

Happy Christmas to you all

Also in this issue:

Word Famous in NZ:

Tim and Janny Henneveld

Only on a Scrabble Board

Turducken: The Wonderful world
of Portmanteaux

Ask Liz

Mathematics and Scrabble

Club News

Puzzle Pozzy: What the F____
is that?

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Editorial

For the past two to three weeks, I've been procrastinating. Nothing new.... It seems to be the way I operate. People have been great in sending me articles for the mag and it's all sitting there but do you think I could get started on this editorial? Lots of possibilities of what to write about have been running through my mind — the recent tournaments I've been to, the new word list, overseas tournaments I want to attend, the recent deaths of scrabblers we have known and loved.

My personal goals for this year were to move house and sell a house. Both have happened so why am I not raring to go and getting on with the mag? I have no idea, but finally on a beautiful Saturday morning, still in my dressing gown, I am making a start.

The NZ scrabble tournament gets busier each year. It's great that people have the energy to put on new tournaments and that others support them. I'm thinking of the recent tournaments held at the Bowentown Beach Holiday Park and the tournament held in the Wairarapa. The Bowentown tourney was attended by 21 people. I think 24 would have been the maximum that could have been accommodated at that site. We played in the kitchen and dining room area. Management and other campers seemed interested in what we were doing and I think the opportunity to

play Scrabble in a different and beautiful location appealed to those that attended. I thought I'd be able to run a small tournament on my own. How wrong was I? I would never have been able to do it without the help of Liz who did the scoring without even being asked, and the same for Bernie in the kitchen. In fact, it seemed that everyone lent a hand; baking from the Whangarei ladies, photos from Stan, cleaning up in the kitchen, setting up and putting things to right at the end. It really was a team effort. As they say "It takes a village to run a tournament!"

You can read Sue McRae's report on the Wairarapa tournament on pp. 22-23.

Jennifer Smith ran another of her great quiz nights at the Kiwi Tournament and her F___ quiz is in the puzzles section of this issue (page 31). I knew quite a few of the words



*Bowentown tournament:
playing area in the dining room*



*Bowentown tournament:
lunch time*

from my *cardboxing, but I wished I'd looked at a few meanings as well!

Su Walker is someone who finds unusual words and likes to share them. Recently she asked me 'Did

you know DARTITIS is a word?' It's when a dart player can't release the dart when he wants to. Rodney Jardine assures me that it is an affliction of dart players. Who would have known! So that got me looking at -ITIS words. There are 12 seven letter words and 33 eight letter words that have this ending, so not too many to learn. Many have to do with inflammation of various parts of the body.

It's coming up to a busy time of the Scrabble year. Good luck to those running tournaments and those attending. Have fun!

Val Mills

Baby News

We have a new baby!

Announcing the arrival of Micah Richards, born 20th September 2024, weighing 3.4 kg. He is doing very well and we are adjusting to life as a family of four. Ariel is a proud older sister.



Ariel, Alastair, Lyres and baby Micah



Baby Micah and mum

Words from the President

by Cathy Casey, Whangarei



Cathy Casey

In Praise of Scrabble

There are many benefits to playing Scrabble, whether you have a 1950s vintage Scrabble set with wooden tiles at

your bach that only comes out at Christmas or you are a fully-fledged competitive Scrabble player with a rotating board and a clock playing at a Scrabble club once a week.

Here are ten good reasons that I think should make everyone reach for the Scrabble tiles.

1. It is a very cheap pastime

To play, you just need Scrabble set. A new Scrabble set currently retails at around \$35. Or you can pick up a secondhand one online or in an op



A basic Scrabble set

shop for a lot less. As you progress, you might be keen to have a rotating board. While there are currently only expensive imports available. I have recycled several vintage boards for family members by glueing on a plastic lazy Susan (with a little bit of help from the Auckland Central Men's Shed!)

Of course, if you want to play competitive scrabble, you might want to use a timer for your games. The good news is that you don't need to buy an expensive clock, there are several free Scrabble game timer apps that you can download.

2. It promotes family time

Do you remember playing Scrabble as a child? My first taste of Scrabble came as a primary school child playing with my mother at the kitchen table. As the youngest of six children, my Scrabble games offered precious, relaxed one on one



Cathy Casey fixing a Scrabble board at Auckland Central Men's Shed

time with my hard working mother. She won most times, of course, but I well recall a few heady games when the tiles all went my way. Even today when I visit my daughter Alex in Christchurch, we always enjoy playing a game of Scrabble. She beats me much more than she used to!



Cathy and daughter Alex enjoying a game

3. It helps cultivate friendships

It was after I came to New Zealand in the late eighties that I rediscovered my love of the game. Living in rural Wairarapa with a new baby, I began playing Scrabble with my neighbours. Once Alex was in bed, I would often visit with farmer Sue Ball or antique dealer Jill Moon up the road and play a couple of games. Scrabble gave me a wonderful couple of hours with friends.

4. It builds your vocabulary and your spelling skills

I don't know anyone who plays Scrabble without a dictionary handy. Every game teaches you something about new letter combinations. If you are like me, you will also want to know what the words mean. It is also a wonderful opening for discussing the origin of words (and phrases) and why some words can be pluralised and others not and why some words are in the Scrabble lexicon and others aren't.

5. It improves your mathematical abilities

You have to add up your score in Scrabble and decide how to use your tiles to maximise your points and win the game. Tripling or doubling word or letter scores requires agile mental arithmetic. If you have played me you will know that I am better with words than with numbers.

6. It promotes strategic thinking

Winning at Scrabble is not just about playing for the highest score, sometimes it is about preventing your opponent from doing that. Blocking a triple-triple opportunity can be very good move.

7. It promotes fair play

There are rules in Scrabble which allow words to be challenged. Of course phoney words have to be removed from the board. How you deal with challenges promotes fair play. You both have to agree that the word is incorrect. It takes good grace to challenge and good grace to accept the outcome of the challenge.



8. You can play online

I discovered the free Scrabble app in 2016 when I was recovering from my double hip replacement. It definitely saved my mental health during those gloomy winter days.

Playing Scrabble against the computer daily, I honed my strategic skills and relearned my word lists. I quickly progressed up the grades requiring play at the highest “expert” level.

You can now play Scrabble online using a number of free apps. You can also join the weekly Scrabble club on *Woogles* on a Tuesday night at 7pm and play three full games.

Playing online will definitely help hone your playing skills and speed.

9. You can join a Scrabble club

Back in the early 1980s, I thought I was doing okay as a social Scrabbler, so I decided to join the Masterton Scrabble Club. Meeting every week, the club offered me an evening’s amusing diversion with a group of half a dozen older, funny and highly intelligent women.

Joining the club made me realise the difference between the fun Scrabble

I’d been playing and the serious Scrabble played competitively. I moved into the new world of rules, clocks, anagrams and seven-letter bonus words. It is also lots of fun. I thoroughly enjoyed my nights on the tiles and worked hard to improve my skills – including memorising the Scrabble approved two-letter words.

I never played club Scrabble again until 2016, when I had some lengthy down time to rehabilitate from two back-to-back hip replacement operations. I reacquainted myself with the New Zealand Association of Scrabble Players (NZASP) and found a club in my very own suburb of Mount Albert. It was such a joy to leave local body politics aside for a fun evening shuffling of Scrabble tiles.





NZ Nationals tournament, 2023

When I retired as an Auckland Councillor in 2022, I moved to Whangarei and am now an enthusiastic member of the Whangarei Scrabble Club.

10. You can enter Scrabble tournaments

When I first came to New Zealand and played with the Masterton Scrabble Club I entered my first National Scrabble Championships in Wellington in 1989. I was delighted to return home with the prize for the most bonus words in D Grade.

Since returning to club Scrabble, I have worked my way up through the grades to be comfortable in C grade and usually ranked somewhere from 50th to 70th. I love playing competitive Scrabble in the

middle ranks. I always feel anyone could win any game if the Scrabble Gods shine on you with some power tiles or a blank!

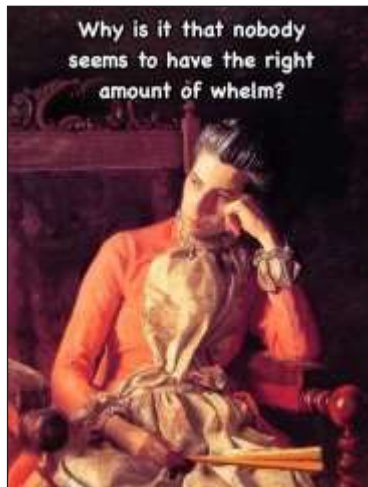
And finally ...

What's not to love about playing Scrabble?

The game of Scrabble can do wonderful things for the brain and memory, while also promoting a sense of wellbeing that lowers our

chances of getting dementia. If you play at home, it can also enhance your family life.

For me, Scrabble will always be more than just a game. Within my green cloth bag of 100 tiles dwells the love of my mama for her youngest child.



Word Famous in New Zealand



Tim and Janny Henneveld

I think Tim and Janny Henneveld have been written about in Forwards previously, but not during my tenure as editor. Recently Tim lent me the booklet he has written on his life. I found it very interesting.



Tim and Janny

Tim and Janny both grew up in the Netherlands and came from large families. Janny was one of 12 kids. Tim served in the second World War, then worked for his father's building business until

he realised he'd be much better off not working for him! He met Janny through his sister who was teaching at the same preschool as her. Janny also worked for Tim's father doing the books which were a big mess when she started. She soon had everything in order. They had to wait three years to get married as there was nowhere for them to live, however they finally tied the knot in 1959. When Janny got pregnant she had bad morning

sickness and this started a lifelong habit of a cup of tea in bed each morning – made either by Tim or her children. Tim estimates she must have had over 21,000 cups of tea in bed!

Tim and Janny visited NZ in 1973 and made the decision to move to NZ while standing between the Blue and Green Lakes. They landed in Auckland on 29 August 1974 and were last off the plane, with a pile of luggage and of course Tim's tool box. Luckily, they were met by a friend's neighbours who took them to a motel. They flew to Rotorua the next day. Friends had shown them around Rotorua the year before, they liked it, and settled there.

After reading Tim's booklet I asked him if he'd write something about his life for the magazine. What he gave me was the story of the Rotorua Scrabble Club which I am really happy to have in *Forwards*. Then Ruth Godwin, who coordinated the communications between Tim and myself, said she had a poem that she wrote for Tim on his 80th birthday. (See pp. 11-13).

Thanks Tim and Janny for your contribution to New Zealand Scrabble over the years, especially Scrabble in Rotorua where we all love to come for your tournament!

The Ups and Downs of the Rotorua Scrabble Club

By Tim Henneveld, Rotorua



Tim Henneveld

Janny and I had the idea of starting a club like we had in Holland, made up of family members.

We did not know anything about the Scrabble Association of New Zealand at that time so we put an advert in the *Rotorua Daily Post* asking if people would be interested to set up a club. Strangely enough, the same day, David Bragg asked, via the radio, the same question, and he gave a phone number. Janny, who was driving home in the car, heard this and kept repeating the number to herself till she got home and phoned him. From this point on we worked together and from Dave we learned about the Association.

We tried to find a venue, but that was difficult. 'Parksyde', which was new,

wanted \$70 for half a day. This was beyond our financial capacity, so we decided to play at our place.

We started on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings, which worked out well for organising our furniture etc. As it happens, over time the same people came to both meetings but when the night members dwindled we decided on Thursday mornings only. Everyone paid \$2.00 for coffee or tea and played at our place for 15 years.

Funnily enough, Ruth Godwin, who is one of our long-playing members, said to us "It is becoming quite difficult for you to run the club from your home. Shall we try Parksyde?" Janny and I had the same idea, so we are now playing there. Initially we paid \$3 per head for attendance and were given the use of a cupboard for storing our equipment there. This charge is currently \$4 per person and is due to rise to \$5 in October. Over time I have made a lot of gear for the club and we are able to fit all this in the cupboard. We are the only club to play there as all other activities are organised by Parksyde itself and cater for people over 55 years of age. As a club we can invite anyone of any age.

The first time we organised a tournament was quite difficult because we hired an upstairs room at the Rotorua Citizen's Club. We had to hire tables and chairs and carry them all upstairs. As there was no lift we had to help Margaret Hansen to get up there. Luckily for us, Janny, through

her kindly, got to know the chairperson of the Bridge Club and from then on we have held our tournaments at the Bridge Club rooms. For several years we have had interclub competitions with Tauranga as well.

A few years ago Janny and I were made Life Members of our club which we appreciated very much.

Two years ago, when Janny and I were not able to attend the AGM, some members had the idea of leaving the Association, and unfortunately the majority voted in favour of this. This was very disappointing for us and we struggled for a year, but we are now back in.

Janny and I hope that the club will continue even after we are unable to attend. It is encouraging to see new members coming to the club and



hopefully some will be prepared to take over positions as committee members - positions which are always difficult to fill. As with most clubs the average age of members seems to be getting older, probably because younger players are playing on their computers. Over the years we have lost seven players who have passed away but we still seem to manage to have approximately 15 to 20 members.

.....

Tim

By Ruth Godwin, Rotorua

He came, this man from the Netherlands,
 To settle in our town.
 His wife and family by his side
 He had travelled up and down.
 He brought with him some talents rare
 And his skill with wood he wished to share -
 From renovations to a jewellery box
 Intricate detail, intricate locks -
 The same great care was given to all
 Projects, no matter how large or small.

He trained as a teacher and bye and bye
He scored a position at Rotorua High.
After building a home in Barraud Place
He could've adopted a less hectic pace
But not our Tim

To help in his street he thought t'would be good
To take on Support for the Neighbourhood;
He entered his road in the annual race
To be the neatest street – and they gained first place
In 2012 - oh, such a treat!
His endless accomplishments are quite a feat
At the Poly Spa he is well known
He visits 'most every day
To ease his aching body - not just for rest or play
From all that Tim does we too could learn
A lesson that's not new;
Enjoy, and live life to the full -
Make the most of what we do.

His generous heart and zest for life
He shares with friendly voice
And to improve his English
Made Scrabble his game of choice
He loves the game and wished to share
His choice with others - who were soon aware
Of his desire to set up a Scrabble Club
Making his home the focus – or should we say hub?
Of Thursday meetings from 9 till 12
Where enthusiasts gather to dig and delve
For words to help them win their games
And add to the 'bonus' list their many names.

When morning tea-time comes around
With biscuits, cakes and toffee,
We all appreciate another skill
He makes the bestest coffee!

At organisation he's a whiz
Running our tournament is his biz;
It brings in folk from far and wide
Who enjoy the company and the game
But also appreciate the name
Tim has for the preparation and pride
He takes in getting things 'just right'
So when the players go home each night
They think about their enjoyable day
Tim's organisation made it that way.

So many of us in this club can find
Endless examples of just how kind
Tim has been in every way
And we acknowledge this today.

So we gather here, Tim, and we reflect
On the role you've played in our lives.
We've learnt all about the little words
Not just the sevens and fives!

The friends we've made are because of you
You've taken in all-comers too,
And given many who had an empty place
Something worthwhile to do

So, we all say 'thank you' President Tim
Your gift has not been small
This message is not a passing whim

'Happy Birthday from us all'



Tim sailing

Turducken:

The wonderful world of portmanteaux

By Mike Currie, Mt. Albert

Now you know I like Scrabble-based
poetry about such and such and so-
and-so

So I thought I'd write a short rap poem
about flexible, lexical portmanteaux.

Well, the first line should define its
difference from a compound noun

like HEADBANG or FOOTWALL,
BLACKFLY or WHITECAP, CATMINT
or ROCKHOUND.

Compound nouns are just coupled
together when necessity beckons

yet with portmanteaux you fuse the
first word with the end of the second,

like the most common example of all,
our favourite Saturday BRUNCH

which fuses the B-R of breakfast with
the *UNCH of lunch.

Science, sports, food, IT, animals,
entertainment.

It's hard to find an area
untouched by this lexical
formation.

A video podcast becomes a
VODCAST, easy to
download

And an episode proposed
to be smaller than most is

known as a MINISODE.

In the animal kingdom new hybrid
offsprings spring up all the time.

A cross between a lion and a tiger is
known as a TIGON or LIGER.

In a similar tone, where the buffalos
roam, you can beef him up to a
BEEFALO

And if that'll not fit on a Scrabble
board it's worth straddling the triple
with CATTALO.

A whale and a dolphin gave birth to a
WHOLPHIN, a goat and a sheep to a
GEEP.

A camel and llama created a CAMA.
What a horrible hisser they've reaped.

And the poodle got up to some
mischief with the spaniel, said
COCKAPOO,

But if that poodle bred with a Maltese
instead, he'd default to a
MALTIPOO.

By misleading
misdemeanours or
ingenious interbreeding,
they've really mismatched
hard



MAL TIPOO

But some have not yet made the cut like *JAGLION or *PUMAPARD.

Cuisine is just as creative. You could cook three birds in your oven:

A chicken inside a duck inside a turkey's a TURDUCKEN.

A citrus orange is a CITRANGE, more acidic, ORANGIER and you can

Rearrange that eight to recreate not three but four great anagrams.

Everyone's heard of TANGELOS but what about POMATOS?

The weirdest blend, I wouldn't recommend: half potato, half tomato.

Sunflowers (like artichokes) turn to the sun and so we get SUNCHOKES.

GIRASOL(E) morphed to 'Jerusalem'. Jerusalem artichokes.

But like *JAGLION or *PUMAPARD some fruit and veg are only

Words outside our lexicon like *GARLION (RANGOLI).

Portmanteaux that you may know are GLAMPING, SMOG and BRAINIAC,

SEXTING, SEXPERT, MOTEL, BO(A) TEL, GLOBESITY and MEDEVAC.

Over-wordy writers who tend to be loquacious

Are maligned and defined by a refined word for their unconfined prose: SCRIBACIOUS.

If you have an electrical execution,

you are said to be dead by ELECTRICUTION.

So why can't you smother and suffocate

and extend SMOTHER to *SMOTHERCATE?

Well, here's one for Scrabble's top achievers.

If you find it on your rack, try 'TACHOMETERS.'

IT and SMS have given us portmanteaus

Like TEXTONYMS, which everyone's done but no-one really knows

The meaning of. Have you ever received a text like this:

'When I get good, I really want to kiss you on your kiss!'

'Good' and 'home' are TEXTONYMS as are 'lips' and 'kiss.'

So it's easy when you're texting quick to make a slip like this.

An article in list format is a LISTICLE,

Which I don't like as I find them too statistical.

A leaflet on the outside, not inserted, is an OUTSERT



POMATO plant

But don't assert that certain words are
right (*topsert/*upsert.)

If you're half a medieval squire and
half a country parson

And find a Q upon your rack, then
portmanteau with SQUARSON.

And in popular rainbow parlance, a
trans lesbian is *transbian

And if that passion was last year's
fashion, then she is still a HASBIAN.

To move into portmanteau politics and
Stalin, that Russian commander,

Who disseminated AGITPROP,
agitation propaganda.

A feminist NAZI is a FEMINAZI with
her egalitarian warfare

But in law if you saw such WARLIKE
clauses, you'd be caught in the jaws
of LAWFARE.

And we can't talk political
portmanteaux without mentioning
unplayable *Brexity

Which has spawned a preponderance
across the continent - *Czexit, *Frexit,
*Grexit.

Carl Hiaasen's books Hoot, Flush and
Scat all celebrated ECOTAGE,

A word which blends 'ecology' with
eco-friendly 'sabotage.'

But it's science which holds
portmanteaus' largest and smartest
capacity



CONTRAIL

Such as ampere capacity that blends
to AMPACITY.

A caplet-shaped tablet's a CAPLET.

You can work out 'CYBORG' perhaps
but

It's not a robotic automated machine

As a CYBORG's part of a living being.

A CERMET in science is half metal,
half ceramic

But if you're looking for something
more aerodynamic,

Try the anagram of CILANTRO, which
is CONTRAIL,

(short for 'condensation trail.')

A GEOFACT's a stone formation,
looking like manmade artifacts.

Archaeologists can't tell them apart.
It's quite hard in fact.

CULTIVARS are cultivated plants that
are steeped in notoriety

With their grafting, cuttings and tissue
culture, they're a 'cultivated variety.'

Well, I'll be damned, I don't understand, my sublingual gland is leaking.

I squeezed my ducts. Saliva sprayed. And that is known as GLEEKING.

Now PYROXENE and OLIVINE would score highly on a premium

Square. They are MAFIC minerals, rich in iron and magnesium.

If you're dealing with positive electrons, then you're dealing with POSITRONS

But unappealing protein infections should be dealt with immediately-PRIONS.

Casimir Funk funk'd it up when he called them all 'VITAMINES'

Thinking A, B and C vital amines, you see (nitrogen - bearing minerals)

So, he changed 'VITAMINE' to 'vitamin' as biochemists can

Not realising he'd created an end hook or an anagram of 'Vietnam.'

Pure urine's PURINE. Static friction's STICTION. A genetic chromosome's a GENOME.

Biological electronics became BIONICS. Protein plus genome's PROTEOME.

The appliance of science has an over-reliance on

portmanteaus, in short

But let's finish this poem with words known and unknown in the zone of sports.

In Sweden if you pick up litter while on the move, you're PLOGGING

Which merges the verb '**plocka up*' (picking up) and 'jogging'.

If you pitch a ball in baseball with a slider and a curve

Then the pitcher's pitched to the batter (or the catcher) what's known as a SLURVE.

And if you're in a squash court yet insist and persist on volleyball

Which consists of a ball being swished off the wall then all who are playing call it WALLYBALL.

And after all of this action, sit down and start relaxin', play some Scrabble and kick back.

Chill out in a 21st century way, unwind and CHILLAX.

*Ed: On the Chase last night Bradley Walsh was admiring the shirt a contestant was wearing. The contestant said "It's called a *SHACKET – portmanteau for shirt and jacket."*



**SHACKET*

Hall of Fame

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

Giddy! I'm Jeffrey Kennett, born in Melbourne, Australia, in 1948, so that makes me one of the few people who have inspired an eponym during their lifetime. In fact, I have inspired not one but two eponyms, as you will learn.

I was a politician: the 43rd Premier of Victoria (1992-1999), Leader of the Victorian Liberal Party (1982-1989), and a member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly (1976-1999). I am a well-known media commentator – well, I'm well-known in Australia, anyway!

An old school report describes me as a “confident and at times helpful boy. Sometimes irritates. Sometimes works hard”. That pretty well sums me up.

I became interested in local politics in the early 1970s and in 1982 was elected Leader of the Liberal Party, thus becoming Leader of the Opposition. In that role I was a bit of a bull-in-a-china-shop. For example, I'm infamous for referring to John Howard by a four letter Scrabble word starting with C.

In the 1992 state election, I became the Premier for Victoria, leading a Liberal/National coalition to a win while delivering the second largest beating that a sitting government has ever suffered in Victoria.

And then began three years in office when my – admittedly controversial – measures gave rise to my eponyms. 16,000 public transport workers lost their jobs in a major technological upgrade, and there were many job losses from privatisation of other state-owned services including electricity, gas, prisons and the ambulance service. Funding for public schools and the Department of Education was substantially reduced; 350 government schools were closed, including every technical high school (Tech) in Victoria, and 7000 teaching jobs eliminated.

These measures brought great benefits, but my critics believe they had longer term economic costs, including a skilled labour shortage in Victoria two decades later.

The budget cutting during my campaign of privatisations and cutbacks became known as being JEFFED. It led, in 1992, to the largest public protest in Melbourne since the Vietnam War, with 100,000 people marching in opposition to the cuts and job losses. (I did point out that there were another 4.5 million people who stayed at home or at work, but that didn't mollify the protestors.)

The early cutbacks and budget restructuring made it possible for my government to back a raft of high-

profile capital works projects, such as the restoration of Parliament House (which unfortunately was never completed), and \$130 million Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, which is still known colloquially as “Jeff’s Shed”.

I began my second term as Premier with a comfortable majority. When the new \$1.85 billion Crown Casino and Entertainment Complex opened I became more popular and rapidly became a major commentator on national issues; for example, urging John Howard to introduce tax reform, opposing the One Nation Party and Pauline Hanson, and being the main protagonist for Melbourne to host the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

However, despite a seemingly unassailable lead going into the campaign, I lost the 1999 election. I retired from all my offices, wishing to have no further involvement in politics.

In the Australian Day Honours of 2005, I received Australia’s highest civilian honour, when I was made a Companion of the Order of Australia for “services to the Victorian Parliament and the introduction of initiatives for economic and social benefit, to business and commerce and to the community in the development of the arts, sport and mental health awareness strategies”. So my period in public office can’t have been too bad!

Many of you Kiwis may recognise my name from my involvement in

Victorian football with the Hawthorn Football Club. But my proudest achievement was my appointment in 2000 as the inaugural Chairman of “beyondblue” (the National Depression Initiative), a body that was largely formed by the efforts of the Victorian State Government. I stood down in 2017, handing the reins to former PM Julia Gillard. Outside my family, it has been my most important role.



Jeffrey Kennett

I’m still alive but even after I’ve gone, my name will live on. My first name and my surname both appear on your Scrabble word list – funnily enough, with the same meaning. It’s a very well-understood expression in Australia. (Nice to have a *Hall of Fame* eponym that didn’t evolve in the northern hemisphere, for a change!)

JEFF (verb) means to spoil or destroy ruthlessly, to downsize or to close down organisations, to reduce staff members or dismiss employees. KENNETT means the same. Remember me, Jeff Kennett, when you play JEFF JEFFS JEFFED or JEFFING, or KENNETT KENNETTS KENETTED or KENNETTING.

Also handy to know that KENNET, a small hunting dog, can take an end hook of T.

In the News



Russian chess player smears pieces with mercury to poison rival

By Lillia Sebouai

Daily Telegraph UK · 8 Aug, 2024 09:27 AM · 4 mins to read

Not exactly Scrabble related, but interesting!

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/russian-chess-player-smears-pieces-with-mercury-to-poison-rival/GZECAS5FWRHT3IISPG56OASLH4/>

A Russian chess champion has been suspended after poisoning her childhood rival ahead of a match by smearing deadly mercury over her pieces.

Amina Abakarova, 43, is reported to have said she attacked Umayyanat Osmanova out of revenge for a personal insult.

She has been arrested and faces up to three years in jail if found guilty.

She is seen looking around as she casually approaches her opponent's table before taking something from her bag – seemingly a vial – and smearing its contents on Osmanova's board and some of her pieces.

Osmanova suffered “severe dizziness and nausea” soon after the game began and required medical attention.

“We have video proof showing that one of the players at the Dagestani chess championship, Amina

Abakarova from the city of Makhachkala, applied an unidentified substance, which later turned out to contain mercury, to the table where Umayyanat Osmanova from the city of Kaspiisk was set to play against her,” said Sazhid Sazhidov, the president of the Russian Republic of Dagestan for physical culture and sports.

A judge from the tournament reported the incident to police, with CCTV footage confirming that Osmanova had been present.

Malcolm Pain, English Chess Federation director of international chess, said that he had “never seen anything like this before”.

“This is the first recorded case of somebody using a toxic substance, to my knowledge, in the history of the game of chess,” he told the Telegraph. “This is off the scale.”

He said that “psychological” tactics were normally wielded in the world of

chess, with players sometimes going to extreme lengths to throw off their opponents.

Sazhida Sazhidova, the Russian Minister of Sport, said he was “perplexed” by Abarakova’s misdeeds.

“Like many others, I am perplexed by what happened, and the motives of such an experienced competitor as Amina Abakarova are incomprehensible,” he said.

“The actions she took could have led to a most tragic outcome, threatening the lives of everyone who was present,

including herself. Now she must answer for what she did by the law.”

Abakarova is said to have told other competitors at the tournament that her actions were to “take revenge” for “nasty things [Osmanova said] about her and her relatives behind her back” and that the attack was fuelled solely by “personal hostility” and to “scare” Osmanova.

Despite the scare, Osmanova continued in the tournament and won one of the prize places, according to reports in Russian media.

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Spotted on the Mad Science public group on Facebook:

By Arun Kumar (Moderator)

Yes, this story is true. In 2015, a New Zealander named Nigel Richards won the French Scrabble Championship despite not being fluent in French. Richards, a renowned Scrabble player, memorized the entire French Scrabble dictionary, which contains tens of thousands of words, in just nine weeks. His exceptional memory and strategic skills allowed him to compete and win, even though he didn't understand the meaning of most of the words he played.



Nigel Richards is considered one of the greatest Scrabble players in the world, having won multiple world championships in English before taking on the challenge of French Scrabble. His victory in the French championship is often cited as an incredible feat of memory and mastery of the game.

Tournament Reports

The WOST in words and pictures

By Sue McRae, Masterton

The first-ever rated tournament to be held in Wairarapa was jointly run by three local clubs: Masterton, Featherston and Martinborough as two x 1-day events on 21 and 22 September in Carterton. Howard Warner, who recently bought a house in Carterton, inspired, guided and played in the inaugural Wairarapa Open Scrabble Tournament (affectionately known as WOST = the ability to use words or ideas in a clever or amusing way).

Overall, 37 players from Auckland, Rotorua, Waitara, Wanganui and the greater Wellington region converged on Carterton Club for a wordy weekend in Wairarapa. Of the 13 local players, 10 were competing in their first-ever rated tournament and most of them rose to the challenge, with Rosemary Sutton from Masterton winning the D Grade on Saturday and David Robinson from Carterton taking top honours in D grade on Sunday. Another newbie Laura-Rose Holden, a 21 year old chef at the White Swan in Greytown, won a prize for the highest game score in the D (for Debut) Grade (429). She single-handedly reduced the average age in the room by a considerable margin!



21-year-old local chef Laura-Rose Holden with the highest game score in D Grade on Saturday

At the other end of the spectrum, the event also attracted five of the 12 players representing New Zealand in the November Trans-Tasman Challenge in Auckland. It was great to see them support our fledgling tournament and, despite being hopelessly outclassed by them during my baptism-by-fire in the A Grade, I saw a lot of new words and strategic moves over the weekend. Now if only I could remember some of them....

In the B Grade, Helen Sillis from Waitara had a great weekend, coming first on day one and



*Helen Sillis
B grade winner on Saturday and 2nd place on Sunday*

second on day two, while Michael Hyndman from Wellington achieved the reverse in the C Grade, taking out second on Saturday and first place on Sunday. Local scrabbler and organiser of the Featherston club, Fran Lowe came third in the C Grade on Saturday.

Highest game score of the weekend was 640, achieved by Howard Warner, and Betty Eriksen from Wanganui won a special prize for playing WOST in the Saturday tournament. One of the spot prizes, "Best Rural Word" was won by Chris Bell of Wellington for WEEVILS.

Fran, Vicki and I learnt a fair bit about running a Scrabble tournament in the process. We all appreciated the moral support and expert knowledge of Liz Fagerlund, who was called upon throughout the weekend by various players from A to D Grade for her expertise on tournament rules when things went a little pear-shaped. Overall the weekend went more smoothly than we anticipated, prompting some to call for it to be an annual event. I think we'll lick our wounds and have a think about that before committing to WOST 2025. Watch this space!



Left: Local D Grade winner on Saturday, Rosemary Sutton, playing in her first rated tournament



A grade winners on Saturday: Dylan Early (2nd), Lawson Sue (1st) and Stanley Ngundi (3rd)



C grade winners on Saturday: Joanne Morley (1st), Fran Lowe (3rd) & Michael Hyndman (2nd)

Dunedin Tournament: Scrabble for Fun

By Ruth Groffman, Dunedin

Scrabble for Fun took place in Dunedin on 30th June.

40 Primary School students participated from six schools in Dunedin.

Out of the six schools, four schools took part for the very first time.

Each school could have one or two teams of four. Even though they were playing individually, each pupil was playing for his/her team. No one played with anyone from their own school.

Two dictionary games were played of 50 minutes duration.

Only four Dunedin Club members were needed to run it with help from the parents and teachers who stayed to watch.

It was run between 9.30am and 1.00pm in school time. There was a morning tea break between the two games for the students and the adults present which was provided by the library. The library also printed our score and result sheets as well as a large sheet for the winning dots. There were also spot prizes for each of the two games for words containing X, Q, Z and J. These were chocolates funded by the Dunedin Scrabble Club.

The media was present in full force from the *Otago Daily Times* and the local TV. You can view the write up and the interview if you go to the *Otago Daily Times* website and search for "Pupils Scrabble for Winning Words".

Teachers had been sent copies of the score sheets, result slips and the list of "Two-letter words and their definitions" to practise on before the day. At the beginning, I made sure they were going to use their score sheets correctly and then I demonstrated parallel play on the whiteboard.

At the end of the games, after all the result sheets were handed in, the spot prizes for first, second and third were presented for each category. The winning team won a Scrabble set for their school library and this was donated and presented by the Otago Daily Times. A shield was also presented to the winning team. The second and third placegetters received something from the library.

Overall, it was an extremely successful event which was run very smoothly.

The feedback the library and I received was fantastic as you will see below:

- "What a wonderful event – thank you for running it."
- "It is wonderful seeing the children so focused for such a length of time." (Unfortunately, due to the

digital world we live in, information/entertainment is presented in short bites. This has led to a reduced ability for children to focus beyond a few minutes, without having a break.)

- “This is wonderful to have them involved in something that does not involve screens.”
- “Wonderful to be involved in something that focuses on language.”
- From Sacred Heart: “We are a small school with limited resources/money. Having the Scrabble board in our library means that all our children will be able to use and enjoy it.”
- One teacher told me how one of the team members was a very good Scrabble player and the best in the school. In his second game he came up against a player from another school who was also very good. The teacher said her pupil lost the game, but that the challenge had stretched him and he actually played a better game than usual.
- A thank you from us for organising today's session. You will be pleased to hear that several families have mentioned how Scrabble has been reignited in their households and they are

enjoying playing in the evenings. The children got a lot from today.

- A father came up to me at the end and said, “Now we are playing Scrabble at home as a family, and we all enjoy it so much. Today's play is such an incentive”.

Tournament Calendar 2025

Tournament	Location	Dates
Janniversary	Wellington	18 & 19 Jan
Auckland	Auckland	25-26 Jan
Nelson	Nelson	15-16 Feb
Rotorua	Rotorua	1-2 March
Dunedin	Dunedin	5-6 April
*Masters	Auckland	18-20 April
SI Champs	Christchurch	10-11 May
Mt Albert	Auckland	17 & 18 May
Nationals	Hamilton	31 May – 2 June
Whangarei	Whangarei	5-6 July
Kiwi Scrabblers	Hamilton	August
Tauranga	Tauranga	23-24 August
Canterbury Open	Christchurch	6-7 September
Wairarapa Open	Carterton	September
Mt Albert	Auckland	4-5 October
Dunedin	Queenstown	October 18-19
Whanganui	Whanganui	25-26 October
Swissvember	Wellington	November
Otago Lions Open	Dunedin	November 29-30
* Limited entry		

Mathematics and Scrabble:

by Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

Mathematics and Scrabble: Part I

Disclaimer: Despite the first sentence of the next paragraph, I am not criticising the efforts of Scrabblers who promote our wonderful game in interviews and articles – you do a fantastic job!

Every time I hear a Scrabbler say in public, “Scrabble is not just about words - it’s about mathematics”, my heart sinks. That’s just discouraged the 99% of the population who think they are “no good” at maths, or who “hated” it when they were at school. The mention of mathematics has just given them quite the wrong impression – or has put them off Scrabble completely.

When Jason Simpson writes underneath the cardboard flap at the top of his scoresheet, he’s not solving a quadratic equation; when Mike Currie writes on his scoresheet below the table, he’s not performing an integration in calculus; when Blue Thorogood turns over his scoresheet, he’s not calculating the square root of 44,583; and when Howard Warner shuffles between his assortment of pens, he’s not writing down the value of π (pi) to 27 decimal places!

There’s no doubt about it, though, it’s a big help to have a common-sense

understanding of chance/probability when you are wanting to know how likely it is that you’ll get a particular outcome from the one to seven tiles that you are drawing from a bag containing up to 100 of them.

There is a branch of mathematics that deals with probability. It predicts how likely events are to happen, by dividing the favourable number of outcomes by the total number of possible outcomes to get a percentage, or a value between zero and one. The higher the percentage (or the nearer the fraction is to one), the more likely the outcome.

It’s a fascinating and enlightening topic, but not as simple as it sounds. So even though the mathematics can do it, Scrabblers are not sitting there mentally calculating the probability of a certain event with complicated formulas and calculations such as 100C7. However, we are using the theory of probability in a basic way. For example, if there are five tiles left in the bag and we know one of them is an E, then we know there’s a one in five (20%) chance of drawing an E if we’re drawing one tile, so we can plan accordingly. And I’d argue that sort of thinking is more common-sense than mathematics.

(Serious players do use probability to help them with their word study,

concentrating on learning the most frequently occurring words first. However they don't work out for themselves which words those ones are, as lists of high probability words are readily available to Scrabblers.)

Generally, common sense and ever-building Scrabble experience combine to give Scrabblers an instinct which helps us decide the best options for playing the board as it is at the moment and for the rest of the game. We use our understanding of probability as it applies to the Scrabble tiles, facts we know about the current game (from tile-tracking mostly), our word knowledge, and knowledge of what combinations of letters are the most useful to keep or have – and most of this comes from experience or study or both, not from how “good” we are/were at maths.

So, my message would be: you don't have to be good at maths to start playing Scrabble – the maths you need will come naturally to you in time and with experience. The X in Scrabble is definitely not as daunting as the x in mathematics!

Mathematics and Scrabble: Part II

Having said all that . . .

It does help if you can manage basic addition. (But, honestly, some Scrabblers are even weak on that front!)

The following is a lighthearted comparison of the level of “maths” you

need to partake in an assortment of activities.

The pastime that's the least demanding of a player's mathematical ability is football. You only have to be able to count in ones – and you don't have to count beyond ten very often! Rugby arithmetic is a bit harder – you need to be able to add twos, threes and fives.

People think chess players need to be highly intelligent, but their maths ability only gets stretched when they have to count two squares in one direction and one in another. (Of course, if they can combine that with the ability to foretell fifty moves or more into the future, they will do much better.)

Bridge and Five Hundred can sometimes require the more advanced skill of adding negative numbers, which is one reason my children never had trouble with the concept of negative numbers when they got to high school. On the other hand, Cribbage is bad for kids' mathematical education, because the crib board teaches them to add by counting with the equivalent of their fingers.

Newcomers to tennis are not scared off, because there's never a hint that mathematics is involved in the scoring. Starting with the romantic word 'love' rather than the old-fashioned mathematical 'nought' or the more modern 'zero', they quickly adjust to adding 15 and 15 and getting

30, but youngsters and newbies must wonder why the third point you score is not worth as much as the first two; and why the score never goes higher than 40, no matter how many rallies there are in an end.

Golf is trickier, as the level of maths skill is not at all “graded”. The less experienced you are, the harder the arithmetic involved – newbies have to add 18 two-digit numbers such as 17, 23, 11, 12 etc. However, Lydia Ko doesn’t have any trouble adding her twos and threes and fours. In other words, the better you get at golf, the easier the arithmetic, which is not terribly logical, and certainly not kind to beginners - and it must be hard for them to accept that the highest score is not the best. Really good golfers seem to be able to avoid numbers altogether by using words like birdies, eagles and albatrosses.

Scrabble is much more logical: when you start off, you’re adding single digit numbers, and numbers in the 20s (if you’re lucky), and sometimes multiplying by two or three. As you become more experienced, your adding skills are truly tested with word scores like 64, 76, and scores of over 100; or with multiplying by two, three, four, and nine – but it’s never a chore to have to add 50 to your score.

(I can promise you one thing: if you weren’t very good at addition before you started playing Scrabble, your ability to add quickly and accurately will improve immensely. All Scrabble players quickly grasp the



Submitted by Sue McRae, Masterton

mathematical concept of “squaring”, ie. that 3^2 is 9 not 6!)

But the most arithmetically challenging game must surely be darts. For a start, the apparently random distribution of the numbers 1 to 20 on the darts board plays havoc with the conception that numbers are consecutive. And scoring is done entirely by subtraction. To compound the difficulty, all players start on a positive high number (usually 501) and each playing turn (which can include doubles and triples) is subtracted until the player gets to zero by finishing on a double. Not only is the arithmetic tricky, you must do the calculations rapidly *during* your turn – (without a pencil and paper!) - to work out what number you should aim to score next.

Ambassadors for the game of darts must have an impossible job to recruit people who struggled with maths at school. By comparison, Scrabble must surely seem a lot more attractive!

Ed: Maybe they get DARTITIS when trying to do the required arithmetic.

Mailbox



Japanese words

From Murray Rogers, Independent

Thank you Mike for your very interesting article in the Winter 2024 edition "*From Anime to Zen.*". Having been quite familiar with the Japanese culture and language, I have a few comments and one correction.

The more common spelling of SHITAKE is SHIITAKE, but more difficult to play. KOMBU can also be spent KONBU.

The Japanese tend to place the letter "O" before a number of words, especially people, as a way to make them honorific, or to give them more respect. Examples are *okaasan (mother) and *oniisan (older brother). 'San' is used in the same fashion but placed at the end most commonly with a person's name. The word

BENTO, as defined by Collins, is a thin lightweight box used in Japanese cuisine. The word OBENTO is simply defined as a Japanese lunch box, but apparently is a special kind of lunch, one that is tasty, healthy, and eye-catching, hence being more valued than its more common cousin. Off the top of my head I can't think of any more allowable Japanese words in Scrabble preceded by the letter "O".

Finally, on page 28, *UMBESHI, is not allowable. It should be UMEBOSHI, dried and pickled UME, or Japanese plum. I love the educational value of Scrabble!



(O)BENTO

Colour Logic

From Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert

Last night against Glennis I played *BLACKIER - it wasn't challenged but on checking this morning it is not right (only makes CRABLIKE!)

I am a bit astounded, though I guess I had a slight doubt to check this morning.

I thought it was probably right as I knew REDDIER and BLUIER were good

Also WHITIER GREENER YELLOWIER PINKIER ORANGIER even PURPLIER which looks and sounds really clumsy.

You also can't have *GREYIER or *MAUVIER

Can anyone shed any light on the lack of logic here?

Ed: This made me think of the word GREENTH – the state of being green. No other colour takes the TH suffix.

ANZAC Scrabble tile bag

By Sue McRae, Masterton

How to make an ANZAC Scrabble tile bag with reverse French seams, rounded bottom and drawstring cord

This is a variation on the Australian bag pattern, which can be found at <https://scrabble.org.au/resources/tilebag.html> . However, the Australian version has a tie mid-waist and no drawstring at the top. As I prefer to be able to close the top of the bag, I've added one in and called this the ANZAC bag.

You need a piece of fabric about 38 cm long x 45 cm wide. Fold in half widthways and use a large side plate to cut out a rounded edge at the bottom, making sure any pattern on the fabric is the right way up (as above).



ANZAC tile bag

1. Turn back a small triangle at the open end of one side at the top edge and iron it down with the wrong side showing on the outside. Sew close to the edge of the triangle at each side. This helps to form an easy casing later.

Depending on how deep you want the casing to be, make the triangle about 1-2 cm wide at the top and taper it off to a few millimetres at the side (about 5-7 cm long from top to bottom). This will be enough to encase a shoelace.



Step 1

2. With right sides together, fold the fabric in half widthways. Pin the sides and sew a $\frac{1}{2}$ cm (very narrow) seam starting just below the triangle and following the rounded edges at the bottom of the bag. Trim seams and press.
3. Turn the bag to the inside. Press to ensure the seam is nice and tight to the edge and the raw edges are enclosed. Sew the seams again on the right side of the fabric, a couple of mm away from where the raw edges are inside the seam. Press again. This "reverse French method" means there is no bulky seam inside to trap any tiles.

4. Turn in and sew close to the end of the turned over fabric at the top of the bag to stop the edge from fraying. With the inside of the fabric showing on the outside of the bag, turn over about 3 cm and sew the casing close to the edge, so you have two lines of stitching appearing on the outside of the bag, a bit like topstitching.
5. Thread through a shoelace, ribbon, or cord, tie off the lace at one end and draw to close. Voila!



Drawstring cord

Puzzle Pozzy

What the F ____ is that? (Fur, Feathers or Fins?)

From Jennifer Smith's quiz night at this year's Kiwi Tournament

Guess which category the following words belong to?

– Fur, Feathers or Fins

Answers on page 33.



- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. DRONGO | 11. FLIER | 21. YAFFLE |
| 2. BORZOI | 12. YAPOCK | 22. APTERYX |
| 3. HOATZIN | 13. JERBOA | 23. ALEWIFE |
| 4. SWEETLIP | 14. MUNTJAK | 24. CRAPPIE |
| 5. OUAKARI | 15. BOODIE | 25. IDE |
| 6. PECCARY | 16. FOGASH | 26. CHOUGH |
| 7. QUARRION | 17. PAJOCK | 27. VICUNA |
| 8. KILLDEER | 18. WAMMUL | 28. YAPOCK |
| 9. ULIKON | 19. XERUS | 29. QUETZAL |
| 10. SERIEMA | 20. NANOOK | 30. TITMOUSE |

Off the Rack

What scrabblers have been up to



Cooper Ashley sings in choir

By Cooper Ashley, Mt. Albert

My name is Cooper Ashley, and I started tournament and club Scrabble this year. Val has kindly asked me to write a piece about my hobbies outside of Scrabble, so I thought I would write about choir singing, which I have been doing for a long time.

More recently, in the past four years, I have been singing in my school's middle-senior lower-voice choir. This year, we have been performing all across the North Island for competitions. Firstly, we participated in Cadenza, which we were invited to after our performance at the Big Sing. We performed a three song set and were awarded silver for our efforts. A big highlight of that competition was being able to perform the song 'Two By Two' from the Broadway musical *"The Book of Mormon"*. The first time we performed it for them, none of the members of the audience knew who we were, so we were able to shock them with what we had prepared for that song; a fully

choreographed piece that could have been an excerpt from a performance of the musical. The second time we performed the piece at that competition was at the evening gala. That time when we walked on, we received probably one of the loudest rounds of applause that I've personally witnessed, which really sums up the joy of performing in choir. But alongside that, the thing that my conductor/choirmaster always says about why this year has been so great for our choir, is the bond that we have created as a group. I couldn't agree more. This group, above all others I have been in, have a great bond. Getting to become friends with people I otherwise wouldn't even be likely to strike up a conversation with is one of the great benefits of choir.

Recently, our choir was in Wellington for the National Youth Barbershop finals, where we won second place in



Cooper in the back row, first on the right

our category (Lower-Voice Chorus), we also entered a quartet, which placed third in their category (Lower-Voice Quartet) and although I wasn't a part of that quartet, it was really great to be able to encourage my peers during the first day of the competition. Excitingly, on the way home from Wellington, we were asked by the crew on our flight to perform one of

the songs we had sung at the competition. We were more than happy to give them our rendition of 'Shine On Me': a classic barbershop tune.

Overall, I've had a great year in choir, to accompany my great year in Scrabble - and I am excited to compete and learn in both activities for many years to come!

Puzzle Pozzy Solutions

What the F ____ is that? (Fur, Feathers or Fins?)
- answers

From page 31.



1. DRONGO: Feathers - bird that catches insects in flight
2. BORZOI: Fur - wolfhound
3. HOATZIN: Feathers - South American bird
4. SWEETLIP: Fins - Australian fish
5. OUAKARI: Fur - monkey
6. PECCARY: Fur - mammal, looks like a pig
7. QUARRION: Feathers - Aussie parrot
8. KILLDEER: Feathers - bird, named after its call
9. ULIKON: Fins - Canadian fish
10. SERIEMA: Feathers - Brazilian bird
11. FLIER: Fins - fish
12. YAPOCK: Fur - American opossum (also YAPOK)
13. JERBOA: Fur - desert rat
14. MUNTJAK: Fur - small deer
15. BOODIE: Fur - a macropod, type of kangaroo
16. FOGASH: Fins - Hungarian pike/perch
17. PAJOCK: Feathers - peacock
18. WAMMUL: Fur - dog
19. XERUS: Fur - ground squirrel
20. NANOOK: Fur - polar bear
21. YAFFLE: Feathers - woodpecker
22. APTERYX: Feathers - kiwi
23. ALEWIFE: Fins - fish
24. CRAPPIE: Fins - fish
25. IDE: Fins - fish
26. CHOUGH: Feathers - alpine crow
27. VICUNA: Fur - like a llama
28. YAPOCK: Fur - a possum
29. QUETZAL: Feathers - bird
30. TITMOUSE: Feathers - bird

Only on a Scrabble Board

A Close Game

From Chris Tallman, Kiwi

I lost this game by four points: 493-497, my only loss in Christchurch. As is often the case when you lose by less than five, I did give Lewis a nickel (or tuatara) for his VAGUED hook, which he told me he'd learned from watching my North American friends on Scrabble streams! Later in the game I chickened out of the double-double CAULDEST since I had a bonus I was sure of (SALUTED), and he punished me by hooking ANS (things that might have happened, but did not - fitting!) with SEXTING for 133!

I thought about preserving the SEXTINGS hook as I figured he might not know it (he told me post-game that he'd only have tried it if he had to), but gave in and took 31 points for a rather DOUR rack. I felt I needed the blank to win after Lewis caught me I-less after his QIN play in the corner, so I blew up my rack a turn later with



Chris Tallman vs. Lewis Hawkins

LATINO (holding the K). I got my blank, and scored 113 points in my final two turns with it (WELK and REEFY), but Lewis landed a final blow, bonusing in the line I'd opened while behind with SHORTIE and held on.

I hope to see Lewis at more tournaments (and maybe on a NZ Scrabble stream in the future too) - I could see him overtaking me if I'm not careful, as he nearly did in this tournament!

Found on Social Media

A truck loaded with thousands of copies of Roget's Thesaurus crashed yesterday losing its entire load. Witnesses were stunned, startled, aghast, taken aback, stupefied, confused, shocked, rattled, paralyzed, dazed, bewildered, mixed up, surprised, awed, dumbfounded, nonplussed, flabbergasted, astounded, amazed, confounded, astonished, overwhelmed, horrified, numbed, speechless, and perplexed.

Highest Combined Scores

From Patrick Carter, Mt. Albert

I got thrashed by the computer
589-517.

But have you ever seen a
combined score over 1100?

Coincidentally it is an exact tie for
highest combined score in a club
game played by Chris Hook and
Dawn Kitzen of Mt. Albert in 1992.

It is also 34 points better than the
highest combined score in a
tournament of 1078 achieved by
Howard Warner and David Lloyd in
1997, and equalled by Lyres
Freeth and Alastair Richards in
2019.



*Patrick vs. STEEBOT (computer)
Combined score of 1106*

.....
From the Wairarapa Tournament – a game between Lynn Wood and Dylan Early.

Another exciting game

against Lynn Wood. She started
strong with TONNERS and
EJECTORS and maintained an
80 point lead throughout.
Holding PLUTOES/TUPELOS
with nowhere to play it, I played
TULIP/POXY and was lucky to
pick BCDI to go with my leave of
EOS. Lynn blocked one spot but
fortunately I had another spot for
BODICES and a narrow win.



Dylan Early vs. Lynn Wood

Six Bonus Game

From Chris Tallman, Kiwi

This was my six bonus game against Lawson in Whangarei (July 6-7), which ties the NZ record for most bonuses in a game. I opened with the 98 point TAXIMEN and was able to put down four bonuses in a row in my first four turns; the others being FOULING, rESHAPE, and RANCORED. My choice of RESHAPE over another bonus such as PEAHENS was greedy since it opened a huge hook that I eventually cashed with RESHAPED/ DITZ. I figured I was up by enough, and I'm still chasing the elusive 700 game! After my fourth bonus, I drew a really promising looking rack of AENRSV?. Sadly, no bonuses played (a fifth in a row would've been a record also I think), so I settled for CAVERN for 45.



Chris Tallman vs. Lawson Sue

I bonused on my next turn with OVerLIES through the E that CAVERN opened up. However, I saw the higher scoring SLipOVER but chickened out. I then fished with UTA for sixth bonus with a rack I'd usually look to score more with, but admittedly I was hunting bonuses at that point. I was rewarded with my sixth: TASTILY. My racks looked promising for a seventh, which I think would've given me the outright record, but Lawson blocked the N in CAVERN with NUG, and I didn't have anything fitting with the DJINN hook.

I finished the game with 654 points. I'll have to wait a little (or maybe a lot) longer for another chance at 700. I actually should've scored 670 but lost a turn with a phoney two at the end.



Whangarei A grade winner Chris Tallman (centre), with Howard Warner (2nd) and Cicely Bruce (3rd)

Club News

Christchurch: Obituaries for Shirley and Mandy

The month of August was a sad one for the Christchurch Scrabble Club. Within the space of a fortnight, many of us attended the funeral of Shirley Hol, and then that of Mandy Thorogood.

Shirley Hol



By Selena Chan

Although Shirley was not the founder of the Christchurch Scrabble Club (Doreen Ogston was our founder), Shirley was 'Christchurch Scrabble' for

several decades. She was President of the Christchurch club for many years and when I joined the committee almost twenty years ago, the meetings were held at her flat in Beckenham.

As club president, Shirley kept tabs on members, making sure she touched base with anyone who did not show up for a couple of weeks. She coordinated the Christchurch tournaments, ringing the regulars both in Christchurch and across the country, to ensure our tournaments were well attended.

Through the decades, Shirley played almost 2000 tournament games. She never missed any of the Christchurch tournaments and until recently, played at every National tournament, along with travelling to Nelson and Dunedin and occasionally across Cooks Strait for tournaments. A highlight would be her participation and winning the over 85 age group section at the Seniors World Championships held August 2019, Gold Coast, Australia. <http://www.scrabble.org.au/nsw/ATB0919.pdf>

In this video clip - <https://www.facebook.com/7NEWSAdelaide/videos/389700341689781/> you can see Shirley going up to the computer with her opponent to adjudicate a word (at around 30 seconds into the one-minute video).

Shirley maintained her scrabble prowess to the very end. As a busy work schedule made it difficult for me to get to the club's weekly games, I would play scrabble with her whenever the weather caused a cancellation of my usual weekend outdoor activities. I would bike to Beckenham and a smiling Shirley would be awaiting me in the Essie Summers dining room, board, tiles, racks and clock, all lined up and ready for our first game of the afternoon. Her word knowledge and anagramming skills were formidable and every game we played, involved cognitive

attention and I had to work hard always, to win.

Oh, how I will miss those games now.

By Alex Casey

When I went to my first Scrabble Nationals to report on the event for *The Spinoff*, Shirley immediately caught my eye, decked out in her signature big round specs and emerald green shirt with a chic sparkly brooch. She told me about how life was too short to dress boring, and I never forgot that. When we reconnected a few years later in Christchurch, I always looked forward to chatting with her about the day's current affairs, politics, and whatever interesting book she had been reading. She beat me at Scrabble every single time, of course.

By Paul Lister

When I first arrived in Christchurch in 1995, Shirley was quick to make me most welcome to the Scrabble Club. I soon found that Shirley had a leading role in a triumvirate of three outstanding scrabble administrators; Margaret Lyall, Doreen Ogston and Shirley. Margaret was an excellent and meticulous club secretary and excellent player, while Doreen and Shirley were walking Scrabble dictionaries, and I always thrilled when I played any of these three.

Shirley was stationed in Karen Lane, and the committee had many a



Shirley Hol

meeting there. Shirley positioned the club as one of the foremost in NZ. We had an array and depth of players during these times that placed our club as one of the best in NZ, if not the world. It still is, but in that golden time during Shirley's

presidency (1996 - 2014) we had world-class Scrabble players and administrators passing through our club. These included Shirley van Essen, Liz Fagerlund, Joanne Craig and Nigel Richards, not to mention Blue Thorogood and an upcoming Lewis Hawkins sniping at the sidelines.

Karen Lane was our club's haven away from our club meetings at Hutcheson St. These were halcyon days, and with Shirley's beloved Kees alongside. We latched onto her delightful neighbour Robyn and daughter Georgina - we always liked these two and they have to this day made themselves available to run the scoring computer even up to world senior champs level. Shirley's niece Veronica and Veronica's daughter Clare pitched in and Veronica won her division at the South Island Champs. These four were a welcome and appreciated part of the scenery attached to Shirley's ensemble.

Shirley always kept a good rapport with all present and incoming players. We are blessed with an outstanding

new president in Peter Johnstone, but even when not president, Shirley was a great committee member and advisor to Peter and all subsequent committee members.

More than once she blew me away at the Scrabble board . At one South Island Champs game we had a

combined score approaching near 1100. At the World Senior Champs in Australia in 2019 Shirley won the world title in her age division and still to this day holds the NZ record for 'most combined bonus words' in a game.

A tribute to Mandy Thorogood

By Peter Johnstone

Mandy was a woman of considerable intellect and had a warm and engaging personality. In her company you always felt welcome and valued. Mandy and Blue sometimes stayed with Helen and I, and beer, wine and good humour always flowed.

Mandy was always a good Scrabble player, but with her proximity to one of New Zealand's master practitioners, her game only got stronger over the years. She was a frequent winner or placegetter in Christchurch tournaments, and her stats generally revealed a high number of bonuses played. But perhaps one of her most significant achievements was at the 2022 Nationals when Mandy won E Grade with 19 wins, a spread of 1,614 and some 31 bonuses. This was only exceeded by a dozen players all of whom competed in A and B grades. In

addition it's worth noting that no other player in the entire event won more than 16 games.

Mandy faced her terminal diagnosis with a grace and equanimity that deeply impressed me. We were privileged to see Mandy just a few days before her passing, and her

acuity and humour were remarkable. She penned a beautiful letter for Blue in those last few days, which celebrated their life and love together in spite of regrets that their time together was so awfully foreshortened.

Her life was celebrated in a beautiful service in

Rangiora, with several of Mandy's friends and whanau paying tribute to her generous spirit and warmth. It was heartening to see a good turnout from our Scrabble Club too. Blue spoke magnificently of Mandy, emphasizing the commitment each had for the other. The service amplified how much we will all miss her.



Mandy Thorogood

Whanganui Club: Obituary for Andrée Prentice

By Lynne Butler, Whanganui



Andrée Prentice

Au revoir, Andrée Prentice,
Whanganui

Andrée passed very peacefully on
July 21 at 10.25am. She was 93, due
to turn 94 in October.

What a great life she had. Three
amazing sons, a world traveller, and
an avid Scrabbler to the end. She was
a founding member of the Whanganui
Scrabble Club which she attended
every week until just a few years ago.

She played her last turn on *Ch3zmoi*
on Saturday. She loved quilting and
sewing. Her gardening talents
produced vast amounts of food which
she loved to share with her friends.

She was always keen to continue
learning. In fact there was a U3A
course starting this coming
Wednesday about the rise of Islam
that she wanted to attend. She was
determined to master many forms of
social media. World, national and
local news were devoured by her
every day. As she started to slow
down she watched as many quiz
programs as possible on a
daily basis. Andrée ran a French
group in Whanganui for 50 years. It
was always well attended and there
were practical lessons, as well as
more casual coffee and French
conversation mornings. Any French
person who came to reside in town
would find their way to Andrée's
maison.

Andrée will be sadly missed by her
family, friends and the community.



*Christmas at the
Mt. Albert Club a
few years ago*

*Jackie Reid seated
first on the right*

Mt. Albert: Liz's words from Jackie Reid's funeral.

By Liz Fagerlund. Mt. Albert

Jackie joined the Mt Albert Scrabble Club in November 2016. She had played previously in the UK, so straight away she was keen to enter a tournament here – a month after she joined, she played in the “Nearly Christmas” tournament in Auckland.

Since then she played in as many tournaments as she could, and as her health would allow, mostly locally.

Many of our club members will remember the delicious Christmas cakes she used to bring to our club end of year evening – and even though it was offered, she always refused to accept anything to cover the expenses of making it, such was her generosity.

She was encouraging to our new members when playing them at club and had a great sense of fair play. I got to know Jackie a lot better over the last couple of years when she, Merelyn and I would go to another Scrabblers' place and play three or four games on a Thursday afternoon. I discovered other parts of Jackie's

life including, like me, having trained dogs – a fellow animal lover. She also had a wicked sense of humour which I really enjoyed, and we had some great banter in between games.

The thing I remember most about playing her was just how gracious she was whether she won or if she lost, and during the game, even if she was a long way behind you, she never complained – I should be more like that; we should all be more like that.

Jacqueline: I had a look at your full first name. The letters in your name in Scrabble add up to a massive 28 points and even more on the board with the Q on a double letter and the word tripled – 161 points! You are sure worth a lot in Scrabble Jackie. Your obituary said that you will be sadly missed by all your family, friends and Scrabble players. We aren't just Scrabble players, we are like another family. You certainly were part of our Scrabble family and we, especially Merelyn, will miss you a lot.

We will be thinking of you at the club tourney this weekend and will dedicate some of the spot prizes to the letters in your name!

Rest in peace Jackie – make lots of bonus words wherever you are.



Jackie Reid

Mt. Albert goes digital for tournament prizes

By Liz Fagerlund. Mt. Albert

At the annual Mt. Albert October tournament the committee decided to trial prizemoney via deposit to the recipients' bank accounts. People are often very resistant to new ways of doing things and some early feedback shows that a lot of players like to get money in their hand (or in an envelope) should they be lucky enough to win a prize. I agree that is indeed nice. However, here are some of the reasons for trying this new way.

There are no cheque books these days, so it's not possible to get a club cash cheque signed by one signatory, then another signatory collect money from the bank and cosign a cheque. That means in the first instance it has to be withdrawn from someone's personal account. The club can reimburse first of course so that the money is already there, or reimburse later.

There seem to be fewer banks in convenient locations, and queues are often long. For our May tournament, my local bank was so busy I had to queue up for over an hour, and then find out there was a fee to withdraw money from my own account. I was told I could get it from the machine with no charge then come back for the denominations wanted! I declined yet another long wait, in addition to standing out by the street to withdraw quite a large amount.

I think the biggest worry is the possibility of losing the money or having it stolen. It's always in excess of



\$1000 which is a lot to be responsible for during the days after withdrawing (Friday at the latest) and until prizegiving on the Sunday. It has never happened, but there is always that worry, and if it ever did would I (or whoever got it out) then have to pay from their own money? When it comes to large tournaments like the Nationals, if the prizes are cash, someone is responsible for a much higher amount needed - around \$2000.

It certainly took away the worry of being responsible for the withdrawal of money. Especially when I had nonstop family visitors for nearly two weeks before the tournament, as well as getting other things ready. Prize-getters received a nicely written card with the prize and the amount they were to receive. All payments were completed by the middle of the following week, and the same day for those who gave their bank account details straight away. Like anything new, it was worth trying.

Farewell Carole and Roger

By Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

In appreciation, our Club presented them with a framed pair of limericks:

Kiwi Scabblers farewelled Carole and Roger Coates at an afternoon meeting in August, before they moved to Papamoa, Tauranga, to live.

Carole and Roger started their Scrabble career with the now defunct Hamilton Club (when it used to meet in the old Riverina Hotel, then in the Civil Defence Rooms at the Waikato County Council), and joined Kiwi Scrabblers when it was inaugurated by Elaine Moltzen in the early 1980s. They have been supportive club and committee members all that time, keeping the records and helping to organise our activities.

Roger

We know a good Scrabbler called Roger
We'd never call him an "old codger"
But when he's out for blood
He'll try the odd dud
So we call him the artful dodger.

Carole

We have a graceful lady called Carole
She's renowned for her fashionable apparel
She always looks the part
But her Scrabble? – Now THAT'S smart!
Whether she's playing in tourneys or casual.

We will miss them both, but it's nice to know we'll still be seeing them, and playing them, at tournaments around the country. We wish them a happy life in Papamoa - Kiwi Scrabblers' loss is Tauranga's gain!



Ask Liz

by Liz Fagerlund, Mt. Albert

Results slips – how to correctly fill these in

At clubs we help our new players as much as we can when they are about to play in their first tournament. In practice games we get them used to using the clock, recording their scores and tile tracking etc but we don't normally have results slips on hand for them to know ahead of the tournament how to fill these out. It may be a good thing to go over this with your newbies before they venture into their first tournament.

At 2 recent tournaments there have been results entered the wrong way round. In all 3 cases that I am aware of, the scorer has been thrown by names written on the line on the results slip that contains the word "Names"! The scorer has a lot of results to input, so please make it as easy as possible for them. The names should only be written in once the game is complete, the winner should always be the one filling out the results slip with their name ONLY in the line that says winner, and the opponent's name ONLY in the line that says loser. The names had been written in the winner/loser spaces correctly, but I'm guessing one of the players wrote the name of each player at the top before

the game commenced – don't do this! The only thing you should possibly write on the results slip before starting to play is the grade and game number. Below is an example of the incorrect way and below that the correct way to fill in the results slip.



Liz Fagerlund

RESULTS SLIP		Grade: C	Game No: 1
X Edith Names Jemima		Score	No. of B/Ws.
Winner: Jemima		400	1
Loser: Edith		299	0
		Spread	101
Blank 1	Blank 2	Signatures:	
A	2	[Signature] [Signature]	

RESULTS SLIP		Grade: C	Game No: 1
✓ Names		Score	No. of B/Ws.
Winner: Jemima		400	1
Loser: Edith		299	0
		Spread	101
Blank 1	Blank 2	Signatures:	
A	2	[Signature] [Signature]	

Incorrect and correct results slips

The only other thing that goes on the result slip before the end of the game is the designation of the blanks – a reminder here of the correct procedure:

Playing a blank

When playing a blank the player must declare what letter it represents. The blank shall continue to represent the declared letter for the remainder of the game. The player playing a blank will

write the letter that the blank represents on the result sheet that will be used for the game and will ensure that the other player has sighted it. In any case where one or both players are vision impaired the clock will be neutralised and an adjudicator will be called to ensure that the blank is correctly recorded and understood by both players.

A player who plays a blank must declare it as in the rule above, BEFORE pressing the timer. If a player ends the turn without correctly declaring a blank, the opponent may immediately restart that player's timer and demand that the blank be properly declared. Pressing of the timer by the opponent in this instance does not count as a passed turn.

In my book, declaring the blank should mean you are saying what the letter is, as well as writing it on the correct space on the result slip. Some players just write the blank down, but sometimes their letter is untidily written, or the slip is still left over their side of the table, so it's not always easy to see what is written! I like to ensure the slip is close to the opponent and I'll say (something like) A for alpha, write it and make sure they heard me AND can see it on the sheet.

Player noticing that their opponent has too many tiles

At a non-tournament game recently, a player noticed their opponent had eight tiles instead of seven after

drawing tiles. The opponent was told they then had to show all their tiles. However, as the overdrawing player had seven tiles on their rack and an extra tile still on the table and not yet placed on the rack, this was incorrect.

The rule states:

Where a player finds that an opponent has more than seven tiles *on his/her rack* then the opponent shall turn his/her rack to the player and the player shall choose which tile(s) to return to the bag.

The player should have waited until all tiles were on the rack, and although it doesn't specifically say so in the rules, giving that player at least a few seconds to realise the mistake themselves and say they have too many seems reasonable and ethical, rather than basically jumping on them immediately and asking to see all their tiles. Most likely this player, once all tiles were on the rack would have noticed there were eight, then the proper procedure is for the other player to select two from the rack, look at them and decide which one to return to the bag. If they didn't notice, then the other player would ask to see all the tiles and choose one to return to the bag. It is also incorrect just to return the one still on the table to the bag as some newly drawn tiles had already been put on the rack.

Rules governing overdrawing of tiles are under 6.1.3 in the rules of play

Microsoft Word - Constitution update
April 22 (4) (scrabble.org.nz)

Here we go Gathering Nuts in May

By Jennifer Smith, Kiwi Scrabblers

Here we go gathering ALMONDS in
May
CHESNUTS in May, CHESTNUTS in
May
Here we go gathering BETELS in May
On a cold and frosty morning.



Here we go gathering CASHEWS in
May
PIGNUTS in May, HOGNUTS in May
Here we go gathering HAZELNUTS in
May
On a cold and frosty morning.

On a cold and frosty morning.

Here we go gathering SALIGOTS in
May
OILNUTS in May, GALLNUTS in May
Here we go gathering MACOYAS in
May
On a cold and frosty morning.

Here we go gathering ARNUTS in
May
BRASILS in May, BRAZILS in May
Here we go gathering PECANS in
May
On a cold and frosty morning.

Here we go gathering CONKERS in
May
PIGNOLIS in May, PIGNOLIAS in
May
Here we go gathering KOLAS in May
On a cold and frosty morning.

Here we go gathering WALNUTS in
May
FILBERTS in May, FILBERDS in May
Here we go gathering COQUILLAS in
May
On a cold and frosty morning.

But hang on a minute . . .

Here we go gathering COBNUTS in
May
COKERNUTS in May, COCONUTS in
May
Here we go gathering PEANUTS in
May

We're nuts for gathering nuts in May
NUMNUTS I say, working without pay!
I'd rather be
eating DONUTS
in May
On a cold and
frosty morning!



Twenty Years Ago in *Forwards*

From *Forwards* edition 76, September 2004.

There are three new additions to this list as of CSW21. All are eight letter words: EUDAIMON, EUSOCIAL and OUTASITE.



Page 3

Vowelitis

Do you know all the words that contain AEIOU?

7's

DOULEIA
EULOGIA
MIAOUED
MOINEAU
SEQUOIA

8's

ABOIDEAU
ABOITEAU
AEQUORIN
AEROBIUM
AGOUTIES
CAESIOUS*
DIALOGUE
DOUANIER
DOULEIAS
EDACIOUS
EQUATION
EULOGIAE
EULOGIAS
EUPHOBIA
EUPHONIA
EUPHORIA
EXONUMIA
JALOUSIE
MOINEAUS
ODALIQUE
OUTRAISE
POULAINE
SAUTOIRE
SEQUOIAS
THIOUREA



agouties

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$$

equation



jalousie

*CAESIOUS is the shortest word containing all the vowels in alphabetical order. Longer words fitting this criterion are:

ARSENIOUS
FACETIOUS
PARECIOUS
ABSTEMIOUS
ABSTENTIOUS
FACETIOUSLY
ABSTEMIOUSLY

Tournament results

Tauranga

24-25 August 2024

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Anderina McLean (GM)	WAN	12	726	427
2	Val Mills (E)	MTA	10	758	435
3	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	7	172	406
4	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	7	98	411
5	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	7	-91	410
6	Jason Simpson	WRE	6	-77	421
7	Mike Currie	MTA	4	-563	408
8	Jennifer Smith	KIW	3	-1023	366

B Grade

1	Lynn Wood	IND	10	189	385
2	Shirley Martin	KIW	9.5	230	396
3	Delcie Macbeth	IND	9	349	394
4	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	7	390	413
5	David Gunn	IND	6	-103	390
6	Rosemary Cleary (E)	WAN	5.5	-163	381
7	Stan Gregec	IND	5	-215	382
8	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	4	-677	367

C Grade

1	Jena Yousif	WRE	10	589	398
2	Mary Gray	MTA	10	341	384
3	Joanne Morley	ROT	7	111	386
4	Roger Coates	KIW	7	-36	382
5	Rosalind Phillips	IND	6	117	384
6	Karen Miller	IND	6	19	383
7	Cathy Casey	WRE	6	-758	357
8	Nola Borrell	IND	4	-383	360

D Grade

1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	12	690	371
2	Ruth Groffman	DUN	10	724	383
3	Colleen Link	CHC	9	280	363
4	Marian Merrin	TGA	7	259	365
5	Heather Landon	TGA	7	109	359
6	Suzanne Harding	WRE	6	-151	347
7	Dave Higson	TGA	4	-891	322
8	Tim Henneveld	ROT	1	-1020	299

E Grade

1	Phil Andrews	ROT	12	508	345
2	Jacqueline Coldham-Fussell	KIW	11	616	366
3	Ben Tu'itahi	MTA	10	798	374
4	Ruth Godwin	ROT	9	354	351
5	Dale McMillen	TGA	8	207	351
6	Jenny Duncan	ROT	8	56	334
7	Dorothy Bakel	TGA	7	-7	335
8	Jillian Greening	KIW	5	-130	326
9	Annette Caisley	WRE	4	-275	340
10	Janny Henneveld	ROT	4	-639	301
11	Lisa Smith	TGA	3	-449	313
12	Valerie Scott	TGA	3	-1039	275

Canterbury Open

7-8 September 2024

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Chris Tallman	IND	13	1257	474
2	Lewis Hawkins (E)	CHC	12	1039	448
3	Blue Thorogood (GM)	IND	9	-47	426
4	Norma Fisher		6	143	420
5	Herb Ramsay	IND	5	-29	404
6	Murray Rogers (E)	IND	5	-344	388
7	Lois Binnie	CHC	4	-812	369
8	Laura Griffiths	CHC	2	-1207	360

B Grade

1	Paul Freeman	DUN	10	761	427
2	Lynn Wood	IND	10	607	403
3	Karen Gray	DUN	8	212	395
4	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	6	-9	398
5	Peter Johnstone	CHC	6	-384	358
6	Selena Chan	CHC	6	-502	369
7	Anne Goldstein	CHC	5	-231	384
8	Helen Sillis	WTA	5	-454	376

C Grade

1	Sue Hensley	DUN	10	514	387
2	Carolyn Kyle	IND	9	232	380
3	Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	186	372
4	Jean O'Brien	IND	7	-23	377
5	Marian Ross	DUN	7	-138	360
6	Cathy Casey	WRE	7	-265	364
7	Ruth Groffman	DUN	5	-327	359
8	Megg Hewlett	CHC	4	-179	378

D Grade

1	Lyn Dawson	IND	10	814	396
2	Tara Hurley	IND	10	477	403
3	Colleen Link	CHC	7.5	442	379
4	Hanna Dodge	CHC	7	-140	356
5	Tony Charlton	NEL	6	-156	360
6	Liane Hadden	NEL	6	-433	356
7	Malcolm Graham	IND	5.5	-389	355
8	Colleen Cook	CHC	4	-615	351

E Grade

1	Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	12	579	361
2	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	11	815	370
3	Sharon McKenzie	CHC	9	349	363
4	Andrea Atkinson	IND	7	128	352
5	Madelaine Green	CHC	5	128	350
6	Frances Higham	PAP	4	-359	335
7	Colin Stewart		4	-716	318
	Gill Charlton	NEL	4	-924	294



*Tauranga A grade winners
Anderina McLean (1st), Val Mills (2nd),
Lawson Sue (3rd)*

Bowentown

14-15 September 2024

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Chris Tallman	IND	13	1035	437
2	Jane Walton	KIW	9	489	410
3	Val Mills (E)	MTA	8	240	412
4	Jennifer Smith	KIW	8	-29	387
5	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	7	12	381
6	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	6	36	403
7	Delcie Macbeth	IND	3	-961	361
8	Lynn Wood	IND	2	-822	360

B Grade

1	Shirley Martin	KIW	12	620	409
2	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	11	725	421
3	Stan Gregec	TGA	9	310	403
4	Bernie Jardine	MTA	8	42	400
5	Betty Eriksen	WAN	7	-153	366
6	Suzanne Liddall	WRE	5	-461	370
7	Joanne Morley	ROT	4	-383	383

C Grade

1	Tara Hurley	IND	10	447	389
2*	Suzanne Harding	WRE	7	235	390
3*	Antonia Aarts	MTA	7	235	378
4	Heather Landon	TGA	7	203	379
5	Rodney Jardine	MTA	6	-575	352
6	Anne Scatchard	WRE	5	-545	336

* Player has the same number of wins and the



*Tauranga E grade winners
**Ben Tu'itahi (3rd), Jacqueline Coldham-
Fussell (2nd), Phil Andrews (1st)***

Wairarapa—Saturday

21 September 2024

7 games

	Name	Wins	Spread
A Grade			
1	Lawson Sue	6	336
2	Dylan Early	5	203
3	Stanley Ngundi	5	189
4	Howard Warner	4	709
5	Liz Fagerlund	3	-21
6	Anderina McLean	3	-66
7	Sue McRae	1	-548
8	Lynn Wood	1	-802

B Grade

1	Helen Sillis	6	409
2	Vicky Robertson	6	306
3	Clare Wall	4	238
4	Chris Bell	4	98
5	Jean O'Brien	3	-11
6	Nola Borrell	3	-57
7	Betty Eriksen	1	-335
8	Roger Cole-Baker	1	-648

C Grade

1	Joanne Morley	5	467
2	Michael Hyndman	5	326
3	Fran Lowe	5	72
4	Dianne Cole-Baker	4	59
5	Vicki Jones	4	-23
6	Judy Driscoll	3	-222
7	Sheila Reid	1	-317
8	Neil Price	1	-362

D Grade

1	Rosemary Sutton	5	202
2	Glenys Hansen	5	177
3	Sandra McCullough	4	208
4	Jacqui McVie	4	129
5	Laura-Rose Holden	4	-60
6	David Robinson	3	155
7	Sarah Le Gros	3	-108
8	Lynell Ellis	0	-703

Wairarapa—Sunday

22 September 2024

7 games

	Name	Wins	Spread
A Grade			
1	Lawson Sue	5	385
2	Howard Warner	5	369
3	Dylan Early	5	282
4	Liz Fagerlund	5	38
5	Stanley Ngundi	3	-71
6	Vicky Robertson	3	-287
7	Lynn Wood	1	-272
8	Sue McRae	1	-444

B Grade

1	Clare Wall	5	588
2	Helen Sillis	5	271
3	Jean O'Brien	4	206
4	Fran Lowe	4	-189
5	Dianne Cole-Baker	3	-46
6	Betty Eriksen	3	-230
7	Roger Cole-Baker	2	-182
8	Nola Borrell	2	-418

C Grade

1	Michael Hyndman	5	243
2	Judy Driscoll	4	190
3	Patricia Bennett	4	-66
4	Vicki Jones	3	27
5	Neil Price	3	-189
6	Taanga Lawrence	2	-205

D Grade

1	David Robinson	6	777
2	Glenys Hansen	5	260
3	Sandra McCullough	5	223
4	Julia Maloney	3	161
5	Lynell Ellis	3	-316
6	Coral Goldstein	2	-248
7	Sarah Le Gros	2	-323
8	Christine Conroy	2	-534

Mt. Albert

5-6 October 2024

14 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Andrew Bradley (GM)	MTA	11	583	430
2	Chris Tallman	IND	10	453	438
3	Patrick Carter (GM)	MTA	7	68	417
4	Jeff Grant (GM)	IND	7	-59	417
5	Val Mills (E)	MTA	6	24	412
6	Lawson Sue (GM)	MTA	6	-185	397
7	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	6	-432	395
8	Jason Simpson	WRE	3	-452	412

B Grade

1	Mike Currie	MTA	11	1115	443
2	Glennis Hale (GM)	IND	10	516	416
3	Jennifer Smith	KIW	7.5	-106	382
4	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	6	-125	396
5	Delcie Macbeth	IND	6	-433	373
6	Jeanette Grimmer	ROD	5.5	-571	376
7	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	5	-88	405
8	Lynn Wood	IND	5	-308	381

C Grade

1	Lorraine Van Veen	IND	11	686	414
2	Alexander Gandar	MTA	10.5	1024	443
3	Merelyn Fuemana	MTA	9.5	222	411
4	Mary Curtis	WRE	8	240	409
5	Cathy Casey	WRE	8	61	386
6	Bev Edwards	WRE	6	-171	372
7	Jenny Litchfield	WRE	6	-328	367
8	Bernie Jardine	MTA	4	-388	363
9	Jena Yousif	WRE	4	-597	368
10	Mary Gray	MTA	3	-749	362



*Mt. Albert A grade winners
Chris Tallman (2nd), Andrew Bradley
(1st), Patrick Carter (3rd)*

D Grade

1	Calum Henderson	MTA	10	417	396
2	Lynn Carter	IND	8	207	384
3	Jonas Wiberg	CHC	8	123	385
4	Suzanne Harding	WRE	8	-2	363
5	Tara Hurley	IND	8	-51	386
6	Su Walker	IND	7	348	419
7	Mike Harris	MTA	7	208	380
8	Betty Eriksen	WAN	6	33	362
9	Antonia Aarts	MTA	5	-240	374
10	Anne Scatchard	WRE	3	-1043	303

E Grade

1	Ben Tu'itahi	MTA	12	1143	402
2	Rodney Jardine	MTA	12	625	389
3	Cooper Ashley	MTA	7	319	374
4	Clementine Mills	MTA	7	28	346
5	Annette Caisley	WRE	5	-580	324
6	Karen Margetts	MTA	5	-592	332
7	Maheu Papau T-Pole	MTA	5	-686	337
8	Frances Higham	PAP	3	-257	333



*Mt. Albert B grade winners
Glennis Hale (2nd), Mike Currie (1st),
Jennifer Smith (3rd)*



*Mt. Albert E grade winners
Rodney Jardine (2nd), Ben Tu'itahi (1st),
Cooper Ashley (3rd)*

Queenstown

19-20 October 2024

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	MTA	11	588	415
2	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	8	232	406
3	Jane Walton	KIW	8	146	409
4	Val Mills (E)	MTA	8	94	402
5	Lois Binnie	CHC	5	-268	405
6	Yoon Kim Fong	KIW	5	-792	378

B Grade

1	Paul Freeman	DUN	11	383	387
2	Lynn Wood	IND	10	655	395
3	Clare Wall	IND	7	113	391
4	Yvette Hewlett	IND	7	-17	367
5	Jena Yousif	WRE	6	-403	370
6	Sue Hensley	DUN	4	-731	342

C Grade

1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	10	690	388
2	Megg Hewlett	CHC	9	-25	377
3	Malcolm Graham	IND	8	-91	348
4	Ruth Groffman	DUN	7.5	-1	365
5	Marian Ross	DUN	7	119	384
6	Colleen Link	CHC	3.5	-692	335

D Grade

1	Hanna Dodge	CHC	14	1004	391
2	Marilyn Sinclair	CHC	10	576	374
3	Anne-Louise Milne	DUN	7	61	359
4	Cooper Ashley	MTA	7	-11	367
5	Madelaine Green	CHC	4	-808	323
6	Noeline Monsef	CHC	3	-822	326



*Mt. Albert D grade winners
Lynn Carter (2nd), Calum Henderson
(1st), Jonas Wiberg (3rd)*

Whanganui

26-27 October 2024

15 games

	Name	Club	Wins	Spread	Ave
A Grade					
1	Howard Warner (GM)	WEL	14	1608	487
2	Cicely Bruce (GM)	WRE	9	-222	414
3	Lynne Butler (GM)	WAN	8	381	421
4	Anderina McLean (GM)	WAN	8	60	429
5	Olivia En (E)	WAN	7	-375	408
6	Norma Fisher	CHC	6	-96	408
7	Val Mills (E)	MTA	6	-569	400
8	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	WEL	2	-787	412

B Grade

1	Nola Borrell	IND	9	245	385
2	Clare Wall	IND	9	-43	383
3	Helen Sillis	WTA	8	291	391
4	Jean O'Brien	IND	8	229	379
5	Lynn Wood	IND	8	189	394
6	Jennifer Smith	KIW	6	-167	380
7	Yvette Hewlett	IND	6	-297	370
8	Carolyn Kyle	IND	6	-447	342

C Grade

1	Betty Eriksen	WAN	11	1178	396
2	Joanne Morley	ROT	11	1123	422
3	Judy Driscoll	IND	11	388	376
4	David Robinson	MTB	6	-740	338
5	Sandra McCullough	IND	4	-870	310
6	Sarah Le Gros	FTN	2	-1079	320



*Mt. Albert C grade winners
Merelyn Fuemana (3rd), Lorraine Van
Veen (1st), Alexander Gandar (2nd)*

Wellington Swissvember

9 November 2024

8 games

	Name	Wins	Spread
1	Dylan Early	6	993
2	Staqnley Ngundi	6	937
3	Gil Quiballo	6	637
4	Howard Warner	6	470
5	Olivia En	6	168
6	Nick Ascroft	5	283
7	Yvette Hewlett	5	153
8	Clare Wall	5	56
9	Nola Borrell	4	237
10	Neil Price	4	175
11	Sue McRae	4	49
12	Lynn Wood	4	-35
13	Michael Hyndman	4	-63
14	Patricia Bennett	4	-143
15	Vicky Robertson	4	-148
16	Marcus Henry	4	-315
17	Jacqui McVie	4	-331
18	Judy Driscoll	4	-490
19	David Grounds	3	-91
20	Paul Chambers	3	-188
21	Jez Patridge	3	-246
22	David Robinson	3	-510
23	Taanga Lawrence	2	-198
24	Vicki Jones	2	-215
25	Andy Slater	2	-709
26	Glenys Hansen	1	-476



Lawson Sue and Liz Fagerlund's grand-daughter Arabella drawing the raffle at Mt. Albert tournament

Bowentown tournament winners



*A grade:
Jane Walton (2nd), Chris Tallman (1st),
Vall Mills (3rd)*



*B grade:
Yoon Kim Fong (2nd) &
Shirley Martin (1st)*



*C grade:
Tara Hurley (1st), Antonia Aarts &
Suzanne Harding (2nd equal)*

Rankings as at 1 December 2024

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
1	Chris Tallman (GM)	2238	151.5	199	76%	35	Margie Hurly	1576	594	1212	49%
2	Howard Warner (GM)	2236	2713.5	3614	75%	36	Jennifer Smith	1575	1590	3327	48%
3	Dylan Early (GM)	2160	396	585	68%	37	Paul Freeman	1573	183.5	331	55%
4	Blue Thorogood (GM)	2148	939	1332	70%	38	Vicky Robertson	1570	524	1092	48%
5	Jeff Grant (GM)	2139	1938	2618	74%	39	Chris Higgins	1563	213.5	372	57%
6	Joanne Craig (GM)	2132	511.5	789	65%	40	Yoon Kim Fong	1545	985	1925	51%
7	Peter Sinton (GM)	2107	894.5	1283	70%	41	Lorraine Van Veen	1542	1291.5	2629	49%
8	Gil Quiballo (GM)	2088	190.5	311	61%	42	Laura Griffiths	1538	87.5	158	55%
9	Andrew Bradley (GM)	2057	1215	2260	54%	43	Rosemary Cleary (E)	1530	1067.5	2308	46%
10	Patrick Carter (GM)	2050	1010	1589	64%	44	Delcie Macbeth	1526	1271.5	2479	51%
11	Lawson Sue (GM)	1966	1535.5	2823	54%	45	Lynn Wood	1520	2797.5	5832	48%
12	Lewis Hawkins (E)	1961	349	566	62%	46	Jeanette Grimmer	1512	452.5	924	49%
13	Anderina McLean (GM)	1915	1165	2175	54%	47	Sue McRae	1502	263.5	498	53%
14	Cicely Bruce (GM)	1891	1261.5	2304	55%	48	Alexander Gandar	1501	100	157	64%
15	Lynne Butler (GM)	1888	1016.5	1703	60%	49	Clare Wall	1486	521	1026	51%
16	Stanley Ngundi (GM)	1850	174.5	335	52%	50	David Gunn	1485	1618	3317	49%
17	Scott Chaput (E)	1846	412	754	55%	51	Peter Johnstone	1485	448	903	50%
18	Nick Ascroft (E)	1838	378.5	684	55%	52	Helen Sillis	1473	1102	2259	49%
19	Val Mills (E)	1829	1960.5	3984	49%	53	Stan Gregec	1472	286	536	53%
20	Liz Fagerlund (GM)	1827	1821	3526	52%	54	Yvette Hewlett	1460	616.5	1273	48%
21	Glennis Hale (GM)	1803	1899	3500	54%	55	Anne Goldstein	1451	439	883	50%
22	Norma Fisher	1776	33	67	49%	56	Selena Chan	1442	456.5	908	50%
23	Mike Currie (E)	1772	211	379	56%	57	Chris Bell	1435	103	204	50%
24	Olivia En (E)	1757	1162.5	2251	52%	58	Mary Curtis	1423	677.5	1318	51%
25	Jason Simpson (E)	1752	257.5	490	53%	59	Merelyn Fuemana	1392	340.5	641	53%
26	John Foster (GM)	1734	1882	3391	55%	60	Roger Coates	1390	1018.5	2138	48%
27	Jane Walton	1727	448	920	49%	61	Rosalind Phillips	1383	739.5	1452	51%
28	Glenyss Buchanan	1693	808	1747	46%	62	Pam Barlow	1345	969	1938	50%
29	Paul Lister (E)	1665	962	1777	54%	63	Jenny Litchfield	1337	294.5	552	53%
30	Lois Binnie	1652	333.5	677	49%	64	Jean O'Brien	1333	1755.5	3513	50%
31	Murray Rogers (E)	1647	1377	2624	52%	65	Mary Gray	1327	987.5	1992	50%
32	Karen Gray	1605	410.5	782	52%	66	Karen Miller	1326	791	1540	51%
33	Herb Ramsay	1604	380	691	55%	67	Nola Borrell	1317	785	1505	52%
34	Shirley Martin	1586	1303	2638	49%	68	Suzanne Liddall	1316	275.5	505	55%

	Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%		Name	Rating	Wins	Games	%
69	Bernie Jardine	1304	480.5	919	52%	105	Neil Price	891	19	50	38%
70	Bev Edwards	1298	409	820	50%	106	Colleen Link	876	49	85	58%
71	Cathy Casey	1293	249	478	52%	107	Colleen Cook	872	530	1103	48%
72	Jena Yousif	1261	842.5	1693	50%	108	Llane Hadden	828	139.5	301	46%
73	Shirley Hol	1240	937.5	1987	47%	109	Rodney Jardine	810	418	860	49%
74	Fran Lowe	1222	191	365	52%	110	Marilyn Sinclair	796	351.5	691	51%
75	Sue Hensley	1219	199.5	355	56%	111	Glenda Geard	757	1381	2808	49%
76	Lyn Toka	1217	734.5	1409	52%	112	Junior Gesmundo	735	424.5	871	49%
77	Su Walker	1210	1492	2955	50%	113	Jacqueline				
78	Carolyn Kyle	1201	1382.5	2811	49%		Coldham-Fussell	706	897.5	1823	49%
79	Lynn Carter	1169	968	1879	52%	114	Anne-Louise Milne	704	285.5	750	38%
80	Joanna Fox	1167	360.5	711	51%	115	Vicki Jones	702	18	42	43%
81	Dianne Cole-Baker	1153	892.5	1766	51%	116	Anne Scatchard	681	888.5	1761	50%
82	Jill Paterson	1153	172.5	325	53%	117	Ben Tu'itahi	640	36	56	64%
83	Joanne Morley	1148	275	526	52%	118	Ruth Godwin	622	734.5	1532	48%
84	Roger Cole-Baker	1140	967.5	1902	51%	119	Leanna Christie	616	19	42	45%
85	Tara Hurley	1135	268.5	498	54%	120	Graeme Quinn	606	107.5	263	41%
86	Marian Ross	1124	857	1674	51%	121	Tim Henneveld	581	618.5	1364	45%
87	Ruth Groffman	1116	1015.5	2042	50%	122	Sharon McKenzie	525	91	205	44%
88	Megg Hewlett	1108	191	344	56%	123	Jackie Reid	506	236.5	533	44%
89	Michael Hyndman	1095	285.5	554	52%	124	Marc Van Hoecke	506	113	249	45%
90	Betty Eriksen	1081	2282.5	4556	50%	125	Jan Rivers	503	45	86	52%
91	Mandy Thorogood	1072	140	261	54%	126	Judy Cronin	499	283.5	687	41%
92	Jonas Wiberg	1059	44	87	51%	127	Dorothy Bakel	481	170	370	46%
93	Calum Henderson	1055	45	63	71%	128	Kelly Thomas	447	16.5	42	39%
94	Grant Paulin	1037	136.5	277	49%	129	Noeline Monsef	431	136	308	44%
95	Heather Landon	1033	883.5	1762	50%	130	Jillian Greening	430	536	1113	48%
96	Lyn Dawson	1029	480	932	52%	131	Cooper Ashley	422	31	81	38%
97	Suzanne Harding	1024	951	1830	52%	132	Madelaine Green	419	218	442	49%
98	Malcolm Graham	1007	988.5	1943	51%	133	Janny Henneveld	349	639	1333	48%
99	Judy Driscoll	977	479.5	1164	41%	134	Frances Higham	258	428	1089	39%
100	Antonia Aarts	958	508.5	1064	48%	135	Maheu Papau				
101	Hanna Dodge	935	397	738	54%		T-Pole	214	27	98	28%
102	Geoff Vautier	931	156.5	395	40%	136	Annette Caisley	177	54	194	28%
103	Patricia Bennett	922	78	170	46%	137	Sue McQuade	154	26	105	25%
104	Tony Charlton	905	511.5	1069	48%						

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
Featherston (FTN)	Fran Lowe	021 055 4897	lowefran66@gmail.com	6.30 pm Mon
Kapiti (KAP)	<i>In Recess</i>	-	-	-
Kiwi Scrabblers (KIW)	Barney Bonthron	027 466 1970	Barney.Bonhron@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
Martinborough (MTB)	Victoria Jones	021 054 0212	vicbjones@gmail.com	Every 2nd Fri 9.30 am
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)	Jo Ann Ingram	021 836 067	tauranga.scrabble@gmail.com	9.20 am Tues
Waitara (WTA)	Ngaire Kemp	06 754 4017	ngairelyndac@slingshot.co.nz	1 pm Wed
Whanganui (WAN)	Rosie Cleary	(06) 347 1837	rosecleary@icloud.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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