

## Contact Information

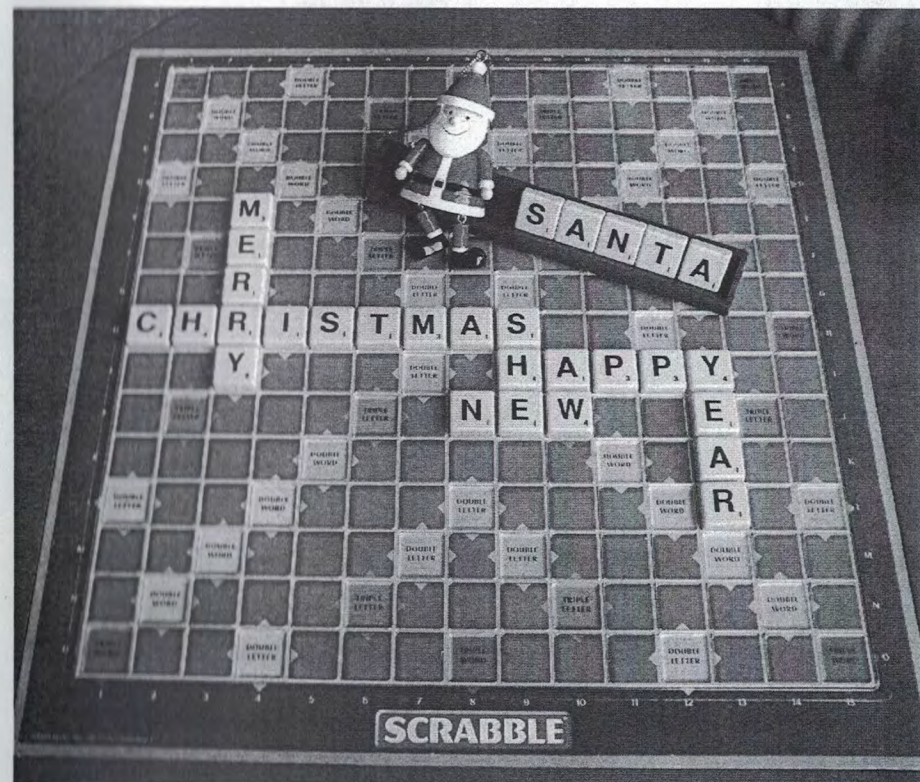
Clubs (Nth to Sth)	Contact Person	Phone	Meeting Day/Time	Meeting Place
Whangarei (WRE)	Allie Quinn	09 437 3548	Thurs 1pm	Senior Citizens, Alexander Street
Rodney (ROD)	Linda Moore	09 425 4959	Mon 1pm	Totara Park, Warkworth
Hibiscus Coast (HBC)	Joan Pratt	09 426 4521	Mon 1pm	Orewa Community Centre
Nth Shore Bays (NSB)	Marge Dalzell	09 478 6248	Tues 10am	Campbell's Bay Methodist Church Hall
Mt Albert (MTA)	Marianne Patchett	09 626 4849	Fri 7.15pm	Mt Albert Bridge Club rooms
Pakuranga/Howick (PAK)	Jeanette Owler	09 534 4453	Tues 12.30pm Thurs 7pm	Highland Park Community House, 47 Aviemore Drive, Highland Park
Papatoetoe/Holy Cross (PHC)	May Meads	09 278 5155	Mon 1pm	64 Fairview Rd.
Hamilton (HAM)	Jillian Greening	07 843 7652	Tues 7pm	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)	Ngair 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		
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 9.45am	11 Gilbert St., New Plymouth
Stratford (STR)	Sharon Clarke	06 765 5653		
Hastings (HAS)	Yvonne Wilson	06 879 7620	Tues 1pm	
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)	Graeme Brown	04 297 0720	Mon 7pm	Ring Graeme
Wellington (WEL)	Lynn Wood	04 387 2581	Tues 7pm	5 Tully St., Kilbirnie
Nelson (NEL)	Steve Richards	03 544 0475	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 Thom St., Caversham
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# FORWORDS

Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players

No 85 December 2006



## In this issue

Tribute to Evelyn Hayward-Warner

Forum: Tile tracking

830 point game controversy

Tile M for Murder: short story

Trans Tasman Challenge report



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## From the Editor



Plenty of reading for you over the holiday period in this issue of Forwards – thanks to everyone who has contributed to this issue (at least 30 of you). Please keep it up by keeping an eye out or putting your thinking cap on over the holiday period.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, with lots of games of Scrabble!

New Year – a good time for making resolutions.

The best way to ensure you keep them, is to make a resolution to do something that you want to do!

Here's mine: I'm going to get to grips with tile tracking. I think in the long run that will be a lot more achievable – and pleasurable – than trying to stop swearing, or eating sensibly, or spending more wisely.

As you know, I try not to ask only the very highly graded players to contribute to Forum, but for this issue's tile tracking topic I had my work cut out to find people in the lower grades who actually do tile track. What a joy to discover that Betty does!

And what good sense she offers – as do Steven, John and Paul. They all recommend that we start learning to file track just as soon as we've mastered using clocks. I wish I had started tile tracking at that stage.

I'm increasingly more grateful that our Club made it compulsory for us to play with clocks, as that no longer holds any fear for me. I don't get scared that I'll forget, or get flustered because of them, or am unsure of how to use them.

But tile tracking throws me – makes me nervous and flustered and confused – because, I now realise, I have established a playing rhythm that does not include tile tracking. And now it's really hard to re-establish a new rhythm, or as Paul puts it, to get all my Scrabble skills in tandem.

For myself, I was reassured to read how

long it's taking Betty to get to the stage of being accurate with the tile tracking, and how long it took Paul. I still only do it about one game in four, and when I do, I'm often miles out.

Sometimes my opponent is sitting there with 4 tiles on their rack and my tile tracking says there are still 19 tiles to come!! Hopeless!

All four contributors emphasise that practice makes perfect.

So come on, everybody, this is wonderful encouragement to get started on tile tracking. Why don't you join me in my New Year resolution?

It's really important not to give up if you're doing it badly to start with, or not making use of the information, or even going over time. If you persevere with tile tracking, the information will be there when you need it most – and it will be reliable.

Hang in there, and we can all start doing better things with our endgames in 2007.

### Who's that again?

It's the Phoenix Tournament in November 2006, and David Gunn is playing Roger Coates in the morning.

Partway through the game he can't resist showing all the people around him what's on his rack: R COATES. He plays COATERS with the letters.

It's afternoon, and David is now playing Peter Jones. Suddenly he laughs, and again shows his rack to the players around him: R COATES again! This time he plays COASTER.

Roger, you've got to stop helping David get all these bonus words!



## From the Executive

The festive season has come around so fast this year, it would take your breath away. The Scrabble calendar has been extremely full and many successful tournaments have been held. At the time this magazine goes to print, a new club on the list, Kapiti, will have hosted their first.

The Trans Tasman tournament in November was an interesting time for the two teams. The Black Tiles, as our team was known as, started with a hiss and a roar, and led until lunch on the second day. There were hard luck stories all around, but the Mozzies came out on top, and soundly beat the Black Tiles by 31 games.

Congratulations to Andrew Fisher on his first Trans Tasman title, and to Bob Jackman as runner up. Jeff received the cup for the best NZ player and was in third place.

Andrew had been extremely unwell on the Sunday, but Lynne Butler kindly gave him medical supplies that helped his ability to play. We warned that a medical bill would follow in the mail.

The Mozzies have a decidedly younger team, and Bob's comment when he emerged from the taxi was that the children were walking.

Val Mills provided a wonderful food array on all three days, and the great smells permeating from the kitchen were indeed a treat. What a whiz! Thanks, Val, we appreciate you giving up your time and energy. Thanks, too, to Glenda for producing a scoring book with all the team players' photos. Great work.

Australia will host the event in 2008, but a venue is as yet undecided.

There have been faint mutterings of a venue for the Worlds next year, and two

things we know for sure are that England and the USA aren't in contention. Great news for the NZASP as the cost of travel to those countries is so prohibitive.

We said farewell to Eileen McLean and Mary Farmer during the year. The school of Scrabble players has grown upstairs and we don't want any more thanks.

Evelyn Hayward-Warner was a new Scrabble player on the circuit, but she too joined the club in the sky. Gerald and Evelyn didn't manage to celebrate their first wedding anniversary; such a sad loss to a lovely couple.

The Nationals are in Wellington next year as you all know, and finding a suitable venue at a reasonable price is not proving an easy task. The final decision hasn't yet been made, as several venues have been reluctant to give me the details I require. Confirmation will be at the management meeting in January, and the Eastern or Southern suburbs of Wellington will be the location. Both are handy to the city, and airport, and are on good bus services.

As is customary in this issue, I wish you the compliments of the festive season. I trust you and your loved ones will embrace the Christmas spirit and celebrate in fine style. For the working Scrabblers lucky enough to have time off over December and January, enjoy your break, and keep playing our favourite game.

Happy New Year to you all, and good Scrabbling.



Lynn

## Competition Corner

### Scrabble contest no. 85

Can you solve these word pairs? In each case the second word in the set is formed by adding a letter internally to the first word.

Examples: feline talk = cat chat, lunar fool = moon moron

1. locate demon
2. insane virgin
3. sacred Xmas plant
4. heal malison
5. mingle saucy girl
6. fired brief
7. boko lasso
8. pleasing cranny
9. story desk
10. Sahara jelly
11. term globe
12. clenched hand initial
13. proper fall
14. ingenuous aboriginal
15. employ trash again
16. noticing zilch
17. mentum shackle
18. more odd throtler
19. dormant inclusion
20. chopper greeting

Send entries by mail or email to:

Jeff Grant

'Ardra'

1109 Allenby St

Hastings

[ardra@paradise.net.nz](mailto:ardra@paradise.net.nz)

Closing date is 20 February 2007.

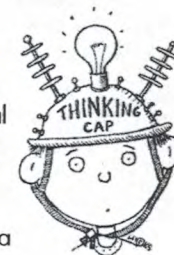
The winner will receive a book prize.

### Solution to contest no. 84

PRETTIES/OBOE scores 89, and several people suggested the better move PETTIER/EQUIPS for 93.

However, Lyn Toka (Kiwi), Glennis Hale (Independent) and Leila Thomson (Lower Hutt) all found the best play – PIROUETTE through OU for 94 points.

First name out of the hat was Leila. Well done!



### Brain teaser

What is the next word in the following series?

AID  
NATURE  
WORLD  
ESTATE  
COLUMN  
SENSE

Choose from WATER, MUSIC, WELCOME and HEAVEN.

Answer on page 41.

### Editor's challenge

As always, unless they are included as part of a question as to their correctness, all bogus words in this magazine that are not otherwise clearly identified as unacceptable Scrabble words are marked with an asterisk – except one, which has been left deliberately un-asterisked for you to find.

Can you find it? Answer on page 41.



## Find the odd one out

- by Jennifer Smith

Thirty of the following words have something in common. What is it, and can you find the odd one out?

1. BACKFIRE
2. BLOWFLY
3. BUCKSAW
4. BUTTERNUT
5. CODLING
6. COMEDOWN
7. DOUP
8. DOWNPLAY
9. FISHBONE
10. HEADLONG
11. HEREIN
12. HILLSIDE
13. HOMETOWN
14. HUNTSMAN
15. JACKBOOT
16. KINGPIN
17. MAKEUP
18. MANHOOD
19. OFFHAND
20. PACKMAN
21. PICKLOCK
22. PINHEAD
23. POPJOY
24. RAGSTONE
25. REDOUT
26. RIPTIDE
27. SHIPMATE
28. TAILSPIN
29. UPLEAD
30. WITHOUT
31. WORKTOP

Solution on page 41.

## Winning words

Would you challenge VETIVERT, BOSKIEST or HOWFED? What about GUAIAIC, UNWATERY or PROLLING? They were all played on the first day of the Trans-Tasman Challenge in Auckland, and they are all correct. Here are some other unusual words that were noted by adjudicator Pat Grant over the three-day event:

### Allowed

GRILLADE  
ROSIERE  
BELEAPS  
COURB  
NATIFORM  
PEGASUS  
LIVIER  
THEED  
CONVO  
GROSZY  
CRAMBE  
JAROOL  
REGELATE  
ZONOID  
KANGHAS  
ANTHODIA  
PALEAE  
CHOANAE  
AFORETIME  
ANOVULAR

BRIGUED  
STRIGOSE  
AVIANIZE  
PREELECT  
IBERISES  
BLUIDY  
OXLANDS  
FLANEURS  
GIGATONS  
GHRAOES  
UNAKITES  
BILOBAR  
ENTODERMS  
PICOTITE  
MILCHIG  
ESTREPED  
BOWAT  
HIGHT  
BEVOR  
RURALITY

### Disallowed

FLIPT\*  
EGOIZES\*  
CUBICLED\*  
OUTFADES\*  
WIDEBACK\*  
DEIONISE\*  
FISHTANK\*  
VOCALE\*  
NUCLEARS\*  
PIWIT\*  
TOMATOING\*  
TRINODE\*  
ENROOFS\*  
JINXER\*  
VETCHED\*  
SOFTLEG\*  
FACTI\*  
CITRIDE\*  
TUNELIKE\*  
GHOULIER\*

## Scrabble for a seat

- sent in by Su Walker

Interactive seating based on Scrabble provides a short break area for employees in the London offices of Bloomberg financial services. Users can make words and leave messages with the screen-printed letter cushions.

Black and white printing doesn't do the room justice, the carpet is Scrabble board green



## Tribute to Evelyn Haywood-Warner

- by Margie Hurly and Allie Quinn

Evelyn was one of the first people to greet me, Margie, in her friendly way and with her lovely smile when I arrived to join the Whangarei Scrabble Club that she had helped to set up with Gerald Warner in June of 2005.

Gerald and Evelyn had previously both been members of Hibiscus Coast Club and when the two of them decided to join forces as it were, Gerald moved to Whangarei, where they married in January this year. Evelyn was just one big grin when they announced their engagement, little knowing that their happiness would be so short-lived.

Evelyn participated in quite a few tournaments; she attended the Nationals in Christchurch in 2005 and was looking forward to the 2006 Nationals but was unable to be present. She had also been looking forward to attending the Scrabble Festival in Norfolk Island but it wasn't to be. Her last tournament would have been North Shore.

As treasurer of Whangarei Club, Evelyn helped with the organisation of our Club's inaugural tournament which was a great success. She only managed a fleeting visit to the tournament, greeting everyone with her lovely smile.

Evelyn, like us all, was fascinated with words and played many bingos. The one which intrigued Margie most was SWINGLE – a SCUTCHING tool or the SWIPPLE of a flail.



In ascertaining the meaning of swingle, Margie added two other words to her vocabulary. She will always remember Evelyn for that word. Allie, for her part, will remember when Evelyn beat her and shouted out to the Club "I've beaten Allie Quinn". I am glad I made her day.

Even during her last days when Scrabble players visited her in the Hospice, Evelyn was always very cheerful. We shall all remember her as a really lovely lady and, like others who have gone before her, she will be sadly missed in the Scrabble world and especially by the members of Whangarei Scrabble Club.



# Twenty years ago today

- by John Foster

This month I have selected an entire page from issue No 6, December 1986, containing two different perspectives on the Tauranga tournament.

The first, by Peter Jones, describes the day using only 7-letter words, including the lunch, prize-giving and complimentary drinks and nibbles at the conclusion.

The second, by Sue Marrow, is a more formal account of her weekend.

The Tournament was an important milestone for New Zealand Scrabble as it was held to celebrate the 10th birthday of the Tauranga Club, generally believed to be the first formal club in New Zealand, although other clubs came into existence round about the same time. This, of course, means that organised Scrabble in New Zealand is at least thirty years old.

### TOURNAMENT SCENE

A 'Scrabble' players view of the recent Tauranga Tournament.

DECIDED ENTERED IMBURSE ACCEPTS CONFIRM MOTORED  
 ARRIVED COLLEGE ENJOYED MEETING AGONIST QUIETEN  
 STARTED PLAYING SELECTS LETTERS CHANGED TACTICS  
 YIELDED LUNCHEd SAVOURY CHICKEN MUFFINS BISCUIT  
 CAUDLES RESTART ACHIEVE BONUSES SCORING FIFTIES  
 TRIUMPH DISPUTE SUCCUMB DISMAYD CLOSURE LEASURE  
 GLASSES CONTAIN ALCOHOL IMBIBED CONSUME CHEESES  
 AWARDED REWARDS TRIBUTE PRAISES PARTING GOODBYE  
 JOURNEY TOWARDS HABITAT ENCORES ENCORES

Peter Jones

P.S. Any challenges?

The middle of the August School holidays and the Tauranga 10th Anniversary Tournament gave the perfect excuse for a weekend away. As others winged their way to Norfolk Island, we drove south-east to Tauranga, and the sun shone radiantly as reputed.

The Community College was an ideal venue and between games we sat in the sunshine out in the courtyard. There were 36 players in attendance, including three from Australia. Margaret Aston and Jess Harris of Queensland, who attended the very first National Championship in Tauranga in 1980, and Shirley Bradford of Sydney, who is no stranger to us. Shirley played in the 1982 Nationals at Tauranga and the 1983 and 1984 Nationals in Hamilton. Not only did the Tauranga Club turn on a great tournament, they, and neighbouring club Mt Maunganui featured highly on the prize-list. Noel Maisey did a great job adjudicating as always.

Sue Marrow

# Tournament Calendar 2007

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

Tournament	Dates	Tournament	Dates
Pakuranga	27-28 January	Hamilton	11-12 August
ACC Masters Games	10-11 February	Tauranga	1-2 September
Nelson	17-18 February	Christchurch	8-9 September
Auckland Matchplay Champs	18 February	Mt Albert	29-30 September
New Plymouth	10-11 March*	Golden Bay	29-30 September
NZ Masters Champs	7-9 April	Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival	7-14 October*
Dunedin Open	14-15 April	Wanganui	20-21 October
Sth Island Champs	5-6 May	World Champs	TBA
NZ National Champs	2-3 June	Rodney	10 November*
Whangarei	7-8 July	Otago Open	17-18 November
Waikato Phoenix	14 July*	Kapiti	TBA
Kiwi	15 July*		
* to be confirmed		TBA = to be advised	



# Forum

## Tile tracking

This month, Betty Eriksen (B), John Foster (J), Paul Lister (P) and Steven Brown (S) share their systems and tips on tile tracking.

### Q **At what stage in your Scrabble playing career did you start tile tracking?**

- B. I probably started tile tracking more regularly last year when I began attending Scrabble tournaments throughout New Zealand. I used to become frustrated at not knowing what my opponent was holding at the end of a game so decided to practise the skill more intently.
- J. I started tracking at the Papatoetoe Holy Cross tournament, 6 July 1996, the very first day it was permitted under our constitution. I had previously opposed its introduction but a single incident changed my view forever: As a spectator at the final of the 1995 WSC in London, I watched in awe as winner David Boys turned down a 98 point bonus, which would have given him a 175 point lead with 2 files left in the bag, to make a defensive 45 point play. He took 9 minutes to make the play, incurring time penalties as a result, reasoning that if his opponent was holding the right 7 of the remaining 9 tiles he could play PEJORATE on a triple-triple and win the game and the championship. In those 9 minutes I became a convert and spoke in support of Lynne Butler's remit to introduce tracking at the next AGM. I like to think my support helped in getting it accepted.



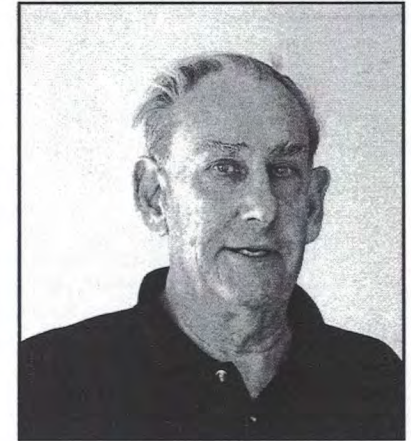
*Betty Eriksen*

- P. I started tile tracking in the late 90s with encouragement from Liz Fagerlund and Nigel Richards.
- S. I think I started trying to track when I got high enough in the grades to start playing people who tracked regularly.
- ### Q **At what stage in a Scrabble player's career would you recommend they start tile tracking?**
- B. When they feel they can comfortably handle the situation. It takes a lot of practice to do accurately (I'm still struggling), so I would say when a player uses a clock regularly then the sooner they can start tile tracking the sooner they should become proficient at it.
- J. Any players who have ambitions to play at the top level should start as soon as they are comfortable with the use of clocks and their time management in general – as early as possible as long as other aspects of their game don't suffer as a result.
- P. I would recommend new players learn to play with the clock first and then graduate to tile tracking within a year of mastering the clock, so all your

Scrabble skills are in tandem and become second nature.

### Q **Can you recall any games where your tile tracking (or lack of it) cost you the game?**

- B. Yes, definitely. I can't recall the exact occasion/s but it's happened more than once when I have not tile tracked correctly, or because I just forgot to file track. Accurate tile tracking is an occasion to celebrate in my case, as I'm afraid that inaccurate tile tracking is the norm where my efforts are concerned.
- J. Oh, yes! I recently lost a game when I had a good lead but didn't start tracking early enough and inadvertently took the last tile, letting my opponent bingo out and catch me with a rackful. Since then I have a red line marked across my score-sheets on the 10th turn to remind me to start tracking if I haven't done so already.
- P. It took me several years to get near to mastering tile tracking and my incompetence in this cost me several major games – one notable time was at the Masters in 2002 versus Lynne Butler when I did an end play that involved pacing a J above the middle treble square, believing there were no vowels left and that the two on my rack would decide the game in my favour. Lo and behold, Lynne did have a vowel left and proceeded to not only use the J spot but to win the game easily. That same year I was playing Marianne Bentley at the Kiwi Tournament and my tile tracking sheet showed that all the Is had been used, so I placed a Q happily above the middle bottom treble – to my horror, Marianne did have an I left and used the spot forthwith and thereby denied me any chance of winning that game.
- In both these cases I was entirely to



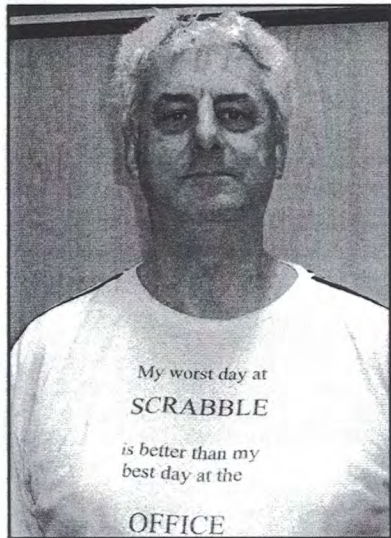
*John Foster*

blame as I was too lazy to do a visual check of the board and see my error each time. The moral of the story – always recheck the board in addition to your own tracking.

### Q **Do you ALWAYS tile track? (If not, what are your exceptions?)**

- B. Not always. Sometimes I have felt that tile tracking has distracted me from attending to the board and my rack so I have consciously desisted from the practice for a game or two. Sometimes I just stop tracking when I am conscious of time running out.
- J. Mostly, yes. But I only start tracking late in the game and sometimes the result is already a foregone conclusion one way or the other and, especially if it is late in the day, I might not bother. I probably track about 90% of my games.
- P. I always tile track – it's now a familiarity thing.
- ### Q **Do you use the tournament tile-tracking pages, or have you designed your own?**
- B. I use the tournament file-tracking pages.
- J. I have designed my own with white





Paul Lister

letters on a black background. A number of other players have similar systems. I use a black chisel-tipped marker to obliterate the letters played in one stroke leaving the unplayed letters standing out very boldly.

- P. I never use the tournament tile tracking pages. I have designed my own.
- S. I don't mind playing with the standard score-sheets and tracking if I forget to take my own score-sheets to a tournament – particularly as it tends to give me more time to play when I'm not writing down each move. But if I want to go over games later (which is more likely after a higher-level tourney like the Nationals or a Trans-Tasman) then I need to use my own score-sheets. I find tracking with the grid less error-prone than tracking by crossing out letters, as when crossing out letters it can be hard to see whether you've crossed certain letters out already (eg. the X), and it's easier to count what's left if you're counting empty boxes than if you're counting un-crossed-out letters

of different kinds. I always like to note what the blanks were on the tracking, whichever kind of tracking I'm using.

**Q How often do you get to the end of the game and discover you have not tile tracked correctly? Do you have any tips to ensure your tile tracking is accurate, or on how to remedy the situation if it isn't?**

- B. Frequently. This is something I would like others to advise me about! If I have the right number of tiles unmarked I presume that I am correct. However, if there is a discrepancy then I check the unmarked ones against those played on the board, time permitting of course.
- J. Incorrect tracking does happen but it happens less often the more one practises. I only track towards the end of the game. If I try to track every turn I am more prone to make errors and it involves repeated changing of my scoring and tracking pens. If one has tracked off one too few tiles the remedy is not difficult, as it is only necessary to look at the remaining letters on the tracking grid and decide which one has been missed. If one has tracked off too many tiles it is more difficult, and involves checking all the letters individually if you have the time to do it. Don't automatically assume you are at fault though. Check under the table to ensure no files have been dropped during the game. It does happen.
- P. Most often I get to the end of the game and find I have tile tracked correctly (unlike the disgraceful examples mentioned from 2002). I can offer no tips on how to remedy the situation

other than to say the more you do it the more accurate you get.

- S. As soon as the number of files in the bag gets down to a countable level, I like to start checking my tracking by making sure that the number in the bag plus the fourteen on the two racks equals the number of squares that I haven't crossed off the grid yet. If there is a discrepancy, most times it's a whole move that I haven't crossed off, usually one of mine when my opponent has played quickly. Discrepancies are usually easy enough to fix fairly quickly. If I happen to have crossed off the wrong letter by mistake though, I usually only notice when I go to cross off the last one of a letter played, and find they are already all crossed off. Then it's a matter of counting how many of each letter that's not all crossed off has actually been played.

**Q Can you give us blow-by-blow details of how you tile-track?**

- B. I try to announce the score, press the clock, tile track and then replenish my tiles. However, it doesn't always work that way, especially if my opponent plays a word quickly and waits to draw tiles from the bag. When actually tile-tracking I'm a little erratic at times. If it's a short word I can mark off the vowels and the consonants in their order down the tracking sheet, but if it's a longish word I will spell it as I go and mark off each letter. But that's not really using time economically as I can be all over the sheet, so I really do need some coaching with this – I'll be waiting expectantly for all the experts out there to email their hot tips to me, please!!
- J. At about the 10th turn I pick a side of the board where I think the least new



Steven Brown

- action is likely, record the side by marking L or R at the bottom of my sheet and start tracking in vertical columns on my opponent's time. If my opponent plays I record the bottom 2 or 3 letters of the last column tracked and concentrate on my own play, resuming the process after my turn. Generally I can get most or all of the tracking done on my opponent's time. When there are 7 or fewer tiles remaining I mark off the files on my own rack, keeping my tracking grid hidden from this point on.
- P. I always file track immediately after placing and scoring my word.
- S. When I first began tile tracking, I'd wait until there were fewer than about 10 files in the bag, then if I still had 10 minutes on my clock, I'd start my tracking at that point. Later on (can't remember exactly when) I started trying to track from the beginning of every game. For a while this would often put me over time, but I got better at leaving time to track, and quicker at tracking. Later on again, I adapted a tracking grid I'd seen someone else using, and designed a score-sheet around it. And



since then I've adapted it further and designed a score-sheet where I can keep track of the words played each turn, and my leave for each of my turns. When I use this, I note the main words with tiles already on the board in parentheses, and blanks in a box. This can serve as a double check on the tracking as you have a record of exactly which tiles each player played each turn.

**Q Do you do anything that you think may be different from the way most players tile track?**

- B. I'm sure I must as there are many out there file-tracking accurately. Some people just tile-track the premium letters, the blanks and esses, and I sometimes do that, but often I need to know more than that when it comes to the end game.
- J. Yes, I think most of what I've described is at variance with the majority of players, but it works for me.
- P. I can't think of anything I do different

### Fund raiser

#### Linguaphone Travel packs – French, German and Spanish.

Each pack consists of Dictionary, Language Cassette, Travel Cassette and panic cards. These packs are surplus stock and brand new. \$15 each. Please contact Liz Fagerlund ph 09 6276056 or email [scrabbiliz@inet.net.nz](mailto:scrabbiliz@inet.net.nz) if you want one. First in, first served.

The travel packs have been kindly donated by Dianne Cole-Baker for fundraising for the NZASP. Dianne is happy for this money to go to the 2007 WSC fund.

Thank you very much for this generous donation, Dianne.

- from the way most players tile track.
- S. One thing I do to try to keep my tracking accurate, is to always put the tiles I draw face down on the table, and to always finish my tracking of the previous move before I look at them. The only exception is if my opponent quickly plays something that I might want to challenge. Then I'll want to look at my whole rack in case leaving the word on the board gives me a big enough play to make it worth not challenging.

**Q How do you use your tile-tracking information during a game? Is it useful DURING a game, or just towards the end?**

- B. It's more useful towards the ends of the game, or sometimes when I want to change tiles it's useful to know what might be left in the bag.
- J. With my system it is necessarily only of use at the end. I try to use the information to make optimum endgame decisions but unfortunately frequently take a poor option. I believe I lose more tight endgames than I win, and the endgame is almost certainly the weakest part of my game.
- P. I use my tile tracking information both during the game and towards the end of the game. In a friendly at club or home game I will often remark, as will my opponent, that all the Vs are gone (thank goodness!) or that all the Os have been used up remarkably early or similar comments, but obviously wouldn't say that sort of thing in a tournament situation.
- S. As soon as there are only 1 or 2 (or at very most 3) tiles left in the bag, I'll usually go through and cross off all the tiles on my own rack, and then write out all the unseen (by me) ones – ie. what's either in the bag or my opponent's

rack. Writing the 7-10 files out in a group helps me decide what high-scoring plays my opponent might be able to make, depending on what they've actually got.

**Q Do you record or track anything else?**

- B. I don't have time to track anything else and, as it is, I sometimes run out of time to file-track.
- J. Not really, although I sometimes record the blanks I get when I feel I'm having a bad run. While there are ups and downs the distribution seems to average out over time.
- P. To the right of my score sheet and tracking grid I have a large white space where I write all words or letter combinations that came up on my rack, were played by me or were played by my opponent when I believe they fall outside my usual word-bank.

**Q Anything else you'd like to say?**

- B. Sometimes I feel that tile-tracking uses up the time that I could better use to

study the board and /or my rack, but I shall persevere with it as I know it will be beneficial to my game in the long run.

- J. I recommend that all players, at whatever level, should at least try to track to see if it can work for them. Particularly in the lower grades, to be tracking when your opponents are not must obviously be a huge advantage, both factual and psychological.
- S. I have found over time that the longer I've been tracking from the start of the game the more use it's been to me. Most games, some letters will get played more than others, and it's a good idea (other things being equal) to play more of the tiles where there are still more of them in the bag, which will tend to reduce the number of duplicates you end up with, which increases the flexibility of your racks, on average.

*[Both Paul and Steven included samples of their customised tile tracking sheets. Unfortunately, we don't have the space to reproduce them, but I'm sure they would be happy to show you next time you*

### Million points

When Jeff Grant scored 91 for the word LAMPOONS against John Foster in the eighth game at Mt Albert on 1 October, he passed one million points in tournament play since starting way back in 1981, when the Nationals was the only event on the calendar.

Jeff keeps extensive records of his games, as well as anything to do with New Zealand Scrabble.

To us, he's one in a million!



### Pick and lose

In the US Scrabble Open held recently, a player, Shelley, overdrew by two tiles. Her opponent turned over four tiles, two of them blanks, so – not surprisingly – put them both back in the bag. Later he drew them, himself and he eventually won the game.

The next morning, Shelley opened a can with a "fortune" in the cap that read, "You pick wisely, but you lose anyway."

*- from Scrabble News (USA)*

### What the?

*- sent in by Margaret Cherry and Su Walker*

Seen in the Animal Lost and Found column of the *Eastern Courier*:

Blue and white buggary guard found in Howick on Sunday. Phone . . .



# Mailbox

- from Joan Thomas

I was very interested to see that the new English dialect words include DAWBAKE, a dim-witted person. I grew up in rural Devon and knew this word as DOUGHBAKE — at least that is how it was pronounced.

I thought it very apt as those so described could not use their loaf (head).

There are so many different dialects in England that it is hard to understand how some words are chosen to be included in the new dictionary and why others miss out.

- from Kevin and Lesley Edgeler  
Tokoroa

I know we are rarely seen or heard of in the Scrabble scene these days, but we are still registered members and subscribers to the magazine.

We recently had a holiday in Paraparamu and joined the Kapiti Club for their weekly meeting where we enjoyed the games and the company of their members. Also when we went on holiday to Mount Maunganui we attended the Tauranga Club day, and I also attended the Papamoa Club day while Lesley put money into the local community (eg, shopping).

## Masters countdown

- by John Foster

There have now been 23 NZ Masters tournaments, and the countdown has begun to see just who will be the 100th player to participate. The total so far is 93, and the probability is that the century will be reached in the next 2-3 years.

Listed below are the host clubs for each year the competition has been held, and the number of players who made their first

## Mt Alibert words

Which of the following words noted by adjudicator Pat Grant at the Mt Alibert tourney would you challenge? Answers on page 41.

MOPY	TWIRE	SMITTED
NEXTS	CHAPLESS	SOMEDAYS
SPINOUT	REDBONES	VAPOURED
SEVERY	KRYONICS	OEDIPEAN
POKERY	TUSSLERS	LUREX
JAGRA	ALIENING	FROTTAGE
ROACHING	SEALIKE	UNKING
UNDERMEN	OUTLAPS	DURGANS
GLITCHY	MOREISH	CENTAGE
TEXTERS	LOGGIEST	RAINLIKE
ROLLY	WITCHIER	WINCERS

entry into the competition in those years.

1984	Mt Maunganui/Tauranga	24
1985	Mt Alibert	4
1986	Lower Hutt	5
1987	Wanganui	6
1988	North Shore	3
1989	Tokoroa	6
1990	Mt Alibert	4
1991	Hastings	1
1992	New Plymouth	1
1993	Lower Hutt	5
1994	North Shore	4
1995	Wellington	5
1996	Dunedin	4
1997	Hamilton	2
1998	Papatoetoe Holy Cross	3
1999	Wanganui	1
2000	Howick Pakuranga	2
2001	Hastings	2
2002	Rodney	1
2003	Kiwi Scrabblers	2
2004	Christchurch	2
2005	Wellington	5
2006	Mt Alibert	1

The next issue of Forwards will contain a list of all competitors sequentially numbered from 1 to 93 in the order in which they first played.



# Club News

## Dunedin Club News

- from Bill Grigg

Anne-Louise Milne was thrilled by the article and accompanying picture in the *Otago Daily Times* of 31 August, during Adult Learners Week. She has come a long way very quickly and has even attended the Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival twice.

**Scrabble For Fun** is organised every year by Ruth Groffman. This year 96 Intermediate School children played in the heats (12 teams of four on each of two days) with seven teams advancing to the playoff, which was won by St Bernadette's for the second time. This event is proving very popular and should double our club membership in a few year's time when they finish school.

**Quiz:** Which of the following would you challenge?

(A) DEODAND (B) GHARRIS (C) TOHUNGA (D) WITHIES (E) WHISTING

**Visitors:** Elwyn and John Smith, and Frank Hunt from Australia, Heather Landon and Matt Stewart from Wellington have visited the club during the year.

**Trans Tasman Trophy:** Our own Peter Sinton played for New Zealand again and finished 16th, with 11 wins and an average of 399. Peter led the field at the end of the first day. Australia won by 159.5 to 128.5. Ah well, at least we beat them at rugby.

### Otago Lion Open Tournament:

Thanks to Betty Eriksen (Wanganui), Trevor Rowell (Mt Alibert) and Jan Evan (Nelson) for travelling such a long way to attend our tournament.

**Quiz answers:** All correct

Have a great Christmas and may the tile fairies be with you in 2007 (unless you are playing me).

## Tournament talk

- by Liz Fagerlund

It's good to see that some clubs have already taken advantage of the new rule giving clubs the option of balanced starts. The first tournament that I played in with balanced starts was the Wanganui, then the Rodney tournament. At Rodney, as there was an uneven number of games, we just had to draw from the bag for the last game. It worked very well at both tournaments. Hopefully, more clubs will give it a go.

Another aspect that clubs may like to consider is the placement of a player in their first tournament. Normally a new player would start off playing in the bottom grade, and most times this placement is suitable. However, sometimes players going in to their first tournament are already very strong players — perhaps they have been playing at a club for a while already, or have been playing on the net, or have simply improved and learnt quickly.

If you have a player at your club who is playing their first tournament and is holding their own or regularly beating other tournament players at the club, then it is a good idea to advise the club hosting the tournament, so that they can be placed in a grade other than the bottom grade. A guide for placement would depend on the level you consider they are at, perhaps also taking into account whether they are using the clock, confident about challenging etc.

Refer to rule 15.2: "Where there are more than one group of players in a tournament then the placement of players into grades will be determined by current ratings. Where overseas players or players without a rating are entered for a tournament then the tournament organiser has discretion as to placement."



## Matchplay\* is here

Scrabblers in the Auckland region, take note: here is an exciting new concept in tournament play.

Remember the non-rated Swiss-draw tournament that Liz Fagerlund and I ran at the Cock & Bull pub in Lynfield last February? (We do, because it coincided with both our birthdays!). The players seemed to embrace the different format, and afterwards many people suggested it should become an annual event.

Out of this experimental beginning has sprung the Auckland Matchplay\* Championship, which Liz and I will run from February next year (exact date and venue to be advised).

Matchplay\* has been a part of the British competitive scene for many years. More recently it was adopted across the ditch, by both New South Wales and Victoria, where it has proved a resounding success.

This is how it works. It begins with an open tournament, with a single field of 32 players (first in, first served). The format is Swiss draw, and it will be non-rated. We've chosen to call this event the Eileen McLean Memorial Tournament – because Eileen won the prototype tourney last year and she was such a popular contributor to competitive Scrabble in the region.

As with all Swiss tourneys, the entry fee is paid at the door, and there will be a variety of cash prizes. But the big prize goes to the top 16 finishers, who move on to the next round.

From here, it becomes a 'home champs'. The elite 16 are paired up and must play a best-of-seven over the following two weeks or so. The winner of each match-up moves on to the quarter-finals, but only after they have filed a basic report on the email list for all to follow.

- by Howard Warner

The quarter-finals are a best-of-nine, the semis a best-of-eleven, and the finals a well publicised best-of-13 to find the 2007 Auckland Matchplay\* champ.

Anyone at any rating is welcome to enter. You can live outside Auckland city providing you are able to meet your game quota should you make it past the first round.

Details of the Eileen McLean Tournament will be posted on the email list as soon as they can be confirmed. Then, if you want to enter, phone me on (09) 817-9717 or Liz on (09) 627-6506. We hope this departure from the traditional Kiwi-style competition will be the start of a new tradition for Scrabblers in the Auckland region. (No reason why other regions couldn't take it up, either.)

## More mnemonics

- from Tim Henneveld

Janny and I both enjoyed reading *Forwards* No. 84. We picked up the following mnemonics during tournaments: For the front hooks of ER:

**Fred Has Pink Socks** (FER, HER, PER, SER)

For 4-letter words ending with -AID and -ADI:

**Could Kings and Queens Play Wonderfully Good Scrabble?**

CAID/CADI, KAID, KADI, QAID/QADI, PAID/PADI, WAID/WADI, GAID/GADI and SAID/SADI)

The other 4 front hooks for AID are common words.

**Every Umbrella Opens Up Again Easily**  
EUOUAE(S):

Janny and I made up the following:

AE can be preceded by:

**Ka-Ma-Na-Wa Horses Go To Yast Sandy Deserts**

KAE, MAE, NAE, NAE, WAE, HAE, GAE, SAE, TAE, VAE, DAE. All can be followed by S except NAE (not) and SAE.



## Overseas news



### Bahrain

Ralph Lobo retained his Gulf title by defeating Salah Salih from Saudi Arabia in the final of the championships.

Mohamed Zafar will be Bahrain's representative at the three-day World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC).

### Britain

The famous board game, Scrabble, changed colour for the first time in its history to raise money for research into breast cancer. Letter tiles, racks, boards and boxes are tinged pink, with £1.50 from each £15 sale going to the Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity from mid-September. The colour change was the board game's first since its creation in 1948.

### France

More than 1300 players competed over nine days in a French Scrabble tournament at Vichy.

1st – Antonin Michel (France)

2nd – Jean Luc Dives (Belgium)

3rd – N'Dongo Samba Sylla (Senegal)

### Iraq

Dr Karl Khoshnaw, who represented Iraq/Kurdistan in the past few Worlds, has died. He is survived by his wife Antje and a toddler son Vali in Germany.

Sam Kantimathi recalls: "He beat me rather soundly when we played in England a few years back. My fondest memory is of Karl toasting a Guinness beer with me in Kuala Lumpur to celebrate our inclusion in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for high scores. Karl scored 392 in a turn with CAZIQUES.



Gan Yi En

### Malaysia

The Malaysia Youth Scrabble Championship (MYSC) held at Kuala Lumpur, 21-22 August, served as a qualifier to help select representatives to the World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC). Winner was Gan Yi En [*any relation, Olivia?*] with ten wins out of ten games. Runner-up was Tan Jun Horng.

The Malaysian Youth Scrabble Championship playoffs were held 9-10 September.

1st – Loh Vern Sern

2nd – Khoo Beng

3rd – Chin Hon Yew

Gan Yi En went on to play in the Malaysia Scrabble Association Merdeka Scrabble Championship, on 2-3 September, competing for a share of the RM3,000 prize money. Among those who participated in this tourney were national champion Ganesh Asirvatham, Kiwi expat Nigel Richards and top veteran Pui Cheng Wui.

Barely two weeks after winning the Malaysia Youth Scrabble Championship, Gan Yi En put in a strong performance by beating Tan Jin Chor and Chuah Sim Swee, before defeating national champion Ganesh Asirvatham in the ninth round.



- 1st – Ganesh Asirvatham, National Champion  
 2nd – Pui Cheng Wui, Mensa Scrabble Challenge Masters Division Champion  
 3rd – Nigel Richards  
 Spearheading the Malaysian challenge for the World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC) are Ong Suanne and Gan Yi En. Joining them in Wollongong are Loh Vern Sem, Khoo Beng Way, Sean Chung, Chin Hon Yew, Alex Hong Wern Juin, Brian Lim Daqing, Ian Tay Zhi Xian and Wendy Lee Suk Ling.

## Nigeria

The second Toyin Saraki Scrabble Championship for Secondary Schools was held in October and involved 52 students from 26 schools of Kwara State. This is part of the Scrabble Developmental Initiative begun in 2004 by the Nigerian Scrabble Federation (NSF) and the Well Being Foundation (WBF). The competition, which began last year, is an initiative to improve the literacy and numeracy ability of secondary school students in the state. The winner, Zulkarnaini Usman, and runner-up, Tayo Alabi, are to join the Nigerian delegation to the WYSC in Australia in December, courtesy First Lady of Kwara State Mrs Saraki, who also gave both winners N50, 000.00.

The seventh Africa Scrabble Tournament was held in Nigeria's capital Abuja on 19 September. About 30 players from Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, Tanzania, host Nigeria took part, as well as United Kingdom based Femi Awowade, a former African champion. Defending champion, Dennis Ikekeregor won it for the fourth time. The first five positions were filled by Nigerian players. After winning the Championship, Ikekeregor was urged by the Nigerian Sports Minister to win the World Championships next year.

Ikekeregor has called for the support and training of young stars in Scrabble if the country is to retain its position in the game.

"I have been able to win the trophy four times and I know that if young people are encouraged and adequately trained, they can do better and keep Nigeria's flag flying in the game," he said.

## Oman

Twin sisters, Nilusha and Nadeesha Hemachandra of Sri Lankan School Muscat, have been selected by Gulf Scrabble Organising Committee at Bahrain, to fill the two out of three seats allocated for Gulf region at the First World Youth Scrabble Championships to be held in Sydney, Australia from 28 November to 3 December. The remaining seat will be filled by 17-year-old Mohammed Zafar of Bahrain.

Following in the footsteps of their veteran Scrabbler father, Sonny Hemachandra, the girls started playing Scrabble at the age of 9, and by 2005, at the age of 14 took part at regions biggest Scrabble event, Gulf Scrabble Championships held in Bahrain from 1-3 June, 2005. Nilusha and Nadeesha were the youngest players of that tournament.

## Pakistan

An inter-school Scrabble tournament to mark the Pakistan Urdu School's 50th anniversary was to be held in November. The day-long competition is open to boys under 18 only.

## Philippines

Scrabble, one of the most popular board games in the world, will soon be found in public schools across the country if the Philippines Congress approves a measure seeking to make the board game

one of the tools to help improve students' proficiency in the English language. It's possible that these new teaching materials will qualify as tax-deductible under the Adopt-a-School Program established in 1998, and will therefore encourage corporations and other entities to donate scrabble sets by the thousands for use in schools.

## Singapore

Ninth Singapore Open Scrabble Championships:  
 1st – Tony Sim  
 2nd – Marlon Prudencio  
 3rd – Cheah Siu Hean

## United Kingdom

British Matchplay Scrabble Championships (BMSC) is the second most important tournament in the UK after the National Championships. The tournament was held at the end of August, and 64 players competed over 18 rounds.

1st – Brett Smitheram, the British national champion in 2000 and BMSC winner in 2003 and 2004.  
 2nd – Helen Gipson  
 3rd – Theresa Camilleri, Malta Scrabble Champion

The UK Masters was won by Davis Webb, the Welsh Masters by Gareth Williams, and Helen Gipson won the Scottish Championships.

Graeme Thomas died when his car ran off the road on 4 November. Graeme was the moderator of the UK email list and has made a significant contribution to the Scrabble scene in the UK.

## USA

Jim Kramer (a proofreader, age 48, from Minnesota) won the USSO (US, Scrabble Open) for his first time. The

tournament was held in Arizona, and involved 625 competitors. Runner-up was Geoff Thevenot (a copy editor, age 36), who has been playing tournament Scrabble for only three years. Third was Pakorn Nemitmansuk.

Interesting to read that the USSO uses laptops for self-adjudication. The many computers placed down the centre of the playing room were reported as handling the game challenges without a single difficulty. "This has made for a more calm and quiet playing room since players no longer have to work so hard to catch the attention of a word judge but can quietly walk and get the ruling themselves. This way, adjudication errors are virtually non-existent, too!" (from Scrabble News, USA)

Some statistics: Joel Wapnick and Steve Polatnick are the only players to have played in every one of the 17 US Opens, dating back to 1978; oldest player was Mike Sherman (age 91), youngest players (two) were aged 13; 86 players were aged 21 and under; 275 women and 350 men competed.

*[however, using traditional names as my guide, it appears that no more than four women were included in the 76 who played in Division One, and the highest female placing was 46th. - Ed.]*

The highest score was 675, and lowest score 123.

**Word list books**

Liz Fagerlund has a limited supply of Bob Jackman's handy word list books for sale:

5 letter word books \$16  
 6 letter word books \$16  
 2 & 3 letter word books \$6

In Australia they sell for AU\$16 and AU\$6.  
 Contact Liz Fagerlund on 09 6276506.



## Where are the women?

- from the Herald (UK) 26 October

Women wordsmiths are wanted – to give men a run for their money around the Scrabble board. The Association of British Scrabble Players is appealing for female players to compete in Britain's favourite word game.

Though the game appears to attract as many women as men, it has been 18 years since there was a female UK Scrabble Champion – and this year's finalists are both men. In the run-up to the championship final, the highest-ranking woman finished in just 27th place and there are only two female players rated among the top 20 players in the UK.

Stewart Holden, spokesman for the Association of British Scrabble Players, said experts were unclear on why female players rarely make it to the top. "IQs, vocabulary and logic tests between the sexes are comparable," he said. "It has been proven scientifically that females have better memories than males. We want to find some who can teach the men a thing or two."

Scottish women are certainly at the forefront, with seven players ranked in the female top 20, but none of them made it into the national final.

Marion Keatings, secretary and founder of the Kirkcaldy Scrabble Club, has an answer:

"Our best players are three younger men and they have all been playing seriously for more than 10 years," she said. "You do need a commitment to study and develop a vocabulary. Young men are less likely to have family commitments to keep them from this."

"What you do get sometimes is older women taking it up as a hobby in later life."

## 2-Letter Word Dictionary

- by Jeff Grant

*Short words are best and the old words when short are best of all.*

- Winston Churchill

Two-letter words are the connectors, or stepping-stones, of our language. The 100 most common words in written English are of Anglo-Saxon origin, and no less than 24 of them have just two letters.

There are currently 121 two-letter words allowed in Scrabble. *The Concise Dictionary of Two Letter Words, Revised Edition* is a collection of 676 words, drawn from a multitude of sources, encompassing every possible combination, from **aa**, a rough, scoreaceous lava, through to **zz**, a short buzzing or snoring sound.

Compiled by Jeff Grant, with layout by Glenda Foster, and illustrations by David Lloyd and Debbie Caldwell, the dictionary has been published in a limited edition of only 50 copies.

Scrabblers will know some of the words, but many will be unfamiliar, for example:

- cu short for cucumber.
- fe an aspen rod used for measuring corpses and graves in ancient Ireland.
- gy a strange, hobgoblin-looking fellow.
- oi the grey-faced petrel of New Zealand.
- qa an old Mesopotamian measure of capacity.
- ro a thin cow, in the Shetland Islands.

Copies of the 2-letter word dictionary are available for \$10 from Jeff Grant, 'Ardrá', 1109 Allenby St, Hastings.

Illustrations from the dictionary are on page 50.

## 830 point game controversy in the US

- from various internet sites

On 12 October, in the basement of a Unitarian church on the town green in Lexington, Massachusetts, a carpenter named Michael Cresta scored 830 points in a game of Scrabble. His opponent, Wayne Yorra, who works at a supermarket deli counter, totalled 490 points.

The two men set three records for sanctioned Scrabble in North America: the most points in a game by one player (830), the most total points in a game (1,320), and the most points on a single turn (365, for Cresta's play of QUIXOTRY).

Cresta's 830 shattered a 13-year-old record of 770 points.

The record board is shown above right.

### Stefan Fatsis questioned the "record-worthiness" of the feat as follows (abridged):

Let's begin with the fact that Cresta and Yorra aren't expert-level players. They know the basics – like the 101 two-letter and most of the 1,015 three-letter words – but they're both rated in the bottom third of tournament players. Yorra is known for trying implausible words and hoping they're in the *Official Tournament and Club Word List*. Cresta has memorized thousands of obscure words from the *Official Scrabble Players Dictionary*. But he doesn't study the highly probable words that are essential for climbing the competitive ranks.

So, how did they break the all-time Scrabble scoring record? The simple answer is that Cresta-Yorra was a fluke. But there's more to it than that. Let's take a closer look at the game.

Yorra opened with JOUSTED for 96 points. Cresta then traded in all seven of



his files in the hope of getting more-playable letters. Yorra bingoed again, very nicely, with LADYLIKE for 73 points and a 169-0 lead. The first L in LADYLIKE landed between two triple-word-score squares, giving Cresta a shot at a triple-triple.

Cresta's play, FLATFISH, for 239 points, was especially unusual because it contains infrequently occurring letters (two Fs and an H) and isn't a common word. Many good players would have missed it. Cresta didn't because he had studied words beginning with F.

Yorra challenged FLATFISH, a reasonable move given the word and its score, but it was in the official word list, so he lost his turn. Cresta exchanged files on three of his next four turns, while Yorra bingoed again, this time with SCAMSTER. Yorra told me he had no idea whether the word was legitimate. (It is.) That put another letter, the R, in a triple-triple lane.

Cresta, who held I, O, Q, U, and X, recognized he was three-quarters of the way toward a really huge triple-triple: QUIXOTRY. (He had studied words starting with Q.) He exchanged two letters from his



rack in hopes of drawing the needed T and Y, and beat the odds.

And when Yorra didn't block the open R – because he played his fourth bingo, UNDERDOG, for 72 points – Cresta laid down his 365-point QUIXOTRY.

After making just three plays, Cresta had an amazing 614 points. The rest of the game was pedestrian. Neither player binged again, though Cresta played the recently added word ZA (short for pizza) for 66 points. When he laid down VROW, a Dutch woman, Cresta passed 770.

Looking at the game as a whole, it's clear that a lack of expertise created the conditions for the record. The play that enabled QUIXOTRY, for one, was a clear mistake. When Yorra played SCAMsTER, which scored 65 points, there were eight other bingos available worth 72 points or more that wouldn't have dangled a letter in a triple-triple alley. Among them were several common words, including the 94-point dEMOCRAT. Most players would have taken a few extra moments to search for one of those moves.

I asked Jason Katz-Brown, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology junior ranked 10th in North America, to analyze the game. He found that Cresta and Yorra had better moves on 14 of their 22 non-bingo turns. One example: Cresta scored just 30 points using the second blank when he could have held it and tried for another bingo.

Technically, Cresta's strategy was unsound. Fishing for a once-in-a-lifetime play might be understandable in a casual game, where winning is less urgent. But in competitive play – even in a club setting, where there's less on the line than in a rated tournament – exchanging letters three times, as Cresta did, to enhance some combination of Q, U, I, and X is unorthodox at best, suicidal at worst. The implication: Cresta wasn't terribly worried



*Stefan Fatsis*

about whether he won or lost.

The difficulty posed by this game, and by games in general, is judging the role of circumstances in the commission of records. In this case, the sensible moves would have been just another set of moves in just another game. The wrong moves produced history. But is that enough? If 830 – or any record – happens as a result of boneheaded play, tactical ignorance, or the pursuit of a good time, should it count? Or should records be reserved for those who have earned the right to set them, and who set them in expert fashion?

Here's what I think: Michael Cresta holds the record for club play, while Mr. 770 keeps his tournament mark.

### **Will Baude commented (also abridged):**

Stefan Fatsis seems mostly devoted to trying to debunk the legitimacy of Cresta's score, pointing out all of the ways that his score was A, a lucky fluke, or B, caused by his opponent's suboptimal play.

Of course, thanks to what we know about probabilities, over a large enough

pool of players and a long time, any high score will be caused by at least one lucky draw that could be described as a "fluke." Similarly, since nobody plays perfectly all of the time, nearly any high score will very likely be caused by a bit of suboptimal play on one's opponents part. Part of being a good Scrabble player is being able to take advantage of those openings when they happen.

Of course, were a nationally-recognized expert player to have scored 830 points in this game, few people would doubt the legitimacy of the score, even as they criticized his play.

### **Murphy's lesser known laws**

1. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
2. He who laughs last, thinks slowest.
3. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
4. Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
5. The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
6. If you lined up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try to pass them, five or six at a time . . . on a hill . . . on a curve . . . in the fog.
7. If the shoe fits, get another one just like it.
8. The things that come to those who wait will be the things left by those who got there first.
9. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day drinking beer.
10. When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

## **Believe it or not!**

*- sent in by Lynne Butler*

In the 16th and 17th centuries, everything had to be transported by ship. This was also before the invention of commercial fertilisers, so large shipments of manure were common.

It was shipped dry, because in dry form it weighed a lot less than when wet, but once water (at sea) hit it, it not only became heavier, but the process of fermentation began. A by-product of fermentation is methane gas. As the stuff was stored below decks in bundles you can see what could (and did) happen.

Methane began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below at night with a lantern, BOOOOM! Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was determined just what was happening.

After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the expression 'Ship High In Transit' on them, which meant that the sailors should stow it high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and start the production of methane.

Thus evolved the term 'S.H.I.T.' (Ship High In Transport), which has come down through the centuries and is in use to this very day.

### **Think about it (1)**

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up every two hours?

If a deaf person has to go to court, is it still called a hearing?



## Death by Scrabble or Tile M for Murder

*From short-stories.com.uk (author unknown)  
- sent in by Ernie Gidman*

It's a hot day and I hate my wife.

We're playing Scrabble. That's how bad it is. I'm 42 years old, it's a blistering hot Sunday afternoon and all I can think of to do with my life is to play Scrabble.

I should be out, doing exercise, spending money, meeting people. I don't think I've spoken to anyone except my wife since Thursday morning. On Thursday morning I spoke to the milkman.

My letters are crap.

I play, appropriately, BEGIN. With the N on the little pink star. Twenty-two points.

I watch my wife's smug expression as she rearranges her letters. Clack, clack, clack. I hate her. If she wasn't around, I'd be doing something interesting right now. I'd be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. I'd be starring in the latest Hollywood blockbuster. I'd be sailing the Vendee Globe on a 60-foot clipper called the New Horizons – I don't know, but I'd be doing something.

She plays JINXED, with the J on a double-letter score. 30 points. She's beating me already. Maybe I should kill her.

If only I had a D, then I could play MURDER. That would be a sign. That would be permission.

I start chewing on my U. It's a bad habit, I know. All the letters are frayed. I play WARMER for 22 points, mainly so I can keep chewing on my U.

As I'm picking new letters from the bag, I find myself thinking – the letters will tell me what to do. If they spell out KILL, or STAB, or her name, or anything, I'll do it right now. I'll finish her off.

My rack spells MIHZPA. Plus the U in

my mouth. Damn.

The heat of the sun is pushing at me through the window. I can hear buzzing insects outside. I hope they're not bees. My cousin Harold swallowed a bee when he was nine, his throat swelled up and he died. I hope that if they are bees, they fly into my wife's throat.

She plays SWEATIER, using all her letters. 24 points plus a 50 point bonus. If it wasn't too hot to move I would strangle her right now.

I am getting sweatier. It needs to rain, to clear the air. As soon as that thought crosses my mind, I find a good word. HUMID on a double-word score, using the D of JINXED. The U makes a little splash of saliva when I put it down. Another 22 points. I hope she has lousy letters.

She tells me she has lousy letters. For some reason, I hate her more.

She plays FAN, with the F on a double-letter, and gets up to fill the kettle and turn on the air conditioning.

It's the hottest day for ten years and my wife is turning on the kettle. This is why I hate my wife. I play ZAPS, with the Z doubled, and she gets a static shock off the air conditioning unit. I find this remarkably satisfying.

She sits back down with a heavy sigh and starts fiddling with her letters again. Clack clack. Clack clack. I feel a terrible rage build up inside me. Some inner poison slowly spreading through my limbs, and when it gets to my fingertips I am going to jump out of my chair, spilling the Scrabble tiles over the floor, and I am going to start hitting her again and again

and again.

The rage gets to my fingertips and passes. My heart is beating. I'm sweating. I think my face actually twitches. Then I sigh, deeply, and sit back into my chair. The kettle starts whistling. As the whistle builds it makes me feel hotter.

She plays READY on a double-word for 18 points, then goes to pour herself a cup of tea. No I do not want one.

I steal a blank tile from the letter bag when she's not looking\*, and throw back a V from my rack. She gives me a suspicious look. She sits back down with her cup of tea, making a cup-ring on the table, as I play an 8-letter word: CHEATING, using the A of READY. 64 points, including the 50-point bonus, which means I'm beating her now.

She asks me if I cheated.

I really, really hate her.

She plays IGNORE on the triple-word for 21 points. The score is 153 to her, 155 to me.

The steam rising from her cup of tea makes me feel hotter. I try to make murderous words with the letters on my rack, but the best I can do is SLEEP.

My wife sleeps all the time. She slept through an argument our next-door neighbours had that resulted in a broken door, a smashed TV and a Teletubby Lala doll with all the stuffing coming out. And then she bitched at me for being moody the next day from lack of sleep.

If only there was some way for me to get rid of her.

I spot a chance to use all my letters. EXPLODES, using the X of JINXED. 72 points. That'll show her.

As I put the last letter down, there is a



*As I'm picking new letters from the bag, I find myself thinking – the letters will tell me what to do. If they spell out KILL, or STAB, or her name, or anything, I'll do it right now. I'll finish her off.*

deafening bang and the air conditioning unit fails. My heart is racing, but not from the shock of the bang. I don't believe it – but it can't be a coincidence. The letters made it happen. I played the word EXPLODES, and it happened – the air conditioning unit exploded. And before, I

played the word CHEATING when I cheated. And ZAP when my wife got the electric shock. The words are coming true. The letters are choosing their future. The whole game is – JINXED.

My wife plays SIGN, with the N on a triple-letter\*, for 10 points.

I have to test this.

I have to play something and see if it happens. Something unlikely, to prove that the letters are making it happen. My rack is ABQYFWE. That doesn't leave me with a lot of options. I start frantically chewing on the B.

I play FLY, using the L of EXPLODES. I sit back in my chair and close my eyes, waiting for the sensation of rising up from my chair. Waiting to fly.

Stupid. I open my eyes, and there's a fly. An insect, buzzing around above the Scrabble board, surfing the thermals from the tepid cup of tea. That proves nothing. The fly could have been there anyway.

I need to play something unambiguous. Something that cannot be misinterpreted. Something absolute and final. Something terminal. Something murderous.

My wife plays CAUTION, using a blank tile for the N. 18 points.

My rack is AQWEUK, plus the B in my mouth. I am awed by the power of the letters, and frustrated that I cannot wield it. Maybe I should cheat again, and pick out



the letters I need to spell SLASH or SLAY.

Then it hits me. The perfect word. A powerful, dangerous, terrible word.

I play QUAKE for 19 points.

I wonder if the strength of the quake will be proportionate to how many points it scored. I can feel the trembling energy of potential in my veins. I am commanding fate. I am manipulating destiny.

My wife plays DEATH for 34 points, just as the room starts to shake.

I gasp with surprise and vindication – and the B that I was chewing on gets lodged in my throat. I try to cough. My face goes red, then blue. My throat swells. I draw blood clawing at my neck. The earthquake builds to a climax.

I fall to the floor. My wife just sits there, watching.

## The trouble with LEZ

- from the BBC News website 6 August

The three letters looked innocent enough – E, L and Z.

But when Trey Wright combined them to make LEZ during the US Scrabble contest finals being taped for television, he provoked uncommon excitement. The 32-point score put him on the verge of victory, but the use of a slang term for lesbian threatened to take him off the air.

Judges and TV directors, briefly lost for words, were sent scrabbling for answers and ruled that LEZ had to go.

In normal Scrabble rules, any legitimate word is fair game. But for the finals, which are to be televised later, a list of potentially offensive words had been drawn up and their use banned.

The crowd watching the finals live at the New Orleans venue are reported to have erupted with complaints at the ruling. And to make matters worse Mr Wright, a 30-year-old concert pianist from Los Angeles, had already drawn his two replacement

files before the referee could spot the problem.

"He violated the rules. But there were also people who were upset that the word was played," John Williams, executive director of the National Scrabble Association, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press news agency.

The game was halted and the players were consulted.

Mr Williams and other members of the association's advisory board held an emergency meeting.

But LEZ had to go.

Mr Wright showed the two letters he had pulled from the bag to his opponent, David Gibson, before returning them and retaking his turn, playing a less controversial GUV for seven points.

He continued with more innocent words, ending with TEOPANS (Mexican temples) to clinch a win, the title and the \$25,000 first prize, and seemed unfazed by the row.

"Meaning has no consideration when I play," he was quoted as saying.

## Our Nigel impresses

Komol Panyasoponert, age 22, is one of Thailand's rising Scrabble stars, currently ranked 24th internationally.

In a recent interview he was asked: Who would you consider to be the best player in the Asian region who has not taken part in a WSC? How about in the world? Why?

He replied:

Can I say "Nigel Richards"? Because I am afraid of him the most. In every tournament I hope to avoid playing with him unless it's at table one. ☺ I feel that the possibility to beat him is under 50%. He looks like a program that knows all the words and plays well too. He has proved his skill to all of us, hasn't he?

I think, if he has a chance to play in WSC again, he is likely to become the champion.

- From SA News (issue 3/06)

## Progress on the dictionary

- information from  
Darryl Francis, WESPA

Here's a brief update on the dictionary position (as at 13 November):

Collins' work to generate a fresh list of words has almost been completed.

The situation regarding accuracy of the list is looking very good, with all the previously identified problems now resolved. The Dictionary Committee is now expecting to have the full and final list by November 30, with a complete list of all additions and deletions from the previously published Collins Scrabble Dictionary.

In early December, the Dictionary Committee will be submitting a formal report regarding the list to the Association of British Scrabble Players (ABSP) and World English-language Scrabble Players Association (WESPA) Committees. It is very likely that the report will confirm the list is complete and accurate, and recommend that it could be adopted for use by WESPA and the ABSP.

If ABSP and WESPA Committee agree to adopt the list, Collins will put the new book straight into production, with production expected to be completed around four weeks later (ie. in early to mid January 2007).

## Scary comment

- from Jeff Grant

From a UK Scrabble message board on the Net, posted by English player Nick Deller on 9 August 2004:

Scariest comment of the weekend must have been when Mr (Stewart) Holden came up behind my opponent 0.07 seconds after the game had ended and said – and I quote – "Didn't you fancy the 284-point move then?"

I won't embarrass the person who missed SLEAZIER as a nine-timer any further, but the record (single turn) remains at 230 and the equity loss on the game might just have been substantial!"

*It reminds me of the time many years ago, when I was fairly new to Scrabble tournaments, and playing in the first tournament held by the newly-formed Waikato Phoenix Club (at Knox Street, Hamilton). I was playing Reeva Pearson.*

*I began, and Reeva played a bonus starting with an E on the top row. I played SLEAZING around her E for a triple-triple, with Z on the double letter. Total points, 302.*

*Reeva said, "I'm sure that's OK, but I can't let you get 302 points without challenging" (it was under the old challenge rules). So she challenged. INCORRECT! (Pat Grant was the adjudicator.)*

*We were both staggered. Reeva said to appeal, which I did. Still wrong. I appealed to Pat a third time, explaining the value of the turn, and that I needed to be absolutely sure it wasn't a word.*

*Pat got Jeff to check a dictionary and Jeff came over personally to show us the non-appearance of the word. So, sadly, I removed the tiles.*

*Almost everyone was surprised that SLEAZE is not a verb. I know all the SLEAZY (IER, IEST), SLEAZILY, SLEAZE (S), SLEAZO and SLEAZEBAG(S) words very well – how could I ever forget! – Ed.*

Jeff comments:

SLEAZE is a verb meaning 'to behave in a sleazy fashion' (NZ Oxford Dictionary, 2005). Unfortunately it hasn't made the Scrabble dictionaries yet. Jennifer was extremely unlucky with SLEAZING! Surprisingly, I can't remember the incident, neither can Pat.



## Slily silly contribution

-from Shirley van Essen

### To be avoided

Bedroom boredom  
Reovirus souvenir  
Blottier libretto

### Birdsong

Ostrich chorist

### Interesting animals

Amused medusa  
Bearcat cabaret  
Chained echidna  
Coolest ocelots  
Subcool colobus

### And now for the people

Moodiest sodomite  
Benigner beginner  
Snakebit beatniks  
Sorriest roisters  
Ruthless hustlers  
Solitary royalist  
Snottier tenorist

### You may find yourself at....

Tohunga hangout  
Tramline terminal  
Esoteric coteries

### Inappropriate behaviour

Noisome moonies  
Tipsiest pietists

### First class travel

Sauciest suitcase  
Smarter armrest

## Wacky definitions

-from *Scrabble News (US)*, issue 207

DISEURS	This belong to you?
GALETTE	A diminutive female
HENGE	New name for that English neighborhood once they got rid of the stones
CECITIES	Cities such as Chicago, Cincinnati and Columbus
LOWLILY	A very short flower
HIJAB	In boxing, a punch delivered way above a low blow
LISTERIA	Overly frequent creation of lists. Often afflicts Scrabble players.
NETIZENS	Tiny organisms inhabiting a spider's web
BUMMALO	A vagrant bovine
SNEERY	The eighth little dwarf
PREVERB	Sound distortion in which the echo happens first
MEME	The cry of an attention-starved child
HANDCLAP	The sound of one hand clapping
CHINWAG	Descriptive of a person needing a facelift
MEGARON	The oversize clown outside of some MacDonalds
OVOIDAL	Person scared of words that start with the letter A
TROG	What you get when you cross a troll and a frog
FELSIC	Suddenly became ill

### Holiday project

Let's copy the idea. Scroll through the official word list to discover words you have never seen before, and devise a wacky definition that will help people remember each word.

Send your wacky definitions to the editor of *Forwards*, and we'll publish them in the next issue.

Maximum of five per reader, please, so choose your five best ones to send.

## Trans Tasman Challenge Report

by Glenda Foster

### Day 1

Day 1 got underway with NZASP President and tournament director Lynne Wood welcoming the teams with a bag of goodies as well as a score-sheet booklet. The venue was a tennis club rooms in Auckland city. Games got under way promptly and the battle commenced.

From the outset the NZ team knew that it faced strong opposition. The Australian team contained current Australian champ Andrew Fisher. He is a former winner of the British National Champs and is co-author of the book *How to Win at Scrabble*. Then there were former Australian champs Bob Jackman and Naweem Fernando. Chris May, the individual TT champ in 2004 was

in the team again, as well as former Trans Tasman team stalwarts Alistair Kane, Trevor Halsall Julian McKail and Anne Drew. The team was completed by four newcomers who have made significant progress in the Australian ratings recently — Michael Hornung, Richard Jeremy, Russell Honeybun and David Lowden (who was a late replacement for Rod Talbot).

The New Zealand team contained five people who have played in all previous Trans Tasman challenges — Jeff Grant, Howard Warner, Peter Sinton, Patrick Carter and Glennis Hale. The one newcomer to the NZ team was Joanne Craig, who represented Australia at the last TT, and also qualified to represent them this year.



### Team NZ

**Back row:** Jeff Grant, Joanne Craig, Rogelio Talosig, Peter Sinton, John Foster  
**Middle Row:** Mike Sigley, Glennis Hale, Howard Warner, Patrick Carter  
**Bottom row:** Steven Brown, Lynne Butler, Debbie Caldwell

The tournament was played in accordance with New Zealand national rules. There are a number of key differences between Australian and NZ rules that meant that the Australians needed to adjust — particularly the challenge rule (in Australia there is no penalty for incorrect challenges). The file drawing rule also came as a surprise when it was drawn to the attention of players on the second day after officials observed that players from both teams were not complying with it.

First score sheet in — Mike beat Chris 384-326. The round ended up even on six wins to each team, with Lynne Butler in the lead on spread. In the second round, three Australian wins came in first followed quickly by three New Zealand wins. The Aussies ended up in

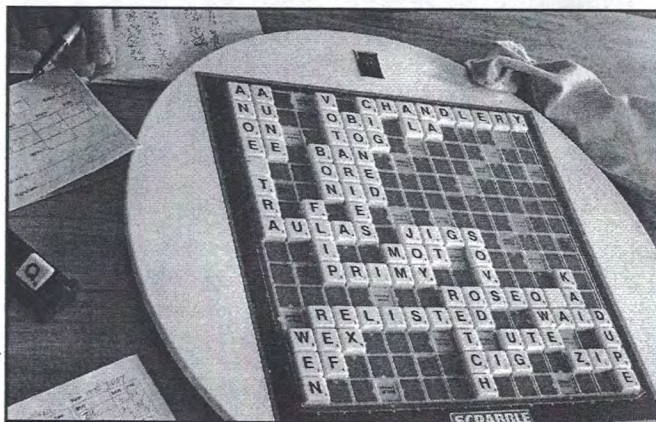


front to be in the lead by two wins at the end of the round. Interestingly, all the Australians were on one win each at the end of round two. Rogelio Talosig (NZ) had a hard luck story in his game against David Lowden. He was in front by one point at the end of the game, but he went over time and lost 10 penalty points, to lose by nine points. Debbie Caldwell (NZ) had a five point win over Naween Fernando, who lost five points on a challenge.

At lunch after four games NZ were six wins in front, following a 9/3 round to them in round four. In the individual lead were Jeff Grant and Howard Warner (NZ) who had won all their games. Andrew Fisher and Naween Fernando were the leading Australians on three wins.

Highlights reported by the players after day one were:

- Rogelio's opening two moves against Bob Jackman were COXY.
- Alistair Kane (AUS) played SONDELIS for 149 + 5 for the challenge. This turned out to be the highest scoring word played in the tournament
- Bob played TRINDLES for 133 points against Steven Brown
- Howard played AVIANIZE
- Chris May (AUS) played PENKNIFE
- Steven played BICYCLES for 101, but missed CELIBACY as a 9-fimer
- Bob played LOONS against Debbie, followed by its anagram SOLON in the first 2 moves.
- Richard Jeremy (AUS) played INTERCEDE through ED on second last turn to win
- Chris played SNEAKIEST
- Howard played OXLANDS for 125.



Mike's CHANDLERY board

The first (and only) draw of the tournament came in game seven when Mike Sigley (NZ) and David Lowden drew on 420 points. The Australians began to claw back the Kiwi lead in the last two rounds, but NZ ended the day nine wins in the lead. In individual standings Howard was leading the way on seven wins, with Bob, Peter and Lynne all on six wins.

## Day 2

Day 2 was overcast and there was a chill in the air as we arrived at the venue. Andrew Fisher was struck down by a virus, and his first game against Howard was delayed to allow time for some medication to work (medication supplied by Lynne Butler). Although he lost that game, he recovered throughout the day, winning the next six games.

Round nine was another success for the Kiwis, winning eight games and their lead advanced to 13 wins. Round 10 was an even round and in round 11 the Kiwis had a 5-7 loss. The hard luck story of round 10 was Mike's 464-505 loss to Julian. Near the end of the game Mike, holding the tiles ADELNRY, played the brilliant CHANDLERY using a spare CH at the top of the board. On a triple word score this move was worth

110 points plus 5 for the challenge, putting him into the lead. He then drew the Q out of the last tiles in the bag and was unable to play it. Julian eked out his tiles and picked up the points for Mike's unplayed Q.

In round 12 the Australian team had a big turn around, winning 3-9. So at the halfway point in the Challenge NZ was holding on to a narrow lead of five wins.

We must have fed the Aussies too well at lunch because the only Kiwi to win a game in round 13 was Peter. The average score for the Australian team in that round was 458! This turned our team's five win lead into a five win deficit.

The Australians forged ahead in the next three rounds with wins of 8-4, 10-2 and 8-4. This gave them a healthy 21 win lead at the end of day 2.

Unfortunately I have mislaid the player's record of highlights. One I recall seeing in a game involving John was his opponent's conversion of SPORTED into OUTSPORTED for 45 points on a triple word score—other nice words on that board were BOSKIEST and VETIVERT. Howard reported a 6 game losing streak—his longest ever.

The Australians were also in the lead in the individual standings, with Jeff being the only Kiwi in the top six places at the end of day 2.

In the evening the teams and their supporters went to a local Thai restaurant where we enjoyed a pleasant meal together.

## Day 3

The Kiwis tried new tactics the next morning. Lynne Butler composed a Scrabble haka and led some of the team and supporters in its performance. Unfortunately it didn't seem to intimidate the opposition and NZ lost the round 4-8. They improved a little in the next two



The TransTasman Challenge shield

rounds, winning five games, but this was not eating into the Australian lead.

Finally in round 20 the team managed a 7-5 win, but the Australians still had a healthy 27 win lead.

After lunch the Kiwis slumped again, losing 3-9 and an Australian victory was almost certain.

In the 22nd round Australia needed only three more wins to take the Challenge Trophy back. First score sheet in was Bob's win against Patrick, then David Lowden arrived with his result of a 407-341 against Debbie. Soon after, Julian finished with a win over Mike and the challenge was won by Australia. Now the interest centred on who would win the individual trophy.

At that point Andrew was in the lead with 17 wins, followed by Bob on 16, and Howard and Jeff both on 14. Technically it was still possible for a Kiwi to win the individual trophy. Howard and Jeff both won their next game, while Bob lost. But Andrew won his and was in an unassailable position on 18 wins, two ahead of his nearest rivals and only one game left to play. Andrew, Bob and Jeff all won their last games, taking the first three individual places in that order.



The NZ team rallied again in the final few rounds to whittle back the Australian lead to 31 wins at the end of the Challenge.

A few highlights of the day were:

- Bob lost with a score of 468 against Mike—7 bingos in the game
- Chris played BRIGUED and ANTHODIA
- Russell played LUNEMOTH\* instead of MOLEHUNT—LUNEMOTH\* was given as a mnemonic at the dinner the previous night
- Chris played MOVIEOLA for 63, Lynne replied with IGNORED for 82, but Chris scored 131 for TITANIAS through the I.

It was good to see a number of NZ supporters throughout the tourney. Val Mills supplied great lunches and refreshments, while Pat Grant did her usual competent job of adjudicating. Lynn Wood directed the tourney with aplomb and graciously presented the trophies.



**Lynn Wood presents the TransTasman shield and individual winner cup to Australian captain Andrew Fisher**

## Row over Welsh Scrabble



Christmas cards showing a Welsh Assembly Government minister holding a Welsh version of Scrabble has been called a "misuse of public money". Alun Pugh, the minister for the Welsh language, used public money to pay for a £2,000 licensing fee from game-maker Mattel.

Supporters said that as minister for the Welsh language, Alun Pugh is always keen to raise the profile of the Welsh language. "This includes using his official Christmas card to promote new and innovative opportunities such as the Welsh language Scrabble game."

But critics, including shadow culture minister Owen Thomas, said that Scrabble belonged to a huge company that was very rich. "If somebody's going to advertise them, they should be paying HIM money." (Incidentally, and perhaps significantly, Mr Thomas said he was not among those who had received one of the cards!)

Welsh Conservative Assembly leader Nick Bourne said: "Even by the standards of the administration this is pretty appalling. How many points can you get in Scrabble for the word 'profligate'?"

Meanwhile, the 2,500 editions of the Welsh language version of Scrabble, launched in 2005, have sold out in the shops before Christmas.

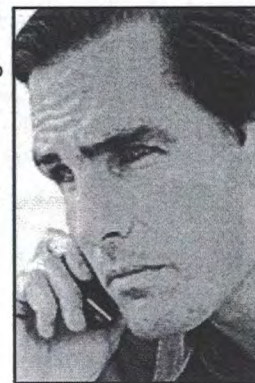
## Who's playing Scrabble?

### Blind player, Nadine Jacobson

The first completely blind competitor to play in a US Scrabble Open, Nadine competed in the Fourth Division.

### ABC News anchor, Bob Woodruff

The "World News Tonight" co-anchor, Bob Woodruff, was gravely wounded in January, along with his cameraman, Doug Vogt by a roadside bomb in Iraq. As part of his ongoing rehabilitation, over the US summer Woodruff has been playing tennis, boating, doing pilates and "playing Scrabble like a fiend", according to his wife.



### Madonna and husband Guy Ritchie



During the *Confessions on the Dance Floor* tour, Madonna and Guy apparently spent considerable time ("every night") cooped up in their hotel room playing

Scrabble. Madonna reportedly hates losing and takes the games too seriously. When Ritchie told her he would not play with her again, they tried other games, like Trivial Pursuit, but that only made matters worse.

Commenting on the news article in the UK Telegraph (26 September), Sam Leith said wryly, "Madonna and Guy should take up doing what celebrities do best: fighting and sleeping around and taking drugs and throwing televisions out of windows."

### Staff at Google

The Google branch in Tempe, Arizona has brightly coloured offices with pool and table tennis tables, massage and beanbag chairs, free candy for the employees (currently 50, but the aim is to have several hundred eventually), lava lamps, board games like Scrabble and Cranium and even private phone booths. The colours and amenities are typical for all Google offices, which are all designed to lure and retain top talent, inspire creativity and innovation, and provide a brain break from the hard work it takes to create new Internet search pathways.

### Stephannie, contestant in TV's Survivor: Cook Islands

Stephannie, 35, a nursing student from South Carolina, is an African-American Tribe member in the series. She was in the Army, and served in Desert Storm during the Gulf War, her dog's name is Prosperity and her favourite board game is Scrabble.



## John Lewthwaite, convicted child killer, Sydney

Described by his partner thus: "He is a man who is contented with what he has in life. He is quiet, likes crosswords and quiz shows, and is very good at Scrabble."

## Professor Albert Wendt, South Pacific novelist

Albert Wendt, companion of the NZ Order of Merit for services to literature, and renowned author of books like *Leaves of the Banyan Tree* and *Sons for the*



*Return Home*, is currently Professor of English at the University of Hawaii. After the recent 6.6 earthquake in Hawaii, which disrupted power in Honolulu for some days, he said on National Radio's Morning Report that he and his wife were playing Scrabble by candle and torchlight.

## Britain's prison inmates

Britain's most violent and dangerous inmates, at Whitemoor high-security prison in Cambridgeshire, are being paid by the Prison Service to play Scrabble, learn guitar, play ping-pong, go to the gym or library, attend classes, and look after fish tanks. Inmates have to complete at least 30 minutes of an activity to win a payment and earn the equivalent of £1.10 for a half-day session. Under prison rules, they are not given cash while inside but can spend "paper money" to buy extras such as tobacco, food, newspapers and gift cards. Alternatively, they can send the money home to family members or save it up and cash it in when they finish their sentence.

The Chief Inspector of Prisons said:

"This is a positive initiative that places a degree of responsibility on prisoners to structure their day and to sustain a pattern of constructive activity. Unstructured activities such as watching TV, PlayStation, radio, showering, chatting and playing pool will not be paid." However, critic of the initiative, Norman Brennan, director of the Victims of Crime Trust, said: "What benefit will knowing how to play Scrabble ... have when they are released?"



There are twelve Es in Scrabble, so it is quite common to have three or more of them on your rack. Here are a dozen triple-E fives to dazzle your opponents.

BELEE	KEEVE
DEERE	PEECE
EEVEN	REEDE
EXEME	SEMEE
GELEE	TEENE
HEEZE	WEEKE

### Think about it (2)

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Why are you in a movie, but on TV?

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

# Youth Scrabble

## Scrabble at school

- by Lesley Edgeler

Scrabble has become a popular pastime at Tokoroa North primary School. Being a teacher's aide I was able to introduce the game to senior students a couple of years ago. Students are enthusiastic about learning to play Scrabble in my utility room and bring their lunches along.

Four students attend each Monday for five weeks. Sessions last for ¾ hour each. From the outset students are given basic two- and three-letter word lists of known vocabulary.

**Session One:** Rules and scoring as for tournaments are outlined. Only one rack is used with each student contributing to decisions re word play. Students take turns to replace tiles on the rack. They aim for 300+ points per game.

**Session Two:** One pair of students plays against the other pair and they score "We" and "They" as in Canasta. Each pair makes the decisions for play as two racks only are used. Students again take turns replacing tiles on their racks. I encourage each pair to "change" their tiles once to see how this works. Hooks, basic rack management and using big scoring tiles quickly instead of holding onto them for too long is advised.

**Session Three:** Each student has a rack of tiles and plays his/her own moves. Bonus combinations are introduced. The students play a four-handed game.

**Session Four:** Two games are played using two boards. Students play one on one as per a tournament duo. By this stage, students are much more confident and beginning to grasp the setting out of tiles to form as crossword that makes sense.

**Session Five:** No boards are used. Instead, tiles only are featured in playing Take Two and Scrabble Anagrams.

Certificates are presented to students at the first senior assembly following the final session, and new children come to sign up on the waiting list after a memo is distributed to the classrooms.

Hopefully seeds of enjoyment and interest are being sown so that they practise their newfound word skills with their families and friends.

Who knows? They may even become involved with NZASP one day!

## Whiz kids ready for Scrabble

- by Roy Kietzman

One of the youngsters is a world-class exponent while another is just 10 years old in the three-day World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC) opening December 1 on the Wollongong University campus near Sydney. Nearly 60 whiz kids in Scrabble from 14 countries are registered for the tournament of 20 games played over three days. This will be followed by the top two youth supremos playing a best-of-five championship.

The event is dominated by boys, aged up to 17 years, though eight girls are enrolled. A couple of entrants have ratings of 1900-1600.

The winner of the WYSC will earn a seat at the ninth World Scrabble Championship next year and \$A1,000 in prize money.

Malaysia, with a 10-player contingent, has the most players in the WYSC. Australia has 6, Bahrain 1, Canada 3, England 2, Ghana 2, India 4, Kenya 1, Nigeria 3, Oman 2, Philippines 8, Singapore 6, Sri Lanka 3, Tanzania 1 and Thailand 5.

(Entries not finalized at the time of writing.)

See *Stop Press* story on page 50 — Ed.



## The Norfolk experience

The 2006 Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival had an early hiccup with the Kiwis' flight from Auckland being delayed by 14 hours. It was a bleary-eyed bunch we met at the airport after their midnight arrival on Sunday. The start of the tourney was moved to the next afternoon and we had the Welcome Dinner on Monday night, so everyone had time to recover.

The tournament featured 44 players from NZ and Australia competing over 21 games during the week. It was 'free challenge' so the adjudicators had plenty to do! Aussies won the top two grades, and Kiwis the other three, with the Kiwis taking the Team Trophy. Fay Grose of Queensland was a popular winner of the Knockout event (it was Fay's 11th visit to Norfolk!), and Marilyn Anderson (Tauranga) richly deserved her Sportsperson award.

As usual, the Word Puzzle competition was closely contested, with the 'Kempsey Kittens' narrowly edging out 'Les Femmes Fatales', a reversal of last year's result. The 'Most Unusual Word' was judged to be Robyn Flynn's ALERIONS – eagles without beaks or feet (rather useless, except in heraldry).

Spot prizes were given out in every round. Winners included Allison MacLean with EELINGS\* and Marilyn Anderson with CRAY\* for the 'Fish Word' (both are wrong!), Max Johnson with BASSING for the 'Music Word', Robyn Flynn with BITTERN for the 'Bird Word', Heather Landon (Tauranga) with ORGY for the 'X Word' (because it's X-rated!) and Lexie Neale with UNRIPPED for the 'Un- Word'.

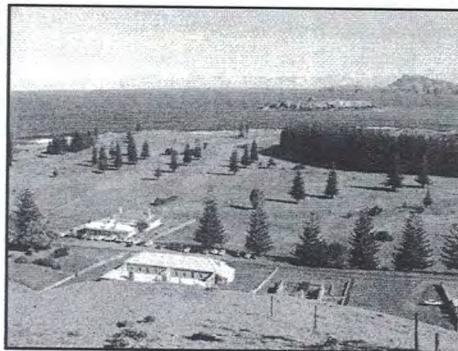
The Presentation Dinner on Friday night was enjoyed by all, even the half-dozen Aussies who had to be at the airport by 4 a.m. the next morning. After saying

- by Jeff Grant

goodbye to most of the Scrabblers and their supporters, a few of us were left on the island to enjoy some time out.

Pat and I had a ball! Our memories from Norfolk 2006 include a 4WD tour on private and forest roads, visiting the Bottle House and Liqueur Factory, sipping wine while watching gannets and tropic-birds glide along the cliff-tops, picnics with our friends, playing tennis and golf (the weekly 'chook run' is quite an experience!), meals at Seaworld, Barney Duffy's and The Homestead, duty-free shopping, clambering over the rocks at Bumboras to collect shells, coral and sea-eggs, peaceful views over native bush on the hillside behind our motel and swimming in the crystal-clear water at Emily Bay ('A' Grade winner Rene Chelton swam there at 6.30 a.m. every morning!).

Glennis and I would like to thank Agnes, Debbie, Lee and the Travel Centre folk, as well as everyone who came to Norfolk from NZ and Australia to participate in another successful Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival. Special thanks also to Pat for all her support. We enjoyed ourselves so much that we've already booked for 2007!



Norfolk Island golf course

## The worst game?

Writing in "the People's Media Company", 22 August, Rose Hunt reviews the game of Scrabble offered by Big Fish on [www.bigfishgames.com](http://www.bigfishgames.com).

### Scrabble for PC: The Worst Game Sold by Big Fish?

Scrabble is a Big Fish PC game that mirrors that of the classic board game of Scrabble. The same rules and goals still apply, and it is still up to the player's vocabulary skills to win. Scrabble never seems to change, and in this case, there isn't [sic] even new twists.

Scrabble is as hard to win as ever. The game has three difficulty levels, but the first is hard enough for most people. The imaginary player is hard to beat, whether this is due to my bad luck in getting the right tiles or if the computer has an unfair edge I'm not sure. What I do know is I quickly lost interest in a game where I constantly lose.

The words that normally might have gotten slipped past other players is [sic] now out of bounds. Every word submitted has to first be accepted by the Scrabble Dictionary before it can be played. Remember how you hated playing with someone that wanted to do everything by the book? Well, the programmers have built that person into the game. An annoying mistake in my opinion.

The imagery is adequate, but very boring. Although the tiles look like wood, and the board has color in it, there is nothing to keep you hooked to the screen. There is minimal action, in fact I think that the player putting the tiles on the board was the only action!

Sound effects are also minimalist. In today's age where audio is as important as video, the customer expects quality past the necessities. The programmers seem to have lost sight of how to make an intriguing game, or at the very least have

lost sight of what the public expects to gain from their spent money.

While I enjoy playing a board game of Scrabble once in a blue moon with my husband and children, I do not plan to play the PC version of Scrabble ever again. I do not expect anyone in my household would either. I hate to say it, but Big Fish Games is really selling a stink bomb when they are selling Scrabble.

[What was she expecting, for goodness sake! -Ed.]

### Strange quotes

- ☺ My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery, people would stop dying. (Ed Furgol)
- ☺ I always arrive late at the office, but I make up for it by leaving early. (Charles Lamb)
- ☺ A verbal contract isn't worth the paper it is written on. (Sam Goldwyn)
- ☺ Money can't buy you happiness, but it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery. (Spike Milligan)
- ☺ What's the use of happiness? It can't buy you money. (Henny Youngman)
- ☺ There are three easy ways of losing money – racing is the quickest, women the most pleasant, and farming the most certain. (Lord Amherst)
- ☺ My formula for success is rise early, work late, and strike oil. (Paul Getty)
- ☺ Women prefer men who have something tender about them – especially legal tender. (Kay Ingram)



## To empty or not to empty

We're all familiar with the situation where there are a few tiles in the bag and we hold a lead which could be overhauled by the opponent with a late bonus or a high scoring move. The dilemma is whether to foreshorten the game by emptying the bag, taking a chance that the opponent does not have sufficient scoring potential, or prolong it by deliberately making a play that leaves at least one tile in the bag. For this article, I'm assuming that you have correctly tracked tiles and know which tiles are left.

The big advantage of leaving tiles in the bag is that it ensures that you get at least one more go. Therefore if you are 50+ points ahead, say you can score 20 with this move and another 25 with your last full rack, then despite the likelihood that your opponent will go out first and that he may even play a bonus, then you are still likely to have scored enough to win. You're never in the position of hoping your opponent won't play a bonus at the end of the game.

The second advantage is that you will be the first one to know the precise tiles that are left. For example, if you leave one tile in the bag then the opponent will not be able to work out your tiles, you could have any of eight combinations. After he plays, you will know exactly what he holds and can plan accordingly.

The third advantage is that you can plan to go out in two goes whereas your opponent only has one go. You're much more likely to score more if you have an extra go plus the value of any letters your opponent might have left on his rack when you go out.

There is one disadvantage in this play. Leaving a tile in the bag gives your opponent one more shot at a high scoring

- by Philip Nelkon

play. He may have a bonus conducive rack spoiled by one difficult tile. You are giving him a chance to discard that tile and pick up another.

In this situation, analyse the board. Where there is more than one opening on the board, and bonus conducive tiles are left, then it may be better to empty the bag and take your chances that the opponent does not have the required letters to force a win. Where there is only one opening, then try to ensure any play you make blocks that opening.

Staying focused at the end of the game is difficult, you may be tired, you may have little time left to make a play, but applying the above principles should help.

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*Scrabble Club News (UK)*

## Anagram Corner

Scrabblers are dab hands at transposing letters, for example SPIKY to PISKY and WEAKISH to HAWKIES. On a higher level, the surname of English test cricketer Marcus TRESKOTHICK can be aptly rearranged to make CRICKET SHOT. Here are anagrams of six players from the Norfolk Island Festival in September.

MERILYN ANDERSON

IN ONE'S MERRY LAND

DOLORES BARBON	BORN A BOLD ROSE
RUTH GODWIN	WOUND RIGHT
ALLISON MACLEAN	ALL CALM IN/VON SEA
LOLA DUNSTAN	AN AUNT'S DOLL
RHONDA REYNISH	IN HER ROSY HAND

## Ask an expert

- by Steve Strauss, on USA Today.com

Q: Steve: Where do people find the money to start (or grow) a business? I don't have great credit, so that is one strike already. Are there grants available? What do other entrepreneurs do?

A: Your question reminds me of the story of the two out-of-work journalists who loved to play Scrabble. One night, as they got ready to play, they realized that a few of their letter tiles were missing so they headed off to the store to buy another set of the game. That was when they realized two things:

1. That between them they had probably bought six games of Scrabble in their lives, and
2. That creating a board game might be a lucrative business.

They had an idea for a game immediately, but no money, no experience, and no credit. But based on a smart business plan, a lot of gumption, and heaps of enthusiasm, they convinced 70 of their friends, associates, business colleagues and so on, to invest \$1,000 each, raising \$70,000 in the process.

The name of their game and business? Trivial Pursuit.

If two unemployed journalists with neither business nor gaming experience could find the money, so can you.

## Answers

**Brain teaser (from page 5)**

HEAVEN

**Editor's challenge (from page 5)**

PILATES is the bogus. Its anagrams are APLITES, PALIEST, PLATIES, TALIPES. During the preparation of this issue I corrected several instances of scoresheet\*. That's also a bogus.

**Find the odd one out (from page 6)**

While perhaps not "compound words" in the real sense of the word, all but one are acceptable Scrabble words that can be broken into two Scrabble words, and the words swapped around to make another: FIREBACK, FLYBLOW, SAWBUCK, NUTBUTTER, LINGCOD, DOWNCOME, UPDO, PLAYDOWN, BONEFISH, LONGHEAD, INHERE, SIDEHILL, TOWNHOME, MANHUNTS, BOOTJACK, PINKING, UPMAKE, HOODMAN, HANDOFF, MANPACK, LOCKPICK, HEADPIN, JOYPOP, STONERAG, OUTRED, TIDERIP, MATESHIP, PINTAILS, OUTWITH and TOPWORK.

The odd one out is UPLEAD. While it's an acceptable Scrabble word, and a compound word, surprisingly LEADUP\* isn't!

I have collected well over 100 of these reversible compounds, some of which are very obvious, like SONGBIRD, BIRDSONG; WOODWORM, WORMWOOD and SHOTGUN, GUNSHOT.

SAWBUCK, BUCKSAW is an interesting pair – it seems to be the only pair that has exactly the same meaning whichever way round it's written. (It's a sawhorse.)

**Mt Albert Words (from page 16)**

The incorrect words are POKERY\*, TEXTERS\*, ROLLY\*, KRYONICS\*, TUSSLERS\*, SEALIKE\*, OUTLAPS\*, SOMEDAYS\*, LUREX\* and RAINLIKE\*.

**The Genius of Peter Kay**

- ☺ When I was a kid I used to pray every night for a new bike. Then I realized that The Lord doesn't work that way, so I stole one and asked him to forgive me.
- ☺ I've often wanted to drown my troubles, but I can't get my wife to go swimming.
- ☺ I was doing some decorating, so I got out my stepladder. I don't get on with my real ladder.



# Rankings

## NZASP Rankings list as at 10 December 2006

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Howard Warner	2092	971.5	1361	71%	42	Leila Thomson	1565	390	869	45%
2	Jack Dymond	2060	315	423	74%	43	Shirley van Essen	1565	258	487	53%
3	Joanne Craig	2036	101	157	64%	44	Lawson Sue	1539	170.5	300	57%
4	Patrick Carter	2029	624	995	63%	45	Gerald Warner	1538	856.5	1825	47%
5	Jeff Grant	2012	1255.5	1636	77%	46	Stan Gregec	1533	136	233	58%
6	Lynne Butler	2001	663	1085	61%	47	Andrew Denmead	1530	190.5	387	49%
7	Mike Sigley	1935	725	1000	73%	48	Roger Coates	1529	472	995	47%
8	Glennis Hale	1912	1051.5	1888	56%	49	Val Mills	1520	623.5	1337	47%
9	Debbie Caldwell	1910	316.5	519	61%	50	Rosalind Phillips	1517	216	395	55%
10	Rogelio Talosig	1892	251	416	60%	51	Fae Olson	1505	988	2084	47%
11	Glynis Jennings	1879	374.5	790	47%	52	Frank Robinson	1504	125.5	247	51%
12	John Foster	1874	996.5	1747	57%	53	Selena Chan	1486	156.5	266	59%
13	Steven Brown	1863	593.5	1122	53%	54	Glenda Geard	1447	712	1443	49%
14	Liz Fagerlund	1837	588	1109	53%	55	Pam Barlow	1437	371	718	52%
15	Glenda Foster	1836	671.5	1297	52%	56	Amelia Carrington	1407	176	286	62%
16	Nick Ascroft	1824	137	231	59%	57	Irene Smith	1401	31	54	57%
17	Neil Talbot	1821	40	78	51%	58	Allie Quinn	1383	714.5	1485	48%
18	Andrew Bradley	1818	498	997	50%	59	Steve Richards	1361	161	315	51%
19	Chris Hooks	1785	666	1379	48%	60	Olivia En	1341	131	216	61%
20	Pam Robson	1768	434.5	936	46%	61	Ernie Gidman	1337	214	422	51%
21	Lisa McLean	1762	407.5	808	50%	62	Lynn Carter	1336	215	387	56%
22	Lynn Wood	1739	996	2090	48%	63	Hazel Purdie	1325	574.5	1167	49%
23	Peter Jones	1729	673	1358	50%	64	Faye Cronhelm	1321	582.5	1167	50%
24	Rosemary Cleary	1717	467	997	47%	65	Ann Candler	1313	561.5	1190	47%
25	Lynne Powell	1716	741	1459	51%	66	Jean O'Brien	1311	699	1354	52%
26	Marianne Bentley	1689	202	441	46%	67	Elaine Moltzen	1310	397	787	50%
27	Murray Rogers	1680	302.5	565	54%	68	Doreen Ogston	1302	493.5	1029	48%
28	David Gunn	1654	879	1728	51%	69	Shirley Martin	1297	469.5	905	52%
29	Janice Cherry	1647	279	526	53%	70	Ruth Groffman	1277	268	525	51%
30	Paul Lister	1642	575.5	1002	57%	71	Betty Eriksen	1272	612.5	1256	49%
31	Joan Thomas	1638	517	990	52%	72	Rhoda Cashman	1254	616	1296	48%
32	Shirley Hol	1634	387	797	49%	73	Delcie Macbeth	1241	527	1000	53%
33	Ann Hough	1623	342.5	669	51%	74	Su Walker	1240	517	1026	50%
34	Denise Gordon	1622	542	1073	51%	75	Yoon Kim Fong	1234	313.5	596	53%
35	Glenyss Buchanan	1612	470	985	48%	76	Yvette Hewlett	1228	278.5	575	48%
36	Julie Atkinson	1604	231.5	426	54%	77	Pat Bryan	1226	68	113	60%
37	Jennifer Smith	1596	549.5	1048	52%	78	Margaret Cherry	1225	348	694	50%
38	Maureen Holliday	1592	504	976	52%	79	Connie Flores	1195	80.5	114	71%
39	Helen Sillis	1582	562	1102	51%	80	Margaret Lyall	1189	351	711	49%
40	June Mackwell	1580	480.5	1080	44%	81	Carolyn Kyle	1184	347.5	695	50%
41	Karyn McDougall	1577	493.5	920	54%	82	Lorraine Van Veen	1180	578	1151	50%

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
83	Margaret Flaws	1180	163	290	56%	128	Thelma Chisholm	783	139	281	49%
84	Kaite Hansen	1165	98	178	55%	129	Ray Goodyear	779	133.5	280	48%
85	Andree Prentice	1164	624	1218	51%	130	Dominic Lister	776	173	353	49%
86	Jean Boyle	1157	182.5	312	58%	131	Bernice Hyde	760	129.5	250	52%
87	Roger French	1121	80	136	59%	132	Yvonne MacKenzie	752	268	594	45%
88	Allison Torrance	1117	207	382	54%	133	Valma Gidman	732	474.5	947	50%
89	Marian Ross	1106	304.5	613	50%	134	Michael Groffman	708	133.5	286	47%
90	Liz Catchpole	1097	293	588	50%	135	Jean Wacker	692	152	303	50%
91	Margaret Bundock	1094	546.5	1154	47%	136	Margaret Durdle	673	134.5	277	49%
92	Jim Wills	1091	117	194	60%	137	Annette Coombes	669	374	837	45%
93	Shirley Wyatt	1079	369.5	799	46%	138	Alison Vautier	641	16	57	28%
94	Marianne Patchett	1074	210.5	409	51%	139	Janni Henneveld	636	134	289	46%
95	John Baird	1068	47	72	65%	140	Olwen Skelton	630	416.5	876	48%
96	Sheila Reed	1064	74	152	49%	141	Marc Van Hoecke	617	30	69	43%
97	Joan Pratt	1051	527	1003	53%	142	Anthea Jones	568	74	147	50%
98	Colleen Cook	1051	129	255	51%	143	Maria Clinton	559	118	246	48%
99	Gabrielle Bolt	1048	190	367	52%	144	Elaine Ware	535	299	593	50%
100	Correne James	1047	546	1130	48%	145	Betty Wilson	534	239.5	457	52%
101	Mary Gray	1040	244.5	466	52%	146	Rosemary Wauters	527	51.5	103	50%
102	Lyn Toka	1032	330.5	630	52%	147	Dorothy Haining	519	416	847	49%
103	Anderina McLean	1031	79	147	54%	148	Sue Mayn	511	63.5	178	36%
104	Karen Gray	1027	43	76	57%	149	Tony Charlton	499	68.5	155	44%
105	Shirley Morrison	994	54	120	45%	150	Margaret Hanson	491	385.5	792	49%
106	Roto Mitchell	993	339	662	51%	151	Pauline Smeaton	487	182	373	49%
107	Mescal Kelly	979	104	184	57%	152	Jillian Greening	479	244	511	48%
108	Liz Richards	971	164.5	313	53%	153	Roslyn Lister	472	211	438	48%
109	Suzanne Frederick	969	45	81	56%	154	Jean Craib	468	235	527	45%
110	Catherine Henry	954	194.5	363	54%	155	Charles Kiewiet	444	137	267	51%
111	Barbara Dunn	947	91.5	148	62%	156	Trevor Rowell	434	71	139	51%
112	Judith Thomas	946	33	75	44%	157	Tim Henneveld	418	123	287	43%
113	Karen Miller	931	334	687	49%	158	Paula Gibbons	400	308	631	49%
114	Heather London	925	101.5	200	51%	159	Alison Holmes	399	40	85	47%
115	Carole Coates	921	397.5	813	49%	160	Lynn Thompson	389	32.5	83	39%
116	Jan Evans	904	40	85	47%	161	Betty Sutherland	352	168	404	42%
117	Bev Barker	893	423	872	49%	162	Noelene Bettjeman	335	91.5	197	46%
118	Roger Cole-Baker	885	127	234	54%	163	Resie Coenen	308	210	502	42%
119	Chris Handley	885	227	446	51%	164	Bev Griffin	304	33	100	33%
120	Kathleen Mori-Barker	884	221.5	471	47%	165	Suzanne Harding	294	25	71	35%
121	Jo Ann Ingram	870	79.5	145	55%	166	Margaret Miller	196	43	112	38%
122	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	865	380	791	48%	167	Maria Barker	196	20	54	37%
123	Veronica Zilinskas	856	112	205	55%	168	Madge Watson	133	31.5	88	36%
124	Ella Rushton	855	94	153	61%	169	Anne-Louise Milne	112	16	126	13%
125	Kate Wignall	813	578.5	1141	51%	170	Sue Foster	30	44	143	31%
126	Jena Yousif	800	169	343	49%						
127	Dianne Cole-Baker	787	101.5	195	52%						



# Tournament results

## Tauranga Tournament 2-3 September 2006

13 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Joanne Craig	CHC	13	1446	454	25
2 Rogelio Talosig	NSB	11	585	397	19
3 Howard Warner	IND	10	1238	464	26
4 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	10	705	399	12
5 John Foster	NSB	8	164	400	17
6 Glennis Hale	IND	6	-14	394	22
7 Roger Coates	KIW	6	-400	359	14
8 David Gunn	WKP	5	-380	368	21
9 Jennifer Smith	HAM	5	-412	362	15
10 June Mackwell	NSB	4	-430	344	13
11 Rosalind Phillips	MTA	4	-502	345	10
12 Stan Gregec	IND	4	-746	358	10
13 Val Mills	PAK	3	-359	365	10
14 Glenda Geard	IND	2	-895	364	15
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Delcie Macbeth	IND	9	268	403	19
2 Lorraine Van Veen	IND	9	239	397	21
3 Allie Quinn	WRE	8	612	398	16
4 Lynn Carter	NSB	8	376	384	15
5 Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	7	292	411	18
6 Catherine Henry	TGA	7	103	375	11
7 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	50	379	8



Joanne Craig (Christchurch),  
winner in A Grade at Tauranga

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
8 Margaret Flows	TGA	6	354	395	14
9 Roger French	MTA	6	46	380	14
10 Mary Gray	MTA	6	-38	372	16
11 Faye Cronhelm	IND	6	-161	372	17
12 Shirley Wyatt	MTA	6	-488	353	8
13 Lyn Toka	KIW	5	-347	370	15
14 Carole Coates	KIW	1	-1306	332	13

**Grade C**

1 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	10	519	372	16
2 Barbara Dunn	TGA	9	811	376	9
3 Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	9	577	373	12
4 Jean Wacker	TGA	9	489	356	7
5 Kate Wignall	MTA	8	538	369	7
6 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	7	133	365	14
7 Maureen McBain	TGA	6	-273	320	6
8 Margaret Durdle	TGA	5	-414	328	9
9 Sue Mayn	ROD	4	-250	334	8
10 Annette Coombes	WKP	4	-404	349	10
11 Rosemary Wauters	TGA	4	-508	334	9
12 Lynn Thompson	WRE	3	-1218	302	4

**Grade D**

1 Chris Day	TGA	13	1146	376	10
2 Valerie Scott	TGA	9	140	323	5
3 Pauline Smeaton	TGA	8	333	343	4
4 Ray Seddon	TGA	7	140	314	4
5 Mary Beech	TGA	7	132	316	0
6 Tony Warren	TGA	6	-115	300	1
7 Lyn Blow	TGA	5	-180	311	2
8 Sue Foster	TGA	4	-77	313	0
9 Ruth Godwin	IND	4	-644	282	1
10 Eleanor McDougall	TGA	2	-875	267	0

## Canterbury Open Tournament 9-10 September 2006

14 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>A Grade</b>					
1 Debbie Caldwell	NEL	12	971	439	24
2 Shirley Hol	CHC	8	229	397	24
3 Murray Rogers	NEL	7	165	392	13
4 Karyn McDougall	DUN	7	98	389	18
5 Paul Lister	CHC	7	-199	379	14
6 Selena Chan	CHC	7	-377	367	14
7 Shirley van Essen	CHC	5	-19	391	20
8 Steve Richards	NEL	3	-868	347	17
<b>B Grade</b>					
1 Irene Smith	CHC	12	560	403	18
2 Connie Flores	CHC	8	290	387	19

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
3 Jean O'Brien	IND	8	85	399	21
4 Clare Ruckstuhl	WEL	7	149	401	20
5 Lili Shorter	CHC	6	-106	375	14
6 Colleen Cook	CHC	6	-261	370	9
7 Gabrielle Bolt	CHC	5	-489	357	10
8 Carolyn Kyle	DUN	4	-228	378	17

**C Grade**

1 Allison Torrance	CHC	12	815	401	13
2 Karen Gray	DUN	10	293	372	13
3 Liz Richards	NEL	8	57	373	13
4 Veronica Zilinskas	CHC	6	58	370	14
5 Gordon Pinchin	CHC	6	-211	359	14
6 Kathleen Mori-Barker	CHC	6	-311	364	18
7 Jan Evans	NEL	5	-311	346	15
8 Yvonne Mackenzie	CHC	3	-390	346	11

**D Grade**

1 Marc van Hoecke	DUN	12	895	377	7
2 Roslyn Lister	CHC	10	407	348	4
3 Paula Gibbons	CHC	9.5	299	335	9
4 Di Barritt	CHC	9.5	-14	291	4
5 Jean Craib	CHC	9	467	355	11
6 Charles Kiewiet	CHC	9	372	373	8
7 Betty Sutherland	CHC	7	-135	320	3
8 Betty Wilson	CHC	5	281	343	4
9 Tric' Fox	CHC	5	-797	253	2
10 Margaret Preston	CHC	4	-766	264	0
11 Pat Stefferson	CHC	4	-995	271	1

## Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival 18-22 September 2006

Name	Wins	Points	BW
<b>Anson Bay</b>			
1 Rene Chelton	15.5	8057	19
2 Lynn Wood	14	8156	20
3 Patricia Mitchell	13.5	8109	21
4 Allie Quinn	11	7875	25
5 Robyn Flynn	9.5	7742	22
6 Ernie Gidman	8	7267	20
7 Rosalind Phillips	6.5	7411	18
8 Fay Grose	6	7463	13
<b>Ball Bay</b>			
1 Vicki Underhill	13.5	8269	23
2 Marianne Patchett	13	7890	15
3 Sandra Masel	11.5	8174	29
4 Sunny Wright	11	7648	14
5 Lynn Carter	10	7776	23
6 Correne James	9	7583	16
7 Sherie Brown	9	7184	13
8 Hazel Purdie	7	7583	18
<b>Cascade Bay</b>			
1 Jean Boyle	13	7959	28
2 Dolores Barbon	12	7925	10

Name	Wins	Points	BW
3 Barbara Dunn	11	7640	14
4 Heather Landon	11	7358	18
5 Rhonda Reynish	10	7763	21
6 Wayne Willis	9	7385	21
7 Pat Grant	9	7338	13
8 Max Johnson	9	7097	15

**Duncombe Bay**

1 Thelma Chisholm	16	7485	13
2 Jean Wacker	16	7377	12
3 Yvonne Mackenzie	15	8239	29
4 Valma Gidman	11	7369	15
5 Lola Dunstan	11	7262	13
6 Joy Smith	11	7127	11
7 Lexie Neale	10	7701	19
8 Jacky Booth	8	6731	11
9 Nancy Haig	4	6311	2
10 Pat Wood	3	6668	5

**Emily Bay**

1 Allison MacLean	16	7248	7
2 Charles Kiewiet	15	6906	5
3 Mervyn Fendall	14	7027	5
4 Paula Gibbons	13	6680	9
5 Margaret Hanson	11	6761	6
6 Peg Kirmlin	11	6417	0
7 Sue Mayn	8	6604	6
8 Ruth Godwin	8	5989	2
9 Anne Louise Milne	7	6253	0
10 Marilyn Anderson	2	5491	1

**Highest Individual Game Score:**  
Correne James - 550

**Highest Scoring Word:**  
Lola Dunstan - 118 - dozings

**NZ Champion:**

Lynn Wood

**Australian Champion:**

Rene Chelton

**Team Trophy:**

New Zealand

## Mt Albert Club Tournament 30 September - 1 October 2006

13 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Howard Warner	IND	12	1272	460	31
2 Patrick Carter	MTA	11	621	423	19
3 Jeff Grant	IND	10	681	440	27
4 Steven Brown	KAP	7	400	416	22
5 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	7	-371	387	14
6 Rogelio Talosig	NSB	6	300	412	24
7 Lynn Wood	WEL	6	-54	374	11
8 Andrew Bradley	MTA	5	91	390	18
9 Glennis Hale	IND	5	-141	400	20



Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
10 John Foster	NSB	5	-168	381	17
11 Peter Jones	HAM	5	-172	392	20
12 Denise Gordon	WAN	5	-368	380	21
13 Chris Hooks	MTA	4	-840	349	15
14 Lynne Powell	HBC	3	-1251	346	16
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Maureen Holliday	HBC	9	506	411	15
2 David Gunn	WKP	9	194	407	24
3 Joan Thomas	HAS	9	108	402	21
4 June Mackwell	NSB	8	174	383	15
5 Julie Atkinson	MTA	8	106	404	19
6 Lawson Sue	PAK	7	295	404	20
7 Gerald Warner	WRE	6	274	346	9
8 Rosalind Phillips	MTA	6	-7	407	17
9 Glenda Geard	IND	6	-195	382	24
10 Fae Olson	NSB	5	-136	389	21
11 Shirley Martin	HAM	5	-231	376	17
12 Pam Barlow	PAK	5	-254	372	14
13 Val Mills	PAK	4	160	399	13
14 Ann Candler	NSB	4	-894	369	13
<b>Grade C</b>					
1 Allie Quinn	WRE	9	684	414	16
2 Ernie Gidman	ROD	9	543	405	17
3 Elaine Moltzen	KIW	9	460	396	18
4 Faye Cronhelm	IND	9	257	382	14
5 Su Walker	MTA	9	-1	380	19
6 Rhoda Cashman	HBC	7	170	369	11
7 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	-263	380	11
8 Delcie Macbeth	IND	6	319	389	18
9 Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	-129	372	15
10 Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	5	-65	376	16
11 Lorraine Van Veen	IND	5	-487	355	13



Maureen Holliday (Hibiscus Coast), winner in B Grade at Mt Albert

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
12 Lynn Carter	NSB	5	-527	359	16
13 Margaret Bundock	HBC	3	-533	344	6
14 Shirley Wyatt	MTA	2	-428	358	9
<b>Grade D</b>					
1 Pat Bryan	MTA	11	867	403	17
2 Roto Mitchell	WAN	9	197	384	15
3 Liz Catchpole	MTA	9	110	358	9
4 Anderina McLean	MTA	7.5	478	386	19
5 Marianne Patchett	MTA	7	305	381	14
6 Lyn Toka	KIW	7	-113	367	17
7 Correne James	IND	7	-173	348	9
8 Catherine Henry	TGA	6	226	369	8
9 Joan Pratt	HBC	6	-436	360	16
10 Mescal Kelly	MTA	5.5	-133	351	9
11 Barbara Dunn	TGA	5	-56	367	10
12 Mary Gray	MTA	5	-94	367	17
13 Bev Barker	MTA	4	-473	333	4
14 Irene Hague-Smith	MTA	2	-705	321	8
<b>Grade E</b>					
1 Bernice Hyde	NSB	11	778	405	19
2 Valma Gidman	ROD	9.5	636	377	12
3 Thelma Chisholm	WEL	9	390	366	7
4 Kate Wignall	MTA	7.5	313	368	10
5 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	7	-141	349	10
6 Olwen Skelton	ROD	7	-214	343	6
7 Elaine Ware	MTA	4	-301	342	4
8 Heleena Togakilo	MTA	4	-487	339	5
9 Trevor Rowell	MTA	3	-431	329	7
10 Margaret Hanson	PAK	3	-543	311	3
<b>Grade F</b>					
1 Chris Higgins	PAK	11	714	327	11
2 Pauline Smeaton	TGA	10	325	304	7
3 Lynn Thompson	WRE	8	-50	293	8
4 Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	7	-239	279	4
5 Suzanne Harding	WRE	6	96	315	5
6 Resie Coenen	PAK	6	64	295	5
7 Tony Warren	TGA	4	-910	255	2

**Wanganui Club Tournament  
21-22 October 2006**

14 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Lynne Butler	NPL	11	258	430	26
2 Glennis Hale	IND	10	254	408	29
3 Glenda Foster	WEL	7	232	417	21
4 Mike Sigley	WAN	7	93	428	29
5 Steven Brown	KAP	7	14	411	32
6 Jeff Grant	IND	6	135	422	26
7 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	4	-393	391	16
8 Lynn Wood	WEL	4	-593	370	14



Lynne Butler (New Plymouth)  
A Grade winner at Wanganui

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Jennifer Smith	HAM	10	998	433	25
2 Paul Lister	CHC	8	4	375	14
3 Rosemary Cleary	WAN	8	-71	386	22
4 Helen Sillis	NPL	7	-107	377	14
5 Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	6	-5	379	16
6 Denise Gordon	WAN	6	-67	396	25
7 Frank Robinson	WEL	6	-532	365	15
8 Leila Thomson	LOH	5	-220	371	12
<b>Grade C</b>					
1 Jean O'Brien	IND	11	741	392	14
2 Olivia En	WEL	9	82	368	18
3 Yvette Hewlett	IND	8	333	400	22
4 Roto Mitchell	WAN	8	35	361	9
5 Sheila Reed	WEL	8	-1	361	12
6 Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	175	386	18
7 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	98	391	13
8 Andree Prentice	WAN	6	135	374	9
9 Suzanne Frederick	WAN	6	-115	361	11
10 Judith Thomas	WEL	6	-171	338	8
11 Jean Boyle	WAN	6	-292	357	16
12 Thelma Chisholm	WEL	2	-1020	331	3

**TransTasman Challenge  
4-6 November 2006**

24 games

Individual Results

Player	Country	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
1 Andrew Fisher	AUS	18	1253	437	49
2 Bob Jackman	AUS	16	989	427	41
3 Jeff Grant	NZ	16	712	425	43

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
4 Howard Warner	NZ	15	1022	435	46
5 Julian McKail	AUS	14	279	417	39
6 Rogelio Talosig	NZ	14	253	423	51
7 David Lowden	AUS	13.5	303	416	41
8 Russell Honeybun	AUS	13	425	428	47
9 Naweene Fernando	AUS	13	402	420	49
10 Michael Homung	AUS	13	320	418	44
11 Trevor Halsall	AUS	13	78	411	34
12 Anne Drew	AUS	13	34	410	44
13 Chris May	AUS	12	69	420	46
14 Joanne Craig	NZ	12	-48	405	39
15 Richard Jeremy	AUS	12	-556	391	41
16 Peter Sinton	NZ	11	-490	399	37
17 Mike Sigley	NZ	10.5	-432	410	55
18 Lynne Butler	NZ	10	-327	403	35
19 John Foster	NZ	10	-394	401	35
20 Alistair Kane	AUS	9	-103	408	41
21 Patrick Carter	NZ	9	-240	408	39
22 Debbie Caldwell	NZ	9	-725	391	33
23 Steven Brown	NZ	7	-1380	387	49
24 Glennis Hale	NZ	5	-1444	369	32

**Team Results**

	Wins	Spread
Australia	159.5	3493
New Zealand	128.5	3493
Lead	31	

**Rodney Club Tournament  
11 November**

7 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>A Grade</b>					
1 John Foster	NSB	6	341	403	11
2 Rogelio Talosig	NSB	5	113	395	11
3 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	4	323	404	13
4 Andrew Bradley	IND	4	129	403	13
5 Peter Jones	HAM	4	-62	392	12
6 Lynne Powell	HBC	3	28	414	14
7 Chris Hooks	MTA	1	-406	382	10
8 Jennifer Smith	HAM	1	-466	365	6
<b>B Grade</b>					
1 Margie Hurly	WRE	5	202	396	8
2 Maureen Holliday	NSB	4	401	411	8
3 Gerald Warner	WRE	4	-10	400	9
4 Pam Barlow	PAK	4	-56	360	7
5 Rebecca Freeth	ROD	4	-279	390	8
6 June Mackwell	NSB	3	-66	390	7
7 Joan Thomas	HAS	2	44	404	9
8 Lawson Sue	MTA	2	-236	381	6
<b>C Grade</b>					
1 Lynn Carter	NSB	5	173	384	6



Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
2 Shirley Martin	HAM	4	218	381	8
3 Su Walker	MTA	3	-23	375	10
4 Isobel Yorke	HBC	3	-67	376	5
5 Pat Bryan	MTA	2	3	395	5
6 Ann Candler	NSB	2	-97	387	5
7 Rhoda Cashman	HBC	2	-207	363	3
<b>D Grade</b>					
1 Karen Miller	PAK	5	285	381	5
2 Joan Pratt	HBC	5	175	367	9
3 Lyres Freeth	ROD	5	146	377	5
4 Kate Wignall	MTA	4	125	367	4
5 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	3	-18	351	6
6 Bernice Hyde	NSB	3	-262	329	6
7 Roto Mitchell	WAN	2	-45	346	4
8 Valma Gidman	ROD	1	-406	328	5
<b>E Grade</b>					
1 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	6	490	396	8
2 Chris Higgins	PAK	5	657	411	9
3 Ruth Munnings	ROD	4	71	362	4
4 Paddy Glen	ROD	4	41	367	5
5 Olwen Skelton	ROD	3	-286	340	5
6 Linda Moore	ROD	2	-113	335	3
7 Sue Mayn	ROD	2	-403	315	4
8 Margaret Hanson	PAK	2	-457	308	3
<b>F Grade</b>					
1 Joy Hewson	HBC	6	247	359	2
2 Elvie Perrin	ROD	5	17	349	4
3 Poobie Pillay	NSB	4	81	345	4
4 Melody Freeth	ROD	4	53	362	4
5 Kate Leslie	ROD	4	-52	338	1
6 Bev Edwards	WRE	4	-146	317	1
7 Merle Spinetto	ROD	3	25	335	0
8 Diana Quennell-Smith	NSB	3	-171	302	0
9 Margaret Miller	HBC	2	-47	312	0

**Waikato Phoenix Club Tournament  
25 November**

7 Games					
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Chris Hooks	MTA	7	545	431	14
2 Rosalind Phillips	MTA	4	478	409	11
3 Roger Coates	KIW	3	33	382	9
4 Joan Thomas	HAS	3	-133	376	10
5 Maureen Holliday	HBC	3	-230	364	5
6 Jennifer Smith	HAM	3	-254	370	6
7 David Gunn	WKP	3	-333	359	11
8 Stan Skinner	TGA	2	-106	354	4
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Allie Quinn	WRE	7	599	451	13
2 Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	6	623	433	11

**26 November**

7 Games					
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>Grade A</b>					
1 Howard Warner	IND	6	1360	487	15
2 Joan Thomas	HAS	5	18	384	8
3 Chris Hooks	MTA	5	-54	397	13
4 David Gunn	WKP	4	-49	367	10
5 Peter Jones	HAM	3	46	403	15
6 Maureen Hanson	MTA	3	-291	387	9
7 Jennifer Smith	HAM	2	-181	383	7
8 Roger Coates	KIW	0	-849	328	7
<b>Grade B</b>					
1 Hazel Purdie	MTA	5	623	431	7
2 Rosland Phillips	KIW	5	111	400	10
3 Ann Candler	NSB	4	414	411	11

**Kapiti Coast Tournament  
Saturday, 2 December 2006**

7 games					
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>A Grade</b>					
1 Mike Sigley	WAN	6	244	416	12
2 Debbie Caldwell	NEL	4	282	417	11
3 Joan Thomas	HAS	4	207	438	14
4 Glenda Foster	WEL	3	59	387	12
5 Rosemary Cleary	WAN	3	-129	375	11
6 Nick Ascroft	WEL	3	-177	389	6
7 Lynn Wood	WEL	3	-234	378	9
8 Denise Gordon	WAN	2	-252	372	9
<b>B Grade</b>					
1 Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	6	482	403	8
2 Yvette Hewlett	IND	5	332	408	13
3 Leila Thomson	LOH	5	223	377	8
4 Pam Barlow	PAK	4	145	383	8
5 Jean Boyle	WAN	4	78	378	10
6 Clare Ruckstuhl	WEL	4	-10	389	10
7 Betty Eriksen	WAN	4	-105	352	5
8 Judith Thomas	WEL	1	-241	340	2
9 Roto Mitchell	WAN	1	-393	368	8
10 Sheila Reed	WEL	1	-511	333	4
<b>C Grade</b>					
1 Vicky Robertson	WEL	7	670	386	8
2 Suzanne Frederick	WAN	6	431	377	4
3 Thelma Chisholm	WEL	5	211	348	2
4 Jan Evans	NEL	4	26	335	2
5 Agnes Rowland	KAP	4	18	342	2
6 Rahimah Abdullah	KAP	4	-104	327	2
7 Alison Vautier	KAP	3	-233	326	3
8 Pam Sinclair	KAP	1	-180	312	0
9 Anne Smith	KAP	1	-266	296	0
10 Judy Driscoll	KAP	0	-573	287	0



*Carole and Roger Coates (Kiwi) played in the Kiwi and Waikato Phoenix Club tourneys, with Carole winning D grade on day 2.*

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
4 Lynn Carter	NSB	4	-279	374	7
5 Shirley Martin	HAM	3	135	404	11
6 Su Walker	MTA	3	-155	386	13
7 Allie Quinn	WRE	3	-387	344	6
8 Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	1	-462	350	5
<b>Grade C</b>					
1 Samantha Samuels	KIW	7	205	382	10
2 Mary Gray	MTA	4	153	366	5
3 Shirley Morrison	TGA	4	-119	325	3
4 Joan Pratt	HBC	4	-144	351	6
5 Catherine Henry	TGA	3	55	365	7
6 Lyn Toka	KIW	3	30	366	8
7 Roto Mitchell	WAN	3	-173	354	6
<b>Grade D</b>					
1 Carole Coates	KIW	5	300	387	7
2 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	5	299	405	13
3 Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	5	219	375	9
4 Kate Wignall	MTA	4	30	352	3
5 Bernice Hyde	NSB	3	-115	363	7
6 Margaret Durdle	TGA	2	-59	346	6
7 Jean Wacker	TGA	2	-206	336	3
8 Jena Yousif	KIW	2	-468	330	3
<b>Grade E</b>					
1 Janni Henneveld	ROT	6	112	323	3
2 Anthea Jones	KIW	5	209	355	7
3 Pauline Smeaton	TGA	4	303	345	2
4 Margaret Hanson	PHC	4	67	338	2
5 Tim Henneveld	ROT	3	49	327	3
6 Bev Griffin	TGA	3	-73	322	1
7 Jillian Greening	HAM	3	-126	309	4
8 Ruth Godwin	IND	0	-541	278	0

**Sunday, 3 December 2006**

7 Games					
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
<b>A Grade</b>					
1 Nick Ascroft	WEL	6	394	427	11
2 Debbie Caldwell	NEL	5	319	448	16
3 Glenda Foster	WEL	4	107	403	9
4 Mike Sigley	WAN	3	-30	397	11
5 Rosemary Cleary	WAN	3	-169	363	8
6 Steven Brown	KAP	3	-195	397	14
7 Neil Talbot	WEL	2	-103	392	12
8 Lynn Wood	WEL	2	-323	360	4
<b>B Grade</b>					
1 Glenyss Buchanan	LOH	6	517	413	9
2 Leila Thomson	LOH	6	274	408	9
3 Denise Gordon	WAN	4	159	399	9
4 Joan Thomas	HAS	4	101	376	5

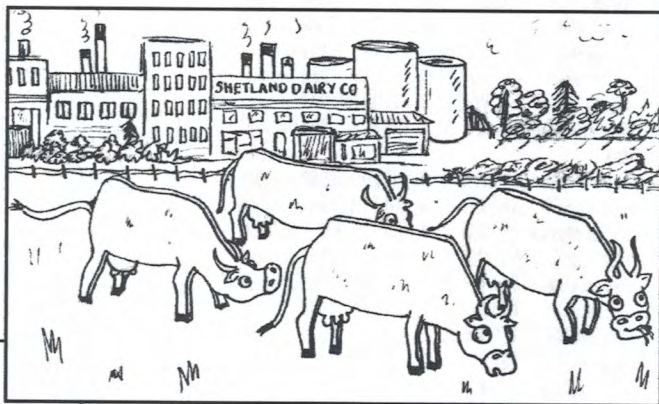


Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	B/W
5 Betty Eriksen	WAN	3	64	378	10
6 Pam Barlow	PAK	3	-233	390	12
7 Jean Boyle	WAN	2	-275	346	5
8 Yvette Hewlett	IND	0	-607	340	9
<b>C Grade</b>					
1 Jan Evans	NEL	7	844	411	7
2 Roto Mitchell	WAN	6	817	404	8
3 Suzanne Frederick	WAN	5	370	364	2
4 Thelma Chisholm	WEL	4	-98	345	3
5 Agnes Rowland	KAP	3	-226	335	2
6 Alison Vautier	KAP	3	-270	322	0
7 Judy Driscoll	KAP	3	-371	295	0
8 Rahimah Abdullah	KAP	2	114	353	4
9 Anne Smith	KAP	2	-191	310	0
10 Graeme Brown	KAP	0	-989	243	1



Jan Evans (Nelson), C Grade winner at the Kapiti Club tournament on day 2

**Two Letter Word Dictionary Illustrations, from page 22**



ro by ro



an ai

**Stop Press**

At the inaugural World Youth Scrabble Championship, held in Wollongong, Australian David Eldar beat Austin Shin from England in a best of five final.

David played in the Trans Tasman Challenge in 2004 when he was just 15 years old, placing 9th in the individual standings.

# NZ Scrabble Records

Record	Tournament		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'Neill (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) Karyn McDougall (DUN)
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)	7	Jeff Grant (IND)
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)	—	—

**New Zealand 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)