joanne Maudsley, Manurewa
4th	Ross Adler, Christchurch
5th	Karen Barlow, Manurewa

## Dazzling Dozen

Some words have unusual endings, for instance ADZ, DREAMT and CEILIDH. Here are a dozen less common examples to dazzle your opponents.

CACOMIXL	PAYSD	SMARAGD
EEVN	ROTL	UNSHRUBD
HUMF	SEKT	VOZHD
OLLAMH	SLOJD	WAQF

## Your Stars For 1998

Inspired by Michael Vnuk's 'horroroscope'  
in *Scribble*, October, 1997

Nostrildamus, the word-famous astrologer, pessimist and rhinoplastic surgeon makes predictions and suggestions for your Scrabble future.



### AQUARIUS, the water-carrier

Wishy-washy, wussy, negative play will deservedly lose you games you would win if you had a bit of spirit. Suggest you try some whiskey with the water.



### PISCES, the fishes

Obsessively fishing for a single letter will cost you dearly. Holding UAGGAS in the hope of drawing a Q won't work. Neither will holding RETINA — you'll always get a Q. Suggest you try a different angle.



### ARIES, the ram

You will need the services of a ram, because your rack will always have lots of U's (ewes). Suggest you bone up on words like MUUMUU and SUCURUJU.



### TAURUS, the bull

You will be challenged whenever you bluff, even with convincing (you think) words like LANED and SIDELESS. Suggest you cut the Scrabbull and stick to Scrabble.



### GEMINI, the twins

Your rack will be plagued with doubles, particularly C, I, U, V and W. Suggest you learn lots of tautonyms like COCO and VALVAL.



### CANCER, the crab

A losing run of blocked, low-scoring games crawling crabwise across the board will make you crabby. Suggest you ignore the 'crab' in Scrabble, lighten up a bit, and learn some longer words.



### LEO, the lion

Your slightly aggressive manner could make you unpopular. Beware of splinters from wooden racks. Suggest you tone it down a little and be nice to your opponents.



### VIRGO, the virgin

You will be forever vergin' on a bonus word, with things like QUUCKED and JOGGENG on your rack. Suggest you get rid of those frustrations somehow.



### LIBRA, the balance

An obsession with rack-balancing will result in you losing many games narrowly. Suggest you adopt a new style of play.



### SCORPIO, the scorpion

You will be stung whenever you make an opening. Be prepared for lots of 60-point QI plays and triple-triples by your opponents. Suggest you play defensively and take antivenin tablets to tournaments.



### SAGITTARIUS, the archer

Despite bagging plenty of S's and blanks (mostly on the last rack), you will consistently miss your target wins and shoot rapidly down the ratings. Suggest you change your tactics or your star-sign.



### CAPRICORN, the goat

You will play like a goat and lose games with blunders like putting down ZOAE and challenging BUS (because BU isn't a word). Suggest you get a haircut and lay off the weed.

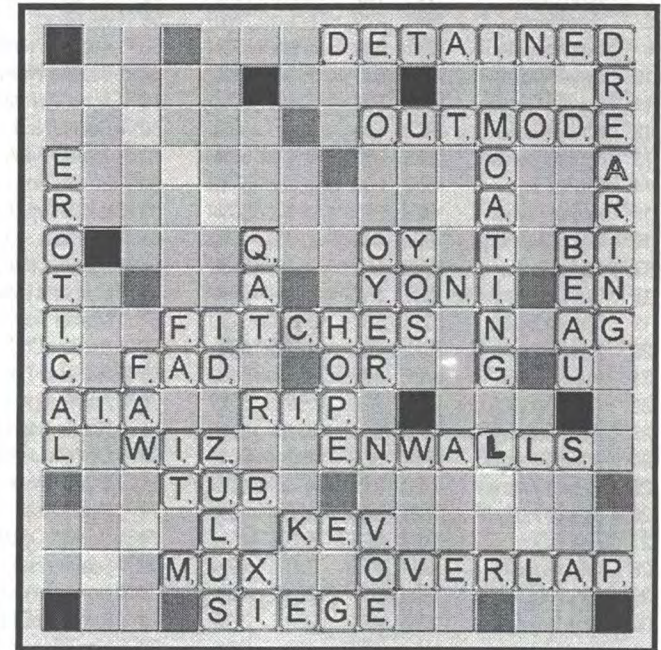
## A Dream Fulfilled

Jeff Grant had his first 'dream' game back in 1975, when he got down five bonus words on the way to a score of 639 in a friendly game. It took another 22 years for his second such memorable game to occur.

Members of the Hastings Scrabble Club have a regular Tuesday afternoon session at Doreen O'Shea's home. On September 2, Jeff fulfilled a long-held ambition when he broke 700 for the first time. The dream run happened against Mary Paul, who has recently joined the Hastings group after previously playing at a club in Ventura County, southern California.

In this amazing 751-287 win Jeff had *seven* bonus words, including a modest triple-triple (131 points).

None of the bonuses stand out as particularly unusual. What makes Jeff's high-scoring feat even more remarkable is that it was achieved without the J, Q, X, Z and two of the S's, and while he was playing another club member, June Ward, at the same



### Jeff

1	FITCHES	88	88
2	MOATING, YONI	79	167
3	OUTMODE	22	189
4	DREARING	131	320
5	DETAINED	83	403
6	Change	0	403
7	AIA, FA	10	413
8	BEAU, BI, EN, AG	27	440
9	EROTICAL	83	523
10	ENWALLS, HOPE	77	600
11	OVERLAP, OE	92	692
12	KEV, VOE	29	721
	(EHJNS)	+30	751

### Mary

1	YON, YE, OS	21	21
2	QAT	32	53
3	OY, OYE, YOS	33	86
4	FAD, FA, ID	19	105
5	OR, HO, OYER	16	121
6	RIP, HOP	15	136
7	WIZ, FAW	39	175
8	ZULU	13	188
9	TUB, IT	14	202
10	SIEGE, ZULUS	32	234
11	MUX, XI	53	287

TOTAL = 1038



# CLUB NEWS

## Dunedin Newsletter

by Bill Grigg

### Quiz

What do the following racks make?

- a) ROBODES      d) ZEARING  
b) NOUCHES     e) COUPPER  
c) ANURICS      f) STUELED

Answers are upside down at bottom of page.

### Milestones

Bill Grigg recently became a great uncle and turned 50+. Correction: Elvira Steel is now a *great* grandmother.

### Bledislo Cup

We see this trophy every club night. Kendall Boyd was in the winning team (Chess, 1991).

### Tournaments

Canterbury Open, 13-14 September (2 one-dayers). **Day 1** The winner was, who else? Nigel Richards (CHC) with 6 wins (ave 482) suffered just one defeat, to Liz Fagerlund (CHC) who was the only person I beat. Elvira Steel (DUN) had her best tournament ever with 3 wins. **Day 2** Nigel Richards was undefeated with 7 wins (ave 491). He just keeps on winning! Norman Wheeler (WEL) won B grade both days, and Sheryl Davidson (PAK) had good results too — 3rd and 2nd respectively. She also won the Lotto raffle. Many thanks to Christchurch Club for the great hospitality. Everyone had an enjoyable time (even me, despite winning only one game on the second day).

### Norfolk Island

Elvira Steel had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed meeting new people and playing lots of Scrabble. She wishes to thank all involved, and can't wait until 1998.

### Hard Luck Stories

Some losing scores in club competitions:

- 441 Corale McDonald  
434 Peter Sinton  
431 Glennie Jamieson  
421 Bill Grigg

**Welcome** to new members Tony McLeod and Chris Handley. It was also nice to see Lois Binnie who was on holiday from Melbourne, Australia.

### Competitions

		W	Ave
R/Robin	1 Kendall Boyd	30	449
	2 Peter Sinton	20	434
	3 Bill Grigg	14	364
Ladder	1 Marian Ross	21.5	423
	2 John Bell	7	336
	3 Bill Grigg	17	389
Challenge	1 Kendall Boyd	10.5	447
	2 Marian Ross	44	406
	3 Bill Grigg	25	394
Dictionary	1 Glen Madigan	4	414
	2 Marian Ross	5	401
	3 John Bell	14	399

### World Champs

We hope that Kendall, Jeff, Mike and Lynne all had a good time and did us proud in Washington.

### Tournaments 1998

Dunedin Open April 18-19  
(2 one-dayers)

\$13 per day, all invited.

Otago Champs November 7

**Happy Scrabble and Merry Christmas to you all!**

### Quiz Answers

- f) TELBEDUS      c) CRUSIAN  
e) PRECOUP      b) COHUNES  
d) ZINGARE      a) BOORDES

## Rodney

by Gerald Warner

The Rodney Scrabble Club recently celebrated its 10th birthday in style with a grand dinner. Some 20 past and present members took part, with lots of reminiscences exchanged and many 'euouaes' sung.

Prior to cutting the cake (skilfully iced by club president Paddy Glen), Gerald, the club founder, spoke of what the club has meant to its many members over the years, of tournament successes, and the good fellowship enjoyed by all. An average membership of around two dozen has been maintained over the years, partly because of catering to both afternoon and evening players with corresponding numbers at club functions.

May the next 10 years be just as happy and successful!

## Christchurch Club News

by Paul Lister

Our club held a tournament weekend on November 1-2 in lieu of the Dunedin Open which was originally to take place then, but has now been rescheduled for April next year.

Most of us had made accommodation arrangements for Dunedin or left the weekend free, so we went ahead with two one-day events. This was also a great opportunity to 'blood' several new people into the niceties of tournament play as well.

For the record books, there was a great performance put up by Nigel Richards on Day 2. In his game against Heather Port he scored **717**, including



**Rodney foundation members (from left) Ngaire Colville, Kate Mulligan, Dorothy Haining, Gerald Warner, Vivienne Williamson, Norah Cox and (seated) Clyde Titchener**

the six bonus words INDARTS, DUALIZES, SQUELCH, PINOCLE, UNGYVING and IRIDEAL. The combined score was 1018. [Nigels's 717 is the second highest score ever achieved at club level in NZ. Unfortunately it can't be recognised as equalling Mike Sigley's record, as it wasn't scored in an official open tournament. — Ed.] Nigel was undefeated on the Sunday, averaging 566 points and nearly four bonus words per game!

The TV1 cameras came along on Sunday. Nigel and several others were interviewed, so we are hoping for some good Scrabble coverage.

### Results

Name	Wins	Score	Ave	B/W
<b>1 November</b>				
<b>Grade A</b>				
1 Paul Lister	6.5	2995	428	12
2 Nigel Richards	5	3128	447	14
3 Doreen Ogston	5	2823	403	14
4 Shirley Hol	4	2813	402	13
5 Elsie Malkin	3	2528	361	8
6 Margaret Lyall	2.5	2671	382	9
7 Gordon Pinchin	1	2386	341	1
8 Heather Port	1	2268	324	1

Name	Wins	Score	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade B</b>				
1 Malcolm Graham	7	2758	394	7
2 Shirley Van Essen	5	2350	335	2
3 Yvonne Erickson	4	2392	341	8
4 Mary Pinchin	3	2177	311	1
5 Betty Sutherland	3	2169	310	2
6 Bill Tozer	3	2087	298	1
7 Stella Hasseldine	2	2160	308	1
8 David MacDonald	1	1527	218	1

<b>Grade C</b>				
1 Anton Van Essen	5	2171	310	7
2 Mary Lewis	4	1994	285	1
3 Ian Hamilton	3	2202	314	-
4 Betty Wilson	2	1840	263	-

<b>2 November</b>		<b>7 Games</b>			
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Nigel Richards	7	3962	566	27	
2 Shirley Hol	6	2920	417	14	
3 Liz Fagerlund	3	2669	381	5	
4 Elsie Malkin	3	2594	370	7	
5 Doreen Ogston	3	2543	363	8	
6 Heather Port	2	2511	358	7	
7 Margaret Lyall	3	2485	355	7	
8 Kathleen Mori-Barker	2	2470	352	7	

<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Shirley Van Essen	6	2310	365	4	
2 Yvonne Erickson	5	2129	354	6	
3 Bill Tozer	5	2002	333	4	
4 Mary Pinchin	5	1933	322	3	
5 Betty Wilson	4.5	2274	324	3	
6 Sally McNulty	4	1877	312	-	
7 Trish Clothier-Murray	4	1767	294	4	
8 David MacDonald	3	2046	292	-	
9 Betty Sutherland	2.5	2206	315	4	
10 Roslyn Lister	2	1876	312	7	
11 Valerie Pinchin	1	1781	254	1	

"Language is the light  
of the mind"

— John Stuart Mill (1806-73)

## Spelling It Out



Is this where all the Queenslanders go  
to learn to play Scrabble?

— submitted anonymously

### English Scrabble Boards

English Turntable  
Scrabble Boards  
approx £29 (\$75)  
delivered to Auckland.  
To order please contact:  
Ann Candler  
58 Marlborough Ave  
Glenfield, Auckland  
Phone 09-444-8411

### Star Scrabblor

Australia's *Across the Board* magazine mentions an *Oprah Winfrey Show* featuring a famous Scrabblor. John Travolta confessed to enjoying the game, and when Oprah asked him if he played really well, he modestly replied, "Oh, I usually score around 300." This drew oohs and aahs of appreciation from the studio audience and he wasn't even dancing.

## Scrabble

by Rose Roselea  
Hastings

Scrabble is a super game, it simply is the best,  
with endless possibilities, that put you to the test.  
When you join the world of Scrabble, you have such loads of fun,  
although at times you wonder exactly what you've done  
Instead of getting on with work, which can be such a bore,  
you make another coffee, and play a little more

Sometimes you think your brain's in gear, you feel so very smart,  
but delusion quickly takes its place, when all you play is 'fart'.  
People try all sorts of ways to learn a word or two,  
and inspiration comes to some, when sitting on the loo.

Bonus words are such a buzz, and if they fit you gloat,  
but when there's not a single place, you mutter in your throat,  
saying underneath your breath, "this is a stupid game",  
but then you keep on bouncing back and play it just the same.  
When triple triples come along, and scoring high abounds  
you feel a sense of pride well up, because these words you've found.

Scrabblers are all shapes and sizes, a pretty varied crew,  
but we have this thing in common, we love a word or two.  
We go off to the tournaments, filled with such desire,  
dreaming that we'll take the prize and set the world on fire.  
Some of us are lucky and victory is sweet,  
but others, tails between their legs, make a quick retreat.  
But that's the way with Scrabble, it's a game of luck and skill,  
and as the brain needs exercise, it really fits the bill.

So with this final thought in mind, it's time to close the door,  
settle down with glass in hand, and play a little more.

## The Kiwis in Washington DC

The New Zealand team of Jeff Grant, Mike Sigley, Kendall Boyd and Lynne Butler arrived at their hotel in Washington at 1am on Tuesday November 18. They experienced a delay of several hours in Los Angeles where *two* planes had minor faults.

The next few days were spent exploring Washington and getting over the jet-lag, then it was into the Scrabble! Three days of intense concentration, 21 games pitted against the world's top players representing 36 different countries. The venue was Washington's lavish Mayflower Hotel.

Kendall had a brilliant finish, winning his last seven games to move from mid-field up to 6th position. Along the way he had wins over 1991 World runner-up Brian Cappelletto (US), current N. American champ Adam Logan (Canada) and African champ Femi Awowade (Nigeria). Some of Kendall's best words were PEGASUS, HOASTMEN and PEACODS.

Jeff led the field after 17 rounds and another top-four finish looked on, but unfortunately four straight losses resulted in a slide to 13th spot. Jeff had wins over several leading players, including Joe Edley (US), Joel Wapnick (Canada) and Brits Mark Nyman, Russell Byers and Allan Saldanha. His best plays were GNATHITE for 194, IDEOLOGY for 167, as well as SUNKETS, ENCRINAL, OXTERING and RERADIATE.

Mike struggled for consistency and had to settle for 40th spot — absolutely no indication of his ability. He scored good wins over Joel

Wapnick and 1995 World Champ David Boys (Canada), as well as recording the Kiwi's highest score of 618 in one game. Mike probably played more unusual words than any other player, demonstrating his vast knowledge of the language. Some examples: ANTITANK, TULIPANT, SPALLES, BRETTICE, PERIWIG, ISABELLA, DIVAGATE — Mike could probably tell you what they all mean too!

Lynne finished in 56th spot, certainly no disgrace considering one of the favourites this time, 4th place-getter in the last World Champs, Bob Lipton (US), came 58th. Lynne had good wins over high-rated UK players John Grayson and Andrew Fisher, as well as Nigerian Larry Onyeonwu. Some of her best plays were ADEEMED, FALCONET and RACEWAYS to gain a winning lead in a crucial game.

Overall, the Kiwis did pretty well, with a player in the top 10 for the third time in a row, and on one calculation placing 5th out of 36 'teams' present. Who knows, maybe in two years' time we can make an even bigger impact!



Jeff Grant (right) playing Mark Nyman (Eng)

## Global Meeting

The first ever 'global meeting' was held at the Mayflower Hotel on Friday November 21. Unfortunately delays during the day meant that the Scrabble didn't finish till after 8pm, and the meeting was held at 9 with only about 25 people present. The Kiwis put in their apologies as they had been invited to the NZ Embassy by ambassador John Wood. However, our thoughts on the issues to be discussed were conveyed to the meeting organisers.

By all accounts the debate was useful, despite the low attendance. The main topics on the agenda were:

1. **Should there be a penalty for an incorrect challenge?** The feeling was that to prevent multiple challenges during a game it may be desirable to have some penalty, perhaps losing 10 points, or alternatively having one free challenge and thereafter loss of turn (dingle challenge).
2. **How should each country's allocation of players for the World Champs be determined?**

A formula based on World Champs performance was put forward, and generally agreed on. In New Zealand's case, to get an extra representative we would need to have three players in the top third of the field, and the other one clear of the bottom quarter. This seems reasonable, and in fact we were very close to achieving it this time!

Further discussion revolved around the suggestion that a 'World Committee' could be set up to rule on such issues. Maybe Internet meetings were possible. All in all it was felt by those present that the meeting was most beneficial. We shall just have to wait and see if there is any follow-up.

## Romanian Scrabble

by Jeff Grant

We had the pleasure of meeting top Romanian Scrabbler Dan Sandu in Washington DC. He was enjoying the experience and learnt a lot about American culture. Apparently they don't have Coke machines in Bucharest!

The Romanian government paid for Dan's trip to the US and he probably found the Scrabble harder than most other competitors as English is only his *third* language, after Romanian and French. Nevertheless he did very well to record 5 wins.

In Romania they play three different kinds of Scrabble — the normal type, as well as duplicate Scrabble (like the French), and a variation called 'Composition'. Romanian Scrabble sets have 100 tiles, but the distribution and point values are different. For example, there are 5 C's (worth 1 point) and four P's (worth 2), the 2 B's and 2 G's are worth 9 points each, and the single H is worth 10. There are only 5 O's, but 6 U's, 11 A's and 10 I's — in Romanian there are words like FIII! In fact, some verbs have as many as **40** inflections, and Dan reckons over a *million* words are allowed in Romanian Scrabble!

We had an entertaining game of team Scrabble at the hotel using the Romanian tiles, but playing in English. Big scores were frequent, and JIRGA was played at one stage for 93. The final combined total was well over 1000.

It is always interesting to hear about Scrabble in other countries, and hopefully we will see Dan again at the next World Champs in 1999.

**Gerald Warner advises that any future orders for the Redwood Word Lists are to be sent direct to The Mondo Press, PO Box 37796, Parnell, Auckland.**



# 1997 World Scrabble Championship



Washington DC

Nov 21-24

21 Games



Place	Name	Country	Wins	Spread	Average
1	Joel Sherman	USA	16	+829	438
2	Matt Graham	USA	15	+993	441
3	Joe Edley	USA	15	+915	431
4	Bob Felt	USA	14	+814	433
5	Mark Nyman	England	14	+741	427
<b>6</b>	<b>Kendall Boyd</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>+401</b>	<b>404</b>
7	Russell Byers	England	14	+396	417
8	Akshay Bhandarkar	Bahrain	14	+353	396
9	Adam Logan	Canada	13	+1064	425
10	Brian Cappelletto	USA	13	+946	429
11	David Boys	Canada	13	+935	442
12	David Acton	England	13	+517	415
<b>13</b>	<b>Jeff Grant</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>+478</b>	<b>434</b>
14	Allan Saldanha	England	13	+234	411
15	Ron Tiekert	USA	13	-27	408
16	Sammy Okosagah	Nigeria	12	+816	427
17	Patrick Nderitu	Kenya	12	+750	426
18	Missaka Warusawitharana	Sri Lanka	12	+709	413
19	Naween Fernando	Bahrain	12	+588	413
20	John Holgate	Australia	12	+556	414
21	Penny Downer	England	12	+408	390
22	Andrew Fisher	England	12	+382	404
23	Shafique Thobani	Kenya	12	+85	405
24	Paul Cleary	Australia	12	+82	394
25	Stanley Ndungu	Kenya	12	+16	411
26	Gareth Williams	Wales	12	-179	386
27	Clive Spate	England	11.5	+344	404
28	Femi Awowade	Nigeria	11	+711	422
29	Larry Onyeonwu	Nigeria	11	+613	416
30	Ananga Yawo	Ghana	11	+545	421
31	Esther Perrins	Australia	11	+377	408
32	Pui Cheng Wui	Malaysia	11	+305	402
33	Charnwitt Sukhumrattanaporn	Thailand	11	+94	411
34	Steve Gruzd	South Africa	11	+63	409
35	Joshua Addo	Ghana	11	+48	413
36	Joel Wapnick	Canada	11	+27	415

Place	Name	Country	Wins	Spread	Average
37	Gerald Carter	Thailand	11	-439	393
38	Robin Daniel	Canada	11	-503	399
39	Albert Hahn	Canada	11	-719	374
<b>40</b>	<b>Mike Sigley</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>+516</b>	<b>419</b>
41	David Webb	England	10.5	+127	410
42	Jakkrit Klaphajone	Thailand	10	+606	427
43	Roger Blom	Australia	10	+520	396
44	Randy Hersom	USA	10	+511	414
45	Jere Mead	USA	10	+507	409
46	Lester Schonbrun	USA	10	+379	403
47	Jim Geary	USA	10	+218	402
48	Rashid Khan	Pakistan	10	-333	390
49	John Luebkeermann	USA	10	-400	384
50	Peter Elbourne	Malta	10	-435	382
51	John Grayson	Wales	10	-447	397
52	Karl Khoshnaw	Kurdistan	10	-582	396
53	J J Jonah	Israel	10	-645	393
54	Suresh Chinnaiyah	Sri Lanka	9.5	+124	405
55	Edem Mensah	Ghana	9.5	-296	371
<b>56</b>	<b>Lynne Butler</b>	<b>New Zealand</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>-745</b>	<b>372</b>
57	Armando Lao	Philippines	9	+246	396
58	Bob Lipton	USA	9	+12	408
59	Quek Sim Ho	Singapore	9	-284	380
60	Paloma Raychbart	Israel	9	-351	377
61	Yvonne Lobo	Bahrain	9	-413	394
62	Norbert Saldanha	United Arab Emirates	9	-551	369
63	Mario Saliba	Malta	9	-586	361
64	Gerald Davids	South Africa	9	-643	385
65	Austin Kiat Hing	Singapore	9	-769	368
66	Jim Nanavati	Canada	9	-964	372
67	Asad Ul-Haq	Qatar	8	+306	400
68	Rajah Abdullah	Malaysia	8	+137	388
69	Salah Salih	Saudi Arabia	8	-47	397
70	Linda Pray	Oman	8	-234	381
71	Albert Chune	Trinidad	8	-828	368
72	Ken Nakai	Japan	8	-865	345
73	Nuala Clenaghan	Northern Ireland	8	-872	354
74	Eileen Meghen	Eire	8	-891	353
75	Robert Springer	France	8	-1097	351
76	Wone Mamadou	Kuwait	7	-755	357
77	Libero Paoella	Canada	7	-862	364
78	Dan Sandu	Romania	5	-1528	338
79	Randall Gibbons	Guyana	4	-913	333
80	Harischandra Nanykkara	Seychelles	3	-2141	319

## Joel Sherman Analysis

by Jeff Grant

After a 'Joel' being runner-up in the previous two World Scrabble Championships (Wapnick in '93 and Sherman in '95), it was third time lucky as Joel Sherman defeated fellow American Matt Graham 3-1 in the final to become the new World Champion.

Joel is 35 and retired. He has devoted his energies to Scrabble, and won many tournaments before achieving his ultimate goal in Washington DC. Although neither of the new champ's names are allowable Scrabble words, there is still plenty there for the avid word-player. 'Sherman', by the way, derives from 'shearman', a cutter of cloth or wool.



Joel Sherman

### Anagrams

JOEL SHERMAN transposes into phrases like JOSH REAL MEN, HE'S MAJOR, LEN and LONER? HE JAMS! We need to use Joel's nickname 'G I JOEL' SHERMAN to produce an anagram that HAS MORE JINGLE.

### Word Surgery

Both JOEL and SHERMAN have allowable words embedded in the middle. An OE is either a whirlpool or a Scots grandchild, and a HERMA is a head or bust on a square base. SHERMAN on your rack doesn't make a word, but add A for SHEARMAN or SHAREMAN, C for ENCHARMS, D for HERDSMAN, E for SHEARMEN or SHAREMEN, F for FRESHMAN, I for HARMINES or SHIREMAN, O for HORSEMAN, MENORAHS, RHAMNOSE or SHOREMAN, and T for TRASHMEN.

### Squares

J	O	E	L
O	G	L	E
T	E	A	S
S	E	N	T

S	H	E	R	M	A	N
H	A	C	H	U	R	E
E	C	D	Y	S	I	S
R	H	Y	M	I	S	T
M	U	S	I	C	A	L
A	R	I	S	A	T	E
N	E	S	T	L	E	S

The 7-square contains a phoney — ARISATE is a hybrid of the allowable words IRISATE and ARISTATE. Particularly apt are MUSICAL and RHYMIST as Joel is a fine pianist, and probably appreciates poetry too. I wonder if he likes chocolate? (see bottom word) HACHURE is shading on a map (it's also a verb), and ECDYSIS is casting off skin.

### Palindromes

'Leo, jot me opera, rap, or drop a rare poem to Joel.'

In the final, Joel played friend and fellow New Yorker Matt Graham. Some of Joel's mannerisms could put an opponent off if he wasn't used to them. He frequently jigs about beforehand doing warmup exercises, and during the game often gets short of time with big gaps between moves. But his most well-known characteristic is the reason for his nickname 'G I Joel'.

"It stands for gastro-intestinal", explains Joel. "I have a condition which means I belch and fart a lot" (I wasn't actually aware of the latter. — Jeff)

Despite all this, Joel is held in high esteem by the world's elite Scrabble players, and fully deserves his status, celebrated in this palindromic sonnet.

### G I Joel

Nam? Rehs? Leo?  
Jig stiff on a mat,  
Upwards, elite esteem,  
Set among niggards?  
Drowsy, on nap — a gap?  
(rub, burp, rub)  
Final plan, if ...  
(burp, rub, BURP!)  
a gap annoys,  
Words dragging, no?  
Mates meet,  
See tiles, draw,  
Put a man off?  
It's 'G I Joel' Sherman!

### Lasseters Indoor Challenge

More than \$A50,000 in cash and prizes is being offered in the 3rd Lasseters Indoor Challenge which is being held in Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia, from 4-10 January 1998.

Players can compete in Bridge, 500, Darts, Magic, Backgammon, Cribbage, Euchre, 8-Ball, Chess or Scrabble. And when you're not playing you can explore the sights of Central Australia, including Ayers Rock (Uluru), the MacDonnell Ranges, Kings Canyon and The Olgas (Kata Tjuta).

Major discounting of Hotel/Motel rates is promised, and Qantas is offering good deals on Challenge airfares too.

For more information contact Jeff Grant.

Although it's quite close to the event, any keen players can probably still enter.



### Scrabble Ambassador

World Champs contestant Lynne Butler was recently appointed an Honorary Ambassador for the New Plymouth District, in recognition of her outstanding achievements in the Scrabble field.

Lynne has competed in 3 World Championships, won the 1985 Australian national title, and finished runner-up in the NZ Masters this year. She has played in dozens of tourneys in America and throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Delighted at receiving her honour, Lynne says: "It was really great, and the presentation was a lot more informal than I thought it would be making it that much more pleasant.

"While Scrabble is a big part of my life and I get recognised in the Scrabble world, it was nice to have the local interest and recognition." Well done, Lynne!

### Wright Down to It

At Victoria's Prahran tournament in July, a runner remarked that there was a player on the floor. Apparently Geoff Wright fell off his chair when someone pointed out that he had missed a triple-triple.



From the British magazine *Onwords*, edited by Allan Simmons



## Australia

### Sydney Winter Masters

This popular event was held at Clontarf Cottage on July 26 and 27. Twenty games were played and competition was spiced up by a 'betting market', which opened with Esther Perrins at 3 to 1 favourite. Rank outsiders in the high-class field of 37 were at 100 and 150 to 1.

There was lots of exciting Scrabble before the final placings were decided. Joan Rosenthal produced the most notable play with an opening move of BEZIQUE for 124 points, on the way to the tournament's high game score of 628.

- |                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| 1. Paul Cleary    | 15 |
| 2. Bob Jackman    | 14 |
| 3. Joan Rosenthal | 14 |
| 4. John Holgate   | 14 |

### South Australian Championships

Barry Harridge was the only out-of-state player in the field of 46 for the SA Champs on 17-18 May. He made the trip worthwhile by taking the title with 10 wins from 13 round robin games, just one ahead of Daniel Piechnick (2nd) and Veronica Baines (3rd).

### Victorian Championships

Held on 7-9 June, this tournament had 46 players in the Masters section, which was run over 19 rounds. Geoff Wright narrowly won the event with 15 wins, from Roger Blom and Lindsay Van Niekerk, both with 14.

### Queensland Championships

The 1997 Queensland Champs were held at Southport on 23-24 August. Bob Jackman (NSW) successfully defended his title, winning 15 games out of 17 in the Masters division. In second place was Anne Drew (QLD), who just edged out Paul Cleary (NSW). In fourth place was Marianne Bentley (QLD), the 1994 and 1995 winner, and last year's runner-up. The Advanced section was won by popular Southport player Jack Ashwin, well known to regulars at the Norfolk Island Festival in recent years.

### New South Wales Championships

Numerous NSWelsh-persons as well as 10 Victorians, 5 Canberrans and a solitary Queenslander spent the long weekend of October 4-6 contesting 20 games of the NSW Championships. To the chagrin of NSW contenders, the Champion's Trophy ultimately went out of state, won by Peter Tobler of ACT with 15.5 wins. For most of the time World Champs representative Esther Perrins was level-pegging with him, but when Peter won their final game, she had to be content with 3rd, with the perennial Bob Jackman sneaking in for 2nd.



**Peter Tobler (right) receiving the NSW Champs trophy from Bob Jackman**



## Bahrain

Scrabble news in Bahrain now has its own website (<http://www.adquest.com/ban/squibs>), so that devotees can keep abreast of local, regional and international news in their favourite pursuit. The website is essentially composed of information from *Scrabble Squibs*, Bahrain's bimonthly newsletter, but there is also some background about Bahrain, including items on archaeology, the wind-towers, dhow building and modern life.

Idea Gallery has invited Bahraini Scrabblers to have a tournament at its Internet cafe in Adliya. They have a Scrabble nook too, where a board has been placed for anyone who wants a game at any time, in either English or Arabic. The cafe has a library, teaches computer and other classes, and you can surf the 'net. The Bahrain Scrabble League may even organise Scrabble classes there! [Sounds like an interesting place. — Ed.]

The eighth Gulf Scrabble Tournament, normally held in May, is likely to be deferred until later next year to give precedence to the Bahrain International Scrabble Open (BISO), which is set down for May 16-19, 1998. Entries continue to roll in for BISO, with current pan-African champion Femi Awowade and fellow Nigerian expert Sammy Okosagah now confirmed starters. The *big* news however is that New Zealand may have a representative at the event — Nigel Richards (CHC) is planning to attend.



## Gibraltar

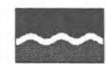
The first ever Scrabble tournament in Gibraltar was held earlier this year, with Jim Wright

finishing top in a field of 32 players. A Scrabble club has now been started in the colony.



## Guyana

The Guyana Association of Scrabble Players was formed in mid-1996. Randall Gibbons, a 42-year-old agriculturist, beat 23 other aspirants to win the Guyanese playoffs and gain a place at the 1997 World Championships.



## Seychelles

Harischandra Nanykkara won the 1997 National Championship.



## Singapore

Reigning Singapore Scrabble champion Tony Sim, was dethroned in the 1997 National Scrabble Championship which concluded on October 5.

The event started on a bright note for the reigning champ with three straight wins in the morning on Day 1, along with the likes of Quek Sim Ho, Noel Joseph and a few others. Playing a total 8 games for the day, Quek soon surged ahead of the chasing pack with a score card of 7-1, followed by rookie Eddie Chung, Michael Tang and Austin Tan Kiat Hing all tied at 6-2. Tony and the rest of the nearest challengers were level at 5-3.

Day 2 saw Austin Tan and Quek continue their fine run, with the former snipping 150 points off Michael's spread and Quek polishing off Eddie comfortably. Down the pack, Tony, though unlucky to lose by a solitary point to Eddie in the opening match of the morning, entered the fray together with Ismail Kassim and Thong Liew Kee, with all of them breathing down









## PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Greetings to all from sunny Whangamata.

When our esteemed editor reminded me it was time for the traditional Christmas message, I must admit I found myself totally devoid of any inspirational thoughts. Then it occurred to me that I could make good use of the opportunity to formally announce that I will be stepping down from the presidency at the end of my current term, thus giving a full six months notice for prospective candidates to come forward. Gerald has also indicated to me that he will not be standing again so there will be two vacancies to be filled and I believe that it is time for some of our younger players to stand up and be counted and take on the task of preparing NZ Scrabble for the new millennium.

Oh yeah, that's right. I started off to write a Christmas message, didn't I?

*Merry Christmas  
everybody  
and good luck with  
the tiles in 1998*



## 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)
<b>Highest Game Score</b>	717	Mike Sigley (WAN)	763	John Foster (MTA)
<b>Highest Losing Score</b>	513	Jeff Grant (HAS)	521	June Mackwell (MTA)
<b>Highest Drawn Game</b>	456	Lynne Butler (NPL) & Glenyss Buchanan (LOH)	482	Margaret Warren (HAS) & Jeff Grant (HAS)
<b>Highest Single Turn</b>	221	Sheryl Davidson (PAK)	284	Sheryl Davidson (PAK) Shirley Wyatt (MTA)
<b>Highest Single Turn Non-bonus</b>	108	Blue Thorogood (IND)	261	John Foster (MTA)
<b>Highest Combined Score</b>	1078	Howard Warner (CAP) & David Lloyd (MTA)	1106	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
<b>Largest Winning Margin</b>	493	Mike Sigley (WAN)	500	Glynis Jennings (MTA)
<b>Highest Take-off</b>	54	Lisa McLean (IND)	68	Andrew Bradley (MTA)
<b>Most Bonus Words (3 Game Evening)</b>	—	—	13	David Lloyd (MTA)
<b>Highest 3-Game Aggregate</b>	—	—	1805	Nigel Richards (CHC)
<b>Most Consecutive Bonus Words</b>	5	Allie Quinn (NSB)	5	John Foster (MTA)
<b>Most Bonus Words in Game (1 person)</b>	?	?	6	Mike Sigley (WAN) Nigel Richards (CHC) Lynne Powell (ROD)
<b>Most Bonus Words in Game (2 people)</b>	8	Mike Sigley (WAN) & Glenyss Buchanan (LOH)	8	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
<b>Highest Average Single Tournament (Any Grade)</b>	584	Nigel Richards (CHC)	—	—