

# OnBoard

Bimonthly Magazine for the Association of British Scrabble Players

**Causeway coming  
to UK** page 12

**WSC - it's Warsaw**  
page 7

**WESPA Report**  
page 4

**Far North Scrabble**  
page 30



**Prize Puzzle**  
page 37

Issue 137 - April 2011

# committee matters

## Assistance Required

The ABSP Committee tries hard to keep our Scrabble scene thriving, but sometimes we are held back by a lack of skilled volunteers in certain fields. In order to raise the standard of service provided, the Committee agreed that we should build up a pool of people who might be willing to lend their time and skill to assist with some of the ongoing duties, or one-off project activities.

The skills we are looking for are as follows:

Website design	Legal
Website management	Public relations/promotions
General programming and tech skills	Youth activities
Bookkeeping	Charity set-up

If any of these apply to you, or if you think of someone who can help, simply email Elie Dangoor at [edangoor@aol.com](mailto:edangoor@aol.com), who will collate all the information on the Committee's behalf.

## Graeme Thomas Memorial Fund



The Graeme Thomas Memorial Fund was set up in 2006, following the tragic and untimely death of the former ABSP chair and president. In the past five years, the fund has been used to encourage new and young players into the game, supporting attendees at the World Youth Scrabble Championships and at various events for new players around the country. The committee would love to see that support continue in fresh ways.

If you have any ideas you would like to pursue to get new blood into the tournament scene, ABSP would like to help, and can provide both financial and non-financial assistance in your plans. Contact the committee at [promotions@absp.org.uk](mailto:promotions@absp.org.uk).

## ABSP Title Award Certificates

Ever since the titles of Expert and Grand Master were first awarded the ABSP has given out badges to awardees depicting the associated status. A few years ago, the committee ran out of badges. After due consideration of costs, practicalities, and the fact that very few players actually wore their badges, it was decided to opt for formal certificates in future. All Experts and Grand Masters who hadn't received a badge have now received a signed laminated certificate. If any existing badge-holders would like to have a retrospective certificate then that can be arranged.

Please contact Allan Simmons via [promotions@absp.org.uk](mailto:promotions@absp.org.uk) or by post to: Edington House, The Bow, Coldingham, TD14 5NE

## To contact the editor of OnBoard

Email: [editor@absp.org.uk](mailto:editor@absp.org.uk) or [alec.r.webb@btinternet.com](mailto:alec.r.webb@btinternet.com)  
or write to: Alec Webb, 17 St Margarets Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4HS

# Minutes of ABSP Committee Meeting: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2011

**Venue:** Elie's house

**Present:** Elie Dangoor (ED), Laura Finley (LF), Elisabeth Jardine (EJ), Wayne Kelly (WK), Ross Mackenzie (RM), Steve Perry (SP), Allan Simmons (AS)

**Standing apologies:** Anand Buddhdev (AB), Darryl Francis (DF), Alec Webb (AW).

**Apologies:** Stewart Holden (SH), Philip Nelkon (PN), Anne Ramsay (AR).

**Ratings Officer:** John Grayson (JG)<sup>3</sup>

**Resignations/appointments:**

We still need a Treasurer. The Committee is approaching possible candidates but would welcome suggestions/offers from the membership.

Sarah Wilks is unable to continue as Youth Officer – the Committee would like to thank Sarah for her input. We hope to have a new Youth Officer in place soon, but would appreciate hearing from volunteers to be part of a Youth Team.

We also have a vacancy (vacancies) to support Allan Simmons on the Promotions Team.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** Approved by email

## Team member reports and discussion

**Treasurer's report:**

- Committee were made aware of the provisional 2010 accounts
- ABSP paid 250 US\$ to Michael Thelen in recognition of his work in producing Zyzzyva and the fact that most UK tournaments now use it for adjudication.

**Membership secretary:**

- The bad weather had a significant effect on renewals in that deliveries were hindered and some renewals were lost in transit. Anne Ramsay will be contacting all non-renewers.
- A proposal for a two-year membership of £25 (non-refundable) is being investigated
- The ABSP website no longer maintains a membership list as the rating list provides all information needed

**Secretary:**

- Individual 'agreements' have been updated to conform with WESPA rules
- Committee 'job descriptions' are being prepared to help with recruitment
- Complaints were discussed and responses will be sent in the near future

**Tournament Co-ordination:**

- Invitational events – it was decided that there should be a minimum of six players and that there should be a time limit of 30 days before the event for applying for rating.

## ABSP Events:

**BMSC :** A £1000 first prize has been made possible by carrying forward the surplus from last year. New layout at Yarnfield could mean all divisions in one room.

**Masters:** Wayne Kelly has taken over as organiser. The event is booked at Stone for the first weekend in July

**NSC:** Date of final – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2011

**Promotions:**

- It was agreed to keep the 'new member' offer open. Adverts in national papers are not worth repeating

**Website:**

- We need input from a team of people with the technical expertise to update and upload content on the website

**Publications:**

- Members' handbook to be updated after the 2011 AGM

**Routine discussion items**<sup>6</sup>**ABSP Objectives:**

Objectives were reviewed and possible actions identified as follow:

- Update 2011 handbook at June meeting
- Continue to promote £25 offer, consider other avenues of publicity, recruit to promotions vacancy on Committee
- Consider multi-year membership offers to current members
- Recruit Youth Officer

**Wordlist:**

- It is proposed that ABSP adopts the 2011 Collins Official (tournament and club) Word List from January 1st 2012, in line with Wespa's encouragement to its members.

**AOB:**

- It was agreed to reduce the number of Committee meetings from four to three a year.  
June – AGM/BMSC preparation  
October – post AGM analysis, renewals, plans  
February – accounts, renewals analysis

**Date of next meetings:** 11<sup>th</sup> June – Laura's house, Sunderland

## **Advertising rates in Onboard**

It is possible to advertise in OnBoard. Commercial rates are £50/£30/£15 for full, half- and quarter-page respectively. Non-commercial, Scrabble-related is £20/£10 for half- and quarter-page. Deduct £2 from all of those for being a member.

Please contact the OnBoard editor in the first instance (see page 1), who will create the advert for you free of charge if required or offer advice on its composition.

## **OnBoard as a pdf**

If any member would prefer to receive their copy of OnBoard as an emailed pdf file, please contact membership secretary, Anne Ramsay at [anne.ramsay@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:anne.ramsay@blueyonder.co.uk)

Emailed pdfs should arrive a little earlier than the mailed booklets. They are indexed and in full colour throughout.

# WESPA – report to members

This is a summary of the activities of WESPA for 2010. Much of this information can of course be found on the new-look WESPA website which was launched in 2010.

## **Tournament Committee (TC) chaired by Chief Toke Aka**

The TC, which monitors these, reports that there were 32 WESPA-rated tournaments in 2010 of which 11 were held in North America. Two of these were the West Coast Championship in Ashland and the WPC in Dallas, while the rest were really more for the promotion of the international word list.

The ratings criteria was reworded twice to accommodate unfolding scenarios, specifically regarding timely and prior notification and contacts for events not needing prior approval, and maximum percentage of participation by local players in rated component.

The TC also consulted with Philip Nelkon regarding increases in the number of WSC games and final games, and the results of this will doubtless soon be known when 2011 WSC arrangements are announced.

The TC was consulted on a pairing problem that arose in an international tournament and will also be undertaking the task of collating reports on rules application and incidents for future development and information to organisers.

Sam Kantimathi has reported on the increasing use of the combined word list in North America, led by higher-rated players. He also directed the 2010 African Championship held in Ghana.

## **Promotions Committee (PC) chaired by Howard Warner**

The most visible sign of the PC's hard work will be seen in the revamped WESPA website and e-zine.

The website has been stripped down and is more dynamic and accessible with new features, such as news stories, media coverage, Edward Okulicz's ratings-archive tool, puzzles & quizzes, and a promotions page. It is aimed at bringing new visitors to the site, as well as keeping existing visitors stimulated and engaged. The e-zine is a complementary online vehicle, designed to get more visitors exploring more parts of the site.

The PC will be consolidating these two key promotional vehicles; building the store of personal and country profiles; and exploring ways to track media coverage.

A call has gone out for new, active committee members to fill some vacant slots.

Howard advises that Craig Beevers and Michael McKenna have contributed greatly to the work of the PC.

## **Youth Committee (YC) chaired by Karen Richards**

The highlight of the year for the YC is the World Youth Scrabble Championship which in 2010 was successfully held in Manila in December hosted by NASCAP, with 82 contestants and attracted much publicity. Pakistan and South Africa made their debuts. The ability of youth to organise tournaments was noted.

Karen and Alastair Richards have of course personally been very active in their youth coaching activities all over the world.

The YC is looking to renew its membership with active contributors interested in promoting Scrabble to the young. Karen notes some interest from China and Hong Kong but as yet these have not ventured onto the world scene with their youths.

### **Rules Committee (RC) chaired by Amy Byrne**

Version 1 of the WESPA rules for international tournaments was released in 2009 and version 2, the culmination of a year's work by the RC, came out towards the end of 2010. As Version 2 came out shortly before some major internationals, they only came into effect at the beginning of 2011. Thanks are due to Chris May and his team for the amount of effort put into versions 1 and 2.

The rules are much shorter and at the same time more thorough. The wording of many parts has been improved. Major changes focus on overdrawn and acceptance of turn. The substantial fruits of these labours can be viewed on the WESPA website, and it is gratifying to note that many countries are adopting or adapting the WESPA rules, in whole or in part, for local tournaments.

### **Ratings Committee (RAC) chaired by Edward Okulicz**

The RAC called for volunteers at the beginning of 2011 and Edward, who succeeded Stewart Holden as chair during the year, has reported that an encouraging number of well-qualified individuals have expressed interest in helping with the technical task of maintaining and improving the WESPA international ratings system. The most visible sign of the RAC's ongoing activity is the versatile ratings search tool, Aardvark, now implemented on the redesigned WESPA website. As reported by the TC, there were 32 internationally rated tournaments in 2010 generating continuous work for the RAC and the Ratings Officer, Bob Jackman.

### **Dictionary Committee (DC) chaired by Darryl Francis**

The DC delivered all required update material to Collins, well ahead of the original November 2010 target. Collins have absorbed all the changes into their database. There was an agreed number of additions and deletions provided to Collins, and checks on the Collins database have confirmed that none of the changes got 'lost' in the process.

Our latest information is that there will be 1,532 additions and 145 deletions of words of eight or fewer letters.

Collins have been presenting the DC with examples of various fonts, layouts and page indexing for the new book, all of which are now agreed. The new volume will carry WESPA's endorsement.

Discussions are ongoing with Collins about production of a new edition of Official Scrabble Lists, with publication intended to coincide with the new word list.

The DC expects that the revised list will become available on schedule in 2011 and come into use in 2012.

### **WESPA Committee chaired by Elie Dangoor**

The main committee itself has also had its share of activity.

The Treasurer, Andrew Fisher, spent considerable time and effort during the year dealing with getting WESPA's Paypal account, which had certain administrative issues, fully operational again. We are pleased to report that members can now again freely use this convenient payment method for renewal of subscriptions and payment of ratings levies.

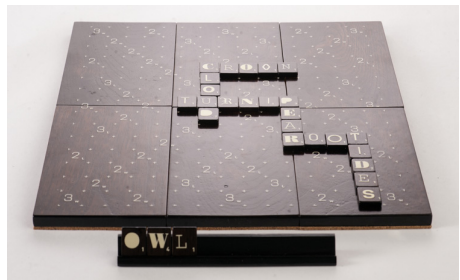
To satisfy Paypal's requirements, WESPA in November 2010 registered a non-profit body, WESPA Inc, incorporated in the state of Victoria in Australia to operate WESPA's Paypal account. WESPA Inc acts on the instructions of WESPA and any monies held by it are held for and on behalf of WESPA.

The Secretary, SH Cheah, advises that the process of reminding members to renew their memberships and to update WESPA on organisational changes is a continuous task. Also members are reminded that 2011 being a WSC year also means that WESPA will be holding its Biennial General Meeting (BGM) and elections to coincide with the WSC.

WESPA is still seeking a suitable volunteer to succeed Naween Fernando as Honorary Auditor, a duty he has carried out most capably since WESPA's inception. It is recognised that the Auditor should be changed from time to time in the interest of good governance. The duties are not onerous and the Auditor only needs to be able to scrutinize accounts, which in WESPA's case are currently simple, and comment and recommend appropriately. Anyone who is interested in serving in this capacity please contact the Secretary.

## Designer Scrabble

Designer Andrew Clifford Capener says: The purpose of this project is to revive an old, but loved game. To excite people about typography by giving them the ability to choose what font their Scrabble set will come in. The set can come in the font of your choice or with an assorted font pack. The Scrabble board and interior box are made out of solid walnut, and the exterior box is made from birch. Each of the 6 board pieces is magnetized to fit together perfectly and each piece slides nicely into its respective slot in the box and is secured by interior magnets as well. The interior of the exterior box as well as the bottoms of the 6 board pieces are lined with cork, to protect them while in use. Whether the set will go into production is not yet sure.



# WSC 2011

From **Philip Nelkon**,  
World Scrabble Championships - Organiser

## WORLD SCRABBLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mattel Inc. are delighted to announce that the **2011 World Scrabble Championships will be held in Warsaw, Poland.**

### VENUE/DATE

The venue will be the **Hilton Hotel, Warsaw**. The tournament dates will be **Wednesday 12 to Sunday 16 October** with compulsory registration on the evening of Tuesday 11 October. I will be in touch again shortly with accommodation details.



*Warsaw Hilton*

We have been able to add an extra day to the tournament and further games. There will now be 9 games on each of the first 4 days. We are consulting with WESPA over the length of the Final on Sunday 16 October.

### PRIZE MONEY

We have also been able to significantly increase the prizemoney at the tournament. The prize fund this year will be US\$50,000 with prizes paid down to 10th position (see below) and US\$20,000 going to the winner. There will be a Trophy for the best performing team.

1st - \$20,000	3rd - \$5,000	5th - \$3,000	7th - \$1,750	9th - \$1,250
2nd - \$10,000	4th - \$4,000	6th - \$2,500	8th - \$1,500	10th - \$1,000

### ALLOCATION OF PLACES

As host, Poland receives 2 extra places in the Championships. The allocation of participants is as follows :-

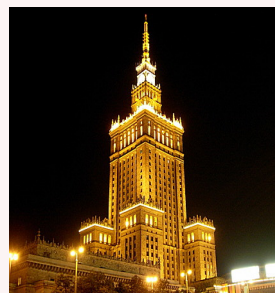
### World Scrabble Championships 2011 - Participants by country - Total 114

Australia .....	7	Kuwait .....	1	Singapore.....	4
Bahrain.....	1	Malaysia .....	2	South Africa .....	3
Barbados.....	1	Malta.....	2	Sri Lanka .....	1
Canada .....	8	Netherlands.....	1	Sweden .....	1
England .....	10	New Zealand.....	4	Tanzania .....	1
France .....	1	Nigeria.....	5	Thailand .....	7
Germany.....	1	N. Ireland .....	2	Trinidad .....	1
Ghana .....	2	Oman .....	1	U.A.E .....	1
Guyana.....	1	Pakistan.....	2	Uganda .....	1
India .....	2	Philippines.....	1	U.S.A .....	15
Indonesia.....	1	Poland.....	3	Wales.....	2
Ireland.....	1	Qatar.....	1	Zambia .....	1
Israel .....	2	Romania.....	1	WSC Champion .....	1
Japan.....	1	Saudi Arabia.....	1	WSC Runner-up.....	1
Kenya.....	3	Scotland .....	4	World Youth Champion .....	1

## Welcome to Warsaw

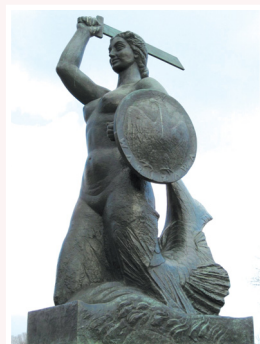
### Wojtek Usakiewicz highlights the differences between Scrabble in Poland and the UK

So you have got AEINRST on your rack. Not a bad start. RETSINA seems a good choice – it does not take hooks and T on a blue square gives you four extra points, so you score 70. But you



*Warsaw Palace of Arts and Culture*

can also quite evidently play STERANI and TRANSIE and more obscure ARSENIT and INSERAT. Is something wrong? Certainly not, only that the tournament you have joined in Warsaw is being played in Polish.



*Sword wielding mermaid symbol of Warsaw*

The set itself is not very far from the English version, there are 100 tiles with two blanks. More consonants can be a problem for an English speaker, but in spite of general opinion the difference between English and Polish sets is not great: 60 tiles for 23 consonants in Polish against 56 tiles for 21 consonants in English. On the other hand Poles have 9 letters signifying

8 vowels (U and Ó covers the same sound). Alas, this richness does not help very much in gaining extra 50 bonuses, because you must have at least two consonants on the rack to play a seven-letter word. However you can easily find bonuses with only one vowel present, as in CHRZCIC ([to] baptise), SKRZYSZ ([you] spark; Y is a vowel in Polish) or SPLASZCZ (flatten [it]).

Lower values for heavy letters in Polish directly influences the tactics. It means that the relative importance of a bonus play is bigger than in English, because it is more difficult to catch up without one. What is interesting, is that there are no common heavy letters in the two sets. The most valuable Polish tiles are Ż (9 pts.), Ń (7) and Ć (6). There are also six other letters for 5 points... of which only F is known in English. The strongest theoretical opening move – POŹNMYŻ ([let's get it to be] late) for 132 points – includes four different, specifically Polish, letters.

Of the English heavy letters in Poland – Q and X (and also V) are not used by Polish players at all. J is worth 3 points and Z will give you only 1 point and there are five such tiles! No wonder, because Z makes three common Polish diphthongs: CZ (ch), SZ (sh) and RZ (well... zh). You can thus turn ZEATINS into SZATNIE (changing rooms) or CRAZIED into DARZCIE (approximately: give [as a command to many people]). But as a rule it is difficult to have a Polish bonus from a rewarding English rack that has a Z. Typical connections of letters are too different.

There are of course some Polish words in CSW. CZAPKA and PIEROGI are okay and also in the Official Polish Scrabble Player Dictionary (Oficjalny Słownik Polskiego Scrablisty; OSPS), but do not try to play ZŁOTE. It is not good, if L is not crossed (ZŁOTE). What a surprise, though. You can play ZŁOTY... but the meaning is then „rallies, gatherings”. By the way, you cannot play POUND or PENNY, because only their Polish forms (FUNT, PENS) are valid.

Not always can you expect something in return, so WARSAW in CSW does not imply LONDON or LONDYN (the Polish form) in OSPS. The English capital is not allowed in



Here is the last board of the Polish Scrabble Championship Final 2004 in which Mariusz Wrześniewski won against Krzysztof Mówka 4:1. By chance both finalists names are playable on the board – MÓWKA directly (it is a little speech) and WRZEŚNIEWSKI when divided into four independent words. HYS on the board, spelled also HYŻ, is one of the most popular rack-cleaning Polish Scrabble words and the main part of the expression „mieć hysia (hyzia)” (to have a screw loose). (The board reproduced by the courtesy of the Polish Scrabble Federation).

Polish Scrabble. But you can play for instance DERBY (a match between teams from the same city), BRISTOL (Bristol board), YORK (a dog breed), KENT (a sheep breed) or LINCOLN (a car of this make). There is no problem with playing ANGLIK (Englishman, but nationalities are capitalized in Polish, so this is a horse breed), ANGIELKA (Englishwoman, here as a kind of bread roll) and ANGIELSKI (English; you do not capitalize adjectives in Polish, so it is allowed).

All Scrabble dictionaries contain many rare words and sometimes their supposed users can show some resistance to their inclusion. I have never heard anyone say a word HIGHWAY in Polish, but it is listed in OSPS and it can cause some confusion for English speakers while taking Polish inflection hooks. S is not possible, but E or U (for 3 pts!) are good.

In Polish there is no such generally useful hook as S is in English. The most common hooks are dependent on word classes. O, S, U, Z fit in front of verbs, J can be put at the end of some adjectives, M at the end of adjectives and nouns, and each of the vowels – although not indiscriminately – can be added in inflections of nouns. OWA, OWI, OWE, NIE, CIE, AMI on the rack always give a chance of a bonus play, but there are also encouraging letter combinations which certainly do not seem friendly to an English eye, such as PRZY or YSZ. The best six-letter stem is AEIKLN, which yields 79 bonuses and the three racks you can turn into 11 seven-letter bonuses are EIPKARS, EIKLNOW and AEKNRTY.

A typical Polish tournament consists of 12 or 13 rounds (two days) or 6 or 7 rounds (one day). During a game you score a little less than in English, so an aggregate score of over 1000 is rare (the record is 1099). The current highest average of 457 points per game in a two-day tournament is really quite a feat, although there have been single games in which the winner has got over 700 points.

If you like to study, you can start with 116 two-letter words and proceed to master as many as possible of almost 2.5 million words in OSPS (the language is really rich in inflections!). Maybe it would be worth your effort, because the champion of Poland is also the world champion... in Polish.



**Wojtek Usakiewicz** is the author of a book on Scrabble in Polish, for some years he has also been one of the leading Polish tournament players. He is a member of ABSP and represented Poland at the World Scrabble Championships in 1999 and 2007. Wojtek was a divisional winner at the Winter Matchplay in Milton Keynes in November. He lives in Warsaw.

## Darryl Francis



I was born in London in 1948; went to school there, in Hammersmith; did a degree in physics at London's Imperial College; and then did a master's degree in computer science at London University. Then I worked in various IT jobs in London between 1971 and 2003. I started working in IT in Britain's National Health Service; then worked in a variety of IT roles for Sainsbury's; then went to an airport retailer; then back to Sainsbury's. In 2003-04, I stopped working and moved to Cumbria. I've got a wife, Ann, and two daughters, Jade (whom many of you will remember from her days as a tournament runner) and Ellie. Unfortunately, the Scrabble bug has not really rubbed off on any of them!

As a kid, I was always interested in numbers, number games and number puzzles, so it might seem a bit surprising that I also became interested in words.

I didn't discover Scrabble until about 1970, a few years after I'd 'discovered' words and wordplay. I started playing against my mother, then with a couple of Scrabble enthusiasts in Twickenham. A year later, in 1971, I entered the very first National Scrabble Championship. I think I entered nearly all of the NSCs – have missed a few, but not many.

Also in the early 70s, I got involved with *Games & Puzzles* magazine, becoming the puzzles, competitions and Scrabble editor. I think that quite a few of today's longstanding Scrabble players were introduced to Scrabble via *Games & Puzzles*.

I joined the London Scrabble League sometime around 1973-74. I don't recall the exact time, but I do remember many of the players I first encountered there – Michael Goldman, Peter Dean, Sheila Hockey, Reg Lever, Vera Lang, Elsie and Norman Kay, Minks Bright and Edith Gross. We used to play in a smoky bridge club in Bayswater on a Thursday night. The venue changed a few times, and new Scrabble players joined and others dropped out. We also used to have Sunday afternoon drives at the home of Joan and Roger Lane. Eventually, the London League started scheduling games in players' homes, four players per match, with all the schedules created by the late Peter Dean. I played in the League once a week from the late 70s right through to when I left London in late 2003 – about 25 years' worth of fixtures.

I've also taken part in many of the one-day and weekend tournaments organised by Scrabble clubs up and down the country. I've also played abroad in several Scrabble tournaments. The first was Michael Tang's 1999 event in Singapore – I recall there was a group of about eight Brits who attended that event – Terry Kirk, David Webb, Phil Appleby, Mark Nyman, Evan Simpson, Andrew Fisher and Femi Awowade. In 2000, I was back in Singapore and then Penang, Malaysia. And in 2001 I played in the King's Cup in Bangkok, Thailand.

The earliest Scrabble book I wrote was a 40-page booklet in the British *Know the Game* series. I also wrote *The Complete Book of Scrabble* in 1980, which appeared over Gyles Brandreth's name. There was also *World Championship Scrabble* which I did in 1992, based on various games played at the inaugural World Scrabble Championship in 1991. And I did *How to Play Better Scrabble* for Chambers in 1994. And I've also ghost-written books for various minor celebrities.

My 1992 book *World Championship Scrabble* was a spinoff from a tv series I did on the 1991 World Scrabble Championship (WSC). The first WSC was staged in 1991, and I was asked to record a series of five programmes for BBC2, along with celebrity (the late) Alan Coren,

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commenting on five of the games. It garnered some very satisfying reviews in the national press – not quite what you'd expect, given the usual media stance of sneering at Scrabble. Over the years since then, many Scrabble players have contacted me to say that this tv programme was their introduction to Scrabble. They saw the programmes, acquired the game, started playing and got hooked. Unfortunately, the BBC never saw fit to do similar programmes for successive WSCs. I

As for other word-oriented tv programmes, I was the series 6 champion of *Countdown* in 1985. I won 8 games outright (I don't recall hearing the term octo-champ at the time – it seems to have come into use since 1985), then I came back to win a quarter-final, then a semifinal, and then a final, to emerge as the series champion.

I also appeared in some other tv shows: *You Bet*, *Turnabout* and *Catchword*.

I guess that the longest-lived of my Scrabble books have got to be *Official Scrabble Words* (OSW) and *Official Scrabble Lists* (OSL). OSW was first published by Chambers in 1988, went through various editions for Chambers, and then became a Collins publication.

I've also written extensively for an American wordplay journal *Word Ways: The Journal of Recreational Linguistics*. Longtime editor and owner Ross Eckler encouraged me to investigate numerous aspects of wordplay. Ross must have published well over a hundred articles and other pieces I've written over the years. I've written articles on three-, four- and five-dimensional crosswords, anagrams of all the US state-names, anagrams of the names of the chemical elements, the 150+ anagrams of the letters AEINRST, high-scoring Scrabble, colour names, strange geographical names, palindromes, shiftgrams, typewriter words, and a host of other specialised wordplay subjects. For anyone interested, the Word Ways website is at [www.wordways.com](http://www.wordways.com)

It's probably not surprising that I have an extensive collection of dictionaries and other reference books including all the obvious big-name dictionaries. As well as dictionaries, I have gazetteers, biographical dictionaries, and other extensive lists of proper names. My library also includes thesauruses, books of new words, quotations, proverbs, limericks, slogans, crossword solvers, and journals and magazines about different aspects of words and language. I have word puzzle magazines dating back to the 1880s. Beyond dictionaries and word books, I have numerous books on the history and science (art?) of lexicography and dictionary-making. All of these can be mined for material on wordplay!

These days, I don't play much face-to-face Scrabble at all. When I lived in London, I played regularly in the London Scrabble League (weekly), the Middlesex League (monthly), and maybe 8-10 Scrabble tournaments per year, as well as several ad hoc events – perhaps a total of 300 games a year. Since moving to Cumbria, the frequency of my Scrabble playing has gone south! There are no local leagues or clubs, and I only manage to play in 2-3 tournaments a year – barely 20-30 games. I do play on Facebook, but that's no real alternative for face-to-face play. I used to play on the Internet Scrabble Club (ISC), but have even let that fade away. These days, I'm more interested in crosswords and general knowledge quiz programs on tv. I tackle the cryptic crossword daily in *The Times* (as well as its killer sudokus). And I try to catch *Mastermind*, *The Chase* and *Eggheads* on tv. I also play in various pub quizzes in Cumbria, and I organize a local pub quiz league. My local pub (*The Ship*, in Thursby) won the local league in 2010, and is currently top of the local league, with a 2011 victory looking a possibility.

Will I return to playing a lot more face-to-face Scrabble? Probably not. I still intend to enter NSCs, but lack of regular practice will probably reduce my chances of getting past the regional final. I may enter some of the local tournaments, but in my neck of the woods, 'local' probably means a 2-hour drive to somewhere like Glasgow or Middlesbrough.

# causeway grand slam

An announcement by **MICHAEL TANG** of a new series of major, big money, international Scrabble events, one of which will take place in the UK:

I am pleased to announce the **Causeway Grand Slam**. There shall be **four** Causeway Challenges. Annually effective 2012.

- 1) **Melbourne Causeway Challenge 2012**, March 9-12; Closing Date: 9 December 2011
- 2) **Vancouver Causeway Challenge 2012**, May 25-28, Closing Date: 9 March 2012
- 3) **Manchester Causeway Challenge 2012**, August 17-20, Closing Date: 9 June 2012
- 4) **Johor Bahru Causeway Challenge 2012**, November 28-December 2, Closing Date: 9 September 2012

**The prize structures for the first three Causeway Slams are as follows:**

<b>A) Premier Division</b>	<b>B) Masters Division</b>	<b>C) Open Division</b>
Champion: US\$10,000	Champion: US\$2,000	Champion: US\$1,000
1st Runner Up: US\$5,000	1st-Runner Up: US\$1,500	1st-Runner Up: US\$900
2nd Runner Up: US\$2,500	2nd-Runner Up: US\$1,000	2nd-Runner Up: US\$800
4th Position: US\$1,500	4th position: US\$900	4th position: US\$700
5th position: US\$1,000	5th position: US\$800	5th position: US\$600
6th position: US\$900	6th position: US\$700	6th position: US\$500
7th position: US\$800	7th position: US\$600	7th position: US\$400
8th position: US\$700	8th position: US\$500	8th position: US\$300
9th position: US\$600	9th position: US\$400	9th position: US\$200
10th position: US\$500	10th position: US\$300	10th position: US\$200
Registration Fees: US\$300	Registration Fees: US\$150	Registration Fees: US\$100
Criterion: Players above Wespa 1800 rating	Criterion: Between Wespa Ratings 1500 and 1800	Criteria: Below Wespa Ratings 1500
Dictionary: Collins (edition to be confirmed)	Dictionary: Collins (edition to be confirmed)	Dictionary: Collins (edition to be confirmed)
Challenge Rule: 10 points per word	Challenge Rule: 5 points per word	Challenge Rule: 5 points per word
No. of Games: 36	No Of Games: 36	No. of Games: 36

## **Bonus Prizes:**

- A) There will be 1 return air ticket "lucky draw" in Melbourne, Vancouver and Manchester to attend Johor Bahru Causeway Challenge 2012
- B) There is a special Bonus prize of US\$10,000 for player who scored the highest "Causeway Points" in Premier Section at all the 4 Grand Slams. Melbourne, Vancouver and Manchester will award 10 "Causeway Points" for the winner in descending order. Johor Bahru will carries twice the "Causeway Points" system over the other 3 cities.
- C) The prize structure for Johor Bahru Causeway Challenge 2012 shall be announced on 4th December 2011.

Once again, I strongly urge players from all over the world to come up in full force to show the Sports World why we are going Professional with the Causeway Challenge.

# around the tournaments

## West Berks

January 15 (7 Rounds)

Report from Ian Burn

West Berks A		
David Sutton	6	561
Brett Smitheram	5	682
Vincent Boyle	5	583

West Berks B		
Andy Gray	7	712
Reeyaaz Goolamhossen	6	502
Frankie Latham	5	485

West Berks C		
Chris Smith	6	81
Malcolm Davis	5	658
Mabel Choularton	5	498

The Barn in Purley on Thames - a fine 18th century agricultural building - was again the venue for the 11th annual West Berks Scrabble Tournament.

In all 76 players participated in the event which was somewhat down on previous years' attendances. Despite the lower numbers, the £465 prize fund was maintained at the same level as in previous events.

From the tournament directional perspective, this was the first domestic tournament using WESPA rules and as such there were several instances where the director was called to clarify the new over-draw rule.

In the A division, Jackie McLeod led until the 6th round, when a defeat meant that any of three players on 5-1 could win the event with a good performance in the final round. In the headline game, David Sutton beat Brett Smitheram to clinch the title.



*The timbered playing room*

In the B division Andy Grey and Reeyaaz Goolamhossen shared the lead throughout the day until they met in the 6th round which Andy won and he went on to record the day's only 100% record.



*Champion David Sutton*

In the C division, Chris Smith gradually plugged away all day with narrow wins, to finish the event with a spread of just +81 having won 6 of the 7 games. He nearly did not win the event, since his result sheet for the 7th round showed an erroneous win for his opponent, where the player numbers had been interposed. A quick recalculation at the presentation resolved the issue. This was not an isolated incident for this error, there having been 2 other instances at the event, so on behalf of all organisers I would like to stress the importance of filling in the result sheet correctly.

Ratings prizes were won by Ebi Sosseh (Div A), Judy Young (B) and Shirley Stokley (C)

As part of this tournament, a trophy was given to the player from one of the three Berkshire clubs who performed best on the day, irrespective of division. The winner of this trophy was David Sutton repeating his performance from 2006. Both this trophy and the trophy for the overall winner of the tournament are perpetual trophies sponsored by Fujitsu Services.

Proceeds from all aspects of the tournament enabled the Club to make a donation of £515.77 to the West Berkshire Alzheimers Society, specifically for their 'Singing for the Brain' initiative within Purley on Thames.

### **Pitlochry (3 day event)**

**January 17th-19th (15 Rounds)**

<b>Pitlochry 3day A</b>			<b>Pitlochry 3day B</b>		
Caroline Atkins	13	843	Helgamarie Farrow	12	803
Mary Jones	11	365	Linda Barratt	11	751
Kate Leckie	9½	465	Helen Polhill	9	532

### **Pitlochry (2 day event)**

**January 19th-21st (10 Rounds)**

<b>Pitlochry 2day A</b>			<b>Pitlochry 2day B</b>		
Kate Leckie	7½	378	Helen Polhill	8	305
Mary Jones	7½	370	Carol Grant	7	330
Anne Steward	7	382	Paul Cartman	6	391

### **Peterborough (5pp challenge)**

**January 22nd (7 Rounds)**

<b>Peterborough 5pp A</b>			<b>Peterborough 5pp B</b>			<b>Peterborough 5pp C</b>		
Austin Shin	5	496	Quentin Baker	5	491	Neil Broom	5	561
Paul Allan	4	350	Neil Rowley	5	164	Maurice Brown	5	538
<b>Peterborough 5pp D</b>			<b>Peterborough 5pp E</b>					
Marjorie Struggles	6	553	Trevor Warwick	7	543			
Carol Smith	6	155	Lee Fisher	5	96			

### **Northern Ireland Championships (Belfast)**

**January 22nd-23rd (13 Rounds)**

This was an 'Open' event with all players in a single division

1	Brett Smitheram	10	735
2	Paul Gallen	10	355
3	Alastair Richards	9	961
4	Feargal Weatherhead	9	284
5	Stewart Holden	8	709
Ratings prizes: David Steel			
Sarah Jane Jamison			

## Word that spelt disaster for world's top Scrabble player - tremelo

It wasn't exactly a red letter day as the world number one Scrabble player from Belfast had his crown threatened by a word wizard from London yesterday.

Three-times Northern Ireland Scrabble champ Paul Gallen was left shaking after losing his Northern Ireland crown yesterday when former UK champion Brett Smitheram streaked ahead with the word 'tremelo' in the penultimate game of the local tournament.

The word, which is a musical term, was the turning point in the championship and saw the 31-year-old topple the reigning champion.

Both players had 10 wins and threes losses in the marathon 13 games played over the weekend at the Beechlaw House Hotel, in Dunmurry. But as Paul explained, he was left scrabbling by the point difference.

"Brett was on a 755-points spread and mine was 355 points, so I needed to win the last game by 199 to beat him, which was an uphill task."

However, the 24-year-old solicitor is confident of retaining his world number one ranking, gained after competing in Malaysia last month.

"I came fourth in the Causeway championship in Malaysia, which pushed me to number one in the rankings," Paul said. "I've won the Northern Ireland championship for the last three years, so I can't be greedy, but this shouldn't scupper my world ranking."

A total of 27 players from as far away as Australia took part in the Northern Ireland tournament which is open to anyone and attracts top players. It has only been running five years but has already established a reputation as one of the most difficult tournaments.

It was against the youngest competitor, Alistair Richards (18), who had flown all the way from Australia, that Brett played the killer word 'tremelo'. He used all seven letters in his rack and so gained a 50-point bonus to take the driving seat in the game.

"I've won the British championship but haven't won in Ireland before so I was really pleased," Brett said. "The tournament is a friendly environment so there was no animosity about me winning — besides the champion had won the last three years in a row."

The pair are set to face each other at the World Scrabble Championships later this year, which are expected to take place in Poland.

Paul established himself as a word wizard when he was crowned 2006 Champion of Champions on popular TV gameshow, Countdown.

"After I won Countdown, I couldn't go any further with it so I decided to move into Scrabble," he said.

The Northern Ireland Scrabble Players Association is hoping Banbridge teenager Eoin Monaghan, who was last year's Countdown runner-up, will follow in Paul's footsteps. The association had invited him to the weekend tournament but the 14-year-old was unable to attend.

"Eoin would be super at Scrabble — a great prospect for the future," added Paul.

"It's a very enjoyable game and taking part in tournaments I get to see a bit of the world.

"There are a couple of big money events but it is nothing like poker!"



*Brett Smitheram and Paul Gallen*

Photo: Stewart Holden

## Chester

### January 28th-30th (17 Rounds)

Report from Kathy Rush

Chester A			Chester B			Chester C		
Wayne Kelly	12	542	Rowan Callaghan	12	588	Stany Arnold	13	1153
Phil Robertshaw	11	934	Marlene Skinner	12	579	Anne Darby	12	875
Steve Perry	11	920	Geoff Cooper	11	283	Christine Tudge	12	725

A tournament of firsts. The first year we have used TSH and the first year playing to the new WESPA rules.

Up to now we have used Graeme Thomas's program with which we are very familiar. We were entering the unknown with TSH but it turned out to be remarkably easy to use and a lot more flexible.

We were not looking forward to the implementation of the new WESPA rules; we had read through the rule book numerous times and each time something different would flummox us so we just crossed our fingers and hoped for the best. In the event it all went very smoothly. I think the players were helping each other adjust to the new rules. The main reason for calling the TD was overdrawing. In each case, though there weren't that many, the offending player had noticed first so it was easily dealt with. It was quite amusing seeing the consequences of the overdraw; when x+1 tiles were turned over and the opponent smiled sweetly and said "I think I'll put the S back in the bag" or, near the end of the game, leaving their opponent with a possibly unplayable Q.

There were no queries re blank designation although there must have been a few sets without blanks as there was no designation on the score-sheet; I suppose it was just possible that both blanks were left on the rack at the end of the game!

Divisions A and B were Round Robins; Div C had two extra players so was Swiss-paired.

In Div C Christine Tudge was in the lead for a good part of the tourney with Anne, Stany and Joy close behind. Going into the last round Stany and Christine were both on 12 wins. Stany won her game to keep top spot.

Div B was closely contested. Marlene had been in first place from Round 5 and was joined in Round 7 by Rowan in second place; they were both on equal wins with very close spreads up to Round 15 when Rowan took first place, still on equal wins with Marlene but a slightly better spread. Meanwhile Geoff was still in with a shout, being just one game astray. Those were the positions right up to the last round but all three of them lost, Geoff by 1 point, Marlene by 3 points and Rowan by 21 points so there was no change in positions.

In Div A Robert Richland was hoping to retain the first place he achieved last year but there was tough opposition to overcome if that were to happen. After winning his first game, he lost to Chris Quartermaine, Wayne Kelly and Allan Simmons; he then got the bit between his teeth and won the next thirteen games to finish in first place again. While the final results are being processed there is a game of Scrabble bingo with the proceeds going to charity. The prize is a weekend for two at a Ramada hotel and was won by Janet Phillips.



*Robert Richland*



*Rowan Callaghan*



*Stany Arnold*

## West Sussex (Rustington)

January 30th (7 Rounds)

West Sussex A			West Sussex B			West Sussex C		
Penny Downer	5	650	Sheila Jolliffe	5	395	Jan Vokes-Taylor	5	288
Ann Golding	5	263	Verity Cross	5	314	Colin St Hill	5	131
Alan Bailey	4	270	Mary Siggers	5	287	Margaret Seabrook	4	239

## Edinburgh

February 5th (7 Rounds)

Edinburgh A			Edinburgh B			Edinburgh C		
Neil Scott	6	598	Rhoda Gray	7	377	Margaret McGhee	6	390
Anne Ramsay	5	217	Colin Nicol	5	109	Jennifer Payne	6	216
Simon Gillam	5	147	Alec Robertson	4	339	Martin Byrne	5	382

## Nottingham Nomads

February 5th-6th (8 games each day) - Report from Clive Spate

Having decided that the playing room works better with 90 players rather than 99, it was pleasing to have enough interest in the event to have another full house. Any fears that the event would be plagued with problems stemming from the adoption of WESPA rules were groundless. In only a few games was the TD required. I suppose that, with hindsight, this shouldn't be a surprise as only a very few players are prepared to push the rules to the limit; the vast majority play the game to the spirit of the rules rather than to the letter.

### Saturday winners

ARMSTRONG		FOALE		AROHA		NGAIO	
Martin Harrison	6 399	Len Edwards	8 581	Lewis Mackay	5½ 296	Ginny Dixon	7 458
Brett Smitheram	6 367	Mick Healy	5 220	Jared Robinson	5 200	Nicky Huitson	5 37

### Sunday winners

BORMAN		GAGARIN		HIOI		ORIHOU	
Jackie McLeod	7 942	Ken Bird	5 202	Theresa Brousson	6 797	Damian O'Malley	7 569
Paul Richards	7 523	Linda Barratt	5 123	Rick Blakeway	5 271	John Mitchell	5 280

CERNAN		HALSE		INANGA		PATIKI	
Rick Blakeway	6 196	Damian O'Malley	6 440	Calum Edwards	6 467	Carol Arthurton	8 766
Ash Coldrick	6 173	Ted Lewis	5 348	Donna Stanton	5 148	Esther Kasket	6 104

DUKE		IRWIN		KAINGAS		RANGIORA	
Richard Moody	7 684	Paul Cartman	7½ 647	Beverley Calder	6 30	Adrian Noller	7 533
Anne Ashmore	6 441	Peter Terry	6 225	Ivy Dixon-Baird	5 163	Stany Arnold	6 442

EVANS		JING		MANAIA		TANIWHA	
Beverley Calder	6 535	Jenny Harris	6 616	Margaret Pritchett	6 268	Joe Knapper	7 500
Dorn Osborne	5 240	Mavis Ernest	6 411	Neil Broom	5 27	Cathy Poacher	6 15

## Consolation prizes were :

Best runner-up over the whole weekend: Wayne Kelly, 11 wins, +514

Best run of games over both days: Cathy Poacher, 10 wins, + 552.

Highest spread: Stany Arnold 442.

A raffle plus donations raised £520. Many thanks to those who bought tickets and/or donated items to include in the raffle and to Harper-Collins for their continued generosity. Cheques for £500 were sent to the Lymphoma Association and the Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research Fund.

The next Nomads weekend, which will be the last until 2013, is on August 6th & 7th.

## Scottish Masters

**February 12th-13th (12 Rounds)** - Report from Neil Scott

Helen Gipson	9	1221
Allan Simmons	9	434
Neil Scott	8	669
Alan Sinclair	8	52
Ross Mackenzie	7	-62

After the original 11-game round robin, Helen Gipson was leading the field, one win ahead of Allan Simmons. In the final king-of-the-hill round Helen lost to Allan but her superior spread meant she took the Scottish Masters title for the first time.

Thanks to Colin Nicol and Sylvia Swaney for stepping in to adjudicate at short notice.

## 3rd Burnham on Sea Invitational

**February 19th (6 Rounds)**

Report from Neill Green

16 people with wide variation in their ratings gathered for 7 games under director, Gareth Williams. The spread of ratings was greatest in Division 1 where Neil Green headed the list with Ian Kendall overtaking four higher rated players in second place. Otherwise the results were in line with expectations.

In division 2 Christine Tudge was a worthy winner although only on spread. Relative newcomer, Barbara Patch, came in second, her initial rating of 76 soaring to 94 as a result.

Burnham on Sea A			Burnham on Sea B		
Neil Green	7	807	Christine Tudge	5	510
Ian Kendall	5	391	Barbara Patch	5	97
David Williams	5	209	Rod Winfield	5	-9

## Corby

**February 20th (7 Rounds)**

Report from Carmen Toscano

Corby A			Corby B			Corby C		
Christian Brown	6	568	Angela Burke	6	423	Lee Fisher	7	774
Ashley Coldrick	5	477	Malcolm Davis	6	161	Christine Cartman	5	546
Adekoyejo Adegbesan	5	270	Heather Laird	5	291	Anne Brown	5	159
Mike Whiteoak	5	197	Esther Kasket	5	21	Mary Baty	4	322

Corby's First Scrabble Tournament was held at the town's Best Western Hotel. It was well attended and a great success. Many emails of thanks and praise have been received directly

or via UK Scrabble and everyone spoken to has said how much they enjoyed the day which was pleasantly rounded off when the Mayor of Corby making the presentations.

The venue in particular received much praise including 'best ever!', 'very spacious', bright and airy', 'staff very accommodating and friendly', 'good food available from the hotel for lunch, and a nice atmosphere all round'.

It was good to see five first-time players attend – all from the Corby Scrabble Club and one , Anne Brown, achieved third place in her Division. All enjoyed themselves and are now eager to attend their next tournament.

A 2-day event has been scheduled for February 2012 but there has been several requests for another one day tournament and this has now been arranged for 10th July.

## **Andover**

### **February 20th (6 Rounds)**

Report from Alan Bailey

<b>Andover A</b>			<b>Andover B</b>		
Gary Oliver	6	778	Andy Gray	6	367
James Rossiter	5	281	Ruth MacInerney	5	490
Ed Rossiter	4	399	Wendy Lindridge	4	227

<b>Andover C</b>			<b>Andover D</b>		
Elizabeth Ramsay	5	294	Brian Beaumont	6	641
Iris Cornish	5	255	June Lindridge	5	267
Anne Cheesman	5	216	Jan Vokes-Taylor	4	203

3 of the divisional leaders had remained unbeaten by the end of the day. They were led by the Champion for 2011, Gary Oliver. Runner-up on 5 wins was James Rossiter, with brother Ed 3rd, having a comfortably larger spread than the other 4 on 4 wins.

Andy Gray topped Division B for the 2nd year running, while Anne Cheesman led Division C nearly all day but lost her last game and ended up 3rd of the 3 players on 5 wins, behind Rustington club-mate Elizabeth Ramsay and Iris Cornish. Bottom-rated player in Division C Mark Smith came 7th and won the separate Terry Hollington memorial ratings prize. Brian Beaumont took Division D with a 100% record

Salient, and likely relevant features of changes following the adoption of WESPA Rules were stuck on the walls round the tea-urn. This obviated a long drone from me at the start. Contrary to expectation there were no more calls than usual for a director's decision, which mostly related to overdrawing.

My principle for the day was that I would expect there to be some confusions at this early stage of the new rules, and that I would err on the side of leniency and genuine mistake rather than any gamesmanship. It is worth pointing out in this connection that a quarter of my clients are not members of ABSP. I would not have been surprised to learn that another quarter had not studied the ABSP briefing thoroughly.

With Ruth Marsden on computer my job was again a sinecure. As usual the current Mayor of Test Valley, who was commendably brief and good-humoured (although he did not then know that his Charity fund would benefit to the tune of £450 from the tournament profits and the raffle) drew the raffle tickets and presented the prizes, and we all went home earlier than expected.

Two comments on player behaviour; first the bad. Why do some players wander around the playing area with tea/coffee sloshing around in their hands, and even worse in a few cases leave the cup wherever they happen to finish with it? If you have a drink you are responsible for proper disposal of the receptacle. Invariably there is at least one mess-making spillage on the playing floor or a table. Director's kit should not have to include mop and pail.

Now for the good. I casually mentioned that the sole caretaker would welcome a bit of help at the end with stacking tables and chairs. The result was electric. As soon as they had finished players responded with such enthusiasm that a couple of long-running games became islands in an almost empty space, and there was nowhere for the Lady Mayoress to sit as her husband presented the prizes.

An aficionado would note that the 3 top spots were occupied by players from Southampton, whence also comes the tournament director. Coincidence or what? Well, the tournament director has resigned, and announced sadly that this was the last of the Grand Hampshire Championship tournaments in Andover. He did not actually say, in classic political double-speak, that it was in order to clear his name, but it makes you wonder.

## Leicester

### February 26th (6 Rounds)

Leicester A			Leicester B		
Austin Shin	5	424	Paul Thomson	6	522
Jared Robinson	5	350	Lorraine Crouch	5	277
Paul Allan	5	339	Maurice Brown	5	241
Ratings: Diane Pratesi			Ratings: Jack Anscomb		

Leicester C			Leicester D		
Michael Thomas	6	470	Mark Bradley	5	491
Carmen Toscano	5	188	Lee Fisher	5	304
Liz Barber	4	401	David Garland	5	282
Ratings: Eileen Foster			Ratings: Ryan Loughborough		

## Kinross

### March 5th-6th (13 Rounds)

Kinross A			Kinross B		
Ross Mackenzie	10	511	Caroline Foy	10	225
Colin Nicol	9	523	Yvonne Holland	9	837

## New Malden

### March 5th (7 Rounds)

New Malden A			New Malden B		
Mikki Nicholson	6	629	Oliver Garner	7	688
Calum Edwards	6	346	Jonny Maitland	6	341
Ed Martin	5	525	Jake Berliner	6	319

New Malden C			New Malden D		
Elizabeth Ramsay	6	581	Alastair Keens-Douglas	6	506
Maureen Barlow	5½	225	Nick Stone	6	343
Sara Hardy	5	361	Mavis Ernest	5	637

## Cambridge

### March 11th-13th (14 Rounds)

Cambridge A			Cambridge B		
Ginny Dixon	11	565	Margaret Emmott	12	618
Peter Ashurst	9	444	Rose Wall	10	793

## German Open (Mannheim)

### March 11th-13th (22 Rounds)

Report by Mauro Pratesi

Thirty players from around the world entered the German Open in Mannheim for 22 rounds of Scrabble. The players came from Australia, England, Germany, Israel, Malta, Netherlands, Romania, Poland and Scotland.

Israel's Evan Cohen put together a run of eleven straight wins to go three wins ahead of the field with three games to play. A brief hiccup losing to Anand Buddhdev before Evan finished with two wins to win the tournament. Terry Kirk finished with six straight wins to take second place.

German Open		
Evan Cohen (Isr)	19	1503
Terry Kirk (Eng)	15	1422
Mihai Pantis (Rom)	14 <sup>1/2</sup>	389
Dan Sandu (Rom)	14	565
Yi En Gan (Ger)	14	465

## Swindon

### March 12th (7 Rounds)

Swindon A			Swindon B		
Fidelis Olotu	6	613	Rachelle Winer	6	573
Sandie Simonis	6	326	Phil Kelly	6	234
Wayne Kelly	5	414	Feroza Bartlett	5	514

Swindon C			Swindon D		
Ruth Marsden	6	404	Rod Winfield	6	354
Anne Darby	5 <sup>1/2</sup>	206	Mavis Harding	6	336
Norman Smith	5	244	Mabel Choularton	6	248

## Peterborough (Free challenge)

### March 19th (7 Rounds)

Peterborough A			Peterborough B			Peterborough C		
Martin Harrison	6	415	Quentin Baker	5	224	Maurice Brown	6	462
Paul Allan	5	628	John Ashmore	5	184	Graham Wakefield	5	310

Peterborough D			Peterborough E			Peterborough F		
Andrew Eames	5	208	Jill Parker	5	474	Angela Burke	5	411
Neil Broom	5	133	Jim Lyes	5	160	Eileen Foster	5	215

Peterborough G			Peterborough H		
Mark Bradley	7	933	Sheila Smith	6	308
Trevor Warwick	4	48	Hazel Packham	4	139

The trophy for the best performance over the combined penalty challenge (Jan 22nd) and free challenge events went to Maurice Brown with 11 wins from 14 games and a spread of +1000.

# ratings snapshot

These pages are a snapshot of how the ratings looked on 25th March 2011. There are rated games taking place every week so for the most up-to-date list you should consult the ABSP website: [absp.org.uk/ratings/ratings.html](http://absp.org.uk/ratings/ratings.html). This list is in ranking order. ABSP members have their membership number shown before their name

206	1841	Nigel Richards(GM)	177	368	Chris Hawkins(Exp)	166	1016	John Ashmore
205	57	Mark Nyman(GM)	177	4	Philip Nelkon(GM)	166	1116	Paul Bassett
200	774	Brett Smitheram(GM)	177	362	Gary Oliver(GM)	166		Mark Goodwin
199		Chris May	177		Mohammad Sulaiman	166	45	Barry Grossman(Exp)
195		Nathan Benedict	177	1163	David Sutton(Exp)	166	1429	Stewart Houten
194	1427	Mikki Nicholson(GM)	176		Richard Evans(Exp)	166		Chris Keeley
193	751	Paul Allan(GM)	174		Christian Brown	166	1231	David Steel
193	147	Helen Gipson(GM)	174	1423	Calum Edwards	166		Jim_Chor_Tan
192	764	Lewis Mackay(GM)	174	72	John Grayson(GM)	166		Bob Violett(Exp)
191	652	Nick Ball(Exp)	174	1191	Neil Green	165	914	Vincent Boyle
191	158	Ed Martin(GM)	174		Ed Rossiter	165	1221	JOJo Delia
190	745	Harshan Lama'suriya(GM)	173	103	Danny Bekhor	165	1491	Stephen Hunt
188	1355	Craig Beevers(GM)	173	58	Russell Byers(GM)	165	609	Bob Lynn
188	1618	Paul Gallen(Exp)	173		Gerry Carter	165	115	Diane Pratesi(Exp)
188	1368	Phil Robertshaw(Exp)	173	1000	Stewart Holden(GM)	165		Dan Sandu
187	7	Allan Simmons(GM)	173	38	Jackie McLeod(Exp)	165		Chris Vicary
187	21	Evan Simpson(GM)	173	1349	Fidelis Olotu	164		David Delicata
186		Joanne Craig	173		Gary Polhill(Exp)	164	199	Graham Harding
186		Kevin McMahon	173	123	Noel Turner(Exp)	164	1203	Greg Kelly
186	1713	Alastair Richards	172		Andrew Goodwin	164	999	Kay McColgan
186	814	Jared Robinson(Exp)	172	281	Steve Perry	164		Mihai Pantis
185		Steve Polatnick	172	1057	Mike Whiteoak	164	226	Alan Sinclair
185	846	Austin Shin(Exp)	171		Toke Aka	163	978	Andy Becher
184		Evan Cohen	171	880	Femi Awowade(GM)	163		David Brook
184	338	David Webb(GM)	171	1714	Karen Richards	163		Chris Fenwick
183	1428	Martin Harrison(Exp)	171		Kwaku Sapong	163	1419	John Hardie
183	482	Neil Scott(GM)	171	5	Brian Sugar(GM)	163	1164	Karl Kwiatkowski
183	1687	Howard Wilde	171	162	Alec Webb(Exp)	163	1170	Paloma Raychbart
182	1220	Theresa Brousson(Exp)	170		Ademola Ajayi	163		Ebi Sosseh
182	823	Wayne Kelly(GM)	170	1202	Jason Carney	162		Alex_Gboye Balogun
181	1851	Bob Linn	170	734	Nick Deller	162	1301	Rick Blakeway
181	1497	Azu Ogbogu(Exp)	170		Clement Ikolo	162		Chris Cummins
180	1422	Wale Fashina	170	1006	Ross Mackenzie	162		Mark Hollingsworth
179		Sam Kantimathi	169	202	Penny Downer(Exp)	162		Peter Igweke
179	60	Terry Kirk(GM)	169	6	Darryl Francis(Exp)	162		Cecil Muscat
179		Philips Owolabi	169	307	Dick Green(Exp)	162		Dianne Ward
179	41	Gareth Williams(GM)	168		Di Dennis(GM)	161	1754	Quentin Baker
178	478	Elie Dangoor(Exp)	168		Rik Kennedy	161		Bob Berry
178		Biyi Oyadiran	168	101	Robert Richland(Exp)	161	463	Helen Harding
178	1102	Paul{England} Richards	167		Adekoyejo Adegbesan	161		Paul Nind
178		Ben Tarlow	167	59	Simon Gillam(Exp)	161	479	Andrew Roughton(Exp)
178	1869	Feargal Weatherhead	167	86	Frankie Mairey	161	116	Martin Thompson
			167	1510	Jessica Pratesi	160		Anand Buddhdev
			167	1469	James Rossiter			

160		Christo Davison	153	268	Donna Stanton	145	228	Adrienne Berger
160	1863	Tim Knight	153	1691	Wojtek Usakiewicz	145	1765	Beverley Calder
160		Joseph McGinley	153	229	Graham Wakefield	145	1861	Rose Calder
159		Mike Chappell	152		Gerard Fox	145		Chris Civil
159	1362	Graham Haigh	152	719	Kate Surtees	145	1145	Peter Darby
159	105	Elisabeth Jardine	151	51	Cathy Anderson	145	1456	Andrew Eames
159	213	Neil Rowley	151	534	Caroline Atkins	145	1217	Carolyn Emery
159	631	Alison Sadler	151	1739	Feroza Bartlett	145	589	Anne Stewart
159	1649	Paul{Halifax} Thompson	151	1210	Graham Bonham	145	1053	Stephen Wintle
159	810	Linda Vickers	151	835	Maurice Brown	145	637	Val Wright
159	292	Wilma Warwick	151		Phil Kelly	144	124	Ivy Dixon-Baird
158	1486	Ashley Coldrick	151		Victoria Kingham	144		Mike Evans
158		Billy Dott	151	837	Peter Liggett	144	688	Lorraine Gordon
158		Alan Georgeson	151	20	Janet Phillips	144	1602	Kim Hands
158	1243	Doj Graham	151		Matthew Pinner	144	655	Mary Jones
158	1862	Stu Harkness	151	476	David Shenkin	144		Brenda Margereson
158	408	Nuala O'Rourke	151	1389	Paul{Tranmere} Thomson	144	707	Gwynfor Owen
158	88	Sandie Simonis(Exp)	150	1412	Melanie Beaumont	144	480	Anne Ramsay
158		Ronan Webb	150	66	Sue Bowman	144	1287	Stuart Solomons
157	1211	Ian Coventry	150		Chris Downer	144		Lesley Trotter
157	793	Joanne Hiley	150		Naomi Landau	143		Martin Bloomberg
157	553	Brian Jones	150		Timothy Lawrence	143	507	Kathryn Henry
157		Chris Quartermaine	150	135	David Meadows	143	1768	Charles Micallef
157		Angela Swain	150	1269	Richard Moody	143		David Reading
157	919	Peter Thomas	150	489	Tom Wilson	143	1732	James Squires
157	1674	Ricky Zinger	149		John Balloch	143	1189	Martin Taylor
156	1635	Nick Ascroft	149	1824	Oliver Garner	143	876	Evelyn Wallace
156		John Barker	149		Chris Harrison	142	1870	Abiodun Adeyemi
156	1440	Tim Charlton	149		Sandra Hoffland	142	399	Louise Brundell
156	1693	Rafal Dominiczak	149	272	Ivan Swallow	142	69	Maira Conway
156		Ed Garrett-Jones	148	732	Wanda De_Poitiers	142	61	Lorraine Crouch
156	154	Mike O'Rourke	148	24	Angela Evans	142		Karen Game
156	1380	Anthony Pinnell	148		Davina Galloway	142	232	Iain Harley
156		Ben Wilson	148		Wendy Lindridge	142		Mark Murray
156	94	Rachelle Winer	148	1270	Len Moir	141	635	Philip Aldous
155		Olakunle Ajayi	148	1411	Rebecca Sheldrick	141	1559	Joe Bridal
155	79	Chris Finlay	148	790	Margaret Staunton	141	1770	Tia Corkish
155	530	George Gruner(Exp)	148		Kevin Synnott	141	1466	Suzanne Dundas
155	488	Marion Keatings	147	852	Maureen Chamberlain	141	933	Ann Golding
155	555	Raymond Tate	147	84	Pauline Johnson	141	1035	Andy Gray
154	789	Alan Bailey	147	1123	Chrystal Rose	141	242	Sheila Green
154	252	Steve Balment	147		Mario Saliba	141	100	David Lawton
154	1608	David Holmes	146	471	Anne Ashmore	141	1511	Colin Nicol
154		Mark Lane	146		Ed Breed	140	1020	Derek Bower
154		Christine McKenzie	146	1473	Neil Broom	140	81	Joyce Cansfield(Exp)
154	986	Robert Pells	146	93	Ruth MacInerney	140	3	Laura Finley
153	343	Amy Byrne	146	161	Margaret Pritchett	140	1115	Nick Jenkins
153	1051	Elizabeth Hull	146		Omri Rosenkrantz	140	760	Sanmi Odelana
153	176	Jayne Mackenzie	146	1468	Kathy Suddick	140		Kay Powick
153		Raz Naot	146		Nicky Vella-Laurenti	140	1457	Amanda Sodhy

139	1631	Jack Anscomb	134	267	Graham Maker	128	Margaret Yeadon
139	449	Alan Childs	134	886	Ruth Marsden	127	557 Janice Bease
139	840	Rhoda Gray	134		Marc Meakin	127	1282 Barbara Goodban
139	1383	Sarah-Jane Jamison	134	960	Mary Siggers	127	1238 Juliet Green
139	523	Kate Leckie	134	470	Norman Smith	127	737 Margaret Harkness
139	150	David Longley	134		Evan Terrett	127	572 Val Hoskings
139		Jonny Maitland	133		Brenda Baxter	127	1509 Heather Laird
139	713	Trish Matthews	133		Graham Buckingham	127	625 John Mitchell
139	458	Eileen Meghen	133	1092	Heather Burnet	127	904 George Newman
139	1237	Dorn Osborne	133		Mario Camilleri	127	Mauro Pratesi
139	802	Patricia Pay	133	1591	Mick Healy	127	Jo Ramjane
139	28	Lorna Rapley	133	1199	Richard Hitchcock	127	Pauline Russell
139		Jean Rappitt	133	1533	Colin Kendall	127	1317 Marjorie Struggles
139	422	Carol Stanley	133		Gordon Procter	127	Rita Todd
139		Josef Thompson	133	690	Maureen Reynolds	127	1598 Carmen Toscano
139	636	David Williams	133		Alec Robertson	126	856 Minu Anderson
138	96	Diana Beasley	133		Martin Sheehan	126	Bob Christie
138	469	Tony Davis	133	1294	Christine Strawbridge	126	Terry Corps
138	544	Marjory Flight	132	330	Viv Beckmann	126	1667 Mary Doyle
138	689	Kenneth Gordon	132	1455	Angela Burke	126	570 Jean Gallacher
138		Marion Kirk	132		Rowan Callaghan	126	1293 Dennis Hussey
138		Celine McCart	132	1262	Ginny Dixon	126	1146 Leonora Hutton
138	1175	Rosalind Wilson	132		Liz Dunlop	126	537 Carol Malkin
137	738	Margaret Armstrong	132	92	Priscilla Encarnacion	126	Sammy Mangion
137		Nick Baker	132	1670	David Follows	126	1656 Damian O'Malley
137	254	Ian Burn	132	632	Carol{Norwich} Smith	126	Tanya Robson
137	1413	Geoff Goodwin	131	639	Esther Bacon	126	Martin Smith
137	1050	Yvonne McKeon	131	964	Phyllis Fernandez	126	291 Sylvia Swaney
137	932	Jill Parker	131	1877	Jayne Grey	126	1854 Michael Thomas
137	1149	Jim Wilkie	131		Sheila Hinett	126	1003 Sheena Wilson
136	1010	Tolani Ayo-Awojobi	131		Peter Hunt	125	943 Carol Arthurton
136	1391	Jan Bailey	131	1504	Andrea Waddington	125	238 Margaret Burdon
136	163	Yvonne Eade	131	177	Henry Walton	125	975 Jill Harrison
136		Pramit Kamath	130		June Edwards	125	9 Sheila Hockey
136	1206	Sarah Wilks	130	1762	Reeyaaz Goolamhossen	125	414 Jill Jones
136		Richard Woodward	130	263	Sheila Jolliffe	125	1577 Esther Kasket
136		Michael Zinger	130		Terry Jones	125	Ralph Obemeasor
135	80	Mary Allen	130	996	Kenneth Ross	125	1849 Theresa Scallan
135		Jean Bridge	130	29	Marlene Skinner	125	Mario Seychell
135		Verity Cross	129	419	Michael Baxendale	125	477 Malcolm Shaw
135	1022	Nicky Huitson	129	511	Samantha Beckwith	124	Jean Carter
135		Helen Jones	129	822	Jill Bright	124	Jean Crowder
135	923	Teresa Lyes	129		John Harrison	124	948 Eileen Foster
135	35	Lois McLeod	129		Frankie Latham	124	Joy Fox
135		Alison Pollard	129		Bryn Packer	124	Marian Hamer
134		Noel Barnes	129	775	Pat Wheeler	124	1654 Ian Kendall
134	899	Jake Berliner	128	924	Linda{Lincoln} Barratt	124	Josephine Mayo
134	1424	Len Edwards	128	406	Moya Dewar	124	Julie Nelkon
134	1479	Bob Jarvie	128		Liam Donnelly	124	Gary Pollard
134	875	Jim Lyes	128	246	Wendy Tiley	123	Elizabeth{IW} Allen

123	110	Liz Barber	119	1848	Sally Twine	113	1575	Margaret Marshall
123		Anna Borg	118	1752	Carol Bartlett	113	976	Adrian Noller
123		Catalin Caba	118	915	Shirley Chidwick	113	782	Richard Pajak
123		Joe Caruana	118		Lorna Franks	113		Paul Walford
123	776	Peter Hall	118	1169	Yvonne Holland	112	761	Mary Adams
123	1222	Bronagh Kenny	118	1574	Ken McGinness	112		Ben Berger
123	938	Helen Polhill	118		Mark Redhead	112		Margaret Herbert
123	1580	Nigel Sibbett	118	1341	Pam Sparkes	112		Maureen Hoch
122	603	Linda Bradford	118	1442	Gordon Winter	112	1007	Margaret Irons
122	992	Geoff Cooper	117	1503	Maureen Barlow	112	1136	Ted Lewis
122	1119	Anne Darby	117	565	Ann Coleman	112	1478	Vivienne Stokes
122	1054	Barbara Lukey	117	1773	Cody McCormick	112		Jo Tebbutt
122	1066	Barbara Morris	117	1696	Ena McNamara	112	1640	Nova Williams
122		Brenda Northcott	117		Judy Monger	112		Albert Zammit
122	1642	Alan Payne	117	1089	Vivienne Newman	111	743	Nora Bain
122		Brenda Rodwell	117	1738	Heather Roberts	111		Linda Beard
122		Tom Sharp	116		Hilda Ben-Nun	111	725	Paul Cartman
121	427	Peter Ashurst	116		Marlene Calleja	111		Jill Dyer
121	390	Betty Balding	116	320	Fay Madeley	111	420	Marie English
121	1298	Helgamarie Farrow	116	1683	Janet Southworth	111		Frans Farrugia
121	1027	Margaret Firmston	115	1263	Barbara Barker	111		Marjorie Gardner
121	381	Michael Harley	115	257	Syd Berger	111		Sylvia McCulloch
121	715	Barbara Hill	115	682	Janet Bonham	111		Peter Sime
121	1113	Chris Jackson	115	982	Ron Bucknell	111	1276	Evelyn Wansbrough
121	829	Kim Phipps	115	1625	Georgie Burchell	111		Jane Weston
120	922	Barbara Allen	115	1653	Tim Butcher	111	356	Pamela Windsor
120		Sue Ball	115	106	Ian Caws	110		Andrea Bailey
120		Eileen Basham	115	941	Audrey Harvey	110		Jill Burgess
120	1049	Ken Bird	115		Pete McCosh	110		Gill Carr
120		Gila Blits	115		Paul Mifsud	110		Tricia Cooper
120		Pat Broderick	115		David Mills	110	442	Agnes Gunn
120	868	Christine Gillespie	115	211	Philippa Morris	110	931	Janet Milford
120		David Lavender	115	1183	Priscilla Munday	110	1118	Remie Salazar
120	77	Joy Lloyd	115	1253	Philip Turner	110	917	Nicola Staunton
120		Hazel Parker	114	1532	Lyn Allcock	110	826	Elizabeth Terry
120		Mark Smith	114	1373	Stany Arnold	110	1450	Christine Tudge
120	169	Sue Thompson	114	1385	Mark Bradley	110		Judy Young
120		Maureen Underdown	114	1403	Emma Brown	109		Fran Burling
120	1867	Pauline Weatherhead	114	928	Iris Cornish	109	1489	Anne Cheesman
120		Jean[Cardiff] Williams	114		Paul Dundas	109		Cecilia Cotton
120		Yair Yehuda	114		Simon Francis	109		Maggie Fleming
119	735	Hilary Birdsall	114		Ann McDonnell	109		Helen Sandler
119		Moshe Feingold	114	626	Martha Mitchell	109		Pamela Vahed
119	718	Pat Friend	114		Willie Scott	109		Sandra Walton
119	1705	Sharon Hewitt	114	1666	Brid Ui_Bhriain	108		Angele Andrews
119		Annemarie Holland	114		Carole Wheatley	108	953	Peter Bailey
119	901	Dave Hoskisson	113	1259	Sheila[Rmfrd] Anderson	108		Dominic Borg
119		Lou McMeeken	113	107	Joan Caws	108		Lena Cook
119	1823	Elizabeth Ramsay	113		Carmen Dolan	108		Caroline Foy
119	972	Denise Saxton	113	1331	Carol Grant	108	374	Joy Hodge

108	1064	June Johnstone	102		Rona Falconer	97		Jean MacLellan
108	1726	Duncan MacFarlane	102	1261	Jo Holland	97	1502	Cathy Poacher
108		Jean Owen	102	1554	Vicky Owen	96	1168	Brian Beaumont
108		Colin StHill	102		Jeanne Rossiter	96		Doreen Clayton
108	1552	Charles Tollit	102	483	Peter Terry	96	1207	Hannah Corbett
107		Maisie Culpin	102		Maria Treadwell	96	1134	Dorothy Kemlicz
107		Matthew Denby	101		Eileen{Rdng} Anderson	96		Yvonne Lambert
107		Barbara Kent	101	1630	Ted Anscomb	95	1225	Lena Glass
107		Jean Robinson	101		Eve Dwyer	95		Sally Hanson
106	1063	Irene Atkinson	101	927	Audrey Medhurst	95		Jean Jacobs
106		Jenny Burgess	101		Marina Mehta	95	1496	Margaret Keeper
106	1212	Marjorie Gillott	101	1085	Betty Simmonds	95	1828	Mel Maltz
106	1480	Doreen Jarvie	101	1788	Julie Tate	95		Joan Rees
106	1644	Kenneth Lovell	101		Jan Vokes-Taylor	94	985	Carmen Borg
106	1084	Rod Winfield	101	1820	Rosemary Wood	94		Eileen Bradshaw
105		Rachel Bingham	100		Nancy Alroy	94		Fay Goble
105		Peter{Prtsmith} Edwards	100	1471	Scott Bowman	94	1073	Jenny Harris
105	1306	Margaret Emmott	100		Jean Buckley	94	1176	Gordon Lamb
105		Pawlu Frendo	100		Bridget Busk	94	1492	Peggy Moore
105	298	Mavis Harding	100	1248	Margaret Coleman	94		Susan Richardson
105		Ovidiu Tamas	100		Joan Everitt	94		Beryl Shoesmith
105	1171	Susan Thorne	100	1633	Robert Peters	94	1252	Ruth Turner
104		Joyce Ashmore	100	357	Jean Shaw	94		Isla Wilkie
104	384	Mabel Choularton	100	935	Ian Whyte	94		Brenda Young
104	1327	Sonia Cox	99		Moses Azzopardi	93	1544	Anne Atherton
104	1524	Malcolm Davis	99	709	Betty Benton	93	1008	Yvonne Goodridge
104	1742	Lee Fisher	99	1704	Paul Carter	93		Gwen Linfoot
104	1657	David Garland	99	726	Christine Cartman	93	1506	Gill{Norwich} Thompson
104	1779	Joseph Knapper	99		Shirley Cave	93	872	Jacqui White
104		Barbara McLaren	99	405	Peter Ernest	92	1648	Irene Lawes
104	1009	Jenny Sakamoto	99		Alan Everitt	92		Chris Leatham
104		Moreen Shillitoe	99		Florence Fontaine	92		John McCart
104	451	Vera Sime	99	1729	Paul Harding	92	1787	Natasha Pratesi
104		Thelma Wood	99		June Lindridge	92	1699	Nick Stone
104		Alfred Xuereb	99		Maria Marczak	91		Peter Basham
103	1038	Jacquie Aldous	99	1304	Linda Moir	91	1548	Viv Bishop
103		Elisabeth{Clvln} Allen	99	1587	Irene Newberry	91		Agi Brener
103		Jenny Corps	99		Claire Violet	91		Juliet Collins
103	1340	Paula Docherty	99	818	Rose Wall	91	683	Mavis Ernest
103		Joyce Frost	99		Chris Wide	91	1781	Carol Joahill
103		Paul Grimshaw	98		Len Choules	91		Mona Nobil
103	736	Molly Lane	98	827	Ann Clark	91		Maria Scicluna
103	798	Peter Lindeck	98		Kerry Constant	91		Avril Shaw
103		Jean Mainwaring	98	1200	Caroline Elliott	91	851	Sheila{Newcastle} Smith
103		David Phillips	98	1112	Peter Johnson	91	1398	Jill Warren
103		John Ryan	98		Jenetta Mills	91	1454	Janet Watson
103	692	Margaret Seabrook	98		Sandra Weston	91		Kath Williams
103	1868	Trevor Warwick	97		Kathryn Allen	90		Chris Chapman
103		Julie Wise	97		Amos Fabian	90	1148	Renee Gilbert
102		Janice Ball	97		Sandra Harrap			

90		Rosemarie Howis	81	359	Vera Allen	71		Mary Harris
90	1873	Paul Roberts	81		Chris{Southampton} Baker	71	1399	Carol Russell
90	485	Ann Toft	81		Sheila Bromly	70		Margaret{Edbgh} McGhee
89		Norah Cole	81	1767	Martin Byrne	69		Ted Anderson
89		Anne Corpe	81	1882	Gil Hunter	69		Kay Faust
89		Josephine Croasdale	81	1553	Brenda Keast	69	1334	Catherine McMillan
89	1734	Olive Martin	81	1541	Marjorie Lunn	69		Shirley Stokley
89		Lionel Millmore	81		Grace Peel	68		Bob Horne
89	1267	Margot Montgomery	80		Pauline Cilia	68		Dorothy Jackson
89		Mary Pugh	80		Anne Lynas	67		Charlotte Perlin
88		Dorothy Clark	80	1745	Douglas Morris	66	1774	Margaret Smith
88	799	Cindy Hollyer	80		Michael Murray	65		Michael Slow
88	828	Moira Metcalf	79	410	Myra Copleston	62	1805	Marion Loewenstein
88		Hazel Packham	79	1822	Pat Johnson	61	541	Pamela Brown
88	1232	Brett Scaife	79		Patricia Parton	60	1316	Veronica Baker
88		Margaret Speight	79		Alison Peters	60	949	Barbara Horlock
87		Margaret Aldous	79	1710	Sandra Richards	60	1028	Peggy Lavender
87		Rita Barton	78	1834	Peggy Fehily	59	1741	Bill Croft
87		Beryl Basey	78	1135	Sylvia Oates	59		Emma Flynn-Davies
87	1677	Mary Baty	78	1390	Maria Raffaelli	55		Gusta Gross
87		Hilda Bennett	78		Keith Woodruff	55	1748	Connie Walton
87		Sybil Berrecloth	77		Margaret Barratt	54	1740	Zandra Begg
87		Marcia Hall	77		Frank Goodier	54		Judy McBride
87	1448	Joy Rowe	77		Dorothy Henry	53		Sonia Russell
87		Amabel Winter	77		Sheila Johnston	50		Elisheva Auerbach
86	1397	Christine Silvester	77		Lydia Sharkey	50		Beate Holder
86	1174	Peter Trembath	76		Brigitte Brath	50	1614	Simon Rosenstone
85	1039	Dorothy Edwards	76	563	Fred Burford			
85	998	Jean Hendrick	76		Margaret Cooke			
85		Joyce Hoffbrand	76	1795	Valery Jansen			
85		Olive Matthew	76	1719	Eileen Johnson			
85	1769	Jennifer Payne	76		Margaret Scamell			
85		Jill Russell	76		Audrey Shergold			
85	1629	Maggie Shutt	75		Ann Duncan			
85	1850	Rena Waddell	75	1782	John Fyfe			
84		Pat Evans	75	1616	Iris Grover			
84	30	Ruby Flood	75		Teresa Haycock			
84		Craig Gurney	75	1599	Margaret{Fife} McGhee			
84		Judith Puttick	74	1143	Letty Burrell			
84		Brian Rowell	74		Tom Creed			
84		Doreen Searles	74	1229	Eileen Hunter			
84		Alison Stilwell	74		Dan Smith			
83		Lionel Howard	74	1086	Margaret Webb			
83		Joyce Watson	74		Reno Zammit			
83	1332	Sheila Wyatt	73		Pat Carr			
82		Hazel Boddy	73		Jane Craig			
82		Yvonne Delia	73		Jean Geldard			
82		Kevin Macdonald	73		Ann Gregson			
82		Linda Marguy	73		Steve Wilkinson			
82	1588	Angela Rigley	72		Helen Thompson			

# dusting off the archives

A stroll down Memory Lane with Robert Richland

## 20 years ago

(Contrary to my note last issue, there was not only a newsletter dated March 1991, but another one for January 1991 that I've since unearthed!)

APSP Newsletters, January & March 1991, editor Clive Spate

Both issues were in stapled A4 format and unnumbered.

### January:

- Ratings Controller Terry Hollington was musing on the ratings for the start of 1991, with Pete Finley leading the way on 200. Terry commented that the first player to crack the 200+ barrier (since the ratings began in 1988) was Allan Simmons, joined soon after by Gareth Williams.
- Mike Goldman wrote an article *The Unacceptable Face of Power* in which (during the recent Folkestone tourney) he highlighted his dismay on finding his clock had been started and his opponent had played a bonus, whilst he was taking a toilet break. Little did we know at that time what was to follow in the ensuing four years, culminating in the infamous court case against the APSP in 1995.

### March:

- Membership was up to 211.
- There was a report on the recent sixth annual two-day Thailand World Class Scrabble Crossword Open in Bangkok. A staggering 746 took part, with 19 games plus a 2-game play-off between the top two, who happened to be a certain Mark Nyman and Phil Appleby, with Mark capturing the title. Martin Thompson made up the trio of Brits appearing at the event.

Other recent tourney wins: Philip Nelkon (both Folkestone and the London Matchplay).

## 15 years ago

APSP Newsletter, issue 47, April 1996, editor Hartley Moorhouse\*

\* Hartley hadn't quite relinquished his editorship to Phil Appleby, contrary to the previous issue!

- David Acton, in his article *Six of the Worst*, focused on the six-letter stems that do not produce any bonus with a blank. Amongst these were: DUVETS, WAILED, FOGIES, VIOLAS and MOATED. 15 years later, with CSW, it's still the case with these stems.
- Mike O'Rourke's *Mnemonics* included the one provided by Nuala Clenaghan (as she was then): RETAIN + A yielding an 8-letter bonus with the initial letters of: "Bad Cows Don't Give Milk On Sundays – Tight Udders" Since then J, P, W and Z have joined the fray.

Recent tourney wins: Russell Byers (Leicester and Nomads day 1), Brian Sugar (London), Martin Fowkes (Nomads day 2), Philip Nelkon (Swansea), David Acton (DSS Newcastle), Clive Spate (Chester and Durham), Iain Harley (Scottish Masters), Andrew Davis (East Berks), Pauline Johnson (Cleveland).

Top 4 ratings (March 19th 1996): Clive Spate 199, Allan Saldanha 197, David Acton / Mark Nyman 196.

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## 10 years ago

The Last Word, issue 77, April 2001, editor Christina French

- Amy Byrne (in *Committee Corner*) reported that David Shenkin was the 'top improver' in 2000, with his rating up by 19 to 169 during the year.
- Barry Grossman was interviewed by the editor, following his play, *The Attractive Young Rabbi* being broadcast on BBC Radio 4 the previous year.
- With 'The Way Forward' (the 12-month changeover from OSW to SOWPODS) well into its stride, David Webb discussed the possible 'next big thing' . . . the 'Five Point Penalty Challenge'.
- Aussie John Holgate's online Koala Clinic had a mention, in particular the section on Endgame Finesse and its ten basic principles.
- Ivy Dixon-Baird's *Scrabble Stars* equated star signs with playing tendencies, e.g. 'Aries – Above all, require space and air to play well. Like windows to be open, sometimes gives the impression of being off-hand'.
- In his *Letter From Abroad*, Sam Orbaum brought us some stats from the Jerusalem Scrabble Club's 18-year history.

Recent tourney wins: Andy Davis (West Berks), Andrew Fisher / Mark Nyman (Nomads), Pete Finley (Peterlee and North-East Masters), Steve Balment (Chester), Karl Khoshnaw (West Sussex), Laura Finley (Cleveland).

There was no ratings list in this issue.

## 5 years ago

The Last Word, issue 107, April 2006, editor Ben Wilson

- Derrick Thorne died suddenly on February 10th, aged 86. Derrick was a founder of the Cardiff and Pill clubs and later a member of both the Winscombe and Dorian clubs. He also helped initiate the BMSC Ladies Event in 1991 with the trophy named after his second wife Kay. Furthermore, he ran the Eastbourne holidays for a number of years. Janet Phillips provided the affectionate obituary.
- Courtesy of the Associated Press came a report of a Scrabble team event involving Sioux reservation schools in North Dakota, using the Dakota Sioux language in a specially compiled 207-page Dakota dictionary.
- A Miami Herald sports reporter revealed that tennis star Andy Roddick had a Scrabble dictionary. Andy quoted the word ZA in an interview during the recent NASDAQ-100 Open Tennis Championship in Florida.

Recent tourney wins: Amy Byrne / Kate Surtees (Pitlochry), Penny Downer (West Sussex), Andy Davis / Jackie McLeod (Nomads), Chris Finlay (Hampshire), Pete Finley (Peterborough Free Challenge), Allan Simmons (Scottish Masters), George Gruner (New Malden), Lewis Mackay (Leicester), David Sutton (Swindon).

Top 5 ratings (April 3rd 2006): Adam Logan 211, Harshan Lamabadusuriya 201, Andrew Davis / Helen Gipson / Brett Smitheram 198.

Last issue some space was devoted to Scrabble in the Far East, so let's try another of the cardinal points and have a look at Scrabble in the Far North.

At latitude 60° Lerwick in the Shetland Islands is farther north than Stockholm, and possibly beaten only by Anchorage in Alaska for having the world's most northerly Scrabble club.

Zetland Scrabble Club was formed in March 2000 by Kathy Greaves, whom some of you may remember as Kathy Swan. She has participated in occasional Scrabble tournaments over the years, including one of Karl Khoshnaw's Rhine events in Germany. Before Kathy moved back to her Shetland homeland, she was living in East Anglia and in 1988 was instrumental in the formation of the Norwich Scrabble Club. Before even that, back in 1981 whilst living in the middle east she was a founder member of the Bahrain Scrabble League, which was set up by Karl Khoshnaw.

Wherever Kathy is, she need to find the local Scrabble players. Of the time she formed the Scrabble Club in Lerwick she says,

"I sent out a press release which attracted 35 keen or would-be Scrabble players, and at first we played weekly at the local community centre. Over time though, numbers declined and I decided to invite the group to play at my home, which was much more comfortable and informal, and also saved on the expense of paying for the room.

"Our current members are all keen players although we tend to be more social than competitive. Throughout the year we rarely miss a week other than when on holiday or over the festive season. Guests and visiting Scrabble players are invited to join us on Thursday evenings (from 7pm), except for the first of the month when we have our 'tournament' and we play for a trophy. Shetland dialect words are fairly abundant, needless to say, and there are many variations on their spelling!



*Kathy Greaves (front right) and the ladies of Zetland Scrabble Club*

"Should any ABSP members visit Shetland they are welcome to contact me, to arrange a game or two"

Kathy Greaves, 3 Anderson Road, Lerwick, Shetland Isles, ZE1 0HP

Tel. 01595 693225, email - [kathy\\_greaves@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kathy_greaves@tiscali.co.uk)



## Words from Orkney and Shetland

by David Sutton

I was recently rereading the work of that fine Orkney poet and storyteller, George Mackay Brown, and this set me on the track of words in our list specifically associated with the Orkney and Shetland Isles. This region was for a long time under rule from Norway, being gifted to Scotland only in the 15th century, and it had its own language, Norn, deriving from Old Norse and so related to Icelandic and Norwegian. Norn is extinct now, having died out in the 18th century, but the influence of the Old Norse parent language survives in various words, some now obsolete but some still used in the islands. Here is a selection of them.

**bismar** a kind of steelyard, from ON *bismari*.

**bonxie** the great skua, from ON *bunkie*, heap, referring to the bird's dumpy shape.

**bummock** a brewing of ale for a feast.

**foud** a bailiff or magistrate, from ON *fogeti*, ultimately from Latin *vocare*, to call.

**foudrie** the jurisdiction of a foud.

**galdragon** a sorceress or witch, from ON *galdra-kona*, from *galdr* crowing, incantation, witchcraft, and *kuna*, woman.

**geo, gio** a gully or creek, from ON *gja*.

**giu, gu, gue** a type of violin formerly used in Shetland, from ON *gigja*

**haaf** a deep-sea fishing-ground, from ON *haf*, sea.

**jarta, yarta, yarto** heart, used as term of endearment in the Shetlands, from ON *hjarta*, heart.

**jokol, yokul** an obsolete greeting in the Shetlands, yes carl.

**langspel, langspiel** an old Shetland cither, from Norwegian *langspill*, from *lang*, long and *spill*, play or instrument.

**lispond, lispund** a varying weight, between 12 and 34 pounds.

**noup** a crag, a steep headland, from ON *gnupr*.

**odal, udal** of land, held by the old native form of freehold tenure; (noun) an estate so held.

**odaller, udaller** one who holds udal land.

**rancel, ransel, ranzel** a search for stolen goods.

**riva** a cleft in rock, from ON *rifa*.

**scaury, scourie, scowrie** a young gull, from ON *skari*.

**scuddaler, scudler, skudler** in Shetland, the leader of a band of guisers, who went round dressed up at the Up-Helly-Aa festival.

**sheltie, shelty** a Shetland pony or sheepdog, perhaps from ON *Hjalti*, a Shetlander.

**skeo, skio** (Orkney) a hut, a shed, from Norwegian *skjaa*.

**spot** the razor-shell mollusc.

**swelchie** a whirlpool, a tidal race, from ON *svelgr*, the same root as swallow.

**tuskar, tusker, tushkar, tushker, twiscar** a peat-spade, from ON *torfskeri*, from *torf* turf, and *skera*, to cut.

**tystie** the black guillemot.

**vae, voe** a bay or creek, from ON *vagr*.

**vifda, vivda** in Shetland, meat hung and dried without salt.

**voar** spring, seed-time, from ON *var*, spring.

**wadmal, wadmaal, wadmel, wadmol, wadmoll** a thick or coarse woollen cloth, woven especially in Orkney and Shetland, from ON *vathmal*, from *vath* cloth, and *mal* measure.

**yarfa, yarpha** peaty soil; clayey, sandy or fibrous peat, from ON *jörfi* gravel.



*bonxie*



*langspel*

# scrabble tips

## for home players and those new to the ABSP - by Allan Simmons

*This section within OnBoard is specifically for newer players or those that might have joined the ABSP as a regular home player. Some of the material is new but a lot of it is tailored from articles that may have appeared elsewhere over the years. Solutions page 44.*

### Positional Play

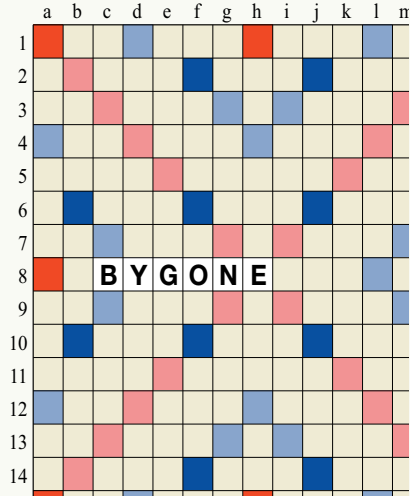
We read and write from left to right — and down the page. So it's no surprise to find this reflected in the way wordplays develop in a Scrabble game. It's less taxing to find plays beginning with a letter on the board than it is to find a play ending with one. It's also easier to find playable words horizontally than it is vertically. So a vertical play ending in a given letter is most difficult.

These factors can influence the way words naturally develop from the first play on the board. It's a useful skill to have the mental dexterity to spot good unnatural plays — but for a lot of players it requires not only extra thought but also resistance to readily settle for any more obvious plays.

For example, assume the first play is BYGONE at C8a. You are holding:



You would like to play six letters from the B to reach a double word at C13. It's likely that BRAVER would come fairly readily, but how long would it take you to find the double word play ending in the B?



If the first move extends to the right then it can lead to a blocked game because the natural flow of words will be biased to the right and downwards.

Access to the left-hand side of the board, especially top left, can rapidly become inhibited. So it's worth trying to find plays in the early stages that invest in creating access to the top left. If you are going first, try to find a play that starts on the left, remaining alert for plays that might open that part of the board further.

An open board might seem at odds with winning, but the more areas of the board that are accessible, the more choice you have each turn, and the more you will be able to score well without squandering your better letters. That will enable you to exercise all aspects of your Scrabble skills rather than have your plays dictated by a restrictive board.

Now look at the board at the top of the next page.. CAWING started on the left but the game hasn't yet developed in that area because the C is a little awkward to work with.

Your rack is:

**A B I N O R T**

A comfortable play that isn't too onerous to find is BAR or BAT at E11a for 22 points. However, can you find two different six-letter plays that make seven-letter words ending in any of the letters C, A, or W of CAWING, thereby opening the top left?

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
1	Red			Blue				Red				Blue			Red
2		Pink				Blue				Blue					Pink
3			Pink				Blue		Blue					Pink	
4	Blue				Pink			Blue					Pink		Blue
5					Pink							Pink			
6		Blue				Blue				Blue					Blue
7			Blue				F	Pink				Blue			
8	Red			C	A	W	I	N	G			Blue			Red
9			Blue				L	Pink				Blue			
10		Blue					P	E	R	I	L				Blue
11					Pink				T	A	B				
12	Blue			Pink				Blue		G	E	R	U	N	D
13			Pink				Blue		Blue					Pink	
14		Pink					Blue			Blue				Pink	V
15	Red			Blue				Red				Blue			A

## Going Fishing

In looking for possible seven-letter words on your rack, how often do you find you're just one letter away from a great bonus play? "If only that A was an O for KINGDOM." In such situations it can be tempting to dump the offending letter in the hope of picking the desired one for the bonus play, maybe even giving it a second shot if the first attempt is unsuccessful.

While the rewards are great if you achieve the bonus after one pick, the odds are normally stacked against success. It is rarely worth fishing for a specific letter for a specific word. You are better off scoring 20-30 points with a three or four-letter play and a reasonable expectation of a similar score next turn.

However, there are occasions when it might be prudent to go fishing:

- Your rack has six letters that would yield a bonus word with any of several different letters, and there are plenty of those letters remaining. It's obviously important to make sure there are actually places to play the bonus words.
- It is near the end of the game and the odds are in favour of picking the specific letter needed, given awareness of the unseen tiles.
- The only possibility of winning is to go for broke, irrespective of the odds, and hope for a lucky pick.

In tournament play, typical fishing occurs when a player recognises the rack contains six letters that will combine with most of the letters of the alphabet (but not the seventh on the rack) to make a playable bonus word. For example, the six-letter set RETAIN is a renowned combination that yields a bonus word with all bar A, V, Q, Y, X and Z — what's the word with RETAIN plus an I ?

A player may also fish when the rack contains six letters that combine with any vowel, and the bag is vowel heavy. An interesting example is the set DILSTY that yields:

+A = STAILY +E = DISTYLE a type of portico +I = IDYLST a type of poet  
 +O = STYLOID bristle-like +U = DUSTILY

So if you held DILSTYM, and you knew those words, playing the M at G9 on the board to the right would be a sensible gamble, primarily because there are also several spots to play the bonus word should you pick a vowel. Dumping the Y and hoping for an E for MILDEST would not be sensible.

Finally, using the same board diagram, what letter would you play from the following rack to give a bonus word if you picked any vowel?

**E G H L R S T**

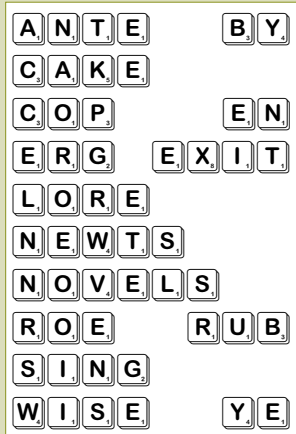


## SCRABBLE® LOGOLOGIC

Compiled by Allan Simmons

Your challenge is to recreate the Scrabble game using all the 15 words given below. The number of tiles in each row or column, and the total face-value of those tiles (ie ignoring premium squares) in each row or column are shown alongside the empty board. It is assumed that readers are familiar with the letter values.

No.		4	1	2	2	1	1	7	3	5	7	4			
	Val.	4	1	7	2	1	4	11	3	12	14	5			
1	1														
2	9														
3	3														
8	13														
6	9														
7	10														
3	4														
1	1														
4	10														
1	1														
1	3														



When you have completed the diagram can you find the elusive highest scoring play that scores exactly 44 points with this rack?

**I C Y B A R F**

# cryptogram

	8	12	18	12	8	13		4	12	17	3	8	4	12
10		8		22		20	1	20	22	12	1	13		22
24	3	19	3	21	3	22		18	12	23	20	6	3	26
12	22	25	15	13		12	6	12	19	3	19	13		13
22	20	26	12	22	21	26		13	12	15	13	22	12	8
21	15	13	26	13		6	20	15	3	19		19		19
26	3	26	19	15	3		25		18	24	3	26	13	26
	9		3		26	6	12	19	13		22		6	
20	26	12	13	15	26		2		15	20	19	19	3	22
16		8		13	25	23	3	14		17	13	3	22	20
25	11	20	15	12	3	18		25	18	19	12	6	3	26
3		22	13	19	26	25	9	13		13	22	3	19	13
26	3	12	9	13	12	26		19	12	22	21	18	13	15
26		5	13	15	10	13	22	19		14		13		26
3	17	24	26	26	13	26		12	22	26	12	26	19	

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
											<b>I</b>	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>

# anagrid

The answers are simply anagrams of the clues

1a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
2	■	■								■		■		■
3						■	■							
4											■	■		
5						■	■							
6					■								■	
7	■		■		■		■							
8							■							
9								■	■		■		■	■
10	■	■							■	■				
11									■					
12	■		■											
13									■					
14	■		■		■								■	
15	■								■					

## HORIZONTAL CLUES

1. VELUUAU - COPHYSS
2. SUBHURL
3. SEICED - RENORRIE
4. SEREMCEEING
5. ARGEST - SPINNICH
6. ETTSY - TONEDII
7. REKNIRSA
8. LANDIVE - EGRESCE
9. GREEVERN
10. ZARFLEE - SENGI
11. SYSANAIS - NARSTI
12. INTEGRIMINS
13. CODUNIVE - LOONIG
14. PLUSEPS
15. EPERASS - ETTASS

## VERTICAL CLUES

- a. REDUDS - MAFURLS
- b. NEEITEM
- c. YETIBU - VAVNDADS
- d. VALLEYTURIC
- e. GELAGE - FEMINIAS
- f. REESS - GALCIES
- g. SERESENI
- h. DISCOPS - URESIDE
- i. GRINNISH
- j. SCREANT - SPOTT
- k. ECHERISH - LEALST
- l. BIKERESPORE
- m. CILIVINO - ANGSTI
- n. GENEVIN
- o. RESSAER - GISTON

Solution on page 44

# prize puzzle

Your challenge is to find a play with the tiles shown that scores exactly **52** points. Senders of the correct solution will be entered into a draw to win a £10 Tilefish voucher

**An extra clue to this puzzle - the principal word of the solution can be found used in text somewhere within this magazine.**

As ABSP members it is presumed that you already know the points value of the tiles and the values of the premium squares.

To be entered into the draw, send your solution to: OnBoard, 17 St Margarets Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4HS.

or email: editor@absp.org.uk

**Closing date 13th May 2011.**

This puzzle was created for OnBoard by Stewart Holden; similar challenges by the same author can be found in The Guardian's Weekend magazine every Saturday

The winning entry each issue is decided by using the bonus ball number in the National Lottery. Assigned numbers are posted to the uk-scrabble email group.

The winner of the February prize puzzle was Elie Dangoor who found NINETIETH around NET as shown on the board below.

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	
1	Red			Blue				Red				Blue			Red	
2		Red				Blue				Blue					Red	
3			Red				Blue		Blue					Red		
4	Blue			Red				Blue			Red			Blue		
5					Red							Red				
6		Blue					T			Blue					R	
7		E	L	O	P	E	S	P	Y						I	
8	Red						N	I	N	E	T	I	E	T	H	M
9			Blue				T	I			A	I	R	Y		
10		Blue							G	O	W	N			Blue	
11								M								
12	Blue			Red			L	A					Red		Blue	
13			Red					I						Red		
14		Red						Blue		F	O	L	D		Red	
15	Red			Blue					E	N				Blue	Red	

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o
1	Red	N		Blue					Red				Blue		Red
2		O				Blue		C		Blue	Z				Red
3		M	O				Blue	O		Blue	O			Red	
4	Blue		F	Red				N		D	O			Red	Blue
5			F		L			T		D	O	N			
6		Blue	S		E	Blue		E		V				Blue	
7			I		A		Red	S	Red	E			Blue		
8	Red		D	E	V	I	A	T	O	R			Blue		Red
9			E		I		Red		Red	I			Blue		
10		Blue			N	Blue				N	E			Blue	
11					G					G	I				
12	Blue			Red							K		Red		Blue
13								Blue							
14			Red				Blue			Blue				Red	
15	Red			Blue					Red				Blue		Red

A A C E I I O



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# forthcoming tournaments

This list is compiled by Steve Perry who is the ABSP's Tournament Co-ordinator. Steve's role is to manage the Scrabble calendar so he will need to know as early as possible if you are considering running an event. Steve's email is: [steveperry414@gmail.com](mailto:steveperry414@gmail.com)

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## Newcastle (7 games)

Saturday 9th April 2011

Contact Rona Falconer

Telephone: 0191 273 8473

Venue West Denton Community Assoc.  
Hillhead Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE5 1DN

Registration 09.00

First game 10:00 Departure 17.45  
Refreshments available most of the day. Lunch is NOT provided

Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for non-ABSP member

Cheques payable to Newcastle Scrabble Club, and sent to:

Rona Falconer, 18 Nuns Moor Crescent, Fenham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE4 9BE

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## Sutton Coldfield (7 games)

Saturday 9th April 2011

Contact Rick Blakeway

Telephone: 0121 603 8623

Emergency (on day only)

Telephone: 07849 404283 or 07904 757244

Venue: Stonnall Village Hall, Main Street, Stonnall, Staffs WS9 9DY

Registration 9.15

First game 10.00 Departure 18.00

Tea/Coffee/Biscuits available throughout the day.

Entry costs: £12.00 for ABSP member  
£14.00 for non-ABSP member

Cheques payable to R. T. Blakeway and sent to 325 Rednal Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8EE

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## Newhaven (Edinburgh) (7 games)

Saturday 9th April 2011

Contact Alan Sinclair

Telephone: 0131 669 7316

Venue Newhaven Church Hall,  
7 Craighall Road, Edinburgh,  
EH6 4NE

Registration 09:00

First game 09:45 Departure 18.00

Tea/Coffee available throughout the day

Entry costs: £10.00 for ABSP member  
£12.00 for Non-ABSP member

Cheques payable to Alan Sinclair and sent to 19 Duddingston Avenue, Edinburgh, EH15 1SJ

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## Southampton (6 games)

Sunday 10th April 2011

Contact Alan Bailey

Telephone: 02392-384360

Emergency number on day only

Telephone: 07763-894738

Venue Hedge End Village Hall,  
SO30 4AF

Registration 09:10

First game 10:00 Departure 17.15

Tea/Coffee available throughout the day.

Entry costs: £13.00 for ABSP member  
£15.00 for non-ABSP member

Cheques payable to Southampton Scrabble Club and sent to Alan Bailey,  
84 East Lodge Park, Portsmouth, PO6 1AQ

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## Havering Evergreens – Over 50's (7 games)

Saturday 16th April 2011

Contact: Cindy Hollyer

Telephone: 01277-822050

Venue: St John's Church Hall, Church Rd, Mountnessing, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0RH

Registration 09:30

First game 10:00 Departure 18:00

Tea/Coffee available throughout the day but lunch is not provided.

Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for non-ABSP member

Deduct 50p if bringing clock which you are prepared to lend.

Cheques payable to Havering Scrabble Club and sent to Cindy Hollyer,  
78 Peartree Lane, Doddinghurst, Brentwood, CM15 0RH

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**Easter (Gloucester) (8 + 21 games)**

Friday 22rd Monday 25th April

Contact Ronnie Reid  
Telephone: 01256 895690**Spring Matchplay (25games)**

Friday 30th Apr – Monday 2nd May

Contact Amy Byrne  
Telephone: 0131 6613869**European Open - Malta (32 games)**

Friday 6th Monday 9th May

Contact Amy Byrne  
Telephone: 0131 6613869**Bournemouth Spring (7 games)**

Sunday 8th May 2011

Contact: Ruth Marsden

Telephone: 01202 707148

Emergency number on day only

Mobile: 07720 949 825

Venue: Rooper Hall, 5 Victoria Park  
Road, Moordown, Bournemouth

Registration: 09:30

First game: 10:10 Time of departure 18.10

Tea/Coffee available throughout the day

Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for Non-ABSP member

Cheques payable to Bournemouth Scrabble

Tournament and sent to Ruth Marsden, 27

Spencer Road, Canford

Cliffs, Poole, BH13 7ET

**Malta Open (24 games)**

Friday 13th – Sunday 15th May

Contact maltascrabbleclub@gmail.com

**Harrogate (14 games)**

Friday 13th – Sunday 15th May

Contact Viv Beckmann  
Telephone: 0191 2742420

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**NSC/NSCT Regionals**

London & SE	Southgate, London	25 June
Midlands	Peterborough	21 May
Northern Ireland	Belfast	12 June
North	Shipley	19 June
Scotland	Perth	12 June
South	Southampton	15 May
South West/Wales	Bristol	19 June

Contact – Philip Nelkon 01628 500623 email: philip.nelkon&amp;mattel.com

NSC Semi-final: Saturday 10th – Sunday 11th September

NSCT Final: Saturday 24th September

---

**Luton (7 games)**

Saturday 21st May 2011

Contact: Rosalind Wilson

Telephone: 01582 507249

Emergency number on day only

Mobile: 07753 143262

Venue St. Luke's Church Hall, High St.,  
Leagrave, Luton. LU4 9JY

Registration 09:20

First game 10:10 Time of departure 18.00

Tea/Coffee available throughout the day

Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for Non-ABSP memberCheques payable to Luton Scrabble Club and  
sent to Rosalind Wilson, 22 Sherborne Avenue,  
Luton, LU2 7BB**English Grand (30 games)**

Friday 27th – Monday 30th May

Contact Len Moir  
Telephone: 01913 880033

---

## **Festival of Scrabble (19 games)**

### **(Mkt Harborough)**

Saturday 4th – Sunday 5th June

Contact Amy Byrne  
Telephone: 0131 6613869

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## **Anglesey (14 games)**

Friday 10th – Sunday 12th June

Contact Viv Beckmann  
Telephone: 0191 2742420

---

## **Brighton & Hove (6 games)**

Sunday 12th June 2011

Contact: Doj Graham

Telephone: 01273 699811

Emergency number (on the day)

Mobile: 07743 317565

Venue: The Woodland Centre,  
Woodlands Avenue, Rustington,  
West Sussex, BN16 3HB

Registration 09:30  
First game 10:15 Departure 17:30  
3 divisional tournament  
Tea/Coffee available throughout the day  
Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for non-ABSP member  
Cheques payable to Brighton & Hove Scrabble Club and sent to Doj Graham, Flat 2, 8-9 Hanover Crescent, Brighton BN2 9SB

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## **New Malden (7 games)**

Saturday 18th June 2011

Contact Elizabeth Terry

Telephone: 01483 3474011

Emergency number on day only

Telephone: 07995-090101

Venue Christ Church Centre, Coombe  
Road, NewMalden KT3 4RE

Registration 09:15 – 09:45

First game 10:00 Departure 17:45

4/5 divisional tournament  
Tea/Coffee available throughout the day  
Entry costs: £14.00 for ABSP member  
£16.00 for non-ABSP member  
Deduct 50p if bringing clock which you are prepared to lend  
Cheques payable to Elizabeth Terry  
Tournament a/c and sent to Elizabeth Terry, 114 Hermitage Woods Crescent, Woking, GU21 8UF

---

## **Scottish Open (13 games)**

Saturday 25th–Sunday 26th June

Contact: Amy Byrne  
Telephone: 0131 6613869

---

## **Lincoln (7 games)**

Saturday 25th June 2011

Contact: Ben Wilson

Telephone: 01522 687077

Emergency number on the day

Telephone: 07857 519807

Venue: All Saints Church Hall, Moor  
Lane, North Hykeham, LN6 9AB

Divisions according to entries

Registration 9.30

First game 10.00 Departure 17.45  
Tea/Coffee and biscuits available before the start and between games  
Entry costs: £15.00 For ABSP members  
£17.00 for non-ABSP member  
Add 50p if not bringing a timer that you can lend. Deduct £5 if aged under 18 on the day of the event  
Cheques payable to Lincoln Scrabble Club and sent to Ben Wilson, 7 Perney Crescent, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 9RJ

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## **Project WYSC Chigwell (8 games – timers set to 20 minutes)**

Sunday 26th June 2011

Contact Diane Pratesi

Telephone 0208 556 2902

Venue Victory Hall, Hainault Road,  
Chigwell, Essex IG7 6QX

Registration 09.30

First game 09.45 Departure 17.30

Refreshments available throughout the day.  
Entry costs: £15.00 for ABSP member  
£17.00 for non-ABSP member  
Cheques payable to Diane Pratesi and sent to 33 Amberley Road, Leyton, London E10 7ER  
Organised to raise funds for Jessica and/or Natasha Pratesi to attend the World Youth Scrabble Championship likely to be held in December 2011 in Malaysia.

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**Romford (7 games)**

Saturday 2nd July 2011

Contact: Cindy Hollyer

Telephone: 01277 822050

Venue: Kelvedon Hatch Village Hall,  
School Road, Kelvedon Hatch,  
Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0DL.

Divisions according to entries

Registration 9.15

First game 10.00 Departure 18.00

Tea/Coffee and biscuits available before the  
start and between games

Entry costs: £13.50 For ABSP members

£15.50 for non-ABSP member

Deduct 50p if you are able to bring and lend a  
timer

Cheques payable to Romford Scrabble Club

c/o Cindy Hollyer, 78 Peartree Lane,  
Doddinghurst, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0RH

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**Corby (7 games)**

Sunday 10th July 2011

Contact J. Carmen Toscano

Tel 01536 601987

Venue Best Western Hotel, Rockingham  
Road, Corby, NN17 1AE

Registration 09.15

First game 09.45 Departure 18.30

MorningTea/Coffee biscuits, Lunch &amp;

Tea/Coffee biscuits mid-afternoon

Entry costs: £20.00 for ABSP member

£22.00 for non-ABSP member

Deduct £1.00 if bringing clock  
which you are prepared to lend

Cheques payable to Corby Scrabble Club and

sent to J C Toscano, 14 Corfe Close, Corby,  
Northants, NN18 8PQ

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**English Open Coventry (21 games)**

Friday 15th–Sunday 17th July

Contact Len Moir

Telephone: 01913 880033

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**Southport (14 games)**

Friday 22nd –Sunday 24th July

Contact Viv Beckmann

Telephone: 0191 2742420

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**Peterborough 24 Hour (24 games)**

Saturday 23rd- Sunday 24th July

Contact Chris Hawkins

Telephone: 01733 223202

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**Nottingham Nomads**

Saturday 6th – Sunday 7th August

Contact Clive Spate

Telephone: 0115 9200208

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**Scottish Round Robin (14 games)**

Saturday 13th–Sunday 14th August

Contact Amy Byrne

Telephone: 0131 6613869

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**Wetherby (7 games)**

Sunday 14th August 2011

Contact Andrea Waddington

Telephone 01977 731977

Venue Collingham Memorial Hall,  
Main Street, Collingham,  
Wetherby, LS22 5AS

Registration 09:30

First game 10:00 Deaprture 18.15

2/3 divisional tournament

Entry costs: £14.50 for ABSP member

£16.50 for non-ABSP member

Deduct 50p if bringing a clock  
which you are prepared to lend

Cheques payable to Andrea Waddington and

sent to Andrea Waddington, 2 Cumberland  
Road, Castleford, WF10 2QZ

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**BMSC (21 games) Mens/Ladies (6 games)**

Friday 26th–Monday 29th August

Contact Sarah Wilkes

Telephone: 07703 014789

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**Havering (7 games)**

Saturday 3rd September 2011

Contact: Cindy Hollyer

Telephone: 01277-822050

Venue: Kelvedon Hatch Village Hall,  
Kelvedon Hatch, Brentwood,  
Essex

Registration 09:15

First game 10:00 Departure 18:00

Tea/Coffees/squash & biscuits available  
throughout the day but lunch is not provided.  
Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for non-ABSP member  
Deduct 50p if bringing clock which you are  
prepared to lend  
Cheques payable to Havering Scrabble Club  
and sent to Cindy Hollyer, 78 Peartree Lane,  
Doddinghurst, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0RH

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**Morecambe (14 games)**

Friday 9th – Monday 12th September

Contact Viv Beckmann

Telephone: 0191 2742420

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**Middlesbrough Open (7 games)**

Sunday 18th September

Contact Samantha Beckwith

Telephone 01915-866436

Venue Linthorpe Community Centre,  
Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough,  
TS5 6JG

Divisions/prizes according to entries

Registration 9.30

First game 10.00 Departure 18.30

Entry costs: £14.00 For ABSP members  
£16.00 for non-ABSP member  
Deduct 50p if you are able to  
bring and lend a timerCheques payable to Cleveland Scrabble Club  
and sent to: Samantha Beckwith,  
91 Hatfield Place, Peterlee, Co Durham  
SR8 5SU

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**Leamington Spa (14 games)**

Friday 23rd – Monday 26th September

Contact Viv Beckmann

Telephone: 0191 2742420

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**NSCT Final (7 games)**

Sunday 24th September

Contact Philip Nelkon

Telephone 01628 500623

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**Norwich (7 games)**

Sunday 25th September

Contact: Jacquie Aldous

Tel: 01362 638320

Venue: Hethersett Village Hall, Back Lane,  
Hethersett, Norwich, NR9 3JJ

Registration 09.30

First game 10:00 Departure 18.00

2 or 3 divisional tournament depending on  
entries

Tea/Coffee/cakes provided (but not lunch)

Entry costs: £12.00 to ABSP members  
£14.00 to non-ABSP playersCheques payable to Norwich Scrabble Club  
and sent to Jacquie Aldous, 4 Rump Close,  
Swanton Morley, Dereham, NR29 4NH

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**Bournemouth Autumn (6 games)**

Sunday 2 rd October 2011

Contact: Ruth Marsden

Telephone: 01202 707148

Emergency number on day only

Mobile; 07720 949 825

Venue: Rooper Hall, 5 Victoria Park  
Road, Moordown, Bournemouth

Registration: 09:30

First game: 10:10 Time of departure 18.10

Tea/Coffee available throughout the day

Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for Non-ABSP memberCheques payable to Bournemouth Scrabble  
Tournament and sent to Ruth Marsden, 27  
Spencer Road, Canford  
Cliffs, Poole, BH13 7ET

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**Cock o' the North (22 games)**

Friday 7th–Sunday 9th October

Contact Len Moir

Telephone 01913 880033

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**Coventry Triple (27 games)**

Tuesday 11th–Thursday 13th October

Contact Len Moir

Telephone 01913 880033

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**Oxford (14 games)**

Friday 14th – Sunday 16th October

Contact Viv Beckmann

Telephone: 0191 2742420

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**Bourne (7 games)**

Sunday 16th October 2011  
Contact Betty Benton  
Tel 01778-425234  
Venue Bourne Corn Exchange, 3 Abbey Road,  
Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9EF  
Registration 09:15

First game 10:00  
3 divisional tournament  
Entry costs: £13.00 for ABSP member  
£15.00 for non-ABSP member  
Cheques payable to Bourne & District  
Scrabble Club and sent to Betty Benton,  
Walnut Farm, Twenty, Bourne, Lincs  
PE10 0BH

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**Nailsea (7 games)**

Sunday 23rd October 2011  
Contact Pam Sparkes  
Telephone 01275 464864  
Emergency number on the day  
Mobile 0783762145 or 07929936832  
Venue Mizzymead Recreation Centre,  
Nailsea  
Divisions: Maximum of 3 divisions of 20  
Registration 9.15  
First game 10.00 Departure 18.30

Tea/coffee and biscuits available throughout  
the day  
Entry costs: £13.00 For ABSP members  
£15.00 for others  
£2 discount for Nailsea club  
members  
Deduct 50p if you are able to  
bring and lend a timer  
Cheques payable Nailsea Scrabble Club and  
sent to Pam Sparkes at 3 Summerlands,  
Backwell, Bristol BS48 3NZ

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**London (Knightsbridge) (7 games)**

Sunday 30th October 2011  
London Scrabble League 40th Anniversary  
Tournament  
Contact Sandie Simonis  
Telephone 020 8428 3397  
Emergency number on the day  
Mobile 0771 259 0585  
Venue Kent House, Rutland Gardens,  
Knightsbridge, London SW7 1BX

Registration 09:30  
First game 10:10 Departure 18.30  
3 division tournament (subject to entries)  
Buffet lunch included. Refreshments available  
on arrival and throughout the day.  
Entry costs: £20.00 for ABSP or LSL member  
£22.00 all others  
Cheques payable to London Scrabble League  
and sent to Sandie Simonis, 90 Woodhall  
Gate, Pinner Middx, HA5 4TZ

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**Lincoln Round Robin (8 games)**

Saturday 5th November 2011  
Contact Ben Wilson  
Telephone 01522 687077  
Emergency number on the day  
Telephone 07857 519807  
Venue Memorial Hall, Newark Road,  
North Hykeham, LN6 9RY  
Divisions according to entries  
**5 Point penalty challenge per word**

Registration 9.30  
First game 9.45 Departure 18.10  
Tea/Coffee and biscuits available before the  
start and between games  
Entry costs: £8.00 For ABSP members  
£10.00 for non-ABSP member  
Add 50p if not bringing a timer  
that you can lend  
Cheques payable to Mr. B. J. Wilson and sent  
to Ben Wilson, 7 Perney Crescent, North  
Hykeham, Lincoln, LN6 9RJ

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**NSC Final**

Sunday 6th November

Contact Philip Nelkon  
Telephone 01628 500623

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**Luton (7 games)**

Saturday 12th November  
Contact Adrian Noller  
Telephone 01582 656234  
Emergency number on day only  
Mobile 07753 143262  
Venue St Lukes Church, Leagrave High  
Street, Luton, LU4 9JY

Registration 09:20  
First game 10:00 Time of departure 17.45  
Tea/Coffee available throughout the day  
Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member  
£15.50 for Non-ABSP member  
Cheques payable to Luton Scrabble Club and  
sent to Adrian Noller, 1 Wendover Way, Luton  
LU2 7LS

**Project WYSC Chigwell**  
**(8 games – timers set to 20 minutes)**

Sunday 13th November 2011  
 Contact Diane Pratesi  
 Telephone 0208 556 2902  
 Venue Victory Hall, Hainault Road,  
 Chigwell, Essex IG7 6QX  
 Registration 09.30  
 First game 09.45 Departure 17.30

Refreshments available throughout the day,  
 Entry costs: £15.00 for ABSP member  
 £17.00 for non-ABSP member  
 Cheques payable to Diane Pratesi and sent to  
 33 Amberley Road, Leyton, London E10 7ER  
 This tournament is being organised to raise  
 funds for Jessica and/or Natasha Pratesi to  
 attend the World Youth Scrabble  
 Championship likely to be held in December  
 2011 in Malaysia.

**Harrogate (14 games)**  
 Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th December

Contact Viv Beckmann  
 Telephone: 0191 2742420

**Scrabble Tips Solutions**

**Positional Play:**

PROVERB C2d (30)

BOTANIC D2d (22) and RAINBOW F2d (25). There is actually a third, less common, and lower-scoring play: AIRBOAT E3d (18)

**Going Fishing:**

Play the G :

EHLRST+A = HALTERS HARSLET LATHERS SLATHER THALERS; +E = SHELTER;

+I = SLITHER; +O = HOLSTER HOSTLER; +U = HURTLES HUSTLER

**Anagrid Solution**

U	V	U	L	A	E		P	S	Y	C	H	O	S	
D		B	U	L	R	U	S	H		H		L		E
D	E	I	C	E	S		O	R	N	E	R	I	E	R
E	M	E	R	G	E	N	C	I	E	S		V		A
R	E	T	A	G	S		I	N	C	H	P	I	N	S
S	T	Y	T	E		E	D	I	T	I	O	N		E
	I		I		A		S	N	A	R	K	I	E	R
A	N	D	V	I	L	E		G	R	E	E	C	E	S
R	E	V	E	N	G	E	R		S		B		V	
M		A	L	F	E	R	E	Z		S	E	G	N	I
S	A	N	Y	A	S	I	S		S	T	R	A	I	N
F		D		M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R	I	N	G
U	N	V	O	I	C	E	D		O	L	I	N	G	O
L		A		S		S	U	P	P	L	E	S		T
	A	S	P	E	R	S	E		T	A	S	T	E	S

**Logologic Solution**

			C											
			R											
			Y								E			
	L		B								X			
	O		A				A				I			
	R	U	B				N	E	W	T	S			
	E		Y	E			T		I		I			
							N	O	V	E	L	S		N
											E	R	G	
												O		
										C	A	K	E	
									O					
								P						

**Cryptogram - Answer**

1=Z, 2=J, 3=A, 4=H, 5=F, 6=M, 7=W, 8=C, 9=K, 10=V, 11=X, 12=I, 13=E, 14=D, 15=R, 16=Q,  
 17=B, 18=L, 19=T, 20=O, 21=G, 22=N, 23=P, 24=Y, 25=U, 26=S.

# tournaments coming up...

Event	Date	Games	Organiser	Telephone
Newcastle	Apr 9th	(7)	Rona Falconer	01912 738473
Sutton Coldfield	Apr 9th	(7)	Rick Blakeway	0121 6038623
Newhaven (Edinburgh)	Apr 9th	(7)	Alan Sinclair	0131 6697316
Southampton	Apr 10th	(6)	Alan Bailey	02392 384360
Havering Evergreens	Apr 16th	(7)	Cindy Hollyer	01277 822050
Glevum	Apr 22nd - 23rd	(8)	Ronnie Reid	01256 895690
Easter Matchplay	Apr 23rd - 25th	(22)	Ronnie Reid	01256 895690
Spring Matchplay	Apr 30th - May 2nd	(25)	Amy Byrne	0131 661 3869
European Open	May 6th - 9th	(32)	Amy Byrne	0131 661 3869
Bournemouth	May 8th	(7)	Ruth Marsden	01202 707148
Malta Open	May 13th - 15th			
Harrogate (HB)	May 13th - 15th	(14)	Viv Beckmann	0191 2742420
Southern NSC	May 15th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
Midlands NSC	May 21st	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
Luton	May 21st	(7)	Rosalind Wilson	01582 507249
English Grand	May 27th - 30th	(30)	Len Moir	01913 880033
Festival of Scrabble	Jun 4th - 5th	(19)	Amy Byrne	0131 661 3869
Anglesey (HB)	Jun 10th - 12th	(14)	Viv Beckmann	0191 2742420
Scottish NSC	Jun 12th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
Brighton and Hove	June 12th	(6)	Doj Graham	01273 699811
NI NSC(T)	June 12th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
New Malden	Jun 18th	(7)	Elizabeth Terry	01483 474011
Northern NSC	Jun 19th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
SW & Wales NSC(T)	June 19th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
Scottish Open	Jun 25th - 26th	(13)	Amy Byrne	0131 661 3869
Lincoln	Jun 25th	(7)	Ben Wilson	0152 687077
London NSC	Jun 25th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
Chigwell	Jun 26th	(7)	Diane Pratesi	0208 556 2902
ABSP Masters	Jul 2nd - 3rd			
Romford	July 2nd	(7)	Cindy Hollyer	01277 822050
Corby	Jul 10th	(7)	Carmen Toscano	01536 601987
English Open	Jul 15th - 17th		Len Moir	01913 880033
Southport (HB)	Jul 22nd - 25th	(14)	Viv Beckmann	0191 2742420
Peterboro 24 hour	Jul 23rd - 24th	(24)	Chris Hawkins	01733 223202
Nomads	Aug 6th - 7th	(16)	Clive Spate	0115 9200208

## ADVERTISEMENT

### Not going to Warsaw? How about an ABSP rated Scrabble holiday in the sun?

4★ S'Algar Hotel, Menorca for 7 nights from Friday 14th October  
Competitive games in evenings only, daytime free for  
sightseeing. Other optional competitions ongoing  
throughout the week. Further information  
from Kathy Rush 01928 733565  
email [kathyrush@talktalk.net](mailto:kathyrush@talktalk.net)