

# forwords



Journal of the New Zealand Association of Scrabble® Players  
No. 153 Autumn 2024



## ***Top of the table clash in Rotorua Kenji Matsumoto and Chris Tallman***

### **Also in this issue:**

Hany Hindi

Hall of Fame

In the News

What I'm Reading

12 ways to get really good at  
Scrabble

Ask Liz

Puzzle Pozzy

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# Editorial

Where to begin? The first quarter of the year has just flown by.

January was crazy with three tournaments including the one organised by Lawson Sue and myself. A week before the tournament I got an email from a lady named Marama. "Could my 11 year old son Maheu play in the Jafa-versary Tournament?" "Sure," I said 'but maybe we should get together before the tournament so I could explain a few things to him.' Marama arrived on the Thursday morning before our tournament with a van load of five kids and I had my three \*grandies as well! I had a game with Maheu, explaining tile tracking, use of the clock, scoring and Scrabble etiquette as we went. Marama asked if we could meet again, so we arranged to meet the next day at McDonald's Greenlane. Lawson arrived so he was able to have a game with Maheu and get to know him as well.

Maheu's story is ... His grandparents used to have a game of Scrabble each day. When his grandfather died his grandmother asked Maheu, who was six, to play with her. They played each day after school for about three years but over the last couple of years had eased off. Then Maheu saw that we were having a tournament and asked his mum if he could enter. The rest as they say is history. Maheu won one game at the tourney. He is now a



*Maheu and Ben – two newcomers to Mt. Albert club*

regular on Monday nights, and is always keen to stay for three games. Various people from our club run him home.

In addition we have had other new people attending, mainly due to publicity from Alexander Gandar's film. One night we had 24 people.

Again, people have made comments and sent in articles inspired by the last issue. I love Jeff Grant's comments on Patrick Carter's beautiful front hooks puzzle. And Jenny Litchfield's Deliciously Sweet Summer Fruit Word Salad (pp. 6-7) follows on nicely from Jennifer Smith's fruity article in Issue 152.

We have contributions from some not so regular contributors - thanks John Baird and Malcolm Graham. It's also nice too to hear from Sue McRae again.

We all talk about the 'Scrabble Family' and friends made through Scrabble. It's nice to read from Liz Fagerlund and Howard Warner about Scrabble friends and scrabblers that have influenced their lives.

I was privileged to go to Margaret Cherry's funeral, and that brought back many memories. How kind and welcoming she was to me when I turned up at the Pakuranga club. How she played EUOI in my first game against her — and of course her wonderful pikelets.

It was great to have Chris Tallman's friend from Hawaii, Kenji Matsumoto, playing in the Rotorua tournament (see cover page). He has been one of the top five players in the US for the last decade or so, and is the lead editor of the *Scrabble Players Handbook*. We have printed excerpts from this book in the past. It was a privilege to meet and play him. I got thrashed of course, but check out *Only on a Scrabble Board* (page 27) to see Lorraine van Veen's game against him.

Recently when playing against Patrick at club he said, 'Did you know that instead of playing the word UTILISES you could also pay ULITISES (inflammation of the gums)?'

This reminded me of another word in my Cardbox where you could swap two letters around and possibly get a challenge. MONOGRAM and NOMOGRAM (a chart or diagram of scaled lines or curves used to assist in mathematical calculations). Those are my interesting words for this issue.

Enjoy it!

*Val Mills*

Eight-letter anagrams with two tiles swapped to form a less uncommon word:

 U T I L I S E S  
 U L I T I S E S

 M O N O G R A M  
 N O M O G R A M

# Obituary: Jocelyn Lor

by **Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert**

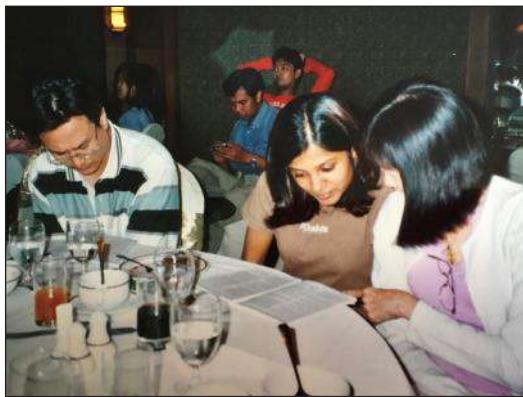
Jocelyn Lor from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, very sadly died from lung cancer on the 24th of February.

I met Jocelyn during my first 'King's Cup' Scrabble tournament in 2001. We became friends very quickly, and on subsequent trips to Thailand and Penang we roomed together.

Jocelyn was a great Scrabble player, and loved befriending and looking after other New Zealand players as well. I know many of us have very fond memories of this lovely warm person.



*Betty Eriksen, Jocelyn Lor and Liz enjoying food and tea together during an overseas tournament.*



*On one of my trips I took some of our Forwords magazines for overseas players to read. Jocelyn is on the right with Vannitha Balasingham in the middle and Alex Tan on the left.*

The Scrabble family extends overseas and it's been wonderful to have known and spent time with Jocelyn.

*R.I.P. lovely Jocelyn.*

# Nectar of the Gods: Nectarines and Scrabble Go Together

by Jenny Litchfield, Whangarei

The ancient Greeks knew a thing or two about the Gods' mythical libations and described nectar as the drink of the Gods. NECTARED fruit juices just ooze sweetness and sunshine.

And who can resist the juicy fruits of summer - the cherries, peaches, nectarines and Luisa plums that you can pluck right off the tree - unless the birds and the possums have already snatched them away, tempted by the rich and tasty sugars of FRUCTOSE, GLUCOSE and SUCROSE, in the sun-kissed NECTAROUS fruit.

Nectarines bring back happy childhood memories of a large Snow Queen, NECTARINE tree in our orchard. It was a wonderful tree in every sense for blossoms, tree huts, food and shelter for birds and bugs, fragrant white-fleshed fruit for a quick snack. It was planted by the pioneering farmer (he knew a lot about plants) long before our family came and enjoyed the fruits of his hard work.

I've grown up and moved away from that old NECTARINE tree and now I eat fruit from the supermarket like everyone else. Sigh. Is that better? But, I digress. The editor wants Scrabble stuff, not botanical content.

NECTARINE fittingly anagrams as the nine-letter word ANCIENTER and is thought to have originated in China more than 4,000 years ago.

You can make a bunch of eight-letter words using



**NECTARINE**

A quick look in the dictionary and I noted: CENTIARE is a unit of measurement equal to one square metre; CREATINE is a compound formed in protein metabolism; ENTRANCE has many opening synonyms; INCENTER and INCENTRE is the centre of the incircle of a shape; INCREASE means not yet created; ITERANCE has the same meaning as iterate; NARCEINE is a drug that will make you sleepy. NECTAR tiles take -EAL, -EAN, -ED, -IAL, -IED, -IES, -INE, -OUS, -S, -Y.

Looking to jazz up a fresh fruit platter, I read that BURRATA, a soft cheese like mozzarella, would be good in a CAPRESE.

Make your next Scrabble game sweeter with a NECTAROUS play of words. Or you may just want to munch on the words.

## NECTARINE and BURRATA CAPRESE

### Combine

6 medium nectarines - remove stone and slice into wedges

6 shredded Basil leaves

1 tablespoon Balsamic vinegar

2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

1/2 teaspoon sea salt

Ground black pepper

### To Serve

Slice 1 ball BURRATA onto a plate.

Arrange fruit mixture over the white cheese slices.

Sprinkle a pinch of sea salt flakes.



*A CAPRESE salad with NECTARINE AND BURRATA*

### The Last Bite

Whenever the NECTARINE father gets mad at his son, he just screams loudly, "you're the son of a peach!"

## Twenty Years Ago in *Forwords*

*Submitted by Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert*

From *Forwords* edition 74, March 2004.

### Unusual Signs

from Lorraine Van Veen

**In a laundromat:** Automatic washing machines. Please remove your clothes when the light goes out.

**In a department store:** Bargain Basement upstairs.

**In an office lunchroom:** After tea break staff should empty teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

**Outside a second-hand shop:** We exchange anything — bicycles, washing machines etc. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain?

**Notice in a health food shop:** Closed due to illness.

**Notice in a field:** The farmer allows walkers to cross the field for free but the bull charges.

**Message on a leaflet:** If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons.

# Handy Hindi

by **Mike Currie, Mt. Albert**

I know I've looked at Yiddish words, Italian, French and Spanish

But the amount of handy Hindi words in English is outlandish.

From JUNGLE beasts like LANGURS, CHE(E)TAH, MONGEESE, KRAITS and COBRAS

To toponymic fashion like CASHMERE, JACONET or JODHPURS.

For India gave us cotton. You can hardly deny that

And fabrics such as CALICO, PASHMINA, CHINTZ and IKAT.

And while some words are obvious: CHUTNEY, RAJ and VINDALOO;

Other Hindi may be hiding: BLIGHTY, BUNGALOW, SHAMPOO.

All these words are commonplace for foodies, tailors, travelers

But not near enough weird enough for the lexicons of Scrabblers.

So here's a Hindi handful of weird words which are prominent

In popular parlance in the Indian subcontinent.

ATMA(N) can reincarnate, an eternal soul or self,

And CHAI's a milky cardamon tea which is good for your health,

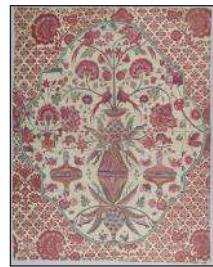
Which looks a bit like BHAI, a buddy or a brother.

B-H is very common here. BHAJI is another.

BHEESTIE, BHISHTI, BHISTEE, BHISTIE are the same water receptacle.



**LANGUR**



**CHINTZ**



**BHAJI**

A devotional song is a BHAJAN which must be quite a spectacle.

For a BHAJAN sung on the banks of the Ganges

is a spiritual RAGA with TABLA and tambourine.

A WALLAH is a servant. A PUNKA WALLAH likes to fan



*TABLA*

And everyone knows a DHOBI WALLAH cleans clothes while a BOXWALLAH sells what he can.

Now a SWASTIKA's a NAZI symbol, redolent of Adolf Hitler



*CHARPOY*

But a SVASTIKA means good fortune in sacred Sanskrit scripture.

In the holy realms of Hinduism a SWAMI's a religious leader,

POOJA/PUJA is worship, a SADDHU's an itinerant preacher.

SEPOY, TE(A)POY, CHARPOY are helpful for P's and Y's

And BIRIANI's worth serving up if you ever have three i's.

Indian cuisine can solve unforeseen issues when you wish you didn't have two As

With PAPADUM, MASALA, SAAG (spinach) and CHANA – that's chickpeas, Krishna be praised.

DOOLALLY just means crazy. BIDI's tobacco wrapped in leaves.

GODOWN's a warehouse. BAPU means papa.

DACOIT's a class of thieves.

So give thanks to helpful Hindi, its bestiary, food and fabric

For giving us JUGAAD and AVATAR and a sprinkle of Eastern magic.



*Alastair's SAAG*

# How NOT to Fill in an Idle Hour

by Jennifer Smith, *Kiwi Scrabblers*

*I thought this was a brilliant idea for a page in Forwards – a collage of car number plates spelling some valid words. I even had visions of collecting enough words to form a little story . . .*





But I don't recommend this activity as a pastime. Why?

Imagine a couple has just parked outside a café, and is now sitting by the window with a coffee. Along comes an old lady and they see her photographing their car. "What the?!"

Or imagine the management of the supermarket when a customer reports that there's someone sinister (disguised as an old lady with grey hair) lurking suspiciously around the car park taking photos of cars.

Shortly after, I spot another distinctive car with a Scrabble numberplate. . .



I've never in my life felt like such a criminal!

(But wasn't it wonderful that the police car fitted in with the theme?)

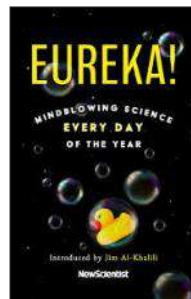
*Ed: Jennifer is offering a prize, one of the nursery rhyme books, to the best reader story using the words EEW FAE GAS KET JUD KAF PAL EEK and NAP.*

# Eureka: Part 2

by Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

**What I'm still reading: (H)EUREKA! Mind-blowing science every day of the year. Introduced by Jim Al-Khalili. New Scientist.**

*Do fish fart? Why do teabags float? Why are there so many ingredients in shampoo? Why do wet things smell worse than dry things? Why do birds sing at dawn? Does anything eat wasps?*



*From January to December, one thought-provoking question is answered each day (without jokes.) Here are ten more of them, rehashed for Scrabblers and punsters.*

## **Why does garlic make your breath smell?**

Garlic produces a potent antifungal and antibacterial compound called ALLICIN when the clove is cut, which is not stable and generates smelly sulphur-containing compounds. The chemicals in garlic change the metabolism, generating ALLYL METHYL SULPHIDE and ACETONE, which when exhaled can give you garlic breath.

Why was the used garlic naked?  
Because it had no cloves left.

## **Why is beer sold in brown bottles?**

Beer is sold in brown bottles to protect the drink's flavour being affected by sunlight. Nearly all beers contain hops which provide it with a bitter taste. When UV light reaches beer, it creates free radicals known as THIOLS, lending it an unwanted SKUNKY MALODOR.

A Roman walks into a bar.

He holds up two fingers and says "give me five beers."

A skeleton walks into a bar.

He orders a beer and a mop.

A neutron walks into a bar and asks, "How much for a beer?"

The bartender replies, "For you? No charge!"

## **Why do bananas turn brown quicker in the fridge?**

This is counterintuitive to those of us brought up to believe that chilling food slows decay. Damage caused by chilling a banana skin, allowing the process of decay to start earlier, means the polyphenol OXIDASE breaks down PHENOLS in the skin into substances similar in

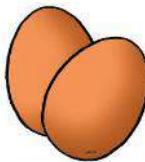


structure to the MELANIN found in human skin.

How is a banana peel on the floor like music?

Because if you don't C sharp, you'll B flat.

### Why are eggs egg-shaped?



Eggs are egg-shaped because of the egg-laying process. At the start of its passage down the OVIDUCT, the egg is soft-shelled and spherical. The forces of contraction on the rear part of the egg, however, deform that end from SPHEROID to CONICAL. As the shell CALCIFIES, the shape becomes fixed, unlike the soft-shelled eggs of reptiles. OVOID eggs fit more snugly together in the nest, reducing heat loss and allow the eggs to roll in a circle, preventing them from rolling out of the nest.

How can you drop an egg six feet without breaking it? By dropping it seven feet – it won't break for the first six.

### What is a blue moon?

There are usually three full moons in the lunar cycle, including the last full moon of Summer, the LENTEN moon, and the first full moon of Autumn, the EASTER moon or PASCHAL moon. Occasionally about seven times every 19 years, there are four full moons and to ensure that the moons continue to be named correctly with respect to the SOLSTICES and

EQUINOXES, the third of the four full moons is called a blue moon.



How does the moon cut its hair? Eclipse it.

### Why is it hard to lose weight as we age?

We get lazier for starters. Our metabolic rate reduces, and we use less energy to digest. Also, there is a reduced response to hormones in the thyroid gland which stimulate the metabolism of fat cells, like LIPIDS, and which help control appetite, like LEPTINS.

What is a prize old people can win for aging?

Atrophy.

### Why do half-eaten apples brown?

Plant cells have various compartments including VACUOLES and PLASTIDS, separated from each other by membranes. The VACUOLES contain PHENOLIC compounds while other compartments of the cell house ENZYMS called PHENOL OXIDASES. In a healthy plant cell, membranes separate the PHENOLICS and the OXIDASES but when the cell is damaged, by biting into an apple, PHENOLICS leak from the VACUOLES and come into contact with the OXIDASES. These ENZYMS OXIDISE the PHENOLICS, turning the plant material brown.

What do you call an apple that plays the trumpet?

A \*tooty fruity.

## Why does spinach make your teeth feel weird?

Spinach contains a large amount of OXALATE crystals, mineral salts of OXALIC acid. When spinach is cooked, some of the cell wall structure is damaged and OXALATE crystals leak out. These coat your mouth to give a fuzzy feeling.



What's the difference between boogers and spinach?

Kids don't eat spinach.

## Why are there so many ingredients in shampoo?

Most of the ingredients in shampoo do nothing to your hair. Only the detergents clean it. The other additives improve appearance, smell, texture and shelf life.

The most widely used detergent is sodium LAURYL sulphate.

Oils counteract drying out. Thickeners add texture. Colourants impart colour.

Fragrances add aroma. Preservatives, often from the PARABEN family, preserve shelf life.

I took a survey of which shampoos women used in the shower.

98% said "what are you doing in my bathroom!"



## Which drinks cause the least hangover?

It is the CONGENERS not the ETHANOL which largely causes hangovers. People who drink pure ETHANOL-based alcohols such as vodka have been shown to suffer fewer hangovers than those who drink darker beverages such as whisky, brandy and red wine, all of which have a much higher CONGENER content.

What's the best thing for a hangover? Drink heavily the night before.



As seen on The Chase

# Hall of Fame

**by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers**

My name is Samuel Finley Breese Walrus, a renowned American painter and inventor. You're surprised you've never heard of me, even though my portrait (alongside) looks vaguely familiar to you? Well, read on, and I will surprise you. I was born in 1791, the first child of a pastor, who imbued me with his Calvinist faith and Puritan values throughout my childhood. As for formal education, I entered Phillips Academy in Massachusetts at the age of nine, and Yale College at the age 14. During my college years, I earned money by painting portraits and studied religious philosophy, mathematics and science. I attended lectures on electricity from various scientists, but my focus in life remained art.

My interest took me to the Royal Academy in London where I practised life drawing and sculpture. I travelled throughout Europe, studying the masters and perfecting my art. In the following years, I became one of America's most respected and famous artists, once painting president James Munro. In 1932, I was appointed professor of painting and sculpture at the University of the City of New York.

In 1825 the city of New York commissioned me to paint a portrait of the Marquis the Lafayette, the leading French supporter of the American Revolution and a republican hero.

While I was painting, a horse messenger delivered a one-line letter from my father: "Your dear wife is convalescent."

I immediately left Washington for my home, leaving the portrait of Lafayette unfinished. When I arrived, I learned that my wife, Susan, had already been buried while I was on my journey. She died of a heart attack shortly after the birth of our third child, and for days I had been unaware of my wife's illness and her lonely death.

Devastated by this news and the inability of the current message system to give me news faster, I started devising a plan to create a new way of fast long distance communication. And that's what led me to eventually (after years of fighting the patent courts) being credited as the inventor of the Morse Code. My discovery soon changed the way the messages are sent and received in the entire world, and even today Morse Code is still in use in various areas of radio communications.

Yes, my name is actually Samuel MORSE.



*Samuel 'Walrus'*

I have to be completely honest here and tell you that the word MORSE is probably not in your Scrabble word list because of the Morse code. In English, Morse code is always spelt with a capital M. I know that Scrabblers contemplating their racks would think: I wonder if MORSE is a word, as in the Morse code, or as in the Hairy Maclary character, "Hercules Morse, as big as a horse". All you are interested in is whether it's a valid word. Well it is – Zyzzyva says it's a walrus.

Because this issue is due out in April, I ventured the April Fool deception of calling myself Samuel Walrus, rather than Samuel Morse. That way, you're

sure to remember me, Samuel Morse, when you play MORSE or MORSES.

I'd like people to remember me for my art, too. Although I was considered to be poor during the majority of my life, I managed to live as an accomplished painter until I focused my interests on electromagnetism and electric communication.

And here's a nice little coincidence to help you to connect the name Morse with art: I called my most famous painting Dying Hercules. (Perhaps Lynley Dodd was subconsciously thinking of me when she named Hercules Morse?)

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## Mailbox

*From Jeff Grant, Independent*

Well done on another excellent edition of *Forwards!* Keep up the great work.

'Guide to Gen Alpha Slang' has quite a few unfamiliar terms. Every new generation has its own lingo. I have come across \*BUSSIN and \*RIZZ, while SUS, meaning 'suspicious' or 'a suspect', goes back at least to the 1930s, according to the Oxford English Dictionary.

I enjoyed Patrick's 'Front Hooks for the Connoisseur'. With HORNTAIL/THORNTAIL it is worth noting that every year these tiny hummingbirds compete in the rigorous THORNTAIL TRIATHLON.



Besides THIONINE/ETHIONINE/METHIONINE, another of Patrick's eight-letter examples can be double front-hooked, namely ACTIVIST/LACTIVIST/SLACTIVIST. The latter term is a variant of SLACKTIVIST, someone who carries out feelgood measures, in support of an issue or social cause, that have little or no practical effect other than to make the person doing it feel satisfaction. Also S/L/ACTIVISM.

Another interesting type of front hook is where the addition of a letter reduces the number of syllables, for example REENGAGE/GREENGAGE.

## \*Baleage Denied

From Sue McRae,  
Masterton

Ever since we moved to Masterton here in the Wairarapa, we have been surrounded by rural landscapes with sheep grazing on rolling hills and interesting agricultural products for sale, including plenty of signs offering \*“Baleage”. Investigating further, I discovered that this word is not an allowable Scrabble word. That got me thinking that the farmer selling it might have spelt it wrong, so I tried \*balage, \*bailage and \*ballage (for good measure). Nope. Then I figured it must be an innately Kiwi word that didn’t make the cut when other NZ terms were adopted.

Imagine my surprise when a quick Google search revealed that the word \*baleage originated in Northern Europe, is also common in the US and of course in every second paddock here in rural Wairarapa:



*A common sight in the paddock, but \*baleage is no good on a Scrabble board.*

“Baled silage, commonly referred to as “baleage,” originated in northern Europe, where drying conditions are not conducive to the production of high-quality hay. This dilemma is common in Arkansas as well as most of the south-east United States”

I did a bit more digging and found HAYLAGE is the only related word acceptable in Scrabble.

Hay ho -  
anyone know  
why?



*Hercules Morse  
(from page 16)*

## Celebrating National Scrabble Day 13 April

By Murray Rogers, *Independent*

It must be acknowledged that ALFRED BUTTS, although unemployed, BATTLED SURF with RAFT, TUB, SLED. Overcoming frustration he applied his architectural prowess and his middle name, MOSHER, and eventually achieved notoriety because THE URB FORMS LASTED.

# International Monetary Units

by Sue McRae, Masterton

The journalist from the *Times Age* got me thinking about all the international monetary units playable in scrabble, after she cited MANAT as one of the unusual words that take newcomers by surprise. Beginners often say a weird-looking word they haven't seen before is "not a real word" until they find out it is a currency unit traded somewhere else in the world. That sparked my interest in how many of these curious words there are. More recently, Zoe on my *Scrabble Go* app played a few of them, so I decided it was time for me to make a list.

This may well have been done before and there may be others I have missed or inaccuracies, but I found it a useful exercise. It amazed me that most of them take -S in the plural, even the unlikely ones like ZLOTY (-S and -IES both allowed), though ARIARY is the exception.

I will include the list in the written material we give newcomers at our club. I hope to play OUGUIYA one day soon, as I certainly get those letters rather too frequently!



Many of these currencies are shared by multiple countries. Some are obsolete currencies, but are still allowed in Scrabble.

Currencies in italics have other more common meanings, besides being a currency unit.

**Bolded words** are my personal favourites, either because they're weird and wonderful or contain many vowels.

afghani	Afghanistan	dalasi	Gambia
ariary	Madagascar, <i>pl. ariaries</i>	denar	North Macedonia
baht	Thailand	dinar	Kuwait, Serbia
balboa	Panama	dirham	Morocco
<i>birr</i>	Ethiopia	dobra	Sao Tome and Principe
bolívar	Venezuela	dollar	
boliviano	Bolivia	<i>dong</i>	Vietnam
cedi	Ghana	<i>dram</i>	Armenia
<i>colon</i>	Costa Rica	escudo	Portugal
cordoba	Nicaragua	euro	

florin		rand	South Africa
forint	Hungary	real	Brazil, <i>pl. reais</i>
franc	France	renminbi	China
gourde	Haiti	rial	Iran
guarani	Paraguay	riel	Cambodia
guilder	Netherlands	ringgit	Malaysia
<b>hryvnia</b>	Ukraine	riyal	Saudi Arabia
<i>kina</i>	Papua New Guinea	ruble	Belarus, Russia
<i>kip</i>	Laos	<b>rufiyaa</b>	Maldives
koruna	Czech Republic	rupee	India
krona	Iceland, Sweden	rupiah	Indonesia
krone	Denmark, Norway	sheqel	Israel
kuna	Croatia	shilling	
kwacha	Zambia	<i>sol</i>	Peru
kwanza	Angola	som	Kyrgyzstan
kyat	Myanmar	somoni	Tajikistan
lari	Georgia	<i>sterling</i>	
lek	Albania	<i>sum</i>	Uzbekistan
lempira	Honduras	taka	Bangladesh
leone	Sierra Leone	<i>tala</i>	Samoa
leu	Moldova, Romania	tenge	Kazakhstan
lev	Bulgaria	tugrik	Mongolia
<b>lilangeni</b>	Swaziland	vatu	Vanuatu
loti	Lesotho	won	Korea
manat	Azerbaijan	yen	Japan
<i>mark</i>		zloty	Poland, <i>pl. zlotys, zloties</i>
metical	Mozambique		
naira	Nigeria		
nakfa	Eritrea		
ngultrum	Bhutan		
<b>ouguiya</b>	Mauritania		
pataca	Macao		
peso			
<i>pound</i>			
pula	Botswana		
<i>quetzal</i>	Guatemala		

*Note: At first glance, boliviano might look hard to play on a Scrabble board. But the word BOLIVIA is a woollen fabric, so you could add 'NO' to it or, if NO is already on the board, you could score a bingo by adding BOLIVIA in front of it.*



# Word wrangling with the wizard of Oz

**By Howard Warner, Scrabble Wellington**

On a recent holiday in Australia, **Howard Warner** caught up with his former Scrabble mentor over a beer and a pad see ew

This is a little unusual for *Forwords*: a profile of a player who's not based in New Zealand and who none of you will know. But Geoff Wright is a significant figure for me, as he was my early coach, mentor and all-round Scrabble guru. In fact, if not for him, I might not have been any good at the game. I might have given it up before I'd barely begun.

I looked up 'the Master' recently when passing through Melbourne – my first time in the city for a couple of decades. We met at a Thai restaurant, the Tom Toon, in multi-cultural Richmond. Geoff, now aged 70, looks just as much of a 'scruffy hippy' as he did at 40. Except that the long hair and beard are now snowy-white and the teeth are yellower than ever after a lifetime of daily marijuana smoking.

By night, he dosses down in a small room behind a storage unit/garage owned by one member of the

restaurant family. By day he's a permanent fixture at the Toon, eating all his meals there in exchange for helping the kids with their maths and English. (He's a former high-school teacher.)

For many years, Geoff formed and ran a number of pub- and café-based clubs, always under the monicker the Melbourne Scrabble Club (to make sure that no one else took that name). In the 1980s he started the first 'double dictionary' club. In those days Australia had two player associations, one using Chambers (the precursor to Collins or CSW) and the other OSPD (precursor to North American TWL). Geoff was a great advocate for unifying Australian Scrabble – as we've done in New Zealand from the start. In fact, he had enjoyed our way of playing in the '70s when he spent time relief-teaching in Invercargill, Wellington and Lower Hutt.

I first met him in 1989 when I was working as a newspaper journalist in Melbourne. I turned up to a small club in a room attached to a synagogue, in the very Jewish suburb of St. Kilda East. Geoff recognised some potential in me and suggested we meet – at various pubs and cafes, of course – for more games.

The first 20 or so, Geoff gleefully whipped my hide. He had a very frustrating way of playing defensively, blocking down space so I couldn't do a thing, no matter how good my letters were. Eventually, when I started to work out ways to counter this style, his game crumbled. And only then did he start to impart his wisdom. He went through all the different strategies and tactics, and showed me how to learn words (this was the pre-computer days).

Eventually Geoff judged me to be tournament-ready. His flagship event was the two-day, Swiss-draw Moomba Day Open, which later morphed into the Melbourne Champs. It was the first – and at that time only – double-dictionary tournament in Australia. Geoff, known as something of a loudmouth, boasted to all and sundry that he was going to win and his protégé (me) would come second.

Before play began each day, he'd take me through drills designed to hone various aspects of our play: tile turnover, spatial awareness, blocking, anagramming etc. I've never known anyone else to run drills like this. Maybe it's something he learned from his days as an AFL (Australian Rules Football) player. I found it liberating – and very useful.

Geoff very nearly realised his prediction for the tournament. Coming up to the last round, I was in first place, he was second and we were looking at a repeat match-up. As it



*Geoff Wright*

happened, I won both the match and the title – my first ever. (It would be eight agonising years before I'd win my second, back in New Zealand.)

Sometime later, I played in the Australian National Champs, which was then Chambers only. As I recall, Geoff finished second and gained a place in the Australian squad for the very first World Champs, in London. He was over the moon. However, he immediately turned down his spot in protest against South Africa's apartheid regime – ever the political firebrand. I finished sixth. This was amazing, given that I had probably dropped some games after unwittingly playing OSPD words. (Unlike Nigel Richards, I never learnt to separate out my word store into the different dictionaries.)

Geoff did eventually get to a World Champs, two years later in New York,

where he caroused the nights away in the City That Never Sleeps with our own Blue Thorogood. He also played a couple of Trans-Tasman Challenges early on.

Geoff did many positive things for the development of Scrabble in Australia. For example, he was one of three people who developed the Griffin double-dictionary word list and Redwood dictionary, culled painstakingly by hand from the two source publications. Older players in New Zealand will recall using these resources. However the books were withdrawn after Chambers and Merriam-Webster threatened lawsuits.

But Geoff was also a divisive figure. He loved 'shit-stirring,' such as challenging rules or pushing them to the limit to show how flawed they were. Many players took his disputatiousness very seriously – he even got banned from the Victorian players' association on occasion. Yet I believe he was just having fun. Whatever he did, there was always a twinkle in his eye – or maybe that was just the marijuana smoke. (His 'habit' didn't go down too well with the general membership either.)

Back in the Tom Toon, we caught up on our recent lives. Geoff has long since shut the doors on the second-hand bookshop he used to own, a few doors down the road. He doesn't play in clubs these days – only online and in tournaments. And he doesn't go further afield than Adelaide. Nor does he learn words any more.

We ordered another Singha beer and played some games. I won 5–1 and fancy that I even taught Geoff a few tricks myself. The pupil had well and truly overtaken the master. But in every otherway, it was just like the old days.

As we played, the young Thai granddaughter of the restaurant owners came over to watch. Geoff helps her with her homework, so she thinks the world of him. Anyway, she said to me: "I've seen this game. It's very popular in Thailand." (An understatement!) I told her that Geoff was a great master and would teach her how to play. Her eyes widened. I expect Geoff is about to get a new Scrabble pupil.

My parting words to him were "You're only as good as your last game", which elicited a chuckle. This is what Geoff would say to me back in the day, as he handed me yet another walloping. He remembered.

Love him or loathe him, Geoff Wright is without doubt one of the great characters of Australian Scrabble. He is highly strung, outspoken, pugnacious and at times a right, royal pain in the a---. But he's also big-hearted and fiercely loyal to those he likes. I owe him a huge debt of gratitude for getting me started in competitive Scrabble and teaching me all his tricks. Eventually!

# In the News

## What's going on here then?

From Sue McRae,  
Masterton

I thought you might like to see this coverage of our little club in a recent edition (Dec 2023) of the *Times Age Midweek* paper, free to all households in Wairarapa. A journalist from the paper has been visiting community groups listed on their *What's On* page and it was our turn for a visit.

There was a teaser on page 2 "Words to live by" and a nice story on page 5. It's a pretty good plug for the club.

Read the online version of the article here: <https://times-age.co.nz/midweek/whats-going-on-here-then-4/>



## Can you solve it? The greatest wordplay puzzle of all time

### Scrabble as you have never seen it before

By Alex Bellos

From *The Guardian*: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2024/jan/22/can-you-solve-it-the-greatest-wordplay-puzzle-of-all-time>

Dylan Early is a fan of David Cohen and the Scrabblegrams written by him. A few have been printed in earlier editions of *Forwords*.

This article is about Scrabblegrams and David Cohen. It contains two crossword puzzles of which the answers are a Scrabblegram i.e. the answers use all 100 scrabble tiles. It also has some hints from David Cohen on how to write Scrabblegrams. Very interesting.

## From TED To PERNOCATED, Scrabble's Best Player Knows No Limits

 By Stefan Fatsis

12:03 PM EDT on March 12, 2024

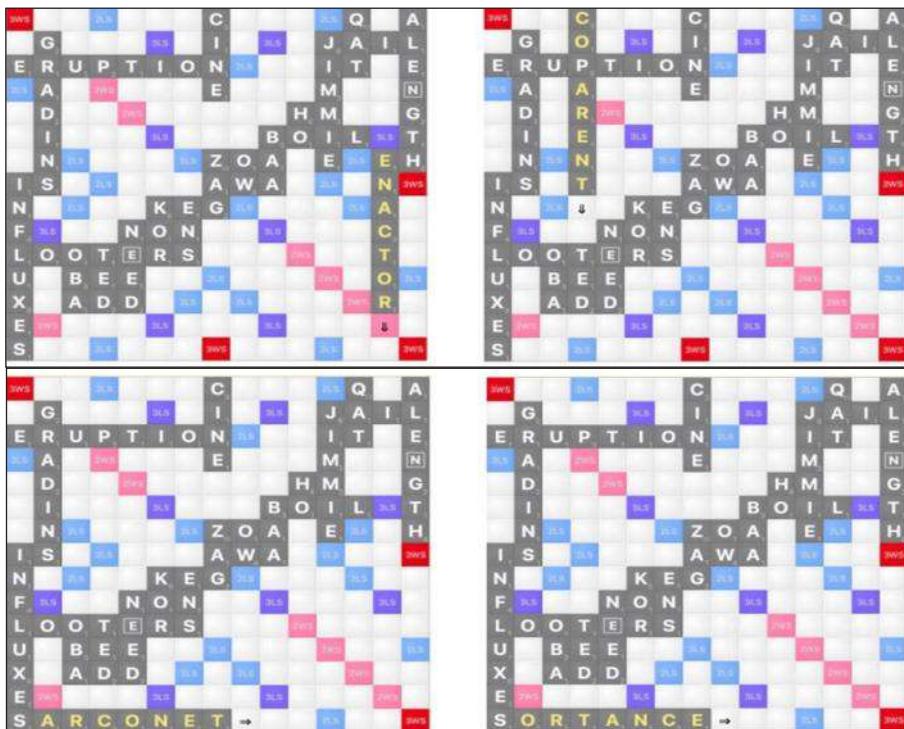


<https://defector.com/scrabbles-best-player-knows-no-limits>

*There has already been a lot of publicity regarding Stephen Fatsis' article on Nigel Richards but for those of you who haven't seen it, follow the link above. Here is an excerpt from the article describing Nigel's latest amazing move. Thanks so much to Stefan and the Editor of the Defector website for letting us print this.*

Nigel now held the letters ACENORT (Scrabble players often arrange their letters in alphabetical order). The only seven-letter word in that rack, ENACTOR, played for 70 points. But three eight-letter words scored more: COPARENT for 82, SORTANCE (an obsolete word meaning suitableness) for 83, and SARCONET (a silk fabric) for 89. A good player would spot all of those. Nigel's fifth consecutive bingo was guaranteed.

Four possible plays are shown below.

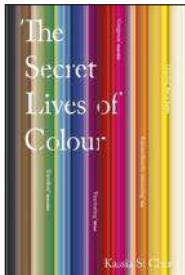


But Nigel didn't play any of those words. Look at the board again. Find the P in ERUPTION. Count the number of squares down to TED (to spread hay for drying). There are seven, the same number as tiles on a rack. Then look one square up and one square over from the T in TED—the word NON. Nigel placed all of his letters between the P and TED, spelling out PERNOCATED and turning NON into ANON. The play tallied 92 points. In Scrabble notation, it's represented like this: (P)ERNOCTA(TED).



*PERNOCTATED, as it appeared on Nigel's board.  
(Photo Credit: Rajiv Antao)*

# What I'm Reading



Mike Currie has lent me his book **The Secret Lives of Colour** by Kassia St Clair.

He has written an article inspired by this book in an earlier

edition of *Forwards* but I too found plenty of interesting words in it. It's the sort of book you can read all at once (I did) or just a chapter at a time as you feel. What amazed me about this book is how much we take colour for granted, forgetting that someone had to work out how to make that colour from natural ingredients. Often the ingredients were poisonous and the procedure dangerous. People died from using a green paint on their walls which happened to have arsenic in it – as did a lot of other colours. Unfortunately I only started recording the words I didn't know when I was half way through. Here they are:

**ALIZARIN:** ALIZARI and ALIZARINE are also allowed. A colouring principle found in MADDER and now made artificially. MADDER is a herbaceous plant that produces a red dye.

Right... now I get the meaning behind the name of the shop Madder and Rouge, in Teed St, Newmarket, that I have visited for years!

**DRACAENA/ DRACENA:**  
This word comes up frequently in my Cardbox and is a genus of liliaceous plants with woody stems and funnel-shaped flowers

**FASCES:** An ancient Roman symbol of power.

**ORCHIL:** A dye obtained from certain lichens.

**ANILINE:** Another high prob word. A product in coal -tar used in dying.

**PICRIC:** Having a very bitter taste.

**FAILLE:** a shiny closely woven silk cotton or rayon fabric.



*Lyres's DRAC(A)ENA*



*ORCHIL*

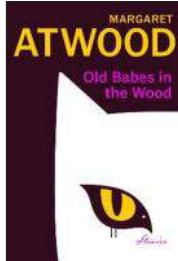
**SINOPIA:** High prob again.

It's a reddish brown pigment obtained from SINOPITE.

Other variants are SINOPIS and SINOPIE.



*BURDOCK*



Another book I've just finished is **Lost Babes in the Woods.**

A collection of short stories by Margaret Atwood.

I don't usually read short stories but I like Margaret Atwood and this book was recommended. A few words caught my fancy:

**BURDOCK:** A coarse dandelion-like plant.

**LECTOR:** A reader of lessons in a church service. I had no idea that you could take the E off ELECTOR. Maybe this is where the words LECTERN and LECTURN come from.

**HARRIDAN** and **HARPIE:** A sharp tongued woman and a shrewish person. I've played HARPIES but haven't known the meaning until now.

## Only on a Scrabble Board

At the Rotorua tournament. Lorraine van Veen was playing Kenji Matsumoto, a visitor from Hawaii and good friend of Chris Tallman. Its Lorraine's turn and her rack is EINRRT?. What did she play? Answer on page 39.



## Scrabble Board Stories

By Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert

Recently I had a game of Scrabble with Merelyn Fuemana and it struck me that a story could be made of the words played, especially Merelyn's words.

Merelyn's words were played in this order:

HAM, OVINE, PINK, DEACONS, HOUSEFLY, TRIADS, SWORD, MIR, GIG, DIN, ERA, TRIO.

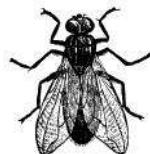
I loved her find of HOUSEFLY.



*Liz and Merilyn's game*

*Let's try a story with these words and a few of mine.*

The HAM was from an OVINE. It was a shade of PINK, and it was eaten by three DEACONS until a HOUSEFLY landed on it. The TRIADS were sent for with their SWORD, and with the help of the MIR they all made a DIN in the ERA of the TRIO of DEACONS and the HOUSEFLY flew into Liz's PANIER and got stuck in the WAX she had in there. The HOUSEFLY thought "this is FAB but OCH what a NINNY, I'm stuck!"



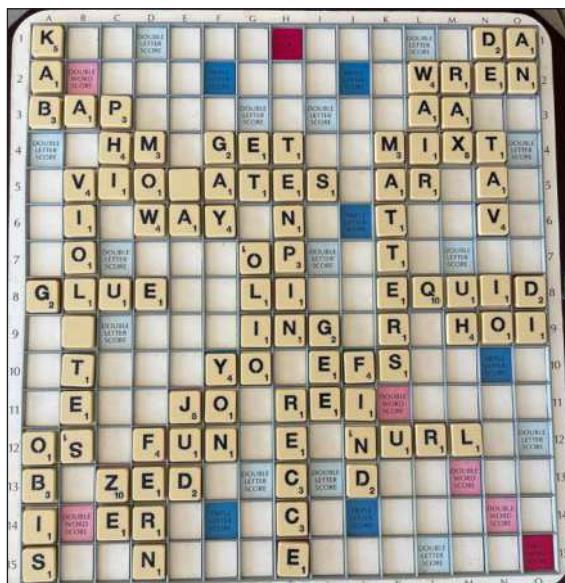
*Ed: How about some more stories using words from a particular game of Scrabble. Send a picture of the board and your story.*

## Seeing Double

*Submitted by Jason Simpson, Whangarei*

Here is a photo from a game I played recently.

It wasn't a club or tournament game, but an ISC game against a computer opponent. After my opponent bonused with TORNADE, I had the same letters on my rack and played the same word in parallel a few rows down.



A similar situation happened in a game at the recent Nelson tournament. Helen Sillis played VIOLATES and Murray Rogers followed soon after with the same word.

# Ask Liz

by **Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert**



At the recent Rotorua tournament I wasn't asked to help many times, however one of those times involved a clock that had reset

**Liz Fagerlund** back to 25 minutes each after a challenge. This has happened a few times previously and appears to mainly occur with "pocket Samtimers" – the ones where you have to open up the middle flap to neutralise the time for a challenge. After the challenge, when the flap is closed again it can reset. It seems to happen when the batteries are running low and is very frustrating for the players!

This is where the good old-fashioned analogue clocks can be very useful, as they are easy to set to the amount of time each player thinks they have left. Of course, we aren't always aware of how much time we have left, but certainly if it's a fair way through the game, players are starting to keep an eye on how much time is left. In this case both players agreed that one of them was already over time and the other player had about 12 minutes left. They were happy to use an analogue clock and for me to set the overtime player with the flag just fallen and the other player to the approximate time left.

I have been called over to this happening before, and sometimes neither player knows how much time they have left. In this situation I have looked at the total time used by players around them, presumed the start time was similar for the players with the failed clock, and just shared the time left between the two players. For instance if players around them had used about 30 minutes between them it means 20 minutes of the total 50 minutes is left, so, with the agreement of the two players they would be given 10 minutes each on the analogue clock. Not perfect, but better than giving them a different digital clock set back to 25 minutes each!



# 12 Ways to Get Really Good at Scrabble

**By Howard Warner, Scrabble Wellington**

*I put this list together after Alex Casey interviewed me (along with Liz Fagerlund) for an article in The Spinoff, to accompany the Scrabble documentary Every Word Counts.*

*The first nine tips talk to club ‘newbies or those people who enjoy the game at home or online but haven’t yet made the scary leap into our competitive world. The last three focus on variants of the game – those for experienced ambitious adults, those for kids starting out on their competitive Scrabble journey, and those to avoid.*

## **1. Join a club:**

You will get to experience more varied playing styles, personalities and strategies than by just competing against the usual suspects at home. You will be surprised how much you pick up from being around more experienced players. It’s also the best practice: the more you play the better you get.

## **2. If you’re playing online, use ‘teacher mode’:**

Some programs contain a function that comments on your plays or ranks the best plays for each move. Especially useful are those sites that allow you to have another turn when you play a ‘phoney’. This way you can learn about strategy, finding out what works and what doesn’t, without having to worry about losing challenges because of dud words.

But do make sure to transition to a club eventually. Even on the best game website, you can get too used to playing the same way. This is less than constructive. Nor does it give you a true gauge of your ability.

## **3. Tournaments:**

After you have been at a club for a while, dip your toes into tournament waters. You don’t have to bring any equipment, just your wide-eyed enthusiasm. The scariest thing for novices is the time factor. In the weeks leading up to a tournament, start using a timetclock in club games. Your clubmates will help you adjust to it. They can also induct you in the proper way to score.

Don’t expect great tournament results straight away. Just aim to improve a little each time and enjoy seeing your national ranking edge upwards.

**4. Be humble** when playing others of any level. Put aside your pride and ego. No matter how much you regularly dominate your partner or friend or granny, you don't have to be a winner in the competitive world right from the start.

Nor should you feel embarrassed about your novice status or initial slowness – everyone started at the same point.

**5. Accept advice** when it's offered by a superior player. That's gold! Listen to what they have to say. Or be proactive: ask for tips from a high-ranking competitive player you admire. They will probably feel flattered and will happily oblige.

#### **6. Learn words systematically:**

Start with the two-letter words, then the threes, the fours and so on. Also, focus on 'vowel dumpers', 'consonant dumpers' and words containing the 'big letters' (J, Q, X, Z). There are many ways to learn – all valid. Talk with your clubmates about how they do it. Then pick a method that works for you.

#### **7. Learn anagrams systematically:**

Start with 'high-probability' sevens and eights. There are many programs around to help (check out

<https://scrabble.org.nz/resources/internet-resources-and-word-lists>).

The best is Zyzzyva, especially its 'Cardbox' functionality. The top players use this as a daily ritual, to keep their anagramming skills razor sharp.

**8. Read books about strategy –** providing they're written by top competitive players, not just enthusiastic amateurs. Hunt up resources from international and national websites.

#### **9. Relax and enjoy:**

Revel in the beauty of the game and how it stretches your brain in all sorts of ways. Be positive. Don't be a sore loser; do be a gracious winner.

#### **10. Variants – adults:**

This is for players at higher levels. If you wish to improve your skills further, try variants of the game (e.g. Clabbers, If Only, Grab). Each of these hones a different aspect of strategy. Clabbers is all about hot-spot awareness, hooking and building of long words. If Only focusses on anagramming with blanks. And Grab (played with two bags of Scrabble tiles and no board or racks) is great for fast, top-of-mind anagramming.

*From my brother in law Geoff Pound*

"My dog accidentally swallowed a whole bag of Scrabble tiles. We took him to the vet to get him checked out.  
No word yet..."



I'm happy to show anyone how these games work. So are the likes of Dylan and Lawson, I imagine.

### 11. Variants – kids:

This is for any wordplay-loving youngsters you know (your kids, grandkids, neighbour's kids or pupils). Feed them Lexicon (a card game) or Bananagrams (tiles and puzzle books) to ease them towards Scrabble.

I also loved the makeshift game that Laura Griffiths played with her young son in *Every Word Counts*. They simply made up words with their letters. Freed from the constraints of adult word knowledge, they were able to focus instead on positional play. Also, it looked like a lot of fun – that's so important if we're to attract youngsters to our world.

### 12. Variants to avoid:

Those gimmicky and wacky variants of packaged Scrabble that the commercial owners put on the market every year before Christmas. These are NOT useful.



*Bananagrams:  
A useful Scrabble variant for  
wordplay-loving youngsters*

## Tournament Calendar 2024

Tournament	Location	Dates
Mt. Albert	Auckland	18-19 May
Nationals	Wellington	1-3 June
Whangarei	Whangarei	6-7 July
Kiwi	Hamilton	3-4 August
Tauranga	Tauranga	24-25 Aug
Christchurch	Christchurch	7-8 September
Mt. Albert	Bowentown	14-15 September
Mt. Albert	Auckland	5-6 October
Dunedin	Queenstown	19-20 October
Whanganui	Whanganui	26-27 Oct
*Trans-Tasman	Auckland	15-17 Nov
Dunedin	Otago	30 Nov – 1 Dec
* Limited entry		

# The Trip Home

**by Malcolm Graham, Independent**

*Malcolm recalls an eventful trip home from the Nelson Tournament*

Hanna Dodge needed to be home in Christchurch in time for her Monday dialysis treatment at the hospital so we headed south from the Nelson tournament as soon as we could after the end of play on Sunday - as none of us expected to be involved in the prize giving.

Ruth Groffman was third in B grade, which came as a surprise when the news caught up with us.

I hadn't slept well Saturday night so I really wasn't up to driving all the way to Christchurch on my own. Ruth was prepared to drive us to Murchison while I tried to sleep.

Now we all know that trying to sleep in a moving car isn't the best quality sleep possible but, by the time we got to Murchison I was confident that I could get us to our destination without waking up upside down in a cow's toilet - or worse.

I asked Ruth to stop at the tearooms - which I noticed was closed as Ruth was pulling in and redirected her to the gas station up the road.

Distracting her just then hadn't been my wisest decision ever as she'd been coming in hot and now checked to see if the way was clear to pull out again.

The car clouted the kerb and ripped a hole the size of Tasmania in the side of my tyre.

A pedestrian had seen this and pointed at the damage and waved - apparently (I hadn't noticed).

We parked at the gas station and I was able to check the damage. When I found a hole in the sidewall I could poke a finger through, I was amazed that the tyre could still be driven for the 200 meters further up the road from the tea rooms.

We set about the process of unpacking all the luggage so I could get at the spare, jack etc.

Noeline had the brilliant idea of asking the driver of the vehicle next to us for his assistance.

I could've done the job myself but with the help of a young, fit guy who had way more willingness than experience, it took half the time.

Ondra is a 30 year old Czech touring NZ after working in Wellington for three years in IT. He had outfitted his van for living on the road (including solar panels on the roof).

I have done exactly as Ondra did, myself when I was younger and fitter, even since I lost almost all of my right leg back in 1982.

Steve soon appeared. He'd been the man who'd seen the original damage and attempted to alert us. He'd got into his vehicle and come looking for us.

Fortunately he had A - done the job before and B - had once owned a similar car (so he knew where the jacking point was and how to access it - information I probably could've found myself if I'd bothered to take a look in the owner's handbook - Argh!).

Between them Ondra and Steve took the job out of my hands and dealt with it for me in half the time it would've taken me.

I am well aware of the difficulties of travelling in a strange country in a van (especially in summer) so have made sure Ondra has my contact details should he ever need a shower in

Christchurch or Queenstown - or any other help I can offer him.

99% of people are decent, honest, good people and Ondra and Steve are two of the best.

Steve makes his living as a Maori carver in his studio in Murchison. I'll certainly look him up next time I'm passing through. I'd consider it an honour to own a piece of his work.

I have come to realise that Ruth only played a minor part in the 'accident' and I was almost all my fault but, in a way, it was a good thing because it brought us into contact with two of the best examples of humanity.

Normally things like that only happen to me after dark on public holidays in pouring rain so in sunshine in a safe spot in a paved car park was pure luxury.

## Off the Rack

### What scrabblers have been up to



Writing for this magazine is not the only place that Mike Currie uses his talent extraordinaire. Did you know he also writes and performs raps? Here is the link to part three of his Rhyming Rapping History of the World!"

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_C11fWtD5ng&ab\\_channel=MikeCurrie](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_C11fWtD5ng&ab_channel=MikeCurrie)



You can find the other parts by searching for 'Mike Currie history rap' on Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/@MikeCurrie-bx2tg>

# Puzzle Pozzy

## Famous Women

By Patrick Carter, Mt. Albert

Recently Patrick put this quiz together for his bridge players for International Women's Day. He has shared it with us.

Unscramble the names of these 12 famous women.

1. IRE MAURICE	8. RONNY MEMORIAL
2. HELL CANKER	9. LYNCH A TRILLION
3. ALARM ADVISEE	10. GREAT CHARM THREAT
4. PHONY FIRE WAR	11. SEMI PERMANENT HULK
5. MALARIA SHARK	12. HANG FOR INTELLIGENCE
6. REHEAT MALARIA	
7. THAI GATE CHAIRS	

Answers on page 39.

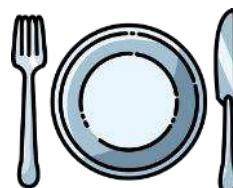
Patrick also prepared the following quiz below for our club members.

## Main Courses

Unscramble these dishes you might eat as a main course.

1. NAG SALE	7. BRUNETTE CHICK
2. BEER FATSO	8. NICHE SALAD
3. LION FIGMENT	9. CHEAP SHORT LATINO
4. HAD FINCH PISS	10. INQUIRE CHOLERA
5. SPEED HER SHIP	11. WOOD SUPERTANKERS
6. HIP DATA	12. TIE HOTEL SPONGEBAGS

Answers on page 39.



## New Zealand Place Names

By John Baird, Christchurch

After reading the list of country names which make valid scrabble words in the 2023 Spring edition of *Forwards*, I thought it would be interesting to look for New Zealand place names, which are not valid scrabble words, but have an anagram which is. On further reflection, rather than derive the anagram of the location, it seemed more of a challenge to work backwards.



In this quiz you have to find the New Zealand place name from its valid Scrabble anagram.

Note: The following words all translate to New Zealand towns, suburbs or localities. The names are all single words, and stand alone (i.e. they are not preceded by descriptors such as 'mount' or 'port' nor followed by 'river', 'beach' etc).

1. Agnate	16. Intown	31. Rooikat
2. Amok	17. Invertor	32. Rumens
3. Anuria	18. Leadened	33. Semilog
4. Aorta	19. Lotah	34. Snotrag
5. Armored	20. Mapau	35. Sobering
6. Ariot	21. Meaths	36. Sodden
7. Atrium	22. Nairu	37. Soften
8. Awaiting	23. Oftener	38. Stonking
9. Bingoed	24. Openers	39. Stornello
10. Dewooling	25. Outroar	40. Tahas
11. Dunelands	26. Poems	41. Unchrisom
12. Durry	27. Pontic	42. Wairua
13. Germane	28. Poteen	43. Weaner
14. Giantry	29. Pouk	44. Ycled
15. Hamlet	30. Rapine	

Answers on pp. 40-41.

# World Seniors Championship 2023

by Joanne Craig, *Independent*



*World Seniors Championships 2023 - Overall winners and age-band prizewinners*

*Back row L-R:*

*Kong Chock Heng, Sunny Bhatia, Simon Gillam, Mark Nyman (Champion),  
Howard Rayner, Steve Perry, Robert Linn, Joanne Craig*

*Front Row L-R:*

*Eileen Meghen, Mario Saliba, David Webb, Rene Chelton, Olga Visser Elisabeth  
Jardine, Wojciech Usakiewicz*  
(Photo credit: Sharon Sorensen)

I played in the eighth World Seniors Championship held in Malta from November 8th to 10th 2023. There were 46 competitors and we played 25 games. Former World Champion Mark Nyman emerged victorious on 19 wins. I won 16 and was happy to receive a medallion and 50 euros for 4th place.

The overall winners were:

Champion: Mark Nyman (ENGLAND)  
Runner-Up: David Webb (ENGLAND)  
Third: Kong Chock Heng (MALAYSIA)

Fourth: Joanne Craig (NZ)

Fifth: Sunny Bhatia (INDIA)

Age-band prizewinners:

Over 90: Rene Chelton (AUS)

Over 85: Eileen Meghen (IRELAND) & Daniel Milton (USA)

Over 80: Robert Linn (USA) & Olga Visser (AUS)

Over 75: Elizabeth Jardine (ENG) & Vincent Boyle (ENG)

Over 70: Steve Perry (ENG) & Mario Saliba (MALTA)

Over 65: Wojciech Usakiewicz

(POLAND) & Simon Gillam  
(SCOTLAND)

Over 60: David Webb & Kong Chock Heng

Over 55: Mark Nyman & Sunny Bhatia

High Game: Howard Rayner (674)

High Word: Sunny Bhatia BIRKIEST (176)

Full results are available at <https://iwi.wespa.org/aardvark/html/tournaments/1119.html>

2024 World Seniors Championship: It is my understanding that the next World Seniors Championship will be held in Malaysia on 21-23 October 2024 (followed by gateway@KLIA2 International October 25-27) but at the time of writing neither are listed on the WESPA calendar.

2025 World Seniors Championship: Peggy Fehily has volunteered to organise the 2025 World Seniors Championship in Berlin (as I understand it in September 2025).

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## Puzzle Pozzy Solutions

### Famous Women and Main Course - answers

From page 36.



1. MARIE CURIE
2. HELEN CLARK
3. VALERIE ADAMS
4. OPRAH WINFREY
5. KAMALA HARRIS
6. AMELIA EARHART
7. AGATHA CHRISTIE
8. MARILYN MONROE
9. HILLARY CLINTON
10. MARGARET THATCHER
11. EMMELINE PANKHURST
12. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

1. LASAGNE
2. ROAST BEEF
3. FILET MIGNON
4. FISH AND CHIPS
5. SHEPHERDS PIE
6. PAD THAI
7. BUTTER CHICKEN
8. ENCHILADAS
9. LANCASHIRE HOTPOT
10. QUICHE LORRAINE
11. SWEET AND SOUR PORK
12. SPAGHETTI BOLOGNESE

### Only on a Scrabble Board - answer

From page 27.

Lorraine played aNTI(VAX)ER around VAX. This was challenged by Kenji who knew ANTIVAXXER but not with one X. What a find! She won the game.

## New Zealand Place Names - answers

From page 37.

1. Agnate - Ngatea, Hauraki Plains, Waikato
2. Amok - Kamo, a northern suburb of Whangarei
3. Anuria - Aranui, an eastern suburb of Christchurch
4. Aorta - Otara, a suburb of South Auckland
5. Armored - Ardmore, South Auckland
6. Ariot - Otira, South Island West Coast
7. Atrium - Timaru, south Canterbury
8. Awaiting - Waitangi, Bay of Islands, and the Chatham Islands
9. Bingoed - Bendigo, Central Otago
10. Dewooling - Inglewood, Taranaki
11. Dunelands - Dunsandel, Canterbury
12. Durry - Drury, South Auckland
13. Germane - Mangere, a suburb of South Auckland
14. Gantry - Granity, South Island West Coast
15. Hamlet - Eltham, Taranaki
16. Intown - Winton, Southland
17. Invertor - Riverton, Southland
18. Leadened - Edendale, Southland
19. Lotah - Athol, Southland
20. Mapau - Mapua, Nelson area
21. Meaths - Thames, Coromandel
22. Nairu - Ranui, a western suburb of Auckland
23. Oftener - Reefton, South Island West Coast
24. Openers - Penrose, a suburb of Auckland
25. Outroar - Rotorua, central North Island.
26. Poems - Epsom, a suburb of central Auckland
27. Pontic - Picton, Marlborough
28. Pouk - Kopu, Coromandel
29. Poteen - Petone, a suburb of Lower Hutt, Wellington
30. Rapine - Napier, Hawkes Bay
31. Rooikat - Okarito, South Island West Coast (home of the kotuku or white heron)
32. Rumens - Sumner, a beachside suburb of Christchurch



33. Semilog - Mosgiel, Otago
34. Snotrag - Garston, Southland
35. Sobering - Gisborne, North Island East Coast
36. Sodden - Seddon, Marlborough
37. Soften - Sefton, Canterbury
38. Stonking - Kingston, Central Otago
39. Stornello - Rolleston, Canterbury
40. Tahas - Haast, South Island West Coast
41. Unchrisom - Murchison, Tasman district of the South Island
42. Wairua - Ruawai, Northland (where many of our kumaras are grown)
43. Weaner - Rawene, Hokianga, Northland
44. Ycled - Clyde, Central Otago



*Posted on the Scrabble International Facebook page.  
Another amazing Nigel Richards game.*

# Tournament results

## Dunedin (Amended)

18-19 November 2023

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave		Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
<b>A Grade</b>											
1	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	12	439	393	1	Helen Sillis	WTA	10	216	400
2	Lois Binnie	CHC	9	667	428	2	Val Mills (E)	MTA	9.5	184	401
3	Laura Griffiths	CHC	8	315	404	3	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	8	291	394
4	Karen Gray	DUN	6	-476	387	4	Lynn Wood	IND	8	234	381
5	Karyn McDougal	IND	5	-459	371	5	Jean O'Brien	IND	5	-486	352
6	Helen Sillis	WTA	5	-486	376	6	Peter Johnstone	CHC	4.5	-439	366

## B Grade

1	Sue Hensley	DUN	10.5	165	364	1	Carolyn Kyle	IND	11	614	399
2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	8	-207	354	2	Marian Ross	DUN	9	143	376
3	Malcolm Graham	IND	7	221	374	3	Ruth Groffman	DUN	8	266	385
4	Carolyn Kyle	IND	7	171	362	4	Megg Hewlett	CHC	8	255	385
5	Jean O'Brien	IND	7	156	387	5	Malcolm Graham	IND	8	-318	365
6	Joanna Fox	CHC	5.5	-506	350	6	Judy Driscoll	IND	7	-317	352

## C Grade

1	Hanna Dodge	CHC	10	753	409	8	Hanna Dodge	DUN	6	-12	365						
2	Grant Paulin	DUN	6	20	370	<b>C Grade</b>											
3	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	5	-60	367	1	Tony Charlton	NEL	12	824	365						
4	Chris Handley	DUN	5	-180	367	2	Llane Hadden	NEL	11	753	371						
5	Megg Hewlett	CHC	4	-533	362	3	Kate Allen	NEL	9	227	346						
6	Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	?	?	?	4	Judy Cronin	NEL	8	84	337						
						5	Madelaine Green	CHC	7	-39	348						
						6	Noeline Monsef	CHC	5	-224	325						
						7	Kelly Thomas	NEL	5	-470	318						
						8	Gill Charlton	NEL	3	-1155	295						



Judy Cronin with B grade winner, Carolyn Kyle, at the Nelson tournament



Judy Cronin with Nelson C grade place-getters, Kate Allen (3rd) and Tony Charlton (1st)

**Rotorua****2-3 March 2024**

13 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
<b>A Grade</b>					
1	Chris Tallman	IND	12	849	464
2	Kenji Matsumoto	OS	11	1711	499
3	Val Mills (E)	MTA	9	-89	409
4	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	8.5	568	440
5	Jason Simpson	WRE	7.5	579	445
6	Jane Walton	KIW	7.5	-83	396
7	Olivia En (E)	WAN	7.5	-111	390
8	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	7	531	428
9	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	5	-292	396
10	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	5	-522	386
11	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	4	-304	383
12	Rosemary Cleary (E)	WAN	4	-445	365
13	David Gunn	IND	2	-1562	353
14	Jennifer Smith	KIW	1	-830	353

**B Grade**

1	Shirley Martin	KIW	10	589	405
2	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	10	451	403
3	Lynn Wood	IND	8	268	378
4	Delcie Macbeth	IND	8	170	383
5	Helen Sillis	WTA	8	80	386
6	Karen Miller	IND	7	-176	357
7	Jean O'Brien	IND	6.5	495	391
8	Barney Bonthron	KIW	6.5	209	387
9	Minuri Undogodage	IND	5	-68	371
10	Roger Coates	KIW	5	-151	392
11	Joanne Morley	IND	5	-584	369
12	Heather Landon	TGA	4	-271	372
13	Betty Eriksen	WAN	4	-461	350
14	Nola Borrell	IND	4	-551	348

**C Grade**

1	Tara Hurley	IND	10	1092	397
2	Suzanne Harding	WRE	9	692	377
3	Malcolm Graham	IND	9	648	376
4	Carole Coates	KIW	9	337	362
5	Judy Driscoll	IND	7	267	363
6	Anne Scatchard	WRE	7	98	332
7	Tim Henneveld	IND	7	-8	339
8	Deb Epp	ROT	7	-36	341
9	Jillian Greening	KIW	7	-79	345
10	Dael Shaw	TGA	7	-218	331
11	Glenda Geard	IND	6	-402	336
12	Val Isherwood	IND	5	-77	344
	Jacqueline Coldham-				
13	Fussell	KIW	5	-214	345
14	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	3	-310	330
15	Annette Caisley	WRE	3	-794	310
16	Fay Wenzlick	TGA	3	-996	285

**Right:**

**Ruth Godwin with Rotorua winners, Shirley Martin (B grade) and Tara Hurley (C grade)**

**Above right:**

**Ruth Godwin with Chris Tallman (A grade winner)**

**Masters**

29-31 March 2024

23 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave		Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave	
1	Howard Warner (GM)	WEL	20	2326	459		<b>A Grade</b>					
2	Dylan Early (GM)	WEL	20	2117	465		1	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	12	466	417
3	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	18	1955	463		2	Olivia En (E)	WAN	10	465	409
4	Gil Quiballo (GM)	IND	17	1419	436		3	Lynn Wood	IND	9	312	384
5	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	15	730	431		4	Karen Gray	DUN	6	-283	382
6	Peter Sinton (GM)	DUN	15	479	405		5	Helen Sillis	WTA	5	-137	374
7	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	14	83	402		6	Paul Freeman	DUN	3	-823	373
8	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	13	584	408		<b>B Grade</b>					
9	Scott Chaput (E)	IND	13	223	414		1	Anne Goldstein	CHC	11	549	403
10	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	13	208	404		2	Clare Wall	IND	9	425	397
11	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	12	308	404		3	Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	-173	368
12	Herb Ramsay	IND	12	195	395		4	Jean O'Brien	IND	7	-126	373
13	Paul Lister (E)	CHC	11	-1072	373		5	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	-248	365
14	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	10	-148	395		6	Karyn McDougall	IND	4	-427	346
15	Val Mills (E)	MTA	10	-804	382		<b>C Grade</b>					
16	Nick Ascroft (E)	WEL	9	-391	394		1	Nola Borrell	IND	10	396	390
17	Rosemary Cleary (E)	WAN	9	-1191	371		2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	9	202	367
18	Anderina McLean (GM)	WAN	8	-489	394		3	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	8	306	375
19	Olivia En (E)	WAN	8	-614	389		4	Marian Ross	DUN	7	156	371
20	Lois Binnie	CHC	8	-889	387		5	Joanna Fox	CHC	6	-422	347
21	Jane Walton	KIW	7	-583	373		6	Sue Hensley	DUN	5	-638	355
22	Anne Goldstein	CHC	6	-1457	363		<b>D Grade</b>					
23	Peter Johnstone	CHC	4	-1381	357		1	Megg Hewlett	CHC	11	405	404
24	Shirley Martin	KIW	4	-1608	357		2	Grant Paulin	DUN	8	46	377



*Howard Warner,  
Masters Champion*

**Dunedin**

13-14 April 2024

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave		Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
	<b>A Grade</b>										
1	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	12	466	417						
2	Olivia En (E)	WAN	10	465	409						
3	Lynn Wood	IND	9	312	384						
4	Karen Gray	DUN	6	-283	382						
5	Helen Sillis	WTA	5	-137	374						
6	Paul Freeman	DUN	3	-823	373						
	<b>B Grade</b>										
1	Anne Goldstein	CHC	11	549	403						
2	Clare Wall	IND	9	425	397						
3	Betty Eriksen	WAN	8	-173	368						
4	Jean O'Brien	IND	7	-126	373						
5	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	-248	365						
6	Karyn McDougall	IND	4	-427	346						
	<b>C Grade</b>										
1	Nola Borrell	IND	10	396	390						
2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	9	202	367						
3	Roger Cole-Baker	MTA	8	306	375						
4	Marian Ross	DUN	7	156	371						
5	Joanna Fox	CHC	6	-422	347						
6	Sue Hensley	DUN	5	-638	355						
	<b>D Grade</b>										
1	Megg Hewlett	CHC	11	405	404						
2	Grant Paulin	DUN	8	46	377						
3	Lyn Dawson	IND	7	203	381						
4	Dianne Cole-Baker	MTA	7	-128	360						
5	Malcolm Graham	IND	6	1	371						
6	Jonas Wiberg	CHC	6	-527	343						
	<b>E Grade</b>										
1	Paxton Hall	DUN	11	257	362						
2	Hanna Dodge	CHC	10	157	356						
3	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	9	185	357						
4	Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	8	220	374						
5	Marc Van Hoecke	DUN	7	-69	351						

## South Island Champs

4-5 May 2024

14 games

Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
------	------	------	--------	-----

### A Grade

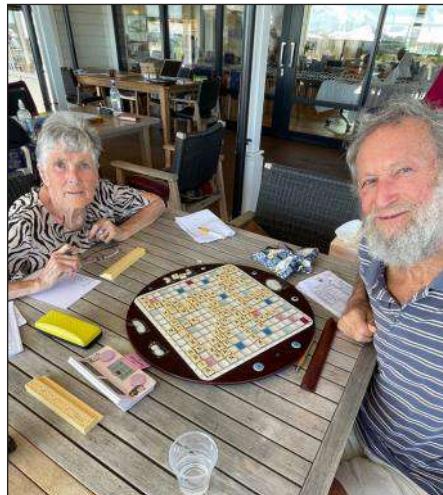
1	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	14	1390	473
2	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	8	487	440
3	Norma Fisher	CHC	7	262	427
4	Herb Ramsay	IND	7	-243	402
5	Lois Binnie	CHC	6	-443	399
6	Lynne Butler (GM)	WAN	5	-148	409
7	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	5	-718	383
8	Paul Lister (E)	CHC	4	-587	400

### B Grade

1	Anne Goldstein	CHC	9	371	393
2	Karen Gray	DUN	9	156	396
3	Peter Johnstone	CHC	7.5	21	383
4	Laura Griffiths	CHC	7	265	405
5	Lynn Wood	IND	7	123	380
6	Selena Chan	CHC	6	-337	381
7	Jean O'Brien	IND	5.5	-190	379
8	Helen Sillis	WTA	5	-409	373

### C Grade

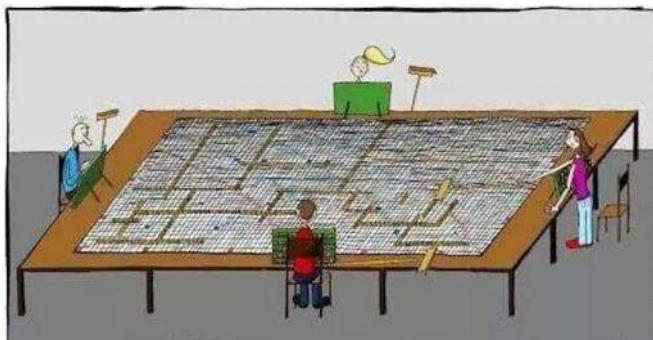
1	Joanna Fox	CHC	9	651	393
2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	8	34	362
3	Marian Ross	DUN	8	13	359
4	Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	85	362
5	Megg Hewlett	CHC	7	-218	387
6	Shirley Hol	CHC	6	-54	361
7	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	-207	358
8	Sue Hensley	DUN	5	-304	350



*Helen Sillis and Murray Rogers playing at the Nelson tournament*

### D Grade

1	Jonas Wiberg	CHC	11	879	394
2	Malcolm Graham	IND	10	407	388
3	Colleen Link	CHC	9	487	357
4	Leanna Christie	IND	8	236	364
5	Lyn Dawson	IND	7	387	378
6	Hanna Dodge	CHC	7	-161	352
7	Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	7	-656	328
8	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	5	-236	338
9	Noeline Monsef	CHC	3.5	-422	341
10	Sharon McKenzie	CHC	2.5	-921	316



**GERMAN SCRABBLE**

# New Zealand Scrabble Records

## as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024

### NZ Performances at the World Scrabble Championships, now WESPAC (held since 1991)

World Champion		Alastair Richards	2021 (online)
		Nigel Richards	2007, 2011, 2013, 2019
In the top 10 (other than first)	7th	Mike Sigley	1993
	3rd	Jeff Grant	1995
	6th	Jack Dymond (Kendall Boyd)	1997
	8th, 2nd, 3rd	Nigel Richards	1999, 2009, 2017
Most frequent competitor	11 times	Jeff Grant, Howard Warner	1991-2015 1999-2021

### NZ Performances at the World Youth Championships

Highest place	7th/120	Lewis Hawkins	2014
Most frequent competitor	4 times	Lewis Hawkins	2013-2017

### Trans-Tasman Challenge

Challenges won by NZ	3		1998, 2000, 2010
Individual winners		Peter Sinton	1998
		Jack Dymond (Kendall Boyd)	2000
		Howard Warner	2002
		Joanne Craig	2010
		Dylan Early	2018

### NZ Masters (held since 1984)

Most games won	21/23	Jeff Grant Mike Sigley	1993, 1997 2002
Highest spread	2529	Alastair Richards	2021
Most times winner	12 times	Howard Warner	2003-04, 2006 2008-13, 2018
Most frequent competitor	38/39	Glennis Hale	1984-2022
Youngest competitor	12 yrs, 104 days	Lewis Hawkins	2017
Oldest competitor	84 yrs, 288 days	June Mackwell	2008

**National Championship (held since 1980)**

Most times National Champion	16 times	Jeff Grant	1990-91, 1993-96, 1998, 2000-01, 2007-08
Youngest competitor	8 years, 151 days	Lewis Hawkins	2013
Oldest competitor	88 years, 359 days	June Mackwell	2012

**Tournament Records**

Highest game score	756	Dylan Early	April 2019
Highest losing score	514	Pam Barlow	Jun 2010
Highest drawn score	487	Debbie Raphael & Lynn Wood	Feb 2004
Highest single turn	302	Lynne Butler	Oct 2011
Highest single turn non-bonus	135	Ruth O'Neil	Nov 1997
Highest combined score	1078	David Lloyd & Howard Warner	Mar 1997
	1078	Alastair Richards & Lyres Freeth	Mar 2019
Highest winning margin	493	Mike Sigley	Nov 1990
Highest add-on	58	Jeff Grant Lynn Wood	Mar 2012 May 2015
Most consecutive bonus words	5	Allie Quinn	Jun 1989
Most bonus words in a game (individual)	6	Nigel Richards	Aug 1998
	6	Yvette Hewlett	Nov 2001
	6	Howard Warner	Aug 2010
Most bonus words in a game (combined)	8	Mike Sigley & Glenyss Buchanan	Pre 1997
	8	Nigel Richards &	Aug 1998
	8	John Foster Paul Lister & Shirley Hol	May 2013
Highest average in a tournament	584	Nigel Richards	Jan 1997
Most tournament games played	5544	Lynn Wood	
Most tournament games won	2620.5	Howard Warner	

<b>Milestones</b>		<i>2000 tournament games won</i>	
<i>5000 tournament games played</i>		Howard Warner	2620.5
Lynn Wood	5544	Lynn Wood	2656
<i>4000 tournament games played</i>		<i>1000 tournament games won</i>	
Betty Erikson	4279	Betty Erikson	2149.5
<i>3000 tournament games played</i>		<i>1000 tournament games won</i>	
Val Mills (E)	3739	Jeff Grant (GM)	1931
Howard Warner (GM)	3490	John Foster (GM)	1873.5
Glennis Hale (GM)	3420	Glennis Hale (GM)	1862
Jean O'Brien	3391	Val Mills (E)	1836
John Foster (GM)	3376	Jean O'Brien	1702.5
Liz Fagerlund	3325	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1709
David Gunn	3276	David Gunn	1605
Jennifer Smith	3150	Jennifer Smith	1505.5
<i>2000 tournament games played</i>		<i>1000 tournament games won</i>	
Su Walker	2825	Su Walker	1435
Glenda Geard	2780	Lawson Sue (GM)	1423.5
Carolyn Kyle	2701	Glenda Geard	1372
Lawson Sue (GM)	2623	Carolyn Kyle	1328
Jeff Grant (GM)	2604	Murray Rogers (E)	1310.5
Shirley Martin	2519	Shirley Martin	1250
Lorraine van Veen	2495	Delcie Macbeth	1230.5
Murray Rogers (E)	2492	Lorraine Van Veen	1227.5
Delcie Macbeth	2395	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1162.5
Rosemary Cleary (E)	2208	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1121
Andrew Bradley (GM)	2175	Anderina McLean (GM)	1098
Annette Coombes	2143	Olivia En (E)	1094
Roger Coates	2097	Helen Sillis	1039
Helen Sillis	2137		
Olivia En	2120		
Cicely Bruce	2052		
<i>1000 tournament games played</i>			
Lyres Freeth	1154		
Mary Curtis	1219		
Jillian Greening	1086		
Colleen Cook	1089		
Vicky Robertson	1048		
Judy Driscoll	1085		
Tony Charlton	1040		
Frances Higham	1046		
Antonia Aarts	1021		

**Club Records**

Highest game score	763	John Foster	Mt Albert	Jan 1993
Highest losing score	522	Stanley Ngundi	Scrabble Wellington	Aug 2019
	522	Nick Ascroft		Sept 2022
Highest drawn score	482	Jeff Grant & Margaret Warren	Hastings	Mar 1994
Highest single turn	347	Neil Talbot	Wellington	Oct 2003
Highest single turn,	261	John Foster	Mt Albert	Jan 1993
Highest combined score	1106	Chris Hooks & Dawn Kitzen	Papatoetoe & Mt Albert	Mar 1992
Highest winning margin	590	Paul Lister	Christchurch	Nov 2008
Highest add-on	68	Andrew Bradley	Mt Albert	Pre 1990
Most consecutive bonus words	5	John Foster Patrick Carter Paul Lister	Mt Albert Mt Albert Christchurch	Apr 1992 Apr 2003 Aug 2010
Most bonus words in a game	7	Jeff Grant	Independent	Sept 1997
Most bonus words in a game (combined)	8	Chris Hooks & Dawn Kitzen Dylan Early & Nick Ascroft	Papatoetoe & Mt Albert Scrabble Wellington	Mar 1992 Sept 2022

**Grandmasters**

Alastair Richards (GM)	Lawson Sue (GM)
Howard Warner (GM)	Cicely Bruce (GM)
Lyres Freeth (GM)	Lynne Butler (GM)
Joanne Craig (GM)	John Foster (GM)
Dylan Early (GM)	Anderina McLean (GM)
Patrick Carter (GM)	Steven Brown (GM)
Jeff Grant (GM)	Glennis Hale (GM)
Blue Thorogood (GM)	Liz Fagerlund (GM)
Peter Sinton (GM)	Stanley Ngundi (GM)
Andrew Bradley (GM)	Gil Quiballo (GM)

**Experts**

Lewis Hawkins (E)
Murray Rogers (E)
Nick Ascroft (E)
Scott Chaput (E)
Rosemary Cleary (E)
Olivia En (E)
Paul Lister (E)
Val Mills (E)
Karen Richards (E)

# Rankings as at 5th May 2024

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Howard Warner (GM)	2223	2648.5	3527	75%	32	Lorraine Van Veen	1595	1249.5	2537	49%
2	Dylan Early (GM)	2200	368	541	68%	33	Jennifer Smith	1579	1531.5	3206	48%
3	Blue Thorogood (GM)	2169	930	1318	71%	34	Lynn Wood	1569	2718	5659	48%
4	Jeff Grant (GM)	2164	1931	2604	74%	35	Anne Goldstein	1568	430	854	50%
5	Chris Tallman	2164	70	93	75%	36	Sue McRae	1565	257.5	476	54%
6	Patrick Carter (GM)	2119	998	1561	64%	37	Karen Gray	1564	393.5	753	52%
7	Joanne Craig (GM)	2119	497.5	767	65%	38	Chris Higgins	1563	213.5	372	57%
8	Peter Sinton (GM)	2067	879.5	1261	70%	39	Yoon Kim Fong	1549	924	1792	52%
9	Gil Quiballo (GM)	2061	170.5	281	61%	40	Laura Griffiths	1528	67.5	107	63%
10	Andrew Bradley (GM)	1970	1184	2211	54%	41	Vicky Robertson	1528	498	1048	48%
11	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1925	1195	2168	55%	42	David Gunn	1526	1607	3289	49%
12	Lawson Sue (GM)	1908	1479.5	2717	54%	43	John Baird	1522	416.5	776	54%
13	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	1895	151.5	284	53%	44	Stan Gregec	1515	274	510	54%
14	Scott Chaput (E)	1850	404	732	55%	45	Delcie Macbeth	1503	1247.5	2423	51%
15	Nick Ascroft (E)	1827	357.5	654	55%	46	Shirley Martin	1501	1268.5	2570	49%
16	Glennis Hale (GM)	1816	1880	3458	54%	47	Peter Johnstone	1471	423	852	50%
17	Mike Currie	1779	179	301	59%	48	Jeanette Grimmer	1467	432	882	49%
18	Herb Ramsay	1774	372	655	57%	49	Clare Wall	1449	473	937	50%
19	Val Mills (E)	1772	1889.5	3848	49%	50	Helen Sillis	1448	1067	2194	49%
20	Jason Simpson	1766	222.5	412	54%	51	Selena Chan	1448	450.5	894	50%
21	Anderina McLean (GM)	1761	1125	2117	53%	52	Paul Freeman	1446	162.5	302	54%
22	Olivia En (E)	1755	1141.5	2214	52%	53	Yvette Hewlett	1444	585.5	1213	48%
23	Murray Rogers (E)	1750	1356.5	2573	53%	54	Roger Coates	1411	1003.5	2110	48%
24	John Foster (GM)	1734	1882	3391	55%	55	Karen Miller	1386	776	1504	52%
25	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1713	1746	3405	51%	56	Mary Curtis	1385	645.5	1262	51%
26	Lois Binnie	1690	311.5	626	50%	57	Bernie Jardine	1382	438.5	829	53%
27	Paul Lister (E)	1665	962	1777	54%	58	Mary Gray	1363	942.5	1900	50%
28	Jane Walton	1637	431	891	48%	59	Pam Barlow	1345	969	1938	50%
29	Glenyss Buchanan	1637	795	1725	46%	60	Jean O'Brien	1340	1726.5	3448	50%
30	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1634	1047	2258	46%	61	Suzanne Liddall	1335	240	435	55%
31	Margie Hurly	1621	591	1204	49%	62	Cathy Casey	1327	193	364	53%

Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
63 Merelyn Fuemana	1326	318.5	599	53%	96 Tony Charlton	938	505.5	1055	48%
64 Bev Edwards	1296	393	784	50%	97 Geoff Vautier	919	143.5	375	38%
65 Jenny Litchfield	1289	274.5	516	53%	98 Judy Driscoll	895	457.5	1127	41%
66 Alexander Gandar	1271	59.5	100	60%	99 Rodney Jardine	850	372	770	48%
67 Betty Eriksen	1260	2196.5	4379	50%	100 Colleen Link	841	29	42	69%
68 Nola Borrell	1243	746	1432	52%	101 Chris Handley	812	497.5	995	50%
69 Shirley Hol	1240	937.5	1987	47%	102 Llane Hadden	812	133.5	287	47%
70 Joanne Morley	1239	237	450	53%	103 Hanna Dodge	805	367	694	53%
71 Lyn Toka	1234	729.5	1395	52%	104 Glenda Geard	757	1381	2808	49%
72 Ruth Groffman	1220	961	1934	50%	105 Junior Gesmundo	735	424.5	871	49%
73 Carolyn Kyle	1205	1351	2745	49%	106 Marilyn Sinclair	714	330.5	662	50%
74 Su Walker	1205	1450	2869	51%	107 Tim Henneveld	682	611.5	1336	46%
75 Lynn Carter	1173	951	1851	51%	108 Anne-Louise Milne	676	259.5	706	37%
76 Jena Yousif	1170	794.5	1593	50%	109 Anne Scatchard	673	856.5	1691	51%
77 Marian Ross	1170	826	1608	51%	110 Jacqueline				
78 Joanna Fox	1167	360.5	711	51%	Coldham-Fussell	630	877.5	1795	49%
79 Michael Hyndman	1154	257.5	495	52%	111 Leanna Christie	616	19	42	45%
80 Jill Paterson	1153	172.5	325	53%	112 Graeme Quinn	613	88.5	227	39%
81 Heather Landon	1140	869.5	1734	50%	113 Janny Henneveld	612	633	1305	49%
82 Tara Hurley	1137	218.5	406	54%	114 Jackie Reid	600	233.5	520	45%
83 Roger Cole-Baker	1132	939.5	1846	51%	115 Ruth Godwin	596	706.5	1491	47%
84 Megg Hewlett	1128	160	278	58%	116 Frances Higham	596	421	1061	40%
85 Suzanne Harding	1080	901	1739	52%	117 Madelaine Green	569	209	413	51%
86 Mandy Thorogood	1072	140	261	54%	118 Noeline Monsef	568	133	293	45%
87 Antonia Aarts	1050	496.5	1036	48%	119 Jillian Greening	557	531	1099	48%
88 Sue Hensley	1037	159	290	55%	120 Dael Shaw	540	80	162	49%
89 Dianne Cole-Baker	1034	864.5	1717	50%	121 Dorothy Bakel	519	163	356	46%
90 Jonas Wiberg	1001	29	58	50%	122 Judy Cronin	499	283.5	687	41%
91 Malcolm Graham	999	951	1879	51%	123 Marc Van Hoecke	488	108	234	46%
92 Grant Paulin	988	124.5	262	48%	124 Kelly Thomas	447	16.5	42	39%
93 Colleen Cook	982	526	1089	48%	125 Sharon McKenzie	365	82	191	43%
94 Patricia Bennett	962	57	134	43%	126 Sue McQuade	268	21	85	25%
95 Lyn Dawson	939	470	918	51%	127 Annette Caisley	200	27	120	22%

Club	Club Contact	Phone Number	Email	Meeting Day & Time
Christchurch (CHC)	Peter Johnstone	027 258 2629	pojopete@gmail.com	12.30 pm Wed 6.45 pm Thurs
Dunedin (DUN)	Sue Hensley	027 424 4386	sue.hensley@gmail.com	7 pm Tues
Kapiti (KAP)	<i>In Recess</i>	-	-	-
Kiwi Scrabblers (KIW)	Barney Bonthron	027 466 1970	Barney.Bonthron@gmail.com	1 pm/7 pm Alternate Thurs
Lower Hutt (LOH)	Glenyss Buchanan	04 569 5433	glenyss.buchanan@xtra.co.nz	7.30 pm Tues
Masterton (MAS)	Sue McRae	027 4490 601	sue.mcrae.nz@gmail.com	1 pm Wed
Mt. Albert (MTA)	Helen Scott	027 433 3339	helenruthscott@hotmail.com	7 pm Mon
Nelson (NEL)	Tony Charlton	03 545 1159	tonycharlton44@gmail.com	7 pm Wed
Papatoetoe (PAP)	<i>In Recess</i>	-	-	-
Rodney (ROD)	Vivienne Mickelson	09 902 9207	vivienne.moss20@gmail.com	12.45 pm Mon
Rotorua (ROT)	Ruth Godwin	027 349 6061	ruthmgodwin@gmail.com	9 am Thurs
Tauranga (TGA)	Fay Wenzlick/ Pam Fulton	021 164 8180 (Fay)	fultonrp@xtra.co.nz (Pam)	9.20 am Tues
Waitara (WTA)	Ngaire Kemp	06 754 4017	ngairelyndac@slingshot.co.nz	1 pm Wed
Whanganui (WAN)	Lynne Butler	027 428 5758	scrabblynne@gmail.com	1 pm Mon
Scrabble Wellington (WEL)	Nick Ascroft	-	nick_ascroft@hotmail.com	7 pm Thurs
Whangarei (WRE)	Anne Scatchard	09 435 0137 027 660 1763	annescatchard@yahoo.com	1 pm Thurs

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