

Contact Information

Clubs (Nth to Sth)	Contact Person	Phone	Meeting Day/Time	Meeting Place
Rodney (ROD)	Joan Pratt	09 426 4521	Mon 1pm	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)	Shirley Martin	07 843 5831	Tues 7.15pm	Sunningdale Hall
Waikato (WKT)	Pam Robson	07 856 6449	Wed (alt) 7.30pm	St Aidans Church Hall Cnr Heaphy Tce & Thames St
Kiwi (KIW)	Elaine Moltzen	07 843 5108	Thurs 7pm	Sunningdale Hall
Mt Maunganui / Papamoa (MMP)	Ngairie Steel	07 542 1035	Any time ring	
Tauranga (TGA)	Maureen McBain	07 576 2191	Tues 9.30am	72 Devonport Rd
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	06 876 4678	Thurs (alt) 7pm	Hastings RSA
Waipukurau (WPK)	Ann Grindrod	06 858 7493		
Wanganui (WAN)	Rosemary Cleary	06 347 1837	Mon 7pm	Cosmopolitan Club
Masterton (MAS)	Hilda Scott	06 378 2663		
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	St Michaels Church, Kelburn
Nelson (NEL)	Ann Hough	03 545 0014	Wed 7pm	Golden Links Hall, 93 Vanguard St
Christchurch (CHC)	Margaret Lyall	03 332 5963	Fri 7pm	Sydenham Community Centre
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	Tues 7pm	Otago Chess Club, Maitland St.

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FORWORDS

Official Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble Players
Number 56 September 1999



Club News

Top Scrabble Scores

Hypersensitivity

Dazzling Dozen

Singapore Tourney Reports

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Editor's Note

Well done to our globe-trotting duo, Nigel Richards (CHC) and Howard Warner (MTA), who both performed admirably at the international tourney in Singapore. Nigel had a brilliant lead-up to the event, taking top prize at the 30-round King's Cup tournament in Bangkok, then winning again in Kuala Lumpur straight afterwards. Nigel had a string of big scores in Malaysia, including a tournament high 637. He finished with a huge spread of +1750, compared to second-placed Sam Kantimathi (US), who was a game behind on +383.

On the local scene, Papatoetoe/Holy Cross hosted their successful one-day event in July, and the Waikato/Hamilton weekend in August was most enjoyable, as always. John Foster (NSB) has proved that age is no barrier to top Scrabblers by becoming the first player over 60 to crack 2000 on the rating list.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our national Scrabblathon to raise funds for the World Champs team — a tremendous effort! I know how much work some people put in, none more than my wife Pat, who walked the town collecting pledges, and also wrote more than 40 letters (longhand!) to various businesses to get items for our raffle prizes. Thanks also to clubs and individuals who didn't take part in the Scrabblathon, but made donations to the fund. Your generosity is much appreciated.

In the next issue we will have reports from the Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival and the World Champs in Melbourne (good luck Kiwis!). It is also a busy time on the local front, with upcoming tournaments hosted by Christchurch, Mt Albert, Wanganui, Rodney, Dunedin and Kiwi clubs.

There is certainly lots of activity on the NZ Scrabble circuit these days, and in the future there could be even more. The International Y2K event in New Plymouth will herald the year 2000, and Tauranga club is aiming to run a tournament next August or September.

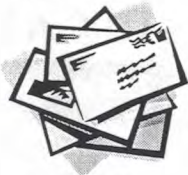
Our thanks to Association president, Glennis Hale, for all her work on behalf of Scrabble in New Zealand. Glennis puts in a huge amount of time and effort — this year alone she has been involved with everything from sponsorship applications and World Champs arrangements to the Scrabblathon and planning for the 2000 Nationals in Auckland. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and hard-working person at the helm of NZ Scrabble.

Thanks also to Margaret Bundock, who has done the computerised tournament results for the past eight years and the ratings for about four years. Margaret is now looking forward to being just 'one of the players'. Thanks to Malcolm Graham (CHC) too, for producing the excellent Scrabble shirts.

Lots of people submit material for *Forwards*, but we'd still like more. If you have any items that you think may be of interest — club news, humorous incidents, newspaper or magazine snippets, cartoons, photos, etc. — please send them to us. [Please do not fold pictures/photos as this makes them difficult to reproduce. — Layout ed.] Finally, as always, special thanks to Glenda, our layout editor, for all her great work.

Closing date for the December issue is November 25.

**Happy Scrabbling,
Jeff**



MAIL BOX

DOULEIA's no Dud!

by Jaffer Gentry

Howard Warner's article in the last issue brought back memories of my early Scrabbling days. He mentions the "pre-1984 dud DOULEIA" — a lovely 7-letter word containing the five vowels AEIOU. There are only five such words, which all serious Scrabblers should know:

- DOULEIA inferior veneration accorded to saints
- EULOGIA funeral orations
- MIAOUED cried like a cat
- MOINEAU a small flat bastion
- SEQUOIA a redwood tree

Going back to DOULEIA, I recall playing this word in the 1970s, 1960s and even in the 1950s when I first got into Scrabble, using *Chambers's 20th Century Dictionary*, *Mid-Century I'ersion* (published 1952) as reference. It most certainly isn't a dud! The trick with those early dictionaries was knowing where to find the words, because often there was no cross-referencing. In the case of DOULEIA, it appears where it still does in the latest *Chambers*, under 'dulia'. Being an adjudicator would have been quite a specialised job in the old days.



Upcoming Events

Tournament	Date
Mt Albert	9-10 October
Wanganui	23-24 October
World Championship	3-7 November
Rodney	13 November
Otago Lion Open	20-21 November
Kiwi	27 November
International Y2K Tournament	31 December - 1 January
New Plymouth	
Howick-Pakuranga	29-30 January 2000
Nelson	12-13 February
Hastings	4-5 March

Mt Albert 1999

Please note that this year's Mt Albert Tournament will be held on **October 9-10**, not October 2-3 as listed in the December *Forwards* calendar.

North Shore Bays 2000

Due to Easter being late next year, the North Shore Bays Scrabble Tournament will be brought forward to April 8, 2000 — subject to confirmation.

2000 Tournament Calendar

January						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					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						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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					

March						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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				

July						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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					

October						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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					

We are going to publish a 2000 calendar in the December *Forwards*. Please let us know your tournament dates as soon as possible and no later than **30 November**. Telephone or write to:

Glenda Foster
317 Maungaraki Rd
Lower Hutt
Ph 04 587 0093 (after 7pm)

Top Nationals Scores

There is a trophy for the player who gains the highest individual game score at the National Scrabble Championships. Unfortunately, the actual scores are not recorded on the trophy, and in many cases they have not been published in the magazine either.

Extensive research in old newspaper clippings, scrapbooks and photo albums has led to a complete set of scores from the first National Champs in 1980 up to the present day.

For the record, here are the winning high individual game scores for the first 20 NZ Nationals.

1980	537	Sue Marrow	1990	578	Lynne Powell
1981	511	Jan Ross	1991	613	Norman Wheeler
1982	494	Paul Lister	1992	585	Jeff Grant
1983	604	Jeff Grant	1993	666	Jeff Grant
1984	611	Mike Sigley	1994	681	Mike Sigley
		David Pinner			
1985	630	David Lloyd	1995	617	Faye Cronhelm
1986	599	Jeff Grant	1996	567	Marianne Bentley
1987	593	May Quigley	1997	649	Nigel Richards
1988	660	Denise Gordon	1998	580	David Lloyd
1989	645	Jeff Grant	1999	587	Jeff Grant

COMPETITION CORNER

Solution: Scrabble Contest No 55

C	A	S	H	C	A	R	D
A	P	P	E	A	R	E	R
S	P	R	A	N	G	L	E
H	E	A	R	T	I	E	S
C	A	N	T	I	N	A	S
A	R	G	I	N	A	S	E
R	E	L	E	A	S	E	R
D	R	E	S	S	E	R	S

Correct grids were received from Jethro Snafflerod, Nigel Richards (CHC), Delcie Macbeth (IND), Michael Vnuk (Qld), Liz Fagerlund (CHC), Margaret Forbes (PHC) and Joan Thomas (HAS). First name out of the hat was Liz — congratulations.

Scrabble Contest No 56

How often have you found a trade-name or brand-name on your rack and wished you could play it? Perhaps you may have had RENAULT or PANADOL, not realising that their anagrams NEUTRAL and DALAPON are playable. Listed below are 30 allowable Scrabble words — see if you can find their unallowed trade- or brand-name anagrams. (Ignore apostrophes, capitals and accents).

1	amps	16	carlots
2	prexy	17	enfaces
3	pipes	18	caption
4	limbo	19	carabid
5	kine	20	wardens
6	coats	21	drongos
7	ogle	22	prizes
8	naze	23	maulvi

9	gleet	24	hilts
10	chicks	25	generalist
11	made	26	diaspora
12	lotted	27	farrier
13	yales	28	goliard
14	nova	29	manacles
15	unless	30	rammiest

Closing date is November 20. Good luck!

Entries to be sent to:

Jeff Grant
1109 Allenby St
Hastings

Flummoxed by Fours?

How well do you know your 4-letter words? Which of the following words would you challenge? Answers on p 25.

HAMP	TUND	RUND	YOUK
FLUM	BOOF	CIDE	SECH
NOHS	DIEU	GORK	BAUT

Bonus Bonanza

Many bonus words were played during the Waikato and Hamilton one-day tournaments. Here is a sampling collected by adjudicator Pat Grant:

FAITHED	SMALLING	ARPEGGIO
EINKORN	INDIGEST	MAIMINGS
LIFTOUTS	ENACTIVE	TRIPUEST
ECHIDNAE	DELOPING	ARIETTA
KARAITS	HANDDOWN	MORTLING
OUTWILE	AUREOLAE	GRIDELIN
REIFIER		

Can you spot the non-words? (see page 25)

The Least Played Words

by Jaffer Gentry

In a recent game my opponent put down SOS. I'd never come across it before. This got me thinking about which words from 2-7 letters in length are most seldom found on a Scrabble board.

2 Letters

Most 2-letter words get a regular airing. My pick for the least played is **MM**. First you need both Ms, and probably a vowel shortage as well. If you do have a vowel then a play of MAM, MEM, MIM, MOM or MUM is more likely to be made. Don't forget that MM can be front-hooked to make HMM and UMM.

3 Letters

The likes of ERS, SEI, SUS and UDS aren't seen much, but my candidate for the rarest three is **ZUZ**, just ahead of ZIZ.

4 Letters

Even a common word like KICK isn't played very often, because it needs a blank, as do less common terms such as ZEZE, KOKU, JUJU, FAFF, MUMM, HAJJ and EKKA. However, there is a 4-letter word that needs both blanks — **ZIZZ**.

5 Letters

Common words needing a blank such as FLUFF and POPPY are seldom seen,

nor are HOKKU, PHPHT, FUFFY, COCCO, XYLYL, ZAZEN, etc. And how often do you come across ESSES, SISES or SESSA? The least played five though is probably **PZAZZ**, which needs both blanks.

6 Letters

Lots of sixes are rarely played — MUUMUU, SYZGY, COCCYX, POPPLY, JIGJIG, ASSESS, HUMMUM and JOYPOP for instance. COCCIC, PAZAZZ and ZIZZLE need both blanks, but my candidate for the least played 6-letter word contains only common letters. Have you ever seen **AIREST** on the board?

7 Letters

Believe it or not there are terms in the *Griffon Word List* that **never** appear in Scrabble! Why? Because they need **three** blanks. BAZAZZ, BEZZAZZ, BIZZAZZ, PAZZAZZ and PIZZAZZ are listed in *Chambers Dictionary*, but have not been included in *Redwood*. Seldom seen sevens include NYMPHLY, KICKOFF, TSKTSKS, JINJILI, HIGHISH, MUMMOCK, PLAPPED, SISSOOS, WYSIWYG and ZIZZING. So what is the rarest playable 7-letter word? My vote goes to **ZYZZYVA**.

CHLORODYNE Revisited

Michael Vnuk (Queensland) has pointed out that Nigel Richards' tremendous CHLORODYNE move, outlined in the December 1998 *Forwards*, in fact scores 95 points, not 99. Surprisingly, no-one else picked this up, despite the move being featured in other magazines later. Of course, this in no way detracts from Nigel's amazing play.

Channel NewsAsia World Scrabble Masters

Ninety-eight players from more than 20 countries gathered in Singapore from June 25-27 to chase a top prize of \$US25,000. Included in the field were New Zealand's Nigel Richards (CHC) and Howard Warner (MTA).

After 23 rounds of 22-minute games the two finalists were found — Sri Lankan student and former Gulf Champion Naween Fernando, and English accountant Andrew Fisher, both of whom finished with 17 wins. The unlucky third place-getter was Australia's Paul Cleary, who had led earlier, but missed out on the final by less than 100 points spread. Pakorn Nemitransuk (Thailand) was fourth on 16 wins, World Champ Joel Sherman (US) was 5th, and former World Champ Mark Nyman (England) 6th, both on 15 wins.

Nigel and Howard won their final games to finish 12th and 15th respectively with 14 wins each — a creditable performance. Had they both won one more game they would have been 5th and 9th! Other well-known players in Singapore were Phil Appleby of England (18th), Bob Jackman, Australia (20th), Joe Edley, US (22nd), Joan Rosenthal, Australia (31st), John Holgate, Australia (37th), Esther Perrin, Australia (42nd) Sam Kantimathi, US (58th) and Tony Sim, Singapore (66th).

The best-of-three game final started with a very close encounter, which Andrew could have won. Unfortunately, he missed MURRIES near the end and Naween was able to use a blank to get 45 points for LAZING, which gave him a narrow 422-419 victory on take-off points.

The second game was also close, but despite excellent bonuses with VIRELAY

and GUTTIER, it just wasn't Andrew's day. Naween drew the J, Q, X, Z, all four S's and both blanks (which certainly helped!), winning the game 443-407, and the title 2-0.

Below are reports the two finalists posted on the internet and over the page is the board layout and moves for the final game. Howard has also written his own report (see p 11).

Report from the Winner

by Naween Fernando

Coming into the tournament, I was a bit overawed by some of the big names taking part but then I realised that as per the last WSC, I was about the 5th seed and the butterflies settled a bit.

The tournament playing conditions were probably as good as I've ever seen.

Going into my first game against Mark Nyman, I was glad that I hadn't lost much sleep the previous night (when the draw for the first round had been done). Mark bingoed first with TAIVERT and then I countered with HUNKIEST onto the last T. Mark then went into a late game lead with SOUNDMAN and I was lucky to get ROSOLIO onto a "J" Mark had opened. Having almost messed up the endgame after a false move of PEESE, I ran away by 21 points.

I finished off at 7-2 on the first day and was lying in 4th place with Pakorn, Fisher and Cleary just ahead on 8 wins.

The first game on second day was against Pakorn who was going great guns. I managed FINICKY on my opening move & after some thought Pakorn let it go. (It's good). Pakorn had STRAYING and REECHOES. I then had ORALIST and despite a late bingo from Pakorn I

went on to win 495-421.

After 12 games I was sitting pretty on 10-2, but then came the World Champion, Mr Sherman. His SHIRKED, BIRAMOUS, JUVENAL and ESSIONITE effectively put an end to my 6-game winning streak and I went down 302-520.

Later came the man I was to meet in the finals, Andrew Fisher. Andrew started well with PERSONA & followed up later on with SOAPERS, but some good picks again in the late game with ENTERED and IKEBANA won me the game 453-399.

Sitting on 16 wins, the butterflies were beginning to creep in. Facing Mr Cleary again on Table 1, we had a great game. Paul started off with the impressive FIBROIN, followed by CRASHER - 115, RETURNIK - 63 and GRANTERS - 83. I managed SPONGID-84, CRASHERS/POTS-70+ and DERATES for 74. Final score 546-489 in Cleary's favour.

Round 23 and almost assured a place in the finals, I was playing Andrew again. I got hammered by 130 in a blocked game after my AGONIST & Andrew's MASCLD.

The finals of course are history. And as



Tourney winner, Naween Fernando

for Andrew Fisher, not only is he a great player but also a great sportsman.

Report from the Runner-up

by Andrew Fisher

Half a dozen of the UK players arrived on the evening of Wednesday 23rd. We were all delighted with the superb hotel facilities at the Grand Hyatt.

The games began on the Friday, and I was paired with Singapore's Douglas Reyes. This proved to be a nerve-calming opener which I won by 216 thanks to WOOLENS and SINICISE. Curiously, I managed an identical spread against David Webb in round 2, including THEORBO and a 100-point VOMITOS among my four bonuses.

My final game of the day was a win over Mark Nyman, thanks to PAISLEY and an outplay involving PASHM for 41.

This put me on top of the pile, and I felt optimistic about the following day's play.

Inevitably, my run of luck deserted me, and I suffered successive defeats by Paul Cleary, Tawano Rabong, Phil Appleby and Steve Polatnick. This didn't really affect my outlook — you have to bounce back and forget that the tiles/skills were against you for a while.

Later came my first meeting with Naween. After we had both changed, I went down with PERSONA and picked up DEHIRTY — I could see DITHERY in several places, as well as THYREOID around the O, but Naween blocked everything with his play of OOZING across the top (his rack leave was M!). Ultimately he won the game with a play of IKEBANA immediately after ENTERED.

My run of losses had put me down at tenth overall after day two, still with a chance of doing well but a long road ahead if I wanted to make the final.

ANAGRAM CORNER

Scrabblers are dab hands at transposing letters, for example RIGHT to GIRTH, and EQUATOR to QUORATE. On a higher level, of the phrase FRAILTY, THY NAME IS WOMAN it could be said that IT'S A WHIM OF MALE TYRANNY! Here are the anagrams of half-a-dozen Scrabblers — keep watching and maybe your name will appear.

HELEN SILLIS	LIE IN SHELLS
NIGEL HIGGINS	IN ENGLISH GIG
KAY O'CONNOR	ACORNY NOOK
BETTY WILSON	ONLY BEST WIT
DEAN RIESTERER	NEEDS A TERRIER
PAM ROBSON	NO PROBS, MA

The Top Ten Tournament Scores

717	Mike Sigley	1990	Dunedin
702	Howard Warner	1997	Hastings
681	Mike Sigley	1994	Nationals
676	Nigel Richards	1997	Pakuranga
666	Jeff Grant	1993	Nationals
661	Glennis Hale	1990	North Shore
660	Denise Gordon	1988	Nationals
653	Peter Sinton	1995	Dunedin
650	Jeff Grant	1990	Masters
649	Nigel Richards	1997	Nationals

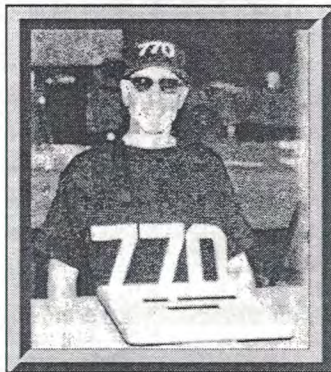
We think that these are the ten highest individual game scores recorded in New Zealand tournament Scrabble. If an omission or error has been made, please let us know.

Surprisingly, there have been no changes to the list for two years!

Mr 770 Retiring

In 1993, Mark Landsberg made Scrabble history when he scored 770 points at a Los Angeles tournament, setting a record for the most points in an official game using American competition rules. Actually, it was considered the world record by most serious Scrabble players.

Six years later, 'Mr 770' as he is known in Scrabble circles, is retiring from competitive play. His last major outing was the 12-round 'Early bird' tourney, held on July 4-5, just before the big Reno event. For the record, he won the top division with 9 wins (+622) — a fitting way to step out of the limelight.



Mr 770, Mark Landsberg
from US Scrabble News, August 1999

Sugar's Singapore Superscore

Brian Sugar of England had the highest game score at the recent Singapore International event with a fantastic 686-274 win over Thailand's Taewan Suthasila. The score is the highest ever seen in a tournament in Singapore or Malaysia, and was largely built up from Brian's five bonus words: LATENESS (77), REAEDIFY (110), LOBELIA (72), DZERENS (82) and RATIONED (82).

All Wite on the Night

by Howard Warner (MTA)

It's hard to find words to describe the buzz of playing a tournament like the recent World Scrabble Masters in Singapore. Perhaps the words that were played out on the board do the job best.

Nigel and I competed in an international field of 98, including many of the game's great names. Nigel had gone there fresh from winning tournaments in Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur.

I won't dwell on the games I lost, how I was Pom-melled by a succession of Brits or how on day one I inevitably drew Nigel, the only other Kiwi, out of such a wide field. But here are a few of my personal highlights among those games I did win.

Against Femi Awowade, of Nigeria, I made two nine-letter words — REPOINTED and TROUSERED. And had he blocked off both the spots for me to go out with either RELINED or RENAILED, I would have been forced to play a third nine-letter word: REDIALING.

Against Femi in another game, I was 40 points down with a good final rack but a completely blocked board. Of all the moves Femi could have done, he chose to play WITE, allowing me to bingo onto it with GARMENT and TWITE. He did not know the hook — which was ironic given that two games earlier I had won a challenge off another player for also playing TWITE.

I was about 90 points up against Thai Charnwit Sukhumrattanaporn when he evened up with the bingo MEASLING. As I then played AZURINE for 70, using six tiles of my last rack, he said: "No, I'm out. There's no tiles left in the bag." Ulp! He tipped up the bag to show me and ...

phew ... one tile fell out.

I won one game by my opponent going a few seconds over time (these were 22-minute games). I lost one exactly the same way. And I could have gone to the top of the table against eventual runner-up Andrew Fisher of Britain if I had had an extra minute or two to find the winning end move.

It's always fun to follow a theme in a game. Not to be outdone by Nigel's legendary GOOSEFISH find at Bangkok I made GOOSIES, GANDER and DEPLUMES all in the same game (Well, pluck a duck!).

In two different games against another Brit, Darryl Francis (the man who wrote the book on Scrabble), I had severe vowel trouble. By 'dumping' my vowels in words such as EULOGIAE, PAEONIES, ANAPAEST and ECURIES, I scored two valuable wins.

How's this for coincidence — two successive bingo plays of mine (at the end of one game and the beginning of another) were GENERALE. Yet I've never played the word before in my life — honest, guv.

And another coincidence — at the end of the first day's play, when Nigel and I had both managed to stay largely among the top ten, I switched on the TV in my hotel room. Immediately, Channel NewsAsia (the tournament sponsor) switched to the venue for coverage of the event, including numerous shots of me biting my nails and Nigel stroking his face foliage.

I only got away with one dud all tournament. Challenges were free, except for a measly five-point penalty, so you tended not to risk anything. But after I had

just landed my opponent with two successive five-pointers, I tried on the rather appropriate word *BOGUSES*. It's incorrect (or bogus), but it stayed on the board.

Yes, it was that kind of tournament: challenging, cross-cultural, fiercely competitive, educational and thoroughly exhilarating.

I can't wait for next year's event — the organisers have already promised five days of playing instead of this year's three (at Nigel's suggestion), a first prize of \$US50,000 instead of \$25,000, and cash prizes all the way down to 20th place (my suggestion). I hope more New Zealanders can make it — you won't be disappointed. In fact, you'd be a *TWITE* to miss it.



Tattoo

Tired of the same old tattoos — hearts, dragons, etc.? Then here's an idea for you.

As a romantic gesture for Valentine's Day this year, Englishman Jonathan Ross had his wife's name tattooed on his arm — in Scrabble letters!

His wife Jane was apparently thrilled with the gift. A friend commented, "Jonathan wanted to give Jane a real surprise for Valentine's Day. She certainly got a shock when he unveiled it, but she thought it was hysterically funny. They love playing Scrabble so he thought it would be apt."

Inside Information

Jim Nanavati, a member of Canada's 1997 World Champs Scrabble team, was in a café recently. They had a daily trivia contest, and the question of the day was 'How many Gs are there in a Scrabble game?' Jim walked over to the counter and sheepishly said, "Er ... could it be three?" Once the prize was safely in his pocket, he flashed his slightly-worn World Champs tee-shirt. Yes, the café owner was amused!

DAZZLING DOZEN

Words ending in J are quite scarce, so when you play one it is likely to dazzle your opponent. All the following are allowed in Scrabble, except *ESRAJ* (an Indian stringed instrument) and *KALIJ* (an Indian pheasant). Interestingly, both these words are listed in the *Shorter Oxford Dictionary*, and were once (about 1982-83) acceptable in NZ Scrabble.

HAI	HADJ	SVARAJ
RAJ	HAIJ	SWARAJ
TAJ	AFLAJ	ESRAJ
BENJ	FALAJ	KALIJ

Masterly Tip

Andy Davis, the 1999 British Masters Champion, has some sound advice:

"If I can offer anything for those aspiring to reach the top, it is this — take each game as it comes, and assess each situation on its own merits. Don't get bogged down in the mindset that you have to play a fixed way, be prepared to alter your style to suit a given game position. Also, don't feel that you have to dazzle your opponents with brilliance. Sometimes the simplest plays are best. And above all, relax and enjoy your Scrabble."

from *Onwords*, July 1999

Hypersensitivity

by Bill Webster, Arizona, USA

In the last issue we looked at 'risqué' 7-letter Scrabble words with playable anagrams. Here is a collection of similar 8-letter words. As before, many of these are really quite mild, although some may be *ALARMING*, and others *MARGINAL*.

BALLSIER	BRAILLES LIBERALS	NUDITIES	DISUNITE UNITISED
			UNTIDIES
BEDAMNED	BEMADDEN	ORCHITIS	HISTORIC
BLOOMERS	REBLOOMS	PEDERAST	PREDATES REPASTED
			TRAPESED
BONDAGES	DOGBANES	POLYURIC	CROUPILY
BORDELLO	DOORBELL	PORNIEST	POINTERS PROTEINS
			REPOINTS TROPINES
BOWELING	ELBOWING	RANDIEST	DETRAINS STRAINED
BOWELLED	BELLOWED	SCANTIES	CINEASTS
BREASTED	DEBATERS	SEMIHARD	MISHEARD
BUGGERED	BEGRUDGE	SHITTIER	THIRTIES
CASTRATE	TEACARTS	SHITTING	TITHINGS
CATHOUSE	SOUTACHE	SNOTTIER	TENORIST TRITONES
CELIBATE	CITEABLE	SODOMISE	SODOMIES
CLIMAXES	EXCLAIMS	SPERMOUS	SUPREMOS
CLITORIS	COISTRIL	STOOLING	TOOLINGS
COITALLY	LOCALITY	STRUMPET	TRUMPETS
COLPITIS	POLITICS PSILOTC	TENESMUS	MUTENESS
CRAPPIER	PERICARP	TESTICLE	TELESTIC
ERECTION	NEOTERIC	UNCHASTE	NAUTCHES
EROTICAL	LORICATE	UNDERARM	UNMARRED
FLATUSES	SULFATES	URINATED	DATURINE INDURATE
			RUINATED
GONADIAL	DIAGONAL	VAGINATE	NAVIGATE
HORNIEST	ORNITHES	VIRGINAL	RIVALING
MANURERS	SURNAMER	VOMITING	MOTIVING
MANURING	UNARMING	WANKIEST	TWANKIES
NIGGERED	GINGERED RENIGGED		

Scrabble Anachronism

The 1979 remake of Alfred Hitchcock's classic *The Lady Vanishes*, set just before World War II, apparently has a brief shot of a couple playing Scrabble on a train.

Oops! The commercial production of Scrabble didn't begin until well after the war.

Perseverance

Lou Gnutti of Millburn, New Jersey, set a record recently that will be hard to beat. He won his 101st game at the local Scrabble club. What's so special about that? Well he **lost** his first 100! Talk about perseverance.

NZASP Rankings as at 8 August 1999

	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	
1	Jeff Grant	2135	927	725.0	78%	47	Allie Quinn	1542	873	403.5	46%
2	Howard Warner	2126	532	326.5	61%	48	Yvette Hewlett	1532	296	139.5	47%
3	Nigel Richards	2107	315	268.5	85%	49	Maureen Holliday	1529	294	161.5	55%
4	Peter Sinton	2046	308	225.0	73%	50	Glenda Geard	1528	806	409.0	51%
5	Patrick Carter	2034	592	364.5	62%	51	Betty Gibb	1517	301	125.5	42%
6	John Foster	2017	924	543.5	59%	52	Gerald Warner	1517	1123	519.0	46%
7	Glennis Hale	1982	1052	588.5	56%	53	Hilda Scott	1480	313	175.0	56%
8	Glynis Jennings	1951	574	274.5	48%	54	Janice Cherry	1475	164	99.0	60%
9	Lynne Butler	1937	724	437.5	60%	55	Roger Coates	1474	503	238.0	47%
10	David Lloyd	1919	480	258.0	54%	56	Marj Batchelor	1458	296	132.0	45%
11	Andrew Bradley	1911	483	234.0	48%	57	Reeva Pearson	1450	1175	543.0	46%
12	Mike Sigley	1909	658	484.0	74%	58	Rebecca Freeth	1439	167	105.0	63%
13	Denise Gordon	1895	711	373.5	53%	59	Kim Graham	1433	295	166.0	56%
14	Lisa McLean	1895	414	232.5	56%	60	Bill Grigg	1399	354	189.0	53%
15	Glenda Foster	1881	702	357.0	51%	61	Marj Baillie	1385	571	288.0	50%
16	Steven Brown	1868	411	233.0	57%	62	Elaine Moltzen	1384	455	225.0	49%
17	Lynne Powell	1833	1031	550.5	53%	63	Margaret Simpson	1383	556	275.5	50%
18	Pam Robson	1820	565	290.5	51%	64	David Gunn	1378	854	430.5	50%
19	Peter Jones	1811	774	398.0	51%	65	Jean O'Brien	1375	602	305.0	51%
20	Sheryl Davidson	1811	782	435.0	56%	66	Doreen Ogston	1365	516	234.0	45%
21	Rosemary Cleary	1810	506	243.5	48%	67	Elsie Malkin	1359	197	109.0	55%
22	Lynn Wood	1778	1188	583.5	49%	68	Max Aston	1352	238	124.0	52%
23	Fae Olson	1768	1272	611.0	48%	69	Shirley Hol	1348	295	143.5	49%
24	Puti Rowe	1758	650	329.5	51%	70	Joan Thomas	1348	207	120.5	58%
25	Helen Sillis	1758	645	334.0	52%	71	Correne James	1344	543	248.5	46%
26	Chris Hooks	1750	690	343.0	50%	72	Ann Candler	1325	745	334.0	45%
27	Valerie Mills	1745	621	317.5	51%	73	Doreen Davies	1317	297	155.0	52%
28	Anna Geange	1699	482	269.0	56%	74	Isabel Zyp	1316	407	205.0	50%
29	Liz Fagerlund	1691	359	208.0	58%	75	Margaret Lyall	1313	312	136.0	44%
30	Glenyss Buchanan	1680	692	331.0	48%	76	Jennifer Smith	1307	215	127.0	59%
31	May Quigley	1678	934	417.0	45%	77	Delcie Macbeth	1307	446	245.0	55%
32	Eileen McLean	1672	878	471.5	54%	78	Ruth O'Neill	1282	345	165.5	48%
33	Jane Walton	1629	317	170.5	54%	79	Norman Wheeler	1276	590	318.5	54%
34	Rhoda Cashman	1620	877	413.0	47%	80	Julie Atkinson	1272	135	80.5	60%
35	Leila Thomson	1614	555	256.0	46%	81	Shirley Wyatt	1271	353	168.5	48%
36	Faye Cronhelm	1608	652	328.5	50%	82	Peggy Wallace	1255	458	217.0	47%
37	Andree Prentice	1605	658	355.5	54%	83	Lorraine Van Veen	1254	630	327.5	52%
38	Ann Hough	1601	218	120.5	55%	84	Margaret Cherry	1247	301	149.5	50%
39	Karyn McDougall	1594	397	216.0	54%	85	Betty Eriksen	1222	587	294.0	50%
40	Margaret Bundock	1592	787	402.0	51%	86	Shirley van Essen	1207	134	76.5	57%
41	Marian Ross	1586	298	148.5	50%	87	Shirley Martin	1202	382	196.5	51%
42	Paul Lister	1579	440	247.0	56%	88	Michael Hyndman	1183	203	118.5	58%
43	Doreen O'Shea	1567	368	195.0	53%	89	Dean Riesterer	1183	138	89.0	64%
44	Howard Feldstein	1560	68	38.0	56%	90	Martha Morgan	1180	343	165.0	48%
45	Sue McRae	1551	395	216.0	55%	91	Annette Coombes	1144	463	209.5	45%
46	Yvonne Wilson	1550	266	157.0	59%	92	Kathleen Mori-Barker	1141	208	103.0	50%

	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	
93	Malcolm Graham	1136	239	120.5	50%	139	Chris Handley	626	71	31.0	44%
94	Hazel Purdie	1117	414	198.0	48%	140	Paddy Hoffman	622	66	38.0	58%
95	Gordon Pinchin	1100	220	119.0	54%	141	Susan Olson	611	117	56.5	48%
96	Margaret Parsons	1091	295	155.0	53%	142	Elise Joy	583	127	55.0	43%
97	Liz Catchpole	1070	316	153.0	48%	143	Jacqy Struik	567	106	42.0	40%
98	Carolyn Kyle	1061	198	89.0	45%	144	Elvira Steel	565	271	39.0	14%
99	Pam Barlow	1053	232	119.5	52%	145	Sammy Sanders	558	128	51.0	40%
100	Sue Walker	1035	378	190.5	50%	146	Ray Goodyear	555	43	22.0	51%
101	Pauline Hayes	1029	119	52.0	44%	147	Adrienne McKeown	538	243	104.5	43%
102	Joan Pratt	1021	332	178.0	54%	148	Karen Miller	523	128	60.0	47%
103	Naomi Gilmore	1012	183	98.5	54%	149	Bill Tozer	504	117	47.0	40%
104	Andrew Denmead	970	49	24.5	50%	150	Margaret Garner	499	175	71.0	41%
105	Jacqueline					151	Ed Olson	470	1124	443.0	39%
	Coldham-Fussell	968	370	179.0	48%	152	Kerry Dawkins	381	90	26.0	29%
106	Dorothy Haining	967	580	294.5	51%	153	Vera Burner	354	385	102.5	27%
107	Margaret Mourant	965	289	148.0	51%	154	Merle Spinetto	316	91	38.0	42%
108	Lyn Dawson	953	190	113.0	59%	155	Mary Casse	304	42	17.0	40%
109	Bev Barker	944	476	225.0	47%	156	Hazel Smith	260	64	19.0	30%
110	Yvonne					157	Betty Wilson	259	36	15.0	42%
	MacKenzie/Erickson	933	140	58.5	42%	158	Resie Coenen	172	62	11.0	18%
111	Olwen Skelton	916	476	223.5	47%						
112	Pat Grant	893	98	55.0	56%						
113	Mary Gray	885	272	143.5	53%						
114	Elizabeth Arlington	863	64	34.0	53%						
115	Marie Cairns	857	144	77.0	53%						
116	Elaine King	852	376	194.5	52%						
117	Trish Hellriegel	827	148	75.5	51%						
118	Lil Moore	823	533	256.5	48%						
119	Jill Johnson	821	148	71.0	48%						
120	Irene Hague-Smith	816	602	279.0	46%						
121	Valma Gidman	816	443	218.0	49%						
122	Rob Sillis	800	69	39.5	57%						
123	Margaret Hanson	798	195	101.5	52%						
124	Pam Mayall	793	246	123.0	50%						
125	Marjorie Heads	776	302	161.0	53%						
126	Mary Pinchin	771	270	133.0	49%						
127	May Meads	769	248	129.5	52%						
128	Julie Giles	764	123	63.5	52%						
129	Jean Clarke	747	215	106.5	50%						
130	Val Worth	745	372	179.0	48%						
131	Marie Kingi	708	253	110.0	43%						
132	Kate Wignall	695	546	267.5	49%						
133	Rosalind Phillips	688	28	18.0	64%						
134	Kath Davies	685	188	94.0	50%						
135	Dorothy Latta	665	227	90.0	40%						
136	Sharon Clarke	645	142	48.0	34%						
137	Ruth Munnings	643	56	26.5	47%						
138	Betty Sutherland	635	130	56.5	43%						

Ultralow Game Score

John Dafoe 17 : Opponent -8

After a game was started with UP for 8 points, John Dafoe of Ontario, Canada followed with XU on top of it for 24. His opponent then changed, and John, not wanting to open the board, did likewise. His opponent changed again, and John wondered if he knew about the rule (in America) where six scores of zero in a row automatically ends the game. Since he was up by 16 points, John changed again. Sure enough, his opponent exchanged once more, and John ended the game. After deducting the face value of the tiles on the racks his winning score was 17 to minus 8!

Yes, this actually happened.

A Million Points

Mary Alice Lyons has become the first person at her club in Exton, Pennsylvania, to rack up 1,000,000 points. We don't know how long this took Mary, but can only applaud the club statistician.

Medical Muddling

The medical profession has given us gems like ATARAXIA (a calm state), PHTHISIS (wasting illness), QCEPO (a tropical skin disease), HUMPER'S LUMP (an affliction of lumber-carriers), and CIRCUMORBITAL HAEMATOMA (a black eye). You would think that professionals in this field would have a pretty good grasp of the English language, but take a look at these actual doctor's notes written on patients' charts:



Patient has chest pain if she lies on left side for over a year.



Patient still under our car for physical therapy.



The patient has been depressed since she began seeing me in 1993.



Discharge status: alive but without permission.



Healthy appearing decrepit 69 year old male.



Patient has no past history of suicides.



Only a 40 pound weight gain in the last three days.



Was to have bowel resection, but took a job as stockbroker instead.



Patient refused an autopsy.



On the second day the knee was better, on the third it disappeared.



Occasional, constant, infrequent headaches.



The lab test indicated abnormal lover function.



Skin: somewhat pale but present.



Pelvic examination to be done later on floor.



She is numb from her toes down.



Rectal examination revealed normal sized thyroid.



Between you and me, we ought to be able to get this lady pregnant.

From *Menzed* magazine, August 1999, submitted by Jethro Snafflerod

How Low Can You Go?

The following piece from Paul Cutler of Brighton appeared in the August 1999 edition of the British Scrabble magazine *The Last Word*.

"I just wanted to let you know that in a game I played with three others, one person ended on a score of eight!!!! As unbelievable as this may sound, I swear it's true. He had 44 points when I played out and he was left holding QVVXZ (36 points deducted) — too bad we weren't playing in Polish. Admittedly we were a little drunk at the time and he was no great shakes as a Scrabble player, but hell ... eight points!? That sort of score takes not only a lack of skill and a lack of game play, but also the lack of that something special ..."

Tench Stench—A Fishy Tale

According to the October 1997 edition of Michael Vnuk's *Scribble*, a British journalist has dreamed up what may be the ultimate headline, or, more exactly, the story to go under the ultimate headline.

The story

At a tench-eating contest in Scotland (where the tench is a popular food fish) two finalists emerged — a Mr Hicks from Fife in Scotland and a Swede named Sven. During the final round, Hicks lost a tooth, thus allowing the Swede to win by consuming nine fish.

The headline

**One tooth free for Fife's Hicks,
Sven ate nine tench.**

EXECUTIVE EXERTIONS

A big thanks to all those involved in the organisation of this year's very successful National Tournament in Wellington and congratulations to Howard Warner, our new National Champion. The 2000 Nationals will be held in Manukau, Auckland at the Lakeside Convention Centre. A superb venue set beside a picturesque lake with the playing room overlooking a beautiful fountain. This venue was originally the Pavilion of New Zealand and is only a couple of minutes from the airport.

Our congratulations to Nigel Richards, the first Kiwi to win an International Scrabble tournament when he won the recent Thailand tournament. Well done.

We have been busy making travel arrangements for our World Champs representatives, and we wish them the very best of luck for Melbourne. They will have a great team of supporters over there this year as well.

Over \$4000 was raised in the recent

Scrabblathon, a fantastic effort by all those who took part.

Thanks, Malcolm, for the super sweatshirts and T-shirts, a new promotion to help towards our World Champs fund. Those who purchased them are very proud to be wearing them and displaying our Kiwi logo. They look great! Many positive comments have been received.

The NZASP now has its own computer and printer for tournament scoring and Margaret Bundock has decided to relinquish this job which she has been doing for 8 years. The Executive, on behalf of all the clubs and players would like to extend their thanks to Margaret for the wonderful job she has done. If there is anyone out there who would like to take her place please let us know. Glenda Foster has offered to do the ratings and will liaise with Nigel Richards. Thanks to you both.

With the Norfolk Island Festival only a few weeks away, I am looking forward to a good break. It's always a great place to be if you want a quiet and restful holiday. Happy Scrabbling to you all.

Glennis

Scrabble Nookie

Margaret Hanson of Papatoetoe-Holy Cross Scrabble Club sent us this little magazine snippet:

"SCRABBLE leads to NOOKIE, a survey claims.

Makers of the hit word game, Mattel, conducted a survey of 933 regular players which revealed that they scored in bed at least three times a week.

Professor Lisa Solday said, 'Playing games like Scrabble makes us feel excited and alive.'

Does it work?

Chessboards to Afghanistan

The *International Mail Manual* has one of the most unusual lists in the world. It tells you what you're not supposed to send to foreign countries. But why can't you mail soap to Paraguay or artificial flowers to Italy? Or almanacs to Denmark or second-hand beehives to Canada? Or rubber shoes to Ecuador or horror comics to Britain? Or used underwear to the (former) USSR or incomplete decks of playing cards to Germany? Or funeral urns to Algeria or aphrodisiacs to Malawi? And you can't mail chessboards to Afghanistan either — what about Scrabble boards though?

from *Alphabet Avenue*, a fascinating book on wordplay by Dave Morice, published 1997

Four Out of Five

Michael Vnuk of Queensland writes: "The most interesting word I've come across lately is GRANDDADDY, with its high concentration of Ds. After a quick search I found several other letters which appear as four out of five consecutive letters in a word, eg PEEWEE, VOODOO, ASSESS, MUUMUU and PIZZAZZ. Most other words I can think of involve either E or O. Repeated consonants seem much rarer."

How many different letters is it possible to find examples for if we go beyond the Scrabble dictionaries. First, a few rules:

1. The odd letter out in the group must be in the middle, which disqualifies terms with three or more consecutive identical letters, like BRRRR in the *Oxford Dictionary*.
2. Hyphenated words such as ERROR-RIDDEN (takes a T front hook!) and WHHI-HHEE, a horse's neigh are not allowed.
3. Neither are coinages like IMMUMMIFIABLE and BOWWOWWOW.

Words marked with an asterisk (*) can be found in *Chambers Dictionary* or *OSPD*. The others are listed in a variety of different references. If you find an example for any of the missing letters, or can improve an existing entry, please let us know.

A	RAABAABA	A Caribbean con man	N	UNNUNNING	Removing from nunhood
B	HUBBUBBED	Made a confused noise	O	BOOBOOK*	An Australian owl
C	BOCCACCIO	An American rockfish	P	UPPOPPED	Popped up, poetically
D	GRANDDADDY*	A grandfather	Q		
E	SLEEVEEN*	A smooth talker	R	ARRARRA	A native American language
F	CUFFUFFLE	To toss straw	S	POSSESSOR*	One who owns or holds
G			T	RATTATTOO	A sharp knocking sound
H			U	MUUMUU*	A Hawaiian dress
I	PIIPII	A turkey chick	V		
J			W		
K			X		
L	PARALLELLED*	Likened in detail	Y		
M	COMMEMMORATION	Old form of 'commemoration'	Z	PIZZAZZ*	Energy or vitality

Head on a Stick

An English newspaper carried the following ad in its 'Lonely Hearts' section:

Professional man, 45, head on a stick, seeks similar woman.

It was finally worked out that the professional man had given his ad over the phone, and the typist at the paper had recorded exactly what he had told her — except that he had said 'hedonistic'.

It Pays to Advertise — Sometimes

Here are some good reasons why advertising companies should hire linguists:

- ☺ The American Dairy Association's huge success with the campaign 'Got Milk?' prompted them to expand advertising to Mexico. It was soon brought to their attention that the Spanish translation read 'Are you lactating?'
- ☺ Coors put its slogan 'Turn it loose' into Spanish, where it was read as 'Suffer from diarrhoea'.
- ☺ Scandinavian vacuum maker Electrolux used the following in an American campaign: 'Nothing sucks like Electrolux'.
- ☺ Clairol introduced the 'Mist Stick', a curling iron, into Germany, only to find out that 'mist' is slang for manure. Not too many people had a use for the manure stick.
- ☺ When Gerber started selling baby food in Africa, they used the same packaging as in the US, with a smiling baby on the

- label. Later they learned that in Africa companies routinely put pictures on the label of what's inside, since many people can't read.
- ☺ An American T-shirt maker in Miami printed shirts for the Spanish market which promoted the Pope's visit. Unfortunately, instead of 'I saw the Pope' (el Papa), the shirts read 'I saw the potato' (la papa).
- ☺ When Parker pen marketed a ball-point pen in Mexico, its ads were supposed to have read, 'It won't leak in your pocket and embarrass you'. Instead the company thought that the word 'embarazar' (to impregnate) meant to embarrass, so the ad read 'It won't leak in your pocket and make you pregnant'.

from *Menzed magazine*, August 1999 —
submitted by John Foster (NSB)

Scrabble Keeps You Young!

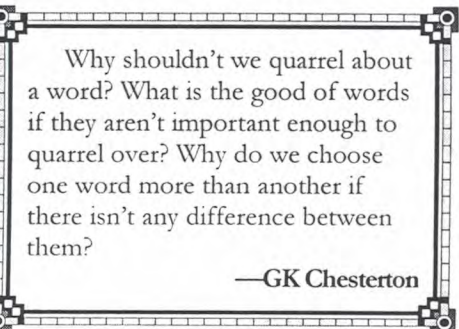
The weekly Scrabble session started a little late at the Medford Leas retirement community in Pennsylvania earlier this year, because the group had to celebrate Ruth Carver's 104th birthday. Current and former players showed up. They parked their scooters and wheelchairs in the corner, and hung their canes on the molding. Out came the cake, and birthday cards were piled on the table. Finally, in wheeled Mrs Carver in a pink dress, blowing kisses with both hands like a beauty queen riding in a parade.

"I think the key to my old age is such good friends," said Mrs Carver. "I think playing Scrabble has kept me young."

from the *American Scrabble News*,
June 1999

Awfully Amusing

Many words in our language have meanings quite different from their original ones. When James II first saw St Paul's Cathedral he apparently called it amusing, awful and artificial, meaning that it was pleasing to look at, deserving of awe, and full of skilful artifice.



Why shouldn't we quarrel about a word? What is the good of words if they aren't important enough to quarrel over? Why do we choose one word more than another if there isn't any difference between them?

—GK Chesterton

CLUB NEWS

Christchurch Newsletter

by Paul Lister

May

We held a garage sale to start a travel fund to encourage our members to attend more tournaments. The garage sale was held at Sydenham Community Centre and included a sausage sizzle. We did reasonably well, and Elsie Malkin and Liz Fagerlund kindly on-sold the residue of goods not purchased at a subsequent home-based garage sale.

Also this month we completed the last few formalities to become an incorporated society. This has certain advantages, particularly in the areas of sponsorship and fund-raising. A big thanks to Lyn Dawson for her advice, and Liz Fagerlund and Margaret Lyall who did most of the spade work to bring this about.

June

We had been working on getting a much larger percentage of South Island players to the Nationals in Wellington than the usual small handful that had attended the Hamilton Nationals in earlier years. The hoped-for 30-plus from the South Island shrank to 21 finally with unfortunate last-minute withdrawals from our president Shirley Hol (injury) and Julie Giles (bereavement).

We were pleased, nevertheless, that the idea of the Nationals alternating northern venue with southern venue was approved in concept, and look forward to presenting some sort of feasibility study to the executive in 2000 re holding the Nationals in Christchurch in July, 2001.

Also this month our Nigel Richards attended three tournaments in Asia, incredibly winning two of them and then both he and Howard Warner placing



highly in the third against top international competition. A brilliant effort!

July

The Scrabblathon to raise funds for the NZ World Champs team took place at our club-room in Hutcheson Street from 4.30pm Saturday, July 10 (advertised to go 'til 4.30am!). It was not as much of a success monetarily as hoped (somewhere near \$300 raised), but was a great social occasion with a virtual banquet brought in by the participants and a large number of Scrabble games played. Our club founder, Doreen Ogston, was still raring to go at 1.30am, but the remaining five in attendance were nearly asleep so we disbanded three hours 'early'!

Dunedin Newsletter

by Bill Grigg

National Scrabble Champs

Congratulations to Howard Warner (MTA). Our own Peter Sinton (10 wins) finished 2nd on spread. Marian Ross came 4th in C Grade, Carolyn Kyle 12th in E Grade, Elvira Steel 4th and Kerry Dawkins 7th in G Grade. The Dunedin team of Peter, Marian and Elvira finished first equal on 27 wins, third on spread. A special mention for Elvira Steel who won eight games, her most ever, even leading at one stage. Then to her utter delight she was presented with the 'Georgie' Trophy. You should have seen her smile when she brought it into club. Well done to you all.

Scrabblathon

This fund-raiser for the World Champs team went very well — Sunday 11 July 10am-9.30pm with nearly all of our members being involved. Malcolm Graham (CHC) spent the full day with us — his support was appreciated. We

raised \$486, with a special mention for Carolyn Kyle (\$200). I even got my photograph in the *Otago Daily Times* (see p25) — good publicity for the club. Chris Handley had the day's highest score of 527, and Bill Grigg the high single turn with 131.

Welcome

Welcome to John Schmelz and Simone Alexander. Our numbers are up on previous years. Anne Stewart (ex DUN) from Perth called in and played some games. It was good to see her again.

Quiz

Would you challenge:

- (1) AIRPARK (2) BROCKED
(3) CUBEREN (4) MIMETIC
(5) HURDIES

Answers at end of newsletter.

High Drawn Game

In round robin competition Marian Ross and Karyn McDougall both scored 428 — a good game.

Big Thank You

To Graham Gough for work around the club, and Chris Handley for computing all those competition results. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Over 100 Games this Year at Club

Karyn McDougall (131)
Glen Madigan (126)
Graham Gough (113)
Kerry Dawkins (111)

Competitions

	Wins	Ave
Round Robin		
1 Peter Sinton	21	436
2 Bill Grigg	16	400
3 Karyn McDougall	11½	388
Ladder		
1 Carolyn Kyle	21	380
2 Karyn McDougall	20	400
3 Bill Grigg	10	387

Wins Ave

Dictionary

1 Karyn McDougall	22	464
2 Carolyn Kyle	2	426
3 Marian Ross	2	414

Challenge

1 Stewart Fleming	8	384	89%
2 Karyn McDougall	40	436	87%
3 Bill Grigg	6	401	86%

Canterbury Open (ChCh) Sept 11-12

They are having a Swiss draw tournament like overseas. Why not try different things? Next issue we will let you know how it went.

Otago Lion Open Tournament

November 20-21 1999

6 per grade, 15 games, triple round robin
Entry fee \$26 All invited

Contact:

Bill Grigg
10 Church St
Green Island
Dunedin
Ph 03 488 2885

Quiz Answers

(yes) AIRPARK, BROCKED, MIMETIC,
HURDIES
(no) CUBEREN, which makes
CRUBEEN.


Happy Scrabble

Wonderful Welsh

"In Wales you can find towns and villages with names that look like Scrabble leftovers, among them Bwlchtocyn, Llwynddryrys, Cwmtwrch, Mwnt and Pwllheli, which are pronounced respectively — oh to hell with it."

from Bill Bryson's excellent book:

The Mother Tongue: English and How It Got That Way — highly recommended to any lover of the language.



Canada

The big **Montreal** tournament on May 29-30 was decided when American Champ Brian Cappelletto met 1995 World Champ David Boys in the last round, both with 10-1 records. David won the decider 392-349, finishing on 11 wins (+1079), with Brian second (10 wins, +821), and Zev Kaufman third — thereby earning a place on the Canadian World Champs team at Melbourne.

The **Canadian World Champs Qualifying** event in June was headed by James Cherry and Albert Hahn. They join current Canadian champ Joel Wapnick, former World Champ David Boys, 1996 American champ Adam Logan, and on-form Zev Kaufman in the team for Melbourne in November.


Japan

The **6th Cosmos Cup** tournament was held in Tokyo in June, playing double dictionary, as in New Zealand. A previous winner of the event, Ko Tanaka, took top place with six straight wins.

The **Japanese National Scrabble Championships** took place in Tokyo on July 25. Keiichiro Hirai (25) won the event narrowly, earning the right to represent Japan at the World Champs. The crucial game was in round 6 where he beat Ko Tanaka by 17 points. Former international Kunihiro Kuroda tied with the winner on games won, but was just behind on spread.

	Wins	Spread
1 Keiichiro Hirai	6	+481
2 Kunihiro Kuroda	6	+349
3 Ko Tanaka	5	+576
4 Tatsuya Yamazaki	5	+365
5 Ken Nakai	3	-18

Japan has always had a representative at the World Champs, and Ken Nakai still keeps in touch with NZ Scrabble through *Forwards*. We may see more Japanese players at international level before too long. It is amazing to think that these players don't normally use the same alphabet, let alone the same language as most Scrabble players.



Scotland

The **Scottish Scrabble Championships** were held in Perth on May 15-16. The event was a triumph for former winner Wilma Warwick who stormed through the field unbeaten, confirming her selection as the Scottish representative at the World Champs in Melbourne.

	Wins	Spread
1. Wilma Warwick	12	873
2. Paul Allan	10	1601
3. Peter Preston	8	637
4. Donald McLeod	8	565
5. Neil Scott	8	403


Singapore

The **2nd Singapore Scrabble Open Championship** was held on May 29-30, with 80 players in attendance, including many top Malaysians. As it happened, the Malaysians were dominant, filling the first three positions. The new Singapore champion is A Ganesh, who won 12 games out of the 15, followed by Tengku Asri (11½ wins) and Pui Cheng Wui (11 wins). In fourth place was the first Singaporean, Eddie Chung (9½ wins), then defending champ Michael Tang, who headed a large group with 9 wins.


United Kingdom

The **Exeter Tournament** on April 2-5 attracted many top British players.

Andrew Fisher won the event, with 14 wins from 18 games, ahead of Andy Davis (13 wins) and Brett Smitheram (12 wins).

The **Durham** event on April 24-25 had its share of mishaps, including a player walking out, and another being carted off to hospital. The top section was very close, with Terry Kirk the victor on 8½ wins (+598), just ahead of David Acton (8 wins, +685), with Andy Davis third on 7 wins.

The **UK team for the World Champs** in Melbourne is as follows:

1997 National Champion: Andrew Cook
1998 National Champion: Mark Nyman
Scotland: Wilma Warwick
Wales: Gareth Williams

Plus the top 7 (Jan 1999) rated players, excluding those already qualified: Andrew Fisher, Phil Appleby, Helen Gipson, David Acton, Alec Webb, Neil Scott, David Webb.

The **Stoke Rochford** tournament on June 26-27 was won by Scottish player Donald MacLeod with 9 wins (+141), just ahead of a bunch on 8 wins, including Sheila Spate (+733) second and Gareth Williams (+456) third.

The **1999 British National Scrabble Championships** were held in Chalfont St Giles on July 24-25, with 165 players in attendance. Despite a number of the top experts giving the event a miss, there was plenty of drama.

The first day's qualifying rounds saw some of the favourites fall by the wayside, including Femi Awowade, Terry Kirk and former champ Allan Saldanha. Player of the day was Paul Allan who won all seven games with a great spread of +1063.

On Day 2 the top eight qualifiers played a round robin. One of the outsiders, Lewis Mackay (aged 13), caused a stir when he won his first five games, beating Allan Simmons, Mark Nyman,

Penny Downer, Paul Allan and Andy Roughton. Lewis met Evan Simpson in the sixth round, needing a win to clinch the title with a round to go. However, it wasn't to be and Evan prevailed 374-358. Equal with Evan on wins, but way ahead on spread, Lewis didn't quite make it in the last round either, losing 335-390 to Andrew Kempley-Smith, while next door Evan was wrapping up a 466-413 victory over Andy Roughton to claim the title. Had Evan lost this game, Mark Nyman would have sneaked through for the crown.

Perhaps the most amazing fact is that although Evan won six games out of seven, his spread was **minus** 43! This happened because his wins were all quite close, and his one loss, to Allan Simmons, was by 205-603!

	Wins	Spread
1 Evan Simpson	6	-43
2 Mark Nyman	5	+614
3 Lewis Mackay	5	+93
4 Paul Allan	4	+236
5 Allan Simmons	3	+318


United States

The 19th annual **Waltham, Massachusetts** tournament on April 9-11 drew many of America's top players to a 13-game round robin. Jere Mead won the event with 9 wins, ahead of World Champ Joel Sherman on spread. Top-seeded Brian Cappelletto finished strongly for third place, followed by Paul Epstein and Ron Tiekert.

Over 70 Scrabblers gathered in **Los Gatos, California** for three days competition on May 29-31. The top division was dominated by World Championship players, with Lisa Odom taking first place with 15 wins (+1380) from 19 games, ahead of Lester Schonbrun

(13 wins) and Jim Geary (12 wins).

The **US World Scrabble Champs Qualifying Tournament** was held in Euless, Texas, in mid-June. Sixteen top players competed for the final three US team positions over 15 rounds, using World Champs rules. Veteran Bob Lipton was in outstanding form, taking out the event with 12 wins, two clear of Randy Hersom in second place, with Steve Polatnick third, heading a group of players on 9 wins.

The US team for the World Champs is Brian Cappelletto, Joe Edley, Paul Epstein, Bob Felt, Jim Geary, Randy Hersom, John Luebke, Bob Lipton, Lisa Odom, Steve Polatnick, Lester Schonbrun, Ron Tiekert, David Wiegand and current World Champ Joel Sherman.

The **Albany, New York** event on July 2-5 attracted 92 players, with the top grade being won by Bob Felt with 17 wins (+1261) out of 20 games.

The annual **Reno, Nevada**, tournament has been held at the Sands Regency Hotel and Casino since 1989. This year the event was expanded to 39 games over the six days from July 6-11, making it probably the longest Scrabble tournament ever.

The top division included many of America's premier players and competition was fierce. When the smoke cleared, North American champ Brian Cappelletto had enhanced his reputation, blitzing the field with 30 wins (+2118), to finish well clear of Jerry Lerman on 26 wins, followed by Lester Schonbrun, David Wiegand, Jim Kramer and Joe Edley, all with 25 wins.

Lynne Butler (NPL) helped with the running of this marathon tourney, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Contentious debate

"Judging from the correspondence we have received, more and more Scrabble players have found their pleasure with the game increasing as they devoted more serious attention to it. An interesting result of this trend has been a widespread concern with learning more words, especially those recondite words that make possible an especially high-scoring play."

Believe it or not, the paragraph above was written in 1953 by James Brunot in his introduction to a revolutionary book called *The Scrabble Word Guide, the Authorised Scrabble Word List*. Brunot was the gentleman Scrabble inventor Alfred Butts met about a decade after he'd created the fundamentals for our beloved game. He was the marketing genius who helped Alfred simplify some of the rules, and later oversaw 'mass' production of the new game from his barn.

In America at present, debate is raging over whether or not to adopt the British words, making a universal word source of around 160,000 words. Hostilities have apparently arisen at local club level, and friendships are being sorely tested. The National Scrabble Association is thinking about a radical solution:

"We are considering a séance where we hope to contact the spirits of James Brunot, Alfred Butts and for good measure Noah Webster. Perhaps we should let the guys who started it all make the decisions."

from the *American Scrabble News*,
June 1999, Executive Director's Report,
by John Williams

Scrabblathon

by Glennis Hale

Our first national Scrabblathon day turned out to be a lot of fun for many New Zealand Scrabblers. There were nine venues throughout NZ. Each group ran their day in their own way. There were no set rules. The main objective was to have fun just playing Scrabble while raising money to send our team of four to Melbourne for this year's World Champs.

Donations towards the World Champs fund were also sent in by some clubs and individuals who were unable to take part on the day. One donation came from a South Island Scrabbler, Isla Bain, who does not belong to a club but read about the Scrabblathon in the Otago Daily Times. Special thanks, Isla. Our final total was \$4537.70.

Pat & Jeff Grant won the prize for the highest individual amount raised. For their great effort they will receive a free night's accommodation in Melbourne. A huge thanks to all those people involved in any way who helped make this the success that it was. Many people have indicated that they are already looking forward to the next one!



Yvonne Wilson looks on as local MP Rick Barker plays Jeff Grant in a 'celebrity challenge' at the Hastings Scrabblathon on July 10.



Bill Grigg in the Dunedin club Scrabblathon

photo Otago Daily Times

That Takes the Cake



from *The Word Book*
By Gyles Brandreth

Answers

Flummoxed by Fours (p4)

Only TUND, RUND and YOUK are allowed.

Bonus Bonanza (p4)

All but HANDDOWN and LIFTOUTS are allowed.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Papatoetoe/Holy Cross Scrabble Club Tournament

3 July 1999

7 Games

Name	Club	Wins Spread	Avg. B/W
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Grade A

1	Glenn Hale	IND	7	555	434	16
2	John Foster	NSB	4	199	413	13
3	Howard Warner	MTA	4	123	424	11
4	Lisa McLean	IND	4	-124	395	14
5	Andrew Bradley	MTA	3	-49	412	11
6	David Lloyd	MTA	2	2	408	11
7	Lynne Powell	NSB	2	-273	387	8
8	Steven Brown	HAM	2	-433	366	12

Grade B

1	Fae Olson	STR	5	239	409	11
2	Peter Jones	MTA	4	370	414	10
3	Lynn Wood	WEL	4	142	400	10
4	Chris Hooks	IND	4	76	375	10
5	Eileen McLean	IND	4	-197	366	10
6	Sheryl Davidson	PAK	3	37	411	12
7	Helen Sillis	NPL	3	-154	372	7
8	May Quigley	IND	1	-513	334	3

Grade C

1	Faye Cronhelm	IND	7	354	412	12
2	Allie Quinn	NSB	5	325	407	11
3	Margaret Bundock	ROD	4	24	387	6
4	Glenda Geard	IND	4	19	379	8
5	Maureen Holliday	ROD	3	-29	389	10
6	Gerald Warner	ROD	3	-84	380	6
7	David Gunn	WKT	1	-223	375	11
8	Roger Coates	HAM	1	-386	357	8

Grade D

1	Janice Cherry	PAK	6	213	414	9
2	Isabel Zyp	HAM	4	254	396	9
3	Rebecca Freeth	ROD	4	16	380	6
4	Marj Baillie	KIW	3	68	384	8
5	Reeva Pearson	STR	3	-71	394	12
6	Joan Thomas	HAS	3	-139	373	11
7	Margaret Simpson	PAK	3	-192	366	13
8	Ann Candler	NSB	2	-149	365	4

Grade E

1	Delcie Macbeth	IND	7	536	423	12
2	Dean Riesterer	PAK	4	290	384	6
3	Shirley Martin	HAM	4	216	400	12
4	Shirley Wyatt	MTA	3	99	365	4
5	Pam Barlow	PAK	3	-141	363	7

Name	Club	Wins Spread	Avg. B/W
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6	Lorraine Van Veen	PAK	3	-363	337	3
7	Peggy Wallace	HAM	2	14	407	9
8	Dorothy Haining	ROD	2	-651	322	3

Grade F

1	Naomi Gilmore	ROD	5	302	384	3
2	Joan Pratt	ROD	4.5	91	387	8
3	Annette Coombes	WKT	4	293	407	12
4	Olwen Skelton	ROD	4	65	360	5
5	Sue Walker	MTA	4	-62	391	11
6	Carole Coates	HAM	3	-268	354	8
7	Dawn Kitzen	PHC	2.5	-69	368	5
8	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	1	-352	351	7

Grade G

1	Bev Barker	MTA	5	446	397	8
2	Mary Gray	MTA	5	251	376	7
3	Irene Hague-Smith	MTA	4	316	385	9
4	Jill Johnson	PHC	3	30	368	4
5	Valma Gidman	ROD	3	-179	350	3
6	Elaine King	MTA	3	-235	343	4
7	May Meads	PHC	3	-245	333	7
8	Val Worth	IND	2	-384	318	4

Grade H

1	Kath Davies	MTA	5	223	365	1
2	Rob Sillis	NPL	5	171	348	10
3	Valerie Holbrook	PAK	5	-26	335	5
4	Paddy Hoffman	ROD	3	43	356	3
5	Kate Wignall	MTA	3	-77	344	3
6	Elise Joy	PHC	3	-107	341	4



Fae Olson (STR)
B Grade winner at
Papatoetoe/Holy Cross

Name	Club	Wins Spread	Avg. B/W
7	Ed Olson	STR	2 -82 317 2
8	Karen Miller	PAK	2 -145 310 3
Grade I			
1	Jacqy Struik	PHC	6 315 350 5
2	Nigel Higgins	PHC	5 336 360 3
3	Rita Shoebridge	PHC	5 85 335 2
4	Kay O'Connor	MTA	4 263 352 4
5	Tony Turner	PHC	4 99 343 7
6	Mary Casse	ROD	2 -342 322 4
7	Resie Coenen	PHC	1 -358 297 2
8	Hazel Smith	PHC	1 -398 311 2

Waikato Scrabble Club Tournament

7 August 1999

7 Games

Grade A

1	Howard Warner	MTA	7	979	489	19
2	Jeff Grant	HAS	5	136	431	16
3	Glenn Hale	IND	4	111	408	11
4	John Foster	NSB	4	30	401	10
5	David Lloyd	MTA	2	-187	403	13
6	Lisa McLean	IND	2	-287	362	6
7	Lynne Butler	NPL	2	-351	375	7
8	Steven Brown	HAM	2	-431	375	12

Grade B

1	Pam Robson	WKT	6	346	425	15
2	Peter Jones	MTA	5	202	399	10
3	Valerie Mills	PAK	4	380	425	11
4	Fae Olson	STR	4	190	415	11
5	Helen Sillis	NPL	3	96	376	8
6	Lynne Powell	NSB	3	-171	372	4
7	Lynn Wood	WEL	2	-320	359	5
8	Eileen McLean	IND	1	-723	344	8

Grade C

1	Marianne Bentley	TGA	6	323	419	8
2	Faye Cronhelm	IND	4.5	264	402	11
3	Jane Walton	HAM	4.5	106	395	10
4	Anna Geange	MTA	4	134	400	10
5	Paul Lister	CHC	4	-88	379	8
6	Glenda Geard	IND	3	-54	385	9
7	Doreen O'Shea	HAS	2	-281	376	8
8	Allie Quinn	NSB	0	-404	342	7

Grade D

1	Betty Gibb	KIW	5	221	390	6
2	Margaret Bundock	ROD	5	145	373	7
3	David Gunn	WKT	4.5	66	380	11
4	Yvonne Wilson	HAS	4	76	388	9
5	Gerald Warner	ROD	3	131	384	4



Correne James (IND)
E Grade winner at Waikato

Name	Club	Wins Spread	Avg. B/W
6	Jean O'Brien	IND	2.5 -128 311 6
7	Elaine Moltzen	KIW	2 -428 304 7
8	Hilda Scott	MAS	1 -83 355 8

Grade E

1	Correne James	IND	6	242	378	8
2	Jennifer Smith	HAM	5.5	496	408	10
3	Isabel Zyp	HAM	4	125	368	7
4	Shirley Martin	HAM	3	31	372	11
5	Leanne Field	WAN	3	-95	347	7
6	Ann Candler	NSB	2.5	-268	365	6
7	Delcie Macbeth	IND	2	-257	369	7
8	Reeva Pearson	STR	2	-274	383	13

Grade F

1	Shirley Wyatt	MTA	5	696	405	4
2	Lorraine Van Veen	PAK	5	422	411	10
3	Annette Coombes	WKT	5	60	369	11
4	Sue Walker	MTA	3	-45	377	9
5	Margaret Parsons	TPO	3	-54	375	9
6	Dorothy Haining	ROD	3	-224	352	2
7	Olwen Skelton	ROD	2	-173	357	7
8	Liz Catchpole	MTA	2	-682	340	2

Grade G

1	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	6	401	369	8
2	Valma Gidman	ROD	5	449	364	4
3	Jean Clarke	STR	5	250	353	2
4	Marie Cairns	TPO	5	232	354	2
5	Pam Mayall	HAM	5	171	378	6
6	Rob Sillis	NPL	4	-115	365	12
7	Kate Wignall	MTA	3	-22	358	3

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Avg.	B/W
8 Dorothy Latta	IND	3	-120	323	2
9 Mary Gray	MTA	2	-149	327	5
10 Ed Olson	STR	2	-176	326	5
11 Kay O'Connor	MTA	2	-333	317	5
12 Maureen McBain	TGA	0	-588	285	2

Hamilton Scrabble Club

Tournament

8 August 1999

7 Games

Grade A

1 Jeff Grant	HAS	5	606	437	15
2 Howard Warner	MTA	5	472	435	12
3 John Foster	NSB	5	198	381	7
4 Glynis Jennings	MTA	3	-177	407	12
5 Steven Brown	HAM	3	-182	386	13
6 Lisa McLean	IND	3	-412	331	4
7 Glennis Hale	IND	2	-198	361	9
8 Lynne Butler	NPL	2	-307	373	10

Grade B

1 Lynn Wood	WEL	5	428	412	9
2 Lynne Powell	NSB	5	243	407	12
3 Helen Sillis	NPL	5	71	386	8
4 Fae Olson	STR	4	17	383	9
5 Peter Jones	MTA	3	-13	399	15
6 Pam Robson	WKT	3	-46	369	10
7 Marianne Bentley	TGA	2	-238	373	6
8 Jane Walton	HAM	1	-462	340	6

Grade C

1 Anna Geange	MTA	6	251	407	10
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Anna Geange
C Grade winner at Hamilton

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Avg.	B/W
2 Allie Quinn	NSB	4	138	393	12
3 Margaret Bundock	ROD	4	43	385	8
4 Faye Cronhelm	IND	3	34	381	10
5 Paul Lister	CHC	3	-19	379	6
6 Doreen O'Shea	HAS	3	-28	385	7
7 Yvonne Wilson	HAS	3	-70	381	8
8 Glenda Geard	IND	2	-349	361	8

Grade D

1 Reeve Pearson	STR	7	644	441	18
2 Hilda Scott	MAS	6	377	406	9
3 Gerald Warner	ROD	5	337	408	8
4 Delcie Macbeth	IND	3	-95	377	9
5 Ann Candler	NSB	3	-118	376	10
6 Isabel Zyp	HAM	2	-291	363	3
7 David Gunn	WKT	1	-319	377	9
8 Jean O'Brien	IND	1	-535	346	6

Grade E

1 Shirley Wyatt	MTA	5	334	397	5
2 Lorraine Van Veen	PAK	5	246	406	11
3 Peggy Wallace	HAM	5	-1	379	10
4 Jennifer Smith	HAM	4	263	401	9
5 Correne James	IND	3	219	386	4
6 Shirley Martin	HAM	2	-299	345	9
7 Leanne Field	WAN	2	-324	340	7
8 Hazel Purdie	MTA	2	-438	355	9

Grade F

1 Annette Coombes	WKT	6	331	409	9
2 Margaret Parsons	TPO	5.5	193	365	6
3 Liz Catchpole	MTA	5	273	405	8
4 Mary Gray	MTA	4	199	391	7
5 Pam Barlow	PAK	3	-352	345	5
6 Olwen Skelton	ROD	2	-74	340	5
7 Dorothy Haining	ROD	1.5	-238	346	6
8 Marie Cairns	TPO	1	-332	342	3

Grade G

1 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	7	443	395	6
2 Rob Sillis	NPL	6	300	374	8
3 Kate Wignall	MTA	5	97	354	2
4 Valma Gidman	ROD	4	286	366	4
5 Pam Mayall	HAM	4	93	353	3
6 Dorothy Latta	IND	3	-32	350	7
7 Ed Olson	STR	2	-160	321	3
8 Jean Clarke	STR	2	-255	345	2
9 Maureen McBain	TGA	2	-445	310	4

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) Shirley Wyatt (MTA)
Highest Single Turn Non-bonus	135	Ruth O'Neill (NPL)	261	John Foster (MTA)
Highest Combined Score	1078	Howard Wamer (CAP) & David Lloyd (MTA)	1106	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Largest Winning Margin	493	Mike Sigley (WAN)	504	Nigel Richards (CHC)
Highest Take-off	54	Lisa McLean (IND)	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	Nigel Richards (CHC)	6	Mike Sigley (WAN) Nigel Richards (CHC) Lynne Powell (ROD) Karyn McDougall (DUN)
Most Bonus Words in Game (2 people)	8	Mike Sigley (WAN) & Glenyss Buchanan (LOH) Nigel Richards (CHC) & John Foster (IND)	8	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Highest Average Single Tournament (Any Grade)	584	Nigel Richards (CHC)	—	—

NZ Masters (23 Games)

Most Games Won	Jeff Grant (HAS) 21 (1993, 1997)
Highest Aggregate	Nigel Richards (CHC) 11,103 (1999)
Most Bonus Words	Nigel Richards (CHC) 61 (1998)
Highest Spread	Nigel Richards (CHC) 1999