

## Contact Information

Clubs (Nth to Sth)	Contact Person	Phone	Meeting Day/Time	Meeting Place
Rodney (ROD)	Linda Moore	09 425 4959	Mon 1pm	Totara Park, Warkworth
Hibiscus Coast (HBC)	Joan Pratt	09 426 4521	Mon 1pm	Orewa Community Centre
Nth Shore Boys (NSB)	Marge Dalzell	09 478 6248	Tues 10am	Campbell's Bay Methodist Church Hall Takapuna Senior Citizen's Hall
	Allie Quinn	09 483 7806	Thurs 7.15pm	
Mt Albert (MTA)	Marianne Patchett	09 626 4849	Fri 7.15pm	Mt Albert Bridge Club rooms
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)	Jillian Greening	07 843 7652	Tues 7.15pm	Hearing Association, 40 Wellington St.
Kiwi (KIW)	Elaine Moltzen	07 843 5108	Thurs 7pm	Beerescourt Bowling Club
Waikato Phoenix (WKP)	Annette Coombes	07 855 9970	Alt Weds 7pm (ring)	St Aidans Hall Lounge, Heaphy Tce.
Mt Maunganui/Papamoa (MMP)	Ngaire Steel	07 542 1035	Alternate Wednesdays	
Tauranga (TGA)	Maureen McBain	07 576 2191	Tues 9.00am	Tauranga Bridge Club, 252 Ngatai Rd.
Tokoroa (TOK)	Lesley Edgeler	07 886 8374		
Rotorua (ROT)	Tim Henneveld	07 348 0697	Alt Mon 7pm	25 Barraud Place
Waitara (WTA)	Trixie Neil	06 754 8745	Wed 1.00pm	
New Plymouth (NPL)	Lynne Butler	06 755 2134	Saturday	Ring Lynne
Pukekura (PUK)	Mary Waite	06 757 8654	Thurs 10am	11 Gilbert St., New Plymouth
Stratford (STR)	Sharon Clarke	06 765 5653		
Hastings (HAS)	Doreen O'Shea	06 878 4063	Thurs (alt) 7pm	Hastings RSA
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	
Kapiti (KAP)	Steven Brown	04 905 9160		
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04 387 2581	Tues 7.30pm	5 Tully St, Kilbirnie
Nelson (NEL)	Ann Hough	03 545 0014	Wed 7pm	Senior Citizens Hall, 67 Trafalgar St.
Christchurch (CHC)	Margaret Lyall	03 332 5963	Fri 7pm	Sydenham Community Centre
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	Tues 7pm	Caversham Presbyterian Church Hall, 61 Thorn St., Caversham

Forwards Editor	Lynne Butler	13 Antonia Place Bell Block New Plymouth New Zealand	Ph 06 755 2134 Email scrabblyn@clear.net.nz
Layout Editor and Webmaster	Glenda Foster	1 Walters Street Lower Hutt New Zealand	Ph 04 567 1590 Fax 04 567 9305 (telephone first) Email fostergb@ihug.co.nz glenda.foster@scrabble.co.nz

www.scrabble.co.nz

# FORWORDS

Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players  
No 77 December 2004



Back: Andrew, Glenda, Howard, Peter, Jack, Rogelio, Glennis  
Front: Debbie, Steven, Jeff, Patrick, Liz

## TransTasman Challenge 2004

### Also in this Issue



**Gr8 trouble  
over txt words**



**Tournament  
calendar 2005**



**Scrabble on  
Norfolk**



**When to  
Challenge**

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## NZASP Executive

**President** Liz Fagerlund  
3/389 Blockhouse Bay  
Road  
Blockhouse Bay  
Auckland  
Ph 09 627 6506  
Email  
scrabbliz@inet.net.nz

**Secretary** Allie Quinn  
26 Melba St  
Birkenhead  
Auckland 1310  
Ph/Fax 09 483 7806  
Email  
alequin@xtra.co.nz

**Vice-President** Lynn Wood  
5 Tully Street  
Kilbirnie  
Wellington  
Ph 04 387 2581  
Email  
lynnwood@paradise.net.nz

**Treasurer** Joan Thomas  
424 Purser Place  
Hastings  
Ph 06 878 2418  
Email  
thomas.joan@xtra.co.nz

# Editor's Note



Sitting here in woolly socks and sweatshirt, it's hard to imagine that Christmas is only a few sleeps away. Some NZ Scrabblers may even experience an unheard of white Christmas!

There are several tournament reports in this issue — Southport (QLD), Norfolk Island and the TransTasman! Other tournaments since September were held by Mt Albert, Wanganui, Rodney, Otago, Kiwi and Waikato Phoenix. Congrats to all those clubs who continue to provide

Speaking of the TransTasman, New Zealand received a right-royal hiding! However, it is reported that although our team were gracious in defeat they do not intend to take it lying down. Many Kiwi players have already started training for 2006, an initiative proposed by Patrick Carter. The TT series is 2-all now, who will get their head in front in 2 years time? Glenda Foster has written an interesting report on page 5.

You will notice there is no Player Profile in this issue. Howard Warner, who has decided to seek his fortune in Australia, is no longer able to submit this article. (Thanks for your past efforts, Howard — they are very much appreciated.) I would like to continue the Player Profile as it has proved to be very popular. But, it is not easy to get around New Zealand to interview players. So I would like to suggest that clubs submit to me a name and some information on a deserving player. Not necessarily the best player in your club either — it could be the oldest, the youngest, the

prettiest, one who has never played in a tournament — I'm interested in Scrabblers right across the spectrum. A complete write-up would be fabulous, but, failing that, information and anecdotes about the person which I can punch into shape would suffice. My contact details are on the back page. If I'm inundated with responses, I'll create a roster. Thanks in advance.

Well, at the end of another year it's time to thank all those people who make this magazine possible. To Glenda Foster for her amazing layout work, report writing and the NZ Scrabble website; to Jeff and Pat Grant who are prolific contributors; to Margaret Lyall, Bill Grigg, and Chris Handley for Club News; to Debbie Caldwell for varied and interesting contributions; to all those who contribute to Mailbox; to Denise Gordon for her cartoons; and to everyone else who, from time to time submits articles, photos, jokes and anything else of interest for the magazine. Kudos also to the NZASP Executive under the untiring leadership of Liz Fagerlund and to Club organisers who help to keep competitive alive in NZ.

I would like to wish all Scrabblers in New Zealand and the rest of the world a very Merry Christmas and everything you wish for in 2005.

Closing date for the March 2005 issue is February 23.

*Lynne*

# Mailbox

## 5-point Penalty

from Pat Grant

I would like to respond to the letter in Sept *Forwards* magazine about the 5 point penalty for challenges now in use in NZ Scrabble.

This is not for the benefit of only the 'top players' — it is for everyone. Many grades have players of higher ability than others, so it should be of benefit to all.

I do not agree with the comments I've heard that all changes recently seem to be for the 'top players'. If people really think about it, our top players do a great deal for NZ Scrabble and they do not always get the recognition they deserve.

There is Lynne, Editor of this wonderfully informative magazine; Glenda whose input is invaluable; Liz, our hard-working President and all the committee members. Howard and Jeff do a lot of work behind the scenes for the betterment of NZ Scrabble — Howard has been an excellent press officer (he will be sorely missed), and Jeff does heaps of work on the Scrabble dictionaries and is responsible for us being able to use many New Zealand words.

When new rules are introduced, it is not solely for the 'top players', but for everyone to continue to enjoy this wonderful game, and for it to be fair for all.

## Hard Spell

Want something to do if it rains over the holidays? Log on to this BBC website where you can dabble in an online version of their spelling bee program.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/hardspell/hardspell\\_game.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/hardspell/hardspell_game.shtml)

It's in two parts — in the first you have to choose the correctly spelt word from two displayed and in the second there are ten sets of words put up and you choose the incorrect from three words and then correct the spelling. The first half is timed so the faster you go the more points you can earn.

There's a High Score Table so let's see if we can get a few Kiwi names registered there.

## A Word

quotation from Andrée Prentice

A word is intangible. We can't buy it, hold it in our arms, or lock it in a safe. Yet it's infinitely shareable — we can send it to thousands and still use it ourselves.

A word can tie us back a hundred years and beyond. The word 'wisdom' for instance, is the same word that was once spoken by the author of Beowulf; those same letters appeared in Shakespeare's plays; Emerson wrote with the same syllables and the reporter in today's newspaper made use of the very word.



We must have won a gold medal in Scrabble

Submitted by Margaret Hanson (PHC) from an English newspaper

The Yngling is a three-person boat with a keel and three sails. It replaced the Soling boat in Olympic sailing after the 2000 Sydney games. Yngling is Norwegian for 'youngster', and isn't allowed in Scrabble, although it is occasionally spelt without a capital.

# SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT CALENDAR 2005

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

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

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

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

Tournament	Dates	Tournament	Dates
Pakuranga	29-30 January	Tauranga	3-4 September
Nelson	12-13 February	Canterbury Open	10-11 September
NZ Masters Championship (Wellington)	26-28 March	Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival	9-16 October
Dunedin Open	2 & 3 April	Mt Albert	1-2 October
North Shore	23 April	Wanganui	22-23 October
Christchurch	7-8 May	Otago Open	12-13 November
NZ National Champs (Christchurch)	4-5 June	World Scrabble Champs	to be advised
Waikato Phoenix	2-3 July *	Kiwi	19 November *
Hamilton	6-7 August *	Waikato Phoenix	20 November *

\* to be confirmed



# Competition Corner

## Scrabble Contest No 77

Your opponent starts the game with PANNERS (E on centre square) for 74 points, and you are holding HIZTERY. What is your best play? (It may be debatable, but the judge's decision is final!)

Send entries by mail or email to:  
 Jeff Grant  
 "Ardra"  
 1109 Allenby St  
 Hastings  
 ardra@paradise.net.nz  
 Closing date is 20 February, 2005

## Solution Scrabble Contest No 76

There were lots of ingenious entries for this contest. Some make more sense than others, and quite a few have a Scrabble theme. Here is a selection:

*Scrabble learner eradicates established educational alternatives.*  
 Maureen McBain (TGA)

*Scrabble legalises essential allowable lexicons.*  
 Tony Charlton (NEL)

*Scrabble levitates Eskimos' ostracized editor.*  
 Heather Landon (TGA)

*Scrabble lesson one: never erase, seldom omit item, emphasize zeal always.*  
 Pam Barlow (PAK)

A couple of non-Scrabble ones from Nola Borrell (LHT):

*While leeches escape, petty tyrannies escalate.*

*After erstwhile lenience, celibate tension ongoing.*

And a longer Scrabble example from Lyn Toka (KIW):

*Scrabble leaves Esther erudite, Teresa satisfied, Ed edified, Edith thinking, Ngaire rearranged, Edwina naggiest, Stan anagrammatical, Alex exultant.*

Margaret Lyall (CHC) sent in this clever bunch:  
*The head administrator organised educational almanacs.*

*Christchurch children endure regular arithmetic.  
 Some medical allergies escape penicillin.*

*Scrabble lesson one: negate terrible letters.*

(Good idea!) (We've awarded Margaret a prize for her excellent entry.)

Leila Thomson (LHT) composed twenty (!) sentences, including:  
*Scrabble: lexical alliteration one never eradicates.*

*Large geisha hairdos oscillate terribly.  
 Only lytic icicles escape peripheral alteration once cellular arrest starts.*

'And another 'icy' one, a bit Joycean, from Ron Bunny:  
*Beneath the hellish shipcrush, Shackleton once celebrated Edwardian antiquation on one nevergreen, endworldian Antarctic icefield.*

Our winning entry from Karen Brookes (NEL) combines the important Scrabble elements 'leisure', 'alphabet' and 'etiquette', in a slightly mystical way. I'm not sure exactly what it means, but I like it!

*Scrabble leisure refines essential alphabet etiquette.*

## Trans Tasman 2004 Report

by Glenda Foster

### Day 1

Proceedings got underway with tournament director Olga Visser welcoming the teams with a treasure hunt to find a bag of goodies as well as a score sheet booklet and name tag. The venue was excellent, with plenty of space in the playing room. Players stood as the national anthems of both countries were played. Games got underway promptly and the battle commenced.

From the outset the NZ team knew that it faced very strong opposition. The Australian team contained former Australian champs Bob Jackman, Paul Cleary and Edward Okulicz. Naween Fernando had come fresh from winning the Gulf championship which he first won 13 years ago at the age of 12. Andrew Fisher is a recent import to Australia from England. He is a former winner of the British National Champs and is co-author of the recently published book *How to Win at Scrabble*. Then there were former TransTasman team stalwarts Joan Rosenthal, Esther Perrins and Rod Talbot. The team was completed by four young men who have made significant progress in the Australian ratings recently — Chris May (20 years), Julian McKail (30), Michael

Cameron (18) and David Eldar (15).

The tournament was played in accordance with Australian national rules with the exception of the challenge rule. A compromise was reached between the Australian and NZ rules such that incorrect challenges were subject to a 5-point penalty per challenge (not per word as in NZ). The only other significant difference between NZ and Australian national rules was regarding scoring at the end of play when a player is left with tiles on the rack. Under Australian rules the point value of tiles remaining on the rack are added to the score of the player who goes out, and taken off the score of the player who is left with tiles on the rack. This makes no difference to whether a player wins or loses but could have caused an issue for the NZ'ers who are used to doubling the value and adding it to the score of the player who goes out. Balanced starts were included in the draw, with Australians starting game 1 and alternate games up to game 12 and NZ players starting round 13 and alternate games thereafter. Players were not allocated to tables and each playing pair chose their own table before play. Rotating boards and electronic clocks were available for all tables.

Round 1 results came as a surprise to the Kiwis as only Howard and Jack managed to score a win. In round 2 Howard and Jack both won again, while Steven scored 560 against Esther and Liz achieved victory over Paul. At the end of round 3 the Kiwi team knew that it was in for an uphill battle when only one NZ win was achieved by Patrick.

An excellent lunch was served and NZ took time to regroup. There were a number of stories of missed



The venue, Queen Alexandra Home

opportunities or mistakes, such as Andrew's play in round 1 when he had two places to play a bonus and win, but he hooked an O onto the end of DOC and his word was challenged off allowing Chris to win.

After lunch the Kiwis did better with 5 wins in rounds 4 and 5, but managed only 3 in round 6 and 4 in round 7. In the last round of the day the Kiwis drew with the Aussies, but by then significant damage had been done and morale was low in the Kiwi camp. The win board at the end of day 1 was described by Jeff as "spotty" on the Kiwi side and "blocky" on the Aussie side. I thought a better description of the NZ side was "measly".

It was good to see NZ supporters Julie Atkinson and Sheryl Davidson at the venue.

Olga took note of a number of interesting plays as follows:

- Joan and Jack at adjacent tables played FUGU simultaneously
- Joan played the lovely BOTRYTIS onto an S against Glenda
- Patrick played COPYCAT against Edward
- Steven scored 5 bonuses in his game with Esther — WADDING, REPLACES, RECLOSE, UREDINIA and BASINET
- Bob scored the high word of the day with REPACKED



the final round gets underway

- David played QINDAR around the DA on the board against Glenda, scoring a triple word score and blocking the only bingo opportunity
- Esther played EQUIPAGES using the U and S on the board
- Glenda extended FENESTRA to FENESTRATED on a triple word score
- Paul played INVALIDATED around VALID.

The best Kiwi performances on day 1 came from Howard and Jack with 6 wins apiece. The top Australians were Andrew and Naween who both recorded 7 consecutive wins, and Chris, also on 7.

## Day 2

The Australian scoring machine continued in the first 4 rounds and at the midway point the score was 87-47 to Australia. Round 14 was another horror round for the Kiwis with only Debbie and Jack achieving wins. In round 15 NZ achieved its first round win against Australia (7-5), but in the last game of the day could only manage 4.

Interesting plays recorded by Olga were:

- Joan's opening play of the day was TOWHEES, and she said lots of people kept coming over to stare at the board, presumably wondering what the blank was
- Julian extended HAND to OVERHAND for a useful 51 points
- Rod's four bonuses STARTLE, LOADERS, COWERING (167), DANGLER, and JEAN (57), ZIP (47), helped him to a high game of 637 against Andrew's 416
- David got three bingos in a row again — PILSNERS, ANALGIAS, DANEWORT and later ANIMATER

In round 10 Glenda played Edward and managed to pick all the good tiles except the Q. After 3 bonuses to Glenda and 2 to Edward, at turn 10 Glenda was 85 points ahead, having played AZO above a double word score, ready to use her N at the next turn for an even handier lead. Alas it was not to be — Edward pounced on the spot and played VINTAGER for 100 points and went on to win 476-450.

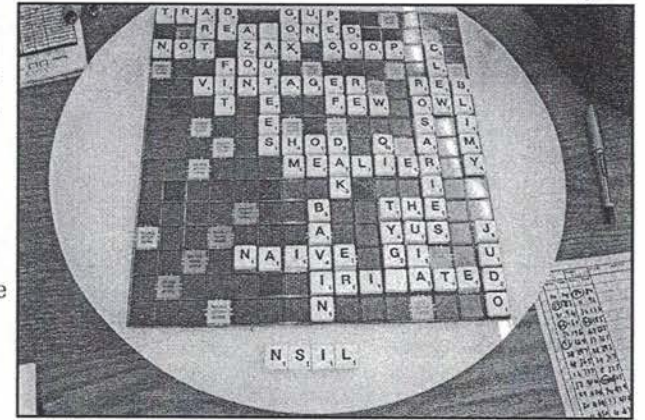
The Day 2 result was 128-64, with Australia needing only 22.5 more wins on the final day to win the challenge. The best Kiwi performer after day 2 was Jack with 12 wins. The top Australian was Chris on 14 wins.

In the evening an enjoyable dinner was held for the players and supporters at a local Thai restaurant. The food and company were excellent. Olga distributed a number of 'awards' for notable achievements during the previous 2 days. Bob presented Olga with a Scrabble bag in recognition of her sterling efforts as tournament director.

## Day 3

The pattern of the previous days continued, with Australia winning most rounds. In round 19 Australia clinched the TransTasman Challenge with 8 wins. NZ had its second round win in round 21, but won only 2 games in round 22 (Jack and Howard). Interest now centred on who would win the individual title.

Olga reports: "Going into the last game, Chris is on 20 games and Edward on 19. For Edward to win he needs a win by



the board in the first game between Glenda and Edward

more than 125, and Chris to lose. Actually neither of these things happened. Chris won and clinched first place for the tournament. A triple triple HEAVIEST for 203 was played on Edward's board, but not by him. Top word for the tournament went to NZ Debbie Caldwell."

Jack ended as the highest placed New Zealander in 3rd place on 19 wins, with an average score of 430. Full results are on page XX

Olga reported the following plays:

- GUAN was on the board, and Patrick Carter used the L just to the left and below, turned GUAN into GUANO and played LOADSTAR
- Chris was happy to tell me he played FANZINE for 141
- Edward finished the 19th game with 20 minutes still left on his clock. He had arrived late and played the first round with only 10 minutes left on his clock, but still managed a win against Rogelio.
- In Round 20, two 9 letter words popped up - GondOLIER from Esther Perrins and COLLEGerS by Andrew Fisher

The final tally was 189-99, the highest winning margin in Trans

Tasman history.  
Trophies were presented by Olga to Bob Jackman, leader of the Australian team, Chris May, individual winner and Jack Dymond, highest placed Kiwi. NZ team leader Liz Fagerlund congratulated the Australian team and thanked Olga for her capable organisation of the event.



Olga presents the Trans Tasman Challenge Shield to Bob Jackman, the individual winner's trophy to Chris May and the trophy for the highest placed Kiwi to Jack Dymond

**Trans Tasman Tournament  
25-27 November 2004**

**24 Games**

**Individual Results**

Name	Country	Wins	Spread	Ave
1 Chris May	AUS	21	1861	439
2 Edward Okulicz	AUS	19	1477	436
3 Jack Dymond	NZ	19	1158	430
4 Naween Fernando	AUS	18	2000	450
5 Andrew Fisher	AUS	18	1266	439
6 Bob Jackman	AUS	17	1132	422
7 Julian McKail	AUS	16	832	419
8 Rod Talbot	AUS	15	524	421
9 David Eldar	AUS	15	402	420
10 Joan Rosenthal	AUS	14	-122	388
11 Esther Perrins	AUS	13	371	421
12 Howard Warner	NZ	13	-133	410
13 Michael Cameron	AUS	12	230	412
14 Jeff Grant	NZ	11	-11	408
15 Paul Cleary	AUS	11	-77	410
16 Patrick Carter	NZ	10	-187	390
17 Peter Sinton	NZ	10	-637	390
18 Rogelio Talosig	NZ	7	-1202	389
19 Steven Brown	NZ	7	-1261	379
20 Debbie Caldwell	NZ	6	-1303	385
21 Liz Fagerlund	NZ	5	-1476	370
22 Andrew Bradley	NZ	5	-1600	381
23 Glennis Hale	NZ	4	-1545	362
24 Glenda Foster	NZ	2	-1799	367

**Team Results**

Team	Wins	Spread
Australia	189	9896
New Zealand	99	-9996
Lead	90	

Debbie Caldwell wrote the following two poems on the last day of the event, when the result was a foregone conclusion

**(s)TRAN(ger)S T(hr)AS(h)MAN(y)**  
Advance Australia Fair  
Our team has been demolished  
They've wiped the floor with us so much  
The tiles are looking polished

Us Lesser Spotted Kiwis  
Should be grateful and give thanks  
For though the Aussies gunned us down  
They only fired blanks

And for an added bonus  
(One of three or four)  
They magnanimously kept quiet  
About their rising score

The Aussies drew ess words  
Which cut us down like swords  
Us kiwis — weak blind birds —  
Were baffled by their boards

We were lexically challenged  
Despondent in defeat  
Too awestruck to play well  
Too innocent to cheat

It would be pointless next Trans Tasman  
To enter more than a team of one  
Let the Australians send twelve Aussies  
We'll have God defend New Zealand

**A Gracious Loser**

We flew here from down under  
And down under were soon sent,  
We groveled there in darkness  
Our mental powers spent

We were at a loss for words  
We racked our brains in vain  
A kookaburra laughing  
Merely added to our pain

I wish that words were boomerangs  
That the good ones would return  
How many words I do not know  
How many I must learn

And yet upon the board displayed  
The alien words my opponents played  
And by his name a spot of gold  
A world champ player, or so I'm told

And, oh, their air of condescension  
Their players exude, and can I mention  
The gloating way they stand and stare  
At their golden chart ... while ours is bare

The shield is theirs, the bragging rights  
Their team is legend, their name in lights  
And we must grit our teeth and say  
"You are fantastic players." Then fly away

## Scrabble on Norfolk

by Jeff Grant

The 16th Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival was held from September 19 - 26th, 2004. It was the biggest ever with nearly 80 people, including 57 players from New Zealand and Australia.

The action got underway at the Hillcrest Hotel on Sunday afternoon with some friendly games and a start to the handicap knockout event.

In the evening people had a chance to get to know each other at the introductory dinner at the Southpac.

The tournament began at the Colonial Hotel with four games on Monday morning. There were seven grades ranging from Anson Bay down to Governors and a triple round robin was played in all but the bottom grade. Everyone arrived on time — Glennis and I were amazed. The trend continued all week except for the afternoon Eileen and I arrived a bit late after 'trekking Phillip Island'! The participants were a varied group ranging in age from early 30s to the remarkably sprightly 90-year-old Esther Rolfe who regaled her opponents with words like CANALISE. Esther also enjoyed other pursuits on the island, including the

4-wheel drive tour. Her secret for a long life? "Have the right parents and keep breathing."

For the first time, clocks were used in all grades. There were few problems even with several players never having been in a tournament before. Two of the three were mother and daughter Val and Julie Brice who quinnellaed Governors grade. Julie also won the knockout competition beating Iain in the final. During the week she lost only one game out of 28 - a superb achievement.

Dozens of spot prizes were awarded. Jeanette (ZEBU) and Paula (EQUINE) won 'Animal' spots and Jan got an '-ing word' for NURSINGS and MATTING in the same game. 'Sport' awards went to Hazel (RULINGS), Paula (WANNABE) and Jean W (ENTRIES and RUNNERS). Margaret A won an 'X' spot with AXILS for 60 and a 'Plant' spot for QUINCE. (Margaret O also got one for trying to tell me that CLITORIS was a succulent.) Jean N received a special 'Z' prize for ZERTNV (the letters she got stuck with!) and Anne-Louise played PAM, PAT and SAM for a 'Personal Name' prize. Yvonne P (TRESSES) and Catherine (GOITRES,



Group photo

ZIT won 'Body Part' spots and Val got one for 'Best Try-on' with PUNGE. Incredibly, in the very next game she played EXPUNGE!

Lynn had an opening rack of EIIUUU in one game and couldn't make a single word! In another game Vicki and Jenny had such a blocked board there were 16 unplayable tiles at the end!

Carmel had a 560 early on day 2, but it was promptly beaten by Correne's 591, which was the highest game score of the week. Eileen B got 140 for SLANGING on a triple-triple, but Irene later scored 194 for SKETCHER to take the single-turn prize. I had a friendly game with Eileen when she got a bye on the last day. It turned out quite remarkably. I went out with JOINTERS for 95 and lost by 240 (299-539)!

Two outstanding moves were recorded during the week. Carmel played VENTAILES through two separated letters and Jackie extended BOAR to BOARDMEN for a triple-word score. There were lots of great words played in Norfolk including ILKA, RONEOING, MUSKRAT, HUNKERED, RHIZOME, LAYOVER, INPUTTER, ILEITIS, MALAX, HETAIRA, PHAETON, HOOLEYS, YUNX, SHOJI, SEDILIA and JETTIED. The trophy for 'Most Unusual Word' was awarded to Anne for IONONES.

On Saturday night the prize giving dinner was held at the Colonial and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Congratulations to all the winners. No one went home empty-handed though — even the nonplayers received small gifts.

Another great Norfolk Festival!



L to R Jeff Grant (adjudicator), Joan Thomas (3rd A Grade), Liz Fagerlund ((A grade winner), Glennis Hale (Adjudicator)

Pat and I spent a few extra days on the island — sightseeing, shopping, picnicking, beachcombing, horse-riding and generally relaxing away from the Scrabble hurly-burly. We even managed a couple of swims at Emily Bay even though it was hardly tropical. We felt quite brave until we heard that Rene had been swimming before breakfast every day. Others went sea kayaking and bush walking, signed on for fishing trips, museum tours, convict nights and progressive dinners. They played bridge, pool tennis and golf as well as finding time for knockout games, word puzzles, exploring, socialising and, of course, a little retail therapy.

Glennis and I would like to thank all the players and supporters — a wonderful bunch of people. Thanks also to Pat for her help and encouragement (great souvenir bookmarks too), and to Agnes, Lee, Debbie and Becky of the Travel Centre. They all helped make it another truly memorable Norfolk Island Scrabble week.

Next year the festival will be a bit later (and warmer). See you there!

Tournament results are on page 12.

## 16th Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival

19-26 September 2004

### 24 games

Name	Wins	Points	BW
<b>Anson Bay</b>			
1 Liz Fagerlund	16	8601	28
2 Carmel Dodd	13	8793	40
3 Joan Thomas	12	7913	30
4 Rene Chelton	12	7712	22
5 Audrey Newman	10	7915	30
6 Alison Pollard	8	7654	22
7 Jean Noonan	7	7373	19
8 Gary Pollard	6	7401	19
<b>Ball Bay</b>			
1 Correne James	13	8002	18
2 Marianne Patchett	13	7697	19
3 Rosalind Phillips	13	7551	19
4 Margaret Andrews	12	7793	17
5 Fay Grose	11	7472	9
6 Hazel Purdie	9	7802	25
7 Jenny Templeton	7	7185	15
8 Esther Rolfe	6	7042	14
<b>Cascade Bay</b>			
1 Ruth Graftman	14	7844	10
2 Eileen Baldwin	13	7723	17
3 Anne Schick	12	7955	28
4 Lynn Carter	11	7507	12
5 Wayne Willis	10	7569	18
6 Jan Adler	9	7622	21
7 Jeanette Hansen	9	7340	5
8 Sybil Gould	6	6283	9
<b>Duncombe Bay</b>			
1 Sherie Brown	15.5	7651	17
2 Kate Wignall	13	7588	14
3 Liz Quantock	12	7455	15
4 Jenny Gibson	11	7750	18
5 Catherine Henry	10	7452	13
6 Vicki Underhill	9.5	7053	16
7 Basil Sands	8	6704	7
8 Joy Smith	5	6886	3
<b>Emily Bay</b>			
1 Yvonne Pollard	17	7686	26
2 Yvonne MacKenzie	15	7950	18
3 Maree Heynen	14	7308	6
4 Irene Hague-Smith	12	7436	22
5 Margaret Hanson	7	6864	9
6 Iain Gould	7	6826	11
7 Len Fitton	7	6694	4
8 Jacky Booth	5	6609	15

Name	Wins	Points	BW
<b>Flat Rock</b>			
1 Michael Graftman	20	7829	15
2 Heather Landon	14	6964	12
3 Nancy Haig	12	6384	4
4 Jean Wacker	11	6945	7
5 Eileen Moyle	10	6535	5
6 Jean Craib	9	6672	9
7 Barbara Nakkan	7	5950	2
8 Rita Humphrey	1	5059	2
<b>Governors</b>			
1 Julie Brice	20	8601	25
2 Val Brice	16	7103	14
3 Sue Mayne	15	6987	12
4 Paula Gibbons	14	7182	9
5 Pat Wood	12	6718	1
6 Sue Underwood	11	6846	2
7 Margaret O'Reilly	9	6259	6
8 Anne-Louise Milne	5	5490	1
9 Patricia MacDonald	3	5816	1
<b>Knockout Winner:</b>			
Julie Brice			
<b>Knockout R/U:</b>			
Iain Gould			
<b>NZ Champion:</b>			
Liz Fagerlund			
<b>Australian Champion:</b>			
Carmel Dodd			
<b>Team Trophy:</b>			
Australia			
<b>Most Unusual Word:</b>			
Anne Schick — IONONES			
<b>Highest Individual Game Score:</b>			
Correne James — 591			
<b>Highest Scoring Word:</b>			
Irene Hague-Smith — SKETCHER 194			
<b>Word Puzzles:</b>			
1. Gary, Alison, Yvonne Pollard			
2. Joan Thomas, Liz Fagerlund			
3. Rosalind Phillips			
<b>Sportsperson</b>			
Rita Humphrey			

### Red Herring

Anti-hunt protesters in the 1800s used to sabotage fox hunting by dragging smelly red herrings (salted and smoked herrings) across the countryside, throwing hounds off the fox's scent.

## PAGE FROM THE PAST

This feature highlights pages from past issues of *Forwards*. Here is a page from Issue 5, September 1986.

### THE BAYS MID YEAR CHRISTMAS PARTY

To brighten up the cold rainy weather the Bays Club held a mid year Christmas party on Tuesday 14th July. Visitors included Elise Campbell and some of the Takapuna Friday morning club, Charlie and Daph Curl, and members of the Browns Bay Scrabble Club. Lynne Powell and May Quigley ran the Scrabble games, and thought up all sorts of special moves for spot prizes.

After three enjoyable games we had a lovely lunch put on by the Bays ladies, and were then entertained by our 'young and lovely' duo, Alice O'Callahan and Kaye Bland - their antics held us all spellbound - we always enjoy their happy songs and sketches. It was a cheerful event to tide us over till the warm weather heralds the advent of yet another spring and summer, and a further season of goodwill.

Note: Any seven letter words used in this article are purely accidental!!

By Rachel Dennyss

### A POEM:

A lady from Mt Albert is Peg  
 Whose forgiveness I really do beg  
 For I once was so bold  
 To infer she was old  
 And this I now wish to renege.

Anonymous



## When to Challenge

by Jeff Grant

Under the old Challenge Rule you lost your turn when challenging correct words. Now there is only a 5 point penalty, so you should be challenging **more!** Remember, you can't lose a turn anymore by challenging words that are right.

Let's look at a hypothetical case. You are playing someone much higher rated than yourself, and during the game they play the words INFERRAL, EARNESTER, TITOKIS and BILBIES. What you should **not** do is think, "What a good find" or "that's a nice move". Don't just write the score down, then start having doubts. **Stop and think** — "Do I **know** this word?" "Am I absolutely **sure** it's right?" If the answer is "no", then **challenge!** In this case, if you let all the words go your opponent would be gifted about 200 points for incorrect words. However, if you challenge them all, only one would stay on the board, and all you would lose is 5 points.

Of course there are still times you may want to leave a wrong word, such as when it sets you up for a much higher score. There is a new situation now too. At the end of the game, if your opponent goes out, you no longer have a 'free' challenge,

because if you challenge and the word is correct, the extra 5 points they gain may be just enough for them to win. So if it is close, you may have to work out whether you need to challenge or not. Even if you think the word is wrong, it's not worth the risk of losing a challenge (and 5 points) if it could cost you the game. In a case like that, let the word go and take the win, even if it's just by a point or two.

Apart from these exceptions, you should challenge words you're unfamiliar with. You will win more games by doing this. It's much more likely you'll lose if you let wrong words go than by sacrificing a few points by challenging. Also, if you challenge anything suspect, your opponents will soon get to know, and they may not want to take a risk by bluffing. They may even start to talk themselves out of legitimate words if they think that they may lose a turn when you challenge.

**Bottom Line:** Challenge what you don't know, even if it's several times in a game. If just one of the words is wrong, you'll probably be on the right side of the ledger.

Merry Xmas and Happy Challenging in the New Year!

### Gone Round the Bend

In Victorian Britain, large stately homes had long, straight driveways so the grand house could be seen from the main road. But asylums where the mentally unsound were confined were built with long curved drives, so they couldn't be seen. Hence the expression 'round the bend' meaning being confined to a mental home.

### Keep it at Bay

Romans noticed that bay trees never got struck by lightning and began to shelter under them during storms. They even wore bay leaves as a lucky talisman. During the Great Plague in London in 1665, people wore bay leaves to keep the disease 'at bay'.



## Blind Scrabble Player Soars

by Dan McKirdy, *Christchurch Mail*, 29 September

Submitted by Margaret Lyall (CHC)

Olivia En has never seen a Scrabble board but that did not stop her blind-siding the competition at the Canterbury Scrabble Open.

Although the Dunedin-based 21-year-old has been blind since she was 18-months-old, she is well on the way to mastering one of the world's most popular board games.

At the Christchurch tournament in the Huntsbury Community Centre, En won 9 of the 15 games she played, which shot her 102 points up the national rankings to 763 — still far away from national champ Howard Warner, who is on 2057.

"It's quite stressful because you've got to win your predicted games to move up the rankings. I'm a student with exams all the time so you just get used to it and I think I do better in tournaments than I do in normal play," she said.

En is an honours student at Otago University in law and history.

"I like Scrabble and I find it relaxing. I love words and I love doing cryptic crosswords."

She was happy with the result as it was only the second tournament she has played in since joining the Dunedin Scrabble Club 18 months ago, but she has had a Braille Scrabble board since she was six.

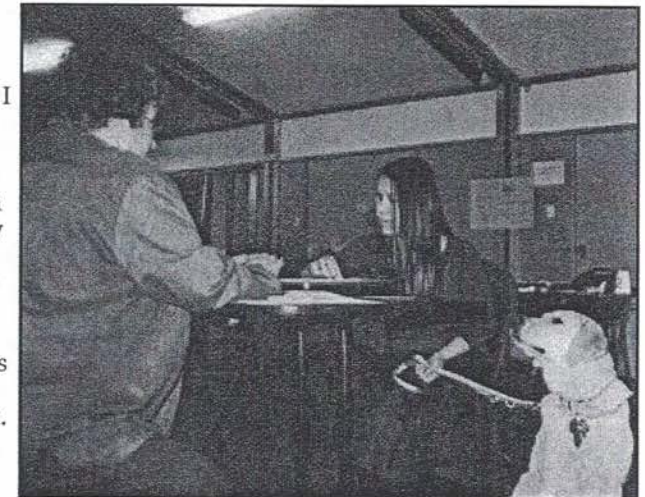
Possibly the only blind competition Scrabble player in the country, En has had to adjust the game slightly.

She plays on a board almost identical to a standard competition Scrabble board with a raised grid, so the tiles do not move. The only difference is the Braille on the special squares such as triple-word and double-letter scores. The tiles have the letter and word value in Braille.

When En started playing the club had to write to the national association to ask what the rules were for picking Braille letters.

"When I pull the letters out of the bag I could feel what the letters were if I was so inclined to cheat, and I can't monitor the other person, so I had to have a special person to pull out the letters for both players when they play me," she said.

"I think some people can find that a little difficult, but it does give you someone else to blame if you have crappy letters."



Olivia, pictured with her guide dog Awhina, playing Betty Sutherland

## Southport Tournament Report

by Debbie Caldwell (NEL)

On the day after the Trans Tasman five of the New Zealand team attended a one day tournament in Southport, at the top of the Gold Coast. The tournament was held at the RSL, ten minutes walk from the beach. It cost twenty Australian dollars and around a hundred people entered.

The tournament was divided into four grades, Masters, Advanced, Intermediate and Recreational. The Masters was the largest grade with 32 people in it, and also included four from the Australian Trans Tasman team.

There were two boards per table and every board was flat and folding. The only rotating boards were provided by the Trans Tasman team members. One player would sit at the end of the table while the other sat at the side, keeping the board at an angle between them. This gave you such a crick in the neck that it wasn't surprising that there were only six games in a day. The rule in Queensland is that if you have a choice between playing on a flat board or a rotating board and one player wishes to play on a flat board then you must play on that flat board. My first opponent requested this stating that she did not like rotating boards because the board was facing away from her for half the game.

Clocks were only compulsory for the top two grades and were mainly chess clocks. Very few Sam timers were used.

They had a free challenge rule. You could

challenge whatever you liked and were not penalised in any way. Bent card was provided to cover your rack so that you couldn't look at it while you were waiting for your challenge slip to be returned. It took me a while to realise this point of etiquette and thus my first two opponents became rather annoyed with me. No-one yelled "challenge", they just waved to the runners who had to stay alert the whole time and many players took their own challenge slips up to the computer.

At the end of the game the remaining tiles were deducted from one player and added to the other.

Most of the players wore uniform shirts. These were polo shirts with contrasting collars and the name of their club printed or embroidered on it. This was handy because you could look around and see how many of each club were represented. The shirts were brightly coloured and included sky blue, white, scarlet, lime green, royal purple and hot pink.

The tournament was a Swiss



Howard (right) playing Bob Jackman in the final game

Draw. The first pairings were random but after that it was based on number of wins and score.

Howard won the Masters grade with five wins, over the Australian Trans Tasman players and salvaged some New Zealand pride.

The spot prizes were for words beginning with C, A, R, O, L and S. You could enter any category at any time as long as the word was a non-bonus word. This was good as it meant that most of the winners were from the Recreational and Intermediate grades.

There were keepable trophies for first, second and third in each grade, plus highest score and highest word.

For lunch we were given tickets to the RSL brassiere and queued up with the public. It was a good meal with plenty of choices. I had lamb marrakech, mashed potato plus other veges and a bowl of salad. There were also desserts, rolls, chips, rice and the other main meals were a sauté, roast, sweet and sour, battered fish and a chicken dish. We were given over an hour for lunch due to the number of people and the length of the queue.

The tournament felt quite different to ours. Around Brisbane they have a one day tournament once a month, two day tournaments are uncommon as are more than six games. A Sydney Trans Tasman player told me that there they have tournaments every fortnight and usually have seven to eight games although still mainly one day tournaments.

There were two new clubs represented at the tournament and at least half the Australian Trans Tasman team were under 35. This was good and it bodes well for the Australian Scrabble future.

The results of the Masters Grade with Kiwis highlighted are in the column at right. Note that ties on wins are decided by aggregate score rather than spread as in NZ.

Rank	Player	Wins	Aggr
1	Howard Warner (NZ)	5	2804
2	Edward Okulicz (ACT)	5	2681
3	Bob Jackman (NSW)	5	2561
4	Joan Rosenthal (NSW)	5	2369
5	Chris May (NSW)	4	2535
6	Michael Vnuk	4	2412
7	Debbie Caldwell (NZ)	4	2392
8	Anne Drew	4	2388
9	Harry Malcolm (Vic)	4	2370
10	Olga Visser	4	2322
11	Karrin Henderson	3.5	2386
12	Glenda Foster (NZ)	3.5	2213
13	Paul Richards	3	2432
14	Peter Sinton (NZ)	3	2402
15	Karen Richards	3	2358
16	Trish Brighton	3	2341
17	Joan Watson	3	2311
18	Patti Ashwin	3	2252
19	Liz Fagerlund (NZ)	3	2188
20	Chile Malcolm (Vic)	3	2004
21	Julie Gardiner	2.5	2352
22	Marilyn Smith	2.5	2295
23	Trish Reynolds	2	2339
24	Alastair Richards	2	2315
25	Jane Brown	2	2266
26	Joy McGowan	2	2232
27	Carl Gray	2	2204
28	Charles Nemcsik	2	2157
29	Fay Grose	2	2143
30	Martin Waterworth	1	2121
31	Brenda Nord	1	2072
32	Sue Quirke	0	1942
High Game		Howard Warner (NZ)	563
High Word		Karrin Henderson FROTHING	107

### Steal Your Thunder

Playwright John Dennis discovered stage thunder by shaking tin sheets backstage. He used it in his plays. But when one production was removed from London's Drury Lane in 1700 and replaced by a version of Macbeth, he wrote furiously: "See what rascals they are. They will not run my play and yet they steal my thunder."

The producers had, indeed, used his invention to create thunder for the bard's work.

## Gr8 trouble in Scrabble world over txt words

by Rajeev Syal

This excerpt from *The Sunday Telegraph* November 23 2003 was submitted by Leila Thomson (LOH). The article is now over a year old and the debate seems to have died down, but it's an interesting concept.

It is not so much Scrabble as squabble. Players of the lexicographical board game are caught up in an unseemly row over whether to allow words used in mobile telephone text messages.

Modernisers claim that shortened text phrases such as *tfn* (ta ta for now), *cuthen* (see you then) and *fwiw* (for what it's worth) should be included in *Official Scrabble Words*, the reference book of 160,000 permitted words.

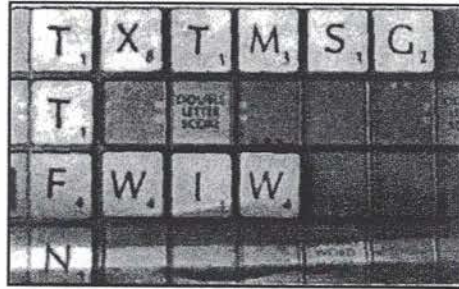
They believe that text language is justified because it is widely used and would encourage young people to play the 72-year-old game, in which players place interlocking words on a specially designed board to score points.

Traditionalists, however, are furious with the suggestion. They claim that to allow a mixture of distorted English and abbreviations would bring the nation's favourite board game into disrepute.

Joseph Kollar, the chairman of the 70-strong Hyther Scrabble Club in Hampshire and a prominent 'pro-text' campaigner, says that including text words would encourage more youngsters to play the game. "If these words are used every day by millions of people, we should be using them on the board," he said.

Mr Kollar, 58, an accountant, added: "Do we want to play a game that aims for a young and exciting image or not? The future is coming: I think we should try to be part of it."

Mr Kollar has asked Mattel, the games manufacturer, to consider putting numbered tiles into the game so that players can spell out text



Text phrases could give Scrabble a "young and exciting image"

message words such as *gr8* (great) and *2mrw* (tomorrow). In the meantime, he suggests that players could use blank squares for numbers.

The initial reaction from Mattel was positive. The company said it was examining Mr Kollar's suggestion and agreed that the game was ready for a new development. Philip Nelkon, Mattel's promotions manager said: "Text words are fast becoming part of the vocabulary of young people. They are good for Scrabble because they are short, and two- or three-letter words are a great way to help players score high.

"We are in favour of including some text words in future official Scrabble dictionaries. As language evolves, so must the game," he said.

His words have prompted an angry reaction from regular players across the country. Cindy Walker-Firth, the president of Shipley Scrabble Club, in West Yorkshire, for eight years said: "I don't mind considering text words once they have come into common usage, but we are not there yet.

"I would not be happy about seeing these words used on a board. Older players in particular will not like it."

The debate was sparked in August when the word 'pjs' — meaning pyjamas — entered the latest edition of the Chambers Dictionary, the main source of officially sanctioned Scrabble words.

Scrabble specialists claim that it has opened the way for other lower-case, abbreviated nouns used in mobile phone messages to enter the dictionary and be considered as legitimate Scrabble words.

If text words are to be officially allowed then the four members of the Official Scrabble Words Project Team will have to be persuaded.

At least one member of that panel is not. Allan Simmons, a team member and chairman of the Association of British Scrabble Players, said last week that he does not believe that Scrabble fraternity is ready for such a momentous change.

"If these words enter a recognized dictionary then we would, of course, examine each word on its merit. But they have to appear in a tome with more weight than a teenager's mobile before they are considered seriously for our official list," he said.

Until that happens, he added, campaigning for a change might be *cwot* — a complete waste of time.

Scrabble has overtaken Monopoly as Britain's biggest-selling board game. It was invented in the US in 1931 by Alfred Butts, but is played on a competitive international circuit across more than 100 countries. Some tournaments in the Far East offer £10,000 of prize money.

Scrabble obsessives are known to memorise thousands of obscure words — such as *haftarot*, *filiariid* and *axolotl* — to maximize their scores.

Stefan Fatsis, the American author of *Word Freak*, an insider's account of competitive Scrabble, said that the current row in Britain echoed a US dispute 10 years ago when the word 'jew' — an obscure term meaning to bargain — was taken out of the *Official Scrabble Players Dictionary* after complaints that it was offensive.

Mr Fatsis said: "Scrabble players rebelled because we believe that words when they are played in this game are essentially devoid of meaning, and a compromise was reached so that the word was allowed. I can see a similar situation coming in Britain over text words.

## Mt Albert Words

by Pat Grant

Here are some unusual words that were played at the Mt Albert tournament in October. All are correct.

URAEMIA	SNARIER	BENITIER
WALLEYED	LAPIDATE	SUBSONIC
SKIFFED	PORTIGUE	AWDLS
VENEWED	NOUNIER	WIENIES
FISKING	BIALE	RANCHMEN
UNSLAIN	HUISSIER	TWASOME
FACETIAE	PATHIC	

On the other hand, here are some reasonable-looking words that were challenged off...

STUNTERS	TOGLETS	UNTAINT
SETDOWN	BEGETTED	BRAINER
MANTLER	TRITONAL	ASSURAL
SEAFARE	HONKIEST	CELLOES
ECHOIER	GIVABLE	

**Collins Dictionary Update**

The ABSP (Association of British Scrabble Players)/WESPA (World English Scrabble Players Association) Dictionary Committee is currently working with Collins to produce *Collins Scrabble Words* (CSW) 2006, hopefully for publication in mid-2005. CSW will be a straight word-list (like OSW1, *Redwood*, etc.), without definitions. CSW2005 (published this year, but not adopted) included words not supported by *Collins English Dictionary* (CED), many taken from the Collins unpublished corpus, and others being computer-generated 'inflexions' (eg plurals of adjectives, -LY adverbs not listed in CED).

The errors and omissions in CSW2005 are being addressed to ensure that the next edition is:

- (a) fully in line with Collins English Dictionary;
  - (b) inclusive of Scrabble words we are familiar with now, except for about 100 deletions of rarely used words;
  - (c) inclusive of the new American words expected in 2005.
- In conjunction with CSW2006,

Collins also intends to publish Collins Scrabble Dictionary (CSD), which will be an OSPD-type reference with inflexions and short definitions for all root words.

Given the timings involved, and the need for matters to be discussed and voted on at AGMs, it is quite likely that no changes will be adopted until 2006. We'll keep you posted.

**World Champs 2005**

The 2005 World Scrabble Championships were supposed to be held in North America later next year. However, in a recent letter to Joel Wapnick (Canada), John Williams of the American National Scrabble Association states, "I'd say it's extremely unlikely that Hasbro will host the 2005 World Scrabble Championships in North America."

So will there be a World Champs anywhere next year? Two possibilities are Bahrain, who have already expressed an interest in holding the event and Thailand, home of the current World Champ, Panupol Sujjayaporn.



**Club News — Christchurch**

by Margaret Lyall

The Christchurch Club will close for the holidays on 15th and 17th December and reopen in 2005 on the 7th January for the Wednesday afternoon group and 9th January for the Friday night players.

**Top 5 Friday Night Averages**

Name	Games	Ave	B/Words
Shirley H	18	420	27
Selena	18	389	14
Colleen	17	388	13
Paul	12	388	13
Connie	7	384	5

**Top 5 Wednesday Afternoon Averages**

Name	Games	Ave	B/Words
John	23	373	20
Paula	15	327	6
Mary	17	322	4
Ruth	4	317	2
Betty W	12	302	7

**Consider Your Technique**

by Kaite Hansen

Tournament technique is something we dedicated Scrabblers need to consider. During tournaments we often hear players putting themselves down and psychologically limiting their winning potential. Familiar phrases like ... "I only play well on the first day" or "I haven't seen a high-scoring tile all day and I'm not likely to see one in the next game", can have a corrosive effect on our confidence. Running self-limiting mantra will negatively impact on our scores and Scrabble enjoyment.

During tournament breaks, players tend to gather with other players and analyse previous games, or take time out and find a quiet

space.

Either way, listen carefully to your inner monologue.

During the first day of the Dunedin tournament I felt overwhelmed by the high calibre of players in which I was grouped and the effect was subtle but deadly. I struggled and made silly mistakes. Eventually I recognised my subconscious was holding me back and made a concerted effort to transform my thinking.

My games improved and more importantly, my attitude changed. And I was reminded of a song I love — *I am Born to Win*. We are all born to win. See you at the next tournament.

A safe and enjoyable holiday season and good tiles in 2005 — from Margaret and the gang in Christchurch.

**Club News - Dunedin**

**Otago Lion Open Tournament, November 12-13.**

by Bill Grigg (transcribed in haste by Chris Handley).

Visitors included Ernie and Valma Gidman (Rodney), Lynn Wood and her mother, Thelma Chisholm (Wellington), Murray Rogers and Maria Clinton (Nelson) and the usual large, enthusiastic, contingent from Christchurch.

The weather was hot (and not just by Dunedin standards) but the competition was, as usual, a lot hotter. It was really good to see a pair of 'golden oldies' (aka 'old crocks'), Doreen Ogston and Bill Grigg, back in tournament play.

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**Highlights**

Overall Winner (A Grade) Peter Sinton 13 wins, 1485 spread, 436 average, and 29 bonus words.

**Highest winning score:**

542 by Lynn Wood, A Grade

**Highest game score:**

896 by Olivia En (482) and Paul Freeman (414) D Grade

**Highest turn score:**

150 by Marion Ross for AMAZONS.

Nick Ascroft (3rd in A grade) continues his climb through the ranks and has now (just) made the top 50. Our loss next year is Wellington's gain — we will miss him enormously.

A special mention to the leaders of the D Grade: Paul Freeman (1), Ella Rushton (2) and Olivia En, our blind player (3). This was only the second or third tournament for each of them, and they all played extremely well. Well done.

A great time was had by all and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

## ANAGRAM CORNER

Scrabblers are dab hands at transposing letters, eg OTTER to TORTE, and PATTERN to REPTANT. On a higher level, Olympic rower GEORGINA EVERS-SWINDELL becomes SEE GOLDEN GIRL'S RAVE WIN.

The anagrams this time feature Australian players from the 2004 Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival.

SHEREE BROWN	HER NEW ROBES
AUDREY NEWMAN	NAMED UNWEARY
GARY POLLARD	PAYROLL DRAG
ALISON POLLARD	SLIP ON A DOLLAR
EILEEN BALDWIN	WINE/DINE LABEL
WAYNE WILLIS	I SAY WE'LL WIN

**Dead Ringer**

In medieval Britain it was not uncommon for people to be buried when they had merely collapsed unconscious or were in a coma. The gentry began burying relatives with a piece of string attached to a bell above ground. Many bodies were exhumed after the bell was rung and continued to live a long and healthy life. Friends were amazed to see someone who looked exactly like the pal they had recently buried — or a dead ringer.

**Going Freelance**

In the Middle Ages, knights and lords could hire out their services to the highest bidder. The Free Lancer became part of literature when Sir Walter Scott wrote in *Ivanhoe* in 1820: "Ivanhoe offers Richard the services of my Free Lancers." It became the term for the self-employed.

**As Pissed as a Newt**

A newt was the name given to boys who looked after gentlemen's horses in the 17th and 18th centuries. During an evening, the gentlemen would send alcoholic drinks out to the boys — who were often found rolling drunk.

**Run Ends**

In the last issue we mentioned Jeff and Pat Grant's feat of playing one hundred consecutive games with a combined score of at least 800 ("Saturday Sessions" p9). The run came to an end at 135 games on October 30. Scores in the next three games were 799,795 and 1021!

**Film Review**

by A Critic

**Word War Too**

This is the sequel to *Word Wars* a quirky, American Scrabble documentary that screened on the Maori TV channel on September 14 (see review in March 2004 *Forwards*).

Directed by little-known Scrabble aficionado and pisse-artiste Frank Ford Capriola, the short film *Word War Too* features:-

- Joe Deadly — arrogant, super focused, unpopularly successful hit man of the boards
  - GI Jolly — dapper and gaunt, an eccentric, flatulent, melancholy genius
  - Nat Grumble — erratically brilliant and comically handsome, pill-popping hypochondriac
  - Harlem — impish, foul-mouthed Rastafarian pothead with attitude
- With cameo appearances by a motley assortment of flexi brained verbigerators and colourful crackpots including 'Freaky' Steven Fatbro; Don 'The Expurgator' Williams; Ozzie Colgate; Zita Nort; Tiger Rickardis; B. O. 'Big Bob' Felthey; Jeeves Traywright; Aldo Parker; Lori Klynette (The Shhh-it Girl); Ryan Cappuccino; Kendo Boydini; Bandy Hairsome and somebody's father. [Any resemblance to real-life caricatures is coincidental.]

What the critics said about *Word War Too*:-

"A stunning exposé of the seamy capitalist underside of Scrabble Loonyland."

— *Corsican Courier*

"Pretentious, but entertaining." — *Moi*

"Unbeefinglievable!" — *Maledicta*

"Not an entirely accurate representation of the Scrabble scene." — *Manhattan Scrabble News*

"Crapola." — *New Day*

So there you have it (or not). Capriola's film is sure to be controversial. Frankly, it's rubbish. Don't miss it!

[Our reviewer, Anatole Critic, is a famous Bosnian Army Scrabble champion.]

**Are You Phobic?**

Gerald Warner sent in this list of phobias - how many do you have?

Amphibians	batrachophobia
Beards	pogonophobia
Deformity	teratophobia
Fall of satellites	keraonothnetophobia
Being tied up	merinthophobia
Being contagious	tapinophobia
Theft	harpagophobia
Being stared at	ophthalmophobia
Tickling with feathers	pteronophobia
Sharks	selachophobia
Opening one's eyes	optophobia
Being touched	aphenphosmophobia
Blushing	ereuthophobia
Choking	pnigerophobia
Clowns	coulrophobia
Novelty	cainolophobia
Colours	chromatophobia
Detumescence	medomalacuphobia
Crossing bridges	gephyrophobia
Crowds	enochlophobia
Failure or defeat	kakorriaphobia
Being ridiculed	catagelophobia
Foreign languages	xenoglossophobia
Frogs	ranidphobia
Animal skins	doraphobia
Garlic	scorodophobia
Getting wrinkles	rhytidophobia
Ghosts	phasmophobia
Going to school	didaskaleinophobia
Doctors	iatrophobia
Hair	trichopathophobia
Hell	stygiophobia
Kissing	philematophobia
People or society	anthropophobia
Snow	chionophobia
Wasps	spheksophobia

## Accommodation for 2005 Nationals

Shirley Hol has researched accommodation for the Nationals to be held in Christchurch, Queens Birthday weekend, 2005.

### Right next door to Crockford's Bridge Club (venue)

**Riccarton Motor Lodge** (4star) 16 units [will give discount for full occupancy]

Ph 0800 341 212

**AAAAA Motor Lodge** (5star) 16 units  
Ph 0800 341 3274

### Very close (easy walking distance)

**Ilam Motel** (cheaper and more down market) Has some large 2 bedroom units for groups

Ph 0800 452 666

**Christchurch Motel**

Ph 0800 252 258

### Slightly further away (slightly longer walk)

**306 on Riccarton**

Ph 0800 304 306 2.

**Apollo Motel**

Ph 0800 862 765 3.

**Ascot Vale Motel**

Ph 0800 274 207 4.

**Coachman Motel**

Ph 0800 835 935 5.

**Clyde on Riccarton**

Ph 0800 280 282

### Opposite Riccarton Mall (plenty of buses)

**Dean's Bush Motel**

Ph 0800 375 075 2.

**Riccarton Mall Motel**

Ph 0800 474 222

### Scrabble Factoid

ARCS is the longest word that appears in SCRABBLE when it is spelt backwards. ARCS contains the only two letters whose Scrabble values (A = 1, C = 3) are the same as their positions in the alphabet. They appear first and third in ARCS too.

**Cheaper than most (but a long walk)**  
**Earnslaw Motel**, Blenheim Rd  
Ph 0800 101 056

### Quietest (but you'll need a car)

**Ashleigh Court Motel**, Matai St, near Mona Vale  
Ph 0800 274 534

**Addington Accommodation Park**  
(about 1 3/4 km from venue)  
47-51 Whiteleigh St

\*Fully self-contained units - 2 bedrooms, 1 dble bed, 1 set bunks, 1 single bed \$70 for 2, \$15 per extra person \*Chalets - 1 room, 1 set bunks, 1 dble bed, with cooking facilities, use camp showers & toilets, bring own bedding

\$45 per person

\*Chalets - 1 room, 1 set bunks, 1 single bed - NO cooking facilities, use camp amenities

\$35 per person

Orbiter bus outside camp - runs 1/4 hourly (1/2 hourly Sunday). Stops near venue

Ph 338 9770; Fax 338 1252; Email  
addacc@xtra.co.nz

Any queries to Ph 03 343 2214, email  
antone@ihug.co.nz



There are many interesting words starting with CAT. Here are a dozen of them.

CATALASE	CATHEXES
CATAWBA	CATHOUSE
CATCHFLY	CATLINS
CATECHU	CATTALO
CATENANE	CATTLEYA
CATFACE	CATWORM

# EXECUTIVE EXERTIONS



This year is almost at an end — it has just flown by — but although it's now December I do wonder when summer is going to arrive. Of course, it's officially summer right now, but in many parts of New Zealand you could be forgiven for thinking that we are still in the winter season! Great Scrabble weather, of course — but what kind of weather isn't?

Mt Albert, Wanganui, Rodney, Dunedin, Kiwi and Waikato Phoenix have all held successful tournaments since the last magazine — the number of entries continues to mostly be slightly down on previous years — with the exception of the Dunedin club's November tournament where there was an entry of 35 players (compared to the usual 20-26 players). I do hope those clubs thinking about having less tournaments because of falling entries don't do that — small tournaments are good tournaments too, and I think the way to boost numbers again certainly won't be achieved by giving people less tournaments to choose from. Don't forget, when your club is holding a tournament, it is the responsibility of the club to ensure that everything for the running of the tournament is there — computer gear, clocks, dictionaries etc — Glenda has a tournament checklist on the NZ website — and of course, the latest NZASP rules, which every club should have copies of at their tournaments, and for all their club members, particularly those wishing to compete in tournaments.

The New Zealand Trans Tasman team suffered rather a large defeat by the Australian team in November — they had a very strong team, and we just couldn't foot it with them this time - see Glenda's report on page XX

One very noticeable thing about the

Australian team was the large number of young players — at least 1/2 their team members were between 15 & 30 years old. Where are all our young players? Scrabble is a great game for all ages, but clubs need to be pro-active in encouraging new members — and getting younger players at clubs and tournaments is important if New Zealand is to continue to be able to run tournaments and clubs here, and compete creditably overseas. Perhaps some clubs can come up with ideas to get new members — Dunedin has successfully run Scrabble for Schools in conjunction with Library Week, other clubs advertise, and do demonstrations at libraries and shopping centres. Sometimes all these efforts reap no new members, but continually putting Scrabble in the public eye, and letting people know that there are such things as Scrabble clubs must eventually help get new recruits and keep this wonderful hobby/mind sport going and growing in New Zealand.

Howard Warner has said farewell to NZ shores for a while, and plans to stay and work in Australia for a couple of years. Best of luck to you Howard, in your work and Scrabble while overseas — and don't forget where you are from when the next TT challenge is on in 2006! Thanks for all your contributions to the magazine — perhaps you can be our foreign correspondent.

Thanks to the rest of the committee — Allie, Joan and Lynn, for their work over the year; also Lynne Butler and Glenda Foster for continuing to do a great job producing this magazine.

Merry Xmas and Happy New Year to you all. See you next year.

Liz







Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade E</b>					
1 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	7	697	429	11
2 Bev Barker	MTA	6	253	390	7
3 Kate Wignall	MTA	4	173	395	9
4 Pat Bryan	MTA	4	144	380	8
5 Margaret Hanson	PHC	3	-230	338	5
6 Elaine Ware	MTA	2	-286	322	4
7 Sala Jones	ROD	1	-247	341	1
8 Kath Davies	HBC	1	-504	319	4
<b>Grade F</b>					
1 Karl Scherer	NSB	6	371	375	2
2 Bernice Hyde	NSB	5	401	372	5
3 Lyres Freeth	ROD	4	168	387	6
4 Dorothy Haining	ROD	4	37	349	2
5 Ruth Munnings	ROD	4	-54	350	5
6 Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	2	-103	321	4
7 Kate Leslie	ROD	2	-386	309	2
8 Madge Watson	HBC	1	-278	310	4
<b>Grade G</b>					
1 Linda Moore	ROD	5	174	285	0
2 Sue Mayn	ROD	5	120	288	3
3 Joy Hewson	HBC	5	71	291	3
4 Margaret Miller	HBC	4	155	283	0
5 Melody Freeth	ROD	4	9	288	2
6 Betty Wyatt	ROD	3	-305	254	1
7 Mary Cosse	HBC	2	-224	255	4

**Otago Lion Open Tournament  
13-14 November 2004**

**15 Games**

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	BW
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Peter Sinton	DUN	13	1485	436	29
2 Paul Lister	CHC	12	647	412	25
3 Nick Ascroft	DUN	8	-392	377	14
4 Lynn Wood	WEL	7	651	413	22
5 Karyn McDougall	DUN	3	-1193	351	14
6 Murray Rogers	NEL	2	-1198	350	10
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Bill Grigg	DUN	13	601	383	14
2 Doreen Ogston	CHC	7	62	380	20
3 Margaret Lyall	CHC	7	-197	373	20
4 Ruth Groffman	DUN	6	-99	359	6
5 Ernie Gidman	ROD	6	-141	374	19
6 Kaite Hansen	CHC	6	-226	365	13
<b>Grade C</b>					
1 Carolyn Kyle	DUN	9	25	388	22
2 Ray Goodyear	CHC	8	90	378	13
3 Marian Ross	DUN	8	-71	372	15

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
4 Colleen Cook	CHC	8	-84	374	13
5 Valma Gidman	ROD	6	93	368	11
6 Gabrielle Bolt	CHC	6	-53	378	17
<b>Grade D</b>					
1 Paul Freeman	DUN	10	226	396	23
2 Ella Rushton	DUN	9	251	381	14
3 Olivia En	DUN	9	244	377	13
4 Connie Flores	CHC	8	419	374	9
5 Chris Handley	DUN	6	-346	352	16
6 Thelma Chisholm	WEL	3	-794	325	5
<b>Grade E</b>					
1 Yvonne MacKenzie	CHC	11	355	366	12
2 Dominic Lister	CHC	10	188	360	10
3 Maria Clinton	NEL	9	388	357	12
4 Michael Groffman	DUN	7	-52	348	3
5 Jean Craib	CHC	4	-340	341	10
6 Roslyn Lister	CHC	4	-539	328	10
<b>Grade F</b>					
1 Charles Kiewiet	CHC	10	731	359	2
2 Trevor Rowell	DUN	10	500	356	8
3 Paula Gibbons	CHC	5	100	329	3
4 Betty Wilson	CHC	5	-18	334	8
5 Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	0	-1313	262	0

**Kiwi Club Tournament  
19 November**

**7 Games**

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Janice Cherry	PAK	5	326	410	9
2 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	5	180	387	8
3 Peter Jones	HAM	4	214	386	12
4 Eileen McLean	MTA	4	200	384	8



Doreen Ogston (CHC)

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
5 John Foster	NSB	4	170	402	6
6 Lisa McLean	KAP	3	-145	380	9
7 Roger Coates	KIW	2	-425	354	7
8 Stan Skinner	TGA	1	-520	340	6
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Jennifer Smith	HAM	5	381	409	10
2 Faye Cronhelm	IND	5	7	357	6
3 David Gunn	WKP	4	140	398	10
4 Maureen Holliday	HBC	3	346	417	10
5 Helen Sillis	NPL	3	-2	364	7
6 Glenda Geard	IND	3	-251	356	7
7 Jean O'Brien	IND	3	-359	349	7
8 Kim Graham	KIW	2	-262	363	6
<b>Grade C</b>					
1 Isabel Zyp	IND	7	569	420	9
2 Lyn Toka	KIW	5	135	385	10
3 Delcie Macbeth	IND	4	186	402	10
4 Shirley Martin	HAM	3	-12	358	7
5 Samantha Samuels	KIW	3	-227	356	7
6 Rosalind Phillips	MTA	2	58	370	5
7 Joan Pratt	HBC	2	-276	362	8
8 Margaret Cherry	PAK	2	-433	343	9
<b>Grade D</b>					
1 Pam Mayall	KIW	5.5	220	383	4
2 Lynn Carter	NSB	5	235	393	10
3 Catherine Henry	TGA	4.5	255	394	8
4 Karen Miller	PAK	4.5	62	353	7
5 Carole Coates	KIW	2.5	89	381	7
6 Kate Wignall	MTA	2	-250	350	2
7 Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	2	-299	331	4
8 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	2	-312	350	6



Players relax between rounds at the Waikato Phoenix Club tourney

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade E</b>					
1 Jean Wacker	TGA	7	645	392	5
2 Jena Yousif	KIW	5	109	361	6
3 Bernice Hyde	NSB	4	238	364	5
4 Margaret Hanson	PHC	4	157	361	7
5 Maureen McBain	TGA	3	-224	325	1
6 Pauline Smeaton	TGA	2	-164	332	2
7 Jillian Greening	HAM	2	-347	315	6
8 Elsie Pugh	KIW	1	-414	291	1
<b>Grade F</b>					
1 Anthea Jones	KIW	5	342	366	5
2 Barbara Dunn	TGA	4.5	161	363	5
3 Heather London	TGA	4	284	351	4
4 Margaret Penniket	KIW	4	-290	334	5
5 Pat Wood	TGA	3.5	-123	332	1
6 Bev Griffin	TGA	3	134	344	3
7 Sue Foster	TGA	3	-178	312	0
8 Karen Stewart	KIW	1	-330	309	8
<b>Waikato Phoenix Club Tournament 20 November</b>					
<b>7 Games</b>					
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Lisa McLean	IND	5	233	405	11
2 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	5	211	414	9
3 Eileen McLean	MTA	5	32	397	10
4 Patrick Carter	MTA	4	209	413	9
5 Peter Jones	HAM	4	-117	373	10
6 Glynis Jennings	MTA	3	366	417	10
7 Marianne Bentley	TGA	2	-385	380	7
8 Janice Cherry	PAK	0	-549	361	7
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 David Gunn	WKP	6	497	432	15
2 Jennifer Smith	HAM	6	368	406	4
3 Maureen Holliday	HBC	3	-49	394	10
4 Jean O'Brien	IND	3	-83	381	11
5 Roger Coates	KIW	3	-109	399	12
6 Helen Sillis	NPL	3	-288	363	4
7 Glenda Geard	IND	2	-43	365	7
8 Faye Cronhelm	IND	2	-293	369	10
<b>Grade C</b>					
1 Delcie Macbeth	IND	6	533	407	10
2 Shirley Martin	HAM	5	369	400	12
3 Stan Gregec	IND	5	291	395	8
4 Isabel Zyp	IND	4	100	377	9
5 Lyn Toka	KIW	3	-276	354	6
6 Lorraine van Veen	IND	2	-256	365	7
7 Margaret Cherry	PAK	2	-321	339	8
8 Rosalind Phillips	MTA	1	-440	351	5

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade D</b>					
1 Samantha Samuels	KIW	5	68	381	8
2 Bev Barker	MTA	5	22	379	8
3 Lynn Carter	NSB	4	212	412	10
4 Su Walker	MTA	4	-76	399	13
5 Joan Pratt	HBC	3	90	0	5
6 Carole Coates	KIW	3	-116	368	7
7 Shirley Bonthron	TGA	2	-45	383	11
8 Catherine Henry	TGA	2	-155	339	4
<b>Grade E</b>					
1 Shirley Morrison	TGA	5	115	338	2
2 Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	5	24	358	6
3 Jacqueline					
Caldham-Fussell	KIW	4	112	363	6
4 Jean Wacker	TGA	4	50	353	6
5 Margaret Hanson	PHC	3	38	345	6
6 Pam Mayall	KIW	3	-76	358	4
7 Bernice Hyde	NSB	3	-140	341	3
8 Jena Yousif	KIW	1	-123	343	4
<b>Grade F</b>					
1 Anderina McLean	MTA	6	350	378	9
2 Heather Landon	TGA	5	219	369	8
3 Pauline Smeaton	TGA	5	45	354	5
4 Barbara Dunn	TGA	4	45	367	5



lunch time at Waikato

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
5 Jillian Greening	HAM	4	8	330	5
6 Anthea Jones	KIW	3	118	331	5
7 Maureen McBain	TGA	3	96	359	6
8 Pat Wood	TGA	3	-160	335	4
9 Bev Griffin	TGA	1	-215	306	0
10 Sue Foster	TGA	1	-506	291	0



Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year



## 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	487	Lynne Wood (WEL) & Debbie Caldwell (NEL)	482	Margaret Warren (HAS) & Jeff Grant (HAS)
Highest Single Turn	221	Sheryl Davidson (PAK) Lisa McLean (IND) Jeff Grant (IND)	347	Neil Talbot (WEL)
Highest Single Turn Non-bonus	135	Ruth O'Neil (NPL)	261	John Foster (MTA)
Highest Combined Score	1078	Howard Warner (CAP) & David Lloyd (MTA)	1106	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Largest Winning Margin	493	Mike Sigley (WAN)	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) Patrick Carter (MTA)
Most Bonus Words in Game (1 person)	6	Nigel Richards (CHC) Yvette Hewlett (IND)	6	Mike Sigley (WAN) Nigel Richards (CHC) Lynne Powell (ROD) Karyn McDougall (DUN) Allie Quinn (NSB) Sheryl Davidson (PAK) Patrick Carter (MTA)
Most Bonus Words in Game (2 people)	8	Mike Sigley (WAN) & Glenys 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), Mike Sigley (WAN) 21 2002
Highest Aggregate	Nigel Richards (CHC) 11,103 (1999)
Most Bonus Words	Nigel Richards (CHC) 61 (1998)
Highest Spread	Howard Warner (MTA) +2410 (2000)