

Contact Information

Clubs (Nth to Sth)	Contact Person	Phone	Meeting Day/ Time	Meeting Place
Whangarei (WRE)	Bev Edwards	09 430 2832	Thurs 1pm	Markwick House, 1 Norfolk 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)	Kate Wignall	09 625 0147	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)	Ngairi 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	06 878 8229	Tues 1pm	
Wanganui (WAN)	Rosemary Cleary	06 347 1837	Mon 7pm	Cosmopolitan Club
Masteron (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	Thur 7pm	Senior Citizens Hall, 67 Trafalgar St.
Christchurch (CHC)	Margaret Lyall	03 332 5963	Fri 6.45pm Wed 12.45pm	Sydenham Community Centre
Dunedin (DUN)	Chris Handley	03 464 0199	Tues 7pm	Caversham Presbyterian Church Hall, 61 Thorn St., Caversham

Forwards Editor	Jennifer Smith	95B Howell Avenue Hamilton 3216 New Zealand	Phone 07 856 5358 Email jennifersmith@xtra.co.nz
Layout Editor Forwards distribution Webmaster	Glenda Foster	1 Walters Street Lower Hutt 5011 New Zealand	Phone 04 567 1590 Fax 04 567 9305 (telephone first) Email fostergb@ihug.co.nz glenda.foster@scrabble.org.nz

www.scrabble.org.nz

FORWORDS

Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players
No 88 September 2007



Clockwise from top—Jeff Grant, Lynne Butler, Joanne Craig, Nigel Richards, Howard Warner

In this issue

We remember Gerald Warner

Forum: Understanding your opponent

Pondering the unusual

Progressive extensions

Theoretical 1785-point play

Texting is all Greek to me

NZASP Executive

President Lynn Wood



5 Tully Street
Kilbirnie
Wellington 6022
Phone 04 387 2581
Email
lynnwood@paradise.net.nz

Vice-President Glenda Foster



1 Walters Street
Avalon
Lower Hutt 5011
Phone 04 567 1590
Email
fostergb@ihug.co.nz

Secretary Liz Fagerlund



3/389 Blockhouse Bay
Road
Blockhouse Bay
Auckland 0600
Phone 09 627 6506
Email
scrabbliz@inspire.net.nz

Treasurer Joan Thomas



424 Purser Place
Hastings 4120
Phone 06 878 2418
Email
thomas.joan@xtra.co.nz

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From the Editor



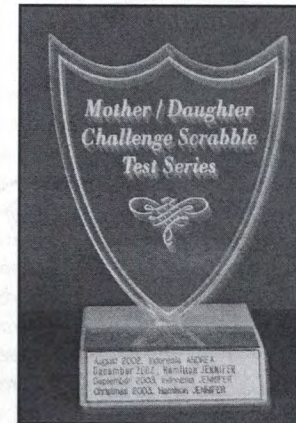
I don't win any trophies these days, now that I'm competing in the A grade more often than not. The best I can hope for is about 10th.

However I do have one trophy that I win reasonably often, and it sits proudly in my lounge at the moment: the Mother/Daughter Challenge Scrabble Test Series trophy.

It began in Indonesia in 2002 when I was visiting my daughter. During our four weeks together we played a game of Scrabble over most mealtimes. On the last morning of my visit we tallied the games to discover that the wins were tied. We'd have to have the final at lunchtime before I went to the airport!

So at Denpasar, Bali, we found a café and settled in for our final game. We became aware that two women nearby were watching us with great interest, so we explained what was going on. "Oh," said one, "how lovely. But you must have a trophy!"

I thought that was a brilliant idea, and mentally vowed to send one to Andrea if she won. Fortunately, she did, because it wouldn't have been nearly so much fun to organise a trophy for myself.



When I got back to New Zealand, I arranged the trophy and the engraving and posted it off to Jakarta. A delighted Andrea rang to say the surprise had made her week. She had it on display on her office desk, where it was attracting a lot of interest.

I won the next test series (in Hamilton, December 02), so Andrea had the trophy engraved and posted it back to me from Jakarta. Since then, the inscriptions record that "test series" have been held in Indonesia again (September 03), Hamilton (Christmas 03), Hamilton (February 04), USA (July 05), Hamilton (Christmas 05), Wellington (Easter 06), Hamilton (Christmas 06) and Wellington (Easter 07).

We both find that when we are the holder of the shield we want the other person to win, as it's so much more fun to get it engraved and send it off to the other person than to get it engraved for oneself. However, we are both too proud and too competitive to throw a game, so we have some great tussles.

So when I win I'm pleased, and when Andrea beats me I'm pleased.

There's a self-evident truth in my story – if you have to be beaten, it's so much nicer to be beaten by somebody you love.

And this is one of the reasons we "losers" can come back time and time again for more defeats at Scrabble Tournaments – not only do we love our game, we love our Scrabble opponents in our Scrabble family.

Jennifer

From the Executive

Another Nationals has slipped by, and the long AGM too. It was pleasing to see so many proxy votes received, but naturally, I was very disappointed about the combination yearly sub and magazine not even getting an airing. The magazine is going from strength to strength, and the favourable comments have been in abundance. Where else can you play a sport and get four fabulous magazines for \$18 a year?

Gerald Warner was sadly missed at the Hamilton tournament. He was a treasure from the old school, and liked to flirt with the ladies. Now his flirtations have gone to join the special Scrabble club upstairs. Lucy Bright will be chatting with him, as will his lovely wife Evelyn. God bless Gerald.

As I acknowledged at the Hamilton tourney, Liz has done an amazing job with the airfares and accommodation for the team going to Mumbai in November. I know Liz will steer the team over there, and play Mum to their requests. Jeff in particular is relieved to know that McDonalds, KFC and Pizza Hut are available, as I know he doesn't enjoy Indian cuisine. Thanks Liz for all your hard work.

Has your club done any fundraising for this event yet? We are still looking for donations, large and small, and every \$1 helps. I know you pay a levy by attending a tournament but that wouldn't be enough to finance what we do each time there is a world event. Joanne is paying her own airfare to Mumbai, as is Nigel, and for that we are truly grateful. A saving in excess of \$3000 has been made by

this kind gesture. Thank you both very much; we are indebted.

Norfolk Island will be a welcome relief to a number of people escaping the New Zealand tail end of winter this year. My Mum and I will be there again – good on you, Thelma. I keep telling her "you're a long time looking at the lid, kid", so why not enjoy the hospitality of the island and have a fun week of Scrabble included?

Do consider it yourself; and maybe join the 20th year of tournaments on the island in 2008. I'm sure it will be a little ripper. Even if you don't like flying, it's only a short hop to the peace and beauty and primitiveness of Norfolk, something which is not duplicated anywhere in the world.

Keep those games rolling, and attend all the tourneys you can. Learn the new words day by day, and don't be afraid to challenge them at a tournament if you haven't seen them.

Good scrabbling.

Lynn



Club News



Dunedin

Five Dunedinites ventured north for the South Island Championships, and five 'went the distance' to Wellington over Queen's Birthday weekend. Best performances were Karyn McDougall (B3) and Marion Ross (C3) at the SI Champs, and Ella Rushton at the Nationals (F1).

Carolyn Kyle was photographed for the *Otago Daily Times* celebrating her birthday. Questions have been raised about the contents of the glass she was holding.

The new two and three letter words have increased the possibilities of good scores. All of them were played on the first club evening after the new list was adopted.

Ruth Groffman is still conducting Scrabble workshops in primary schools holding sessions on Monday and Tuesdays.

Christchurch

It has been good to have Blue Thorogood join us this year, when his job allows. We enjoy his company, and of course his wonderful Scrabble expertise.

We were thrilled with Selena Chan's success when out of ten top New Zealand tertiary teachers she won the supreme award presented by the Prime Minister. Indeed, we could not ignore it when her face beamed out of all the local papers plus *The Press* and an ad for the Polytech. Selena is our present club treasurer and a great club member.

This year we had a change of tournament venue. Some of us miss the lovely views and isolation of Huntsbury but we are enjoying the pleasant seductive atmosphere of the new Riccarton Library – a treat for bibliophiles. Debbie Caldwell succumbed entirely, and between each game was seen with glazed over eyes sitting cross legged on the floor engrossed in reading.

We are pleased that club member Malcolm Graham plans to return home after five years in the UK with his wife. He has had plenty of scrabbling over there and we have enjoyed reading his interesting emails of his experiences and travels. His other passion is motorbikes. Once at a motorbike rally he told a friend that he was unable to attend the next event as he was playing in a Scrabble tournament. Uncomprehending of such things, he thought that Malcolm was talking about a motorbike scramble!

Kaite Hansen has had a health glitch and we are missing her fun. Hopefully she will be back on the Scrabble scene soon.

Hastings

New Club Bonus Record

At the weekly Hastings Club meeting on August 14, NZ champ Jeff Grant won his three games with scores of 638, 604 and 503. He also had a 608 score at the Hamilton tourney on August 11. Three 600 games in four days is quite a feat!

Jeff's 1745 three-game total is 60

short of the NZ club record of 1805 held by Nigel Richards (CHC). However, his 14 bonus words played in the three games (6, 4, 4) is a new record.

Kiwi

Kiwi Club celebrated its 10th Anniversary in June with a pot luck lunch held at the Club Rooms on Sunday 17 June.

Elaine Moltzen started the club in 1997 and has held the post of President since. The luncheon was followed by a few Scrabble games, and browsing through an album of photos from the last 10 years.

Honours for our Selena

Eight university staff were named among the top ten New Zealand tertiary-education teachers at the annual Tertiary Teaching Awards ceremony held at Parliament in June. The awards, which were established to encourage excellence in tertiary teaching and to help teachers further their careers and share best practice, recognise exceptional teachers who show outstanding commitment to their subject and demonstrate knowledge, enthusiasm and a special ability to stimulate learners' thinking and interest.

The Prime Minister's Supreme Award, worth \$30,000, was awarded to Selena Chan, Principal Academic Staff Member at the Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology.



Kiwi Club's 10th anniversary

All the right words are at her fingertips

- by David Dickens

Olivia En cannot see the shape of the letters on her tiles but this did not halt her winning streak at the Scrabble Nationals.

Ms En, a lawyer from Palmerston North, and 86 others from throughout New Zealand, converged on Evans Bay Intermediate School, Wellington, for the New Zealand Association of Scrabble Players Nationals at the weekend.

Ms En uses Braille Scrabble tiles, a Braille board and a computer to add her score, but receives no other special privileges. She has been blind since suffering a viral infection at 18 months old.

Scrabble association president Lynn Wood said Ms En had done "very very well" at the championships, including a six-game winning streak.

Ms En travels from Palmerston North by train each day to Wellington to work but stays the night on Tuesdays to play at Wellington Scrabble Club.

*Reproduced courtesy of
The Dominion Post, 4 June 2007*

Obituary: Gerald Warner

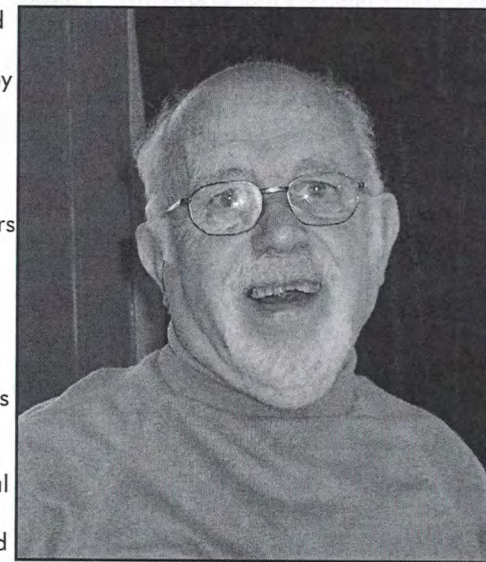
- by Allie Quinn, Whangarei Club

Throughout New Zealand Gerald Warner will be remembered with affection by many Scrabblers. He was a worthy opponent and loved his Scrabble.

Gerald moved to Whangarei just over two years ago and founded the Whangarei Club along with Evelyn Hayward who was later to become his wife. Sadly Evelyn passed away in September 2006; Gerald was devastated.

This year, just three days before the Whangarei Annual tournament, Gerald also passed away, having suffered a severe stroke ten days previously. His passing, when it happened, proved to be timely (although regrettable) in that many Scrabblers stayed on after the tournament to farewell Gerald on the Monday. It was a very touching service and I am sure Gerald would have been impressed with the number of Scrabblers who attended.

Gerald had been in the Scrabble fraternity for 25 years or more, travelled to tournaments throughout New Zealand, Australia and Norfolk Island, and this year he attended the Nationals in Wellington, which sadly was to be his last. He would also have played his last game of Scrabble with me at Club. The two of us always had good games regardless of who won.



Gerald appeared in *Forum* in our last magazine where he shared his thoughts with three other players on rack management.

We will regard future Whangarei tournaments as 'Gerald Warner Memorial' ones.

Prior to our tournament this year Gerald was really keen that there be a prize for a 9-letter word and I am sure that he would have been delighted to know that both Joan Thomas and David Gunn obliged. One of Joan's words was 'enervated' which is an anagram of 'venerated' and that is the very word I am sure a lot of us would attribute to Gerald.

I hope he has found Evelyn.

Gerald's life

The stroke Gerald suffered recently, though largely robbing him of his cherished conversational skills, did not diminish his flow of ideas and memories. During his short illness, he still managed to joke and grin, and convey some treasured thoughts to us.

He made it clear that the past two years were the happiest time of his life. This was because he found love and companionship with Evelyn, who he married late in 2005 and tragically lost soon after from illness. Gerald felt the emptiness of her passing over the following nine months.

He was born Gerhard Wachsner in Germany, on 29 September 1924. According to his autobiography, he was circumcised a few days later – he had the evidence to prove it.

His growing up and schooling in Germany was cut short by the unfolding horrors of the Nazi regime. On 1 August 1939, just before his 15th birthday, Gerald was put on a train to Glasgow, as part of the 'Kindertransport' – the international aid effort to save Jewish children throughout Europe.

At this time Gerald was unaware it would be the last time he would see his parents. They and many other family members perished in the concentration camps. Gerald's brother Gunter got out before him to make a new life in New Zealand. And his sister Anneliese settled in what would become Israel and continued the family line there.

In 1943, having completed a piano-tuning apprenticeship, Gerald joined the British Army to make his contribution to the war effort. He served in Europe in the final months and later

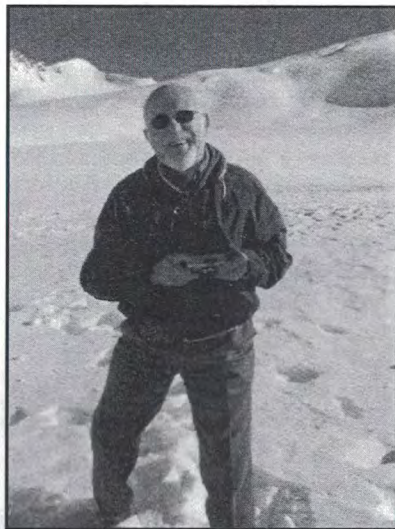
worked as an interpreter at various war-crimes trials.

On 15 September 1948, Gerald left the United Kingdom for a new life in New Zealand. On his arrival, he was met by Gunter, who he had not seen or spoken to in nine years.

As a new migrant, Gerald resumed his interrupted academic life. He studied at Victoria University, obtaining a Masters with honours in English in 1954. From here, he pursued a career as a high-school language teacher, mainly in Wanganui, Papakura and Glendowie, through to his retirement in 1984.

Gerald had some real passions in life – and not just of the two-legged variety. During his teaching days he had produced many plays, and he continued his dramatic pursuit with various amateur theatre companies.

He developed word puzzles, such as the Syllabic, Overlap and Word of



- by his family

Tributes to Gerald

My special memory of Gerald dates back to when he lived in Warkworth and I lived in Whangarei. Irene Smith and I went down to Gerald's for some games against the Rodney Club members and Gerald won his game against me with the triple-triple SHEEPIER, which I unsuccessfully challenged. Gerald was justifiably proud of this piece-de-resistance in his game and reminded me of it one time when I met him again at a tournament much later.

Glynis Jennings

I have met Gerald. Very nice man.

Sam Kantimathi

I always found Gerald an inspiration. Although his shaky writing was such an effort and, to an observer, such a trial in his later years, he never gave in and stopped trying to write down his Scrabble scores – and he never grumbled about it. Shaky hands, perhaps, but there was nothing shaky about his mind! He was as sharp as a tack.

Always a pleasure to play, he unfailingly demonstrated perfect sportsmanship. And he was fun as well!

Jennifer Smith

Gerald had been an excellent vice-president of the Association – I remember him playing at a Christchurch tournament and taking time afterward to field questions and address issues with members.

Gerald was so much a part of the scenery – I remember at one Nationals when David Gunn exclaimed in alarm, "Where's Gerald?" It didn't seem quite



Truth, which he sold to newspapers for nearly 50 years. Earlier this year, he reached the milestone of seeing his 5000th Syllabic puzzle published, in the *Sunday Star-Times*.

Words featured heavily, in one way or another. Competitive Scrabble was a big passion. Gerald founded Scrabble Clubs in Warkworth and Whangarei. And he is fourth on the all-time list of number of tournament games played in New Zealand.

He loved his music and contributed much over the years to the Auckland chamber-music scene.

In later years, Gerald was an active member of Probus and University of the Third Age. He was a ball of energy, socially and in his many pursuits. Since the horrors of his childhood, Gerald made the most of every day in a long, full life.

His passing will leave a big hole for all those who knew and loved him, especially his four children.

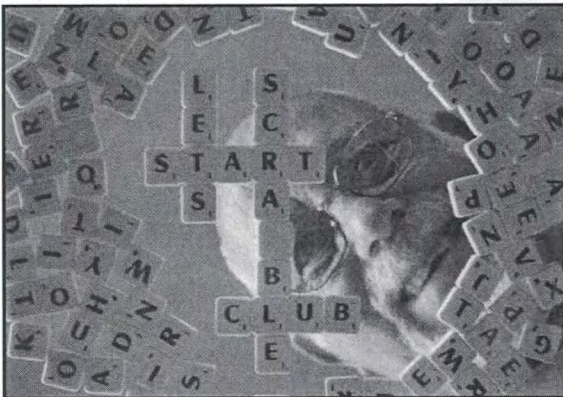


Photo of Gerald taken soon after starting the Whangarei Club

right the tournament should proceed without him.

As a player he played at a very high level throughout and was playing in a high grade even a few weeks before his passing — I had imagined he would carry on 'til past 100!

Paul Lister

I was honoured to be asked by Howard to speak on behalf of NZ Scrabble at Gerald's funeral. I would like to repeat part of the eulogy I gave which epitomised the Gerald who enjoyed fun and a little flattery!

One of my fondest memories of Gerald was from the 2001 Norfolk Island Scrabble festival. During this week Gerald had his 77th birthday and a group of us went out to dinner with him to celebrate. Joan Thomas and I, knowing Gerald's lovely sense of fun went out shopping for a "wordy" present. We found large coloured wooden letters, and bought four of them which we wrapped up separately. During the evening at regular intervals we presented him with one letter at a time, and once he

had more than one letter he had to make words with them. First was a Y, then after entrée an E – YE, A little later the third letter was unwrapped – this was an S – YES (or SYE, SEY). I'm sure Gerald was wondering where this was going. He had to wait until dessert to unwrap the last letter – an X. I'm sure he was flattered that we thought him SEXY! We all had a wonderful evening, full of laughs with Gerald.

Gerald will be remembered with love and affection by Scrabble players young and old throughout New Zealand, and all the young ladies (such as myself!) will miss the hugs and kisses he always gave when meeting up again at a tournament.

We will all miss you Gerald.

Liz Fagerlund

Drawing well

We were all very much aware of Gerald Warner's presence at the Whangarei Tournament. How's this for proof that he was there in spirit?

Glennis Hale took three tickets in the raffle, carefully choosing number 82 for one of them because that was Gerald's age.

When the raffle was drawn, lo and behold, Glennis's name was drawn out for the first prize. "Was that number 82?" she asked, explaining why she had taken that one. No, it wasn't number 82.

However, the next ticket drawn was number 82!

Competition Corner



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 40.

Solution: Contest no. 87

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 1. ad | 11. de |
| 2. Oz | 12. oi |
| 3. pi | 13. Ra |
| 4. ko | 14. aa |
| 5. he | 15. Mo |
| 6. Ed | 16. Ob |
| 7. ab | 17. ai |
| 8. go | 18. xu |
| 9. up | 19. Mu |
| 10. Bo | 20. it |

Congratulations to our winner Lyn Toka (Kiwi), who receives a copy of *The Concise Dictionary of 2-Letter Words*. See Lyn's delightful article, "The perils of puzzling" on page 40. Runners-up with just one wrong answer were Leila Thomson (Lower Hutt), Rhoda Cashman (Hibiscus Coast) and Joan Pratt (Hibiscus Coast).

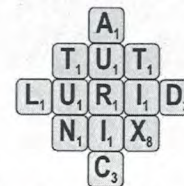
ANAGRAM CORNER

Scrabblers are dab hands at transposing letters, for example FORGO to GROOF and UPCLIMB to PLUMBIC. On a higher level, of COMPASSIONATENESS, you could say that it STAMPS ONE AS SO NICE.

Here are anagrams of six home club players from the Whangarei tournament in July. Of course we all missed Gerald, who got the event going last year, but he was there in spirit. His full name, GERALD ALFRED WARNER, transposes to GRAND REWARD, ALL FREE.

Scrabble Contest no. 88

With the board situation below (L on centre star), what is the highest-scoring move with a rack of IORSSUY?



Send entries by mail or email to:
 Jeff Grant
 'Ardra'
 1109 Allenby St, Hastings
 ardra@paradise.net.nz

Closing date is 18 November 2007. The winner will receive a book prize.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| ALLIE QUINN | LALIQUE INN |
| BEV EDWARDS | WE ADD VERBS |
| ERROL HOOKER | HE LOOK OR ERR |
| SUZANNE HARDING | HAS AN UNDER-ZING |
| MARGIE HURLY | MERRY, I LAUGH |
| ANNE SCATCHARD | CHANCE AND ARTS |
| | (Scrabble?) |

Mailbox

From Jo Ann Ingram

I bought the original Collins Scrabble Word List published in 2004, and have been searching for a list of all the words in the present one that are different from the words in the original that I have, so that I can update my copy.

There may be others who would also like to update their book. The list is available about halfway down the page at <http://www.tilefish.co.uk/csw2007.php>.

This site also updates all the new additions and subtractions.

From Jeff Grant

There were heaps of great articles, snippets, humour, photos, etc. in the last issue.

I particularly enjoyed Kaite Hansen's piece. I suspect quite a few of us are similarly affected by logophilia*.

I also enjoyed Su Walker's clever little puzzle on p10. Words like BANANA, DRESSER and GRAMMAR that leave a palindrome when the first letter is removed do rather stand out to a lover of such things.

There are also words that have this quality when the last letter is taken away or moved, for example, GARAGE, NIPPING, TARTRATE and the superb SENSUOUSNESS.

From Dianne Cole-Baker

On page 45 of the magazine I was amazed to see the uncanny resemblance of Tim Henneveld, in the photo shown – goodness, he does look like my husband Roger Cole-

Baker – and I had never noticed that before. Moreover, Roger was not a player at the Waikato Phoenix tournament.

[Oops! My apologies to both Roger Cole-Baker and Tim Henneveld for the incorrectly labelled photograph. Just to clarify who's who, here they are, properly labelled this time. Don't look a bit alike, do they? – Ed.]



Roger Cole-Baker, Mt Albert



Tim Henneveld, Independent



Good and Evil

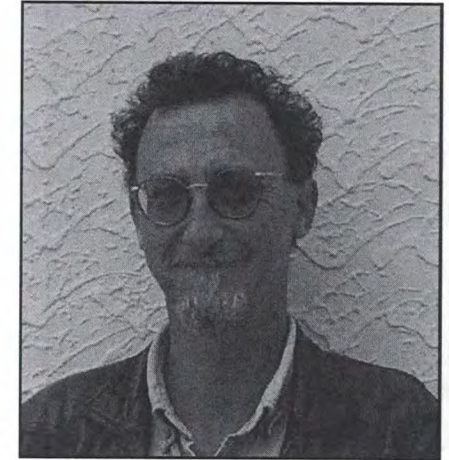
Forum

Understanding your opponent

This issue, David Gunn (D), Liz Fagerlund (L), Pam Barlow (P) and Shirley van Essen (S) share their experiences about opponent behaviour.

Can you tell when an opponent has a good rack (or a bonus)? What are the signs they give out?

- D. Most of the time I can tell from their body language and demeanour – they fiddle with their letters too much or don't fiddle at all. If someone passes, they probably have a bonus, so you should change!
- L. Sometimes a lot of shuffling of letters then positioning all 7 tiles together on the rack. I know some players who actually pick up their rack (full of letters) when they are about to play all 7. Sometimes the opponent has given indications in previous moves of a bad combination/non-bonus rack – they then get the bonus rack and have stopped moaning/sighing (or whatever other indications of a bad rack they were previously giving).
- P. Most common is frantic shuffling of tiles coming to a sudden halt – then looking very impatient as they wait for you to play. Or shuffling tiles then keeping seven together – then splitting into 4:3 or 2:5 in case you have noticed.
- S. The obvious sign of a bonus is an opponent rearranging the rack to look for anagrams without leaving a gap between letters (on the rack),



David Gunn

or obviously counting spaces on the board. A good rack may be indicated by frantic shuffling of tiles. Playing off of one or two letters, especially an (extra) S, indicates that what is left may be a good leave, including a second S.

Can you tell when an opponent has a bad rack? What are the signs they give out?

- All. Sighing and moaning. Outright verbal comments about too many vowels, may have to change, complaining about their bad day. Obviously we don't notice the ones who cover well.
- S. Groans and moans could be a decoy, or precede the not-so-obvious bonus easily missed, and suddenly spotted. Otherwise the vowel or consonant dump by which your opponent will seek to balance the rack is a dead give away.

What tactics do opponents use to try to divert you from playing on a certain part of the board?



Liz Fagerlund

- D.** Some opponents open up another part of the board or just put out one letter at a time. Others gift you a triple letter or word score both ways.
- L.** They may appear to be focusing their attention on a different part of the board, to try to make you think they want to play there, when they actually are hoping you will leave a completely different part of the board free.
- P.** Talking about a word on one part of the board, straightening tiles. I actually take very little notice.
- S.** There are two tactics:
1. Blocking off the board with difficult to negotiate letters like V, C, K and G.
 2. Offering a hard-to-ignore opportunity away from the part of the board in question. This bait is likely to be offered only if your opponent is very close to a bonus which can only fit on that part of the board, and is trailing you score-wise.
- What other (non rule-breaking) tactics have you come across?**
- L.** When in Thailand I saw a top player (in a game near the end, where a bonus would have won him the game, and more than one place left for a bonus) pick up all 7 tiles as though he was going to lay all 7 down – this was done when it was still the other player's turn; obviously to try to rattle the other player and make him wonder which spot to block. The player holding all his tiles actually had nothing like a bonus on his rack! The opponent had seen the player try to use this ploy before, and even if he hadn't, was totally unconcerned by it.
- S.** The only one worthy of note is when your opponent has first turn and passes without changing. This is a red flag that she/he has a rack which does not make a seven, but which makes plenty of eight letter words (like A D E I L N T, which makes eights with all the vowels except I, and lots of others). If confronted with this tactic, I change unless I too have a bonus word. I once played a game when my opponent passed for a second time, and I changed again, resulting in a bonus for me, and she was forced to play away some of her letters.
- What are some of the signs that a player may be trying a bogus?**
- D.** When they exclaim, "I'm sure it means a ... It's English or American" – yeah, right. I always check the letters out to see if they make anything else, especially when I'm playing a gun player – ahem! Fiddling around for ages or



Pam Barlow

- dumping it down straight away usually alerts me that something is on.
- L.** The opponent may be hesitant about playing, may have been writing down words to see if they look right. They may even verbalise that they are not sure of a word before or as they are playing. I have also seen players play a word they are unsure of very quickly, and hurriedly reach for the tile bag to replenish their rack.
- P.** I think very carefully about the word, which is probably good, when they say something like "Oh well, I've got to try it", or "You'll probably want to challenge this."
- S.** Some players get a name for 'trying it on'; others only play a bogus by mistake or because they genuinely think the word may be right. The 'try it on' category have had their wings clipped by the new 5 point rule, so very few players deliberately play a bogus any more, it is too expensive!
- Is all fair in love and war?**
- S.** I don't know about love and war, but in Scrabble all is fair within the rules except bad manners, bad temper, sneaking a look in the bag when you think you are 'only' playing a little old lady, and any other form of cheating.
- What sorts of (bad) behaviours do lower graded players do that the higher graded players would never dream of doing?**
- D.** "Oh, you're too good for me, you'll win easily."
"Ooh, I've nothing on my rack – just an S, an E, an R, an I, an N and a T. I can't do anything 'cos of this blasted blank."
- P.** Asking before they play something like "Can you have OIS or is it IOS?" Do you ignore the question or reply that they shouldn't be asking you that?
- S.** Apart from talking too much and trying to get you to challenge a word they know is good by verbalising that they are not sure of it, there is very little difference between lower graded and higher graded players, behaviour wise. Sneaking a look in the bag has happened to me with a high graded player. In other words, bad behaviour depends on the player, not the grade.
- What sorts of (probably more subtle, but still bad) behaviours do higher-graded players do that lower-graded players should watch out for?**
- D.** "Everyone knows that's a word."
"You've probably never seen this word; it's Mongolian for . . ."
- S.** Put-downs before the tournament, eg. that with all these lower graded players entered, bad luck is going to make them lose rating points.



Shirley van Essen

Have you come across opponents who have tried to "mislead" you in one way or another?

- S. Yes I have, but mispronouncing a word can't happen, and you can't be talked out of challenging, if both players keep quiet, as they should.

Do you have any anecdotes about opponent behaviour? (No names, thanks!)

- D. One player I played didn't lift the bag off the table and I noticed she was looking down the throat – just a quick flick of the eye. I told her I didn't like the way she was pulling her letters out. Sure enough, she had J K two blanks and an S. She whacks down JACKERS. Ouch! Then she noticed that if she put out REJACKS the word is doubled with the K on a triple letter heaps more points. Well, I challenged that off and blocked and blocked and she didn't get the seven and I won.
- L. In my very early days of competition, when you lost a turn for challenging a correct word, an opponent played the word GLAIR – and when I was looking at it

obviously unsure, the opponent said "Oh, I must have spelt that wrong". After I challenged and lost a turn she gleefully told me she knew it was right and gave the meaning! This was in a lower grade, and if I hadn't been a very keen new player, this sort of tactic could have put me off continuing! I lost the game and was very upset by what I considered unethical behaviour.

- P. Seventh game of a one day tournament my opponent put real pressure on me to let her win the game as she had not won a game all day and was getting very depressed. All through the game she practically begged me to let her win. Unfortunately for her I won by 170 points, which I may not have done had she kept quiet and concentrated on her game.
- S. I have occasionally run into players who get grumpy if you don't know the meaning of a word which is good and which they have challenged. This hasn't happened to me for years. Also an opponent I didn't know from Adam once indulged in some vicious gossip about a third player (whom I do know) "so and so is an alcoholic"!!! etc, etc. Not nice!

How do you resolve a problem like players wanting the clock on different sides?

- L. I have a slight preference for clock side, especially if on a small table, as having the clock on the same side as your score sheet when cramped for room can be a bit tricky. If I get to the table first I may put the clock on the preferred side for me. However, I don't allow something trivial like that to bother me, so either side is okay.

I know it's hard to be jolly when your opponent is 200 ahead and you still have 6 vowels

- P. I never mind which side I sit on or what side the clock is on, as I always think that players who concern themselves with such trivial matters aren't going to play well.
- S. Doesn't bother me as I don't care what side the clock is on. If there are unresolved disputes about this I suggest that the player who starts first have first choice in this too.

What behaviours do you think are bad Scrabble manners?

- D. Knocking your letters off your rack when you've gone out of your way to avoid doing that to your opponent's tiles.
- L. Showing very bad grace when your opponent is having a blinder of a game with lots of high scoring moves. I know it's hard to be jolly when your opponent is 200 ahead and you still have 6 vowels – I am guilty of showing dissatisfaction with this scenario, but I try to lose with good grace and congratulate them at the end of the game. I know when the tables are turned and I have a high scoring game it's nice not to have an opponent who puts the guilt trip on you for having "all the goodies". Am I expected to say "Sorry, I should have swapped that last blank and S to give you a chance"??
- P. Checking my score by lifting and examining the tiles in an exaggerated way as if they don't trust me. After they have lost, commenting

that you had everything, which isn't always the case.

- S. Bad Scrabble manners are the same as bad manners in general. Bad losers, arrogant winners. Grumpiness, slamming down clock and tiles when in a bad mood, put-downs, talking while opponent is trying to think (or talking at all), afterwards claiming that your win was only because you got 'everything'. Worst is unprovable cheating.

What things do other players do that annoy you when you play them?

- D. Tapping a pen on letters as they're counting – haven't they read that excellent article by Jennifer Smith about pen marks on tiles?
- L. The opponent turning the board after they have played! I know a lot of lower grade players think it is good manners to turn the board for their opponent and have got into the habit. However, if each person turns it on their turn if they want to, then it is still being turned the same number of times by each. I am often checking adding when the opponent has played, and when they spin the board I need to start again! I think the thing to remember is that once you have announced your score your turn has finished. You shouldn't really be interfering with the board when it is not your turn.
- P. I don't often find that anyone annoys me. I find most people very enjoyable to play.
- S. I like most players and they don't annoy me. I quite enjoy playing somebody new.

What behaviours do you try to do or not do yourself?

- D. I usually turn the board around when I've announced the score, and this sometimes bugs people, especially the upside-down players. I wonder, what happens when two upside-down players meet?
- L. I try not to moan about consistent bad racks, but admit to being guilty of this.
- P. I hope I don't do anything to annoy other players. If I do, it's unintentional. No letters to *Forwards* with lists of my faults please!
- S. I have two behaviours that I know annoy some people, and am trying to reform with some success when not overexcited in the course of play. Neither is, or ever has been, intended to deliberately put an opponent off their game.

The first is that I tend to place some letters upside down. I am interested in the words and if the word 'reads' correctly I often don't notice that some of the tiles are what some people would call upside down. This is confined to I O S N and H X Z all of which read correctly both ways up. The first four have a score of 1, so the upside down-ness means the score appears in the 'wrong' corner. It is only in the last three that the score is upside down which to me is no big deal since everyone knows the score of those letters.

However since I realise that this upsets a minority of players I am making an effort at placing tiles 'correctly'. Incidentally, it doesn't bother me if the whole game is played upside down, and since the board is symmetrical, even sideways on works.

The other sin I must 'fess up to, I only realised was causing annoyance very recently. I love words (fun) but hate adding up (work) and for years now I have added my score out loud thinking I was affording my opponent the courtesy of seeing how I arrived at my total. Apparently this is a no-no – silence extends to adding up except for announcing the total. Having added up out loud for so long, and not being strong on the bally arithmetic I am having some trouble curtailing this bad behaviour. Actually there are some players who announce their score so softly that I can't hear it – they assume that I have added it up too, whereas I only check it if obviously wrong. Have to work (aargh, Work!!!) on that too!

Anything else you'd like to say?

- D. I watch everything my opponent does.
- L. Many top players give nothing away most or all of the time regarding what they have on their rack. I have annotated at several WSCs now and even some of the top players do moan, sigh etc at times. With many though, you would have no idea from their body language whether they have 7 vowels or a bonus on their rack; and the best players to play or watch are those who both win or lose with good grace. I think this way of playing is what we should aim to do.
- P. My pet HATE is coffee cups being brought back to the table – there's little enough room on the tables – surely there's enough time to drink a cup of coffee between games?

Mary Farmer and Mescal Kelly Memorial Tournament

- by Liz Fagerlund

Mt Albert Scrabble Club recently held an unrated tournament in memory of two of our well known Club members who both died last year. Last year we had the Inaugural Mary Farmer Memorial, this year we have added Mescal's name. As well as a chance to remember them, it was a Sunday well spent with good friends and good Scrabble. (Not to mention a delicious shared lunch and lots of M&M chocolates!)

Mary and Mescal would both have been delighted to have us honouring them in this way.

Apart from the slight hiccup when one player made rather a large error in the starting time, all went well, but unfortunately Mary Gray, who was the originator of this Memorial Day, was unable to attend as she was sick with shingles.

The format was a Swiss Draw and after 7 games, Howard Warner was the winner, with Glennis Hale second (both with 6 wins), while Glynis Jennings, Liz Fagerlund and Anderina McLean were close with 5 wins each.

Highest word score and highest game score both went to Howard and the lowest winning game to Trevor Rowell.

Interesting to note how many of our Club members' names are also allowable scrabble words; certainly MARY, FARMER, MESCAL and KELLY are all acceptable, as are WARNER and HALE, ALBERT, and ROWEL (with one l).

Mt Albert Club hopes to have this tournament as an annual event.

More cross words

- by Jeff Grant

Further to the piece on animal hybrids and crosses in the last issue, there is also COYDOG, the cross between a coyote and a dog. A zebra/donkey hybrid is called various things, such as ZEBRASS and ZEBRINNY, which are allowed in Scrabble, as well as ZEDONK*, ZEBRONKEY* and ZENKEY*, which are not. A good name for a female foal would be Debra.

In the realm of fantasy creatures, such as the JUMART, I have also heard of the rather startling hypothetical HUMANZEE*! But we don't really want to go down that road, do we?

The mongrel dog crosses COCKAPOO, PEKEPOO (or the joky PEEKAPOO) and LABRADOODLE are allowed in Scrabble, but dozens of others are not. Here is a small selection from dogbreedinfo.com that aren't allowed. You can probably figure out the cross involved for most of them.

AFFENGRIFTON	AUSSIEDOODLE
BASSETOODLE	BICHPOO
BOXADOR	BOXWEILER
CAIRNOODLE	COCKERANIAN
CORGIDOR	DORKIE
FOXHOODLE	GIANT SCHNOODLE
GOLDENDOODLE	LABRADANE
LABROTIE	MALTIPOM
MEAGLE	PAPIPOO
POOGLE	PUGINESE
ROTTERMAN	SAINT BERNOODLE
SCHNEAGLE	SHEPRADOR
SILKZER	TOY POXER
WHOODLE	WIRELSH TERRIER
WOLAMUTE	YORKILLON

My favourite isn't on the list unfortunately; the cross between a bullterrier (yes, one word) and a shih-tzu – BULLSHIHT*!

New word list

The new *Collins Scrabble Word List* (CSW) is probably one of the most diverse word sources ever used for the game. Replacing Chambers, Collins has added some 6,000 new words to the current lexicon – the largest number of additions ever in the history of competitive Scrabble.

These words come from a variety of sources – poetry, science, politics, industry, finance, technology – and from other languages.

Some of these additions have been a long time coming. Words such as **BARISTA** (a person who makes coffee), **WEBPAGE** (self-explanatory, I'm sure!), **BENTO** (a Japanese meal set), **WHUP** (to defeat someone totally) and **BLING** (showy jewellery) are common enough, but only now are they allowed in Scrabble.

Unfortunately, the list of familiar words is small compared to the cornucopia of exotic additions that Scrabble players will have to commit to memory. Words like **ACAI** (Brazilian berry), **BAGH** (a garden in Hindi), **EJIT** (Scottish for idiot), **TUKTU** (Inuit for caribou), **DJEMBE** (West African drum), and **BOERTJIE** (South African for friend) have now invaded the domain of English.

These exotic additions will certainly upset the sensibilities of language purists but the ever-changing environment of the English language serves to remind us that language will expand to meet the requirements of its users.

Malaysians will be thrilled at the local insertions, like **MEE**, **ROJAK**, **KUEH**, **JAGA**, **LAKSA** and **ASSAM** among others.

- by *Ganesh Asirvatham*

It's pretty common to hear Malaysians say, "Let's go for some curry mee", when noodles would be a more appropriate term. But let's face it – hardly anyone says noodles! With CSW, Malaysian English speakers need not fear saying that they want to "have some kueh for tea".

Whether the teaching establishment will be receptive is another matter altogether. It's unlikely that English teachers will embrace these "alien words" with enthusiasm, so students are cautioned not to use them in essays and other scholastic tests.

Scrabble players the world over have expressed displeasure with these inclusions, saying that hardly anyone ever uses them and that the speaking population that does is so small that they hardly merit inclusion in an English dictionary.

Moreover, there seems to be no rationale behind the functionality of the words. Some nouns can be pluralised and some can't. For example, both **AROHA** (love) and **ARUHE** (edible root of a fern) are borrowings from the Maori language and although both are nouns, only the former can be pluralised. CSW is littered with such words, confusing hapless players.

Whatever the case may be, these words are here to stay.

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Loose vowels

"The only time it's cool to yell, 'I have diarrhea,' is when you're playing Scrabble, because it's worth a shitload of points."

- *Zach Galifianakis, American comedian*



Overseas news



Alaska

At the annual Salmon on Parade (which celebrates the return of real Alaskan salmon each year), artists displayed their unique creations on a salmon theme, one of which was a Scrabble salmon.

Australia

Australian Scrabble players mourn the death of Jean McGiffen. Some New Zealand players may have known her through on-line scrabble (ISC nickname 'cammo') and tournaments in Australia, where she has been a regular for close to 30 years.

Bahrain

An international Scrabble tournament due to open in Bahrain early in June was postponed due to Hurricane Gonu, which lashed Oman.

The 17th Gulf Air Gulf Scrabble Tournament (GST) was pushed back two weeks after Oman-based players were unable to travel – flights to and from Oman were cancelled as the hurricane peaked at category five.

The tournament was rescheduled for the end of June.

Gulf Air 17th Gulf Scrabble Tournament (GST), June

1. Akshay Bhandarkar (United Arab Emirates)
2. Asad ul Haq (United Arab Emirates)
3. Salah Saleh (Saudi Arabia).

It's interesting that as a one-off tribute to the GST sponsor, the organising committee had decided to allow 'gulfair' as a bingo in the competition! However, not a single 'gulfair' (legit anagram, FIGURAL) was played among the hundreds of bonus

words put down in the 255-game contest.

Eight Gulf Scrabble players have qualified for the ninth World Scrabble Championship (WSC) in Mumbai, India, this November: Loreta Alban (Qatar), Akshay Bhandarkar (UAE), Sanath Hemachandra and Ralph Lobo, (both from Oman); Salah Saleh (Saudi Arabia), Shakir Reshamwala (Kuwait), Nestor Javier and Mohammed Zafar (both from Bahrain).

Brunei

The 5th Annual Scrabble Tournament for participants from private secondary schools is organised by the University of the Philippines Circle Brunei, an academic professional organisation in the Sultanate. Results:

1. Andrew Koay Yi Jie
2. Tan Su Lee
3. Pan Ching Yaw

France

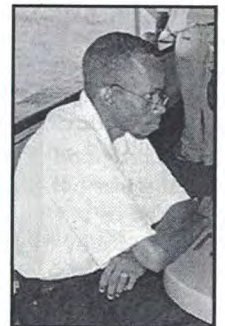
2007 French Championship

1. Florian Levy
2. Antonin Michel
3. Thierry Chincholle

Guyana

1. Ewart Adams
2. Fred Collins
3. William Woolford
4. Abigail McDonald

In the grand finale (best of five series) held later, Collins earned the right to represent Guyana at the



Ewart Adams

World Scrabble Series. He also won fifty thousand dollars, while Adams collected thirty-five thousand dollars.

Jerusalem

The Sam Orbaum Jerusalem Scrabble Club – said to be the largest in the world – recently celebrated their 50th session. It was founded in 1983 by the late Sam Orbaum (who died in 2002), and since then has attracted 1,730 individual players, who have collectively scored an aggregate of some 66 million Scrabble points.

In his speech, one of the foundation members commented that Scrabble players find **ORGASM** disappointing with only six letters, while **IMPOTENT** with eight letters is something they want to share with their partners. Similarly, Scrabble players prefer **POVERTY** to **WEALTH!**

Kenya

Well-known player on the New Zealand Scrabble circuit, Cecilia Ruto, won the 2007 Zambia Scrabble Association (ZSA) National Championship.

1. Cecilia Ruto
2. Paul Kalumba, the previous title-holder
3. Patrick Mpundu

Cecilia said she was happy to win the championship despite the stiff competition from other players. She described the championship as very competitive, and said she was not regarded as a major threat at the beginning.



Cecilia Ruto

Players from Kenya, Uganda,

Tanzania and Zambia took part in the East African Championships in April, but the first three places were won by Kenyan players.

1. Michael Gongolo (Kenya)
2. Patrick Litunya (Kenya)
3. Francis Wachir (Kenya)

Rose Kisembo had to withdraw from the tournament on the second day of the tournament to give birth to a baby boy.

Cecilia is also in contention (with about six others) for the remaining place as a representative of Kenya at the WSC. The other three representatives are Francis Wachira, Michael Gongolo and Patrick Litunya.

Malaysia

Ong Suanne won the 2nd WSC qualifier, confirming her as a firm favourite for the second WSC spot. At barely 15, Suanne is the youngest person to win a masters-level tournament.

7th Mensa Scrabble Challenge, June

About 90 players took part; almost 70% of them juniors.

Masters 1 Ganesh Asirvatham
Masters 2 Ramaraj Sundaraj
Intermediate Alwi Abdul Razak
Fun category Kang Eng Lee

Malta

Theresa Camilleri, David Delicata and Jojo Delia will represent Malta in the World Scrabble Championships. This will be the first time that Malta will have three representatives in the world championships.

Camilleri and Delicata qualified as the top two players in the National League, whereas Delia was the highest rated player at the end of the last rating tournament held prior to the selection of the Malta representatives.

Singapore

Chia Guo Cong has won the LBH Cup.

South Africa

The South African National Scrabble Players Association has changed its name to Scrabble South Africa, mainly to aid people doing searches on the internet. Their acronym has likewise changed from SANSPA to SCRABSA.

They have also revamped and transformed their magazine, although it has not yet been given a name.

Thailand

In the best-of-three final in the 2007 Kings Cup in June, Nigel Richards overcame a 109 point handicap in the third game against Komol P (Thailand) to win the tourney. Hubert Wee (Singapore) was third, and Jakkrit K (Thailand) was fourth.

Nigel has now been champion seven times in the last nine years!

A total of 82 players from 12 countries participated in the Expert Division, while about 8,000 participants competed in student divisions. *[That number is not a misprint! – Ed.]*

Trinidad and Tobago

Anthony Modeste will represent Trinidad and Tobago in the World Scrabble Championships in Mumbai,



Nigel Richards (right) defeats Komol in the final of the King's Cup

India, in early November. In the tournament to select the solo qualifier, Modeste upset a field of the top 16 players in the country.

1. Anthony Modeste
2. Leslie Charles
3. Compton Welsh
4. Samuel Davis

United Kingdom

For the first time since 1999, the UK will hold a National Schools Scrabble Championship in 2007. The final will be held in London in October to coincide with the 2007 National Scrabble Championships.

USA

In the Can-Am event in April, seven top players from each of America and Canada competed, playing two games with each member of the opposing team. The US team won by 56.5 games to 41.5.

The National Scrabble Association noted the death of member Helen Pipi at age 95. A member of the Las Vegas Club, Helen did not play her first tournament game until the age of 86!

Canadian James Leong from Vancouver has won an international Scrabble tournament (and \$12,000) in Dayton, Ohio.

The youngest Scrabble player in the National Scrabble Association is Matthew O'Connor, who has played in five rated tournaments, and is ranked 1463 in the US. He is just 8 years old.

The 2008 National Scrabble Championships will be held in Orlando. They expect it to be the largest tournament in their history, since it will mark the 60th anniversary of the Scrabble game trademark. Note they have reverted to the old name for the championship, having tried US Scrabble Open.

Pondering the unusual

- by David Sutton, compiler of the ABSP Collins Scrabble Word Initiation kit

No doubt by now you will all have absorbed the basic new Collins vocabulary provided by the Initiation Kit and will be raring to move on to something a little more challenging. Here for your pleasure are ten interesting new words from the other end of the utility spectrum.

- JHATKA the slaughter of animals for food in accordance with Sikh law.
- KOKOBEH of certain fruit, having a rough skin
- KOROWAI a decorative cloak worn by a Maori chief.
- BUSUUTI a long garment with short sleeves and a square neckline worn by Ugandan women.
- PHRYGANA an uncultivated open scrubland of the Mediterranean region.
- SHWESHWEAN an African cotton print fabric.
- THANGKA a religious painting on a scroll.
- WUDJULA a non-aboriginal person.
- VUVUZELA an instrument blown by South African football fans.
- ZAMZAWED of tea, stewed in the pot.

How sad that the appearances of these jewels on the Scrabble board are likely to be few and far between. I sometimes speculate on what the game would have been like if, instead of a flat fifty points for using all one's tiles, one received a variable premium of

five times the face value of the tiles involved. I put it to you, can it be fair that a person plonking down ETAERIO for the hundredth time receives the same extra reward as a person playing the magnificent VUVUZELA? Under my scheme, the former would merit a mere 35 bonus points while the latter would earn an extra 115. I suspect, however, that the impact of such a rule on the game would actually be negligible, since the probabilities for bonuses are weighted so much towards the low-value tiles that only an infeasibly large premium could make the active pursuit of high-value tile bonuses worthwhile. So forget that idea.

Of course, another way of encouraging more adventurous play would be for the ABSP to appoint a rarities Committee, which each year published a list of, say, one thousand Wanted Words. A certificate would be awarded to anyone playing one of these words in an ABSP approved tournament, and at the end of the year the person playing the most Wanted Words would be acclaimed Weirder* of the Year.

No? Ah well, back to ATONERS/SENATOR/TREASON and their new friend SANTERO.

- from Onwords, UK



Teach and Learn

Progressive extensions update

- by Jethro Snafflerod

Some of our members will remember the thrilling contest in *Forwards* 33, Dec '93 between myself and Robot Blatter aka Rob Talbot, to produce the most words that could be extended one letter at a time from 2 to 7 or more letters making an allowable word with each successive extension, eg PA, PAS, PAST, PASTE, PASTEL, PASTELS.

The contest was judged by Jaffer Gentry who determined the result to be a draw, neither of us quite achieving a perfect result. Between us we found 173 words which could be extended from 2 to 7 letters, plus 16 which could be further extended to 8 letters.

Following the 1995 revision of *Chambers*, I found a further 22 extensions to 7 letters, plus 3 further extendable to 8 letters. These were listed in *Forwards* 42, March 96. One of the new entries was MODERNE and

at the time I expressed regret that it was not a noun so that it could be extended to MODERNEST thus creating the first ever 2-9 letter extension.

Collins have now remedied this by listing MODERNE as a noun. Finding this has motivated me to update the original lists and the totals found are now 223 extensions to 7 letters, plus 26 which can be further extended to 8 letters and one that can be further extended to 9 letters.

In the following lists the new words are underlined. They may be totally new words such as BANDARIS, or existing words that can be included as a result of new shorter words, eg ARTISTES, which enters the list because of the new word ARTI-S.

The new 2-letter words have between them spawned 6 new entries which are largely offset by the loss of 5 due to the unlamented demise of PH.

2 - 7 letter extensions

ABASERS	AMIDOLS	AMUSERS	ANTARAS	ANTICKE	ANTICKS	<u>ARTISTE</u>
<u>ARTISTS</u>	BALSAMS	BALSAMY	<u>BANDARI</u>	BANDARS	BANIANS	BARBELL
BARBELS	BARBERS	BARBETS	<u>BASSEST</u>	BASSETS	BASSETT	BASTERS
BATHERS	BATTUES	BEDELLS	<u>BESTIRS</u>	BINGERS	BITTERN	BITTERS
<u>BOONGAS</u>	BOORDES	BORDELS	BORDERS	BOREENS	BOWSERS	<u>BOWSEYS</u>
<u>CHADORS</u>	CHAINED	CHAINES	CHAISES	CHAPELS	CHAPESS	CHARETS
CHARKAS	CHARROS	CHARTAS	CHASERS	CHIASMA	CHIASMI	CHIASMS
CHICHAS	CHICHIS	CHICONS	CHIDERS	CHINARS	CHINESE	<u>DALEDHS</u>
DELISTS	DINEROS	DINGERS	DINGEYS	DIVERSE	DIVERTS	DIVESTS
DOOLEES	DORSALS	DORSELS	DORSERS	DOWSERS	DOWSETS	ERASERS
<u>FASTIES</u>	<u>FESTALS</u>	<u>GINGERS</u>	<u>GINGERY</u>	GODSONS	GOOSEYS	HASTENS
HAWSERS	HINGERS	HOARSEN	HOARSER	HONESTY	HOOKAHS	<u>JAMBEES</u>
<u>JAMBERS</u>	<u>JAMBOKS</u>	<u>JAMBULS</u>	<u>KAIKAIS</u>	<u>KAINGAS</u>	<u>KINASES</u>	<u>KORUNAS</u>
LAMEDHS	LAPSERS	LASSIES	LATENTS	LATHEES	LATHERS	LATHERY
LINGAMS	LINGOTS	LITHEST	LOOFAHS	LOOSENS	LOOSEST	<u>LOUSERS</u>
LOWNESS	LOWSEST	<u>MACHERS</u>	MALICED	MALICES	MALISMS	<u>MANATIS</u>
<u>MANDIRA</u>	<u>MANDIRS</u>	MANGALS	MANGELS	MANGERS	MANIACS	MATTERS
MATTERY	MAXIMAL	MENTORS	<u>METHODS</u>	<u>MICHERS</u>	MILLERS	MILLETS
MILORDS	MISERES	MISSALS	MISSAYS	MODERNS	MODERNE	MODESTY
MOLESTS	MOLLAHS	MONGOES	MONGOLS	MOOLAHS	MORALES	MORALLS

MORALLY	MORASSY	MORSELS	MOTETTS	MOUSERS	MOUSERY	MUGGARS
MUSSELS	MUTISMS	NOMADES	NORMALS	NORMANS	NURSERS	NURSERY
PALLAHS	PANDARS	PANTONS	PARKIER	PARKIES	PARKING	PARKINS
PARKISH	PARRALS	PARSECS	PARSERS	PASSELS	PASSERS	PASTELS
PASTERN	PASTERS	PATENTS	PATERAE	PECKERS	PEEPERS	POISERS
POLEYNS	POLYPED	POLYPES	POORISH	POSSERS	POSSESS	POSSETS
REEDERS	RENTERS	REPOSED	REPOSER	REPOSES	REPOSTS	RETESTS
SHADERS	SHAMANS	SHAMERS	SINGERS	SITHENS	SOLANDS	SOLANOS
SOLDERS	SOLERAS	SOURCES	TAKINGS	TANGIER	TANGIES	TAPETAL
TAPETIS	TARSIAS	TASSELL	TASSELS	TASSETS	TEASELS	TEASERS
TEENERS	TELESMS	TENSEST	TESTEES	TESTERN	TESTERS	TORANAS
TORSELS	TOWSERS	UNITERS	UREASES	WOOSELL	WOOSELS	

2 - 8 letter extensions

ANTICKED	ARTISTES	BANDARIS	BARBELLS	BASSETTS	BITTERNS	CHIASMAL
CHIASMAS	CHIASMIC	DIVERSED	DIVERSES	HOARSENS	MANDIRAS	MAXIMALS
MODERNER	MODERNES	PARKIEST	PARKINGS	PASTERNS	POLYPEDS	REPOSERS
TANGIEST	TASSELLS	TASSELLY	TESTERNS	WOOSELLS		

2 - 9 letter extensions

MODERNEST

Scrabble trivia

- Name two proposed names for early versions of Scrabble.
- When was Scrabble trade-marked?
- Who were the first manufacturers of Scrabble?
- How were the letters originally printed on the tiles?
- How many Scrabble sets per hour did they make?
- How many languages is Scrabble produced in: 9, 29, 39 or 49??
- In how many countries is Scrabble sold: 12, 121, 221 or 1212?
- It is estimated that there's a Scrabble set in one out of how many American homes: three, five, seven or nine?
- What source did Alfred Butts use to work out the distribution and points value of letter tiles?
- Name three plays that result in a zero score for the turn.
- How often are World Scrabble Championships held?
- Who hosted the Scrabble TV game show popular in 1984 and again in 1993?
- Name two computer programs that can play Scrabble.
- What feature of a Scrabble board was protected by the US Patent 2752158 (now expired)?
- How many Scrabble sets have been sold world-wide: 1 million, 10 million, 100 million?
- What is the most commonly played word in competitive Scrabble?

Answers on page 40.

Anagrams tell the truth

- sent in by Lyn Wood

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, when you rearrange the letters, is FLIT ON CHEERING ANGEL.
 PRINCESS DIANA, when you rearrange the letters, is END IS A CAR SPIN.
 MONICA LEWINSKY, when you rearrange the letters, is NICE SILKY WOMAN.

Scrabble as a metaphor

Here's a wonderful explanation of how protein does a body good - just like Scrabble! The author is Dana Carpender

Proteins make up just about everything in your body. Not just your muscles, but your connective tissue, your skin, your internal organs, your blood, even your antibodies are made of different types of proteins.

Proteins, in turn, are made of amino acids, in very much the same way that words are made of letters. You eat protein, your body breaks it down into those individual 'letters', and then in a huge, physiological game of Scrabble, it reassembles those letters into all the different words and sentences, or types of protein, your body needs.

Every protein in your body, from your skin and hair and nails to your liver and spleen and antibodies, is spelled from different combinations of those amino acids.

Your body can make many of those amino acids from other amino acids - as if you had a Scrabble letter 'A', scratched out the crossbar, turned it upside down and created a 'V'.

But there are eight amino acids that your body cannot make: It must get them from your food. These are called the essential amino acids. It's not that your body needs them more than the others, but rather that it is essential for your body to get them from your food.

To continue with our spelling metaphor, think of these essential amino acids as vowels. You simply can't make words without them, even if you have all the other letters.

In just this way, if you have all the other amino acids, even most of the essential ones, but you're missing just one or two of these essential amino acids, your body will not be able to spell the protein words and sentences needed to repair itself - and will begin breaking

down your muscles to get the missing amino acids. So it is vital that you consume all of these amino acids every day.

- from *How I Gave Up My Low Fat Diet and Lost 40 Pounds*
 - by Dana Carpender
 See her website on www.holdthetoast.com

Not quite such a good metaphor!

One of the thematic threads running through this year's Proms is the inspiration of Shakespeare on composers, while another marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Sibelius. To combine both in a single work is the concert planner's equivalent of getting an X on a triple-word score in Scrabble, so an all-Sibelius concert that included the complete incidental music for a Copenhagen production of *The Tempest* in 1925 fitted the bill nicely.

- from *The Guardian, London*

Artistic Scrabble

In the film, *Snow Cake*, a dyslexic woman plays BAANG in her opening turn in a game of Scrabble with a friend. When he protests at the spelling, she says that it's a very long loud noise, and tells him that you can spell words any way you like, as long as you can give a good explanation of their meaning.

So he responds with YAMOOOL, and gives a fair explanation of Spiderman hitting a villain with little bits of web - "YAMOOOL! Spiderman says triumphantly!" His opponent is unimpressed.

Her next word is DAZLIIOUS, for 88 points, for which she gives a long but exquisitely eloquent description of a sunrise. At this point, he realises he'll never win the game!

[Beautiful film, even without this Scrabble gem. -Ed.]

Twenty years ago today

- by John Foster

This month's selection, from *Forwards* 9, October 87, is an interesting exchange between May Quigley and David Lloyd, the editor at the time. It refers to the admissibility of UNAM* which was included in the official NZASP four-letter list.

Way back in those dark days before OSW, the only references were OSPD and *Chambers Dictionary*. Regular inflected forms are not indicated in dictionaries and had to be inferred. Adjudicators at tournaments had to leaf through *Chambers*, often under pressure with other challenges waiting, and make snap decisions.

UNAM* was one of our first deletions, I think probably with the advent of OSW whose compilers agreed with OSPD, which stated the verb UNBE was its only acceptable form and that it could not be conjugated.

UNBEING is, however, allowed, as it is a noun. You can, of course, still play UNIS.

UNAM - UNBE.....May Quigley

When word lists were being discussed at the management meeting following the Nationals, I mentioned that I could not find the word UNAM in the dictionary. Jeff Grant said that it came under UNBE.

Chambers definition of UNBE, a verb, "to cause not to be, to cease to, to be non-existent!" The meaning of "am" is given as the first person singular of the verb "to be". So UNAM must surely mean "not to be".

Surely Shakespeare's immortal line "to be or not to be" would not have made such an impression, had the bard said "to be or unam". But there, that is my question.

I hope this analogy will make things clearer. Once, in a game against Lynne Powell, I challenged the word UNWROTE. I couldn't see the sense in this word for ages, the past part of UNWRITE is UNWRITTEN. But the past tense of WRITE is WROTE, hence UNWROTE.

Now look up BE. The present indicative is given in brackets (am, art, is, are) So therefore you can have UNART, UNIS, and UNARE as well. Note that UNWAS, UNWAST, UNWERE, and UNWERT are also permissible as past tense variations.

There. It should be as clear as a bell now.

-Ed.

Scan of actual article

The perils of puzzling

- by Lyn Toka, Kiwi

We have two large liquor outlets in Cambridge.

I trotted into Liquorland.

"Can I help you there?"

Yes, please ... contest in *Scrabble* magazine ... two letters ... Italian Vermouth."

"Don't think I know any with two letters ... let's look ... Brand A, Brand B, etc. No. Shelley, do you know of any Italian Vermouth that's got two letters?"

"No. Ask Gazza."

Gazza out the back very helpful, plugs into computer and looks at the entire stock that's available to them - Brand A, Brand B, large, medium and small. No two letters.

"Thanks, anyway, guys, for your trouble. Much appreciated."

"No worries. Sorry we couldn't help."

Round the corner to Super Liquor. Large man in turban.

"Good morning to you."

"Contest ... Italian Vermouth ... two letters?"

"No, we have only one litres, no two litres Vermouth."

"No, two letters ... puzzle ... question ... two letters."

"I am telling you that we do not have two litres Vermouth. Only one litre is the largest."

"No, see here it is in this magazine, two letters, Italian Vermouth, and I need an answer of two letters."

"I am telling you that I cannot give you that answer as we have no two litres in this store."

"Oh, okay. Thank you. Do you have any other Vermouth except these one litre bottles?"

"Yes, Cinzano we have, but you will be seeing that they are only 750 ml. No two litres."

Jolly hockey sticks. Back to the drawing board!

Fortunately, I enlisted the help of my daughter, and we eventually remembered GIN & IT.

DAZZLING DOZEN

Most words take an -S after them, especially when pluralising a noun. Occasionally it works the other way, changing plural to singular, for example PRINCES/S. There are also many words that take an S- front hook, such as S/TEAK, S/CAMPER and S/QUILL. Here are a dozen new ones:

SJOE	SKEEF	SKEN	SMUSH
SKET	SCROME	SOBA	SQUARK
SPOD	STOTTIE	SPUG	SCRUMPLE



"Why did I become an accountant?
Well, I threw a dart at the first page
of the dictionary, and becoming an
aardvark was too difficult."

Wellington words

Here is a small selection from the hundreds of challenges at the National Champs in Wellington.

Adjudicator Pat Grant says her favourite word was RANDOMIZER, played by Rahimah Abdullah of Kapiti club on the bottom table in F Grade.

Allowed

VENDABLE
WANTAGES
BEZIL
FARRAGO
IURE
AUGURAL
AWETOS
SUBFLOOR
TIGEREYE
CLATCHED
CUITTLE
STAIG
EMBUS
STUPIDS
RECOILER
JACENT
CRANNIED
GARPIKE
AGAZED
DORLACH

Disallowed

DELETER
WHOOPY
FIRELINE
REBUNDLE
BUGLEMEN
FORKINGS
INSTORE
DOTTINGS
HITLIST
UNCOATS
UNCASTED
PAIRABLE
UNSEEDS
ROADAGE
MINUSING

The following words were not allowed at the time, but are allowed now!

MONSTERED
TEXTING
JAFJA
MEDS
FECKING

Consecutive draws

Alison Vautier of Kapiti club had two drawn games in a row at the National Champs in Wellington. Has this ever been done before in a New Zealand tournament?

Using the right words

- by A Ganesh and A Chong

The main weapon in a player's arsenal is his word knowledge. Simply put, a player who has a better vocabulary than his opponent stands a better chance of winning a game. There are other factors involved but a powerful vocabulary is the most basic of requirements.

It's a common misconception that Scrabblers have huge vocabularies. The only ability most Scrabblers have is the ability to tell if a word exists. After all, at a competitive level, no one cares if you know what the word means, only that it is valid.

The reality of the situation is that despite the copious amount of words being studied, a player might never play half the words he has learnt. A typical WSC has 24 regulation games and a best-of-five final. That's 29 games in all.

Assuming that a player plays an average of 30 words in a game, all it takes to win the WSC is to know the right 900 words, which amount to 1% of the 100,000 words that players are expected to study. However, there is just no way of knowing which words will come in handy.

These days, the level of play is incredibly high. A player would need to know as many words as possible to stand a chance of winning. Imagine a player losing out on the WSC title simply because he did not know an incredibly low-probability word like ANGEKKOK (an Inuit shaman)!

- Reproduced, with permission, from
Star Publications, Malaysia

Who's playing Scrabble?

Hillary Clinton

Her favorite fitness activity, according to her MySpace page, is speed walking. Her hobbies include crossword puzzles, Scrabble and gardening. Organising her closets is stress relief. Sleeping in until 7am is her idea of being naughty.

Mamie Gummer, daughter of Meryl Streep, also an actress

Mamie and Meryl are starring in the same film, as the younger and older versions of the same character.



When asked what they did for relaxation between shoots, Mamie said, "We'd have lots of Scrabble games, which I wouldn't recommend with a Pulitzer Prize-winning author. Michael Cunningham was insane: He utilized two Xs, which are worth I don't know how many points, in a triple word score!"

[Must have been the Super version of Scrabble. -Ed]

Adrian Keefe, cyclist

Scrabble fan Adrian Keefe is on a bicycle tour of England that sees him play the word game against a different opponent every day, including Ely's Jake Jacobs, who won the British National Scrabble Championship in 2006.

Adrian is hoping his tour will lead to a travel book about England, cycling and Scrabble.

Divorce financial analyst and trained mediator, Patricia Barrett

Patricia has been the USA's top-ranked woman Scrabble player, once scoring 735 in a game.



In the USA, maybe only two of the top 50 Scrabble players are women. "People say it's because women are not as competitive. But it's a male-dominated sport because it's a game of strategy and spatial relations, and men tend to be better at those things."

She has 20,000 3x5 cards with words on them. "When I was a homemaker, I was anxious for intellectualism of some sort. That's when I did most of the memorization. I listened to tape-recorded words. When I relax, I study. It's what I do for fun."

Indian radiologist Varisht Hingorani

His patients at his clinic in Juhu have no idea that the doctor treating them is also a world class Scrabble champion who is set to represent India at the World Championships, which will be held at Mumbai in November.

He has described America, UK, New Zealand, Australia and England as the international "powerhouses" of Scrabble tournaments.

Tennis stars at the wettest Wimbledon for 25 years

Former champion, Jimmy Connors, has revealed how Andy Roddick copes with rain delays at Wimbledon - Scrabble.

He said: "He handles it pretty well for a hyper kid. We sit there and play Scrabble. I haven't got 100 points yet - it says something for my lack of vocabulary."

Rapper and Fugees lead, Pras

"A couple of years ago, a few friends of mine and I were playing Scrabble, and one of them came up with the idea to shoot a documentary about skid row," Pras told Billboard.com. "I thought he was trying to distract me 'cause I was about to make like 100 points, but he wasn't."

Skid Row, a Screen Media documentary, shows the Fugees principal living as a homeless man for nine days on the infamous Los Angeles strip of the same name. It took two weeks of filming, a month of pre-production and another two weeks of editing.

Hank Robinson, Colorado, Lotto jackpot winner

After winning \$9.2 million, Hank said he didn't expect it to change his life much. He planned to go home and play Scrabble with his sister. While thrilled to receive the money, Robinson said he doesn't need much now that he's 81 years old.

Mindy McCreedy, country music star

The country music star, 31, has been charged with battery and resisting arrest when she allegedly scratched her mother's face during a fracas at the family home in Fort Myers.

Mindy, however, is quoted as saying that a family Scrabble game got out of hand and police overreacted!

Geraldine James, Actress, UK

When asked in a recent interview to describe her worst holiday, she replied: "It was my honeymoon, on Bequia

Island in the West Indies. It was difficult getting there as we had to take two flights and then travel to the island by fishing boat. My suitcase had been lost by the airline, so on arrival I had to borrow clothes from reception. I had none of my sun stuff, and it was distressing not to be able to slip into the pink number that had been bought especially for the occasion. Then, in the middle of our first night, an American woman screamed out: "There's a cockroach biting my big toe!" We moved into another hotel the next morning. My suitcase turned up two days later, but it poured with rain throughout our stay and the waves were terrifying. We spent a lot of time playing Scrabble.

[So? That surely makes it the BEST holiday ever?! -Ed.]

Jessica Biel, Justin Timberlake's girlfriend

The Illusionist actress recently revealed she prefers nights in playing Scrabble with her girlfriends to dating. "We do a lot of dinner parties and we play board games. I love Scrabble and I also enjoy Apples to Apples, which is a mindless game where you learn weird things about people."



Theoretical 1785-point play

- by Jeff Grant

The current record for a theoretical single-turn score stands at 1782 points, based on the 15-letter word OXYPHENBUTAZONE (see *Forwards*, no. 66, March 2002, and no. 36, September 1994).

With a little modification, it is now possible to eke out a further three points, thanks to the new word REQUALIFY, which takes a P front hook.

By playing the letters O, Y, P, B, A, Z and E, the final words formed are as follows: OPACIFYING

(63), YEVEN (11), PREQUALIFIED (30), BLITHESOMENESS (63), AVOIDABLE (15), ZOOGAMETES (32), EJACULATING (63) and the 27-timer OXYPHENBUTAZONE (1458).

With the 50-point bonus this makes the new record total 1785 points. Is a higher score possible?

[The first NZ published attempt at the highest single turn score was in Forwards No 9 20 years ago. David Lloyd based his 1681 point move on the base word PSYCHOANALYZING, making PREDEVELOPMENTS, YTHUNDERED, CLOVERED, NUMBERING, LAWFUL, ZINKIEST and GRATIFICATIONS, using P, Y, C, N, L, Z and G.—Layout Ed.]

Domain names

- sent in by Glynis Jennings
Attention entrepreneurs!
Everyone knows that if you are going to operate a business in today's



world you need a domain name. It is advisable to look at the domain name selected as others see it and not just as you think it looks. Failure to do this may result in situations such as the following (legitimate) companies who deal in everyday humdrum products and services but clearly didn't give their domain names enough consideration:

1. If you're looking for computer software, there's always www.ipanywhere.com
2. Welcome to the First Cumming Methodist Church. Their website is www.cummingfirst.com
3. Then, of course, there's these brainless art designers, and their whacky website: www.speedofart.com
4. Want to holiday in Lake Tahoe? Try their brochure website at www.gotahoe.com

World Youth Scrabble 2007

The second World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC), with quotas for nearly 30 countries, takes place December 4-6 in Johor Bahru, Malaysia. The WYSC is under the auspices of the World English-language Scrabble Players Association (Wespa) in collaboration with the Scrabble Association of Singapore.

The WYSC will have 20-22 games with a best of five between the top two finishers. Players must be aged 17 or under as at December 31.

Karen Richards, organiser of the youth championship and Wespa youth committee chairperson, said, "We hope to secure significant sponsorship, such that prize money will be equivalent to that of last year's championship held in Australia. National allocations are based upon performance in last year's WYSC."

National associations were to advise Wespa by August 15 of their intention of fielding youth in the WYSC with names of participants being submitted by September 30.

The youth championship is being organised in the wake of the 22-game sixth Causeway Challenge, 30 November – 2 December so that early arrivals at the WYSC and youth escorts can take part in the what will be a defacto* pre-youth championship competition.

Quotas

Countries which competed in '06, quotas for '07

Australia	6	Canada	4
Great Britain	5	India	3
Gulf	3	Kenya	2
Malaysia	6	Philippines	4
Singapore	8	Sri Lanka	3
Thailand	5		

- by Roy Kietzman, Bahrain

Countries or regions which did not compete in '06 but have allocations in '07

Europe			
continental	1	Ghana	2
Indonesia	2	Ireland	1
Israel	1	Japan	1
Malta	1	New Zealand	1
Nigeria	4	Pakistan	1
South Africa	2	South America	1
Tanzania	2	USA	4
Zambia	2		

Youth Scrabble – what about NZ?

In order for Scrabble to survive with enough players for tournaments, we need to be recruiting more of the younger generation – before they succumb to a multitude of other excitements, such as computer games. Otherwise, there will be no-one left to run tournaments for the rest of us in our older years!

New Zealand was unable to identify any promising young players for the first World Youth Scrabble Championship (WYSC), and we are still searching for someone to compete in the second WYSC.

According to Karen Richards, Chairperson of the Wespa (World English-language Scrabble Players Association) Youth Committee, Singapore has the best young players in the world, as a group. She believes part of their success has been the personal mentoring by Cheah Siu Hean. However, a major factor has been the influence of their peers.

The Youth Committee is attempting to attract more young players into the tournament scene. One of their major initiatives is the WYSC

www.youthscrabble.org.

In December 2007, the second WYSC will be held in Johore Bahru – straight after the open Causeway Challenge.

Karen has also been running free coaching clinics for young Australian players at her home at Wollongong (south of Sydney). She has invited keen young New Zealand players, aged 9 to 16, to join one of these coaching clinics.

The next one is scheduled for the first week of October, and is suitable for beginners. Young players will be inspired and motivated after attending one of these workshops – as well as making friends with whom they can further improve their Scrabble by playing online.

Karen's son, Alastair, who has been playing Scrabble since the age of 5, achieved his first trophy in adult competition at the age of 7, and finished 13th in the first WYSC, aged 14. He will assist in running this workshop.

If you know of any suitable New Zealand youngsters – ie. keen, smart, aged 9 to 16/17, with supportive parent or parents – who would like to take part in this workshop, please contact Liz Fagerlund or Lynn Wood. You would need to pay your own airfares to Sydney, but there would be very little further expense – accommodation and meals provided for the youngster, with or without their parent.

Upcoming tournaments	
Tournament	Dates
Mt Albert	29-30 September
Golden Bay	29-30 September
Norfolk Island Scrabble Festival	7-14 October
Wanganui	20-21 October
World Champs	9-12 November
Otago Open	17-18 November
Wellington	19-20 January

Paid for playing

One wonders whether, as with many other activities in this world, the injection of large amounts of cash would make a difference to how many young people we can attract to play Scrabble. The following was gleaned from an article in the Courier-Post, USA. Oh for a benefactor like that in New Zealand. Prepare to be amazed! – Ed.

The Penn Jersey Youth Mind Games program paid out nearly \$190,000 in scholarships to 25 students who competed in chess and Scrabble tournaments and also filled out crossword puzzles.

Sixty-six year-old Stratford resident, Donald Rentschler, founded Penn Jersey Youth in 1982 as a way of giving college scholarship money to students who might not qualify for athletic awards. Some years the scholarships were based on chess play entirely, other years community service was emphasised, and at times financial need and academic merit were essential. The Mind Games Scholarships were born in 2003 when chess, Scrabble and crosswords became the only basis for the awards.

Everyone wins something for each hour of play, with an average of \$200 per hour. The more the students play, the more they earn – with the top award of \$13,200 distributed to six students who play at least five days a week, several hours a day, from the program's start on Memorial Day weekend to its final weekend in early August.

Returnees from last summer could add to their earlier winnings, provided they recruited a high school senior and both played in all three games.

Among them were Mark Stratton of Stratford, who accumulated \$4,650 toward his sophomore year at Drew University in Chatham (he won more than \$5,000 last summer), and Vince Baldino

of Somerdale, who earned \$6,400 this year to help with Temple University expenses (he won \$7,000 last summer).

Naomi Kaplan, who said she really improved at chess and Scrabble during the program, earned \$13,200 to help defray the costs at the University of Pennsylvania, while Henry Chao said his \$13,200 will pay a large chunk of the tuition, room and board at Rutgers-New Brunswick.

Games are timed – 40 minutes for crosswords, 50 minutes for Scrabble, and an 80-minute maximum for chess – and students must play at least two of the games offered. Experience isn't necessary; Rentschler offers free chess and crossword clinics.

Rentschler has evolved a complex handicapping system whereby points are awarded based on a history of winning or losing at chess or Scrabble. Points scored in chess and Scrabble, as well as how many squares are left blank in crosswords, also figure in the calculations.

Besides being paid for the hours they play, students are paid travel expenses of \$40 per hour based on driving time.

This summer, the scholarship fund is paying out approximately \$75,000 for chess, \$60,000 for Scrabble, and \$48,000 for crosswords, plus \$6,000 for mileage.

Baking tip

- Lori Borgman, Indiana

Should you ever decide to help your daughter bake her own wedding cake, the first thing you should know is that a deluxe Scrabble board on a swivel stand will not spin while holding the weight of a four-layer 12-inch cake.

No, not even if you center it on the double-word-score star.

- from *IndyStar.com*

Texting is all Greek to me

- by Karen Diekamp Hitchcock

W/U, readers? JTLYK, these are not typos and the editor was not sleeping on the job.

IOW, I do speak English IRL, but for this column am attempting (FC) to Text-Speak, or Chat Speak, or w/e this bizarre language, spoken mostly by Internet junkies and humans under 30, is called

Did you understand NADT (not a darn thing) of that opening? You're not alone, fellow dinosaurs. Welcome to the age of abbreviations, the era of acronyms. Like many of you, perhaps, I'm clueless when it comes to texting and all the latest i-gadgets like i-phones and i-pods.

My first introduction to this strange new world was when I started lurking on Internet chat boards years ago. I don't actually contribute any comments, mind you; I'm just a voyeur on sites like the 'As the World Turns Discussion Group' and the 'American Idol boards'. For those who haven't yet succumbed to the lure of the Internet, let me explain that 'lurking' is like listening in on the old party line in the early days of the telephone.

As I lurked, I started noticing phrases that looked like the writers were speaking Klingon. ROFL was one of the early ones. I didn't have sense enough to type in 'Internet abbreviations' on my search engine right away, so for a long time was left speculating as to what this mysterious phrase meant. 'Run-On Foul Language?' 'Really Odorous Fan Leaving?' I felt a little silly when I learned it means 'rolling on floor laughing.'

BTW (by the way) please don't LOL (laugh out loud) at my naiveté.

I'm surprised that the rules of Scrabble, that favorite game of English teachers everywhere, haven't been updated to reflect society's passion for abbreviations. Scrabble doesn't allow it, but think how our lives are filled with shorthand. FAQ, ASAP, etc., are all understood and accepted in everyday language. Can it be much longer before TTFN (ta ta for now) is accepted as a business letter closing instead of "Sincerely?"

I don't have vulnerable teens living in the house anymore, but if I did I would make it my business to know WTH (what the heck) they're texting to their BFFs (best friends forever). I researched chat/text abbreviations online and printed out more than 100 abbreviations designed to keep parents clueless. JTLYK (just to let you know), if you see the following phrases on your offspring's cell phone or e-mail, beware: PA or P911 (parent alert), PAL (parents are listening), PANB (parents are nearby) and POS (parents over shoulder). Better learn the language or YBS (you'll be sorry).

I am amazed that the same kid who can't remember the answers to a history quiz or where he put his permission note from school can remember all these codes (EG - evil grin). I'm also astonished at how fast they can send a TXT (text message) to their GFs (girlfriends). I recently tried texting for the first time and found it as awkward as walking in high heels, or trying to look like I know what I'm doing in the kitchen.

It took me 20 minutes to type out a short sentence and another half hour to figure out how to send it. Granted, I didn't know the lingo, the shortcuts or the punctuation buttons. I felt a monumental sense of achievement when I figured out how to space

between words. It also would have helped if I had my magnifying glass so I could see what I was typing. Do they make an i-phone for seniors?

Because I don't want to be a fuddy-duddy, I'm sure I will eventually become accustomed to and perhaps even embrace this newfangled texting phenomenon, much as I did with the microwave oven, the electric curling iron and the digital camera. IOW (in other words), if I want to KIT (keep in touch) with family and friends, especially the younger crowd, it looks like texting is the WTG (way to go)

Speaking of going, HOSMWFD (Hubby over shoulder muttering "What's for dinner?"), so TNT ('til next time).

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Oops!

The list of sponsors that Pat Grant supplied with her World Champs raffle report were inadvertently omitted from the last issue of *Forwards*, as was the fact that the proceeds plus donations totalled around \$2,000.

Belated thanks to the various individuals, clubs and sponsors who contributed generously to the success of the raffle. They were:

Black and Decker
Dilmah Tea
Erica Sanders
Harold & Annie Boyle
Hastings RSA
Hector Jones Ltd
Heinz-Watties
Kevern-Walker Wines
Kim Crawford Wines
Ted & Elaine Grant
Unilever NZ Ltd

And, of course, special thanks to our own Denise Gordon of Wanganui for donating the lovely original painting for first prize.

Rural Australian computer terminology

LOGON	Adding wood to make the barbie hotter.
LOGOFF	Not adding any more wood to the barbie.
MONITOR	Keeping an eye on the barbie.
DOWNLOAD	Getting the firewood off the ute.
HARD DRIVE	Making the trip back home without any cold tinnies.
KEYBOARD	Where you hang the ute keys.
WINDOW	What you shut when the weather's cold.
SCREEN	What you shut in the mozzie season.
BYTE	What mozzies do.
MEGABYTE	What Townsville mozzies do.
CHIP	A bar snack.
MICROCHIP	What's left in the bag after you've eaten the chips.
MODEM	What you did to the lawns.
LAPTOP	Where the cat sleeps.
SOFTWARE	Plastic knives and forks you get at Red Rooster.
HARDWARE	Stainless steel knives and forks from K-Mart.
MOUSE	The small rodent that eats the grain in the shed.
MAINFRAME	What holds the shed up.
WEB	What spiders make.
WEBSITE	Usually in the shed or under the verandah.
SEARCH ENGINE	What you do when the ute won't go.
CURSOR	What you say when the ute won't go.
YAHOO	What you say when the ute does go.
UPGRADE	A steep hill.
SERVER	The person at the pub who brings out the counter lunch.
MAIL SERVER	The bloke at the pub who brings out the counter lunch.
USER	The neighbour who keeps borrowing things.
NETWORK	What you do when you need to repair the fishing net.
INTERNET	Where you want the fish to go.
NETSCAPE*	What the fish do when they discover the hole in the net.
ONLINE	Where you hang the washing.
OFFLINE	Where the washing ends up when the pegs aren't strong enough.

PRSVRYPRFCTMN VRKPTHSPRCPTSTN

The above inscription appears just over the Ten Commandments in the chancel of a small church in Wales. The addition of a single letter, repeated at various intervals, makes it not only intelligible but appropriate to the situation. What is the missing letter and where does it go in the inscription?

Answer on page 40.

- from *Leila Thomson, Lower Hutt*

Impact of hormones on language

- by *Victor Boucher and Charles Lamoureux*

Research has shown that women are better than men at games involving letters and words such as Scrabble. Women usually have a broader vocabulary than men, and speech development problems usually affect men three times as often.

Charles Lamoureux, soon-to-be PhD graduate of the Department of Linguistics and Translation, measured for the first time the impact of testosterone levels on linguistic and speech functions. The research was conducted under the supervision of Victor Boucher.

The first exercise consisted of asking 20 male subjects to list as many words as possible starting with the letter R in 60 seconds. The exercise was then repeated with the letter L. Testosterone levels were measured using saliva samples. Results indicated that the higher the level of testosterone the lower the number of words listed.

"The individual with the highest level of testosterone listed 18 words, while the one with the lowest level of testosterone listed 31 words," explains Charles Lamoureux. The proposed explanation is that testosterone reduces the speed of lexical access. "It is possible that men have as broad a vocabulary as women, but that they have a harder time accessing it."

To support his hypothesis the student cites research, which indicates that transsexuals who went from women to men often had difficulty with language following the testosterone treatments

Both Lamoureux and Boucher consider an evolution aspect to the theory as well. According to the theory,

masculine skills favoured by evolution such as hunting required less vocabulary, while women who were left in charge of the children, required stronger communication abilities. In fact, a broad vocabulary could have been to the detriment of males in a hunting context who needed to react quickly and precisely.

- *the European Business School on educo.net, 12 July*

All in good pun

- from *Andrée Prentice*

- ☺ A pessimist's blood type is always B negative.
- ☺ Practise safe eating – always use condiments.
- ☺ Shotgun wedding: a case of wife or death.
- ☺ I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.
- ☺ Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
- ☺ A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- ☺ Corduroy pillows are making headlines.
- ☺ A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.
- ☺ A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumour.
- ☺ Without geometry, life is pointless.
- ☺ When you dream in colour, it's a pigment of your imagination.
- ☺ When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- ☺ The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

Baffler*- by Jennifer Smith*

A set of 12 things is represented by D F G H I V and six dashes (ie. six of the items have unique identifiers, and the other six don't).

Arrange the six letters and six dashes in the correct order. (You'll know the correct order when you've cracked the code!)

You need to brood on this question, so the answer won't be provided until the next *Forwards*. (If you're anxious to know the answer before then, send the editor an email!)

Too true

Did you know that PARLIAMENT is an anagram of PARTIAL MEN? Or, CLINT EASTWOOD an anagram of OLD WEST ACTION?

Better still, that SCRABBLE PLAYER is an anagram of A CRABBY SPELLER, and SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT an anagram of CAN TORMENT US RABBLE?

New Australian High Game Score

Russell Honeybun of Western Australia achieved a new Australian record game score at the Yokine Tournament

on 26 August. Playing Joy Deans he scored a massive 764 points to her 243. During the game he played QUEERING (114), STOOPED (97), NEMATODE (86), BANDIES (82) and PILLING (100). Russell was in the Australian Trans Tasman team last year.

**Answers****Scrabble trivia (from page 26)**

1. Lexiko, It, and CrissCross Words.
2. 1948.
3. Friends and family of Alfred Butts.
4. They were stamped on the wooden tiles one at a time.
5. 12 games an hour.
6. 29.
7. 121.
8. Three.
9. The *New York Times*.
10. When an illegal word is challenged off, when a player passes, and when a player plays a blank alongside another blank to make a word consisting entirely of blank tiles.
11. Every two years (odd numbered years).
12. Chuck Woolery.
13. Maven and Quackle.
14. The jagged edges of bonus squares which allow players to see the bonus without lifting the tile.
15. 100 million.
16. QI.

Perseverance (from page 38)

PERSEVERE YE PERFECT MEN
EVER KEEP THESE PRECEPTS TEN.

Editor's challenge (from page 11)

INFEASIBLY* on page 24, which is as it appeared in the article. UNFEASIBLE and INFEASIBLE are acceptable words, and so is FEASIBLY, but INFEASIBLY* isn't.

International puns*- sent in by Carole Coates*

The ability to make and understand puns is the highest level of language development. Here are the 10 first place winners in the International Pun Contest:

1. A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."
2. Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says, "Dam!"
3. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
4. Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies "Yes, I'm positive."
5. Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal was to transcend dental medication.
6. A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "Because," he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer."
7. A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal". The other goes to a family in Spain ; they name him

"Juan". Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."

8. A group of friars were behind on their belfry payments, so they opened up a small florist shop to raise funds. Since everyone liked to buy flowers from the men of God, a rival florist across town thought the competition was unfair. He asked the good fathers to close down, but they would not. He went back and begged the friars to close. They ignored him. So, the rival florist hired Hugh MacTaggart, the roughest and most vicious thug in town to 'persuade' them to close. Hugh beat up the friars and trashed their store, saying he'd be back if they didn't close up shop. Terrified, they did so, thereby proving that only Hugh can prevent florist friars.
9. Mahatma Gandhi walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and, with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him a super calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.
10. And finally, there was the person who sent ten different puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

Tournament results

Whangarei Club Scrabble Tournament 7 - 8 July 13 Games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
Grade A				
1 Jeff Grant	IND	12	1063	456
2 Howard Warner	IND	11	1207	458
3 Glennis Hale	IND	9	823	426
4 Lynne Powell	HBC	9	607	440
5 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	8	32	396
6 John Foster	IND	7	598	440
7 Val Mills	PAK	6	-19	389
8 Joan Thomas	HAS	6	-234	382
9 Jennifer Smith	HAM	5	-293	375
10 David Gunn	WKP	5	-512	390
11 Chris Hooks	MTA	5	-542	373
12 Margie Hurly	WRE	3	-685	371
13 Allie Quinn	WRE	3	-1138	356
14 Rosalind Phillips	MTA	2	-907	353
Grade B				
1 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	11	667	399
2 Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	340	388
3 Lynn Carter	NSB	8	282	390
4 Shirley Martin	HAM	7.5	614	395
5 Rhoda Cashman	HBC	7	119	369
6 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	-110	378
7 Ernie Gidman	ROD	6	32	382
8 Kate Wignall	MTA	6	32	375
9 Jean Boyle	WAN	6	-226	355
10 Su Walker	MTA	6	-320	375
11 Heather Landon	TGA	6	-403	357
12 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	5	-336	367
13 Yvette Hewlett	IND	4	-412	369
14 Liz Catchpole	MTA	3.5	-279	354
Grade C				
1 Valma Gidman	ROD	9	396	388
2 Olwen Skelton	ROD	9	352	366
3 Dorothy Haining	ROD	8	234	368
4 Bernice Hyde	NSB	8	190	371
5 Bev Edwards	WRE	7	44	356
6 Annette Coombes	WKP	6	-4	367
7 Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	5	-76	334
8 Pam Muirhead	HBC	5	-241	357



**Dianne Cole-Baker (Mt Albert), B
Grade winner at Whangarei**

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
9 Sue Mayn	ROD	4	-402	328
10 Paula Gibbons	CHC	4	-493	328
Grade D				
1 Anne Scatchard	WRE	10	367	332
2 Suzanne Harding	WRE	9	493	344
3 June Dowling	HBC	8	572	350
4 Maria Barker	WKP	8	374	350
5 Lynn Thompson	WRE	8	81	336
6 Diana Quennell-Smith	HBC	6	-315	317
7 Zara Schofield	HBC	5	-567	308
8 Errol Hooker	WRE	4	-132	317
9 Meg Van Stokkum	WRE	4	-396	318
10 Ruth Godwin	IND	3	-477	305

Hamilton Club Tournament 11-12 August 2007

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
Grade A				
1 Howard Warner	IND	12	1057	439
2 Jeff Grant	IND	10	1280	460
3 Glennis Hale	IND	10	521	412
4 Andrew Bradley	MTA	8	1073	441
5 Joanne Craig	IND	8	640	430

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
6 Chris Hooks	MTA	8	-65	403
7 Lynne Powell	HBC	6	41	403
8 John Foster	IND	6	-157	392
9 Liz Fagerlund	MTA	5	-177	402
10 Val Mills	PAK	5	-962	375
11 David Gunn	WKP	4	-655	380
12 Jennifer Smith	HAM	3	-687	367
13 June Mackwell	NSB	3	-783	350
14 Helen Sillis	NPL	3	-1126	349

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
Grade B				
1 Amelia Carrington	IND	10	421	393
2 Lynn Wood	WEL	8.5	448	403
3 Allie Quinn	WRE	8	411	382
4 Ann Candler	NSB	7	269	396
5 Shirley Martin	HAM	7	253	384
6 Glenda Geard	IND	7	181	389
7 Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	175	396
8 Faye Cronhelm	IND	7	-8	378
9 Pam Barlow	PAK	6	5	371
10 Maureen Holliday	HBC	6	-179	379
11 Delcie Macbeth	IND	6	-308	377
12 Olivia En	WEL	5	-135	378
13 Yoon Kim Fang	KIW	3.5	-449	377
14 Roger Coates	KIW	3	-1084	348
Grade C				
1 Samantha Samuels	KIW	10	739	396
2 Jean Boyle	WAN	9	310	397
3 Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	9	297	384
4 Lyn Toka	KIW	8	438	398
5 Hazel Purdie	MTA	7	234	383
6 Su Walker	MTA	7	-289	386
7 Lorraine Van Veen	IND	6	-62	395
8 Anderina McLean	MTA	6	-369	367
9 Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	6	-386	346
10 Roto Mitchell	WAN	5	107	380
11 Correne James	IND	5	0	370
12 Shirley Wyatt	MTA	5	-206	371
13 Elaine Moltzen	KIW	5	-382	367
14 Heather Landon	TGA	3	-431	356

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
Grade D				
1 Val Flint	HAM	9	789	416
2 Catherine Henry	TGA	8	456	386
3 Nola Borrell	IND	8	305	379
4 Suzanne Frederick	WAN	8	-187	369
5 Barbara Dunn	TGA	7	126	378
6 Carole Coates	KIW	7	77	368
7 Karen Miller	PAK	6	-24	356



**Amelia Carrington (Independent), B
grade winner at Hamilton**

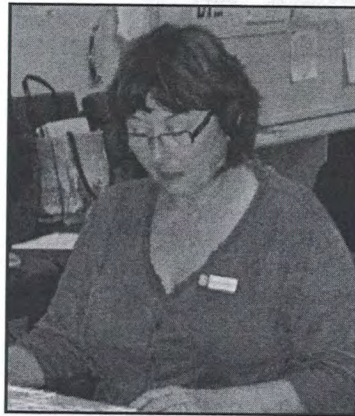
Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
8 Chris Day	TGA	6	-34	362
9 Jena Yousif	KIW	6	-115	383
10 Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	6	-119	356
11 Kate Wignall	MTA	6	-167	355
12 Joan Pratt	HBC	6	-210	362
13 Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	5	-434	339
14 Janni Henneveld	ROT	3	-463	339
Grade E				
1 Jean Wacker	TGA	12	990	371
2 Annette Coombes	WKP	10	679	381
3 Rosemary Wauters	TGA	8	282	374
4 Tim Henneveld	ROT	8	219	334
5 Pauline Smeaton	TGA	8	192	333
6 Pat Wood	TGA	7	107	341
7 Anthea Jones	KIW	7	63	355
8 Margaret Hanson	PAK	6	-176	328
9 Margaret Penniket	KIW	5	-279	346
10 Bronwyn Llewellyn	HAM	5	-536	310
11 Ruth Godwin	IND	4.5	-256	311
12 Margaret Durdle	TGA	4	-378	321
13 Jillian Greening	HAM	3.5	-479	318
14 Maria Barker	WKP	3	-428	323

Tauranga Club Scrabble Tournament 1-2 September 2007

13 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	
Grade A					
1	Joanne Craig	CHC	12	1007	432
2	Howard Warner	IND	12	1002	426
3	Chris Hooks	MTA	10	670	425
4	Steven Brown	KAP	9	631	410
5	Marianne Bentley	TGA	8	-74	394
6	John Foster	IND	7	176	376
7	Joan Thomas	HAS	6	34	402
8	Val Mills	PAK	6	-250	363
9	Jennifer Smith	HAM	4	-369	387
10	Ann Hough	NEL	4	-413	380
11	June Mackwell	NSB	4	-424	361
12	Lynn Wood	WEL	3	-463	356
13	David Gunn	WPH	3	-575	388
14	Amelia Carrington	IND	3	-952	354
Grade B					
1	Delcie Macbeth	IND	9	809	422
2	Hazel Purdie	MTA	9	591	398
3	Lyn Toka	KIW	8	400	402
4	Faye Cronhelm	IND	7	145	397
5	Lorraine Van Veen	PAK	7	15	370
6	Maureen Holliday	HBC	7	14	383
7	Allie Quinn	WRE	7	-59	384
8	Margaret Flaws	TGA	6	0	373
9	Rhoda Cashman	HBC	6	-63	361
10	Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	-226	358
11	Lynn Carter	NSB	6	-418	375
12	Glenda Geard	IND	5	-200	374
13	Samantha Samuels	KIW	5	-364	354
14	Roto Mitchell	WAN	3	-644	353
Grade C					
1	Joan Pratt	HBC	10	746	399
2	Barbara Dunn	TGA	8	643	383
3	Anderina McLean	MTA	8	442	377
4	Shirley Morrison	TGA	8	208	366
5	Chris Day	TGA	7	559	382
6	Catherine Henry	TGA	7	238	382
7	Jo Ann Ingram	TGA	7	9	344
8	Liz Catchpole	MTA	7	-83	358
9	Tim Henneveld	ROT	7	-140	338
10	Kate Wignall	MTA	6	-16	356
11	Rosemary Wauters	TGA	5	-256	365

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	Score
12	Annette Coombes	WPH	5	-758	343
13	Janni Henneveld	ROT	4	-528	329
14	Patricia Fletcher	TGA	2	-1064	300
Grade D					
1	Philippa Medlock	ROT	10.5	442	325
2	Pat Wood	TGA	10	716	355
3	Pauline Smeaton	TGA	9	487	346
4	Suzanne Harding	WRE	9	292	357
5	Noelene Bettjeman	HBC	8	273	344
6	Lynn Thompson	WRE	8	221	327
7	Margaret Durdle	TGA	8	157	339
8	Anne Scatchard	WRE	8	29	304
9	Maria Barker	WPH	8	-59	313
10	Maggie Bentley	ROT	7	97	322
11	Ray Seddon	TGA	6.5	-9	322
12	Lyn Blow	TGA	6	-67	318
13	Bev Griffin	TGA	5	-608	299
14	Valerie Scott	TGA	4	-313	313
15	Ruth Godwin	IND	4	-382	298
16	Mary Beech	TGA	3	-554	301
17	Merilyn Anderson	TGA	3	-709	275



Philippa Medlock (Rotorua), playing in her first tournament, wins the D grade at Taranga

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 Session)			14	Jeff Grant (IND)
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) & Glenys Buchanan (LOH) Nigel Richards (CHC) & John Foster (IND)	8	Dawn Kitzen (PHC) & Chris Hooks (MTA)
Highest Average Single Tournament (Any Grade)	584	Nigel Richards (CHC)	—	—

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)