

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
Kiwi (KIW)	Elaine Moltzen	07 843 5108	Thurs 7pm	Sunningdale Hall
Mt Maunganui / Papamoa (MMP)	Ngairi 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 57 December 1999



World Champs

Reflections of 99

Norfolk Impressions

Boats from A—Z

The Sweet Spell of Success

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Editor's Note

The World Champs in Melbourne were a great experience for everyone. Despite a few glitches (such as disintegrating tile-bags!), all the Kiwis enjoyed the event. Congratulations to Nigel Richards (CHC) for his 8th place, and Kendall Boyd (DUN) for coming 12th. On behalf of the team, I would like to thank all those who sent us good luck messages, both before and after the tournament. Your support was very much appreciated.

The Norfolk Island Festival got off to an inauspicious start with a plane delay from Auckland of about 14 hours. This meant that we arrived at 2.30am, and there were some tired Scrabblers the next day. No worries though, as everyone got into the spirit of things and made the job of running the tourney a breeze for Glennis and me. Next year will be a special Millennium Festival, so start saving now — it should be a real Scrabble extravaganza!

There have been several successful local events during the past three months. The Canterbury Open in September was enjoyed by all participants, and Mt Albert and Wanganui in October attracted good fields. The latter was won by US Scrabbler Bob Felt, who is a former North American champion. The Otago Lion Open in Dunedin turned out to be a family benefit, with visiting North Islanders Lisa and Eileen McLean taking the top two places. The Rodney and Kiwi one-dayers in November were popular, with strong fields in both. We had our youngest ever tournament entrant with 10-year-old Lyres Freeth playing at Rodney, and there were four more first-time competitors at Kiwi, as well as Kenyan Scrabbler Cecilia Ruto,

who won B grade.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to *Forwards* over the past year, and to those who have sent us club newsletters. Also, thanks to Doreen Ogston (CHC) for sending word columns from her local newspaper. I particularly liked the suggestion that the first Maori baby of the new millennium should be called Wai Tuke! Remember, we are always looking for items of interest for the magazine, so don't be shy — send them in.

As always, thanks to our national Executive, which does a tremendous job for NZ Scrabble. I would like to particularly thank our president, Glennis Hale, who has had an exceptionally busy year Scrabble-wise. We really appreciate all the extra effort Glennis puts in and sincerely hope that the workload in some areas will be reduced next year.

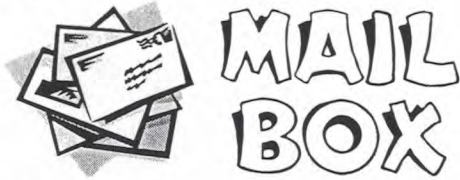
Also, thanks to Glenda, our *Forwards* layout editor, for all the preparation and formatting that goes into producing the magazine.

Last, but certainly not least, thanks to my wife Pat for all her support and encouragement throughout the year. We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas, and all the best for 2000. Pat and I will be seeing in the New Year, Century, Millennium, at the 24-hour Y2K tourney in New Plymouth. No doubt we'll see some of you there.

Closing date for the March issue is February 20.

**Merry Christmas and
Happy Scrabbling in 2000**

Jeff



Almost a Record!

by Isabel Zyp
Kiwi Scrabbler

Here's some incredible news that I would like to spread to the whole Scrabble world.

It all happened at the Kiwi Club night on Thursday 9/9/99 (note the date, Jeff!)

In a threesome, I played with Carole and Isobel W (a new recruit); they both kept the score. During the third quarter of the game against Carole, she played the word VAIR in the upper right corner of the board, which left me the triple-triple.

The letters on my rack were ZONITES. I played TREZ using the R already on the board, giving me a score of 69 points. I announced the score, and it was quickly written down by my opponent, before my realising that I could have played TRIZONES for 293 points! That would have put me on 610, with the game only three-quarters over.

We paused for a minute and asked Elaine whether I could still put it down. She said that she could easily let me play the superb word for the sake of breaking the club record and the NZ record, but we have to stick to the rules at the club. Fair enough.

A lesson for me to learn: 'Take your time and don't rush.' Mind you I am always a fast player and love to play upside down all the time.

Adding to my excitement was winning all the games which totalled 1488 points, playing 6 bonus words and winning the spot prize for the night, which was the

fifth turn for 79 points.

Well, I was still over the moon when I got home that night. It left me with the urge to play more Scrabble, probably until I dropped dead!

Hey guys, don't you think I deserve a pat on the back? I may not be the legitimate record holder at the moment for the highest single turn, but in my mind I am a champion. After all, I did see the record-breaking move, even if it was a moment too late.

[Who knows what game score Isabel could have achieved if she had spotted TRIZONES in time. — Ed.]

Birthday Coincidences

by Sue Walker (MTA)

Recently I discovered five consecutive Scrabble birthdays in August:

15th	Arthur (PHC)
16th	Margaret Cherry (PAK)
17th	Hazel Purdie (MTA)
18th	May Meads (PHC)
19th	Chris Hooks (IND)

Can anyone add to this sequence? Does anyone have the same birth date? Is there anything like this for another month?

[You could add to the list with John Galsworthy, author of *The Forsyte Saga* (Aug 14), and horror writer Howard Lovecraft (Aug 20), but despite their linguistic talents they weren't Scrabblers. The only similar coincidence I'm aware of is five people with birthdays on two consecutive days in October — Paul Lister (CHC), Andrée Prentice (WAN) and myself on 23rd, and Alveen Seon (MTA) and Kevin Edgeler (TOK) on 24th. — Ed.]

Points Taken

by Val Worth, Putaruru

I recently had HONOREE on my first rack. Where is it best to place it on the board? Should I go for H on the double letter square for 78 points, or should I sacrifice points by having consonants on both sides of the central star, scoring either 72 or 70? I guess there is a basic rule about this dilemma, but I haven't been taught it yet.

[I don't think there is any rule, it's simply a matter of personal style. A defensive player is more likely to forgo the points, whereas an attacking one would probably grab them. Personally, I favour the latter approach. Be positive, take the extra points, and often you will be pleasantly surprised at what is open for you on the next move. — Ed.]

Improve Your Game

This is the title of a new Scrabble puzzle book by top English player Allan Simmons and Paul Lamford. It contains 100 Scrabble puzzles designed to test both novice and expert.

The first 50 puzzles involve looking for the highest scoring play in a particular situation. A 'Hint' is given to help you find the best move, but many of them are very hard to spot.

The second 50 puzzles were compiled by *Onwords* editor and top Scrabbler Allan Simmons. In most of them you have to achieve a target score, find a bonus word or use certain tiles. Again, many are very difficult. I wonder how many people with a rack of AMNOSTU would see MANGETOUT through GET, also making REAR into REARM and ALLY into TALLY. Not to worry if you missed that one, because AMOUNTS is playable

for a bigger score anyway!

A good feature of the book is a glossary at the end containing all the unusual words which appear in the puzzles. There you can learn that a COBZA is a stringed instrument, a ZAMIA is a palm-like tree, and a MAWR is a big, awkward girl.

Unfortunately, the puzzles are all based on words found only in *The Chambers Dictionary*, but don't let that put you off. *Improve Your Game* is still a worthwhile addition to any Scrabble player's library.

Anyone interested in obtaining this book should contact Forrester Books, 10 Tarndale Grove, Albany, Auckland (ph 09 415 2080).

An Absorbing Game

from The Q-Files, ASPA Queensland newsletter, December 1998

The thunder and lightning forewarned the sudden power failure as Val Teare of Redcliffe was playing a quick solo Scrabble game. Well, what does one do when a storm is raging all around and there is no power to cook tea? If you are Val, you just light candles and keep playing.

So it was only a mild distraction when Val noticed a big red truck pull up outside — someone was going to fix the power lines nearby, she thought. And she didn't take too much notice either when she thought she heard the side gate close. But she certainly jumped to attention when a fireman peered in through her window! "We have had a report that your house is on fire," he said.

It turns out that Val's neighbours who live directly behind her saw the flickering flames from their kitchen and thought her TV was on fire. They rang the fire brigade who immediately sprang into action.

COMPETITION CORNER

Solution: Scrabble Contest No 56

1	Spam	16	Castrol
2	Pyrex	17	Nescafe
3	Pepsi	18	Pontiac
4	Mobil	19	Bacardi
5	Nike	20	Andrews
6	Tosca	21	Gordons
7	Lego	22	Zespri
8	Enza	23	Valium
9	Tegel	24	Stihl
10	Schick	25	Steinlager
11	Edam	26	Paradiso
12	Dettol	27	Ferrari
13	Sealy	28	Goldair
14	Avon	29	MacLeans
15	Selsun	30	SamTimer

Rhoda Cashman (ROD) got 27 right, Valma Gidman (ROD) and Pam Barlow (PHC) got 28, and Dorothy Haining (ROD), Lyn Toka (KIW), and Margaret Forbes all got 29. There were only two entrants who solved all 30 anagrams: Jethro Snafflerod and Glennis Hale. First out of the hat was Glennis — well done!

Scrabble Contest No 57

The contest this time should suit the more creative among you. The challenge is to compose a Scrabble limerick. Use a person's name if you like, but it can't be too derogatory or risqué — we don't want to be sued for libel! Marks will be given for humour, rhythm and content.

Here is a good example from an overseas Scrabble magazine:
A young Scrabble player named Joan,
Incited around her a groan,
Fourteen hundred she scored,
On the top of the board,
Putting down OXYPHENBUTAZONE.

Closing date is February 20. Good luck!

Entries to be sent to:

Jeff Grant
1109 Allenby St
Hastings

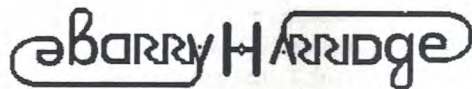
Chambers Convolutions

The Chambers Dictionary is renowned for some of its unusual entries, for example DEVIL-DODGER, someone who attends churches of various kinds, to be on the safe side. MALLEMAROKING, carousing of seamen in icebound ships, and MONTEM, a former custom of Eton boys to go every third Whit-Tuesday to a hillock on the Bath road and exact 'salt-money' from passers-by.

Our Scrabble dictionary also contains some pretty quirky cross-references and derivations. Barry Harridge of Melbourne, Australia, brought the following examples to my attention at the recent Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival.

aris short for 'Aristotle', rhyming slang for 'bottle', which is in turn short for 'bottle and glass', rhyming slang for 'arse'. Rather nice, as 'aris' and 'arse' sound so similar.

under-and-over (under 'under'] see *over-and-under* under *over*.



[This is Barry's famous signature. Just turn it upside down to see why. — Ed.]

Reflections of '99

by Glennis Hale
NZASP President

1999 has been a great year for NZ Scrabble. I remember saying last year, "I cannot recall a busier time in Scrabble." It now seems those busy times are here to stay.

Internationally, we are well and truly 'on the map' with excellent performances by all our NZ representatives. They are thought of very highly and I know that during this year some long-lasting international Scrabble relationships have been formed.

It was a wonderful experience to attend the World Champs in Melbourne and it brought back many personal memories of the 1995 London event. The highlight for me was the opportunity to annotate the 'top table' games and the final between Mark Nyman and Joel Wapnick. This I will never forget.

Our own tournaments have once again been very successful. What a keen group of competitive players we have travelling all over the country to take part. Congratulations to all those Club organisers and their willing bands of helpers who ensure our tournaments run so well. If you have not yet become actively involved in your club why not take up the challenge and give more of your time in the new millennium. You will get a lot out of it and at the same time lessen the burden for the few stalwarts who are doing so much for NZ Scrabble.

A huge thanks goes to all the Exec committee, both immediate past and

present, for their hard work this year. It is with regret that we accept the resignation of Lyn Dawson, but thank her for her contribution and wish her many years of happy Scrabbling.

Jeff and Glenda have, once again, tirelessly produced our excellent *Forwards* magazine. Many favourable comments have been received from readers at home and overseas, and we all appreciate what a professional team they are. Thanks to you both.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to Glenda, who has, along with Nigel, taken on the unenviable task of preparing the ratings. With 7 tourneys, one of which she prepared the computer scoring for, a work conference in Oz, the WSC, *Forwards* and a home for sale, all in the last 3 months, she has done a superb job. Thanks so much.

My apologies to those people who feel they have not personally received ratings as often as they would have liked. We are all very busy people and doing our best.

Next year's Scrabble calendar looks as full as ever. We welcome the Tauranga Scrabble Enthusiasts back to the tournament scene. Good luck for your Spring Tournament. Don't forget Taranaki's Y2K Millennium Tournament. Join the fun. What a way to kick off the year 2000!

To all Scrabblers and *Forwards* readers both here and abroad, I wish you the best of health, a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Glennis

Fishing For Words

Playing Scrabble underwater with an audience of sharks was one of the daredevil feats performed recently to renew interest in the world's leading word game.

To promote Scrabble, the game's maker Mattel hosted the first Extreme Scrabble Challenge in Melbourne, coinciding with the fifth World Scrabble Championships from November 3-7. Scuba divers at Manly Underwater World launched the campaign, playing Scrabble in the shark tank, and the next extreme adventure was Suspended Scrabble—played by two contestants hanging upside down from a dizzy height.

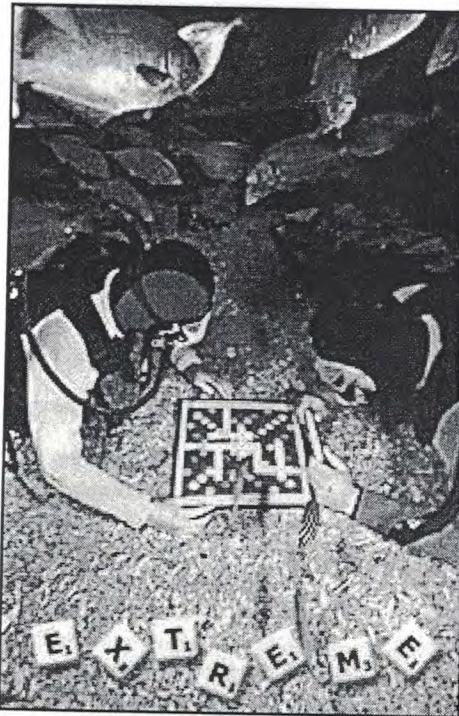
Mattel Australia's marketing manager David Gibson said interest had been overwhelming. "It was a concept we came up with a while ago," he said. "The key thing from the consumer's perspective is that you can enjoy Scrabble anytime, anywhere."

Mr Gibson said that although sales for Scrabble were gradually picking up, people were not playing it as often. The 51-year-old game was not appealing to people aged 15-26, he said. "They see Scrabble as a bit daggy and prefer to go outdoors doing other things," he said. "We get them back when they're a bit older."

Mattel invited Australians to devise their own forms of Extreme Scrabble, from playing while skydiving to playing while trapped with animals at the zoo.

from a Sydney newspaper, sent to Pam Robson (WKT) by her daughter in Australia

Photos from Mattel website



World Scrabble Championships 1999

Rank	Player	Country	Wins	Spread
1	Joel Wapnick	Canada	18	+1068
2	Mark Nyman	UK	17	+808
3	David Boys	Canada	17	+693
4	Adam Logan	Canada	16	+886
5	Andrew Fisher	UK	16	+797
6	Russell Byers	UK	16	+647
7	Ron Tiekert	US	16	+366
8	Nigel Richards	NZ	15	+1616
9	Andrew Cook	UK	15	+983
10	John Holgate	Aust.	15	+782
11	Brian Cappelletto	US	15	+711
12	Kendall Boyd	NZ	15	+603
13	Naween Fernando	Sri L.	15	+217
14	Phil Appleby	UK	15	+191
15	Joel Sherman	US	15	+73
16	Suresh Chinnaiyah	Sri L.	14	+910
17	David Wiegand	US	14	+820
18	Jakkrit Klaphajone	Thai.	14	+635
19	Virgilio Quiballo	Phil.	14	+566
20	John Luebkemann	US	14	+309
21	Mohan Chunkath	India	14	+292
22	Femi Awowade	Nigeria	14	+203
23	Lisa Odom	US	14	+151
24	Stanley Ndungu	Kenya	14	+102
25	Paul Epstein	US	14	+88
26	Bob Jackman	Aust.	13.5	+166
27	David Webb	UK	13	+602
28	Joe Edley	US	13	+447
29	Ronald Credo	Phil.	13	+439
30	Michael Gongolo	Kenya	13	+255
31	Steven Gruzd	S.Africa	13	+222
32	Joan Rosenthal	Aust.	13	+214
33	Howard Warner	NZ	13	+194
34	Gareth Williams	Wales	13	+178
35	Randy Hersom	US	13	+106
36	Shafique Thobani	Kenya	13	+14
37	Amnuay Ploysangnam	Thai.	13	-16
38	James Cherry	Canada	13	-27
39	Michael Pray	Oman	13	-369
40	Pakorn Nemitrmansuk	Thai.	13	-382
41	Jeff Grant	NZ	13	-588
42	Ishtiaq Chishty	S.Arabia	12.5	+399
43	Odette Rio	Phil.	12	+569
44	Brett Smitheram	UK	12	+555
45	Robert Felt	US	12	+360
46	Jim Geary	US	12	+358
47	Roland Filio	Bahrain	12	+285
48	Lester Schonbrun	US	12	+100
49	Helen Gipson	UK	12	+37
50	Pui Cheng Wui	Malaysia	12	+6
51	Saheed Jimoh	Nigeria	12	-22
52	Matayo Bwire	Kenya	12	-31
53	Albert Hahn	Canada	12	-48
54=	Owen Bondin	Malta	12	-293
54=	A Ganesh	Malaysia	12	-293
56	Wilma Warwick	Scotland	12	-514
57	Akshay Bhandarkar	Bahrain	11.5	+156
58	Paul Cleary	Aust.	11.5	+59
59	Taewan Sutthasin	Thai.	11.5	-728
60	Tony Sim	Sing.	11	+247
61	Dylan Early	S.Africa	11	+115
62	Ricardo Gonzalez	S.Arabia	11	+112
63	Bob Lipton	US	11	-8
64	Steve Polatnick	US	11	-130
65	Michael Tang	Sing.	11	-172
66	Peter Sinton	NZ	11	-197
67	Peter Elbourne	Malta	11	-319
68	Arvind Abraham	UAE.	11	-359
69	Rashid Khan	Pak.	11	-427
70	Barbara Berlin	Aust.	11	-487
71	Cher Siong Gan	Sing.	11	-726
72	Keiichiro Hirai	Japan	10.5	+188
73	Trevor Hovelmeier	S.Africa	10	+197
74	Brendan McDonnell	Ire.	10	+75
75	Alec Webb	UK	10	-33
76	Selwyn Lobo	UAE.	10	-83
77	Kong Chock Heng	Malaysia	10	-210
78	Rodney Judd	Pak.	10	-366
79	Dixon Assesa	Kenya	10	-398
80	Vivian Penallor	Bahrain	10	-476
81	Linda Pray	Oman	10	-591
82	Kunihiko Kuroda	Japan	10	-614
83	Gold Eburu	Nigeria	10	-740
84	Wojciech Usakiewicz	Poland	10	-876
85	Catherine Costello	Ire.	9.5	-237
86	Leslie Charles	Trin.	9.5	-603
87	Roger Blom	Aust.	9	+215
88	Edward Metivier	Trin.	9	-164
89	Alistair Kane	Aust.	9	-353
90	Eugene Goh	Sing.	9	-498
91	Laurentiu Sandu	Rom.	9	-2008
92	Jim Nanavati	Canada	8	+6
93	Johnson Fasuba	Seych.	8	-491
94	Lakshan Wanniarachch	Sri L.	8	-519
95	Antonin Michel	France	8	-951
96	Dhanapala Silva	Seych.	8	-1187
97	Mario Saliba	Malta	7	-868
98	Catalin-Eugen Caba	Rom.	3	-2991
High Game: Suresh Chinnaiyah				643
High Word: Phil Appleby				167

Kiwis in Melbourne

For the first time New Zealand had five players at a World Championship — Nigel Richards, Jeff Grant, Kendall Boyd, Peter Sinton and Howard Warner. Not only that, we had a great bunch of supporters there too, with Pat, Glennis, Correne, Liz, Sheryl, Andrée, Glenda and Bryan all cheering on the Kiwi contingent. They also helped during the event by annotating games, adjudicating, running, and in Pat's case, stitching up over 50 tile-bags which disintegrated throughout the tournament!

Competition was fierce, and in the end there was very little between most of the players. For example, David Webb in 27th place had only one more win than Wilma Warwick who was 56th.

Peter struggled to string wins together, with his best victory being a tight 344-311 win over Ron Tiekert (US) in the first round. He is a much better player than 66th position would indicate.

Jeff also found the going tough, having a series of narrow wins and heavy losses.

Despite a good win over Russell Byers (UK) 491-459, he drifted from a high of 17th at one stage back to 41st, with two close last round losses.

Howard started slowly, but gradually clawed his way up to a respectable 33rd place. He had narrow wins over Bob



Pat Grant—the bag lady

Photos by Jane Williams, US (National Scrabble Assoc.)

Jackman (Aust.) 382-373, and Joe Edley (US) 454-427.

Kendall once again proved he is a world-class player, following up his excellent 6th place in Washington two years ago with a 12th this time. He had some great wins, including 432-417 v 1995 World Champ David Boys (Canada), 400-301 v Adam Logan (Canada), 425-373 v Joe Edley (US), 556-398 v Joan Rosenthal (Aust.), 436-287 v Steven Gruzd (S.Africa), and in the last two games, 444-393 v John Luebke (US) and 441-410 v Jakkrit Klaphajone (Thailand).

Nigel was undoubtedly our star player, being in first position after day 1, and having many games on the top tables. He averaged 457 points per game and amassed a spread of +1616, nearly 600 points more than any other player — unheard of stats at a World Champs. His lowest score was 369, and his biggest loss was by only 53 points. With an ounce of luck Nigel could have made the final. He beat the likes of 1993 World Champ Mark Nyman (UK) by 200 points, and American Lester Schonbrun by over 300! There were also wins over Adam Logan (Canada) 451-354, David Wiegand (US) 521-357 and 474-433, Andrew Fisher (UK) 513-389, and top-ranked American Brian Cappelletto 441-344. Playing Adam Logan, THIONINE was on the board, which Nigel later extended to ETHIONINE, and then Adam further extended to METHIONINE. Nigel didn't challenge it. Some top players routinely challenge several times a game when there is no penalty for doing so. Nigel challenged only



The World Cup

two words in the entire tournament — one wrong, one right. Quite extraordinary!

The crucial game may have been Nigel's rematch with Mark Nyman in round 22. Mark binged out to win by 455-418, and then went on to make the final. Had the result been reversed in this game, who knows what might have happened. The words on the board were eye-catching — SPAEMEN, OLIGOMER, REMEDING, SALCHOW, ROBUSTA — but there was one in particular which typifies Nigel's brilliance. Early in the game, holding a rack of AAEGNOS, he slotted the letters around GI to make ANAGOGIES! That sort of move, which is not at all unusual for Nigel, shows why he is now widely regarded as one of the world's best Scrabblers. And don't forget that he has been playing for only about three years, and will probably get better!

So overall a pretty good showing by the Kiwis. Nigel's 8th place was the fourth World Champs in a row where we have gained a top-10 placing (Mike Sigley was 7th in 1993, Jeff was 3rd in 1995 and



Nigel Richards (NZ) playing Adam Logan (Canada)
Photo by Jane Williams, US (National Scrabble Assoc.)



Nigel receives his certificate from Mattel representative Philip Nelkon

Kendall was 6th in 1997). It is also the fourth time we have had the highest placed competitor outside North America or Britain. This is a record we will be aiming to keep up when the World Champs return to America in 2001.

We All Make Mistakes

Even world champions aren't infallible. Joel Wapnick played the bogus FUROR in the last game of the final, and earlier in the tournament he had a very inelegant UB challenged off. Countering the odd slip-up though, Joel made some brilliant plays during the event, one of the best being in round 19 against 1997 World Champ Joel Sherman, where he wrapped E and ISE around GLOM for a 99-point triple-triple with EGLMISE — superb!

The World Champs Final

The 1999 World Scrabble Championship final in Melbourne featured a repeat of the 1993 New York final, with Canadian champ Joel Wapnick facing Mark Nyman of England. New Zealand did have some representation however, as Glennis Hale and Liz Fagerlund sat beside the players and annotated the moves.

In Game 1 Joel amassed 624 points and won by over 300. Near the end of the game Mark was holding an unplayable INTRUDE (or TURDINE, UNTRIED, UNTRIDE or UNTIRED), and 'humorously' went for first DENTURIFY and then RETUNDIFY, before realising that spread could be important in the case of a tied game. As you will see this very nearly happened in Game 4! Did Mark consider DENUTRIFY (to remove nutrients)? It isn't in any dictionary, but the following appears in an Internet article:

"aquatic plants are the best way to denutlify a pond".

Mark evened things up in Game 2 with a 444-330 victory, then Joel took a 2-1 lead by winning the third game 462-339, so Mark needed to win the next one to keep the final alive. Here is how things went move by move. If you want to get a better perspective, try playing the game through on a Scrabble board.



Spectators watching the finals games
Photo by Jane Williams, US (National Scrabble Assoc.)

	Mark Nyman (UK)				Joel Wapnick (Canada)			
Turn	Rack	Play	Score	Total	Rack	Play	Score	Total
1	EEINNOU	ENNUI	12	12	IIORSV□	ISOGRIV	78	78
Joel's best play was VIRTUOSI for 90 on a double double. He had many other bonus plays available, including VIBRIOS (76), VIRINOS (76), VIROSIS (76), IVORIST (76) IVORIES (74), VIRIONS (74) and VIROIDS (74).								
2	CEEHIOY	HONEY	27	39	FINORRU	FUOUR	0	78
Mark could have played ECHOEY for 33 above ENNUI. Joel lost a turn with FUOUR, a spelling of FUROR used in the 15-16th century, but unfortunately for him, not one of the obsolete forms listed in <i>Chambers</i> .								
3	CCDEEIM	MICE	21	60	FINORRU	FOUR	16	94
Joel had FOIN alongside MICE for 30, but opted for a better leave without exposing the triple-triple.								

	Mark Nyman (UK)				Joel Wapnick (Canada)			
Turn	Rack	Play	Score	Total	Rack	Play	Score	Total
4	ACDEIZ□	LAICIZED	90	150	ILNRSTU	NURL	20	114
Mark finds the only bonus word and blocks Joel's LUSTRINE.								
5	EGIKPRV	RIVAGE	30	180	EFILSST	STIFLERS	84	198
Mark could have played KIVA in the same spot for 33. His lead is overturned by Joel's bonus word. RIFTLESS for 86 on the top row was the highest scoring play.								
6	AEHKNP	KHAN	46	226	AAAALTW	TALA	15	213
Both players had higher scores available. Mark could have played either KANEH (53) or HAPPEN (51) above MICE, and Joel had WAT (25), but obviously wanted to get rid of an extra A.								
7	AEEOPPU	PEA	23	249	AADEIOW	WAIDE	39	252
Not a good rack for Mark. Perhaps UPO for 26 (above STIFLERS) was better. It would also have stopped Joel's excellent WAIDE play.								
8	AEEMOPU	PEA	23	272	AADLORT	DURAL	13	265
Mark has his second PEA in a row! (Getting nervous? It's very close now.) A good leave for Joel, but ARD in the bottom left hand corner scores 10 more points, with a leave of ALOT, which isn't bad. As it turned out it was lucky Joel opted for the AORT leave.								
9	BEEGMOU	EMBOGUE	68	340	ABORSTT	TABORETS	68	333
Mark seizes the initiative briefly with a brilliant bonus. To EMBOGUE is to discharge at the mouth. Joel's TABORETS (low stools) redresses the balance in this tight encounter.								
10	IJNOQTW	JO	42	382	DEGOTXY	DEOXY	50	383
It's still anyone's game. There is only one tile in the bag now, and Joel has worked out that he will win if it is one of the two N's or the R.								
11	INNOQTW	QI	28	410	GRT	GIRT	12	395
	NNOTW left on rack		-8	402	NNOTW left on Mark's rack		+8	403
Joel was very happy to see that R!								

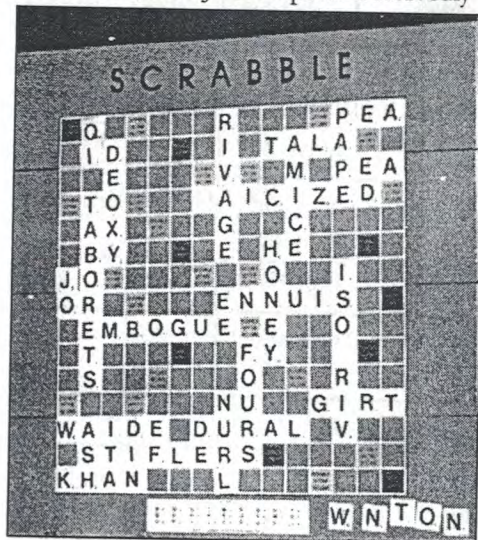
So Joel Wapnick of Montreal, Canada, becomes the new World Scrabble Champion by the narrowest of margins over a very gracious runner-up, Mark Nyman of England. Congratulations, Joel! See over page for the final board layout.

Joel Wapnick Analysis

The new World Scrabble champion is Joel Wapnick, a 53-year-old Canadian music professor who has been at the top of the game for around 20 years. Joel was North American champion as far back as 1983, and is the current Canadian national champ, so he has stood the test of time.

Joel's classic book *The Champion's Strategy for Winning at Scrabble*, published in 1986, is now a collector's item. Arguably the finest advanced Scrabble book ever written, Joel's work has recently been updated in a CD-ROM version. Howard Warner has a copy if you would like to know more about it.

Remarkably, a Joel has been involved in the last four World Scrabble finals. Joel Sherman was runner-up in 1995 and won in 1997, and this year's winner Joel Wapnick was runner-up in 1993. It really was the year of the Canadians, as they filled three of the top four places in Melbourne, with Joel Wapnick deservedly



Board layout for Game 4 of the final

taking the title he was so desperately unlucky not to win in the same final match-up with Mark Nyman back in 1993.

Joel's 'winning word' in the last game was GIRT. How very appropriate for a championship held in Melbourne! About the only time you hear this archaic past tense of 'gird' (to surround) is in the first verse of the Australian national anthem *Advance Australia Fair*.

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;

Anagrams

JOEL transposes into JOLE, an obsolete form of 'jowl'. WAPNICK has no allowable Scrabble anagram, but Dennis PANWICK is a resident of Calumet City, Illinois, and NAPWICK sounds like it should be a little village somewhere.

JOEL WAPNICK transposes into LOW-PACE JINK and WON JACK-PILE (= jackpot), which he certainly did in Melbourne. JOKE, WIN CLAP possibly alludes to Joel's comment after the final that he was glad he wouldn't have to qualify for the next World Champs. And what was the most important thing to take home? PACK WIN, JOEL!

Word Surgery

Our local paper named the new World Champ as Joel Wapnik, a misspelling I'm sure Joel has had before. To 'wap' is to drub or beat, so in theory a 'wapnik' would be one who likes to beat his opponents thoroughly, unlike a 'beatnik', who follows another kind of beat. Interestingly, a different meaning of Joel's anagram JOLE

by Jeff Grant

in *Chambers* is 'to beat'.

Like the four champions before him, Joel's name can be split into allowable Scrabble words — JO, EL, WAP, NICK (1991: PET, ER, MORRIS; 1993: MARK, NY, MAN; 1995: DA, VID, BOYS; 1997: JO, EL, SH, ER, MAN).

The highest score achievable on the first turn using letters from JOELWAPNICK is an impressive 112 points for LOCKJAW, however it is unlikely many players would be so bold as to expose the triple word square.

Squares

J	O	E	L
O	N	C	E
E	C	U	S
L	E	S	S

J	O	E	L
O	N	T	O
E	T	I	C
L	O	C	K

W	A	P	N	I	C	K
A	R	E	O	L	A	E
P	E	R	I	L	L	A
N	O	I	S	U	M	S
I	L	L	U	V	I	A
C	A	L	M	I	E	R
K	E	A	S	A	R	S

The two JOEL 4-squares are appropriate. ECUS are old French gold coins, or in this case 'money' figuratively. So JOEL ONCE ECUS LESS refers to the winner's prize-money.

JOEL ONTO ETIC LOCK relates to the mindset required to be a world



Joel Wapnick
World Scrabble Champion 1999

Scrabble champion. ETIC pertains to a type of linguistic analysis.

Can you pick the phony in the 7-square (besides WAPNICK, of course)? AREOLAE are round pigmented areas, PERILLA is an Asian herb, ILLUVIA are soil materials, CALMIER means 'more clayey', KEASARS are obsolete kaisers, and you guessed it, NOISUMS is a non-word.

Palindromes

Joel's first name is easily palindromised, in fact LEO JOEL is an individual residing in Silver Spring, Maryland.

When a reporter fatuously asked Joel if he considered 'trog' for his final move in the last game of the World Champs, he allegedly replied:

"Hey no! With GIRT, right,
I won — yeh!"

Here is a longer, more cryptic palindrome, about Joel's successful quest for the World Scrabble crown in Australia.

Joel Wapnick
 Repack 'C' in,
 Paw (Leo?), jazz it!
 An 'ism' open on aid?
 An academia's drowsy awl,
 (as drowned log).
 Take esteem in Oz,
 Albatross, selfless sort.
 "A blazon I meet, seek."
 At golden words, always words,
 Aimed a Canadian.
 One Pom's in a tizz,
 a Joel Wapnick caper!

World Champs Trivia

Question: Can you name a player who has competed in all five World Championships and come in the top 20 every time?

Eight people have played in all five world champs, including Jeff Grant (NZ) and John Holgate (Aust.), but none of them has finished in the top 20 every time.

There have now been five different world champions, and Joel Wapnick is easily the oldest at 53. Actually there were three top-10 finishers over 50 this year — besides Joel, Ron Tiekert (52) of US came 6th, and John Holgate (54) achieved Australia's highest ever position with 10th. Maybe there's still hope for the 40+ youngsters!

Old champions don't just fade away either. The first four world champs all defended their titles at the next event, and remarkably they all finished between 11th and 17th. I'm sure Joel Wapnick will be back in 2001 for another crack at it too.

Tattoo Update

In the last *Forwards* (p 12) we reported on Englishman Jonathon Ross's Valentine's Day Scrabble tattoo. Unfortunately, it seems that after ten years of marriage and three children, Jonathon and his wife Jane have separated. That tattoo could be a bit embarrassing now.

Five Timers

The following players have competed at all five World Scrabble Championships:

Brian Cappelletto (US)
 Joe Edley (US)
 Peter Elbourne (Malta)
 Bob Felt (US)
 Jeff Grant (NZ)
 John Holgate (Australia)
 Mark Nyman (England)
 Joel Wapnick (Canada)

Around the Clubs

Steve and Liz Richards of the Nelson Scrabble Club are planning a 25-club marathon in 2000. They are embarking on a grand tour of the South and North Islands in their motor home in January, and intend to visit every registered Scrabble club in New Zealand during the six months they are away from Nelson. Steve and Liz are hoping for a game at every Scrabble locality, so watch out for a six berth Maui parked outside your club.

Steve comments, "We haven't got a detailed schedule for our visits as we are taking our time wandering around the country. We plan to start in the south, take in Dunedin and Christchurch, then the Nelson tournament on February 12-13, before moving on to North Island clubs after that. We are hoping for a friendly welcome as we go along, and to spread the good word about Scrabble in other towns deprived of an organised club."

[Sounds like a brilliant venture. —Ed.]

Kauri Kingdom Kindness

by Jeff Grant

It all started with my quest for a kauri Scrabble rack. Knowing that NZ president Glennis Hale's brother Greg works at the Ancient Kauri Kingdom in Northland, I asked Glennis if she would approach Greg to see if a special rack could be made.

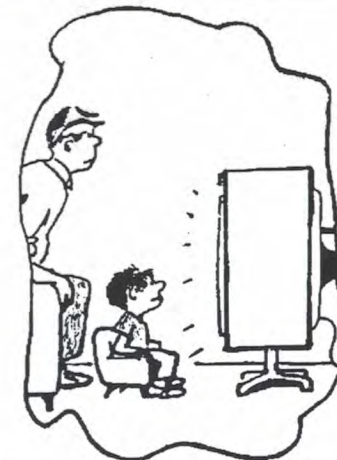
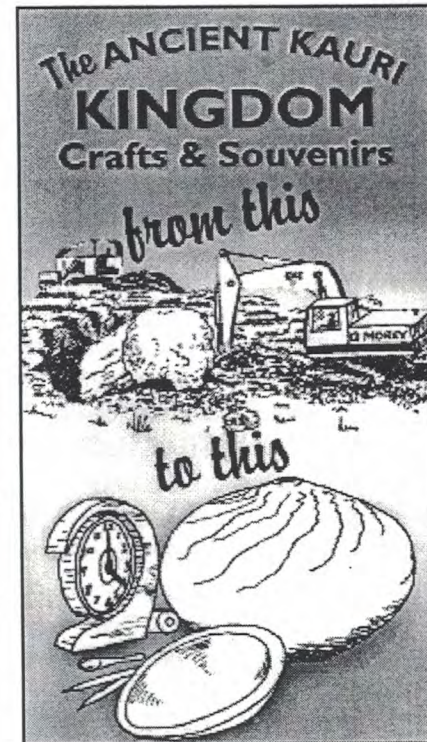
Apparently it was possible, but not without a lot of work. After much planning and experimentation, and one 'sacrificed' rack (sorry, Pat), the upshot was not one, but five beautifully handcrafted racks, which were kindly donated by the Ancient Kauri Kingdom to members of NZ's World Champs team who played in Melbourne last month.

These unique, one-off racks are made from swamp kauri 30,000-50,000 years old, and they look and feel fantastic. On behalf of the NZ team, I would like to thank Greg for all his efforts leading to the donation of the racks.

The Ancient Kauri Kingdom makes all sorts of things, from trinket boxes to tables, and candlesticks to clocks. They also produce toys, bowls, walking sticks, vases, picture frames, fridge magnets, jewellery, key rings, mirrors, pens, christening mugs, soap racks and carved kiwis. In fact, you name it, and they probably make it!

If anyone is interested in an item made from their prehistoric kauri (unfortunately no more Scrabble racks though), please contact Greg Seon at

Ancient Kauri Kingdom,
 PO Box 54,
 Awanui, Northland,
 New Zealand
 ph/fax 09 406 7172.



This Horizon Programme "Why Johnny Can't Spell" was brought to you by makers of KWIK KOFFEE, MINIT PUDDING, CHOK BITS, QUIK, BOSTIK, WARMAIRE, NITESTOR, READIMIX, SUNGLO, HYLITE GLASS, RITE PRICE AND FOTO FIRST

Submitted by Glennis Hale

Boats from A—Z

With the America's Cup yachting regatta in full swing in Auckland at the moment, I have been inspired to collect some interesting names for various vessels

AIRBOAT	A boat used in swampy areas.
BUGEYE	A ketch-rigged sailing vessel.
CURRAGH	A long Irish boat. (also CURRACH)
DAHABIEH	A Nile sailing boat. (also DAHABEAH, -BLAH, BIYA[H])
EMBARKATION	A vessel. (obsolete)
FELUCCA	A small Mediterranean merchant ship.
GABBART	A Scots barge. (also GABBARD)
HOWKER	A two-masted Irish fishing boat.
ICEBOAT	A boat for forcing a way through ice.
JOHNBOAT	A narrow, square-ended boat.
KOFF	A small Dutch sailing vessel.
LATEENER	A boat rigged with a triangular sail.
MINESWEEPER	A ship which drags for undersea mines.
NACELLE	A little boat. (obsolete)
OOMIACK	An Eskimo boat made of wood and stretched skins. (also OOMIAC, OOMIAK)
PIRAGUA	A South American dugout canoe.
QUADRIREME	An ancient ship with four sets of oars.
RANDAN	A boat rowed by three people.
SCHUYT	A flat-bottomed canal boat. (also SCHUTT)
TARTANA	A Mediterranean sailing vessel.
UMIAQ	Same as OOMIACK. (also UMIAC[K], UMLAK)
VEDETTE	A small sentry vessel.
WHERRY	A light shallow boat, sharp at both ends.
XEBEC	A small three-masted pirate ship. (also ZEBEC[K])
YAWL	A small fishing boat.
ZABRA	A vessel used off the Spanish coast.

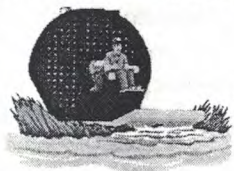
And here are some more boats that may be transplanted from the waterways to a Scrabble board —

bareboat, bumboat, catboat, cockboat, faltboat, fireboat, flatboat, flyboat, foldboat, gunboat, jollyboat, johnboat, keelboat, lifeboat, longboat, pigboat (a submarine!), riverboat, rowboat,

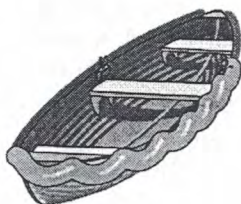
by Val Worth, Putaruru

around the world.

Here is an A to Z of boats allowed in Scrabble:



airboat



lifeboat



sailboat

sailboat, steamboat, surfboat, towboat, tugboat, whaleboat, workboat. There are probably others.

One of the most interesting boat names not allowed in Scrabble is PINDJAJAP, a two- or three-masted Malaysian cargo vessel.

Mt Albert Words

by Pat Grant

I spotted lots of great words while adjudicating at the annual Mt Albert tournament on October 9-10. Some of the best are listed below (all are correct).

TRAMCARS	OUTPORT	TATTOWING
PAWAW	THEELINS	PERSEITY
CLARTIER	SOLITONS	AMOOVED
SUNRAYS	UNICITY	REDEYES
OVERGOT	AMNIONIC	RETIARY
CTENIDIA	THEMING	VINOENT

[The best words played against me were probably Glennis's PRIESTESS, through ES with the first S hooking onto JADE, and Nigel's BIOPICS, through PI for 52 on a double-double. — Jeff]

The New Zealand Challenge Shield

On Saturday 6 November the dust was blown off the NZ Challenge Shield (once it had been located after a bit of a search) and the Mt Albert team of Anna Geange, June Mackwell, Shirley Wyatt and Sue Walker travelled to Allie Quinn's home to meet a challenge from the North Shore Bays Club which was represented by Allie Quinn, Lynne Powell, John Foster and Margaret Bundock.

The contest was extremely close with the result being in doubt until the very last game. Mt Albert won the first round 3-1 and NSB won the second round by the same margin to go to the lunch break all square. The third and fourth rounds were both shared 2-2 and a countback on

Mt Albert				North Shore Bays			
Player	Wins	Points	Spread	Player	Wins	Points	Spread
Anna	4	1593	+187	Allie	2	1591	-39
June	2	1602	+111	Lynne	2	1432	+36
Shirley	1	1353	-213	John	2	1524	+61
Sue	1	1377	-320	Margaret	2	1613	+177
Totals	8	5925	-235		8	6160	+235

DAZZLING DOZEN

There are hundreds of words starting with the prefix out-. Two of my favourites are OUTTHANK, to surpass in thanking, and OUTNIGHT, to surpass in mentioning nights (!). Here are a dozen others to OUTDAZZLE your opponent.

OUTBOWL	OUTGUARD	OUTSTUNT
OUTBULLY	OUTJINX	OUTTOWER
OUTDODGE	OUTPITY	OUTVENOM
OUTECHO	OUTSAVOR	OUTWICK

spread was required to determine that NSB had lifted the shield by the narrowest of margins. The fourth round game between Allie and June was a real nail-biter with Allie winning by a single point 416-415.

It is over six years since the shield was last contested and now that the ice has been broken it would be nice to see a few more challenges from other clubs. Clubs from outside Auckland could consider staying an extra day when travelling up for a tournament and challenge on the Sundays following the North Shore, Holy Cross or Rodney tournaments. For those who are unsure of the format, it is a round robin involving teams of either four or five players at the option of the challenger.

Norfolk Impressions

Our Norfolk adventure sure didn't start out looking good. Blame it on the airlines. First it was Ansett Anxiety, keeping us South Island Scrabblers guessing right up to the final day about connections to Auckland. Then Air New Zealand came up with a 14-hour delay, getting us into Norfolk at a very tired 2.30am.

But hey, all's well that ends well. Megan, our able travel contact, and the island support staff cheerfully waited up for us, bless 'em, and hats off too to Glennis Hale and Jeff Grant, who quickly reorganised the Scrabble schedule. In fact the activity throughout the week, from the boisterous get-acquainted dinner on Monday to the presentation dinner on Saturday, was so well planned that our late arrival was soon forgotten.

This was the 11th year for the annual Norfolk Festival, bringing Kiwis and Aussies together for fun and games. Players were in three grades, with four or five games daily for a total of 21. Spicing up the action was an accompanying knockout competition, unusual spot prizes, and challenging word puzzles. And I do mean challenging!

This timetable left either morning or afternoon free each day for island exploration or special tours. Pat and I especially enjoyed the progressive dinner taking us to four different homes, one for each course. Each stop allowed a look at the big homesteads (yes, mainly of Norfolk pine!) and an interesting talk on their histories. Also popular with the New Zealanders was

by Bob Johnstone, Nelson

shopping, although the \$A exchange rate made bargains a bit deceptive. The island is certainly worth a holiday visit at any time though, because there is so much to see and do.

But for us, of course, Scrabble was the main attraction. That, and meeting fellow fanatics from Oz — they're not so tough! — and renewing acquaintance with Kivi competitors. Australia did win the annual trophy for most wins by the top five scorers, but only just. Also only just was the half-point margin I conceded the A Grade to Aussie Angela Pearse. But Correne James restored NZ honour with the B grade title, with Ernie Gidman of Rodney a whisker behind her, and Ed Olson and Nelson's Iris Boulton finished second and third in the C grade.

Of special interest was the free challenge rule used in the world championships — the usual loss of turn if the word challenged was not allowed, but no loss of turn for the challenger if the word was correct. This should have been a boon for players normally too timid to challenge an odd word, yet few took



Bob Johnstone (NEL), runner-up in Anson Bay Grade, and Angie Pearse (AUST), winner of the grade, flanked by tournament organisers Glennis Hale and Jeff Grant

advantage of it during the week. I guess we aren't used to worry-free challenging.

Trophies or awards, true to Glennis's promise, went to everyone at the happy final dinner. Aussie Patricia Mitchell won the knockout competition, but not without a struggle — two (!) of her matches ended in ties and had to be replayed. Jean Craib from Christchurch picked up what might be called the Cheerful Optimism award. She didn't win any games, having just learned how to play a few months earlier, but enjoyed every try.

All in all, I can't think of a better opportunity to combine holiday, social get-together, and a battle of the boards. Many there, like Stratford's Fae Olson and her family, have been returning to Norfolk Island year after year. Jeff and Glennis are already planning next year's festival, so keep late September free for a fun week. We loved it.

Norfolk Island Results

Anson Bay	Country	Wins	Points	B/W
1 Angela Pearse	A	14.5	8124	16
2 Bob Johnstone	NZ	14	8241	27
3 Barry Harridge	A	12	7994	25
4 Fae Olson	NZ	11.5	8026	25
5 Andree Prentice	NZ	11	7916	16
6 Helen Sillis	NZ	9	7606	18
7 Patricia Mitchell	A	8	8061	26
8 Silvia Stephens	A	4	7160	18
Ball Bay				
1 Correne James	NZ	15	8037	22
2 Ernie Gidman	NZ	15	7819	25
3 Olga Visser	A	14	8480	29
4 Fay Grose	A	13	7093	13
(Missed 2 games due to illness)				
5 Trish Brighton	A	12	8139	24
6 Rob Sillis	NZ	10.5	7254	20
7 Wayne Willis	A	10	7252	10
8 Valma Gidman	NZ	8	7268	13
9 Pat Johnstone	NZ	4.5	6405	4
10 Ann Milner	A	4	6887	6
Cascade Bay				
1 Beryl Hackner	A	18	8122	25

	Country	Wins	Points	B/W
2 Ed Olson	NZ	13	7279	12
3 Iris Boulton	NZ	13	6781	9
4 Maxine Baker	A	13	6747	7
5 Maureen Hines	A	11	7022	7
6 Betty Wilson	NZ	11	6734	7
7 Maria Clinton	NZ	10	6576	3
8 Vera Burner	NZ	8	6196	1
9 Sam Sopovski	A	8	6136	5
10 Jean Craib	NZ	0	5494	1

Most Unusual Word RUELLES Trish Brighton
Highest Individual Game Score 539 Patricia Mitchell
Highest Scoring Word SWABBED 111 Trish Brighton
Word Puzzles

1st "Crest Cabbages" Rob & Helen Sillis
 2nd "Grassy Knowalls" Trish Brighton, Olga Visser & Fay Grose
 3rd Valma & Ernie Gidman
NZ Champion Bob Johnston
Australian Champion Angela Pearse
Team Trophy Australia
 Beryl (18), Angela (14.5), Olga (14), Fay (13), Maxine (13)

Knockout
Winner Patricia Mitchell
Runner-up Betty Wilson
Sportsperson Jean Craib

That Takes the Cake



from *The Word Book*
 By Gyles Brandreth

NZASP Rankings as at 13 December 1999

Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%
1 Jeff Grant	2150	968	757	78%	47 Sue McRae	1551	395	216	55%
2 Howard Warner	2149	559	347.5	62%	48 Yvonne Wilson	1550	266	157	59%
3 Nigel Richards	2120	328	278.5	85%	49 Gerald Warner	1540	1171	547	47%
4 Peter Sinton	2046	308	225	73%	50 June Mackwell	1522	677	299	44%
5 Glennis Hale	2022	1086	609.5	56%	51 Ann Hough	1502	234	129.5	55%
6 David Lloyd	2019	514	280	54%	52 Rebecca Freeth	1496	174	109	63%
7 Patrick Carter	2015	612	376.5	62%	53 Roger Coates	1496	517	244	47%
8 Glynis Jennings	1951	574	274.5	48%	54 Hilda Scott	1480	313	175	56%
9 Lynne Butler	1929	752	449.5	60%	55 Marj Batchelor	1458	296	132	45%
10 John Foster	1924	958	556.5	58%	56 Glenda Geard	1457	826	420	51%
11 Andrew Bradley	1914	496	240	48%	57 Yvette Hewlett	1452	317	143.5	45%
12 Mike Sigley	1909	658	484	74%	58 Janice Cherry	1451	198	119	60%
13 Steven Brown	1901	438	245	56%	59 Jennifer Smith	1440	263	154	59%
14 Sheryl Davidson	1867	816	449	55%	60 Elaine Moltzen	1439	482	242	50%
15 Glenda Foster	1864	716	362	51%	61 Reeve Pearson	1436	1223	571	47%
16 Denise Gordon	1850	725	377.5	52%	62 Joan Thomas	1408	241	139.5	58%
17 Peter Jones	1840	808	410	51%	63 Julie Atkinson	1388	155	91.5	59%
18 Rosemary Cleary	1826	520	248.5	48%	64 Margaret Lyall	1383	343	156	45%
19 Pam Robson	1790	578	293.5	51%	65 Margaret Simpson	1383	556	275.5	50%
20 Marianne Bentley	1785	66	36	55%	66 Jean O'Brien	1380	616	311	50%
21 Anna Geange	1781	530	299	56%	67 Bill Grigg	1360	385	207	54%
22 Liz Fagerlund	1767	388	231	60%	68 Elsie Malkin	1359	197	109	55%
23 Lynne Powell	1767	1051	554.5	53%	69 Max Aston	1352	238	124	52%
24 Lisa McLean	1759	477	257.5	54%	70 Ruth O'Neill	1352	359	171.5	48%
25 Puti Rowe	1758	650	329.5	51%	71 Shirley Hol	1345	326	161.5	50%
26 Eileen McLean	1740	941	506	54%	72 Kim Graham	1341	309	168	54%
27 Valerie Mills	1734	655	334.5	51%	73 Marj Baillie	1339	585	292	50%
28 Fae Olson	1733	1320	638	48%	74 Delcie Macbeth	1329	459	251	55%
29 Chris Hooks	1731	704	348	49%	75 Doreen Davies	1317	297	155	52%
30 Lynn Wood	1702	1230	608.5	49%	76 Lorraine Van Veen	1310	643	333.5	52%
31 Helen Sillis	1687	672	348	52%	77 Correne James	1309	577	266.5	46%
32 May Quigley	1671	941	420	45%	78 Shirley Martin	1308	416	224.5	54%
33 Paul Lister	1668	485	275.5	57%	79 Ann Candler	1289	765	342	45%
34 Andree Prentice	1665	672	363.5	54%	80 Doreen Ogston	1275	547	249	46%
35 Allie Quinn	1662	907	425.5	47%	81 David Gunn	1260	917	460.5	50%
36 Margaret Bundock	1652	821	419	51%	82 Peggy Wallace	1255	458	217	47%
37 Rhoda Cashman	1636	911	430	47%	83 Isabel Zyp	1247	421	211	50%
38 Faye Cronhelm	1632	686	344.5	50%	84 Malcolm Graham	1225	255	129.5	51%
39 Jane Walton	1629	317	170.5	54%	85 Martha Morgan	1211	357	174	49%
40 Glenyss Buchanan	1588	706	335	47%	86 Shirley Wyatt	1188	373	175.5	47%
41 Leila Thomson	1585	569	261	46%	87 Dean Riesterer	1183	138	89	64%
42 Marian Ross	1576	313	153.5	49%	88 Norman Wheeler	1170	604	325.5	54%
43 Doreen O'Shea	1567	368	195	53%	89 Sue Walker	1161	399	203.5	51%
44 Maureen Holliday	1567	314	169.5	54%	90 Mary Gray	1154	292	157.5	54%
45 Betty Gibb	1555	315	133.5	42%	91 Betty Eriksen	1150	601	301	50%
46 Karyn McDougall	1555	428	230	54%	92 Michael Hyndman	1139	217	125.5	58%

Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%	Name	Rating	Games	Wins	%
93 Hazel Purdie	1106	441	211	48%	139 Dorothy Latta	665	227	90	40%
94 Gordon Pinchin	1100	220	119	54%	140 Margaret Ham	627	167	83	50%
95 Shirley van Essen	1100	150	83.5	56%	141 Paddy Hoffman	622	66	38	58%
96 Margaret Parsons	1081	309	161	52%	142 Betty Sutherland	608	146	62.5	43%
97 Liz Catchpole	1076	330	159	48%	143 Roslyn Lister	601	63	27.5	44%
98 Pam Barlow	1072	245	127.5	52%	144 Rosalind Phillips	596	40	24	60%
99 Andrew Denmead	1060	65	32.5	50%	145 Ed Olson	583	1170	460	39%
100 Joan Pratt	1024	352	187	53%	146 Elise Joy	583	127	55	43%
101 Margaret Cherry	1017	335	161.5	48%	147 Kath Davies	581	195	97	50%
102 Irene Hague-Smith	1014	615	287	47%	148 Jacqy Struik	567	106	42	40%
103 Naomi Gilmore	1012	183	98.5	54%	149 Sammy Sanders	558	128	51	40%
104 Jacqueline					150 Kay O'Connor	548	33	14.5	44%
Coldham-Fussell	979	397	189	48%	151 Karen Miller	541	135	64	47%
105 Annette Coombes	959	497	219.5	44%	152 Sharon Clarke	535	154	51	33%
106 Carolyn Kyle	955	229	108	47%	153 Margaret Garner	485	187	74	40%
107 Lyn Dawson	953	190	113	59%	154 Vera Burner	447	410	111	27%
108 Yvonne					155 Maureen McBain	444	40	14	35%
MacKenzie/Erickson	948	186	86.5	47%	156 Elvira Steel	389	286	42	15%
109 Mary Farmer	947	106	58	55%	157 Mary Casse	350	49	20	41%
110 Dorothy Haining	934	600	303.5	51%	158 Merle Spinetto	316	91	38	42%
111 Glen Madigan	931	44	31	70%	159 Hazel Smith	260	64	19	30%
112 Bev Barker	910	496	234	47%	160 Resie Coenen	64	88	12	14%
113 Olwen Skelton	908	483	227.5	47%					
114 Pat Grant	893	98	55	56%					
115 Elizabeth Arlington	863	64	34	53%					
116 Valma Gidman	855	450	222	49%					
117 Elaine King	852	376	194.5	52%					
118 Pam Mayall	843	260	133	51%					
119 May Meads	828	260	139.5	54%					
120 Trish Hellriegel	827	148	75.5	51%					
121 Jill Johnson	821	148	71	48%					
122 Margaret Hanson	815	220	118.5	54%					
123 Lil Moore	806	553	263.5	48%					
124 Janet Willison	802	60	42	70%					
125 Susan Olson	799	136	69.5	51%					
126 Marie Cairns	795	156	84	54%					
127 Ray Goodyear	795	59	29	49%					
128 Chris Handley	784	87	38.5	44%					
129 Marjorie Heads	776	302	161	53%					
130 Mary Pinchin	771	270	133	49%					
131 Rob Sillis	767	80	47.5	59%					
132 Julie Giles	764	123	63.5	52%					
133 Jean Clarke	747	215	106.5	50%					
134 Val Worth	745	372	179	48%					
135 Marie Kingi	708	253	110	43%					
136 Kate Wignall	690	579	285.5	49%					
137 Kerry Dawkins	688	105	35	33%					
138 Ruth Munnings	678	63	32.5	52%					

The Siren Call
 Two Hastings friends had an alarming experience a few months ago. They say they spent the longest night of their lives when a burglar alarm on a nearby house wailed for 18 hours. Connie Gervasi (GARVIES, GRAVIES, RIVAGES) likened the noise to "Nana Mouskouri on a good day." The one redeeming feature of the affair was that the friends apparently played Scrabble for hours to distract themselves from the monotonous wailing!
 from *HB Today* newspaper,
 2/9/99

Only a Game?

According to the September 1999 edition of UK's *Scrabble Club News*, the following letter was received by the Customer Services branch of Scrabble Clubs UK at Mattel House in England:

My family, friends and neighbours play some terrific games of Scrabble 2 or 3 times a week. During one of the closer run games, one of our quiet gentle-natured longtime friends, under great stress to get his letters out as the red light flashed, in frustration, eyes glaring, red in the face, mouth twisted in a snarl, spittle going everywhere, proceeded to rain ham fists down on our defenceless little timer.

It was smashed to bits and the remaining three players (and the stunned entourage of grandparents, children and spouses) jumped back in amazement at this wanton act of destruction. "Ooh, temper, temper," chided his delicate wife as she looked at him through owl-like spectacles, lips curled with distaste as if he were something stuck to her shoe. "How childish can you get?"

Her eyes grew wider as she pointed out the blood dripping from his hand, and then this middle-aged, overweight, uptight 'vandal' promptly fainted in an undignified heap onto a table of drinks, sandwiches and an exotic array of salsa and curry dips.

Everybody fell about laughing except his shrew of a wife who, shaking with a cute mixture of rage and embarrassment, then promptly about-turned, put on her coat and headed out the door without a backward glance at her bleeding, unconscious, dishevelled husband.

My wife, through the laughter-induced tears in her eyes, tried to talk to her, but all his wife would say was "the swine ... all this for the sake of a penny a point ... never again." She screeched away from the house accompanied by the sound of hysterical laughter.

This was one of the funniest and best nights of my life and of course there was a happy ending — they are to divorce soon!

So please let me know how much for a new Scrabble timer. Whatever the cost, it was well worth it.

2000 SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

January							February							March							
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
					31	1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29						27	28	29	30	31			
31																					

April							May							June						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

July							August							September						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
31																				

October							November							December						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

Tournament	Date	Tournament	Date
International Y2K Tournament, New Plymouth	31 December – 1 January	New Plymouth	6 May
Howick-Pakuranga	29-30 January	Stratford	7 May
South Pacific Masters, Hamilton	5 February	Hamilton	12-13 August
Nelson	12-13 February	Tauranga Spring Tournament	2 September
Hastings	4-5 March	Canterbury Open	9-10 September
Dunedin Lion Open	1-2 April	Norfolk Island Festival	25-30 September
North Shore Bays	8 April	Mt Albert	14-15 October
NZ Masters	22-24 April	Wanganui	21-22 October
South Island Champs, Christchurch	13-14 May	Otago Champs	18-19 November
NZ Nationals	3-4 June	Rodney	18 November
Papatototoe/Holy Cross	1 July	Trans-Tasman Champs, Melbourne	November (date to be confirmed)

The Sweet Spell of Success

by Phil Appleby

The following piece appeared in the August 1999 edition of British Scrabble Magazine *The Last Word*.

Edward Milverton was a worried man. A very worried man. As Minister of Education, he was about to face his biggest and potentially most humiliating challenge. Millions of people had watched him on television, expounding the virtues of the traditional skills required of every schoolchild — reading, writing, and arithmetic. And the same millions had seen him put in place an initiative designed to improve spelling throughout the nation — a nationwide competition with massive prizes, including a year's supply of Mars Bars, a day out with the Spice Girls, and a chance for football-mad youngsters to test their skills against Michael Owen. Unfortunately what the Minister had failed to mention, whilst launching this initiative, was that his own spelling was quite appalling. And now he was about to be put to the test, following a public challenge from his erstwhile colleague Geoffrey Winstanley to play a sponsored game of Scrabble, to be broadcast live on Channel 5, with the proceeds going to a children's charity. He could hardly refuse — that would have been even more humiliating — but the prospect of the game filled him with dread. The fact that it was Channel 5, and that the audience would therefore be minimal, was small consolation.

The fateful day arrived. The press were there in force, snapping the two protagonists as they walked up the steps into the splendidly appointed building of the Affiliated Brethren of Sometime Parliamentarians, where the game was to be held. Geoffrey was smiling broadly; Edward wasn't — his face was a knot of

concentration, as he tried to remember whether it was SEPARATE or SEPERATE, and whether there was any easy way of remembering which words contradicted the 'I before E' rule. Even though he'd been given special dispensation to refer to the 2-letter word list, he still felt that his prospects were bleak. Or worse. His state of mind was made even worse when Geoffrey magnanimously offered to donate £1,000 of his own money to the charity if he failed to beat Edward.

The two men drew tiles to see who started. Edward's 'A' ensured that he would draw the first rack: AADIMNS. He soon spotted MAID, but then saw MAIDANS. His first dilemma. How did you spell those young unmarried women? Those scoreless overs in cricket? Those horses that have yet to win a race? He could play MAID, or even MAIDS, but with the eyes of the world upon him, he felt he had to go for the bonus word. With a heavy heart, he played all seven tiles. Geoffrey challenged. The word came back ticked. Scrabble expert Francis Darryl, commentating for Channel 5, spoke quietly into his microphone: "An impressive start by the Education Minister — a maidan is a parade ground in India or Pakistan. He's obviously a well-travelled man". The next couple of moves posed no real problems for Edward. He was sure of MAJOR, having served in his cabinet for several years, and COW and CAT on his next move was a case of back to basics. In the meantime Geoffrey, who was by far the more experienced player, had overturned

the early deficit with two bonuses of his own. The minister was now faced with the following situation:

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
1															
2															
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															

Edward: CHHIIOW Score: 124
Geoffrey: 171

A word beginning with W or H from the A12 square would obviously be very lucrative, and it didn't take Edward long to see WICH. Feeling considerably more confident now, he played it with a degree of relish. It was perhaps fortunate that the microphone didn't pick up his flippant remark that "maybe I'll get to play BROOMSTICK later on", at the same time as the commentator was informing the audience that Edward's word was a variant spelling of WYCH, a type of rowan tree.

The next few moves were uneventful. Edward contributed a couple of blatant misspellings which just happened to be in OSW (HORDE and GANE) while Geoffrey scored heavily on the triple-word squares. While Edward contemplated his rack of DEIINT□, Geoffrey played his third bonus to take a 102-point lead, leaving the following position:

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
1															
2															
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															

Edward: DEIINT□ Score: 223
Geoffrey: 325

Obviously there were plenty of bonus possibilities, with DEFINITE from A1 the most obvious. But a word like DEFINITE was far too dangerous. Was it DEFINATE? Or perhaps DEFENITE? Or even DEFENATE? There was no way Edward was going to put it to the test. Especially when there was a perfectly safe and even higher scoring alternative. Even though he was no lawyer, Edward was well versed in legalese, so it didn't take him long to see INDITES. No matter that it should have been spelt INDICTS. This time Geoffrey didn't even bother challenging his opponent's move of INDITES/INPUTTERS. "Another impressive move by the minister — INDITE is an archaic term for compose," Francis Darryl whispered into his microphone.

Several relatively quiet plays followed, TOZE (i12a for 26) by Geoffrey, FEZ (k10d for 30) by Edward, then MI (f14a for 22) by Geoffrey, taking him into a 373-337 lead. Edward's rack was a promising but vowel-free GLNRXY□. Looking around for inspiration, he found it in the

form of a large notice behind the bar. "FOR MEMBERS SUFFERING FROM TEMPORARY ASPHYXIATION OR CARDIAC ARREST, OXYGEN IS AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE". With only a slight sense of guilt, he duly played OXYGEN at h3a for 48.

Suddenly it was anyone's game. Geoffrey played LOVE (14a for 20), Edward played LIED (g13a for 13), and Geoffrey followed with FURL (113a for 19), emptying the bag. His final rack was ABENOST. He studied the board:



Geoffrey: ABENOST Score: 412
Edward: EIOQSUY 398

It didn't take long for Geoffrey to see that he had two possible bonus plays — the nine-timer NOTABLES for 167, and NIOBATES at h7a for 65. Edward could score well with the Q on the n10 triple-letter square (QUERY for 74, or QUIRES/SQUIRE for 70), but none of these moves would be good enough to win. Geoffrey sat back, relieved. But then something extraordinary happened. Edward didn't play QUERY. Or QUIRE. Or QUIRES. Or even SQUIRE. Instead

he played SQUIER at n8d, for a feeble-looking 17 points. Even Francis Darryl was momentarily perplexed. But gradually the brilliance of Edward's move became clear. By blocking both bonus spots, he had somehow snatched a draw when defeat appeared inevitable.

Once he'd recovered from the shock, Geoffrey played his best move, SO at n14a, also making SQUIERS and LO, for 38 points. After a final look at his 2-letter word list, Edward ended the game with YO/SO at o7d for 21, giving a final score of 443 each. No-one had lost, Channel 5 were delighted, and the charity box was flowing over, particularly after Geoffrey had grudgingly contributed his £1,000.

Afterwards, when the applause had died down and the TV crew had retreated to the bar, Geoffrey quizzed his former employer. "Did you really mean to play SQUIER with an ER, rather than an RE? And why not QUERY, or QUIRE? Anything but SQUIER!". Edward was a dreadful speller, but he was a consummate politician. "It is never easy to make a decision in these types of situations. One must take into account all of the factors, weigh up the costs and the benefits, consider the potential outcomes. But when the time is right, one must act, positively, and without hesitation, deviation, or repetition. That, my friend, is the recipe for success." What he actually meant was that hadn't had a clue what he was doing, and his brilliant move was the consequence of pure, unadulterated luck. His reverie was interrupted by Geoffrey. "So will we see you here on a regular basis Edward?". Edward stood up to go. "I think not. After all, I have a job to do. There are too many young people in Britain who need to be shown the importance of good spelling."

CLUB NEWS



Christchurch Newsletter

by Paul Lister

We held the Canterbury Open this year on 11-12 September at the Huntsbury Community Centre. The format used was a sixteen game Swiss Draw with no repeats on day 1 and 'King of the Hill' on day 2. The 22 entrants enjoyed their play, their initial reticence soon overcome once it was realised there were no horrible mismatches as feared and the mystery of who your opponent would be in the next round was a source of enjoyment.

The 'king' of the hill was most often 'monarch' of the hill with the eventual winner being decidedly 'queen' of the hill — Liz Fagerlund streaked away with the title, winning all her games on Sunday, creating an unbridgeable gap between herself and the rest of the field.

Nigel Richards ran the tournament superbly with next round draws speedily produced and faultless adjudicating. The Swiss Draw was an excellent system and something to consider repeating, along with triple round robin, at future tournaments.

Dunedin Newsletter

by Bill Grigg

There was a new 16-game format for this event in September. Liz Fagerlund (CHC) with 14 wins came first, Karyn McDougall (DUN) was second on 10 wins, and Bill Grigg (DUN) third, also with 10 wins. Liz won her last 10 games in a row! Stewart Fleming (DUN) excelled in his first tournament with 9 wins for 10th place, Carolyn Kyle was 12th on 8 wins,

and Chris Handley 14th on 7½. Our thanks to Christchurch Club for their great hospitality. The billets were much appreciated.

New Members/Overseas Visitor

Welcome to Ruth and Michael Groffman who moved from Brisbane to Dunedin recently. Margaret Bright of Bournemouth Club in England paid us a visit while on holiday. She said her club has 22 members who meet on Saturday afternoons.

Quiz

What do the following racks make? Answers at end of newsletter.

- (a) PLOTATE (b) ROOPOSE
- (c) RUSTOTS (d) SHOGELS
- (e) VINTINE

Greenbank Tournament

Carolyn Kyle (DUN) won the Advanced section of this October tournament in Queensland, Australia, while she was on holiday. There were 79 players in 4 grades, and Carolyn won 5½ games out of 6, with a 420 average.

1999 Records

NZ Records
Highest Winning Margin 577 Peter Sinton
Most Bonus Words in Game (one person)
6 Karyn McDougall (equals record)

Club Records

Highest Game Score 726 Peter Sinton
" 725 Karyn McDougall

Competitions

Round Robin	Wins	Ave
1 Peter Sinton	31	445
2 Bill Grigg	23	396
3 Karyn McDougall	16½	384

Ladder

1 Karyn McDougall	28	405
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	Wins	Ave
2 Bill Grigg	15	381
3 Marian Ross	14	386

Challenge

1 Karyn McDougall	79	92%
2 Bill Grigg	9	82%
3 Stewart Fleming	17	77%

Dictionary

1 Karyn McDougall	29	464
2 Glen Madigan	18	415
3 Stewart Fleming	13	394

Melbourne Cup Day Tournament

Held on November 2 before the World Champs. Kendall Boyd finished 12th with 5 wins out of 8, and Peter Sinton was 15th, also on 5 wins.

World Champs, Melbourne

Kendall and Peter were part of a 5-man NZ team in a field of nearly 100 competitors from 35 countries. Kendall was 12th on 15 wins, and Peter was 66th on 11 wins. Did you see Peter on *TV1 News* on October 30?

Otago Lion Open Champs, Nov. 20-21

The format of six players per grade with a triple round robin went very well. Lisa McLean (IND) won A grade with 10 wins (+325), just ahead of her mother Eileen McLean (IND) on 9½ wins (+408), with Paul Lister (CHC) third on 8½ wins (+363). Margaret Lyall (CHC) won B grade with 10 wins, ahead of Shirley Hol (CHC) 9 wins, and Bill Grigg (DUN) 8 wins. C grade was won by Yvonne McKenzie/ Erickson (CHC) who lost only one game.

New High Margin Record

Peter Sinton set a new NZ record for highest winning margin in a club game when he trounced Graham Gough by 726-149 in a challenge match at the Dunedin club on October 12. Peter's winning margin of 577 points beats Nigel Richards' old record of 504.

It was great to have North Islanders Lynn Wood (WEL), David Gunn (HAM), Lisa and Eileen McLean. Some players' travel was disrupted by the flooding, and we had two players (Ruth Groffman and Trevor Rowell) in their first tournament. Did we all have fun?

Dunedin Tournaments 2000

Dunedin Lion Open
April 1-2
2 1-dayers

Otago Lion Open Champs
November 18-19
15 games, triple round robin

All invited!

Quiz Answers

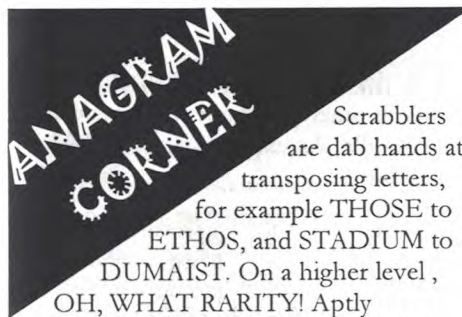
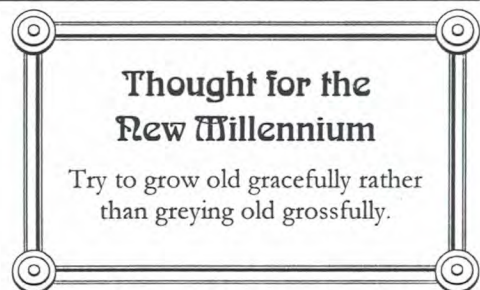
STROHS (d)	LINEIN (e)
OOSPORE (b)	STROUTS (c)
	PALETOT (a)

Waikato Scrabble Club

by Pam Robson

Due to decreasing membership it was not viable to continue with the above club, and it is no longer in existence.

However, the committee of the Hamilton Scrabble Club have agreed to hold annual two day tournaments in place of the previous Waikato/Hamilton back to back one-dayers. This will commence from the year 2000.



Scrabblers are dab hands at transposing letters, for example THOSE to ETHOS, and STADIUM to DUMAIST. On a higher level, OH, WHAT RARITY! Aptly describes actress RITA HAYWORTH. Here are the anagrams of half-a-dozen Scrabblers — keep watching and maybe your name will appear.

LIZ CATCHPOLE	CALL THE ZIP CO.
VALMA GIDMAN	DAMMING LAVA
GAYE NORGREN	ORANGY GREEN
MARINO UBALDE	AIRBOUND MALE
JEANETTE OWLER	WE LET 'ER ON A JET
RESIE COENEN	SEE IN ENCORE



Rod lives in Victoria, Australia, and is a new *Forwards* subscriber.



New Chambers Dictionary

The new *Chambers Dictionary*, 1998 edition is available in the shops now, and its associated word list OSW4 probably won't be far away. These references haven't been adopted in the UK yet, and we certainly won't be using them at least till after next year's Nationals.

Changes to our word-base won't be major. In fact there are no new 2-letter words, only a couple of threes (BAC, LOD), and 17 fours, including BACS, LODS, SPAM and ZINE, as well as some that were deleted previously and now reappear (CIDE, COCH, CRUE, CYTE, FIER).

Some longer words that will be familiar (but not allowed currently) are EMAIL, LOGON, MONTY, APPLLET, BLOKEY, FLATTY, ONLINE, WHEATY, REBADGE, STROBED and WEBSITE.

There are also some words deleted, including ECO (now just a prefix), UGLI (a trade name), ZOPP (corrected to ZOPPA), and INTERNET (now capitalised for some reason).

How to Win at Scrabble

An alternative strategy by Joan Johns

I was a member of a Salisbury team playing a league match against Southampton. It was a beautiful day and I and my opponent were in the garden. She was in the lead by about 30 points when suddenly a ball from a neighbouring garden landed right in the middle of the board! Tiles flew everywhere! After consulting the team captains we were told the only thing to do was start the game afresh. I then went on to win by a very comfortable margin.

from the *British Scrabble magazine*
The Last Word, October 1999

Four Out Of Five Revisited

by Chris Handley, Dunedin Club

In the September 1999 *Forwards* (p18) Jeff listed words where the same letter appears in four out of five places with a different letter in the middle. An exhaustive search of my dictionary (about 244,000 words) produced the following:

C	beccaccia	O	boobook	S	assassins	S	possessively
C	beccaccias	O	boobooks	S	assess	S	possessiveness
D	granddaddies	O	booboos	S	assessable	S	possessivenesses
D	granddaddy	O	boohoo	S	assessed	S	possessives
E	beebee	O	boohooed	S	assesses	S	possessor
E	beebees	O	boohooing	S	assessing	S	possessors
E	beekeeper	O	boohoos	S	assessment	S	possessory
E	beekeepers	O	coocoo	S	assessments	S	prepossess
E	beekeeping	O	gooroo	S	assessor	S	prepossessed
E	beekeepings	O	gooroos	S	assessorial	S	prepossesses
E	freebee	O	hoodoo	S	assessors	S	prepossessing
E	freebees	O	hoodooed	S	dispossess	S	prepossessingly
E	peebeen	O	hoodooing	S	dispossessed	S	prepossession
E	peebeens	O	hoodooism	S	dispossesses	S	prepossessions
E	peewee	O	hoodooisms	S	dispossessing	S	reassess
E	peeweese	O	hoodoos	S	dispossession	S	reassessed
E	sleeveen	O	hoopoo	S	dispossessions	S	reassesses
E	sleeveens	O	hoopoos	S	dispossessor	S	reassessing
E	squeegee	O	hooroo	S	dispossessors	S	reassessment
E	squeegeed	O	koodoo	S	dispossessory	S	reassessments
E	squeegeeing	O	koodoos	S	nonassessable	S	repossess
E	squeegees	O	voodoo	S	nonpossession	S	repossessed
E	teehee	O	voodooed	S	nonpossessions	S	repossesses
E	teeheed	O	voodooing	S	overassess	S	repossessing
E	teeheeing	O	voodooism	S	overassessed	S	repossession
E	teehees	O	voodooisms	S	overassesses	S	repossessions
E	teepee	O	voodooist	S	overassessing	S	repossessor
E	teepees	O	voodooistic	S	overassessment	S	repossessors
E	veepee	O	voodooists	S	overassessments	S	unprepossessing
E	veepees	O	voodoos	S	possess	U	muumuu
E	weewee	O	zoozoo	S	possessed	U	muumuus
E	weeweed	O	zoozoos	S	possessedly	Z	bazzazz
E	weeweeing	S	assassin	S	possessedness	Z	bezzazz
E	weeweese	S	assassinate	S	possessednesses	Z	bizzazz
F	cuffuffle	S	assassinated	S	possesses	Z	pazzazz
F	cuffuffles	S	assassinates	S	possessing	Z	pizzazz
L	hallalled	S	assassinating	S	possession	Z	pizzazzes
L	hallalling	S	assassination	S	possessional	Z	pizzazzy
L	parallelled	S	assassinations	S	possessionless		
L	parallelling	S	assassinator	S	possessions		
O	booboo	S	assassinators	S	possessive		



Australia

Alistair Kane won the **Victorian Championships** back in June with 18 wins from 21 games. Geoff Wright was runner-up on 16 wins, with Rod Talbot third, Bob Jackman fourth, Roger Blom fifth and Australian Champ Paul Cleary sixth.

The **Chatswood Tournament** in New South Wales on July 10 was won by Joan Rosenthal on a countback from Robert Tomkins. Paul Cleary was a game behind in third place.

The **NSW Winter Masters** held on July 31-August 1 attracted 35 players, including several out-of-staters. The 20-round event was won by Paul Cleary with 15 wins, one ahead of Bob Jackman who had a much higher spread. Joan Rosenthal took third place on countback from John Holgate.

Derek McKenzie triumphed in the **Queensland Champs** on August 21-22. He started poorly, losing his first game by 305-517 to be dead last, and then drew his second game. However, he persevered and finally came through to head the 72-strong field after 17 rounds. Derek finished with 12½ wins (+941), just in front of John Barker (12 wins, +1059). There were many names familiar to Norfolk travellers — Alison Rae (6th), Michael Vnuk (8th), Brenda Nord (10th), Trish Brighton (13th), Patti and Jack Ashwin (18th and 20th), Olga Visser (19th), Fay Grose (21st).

The **Frankstown Tournament** in Victoria on October 17 was won by Roger Blom with six wins, two clear of eight players on four wins, headed by Barbara Berlin, Ray Alford and NZ's Sheryl

Davidson (PAK) — well done! It was reported that the day went smoothly except for one interruption when play was stopped by police investigating an armed robbery across the street!

The **Melbourne Cup Masters** on November 2 was organised as a warm-up tournament for World Champs competitors. The 8-game event attracted nearly 50 overseas players, including 7 Kiwis. The winner was American Ron Tiekert with 7 wins (+801), on countback from England's Phil Appleby (+374) and Geoff Wright of Australia (+338). Best of the New Zealanders were Kendall Boyd (12th), Peter Sinton (15th), Glennis Hale (16th) and Liz Fagerlund (20th).

Singapore

Tony Sim won the 15-round Singapore Nationals in late August, with Cheah Siu Hean second and Michael Tang third. Jasmi Zainal (4th) joined Tony as Singapore's World Champs reps, as the other two are permanent residents, not citizens, of Singapore.

South Africa

Steven Gruzd won the 1999 South African Grandmasters event, the battle of the country's top ten players. Tristan Hromnik was second and Trevor Hovelmeier third. Steven was sixth at the 1995 World Champs in London.

United Kingdom

The **ABSP Summer Matchplay** was held at Sheffield University on 3-4 July. Joyce Cansfield collected first prize ahead of Mike Willis and Helen Grayson.

The **Richmond** event on 11 July was attended by 111 players. The top division was very close, with the top three place-getters all on 5 wins. Andrew Perry

claimed the title on +657, ahead of Robert Richland (+370) and Dick Green (+200).

The main **Mind Sports Olympiad** Scrabble tournament was held in late August, with 20 players competing over 12 rounds. The winner was Philip Nelkon with 9 wins, on a countback from Mark Nyman. Femi Awowade and Terry Kirk were third and fourth, each with eight wins.

The **British Matchplay Scrabble Championship** took place in Nottingham on August 28-30. Winner of Division A was Andrew Perry with 13 wins (+991), ahead of Gary Polhill (12 wins, +758), and Jake Jacobs (12 wins, +352). Mike Willis and Russell Byers were fourth and fifth on 11 wins.

The SOWPODS section was won by David Acton on 12 wins, half a game ahead of Allan Simmons, with Brett Smitheram third and Andy Davis fourth.

United States

The **Atlantic City** tournament on August 29-31 attracted 144 players. Tim Anglin of Ontario, Canada took top spot with 14 wins from 18 games, which included winning the last seven. In second place on 13 wins was Ed Halper, with 1997 World Champs runner-up Matt Graham a further win back in 3rd.

Change of Address

Glenda Foster has moved house. Please note her new address and phone number:

1 Walters Street
Avalon
Lower Hutt

Ph: 04 567 1590
Fax: 04 567 9305
Email: fostergb@ihug.co.nz

Repulsive Words

English Scrabbler Barry Grossman's excellent book *Scrabble for Beginners* contains a list of 30 unusual words from *The Chambers Dictionary*. Some are obscure, some funny, and a few repulsive:

RUPLA, "a skin ulcer covered by crusts of dried secretion and dead tissue." Disgusting though it is, this probably only wins bronze in the competition for *Chambers'* most stomach-turning definition. Silver goes to IMPETIGO, "a contagious bacterial skin infection characterised by clusters of small pustules which join to form crusty yellow sores." But the gold medal has to go to the revolting PLICA POLONICA, "a matted condition of the hair, with an adhesive secretion, a parasitic fungus, and vermin." Yucch!

Scrabble Laws

English Scrabbler Mike O'Rourke recently quoted Brian Sugar's Law: "If you see a word and don't know why you know it, play it!" Leo Lard-Lichens (Nicholas Deller) offered an alternative, Lard-Lichens Law: "If you see a word and don't know why you know it, it's because there is a real chance you're about to have it challenged off for the umpteenth time."

Now all we need is a law to help us decide which law applies.

Top Nationals Scores

An error has been pointed out in the list of highest individual game scores at the National Champs (September *Forwards*, p3). The fifth entry should read:

1984 628 David Lloyd

Is There a Scrabble Gene and Other Ramblings

by Shirley Hol, Christchurch Club

I sometimes ask deep questions of myself, such as how many games of Scrabble could I play in one day without tiring of the whole thing. Is there life after Scrabble? More irresistible as I grow older is the idea that there is Scrabble after life! A further consideration is the existence of a Scrabble gene.

Within our Christchurch club we have mothers and sons, mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, grandmothers and grandchildren, etc. Last year Shirley van Essen's mother came to visit from South Africa and we enjoyed her company and Scrabble games on club nights. A year or two ago, another club member discovered a previously unknown sister living in the North Island. Both are avid Scrabble players.

Is Scrabble infectious? Roslyn Lister started playing because of husband Paul I think, and is becoming increasingly keen. My husband Kees plays more Scrabble

because of my interest though he is not a club member. If I do not hide the *Forwards* magazine he grabs it before me and knows all the Scrabble news, top players, ratings, etc. If Scrabble is infectious, I wish it were more so! Recently several club members played in the New Brighton Public Library in order to try to gain more club members. What a venue! It is a beautiful library with stunning views of the sea. We discovered that there were many Scrabble enthusiasts who play regularly at home, but for one reason or another do not wish to play at a club.

Enough of these ramblings. I am starting to think of such bizarre notions as cloning to guarantee a more prolific future Scrabble population. A final thought: one combination we do not have in our club is that of father and daughter. Roslyn and Paul have Dominic and Patrick. Perhaps?

Scrabble and Baseball

The Minnesota Twins, a US major league baseball team, honoured first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz for tying the record for the longest surname in club history. Paul Thormodsgaard, former pitcher, exchanged jerseys with Mientkiewicz before the game. Both also received Scrabble games.

In their honour, anyone with a surname at least 12 letters long was let into the game for \$1. Several international Scrabblers would have qualified — Missaka Warusawitharana (Sri Lanka), Charnwit Sukhumrattanaporn (Thailand) and Wimal Samarasundera (Oman) spring to mind. The longest surname on the latest

NZASP Ranking List is that of Yvonne McKenzie/Erickson, and the longest in solid-form belong to Trish Hellriegel and Betty Sutherland with 10 letters in each.

Scrabble and Drinking

"Scrabble is a bit like drinking — whoever you do it with is your friend (and Scrabble doesn't give you a hangover in the morning). Many lifelong friendships have been made through Scrabble. Couples have married. Children have been born. (Sometimes in that order.)

From *Scrabble for Beginners*
by Barry Grossman, 1998

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Dave's Musings

by David Lloyd, Mt Albert Club

There is always a lot of jibing after games about why we win or lose. Some of it is flattering, some of it is not. I always hope that the unflattering jibes are tongue in cheek more than anything. A skilful play can often pass as a lucky play. An exotic looking CHLORODYNE is wonderful, but a match-winning TRANCED is not necessarily lucky. I sometimes wonder if Scrabblers get the credit they deserve.

Before you pass on your post-game compliment/jibe, consider the following:

- * Some players get the bonuses but they never go down (LOATHER). Other players play its anagram. (They know the words.)
- * There are players who will spot an everyday word in racks like EUBPRRT
And there are others who will never spot it. (They give up on unpromising racks)
- * Clever players will spot an exotic word in racks like OIPSSRY. Others might play POSY. (They don't know the word)
- * There are the players who frequently win with racks like AELRST□ or AEIDNRS. And there are players who constantly bemoan the lack of either vowels or consonants. (They don't know about balancing racks)
- * There are players who have trouble with racks like AAAUUDV. And others will play out 6 tiles and score 32. (They know the words)

- * Some players can score 80 odd with AAUNNKT racks. Others would be happy with TANK for 16. (They don't know the word or give up on the terrible rack, or both)
- * Some players fish with promising racks like AEITNG. The best players wouldn't dare. (They know the unlikely probability)
- * There are players who get all the esses and blanks. There are those that never do. (They don't know about tile turnover)
- * Good players compliment good play. Other players tell of their vowel woes.
- * Good players are good losers. Others say: "I never stood a chance against all those esses and blanks."



EXECUTIVE EXERTIONS

Since the September edition there has certainly been plenty of Scrabble to keep us all occupied. The Norfolk Island Festival was a busy fun week thoroughly enjoyed by everyone there. But once back on NZ soil again it was 'business as usual'. Either way you read it the word 'business' seems to mean the same! Not a lot of time to sit back and relax.

The computer tournament preparation has certainly kept me busy and I am delighted to say that Ed Olson has expressed a keen interest in taking this over. As everyone knows, there is rarely a tournament where Eddie and Fae are not to be seen and I'm sure he'll do a great job. Thanks from all of us, Ed. One of our holiday projects will be to set up a system to suit all clubs.

Congratulations to our WSC team. You all put in a fantastic effort and are just the ambassadors that NZ needs. You certainly made your great band of supporters feel proud to be there.

We're sorry to lose Lyn from the Committee, but thank you for your valuable input and we wish you many more years of happy Scrabbling. Thanks to

Scrabbling Sharon

"Just so you get a real perspective on Sharon Stone's life and don't think her world is a bubble of glitzy parties and non-stop glamour, we hear that Sharon and hubby Phil Bronstein love playing Scrabble more than anything else. She, of course, plays to win, while he just likes to find new words. Sounds wild!"

From *Woman's Day* 26/7/99
Submitted by Sue Walker (MTA)

Bev for continuing as Treasurer until Joan returned from overseas. We welcome Joan onto the Committee. She has a lot of experience and expertise in this field and has a very clear vision of what she wishes to achieve for NZ Scrabble in her new role. We are indeed very fortunate to have such a skilled professional to take over this position from Bev who has always done a wonderful job.

We are very grateful to Glenda and Nigel for their work on the ratings. They are both very busy people and we really appreciate their efforts.

Forwards is always an excellent Scrabble journal, a credit to Jeff and Glenda, who are both very highly spoken of by players and readers both here and overseas. We are indebted to you both for your dedication and hard work.

Last, but not least, a huge thanks to Allie, Dave, Howard and Joan for their encouragement and support. You are great to work with and as a result NZ Scrabble is in very good shape and entering the new millennium on a high note.

Merry Christmas to one and all and may the year 2000 bring many hours of enjoyable Scrabble.

Glennis

Scrabble Dress

A dress adorned with Scrabble tiles was worn by Penne Dennison at the Australian Fashion Awards in Sydney in May. Commissioned by Mattel, and created by Melbourne designer Sonia Cappellazzo, the emerald-green chiffon and tulle dress was supposed to be 'fun' and 'elegant'. It took 15 hours to drill tiny holes (what fun!) in more than 3000 tiles, and Sonia spent 20 hours sewing them on.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Christchurch Club Tournament 11-12 September

16 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
1 Liz Fagerlund	CHC	14	1061	411	25
2 Karyn McDougall	DUN	10	552	388	21
3 Bill Grigg	DUN	10	429	374	17
4 Margaret Lyall	CHC	10	253	368	16
5 Paul Lister	CHC	10	233	377	16
6 Shirley Hol	CHC	9	771	405	25
7 Ann Hough	NEL	9	290	397	24
8 Malcolm Graham	CHC	9	172	375	14
9 Murray Rogers	CHC	9	-6	375	15
10 Stewart Fleming	DUN	9	-108	354	13
11 Doreen Ogston	CHC	8	343	381	19
12 Carolyn Kyle	DUN	8	185	373	15
13 Andrew Denmead	NEL	8	-39	370	15
14 Chris Handley	DUN	7.5	-456	345	9
15 Shirley Van Essen	CHC	7	24	377	17
16 Ray Goodyear	CHC	7	17	354	13
17 Roslyn Lister	CHC	6.5	-329	314	13
18 Paula Gibbons	CHC	6	-285	306	5
19 Yvonne MacKenzie/ Erickson	CHC	6	-437	346	12
20 Betty Sutherland	CHC	6	-566	317	7
21 Mary Lewis	CHC	6	-834	289	1
22 Jean Craib	CHC	1	-1270	264	1

Mt Albert Tournament 9-10 October 1999

13 Games

Grade A

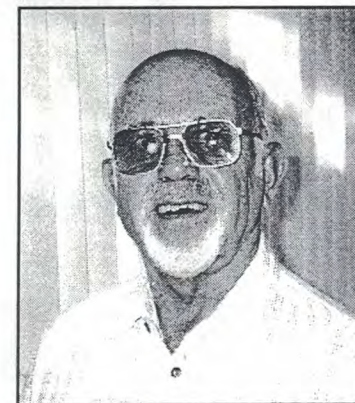
1 Howard Warner	MTA	11	1037	25	438
2 Nigel Richards	CHC	10	939	28	467
3 Jeff Grant	HAS	9	474	20	425
4 Patrick Carter	MTA	9	412	23	422
5 David Lloyd	IND	9	135	22	399
6 Glennis Hale	IND	8	313	27	428
7 Andrew Bradley	MTA	6	70	23	426
8 Steven Brown	HAM	5	-178	20	390
9 John Foster	NSB	5	-541	21	386
10 Peter Jones	MTA	5	-724	19	380
11 Sheryl Davidson	PAK	4	-463	18	378
12 Lisa McLean	IND	4	-706	21	374
13 Lynne Powell	NSB	3	-232	19	396
14 Pam Robson	WKT	3	-536	25	388

Name Club Wins Spread BW Ave

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	BW	Ave
1 Marianne Bentley	TAU	10	414	17	411
2 Fae Olson	STR	9	392	21	402
3 Liz Fagerlund	CHC	9	289	22	410
4 Faye Cronhelm	IND	8	131	21	395
5 Allie Quinn	NSB	7	191	24	398
6 Anna Geange	MTA	7	90	16	390
7 Lynn Wood	WEL	7	-35	13	388
8 Eilean McLean	IND	6	125	21	387
9 Helen Sillis	NPL	6	-174	13	382
10 Rhoda Cashman	ROD	6	-433	14	376
11 Val Mills	PAK	5	322	15	390
12 Margaret Bundock	ROD	5	-378	9	353
13 June Mackwell	MTA	3	-306	16	375
14 Maureen Holliday	ROD	3	-628	15	368

Grade C

1 Gerald Warner	ROD	9	376	17	413
2 Janice Cherry	PAK	7	525	24	425
3 David Gunn	WKT	7	158	26	411
4 Reeva Pearson	STR	7	85	26	418
5 Ann Candier	NSB	7	-5	14	386
6 Jennifer Smith	HAM	7	-15	11	389
7 Elaine Moltzen	KIW	7	-55	18	380
8 Joan Thomas	HAS	7	-76	16	385
9 Delcie Macbeth	IND	6	90	16	394
10 Julie Atkinson	MTA	6	49	18	383
11 Glenda Geard	IND	6	-76	20	386
12 Lorraine Van Veen	PAK	6	-268	12	374
13 Correne James	IND	5	-532	10	361
14 Shirley Wyatt	MTA	4	-256	9	365



Gerald Warner, (ROD)
C Grade winner at Mt Albert

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	B/W	Ave
Grade D					
1 Shirley Martin	HAM	11	1148	21	415
2 Mary Gray	MTA	9	606	17	380
3 Pam Barlow	PAK	8	9	12	368
4 Irene Hague-Smith	MTA	8	-40	12	359
5 Margaret Cherry	PAK	7	108	16	375
6 Annette Coombes	WKT	7	92	16	380
7 Hazel Purdie	MTA	6	242	13	384
8 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	6	110	10	371
9 Joan Pratt	ROD	6	-225	11	353
10 Mary Farmer	MTA	5	-337	14	342
11 Bev Barker	MTA	5	-424	4	332
12 Lil Moore	MTA	5	-604	10	344
13 Dorothy Haining	ROD	4	-302	5	335
14 Marino Ubalde	PAK	4	-383	13	336
Grade E					
1 May Meads	PHC	11	689	15	410
2 Rob Sillis	NPL	10	654	14	374
3 Susan Olson	STR	10	579	11	407
4 Margaret Hanson	PHC	9	73	8	348
5 Ed Olson	STR	7	270	7	369
6 Rosalind Phillips	PHC	7	-86	5	353
7 Vera Burner	WAN	7	-312	2	353
8 Kate Wignall	MTA	6	-20	7	380
9 Kay O'Connor	MTA	5	-532	3	337
10 Maureen McBain	TAU	4	-607	0	323
11 Resie Coenen	PHC	2	-708	3	326

Wanganui Tournament 24-25 October

14 Games

Grade A

1 Robert Felt	USA	12	1439	25	452
2 Jeff Grant	HAS	11	992	21	430
3 Steven Brown	HAM	7	612	33	411
4 Lynne Butler	NPL	7	23	21	390
5 Glenda Foster	CAP	5	-304	16	390
6 Rosemary Cleary	WAN	5	-648	12	362
7 Lisa McLean	IND	5	-1294	17	353
8 Denise Gordon	WAN	4	-820	14	357

Grade B

1 Anna Geange	MTA	9	449	20	400
2 Fae Olson	STR	9	304	20	400
3 Andree Prentice	WAN	8	-31	12	378
4 Margaret Bundock	ROD	7	206	15	381
5 Eileen McLean	IND	7	58	21	379
6 Rhoda Cashman	ROD	7	-150	9	373
7 Leila Thomson	LOH	5	-408	13	368
8 Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	4	-428	21	385

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	B/W	Ave
Grade C					
1 Paul Lister	CHC	10	568	16	403
2 Gerald Warner	ROD	10	343	16	404
3 Gaye Norgren	WAN	9	230	19	395
4 David Gunn	WKT	6	172	20	387
5 Jennifer Smith	HAM	6	-174	19	388
6 Ruth O'Neill	NPL	6	-227	10	370
7 Jean O'Brien	IND	6	-286	11	375
8 Reeve Pearson	STR	3	-626	19	370
Grade D					
1 Martha Morgan	NPL	9	690	11	388
2 Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	325	16	372
3 Norman Wheeler	WEL	7	120	14	378
4 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	94	12	376
5 Roto Mitchell	WAN	7	-317	9	348
6 Michael Hyndman	CAP	7	-334	17	354
7 Liz Catchpole	MTA	6	-170	12	370
8 Margaret Parsons	TPO	6	-408	9	361
Grade E					
1 Audrey Plane	WAN	11	329	16	373
2 Janet Willison	NPY	10.5	296	2	352
3 Ed Olson	STR	10	357	9	376
4 Jean Walsh	WAN	10	280	9	349
5 Marie Cairns	TPO	9	201	2	350
6 Margaret Ham	WTA	6	-247	3	323
7 Sharon Clarke	STR	5	-285	7	316
8 Margaret Garner	NPY	5	-440	6	319
9 Vera Burner	WAN	3.5	-519	1	303

Rodney Scrabble Club Tournament 14 November 1999

7 Games

Grade A

1 David Lloyd	MTA	7	485	11	431
2 Glennis Hale	IND	6	514	14	446
3 Sheryl Davidson	PAK	4	66	10	401
4 Peter Jones	MTA	3	-9	13	409
5 Patrick Carter	MTA	3	-158	8	379
6 Lisa McLean	IND	2	-216	12	378
7 John Foster	NSB	2	-456	6	369
8 Lynne Powell	NSB	1	-226	12	379

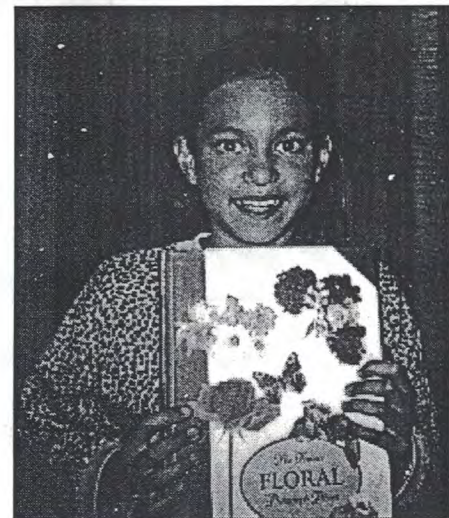
Grade B

1 Eileen McLean	IND	6	147	7	369
2 Valerie Mills	PAK	5	308	11	408
3 Faye Cronhelm	IND	4	140	11	385
4 Anna Geange	MTA	4	-82	10	378
5 May Quigley	IND	3	-13	5	389
6 Fae Olson	STR	3	-97	6	372

Otago Lion Open Tournament 20-21 November 1999

15 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	B/W	Ave
Grade A					
1 Lisa McLean	IND	10	325	385	20
2 Eileen McLean	IND	9.5	408	408	21
3 Paul Lister	CHC	8.5	363	387	18
4 Lynn Wood	WEL	8	170	374	16
5 Marian Ross	DUN	5	-415	360	17
6 Karyn McDougall	DUN	4	-851	363	17
Grade B					
1 Margaret Lyall	CHC	10	389	389	22
2 Shirley Hol	CHC	9	462	400	20
3 Bill Grigg	DUN	8	304	375	15
4 Doreen Ogston	CHC	7	160	391	21
5 David Gunn	WAI	7	-379	376	23
6 Stewart Fleming	DUN	4	-936	346	15
Grade C					
1 Yvonne McKenzie/Erickson	CHC	14	1644	405	22
2 Glen Madigan	DUN	13	1069	391	14
3 Carolyn Kyle	DUN	11	1012	399	15
4 Kerry Dawkins	DUN	9	201	347	6
5 Paula Gibbons	CHC	4	-713	299	2
6 Ruth Groffman	DUN	3	-959	298	2
7 Trevor Rowell	DUN	3	-1108	299	4
8 Elvira Steel	DUN	3	-1146	288	3



10-year-old Lyres Freeth
runner-up in G Grade at Rodney

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	B/W	Ave
7 Lynn Wood	WEL	2	-40	5	360
8 Joy Hunter	NSB	1	-363	6	352
Grade C					
1 Maureen Holliday	ROD	5	240	10	394
2 Margaret Bundock	ROD	5	173	8	394
3 Rhoda Cashman	ROD	4	298	9	406
4 Rebecca Freeth	ROD	4	75	9	409
5 Gerald Warner	ROD	3	-57	10	401
6 Allie Quinn	NSB	3	-173	11	389
7 June Mackwell	MTA	2	-137	9	385
8 Yvette Hewlett	IND	2	-419	12	374
Grade D					
1 Julie Atkinson	MTA	5	328	14	416
2 Glenda Geard	IND	5	276	9	399
3 Janice Cherry	PAK	5	52	8	381
4 Jennifer Smith	HAM	4	263	11	406
5 Joan Thomas	HAS	4	-203	6	366
6 David Gunn	WKT	2	-116	12	390
7 Correne James	IND	2	-321	6	343
8 Ann Candler	NSB	1	-279	5	361
Grade E					
1 Reeve Pearson	STR	6	664	16	444
2 Shirley Martin	HAM	5	395	10	404
3 Mary Gray	MTA	5	242	7	375
4 Sue Walker	MTA	5	233	13	386
5 Joan Pratt	ROD	3	74	7	382
6 Shirley Wyatt	MTA	3	-143	7	388
7 Annette Coombes	WKT	1	-1045	5	300
8 Margaret Cherry	PAK	0	-420	3	342
Grade F					
1 Mary Farmer	MTA	5	178	8	372
2 Dorothy Haining	ROD	5	96	5	362
3 Bev Barker	MTA	4	267	8	380
4 Susan Olson	STR	4	94	7	375
5 Valma Gidman	ROD	4	63	5	343
6 Olwen Skelton	ROD	4	-195	4	348
7 Lil Moore	MTA	2	134	9	365
8 Ed Olson	STR	0	-637	4	308
Grade G					
1 Ruth Munnings	ROD	6	103	4	350
2 Lyres Freeth	ROD	5.5	303	5	371
3 Kate Wignall	MTA	5	503	5	377
4 Kay O'Connor	MTA	4.5	382	6	375
5 Karen Miller	PAK	4	206	6	368
6 Mary Casse	ROD	3	0	8	343
7 Rob Van Slyke	NSB	3	-24	2	327
8 Kath Davies	MTA	3	-41	3	340
9 Betty Wyatt	ROD	3	-294	4	310
10 Joy Keeley	ROD	2	-228	1	315
11 Joan Nel-Swartz	ROD	1.5	-324	3	301
12 Ellen Cooper	ROD	1.5	-485	2	292

Kiwi Tournament 27 November 1999

7 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Avg	B/W
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Grade A					
1	Jeff Grant	HAS	6	604	483 18
2	Howard Warner	MTA	5	293	428 11
3	Glennis Hale	IND	3.5	50	390 10
4	David Lloyd	MTA	3	130	403 11
5	John Foster	NSB	3	-290	378 9
6	Sheryl Davidson	PAK	3	-421	380 8
7	Lynne Butler	NPL	2.5	72	415 10
8	Peter Jones	MTA	2	-438	383 12

Grade B					
1	Cecilia Ruto	KEN	5	631	460 15
2	Anna Geange	MTA	5	360	423 12
3	Marianne Bentley	TGA	4	277	432 12
4	Valerie Mills	PAK	3.5	-107	387 7
5	Fae Olson	STR	3	-93	382 12
6	Eileen McLean	IND	3	-159	382 10
7	Chris Hooks	IND	2.5	-471	360 11
8	Lisa McLean	IND	2	-438	364 8

Grade C					
1	Allie Quinn	NSB	6	308	402 9
2	Lynn Wood	WEL	5	462	411 6
3	Betty Gibb	KIW	4	422	413 10
4	Helen Sillis	NPL	4	-27	382 10
5	Gerald Warner	ROD	3	-58	400 6
6	Roger Coates	HAM	3	-208	371 7
7	Faye Cronhelm	IND	2	-181	373 8
8	Yvette Hewlett	IND	1	-718	339 5

Grade D					
1	Reeva Pearson	STR	6	361	428 15
2	Jennifer Smith	HAM	5	291	420 7

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Avg	B/W
3	Elaine Moltzen	KIW	5	228	408 13
4	Joan Thomas	HAS	4	232	399 10
5	Janice Cherry	PAK	4	-54	374 9
6	Marj Baillie	KIW	2	-371	357 5
7	Kim Graham	KIW	1	-269	383 11
8	Lyn Toka	KIW	1	-418	379 12

Grade E					
1	Shirley Martin	HAM	6	282	396 9
2	Correne James	IND	5.5	597	403 10
3	Sue Walker	MTA	4	338	392 10
4	David Gunn	WKT	4	-82	372 11
5	Isabel Zyp	HAM	3	-162	361 5
6	Margaret Cherry	PAK	2.5	18	370 6
7	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	2	-527	326 4
8	Annette Coombes	WKT	1	-464	332 4

Grade F					
1	Carole Coates	KIW	6	225	384 10
2	Pam Mayall	HAM	5	408	390 3
3	Margaret Hanson	PHC	5	47	339 4
4	Kate Wignall	MTA	4	116	362 4
5	Elizabeth Webb	TGA	4	71	363 8
6	John Sharpe	NSB	2	-347	322 0
7	Ed Olson	STR	1	-171	339 6
8	Elsie Pugh	KIW	1	-349	320 1

Grade G					
1	Maureen McBain	TGA	5	234	354 3
2	Jenny Sharpe	NSB	5	174	355 5
3	Jillian Greening	KIW	4	112	340 7
4	Caroline Higby	KIW	4	62	355 3
5	Isabel Weddell	KIW	4	55	328 2
6	Pauline Smeaton	TGA	4	-65	331 3
7	Jena Yousif	KIW	2	-233	318 2
8	Resie Coenen	PHC	0	-339	299 1

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 (C.AP) & David Lloyd (MTA)	1106	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Largest Winning Margin	493	Mike Sigley (WAN)	577	Peter Sinton (DUN)
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) +2224 (1999)



Merry Christmas
and



Happy New Year