

OnBoard

Bimonthly Magazine for the Association of British Scrabble Players

New Years Honours
page 2

WYSC Report
Page 4

Prize Puzzle
Page 33



Stop Press

As OnBoard was going to print Weibin Toh defeated Rik Kennedy by 850 - 259 at the Northern Ireland Championships, thereby smashing the current world records for score and winning margin.

See page 15 for the record board

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committee matters

The next Committee meeting will be held on March 4th in Sunderland.

Although there has been no meeting since the last issue of OnBoard, Committee members have been busy. The NSC Forum has been set up under the leadership of Wayne Kelly, and Steve Perry is leading a team of volunteers (Ian Burn, Amy Byrne and Pauline Johnson) who have started work on updating the Tournament Director's guide. As well as taking on the organisation of the BMSC, Elisabeth Jardine has also taken over the role of ABSP Complaints Officer.

Paula Davenport is working on expanding Youth Scrabble and forming a Youth sub-committee in readiness for the WYSC 2012 which is to be held in Birmingham.

If you have any issues you would like the Committee to discuss, please contact any Committee member.

Laura Finley, Secretary ABSP

Early Renewal Prize Draw

The draw to see which members who renewed early win a set of ABSP tiles was made by me. The lucky twenty are listed below:

0919 Peter Thomas	1225 Lena Glass	1163 David Sutton	0992 Geoff Cooper
0080 Mary Allen	0099 Josef Thompson	0637 Val Wright	0142 Jane Lowndes
1373 Stany Arnold	0682 Janet Bonham	1821 Charles Best	1179 Janet Adams
0083 Pat Rockley	0111 N. Talbot	0483 Peter Terry	0650 Graham Blackmore
1389 Paul Thomson	1262 Ginny Dixon	0789 Alan Bailey	0852 Maureen Chamberlain

Ross Mackenzie, Chairman ABSP

AGM 2012

Members are invited to submit motions for the 2012 AGM by March 2nd, in time to be presented at the Committee meeting on March 4th. This will allow discussion and arguments, both for and against motions, to take place in OnBoard and on UK-Scrabble in advance of the AGM.

Motions should be sent to:

ABSP Secretary, 206 Cleveland Road, Sunderland, SR4 7QR

or emailed to secretary@absp.org.uk

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

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

To contact the editor of OnBoard

Email: editor@absp.org.uk or alec.r.webb@btinternet.com

or write to: Alec Webb, 17 St Margarets Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 4HS

ABSP New Year's Honours List

Firstly, a big thank you to John Grayson for providing the ratings data and award winners information.

Contained in this article will be Titles information, Highest Rated Player, Most Improved Player and a whole host of other stats! So we shall start with the new title-holders.

At the start of the year I predicted four new GMs (Grand Masters) and eight Experts (although one person was in both categories). Unfortunately they have not all been successful for various reasons; for some it's because they have just not played!

I have though two GM awards to give out and four Experts - one of which did not even feature in any of updates through the year!

The first new GM is **Phil Robertshaw**. Phil needed a 180 unweighted rating for the year to achieve GM status and in fact recorded his first 190 rating with 190 exactly, making five 180+ ratings in a row. The second new GM award goes to **Austin Shin**. Austin has been so close for a few years and this year was just as dicey! He needed a 187 to give him a five year average of 185 and he achieved that dead on!

The first two of the new experts are non-UK based although one is not too far away! **Kevin McMahon** needed a 180 rating for the year to achieve Expert status and he romped in with 192, making three 180+ ratings in five years (actually three years!). In similar fashion, but from much further afield **Evan Cohen** recorded a 192, when he needed a 180. Evan did this with three 180+ ratings within five years, though his were not consecutive.

Another of my predictions from the start of the year has materialised with **Rik Kennedy** also achieving his Expert status. He needed a 170 rating to make five 170+ ratings in a row and this proved no challenge as he obtained a 178 for the year. The final new Expert for 2012 took me by surprise. The new holder had a brilliant start to the year with three tournament wins, and played a significant role in bringing home the bacon for his team in the NSCT. **Ed Rossiter** needed to perform six points higher than his previous personal best, and in fact performed nine better. He needed a 185 performance for a five year average of 175 and romped in with a 188!

Only two of the potentials actually missed their target - the other three did not play. There was one casualty in the GM stakes while the other did not play at all again.

There were, however, eight players recording their first 170 or above unweighted rating, though quite a few are foreign players playing here for the first time, so they might not make it all the way if they are unable to play the required number of games. They are:- **Andy Becher** (172), **Nathan Benedict** (194), **David Eldar** (196), **Yi En Gan** (175), **Albert Hahn** (176), **Stephen Hunt** (177), **Chinedu Owologu** (186), **Matthew Pinner** (170)

I hope my crystal ball is working a bit better now - here are the potentials for Grand Master and Expert next year.

Grand Masters - four possibles:

Kevin McMahon - needs 190 - three 190s in a five year period

Theresa Brousson - needs 180 - five 180+ in 5 years

Martin Harrison - needs 180 - five 180+ in 5 years

Paul Gallen - needs 166 - five year average of 185

Experts - 6 possibles

James Rossiter - needs 181 - five year average of 175+

Wale Fashina - needs 180 - three 180+ ratings in five years

Adrian Tamas - needs 180 - three 180+ ratings in five years

Andrew Goodwin - needs 177 - five year average of 175+

Neil Green - needs 170 - five 170+ in five years

Howard Wilde - needs 169 - five year average of 175+

There may be others who have potential but I have not included anyone who needs to give a personal best to achieve their new status.

Well done to all those new incumbents and good luck to those fighting it out this year.

ABSP Highest Rated player award: Nigel Richards

Highest rated player criteria: At least 30 rated games in 2011, and ABSP member

Adam Logan (208) is not a member and played only 14 ABSP-rated games in 2011, so the award goes to **Nigel Richards** (207).

Most improved player: Carmen Toscano

Criteria: Fully rated at 31/12/2010, at least 30 games in 2011, ABSP member, end 2011 rating must be higher than any previous end-of-year full rating.

ABSP most improved player is **Carmen Toscano**. Rating improvement + 20 points to 149

Nearest contenders:

+18 to 124 **Mark Bradley**

+17 to 138 **Nicky Huitson**

+17 to 132 **Elizabeth Ramsay**

+16 to 105 **Nick Stone**

+14 to 189 **Alistair Richards**

+14 to 88 **Dan Smith**

+13 to 142 **Ginny Dixon**

+13 to 127 **Paul Cartman**

Some other statistics

No of games played - 62,021

No of players - 932

Most games played - **Geoff Cooper** (618!) - The whole of the top three beat last year's total which in itself was the highest! Geoff was over 100 games clear of second.

Most prolific GM - **Wayne Kelly** (409)

Most prolific Expert - **Phil Robertshaw** (337) now no longer eligible!

Well done again to all the winners. The ABSP website will be updated with the details and the full unweighted rating table.

Happy scrabbling in 2012!

Wayne Kelly

ABSP Titles Registrar

youth scrabble

report from Karen Richards

World Youth Scrabble Championships 2011

What can we learn from eleven year olds? The main lesson is not to underestimate them!

Over the six years that the World Youth Scrabble Championship has been running, we have seen a succession of 16 and 17-year olds engrave their names on the perpetual trophy. We have seen an orderly bunch of players collect the age-group prizes, such that no one person was eligible to collect more than one age trophy. 2011 was different. The record books were rewritten. Just one player had taken out the Under 12, Under 14, and Under 16 category awards, as well as winning the Championship.

Anand Bharadwaj, the delightful eleven-year old from Melbourne, Australia played his first tournament (against adults) at the age of seven. A few weeks later, I had the pleasure of working with him at a Youth Scrabble Coaching Clinic. His rating starting rising shortly afterwards, and has never stopped. A while after the initial training, his father asked me how he could improve even more – I suggested he add more structure in his word study, and introduced him to Zyzzyva cardbox. Prior to that, I had underestimated the ability of such a young person to optimize this study method, but he proved me wrong. He has subsequently been working with Andrew Fisher, Australia's top player (runner up 2011 World Scrabble Championship) to improve his strategy. Anand is no 'child' player, but simply an adult in disguise, a vertically-challenged professional Scrabble player and future world champion. How far in the future remains to be seen, but I suspect he could be the youngest ever (Panupol was still a teen when he became World Champion in 2003.)

Some people have made the mistake of classifying WYSC as just a 'kids' tournament. These people have obviously never observed WYSC – the intensity and commitment of the young players increases each year. In 2006, none of the players used Zyzzyva (it didn't exist) and only a handful used similar word study programs. I am unashamedly biased about Zyzzyva – I believe it has made the difference between Scrabble for fun and Scrabble as a serious pursuit for young people. Michael McKenna, veteran of five WYSC events, commented to me that the standard improves each year. As we walked together down the aisles of mini-adults concentrating on their endgames, a player at table 23 plonks down the cute ASTHORE, a word only likely to be known by someone with a 'Cardbox' – and I stress, he was playing midfield.

Approximately half those young Scrabble aficionados are now working their way to the top of Scrabble charts with brilliant memories, and the most effective word study tool available. We 'oldies' should be very afraid that our hold over the game will be prized off by the youngest generation, and Scrabble will be seen as 'a young person's game, in which a few old people are allowed to play', rather than 'an old person's game where the odd child competes'.

The full list of official winners is below. However, I need to mention some players not listed as official winners, such as the other 'under 12s'. When it became obvious that one player would clean up all awards except the Under 10 (which always belonged to Anand's female counterpart, **Shrinidhi Prakash** from the UK) we decided to make some additional awards. Hence a prize was awarded to the second Under14 player, Cheong Yi Hua (Mal) and for the second and third Under 12 players, Alex Leckie-Zaharic (NZ) and Sanchit Kapoor (Dubai), followed immediately by **Jack Durand** (UK). These three players epitomise the face of Scrabble in future. Unlike Anand, who has been playing for 4 years, Alex and Jack only started a year ago, and Sanchit has been playing for about 6 weeks. I was involved in training them, and all showed their true colours from the start. Be very afraid, everyone, we are being taken over by eleven year olds.

This year, a special award was made for ‘determination’, in the name of my father J D Farmer. This award was originally intended to honour one of the many players who live with Asperger Syndrome, who have proven just how good they can be in the field of Scrabble. However, during the event, it became apparent that one player had to overcome more obstacles than most people with Aspergers, in order to play Scrabble, and even just to be there, having travelled all the way from Trinidad and Tobago – I mean Amir Andi-Abdoerrachman, such a gentle lad, always smiling, whether he had won or lost, very determined to do well at his first and last WYSC. His wonderful mother Sue initially spoke to each of his opponents before every game, explaining that he is deaf and mute, and teaching them appropriate hand signals for challenge, holding, changing etc. Eventually the other young players worked it out themselves – they were all very understanding, and I thank them for their caring attitudes. The young Scrabble players of the world really are a lovely group.

Another player who should have won an award for his wonderful attitude was Pang Rickson. Anyone who has seen WYSC photos will have noticed a cute little fellow, looking even younger than his 9 years. This was our local ‘reserve’ player, called in to even up the numbers. I told him there was no pressure to prove himself, we just needed to ensure that no-one had to sit out each round. He did his job well, always smiling, made 24 players very happy in the process, and received a cool blue YouthScrabble t-shirt for his trouble. I’m sure he will be part of Malaysia’s proper WYSC team in a year or two.

Last year, the theme for WYSC had been that we should not place limits on young people, that they are perfectly capable of running tournaments for older players to enjoy, rather than vice versa. I explained that we had been doing that for years in Australia, asking all WYSC team members to run a tournament each year. This has greatly increased their usefulness in the general Scrabble community, with players like Michael McKenna able to assume command of the Scrabble Software etc in emergencies. Other countries, like Pakistan, have followed suit, with their young players getting actively involved in Scrabble administration. Singapore Scrabble is virtually run by the youth contingent. This year, to back up my words that it is best to have youth doing things for youth, we invited Martin Teo (Malaysia) to be the Tournament Director. He was very popular with the players, kept them suitably under control, and handled with finesse and sensitivity the issues which arose (whilst Cheah Siu Hean lurked in the background, to assist with Rules Adjudication). The only thing at which Martin failed was in getting the lights to work on the final morning. He pleaded with the lights, yelled at the lights, invoked magic spells, threw his (figurative) boots at them, and even called in the hotel repairman, to no avail. By the time someone found a workable solution, we were 20 minutes late starting. This was not good enough for Martin, who negotiated a free lunch to be delivered to the playing area, such that games could resume faster, and no-one would miss their plane. Way to go Martin - you are welcome to TD any time. Martin bemoans the fact that he was one year too old to compete in the first WYSC (so you can work out his age!)

Some things we could have done better – one player decided that, since there were only three games before lunch the first day, it would be the same the second day. She disappeared early for lunch, hence forfeiting a game. Next year, the timetable will be printed on the back of nametags instead (participants don’t carry around their souvenir booklets – too precious.)

Results

1	Anand Bharadwaj (AU)	19	1322	9	Jessica Pratesi (UK)	15	654
2	Victor Gwee (SG)	17	1146	34	Natasha Pratesi (UK)	13	17
3	Michael McKenna (AU)	17	1001	47	Shrinidhi Prakash (UK)	12	-173
4	Yeshan Jayasuriya (SL)	16	1280	54	Jack Durand (UK)	11	175
	UK performances:			57	Joe Knapper (UK)	11	-138
6	Oliver Garner (UK)	16	505	62	Tim Butcher (UK)	10	480

Age Band and Specialist Prizes

Under 10: **Shrinidhi Prakash (UK)**

Under 12: Anand Bharadwaj (Au), Alex Leckie-Zaharic (NZ), Sanchit Kapoor (UAE), Jack Durand (UK)

Under 14: Anand Bharadwaj (Au), Cheong Yi Hua (My)

Under 16: Anand Bharadwaj (Au)

Encouragement Award (youngest player in top 25): Cheong Yi Hua (My) aged 13

Best Novice Award (no previous WYSC experience): **Oliver Garner (UK)**

Best Player, new country: Alex Leckie Zaharic (New Zealand)

JD Farmer Award for Determination: Amir Andi-Abdoerrachman

My WYSC

Shrinidhi Prakash (age 9): This is a short reliving of the first few days of December that my family and I spent at Johor Bahru, Malaysia. Not a holiday. Not just to loll around and go sightseeing - Oh no, we were there so that I could participate in the World Youth Scrabble Championship.

The venue was a spacious ballroom at the Zon Regency Hotel by the sea. As for the tournament itself, it was directed by Martin Teo and was played by over 80 participants. It made me feel quite lost out there in the noisy crowd, but the hospitality of the hosts, with Karen and family around, made me feel at home!

The WYSC was played between the 6th and 8th of December. On the first day, the heat of the game was turned up faster than a thermostat. Martin gave us a formal welcome, nevertheless friendly, and drew out the pairings for the first round.

Bad luck was with me, as I lost my first game. Oh well, as they say - if you're going to lose a game, the best one to lose is the first.

Unfortunately for me, the heat didn't cease the next day either - it was increasing rapidly. I was doing quite well, lingering somewhere between 10th and 20th position, but that wasn't going to last very long! This time, it was TEN games that I had to play. Players who had hovered uncertainly on the previous day now found their feet - and their words! - and they turned up the flame inside them.

Oops! Virus attack. Never mind. I would withstand it all right.

The final day dawned with a laughable scene. The ballroom was pitch black due to a power cut, and the engineers and Martin were trying in vain to get the lights back on. Every few minutes, the lights would flicker on, and the next second sink into darkness again! But when they finally came on, a final cheer rose up and our minds were back on Scrabble.

Half and half for me that day. We played a measly six games today, three of which I won. Now for the prize-giving! I'd been waiting for this all the time. The over-all winner was an eleven-year-old boy representing Australia, called Anand Bharadwaj. With a fantastic spread of 1322, and nineteen wins out of twenty-four secured, Anand proudly displayed his prize - of course the running trophy!

As for me, I safely managed to hold aloft the Best Under 10 trophy. When I clambered into the taxi to drive around Malaysia and Singapore and go sightseeing, a last, swift glance at the Zon was enough to proclaim that I would never, ever forget my first WYSC tournament.

Looking Ahead...

Many of WESPA's Youth Subcommittee were present at WYSC, so an informal meeting was held – apart from myself as chair, we had Robin Rubin (Phil), Martin Teo (Mal), Nikhil Soneja (UAE), Tariq Pervez (Pak), and Senaka Jayasinghe (SriLk). One of the inevitable questions discussed was future locations for WYSC. We have endorsed both Colombo (Sri Lanka) and Dubai (UAE) as suitably safe locations for a future WYSC. The organisers in these two countries have a large number of young people already competing in adult tournaments, plus thriving school groups. I thoroughly enjoyed my stays in both countries, as I am sure the young WYSC people will. Eventually we will advise which country will hold WYSC in which year, but look forward to both those locations in 2013/2014. Before then, we fulfill a promise to take WYSC to UK, once they had a strong enough youth presence to justify us taking the rest of the world to them. This time has come, after the performance of their 7- member team this year (which I'm pleased to say was half female, unlike most other teams). Planning is under way to run WYSC 2012 in Birmingham (Midlands), just a short distance from one of the more efficient international airports in the world. Timing will be 6th to 9th December, so start knitting beanies and gloves. We hope that being closer to America will make it easier and cheaper for players from there to join WYSC 2012.

The other major issue discussed by the Youth Committee was how to reach more young players. WYSC gives them something to aim for once they have started playing. However, we need to market Scrabble wider, to those who have never heard of competitive Scrabble, and who only consider Chess when looking for an intellectual challenge to supplement their education. We believe the answer lies in selling Scrabble to teachers and parents. Therefore, Nikhil and Tariq will be working on a small brochure aimed at adults, telling them why Scrabble is good for young students for many different reasons, not just an aid to increasing vocabulary (on the other hand, we can tell the students that Scrabble is just plain fun!). Nikhil and Tariq have both been enormously successful at marketing Scrabble to teachers and parents in their respective countries. When Alastair and I visited Dubai, expecting up to 40 students at our workshop, we were shocked to see busload after busload arriving, sent by supportive schools - three times the number we had expected. This workshop was sponsored by Amity University, who had also grasped the value of Scrabble to enhance problem-solving and logic skills, improve mathematical computation, plus the myriad of other learning criteria it satisfies (eg developing memory techniques). This is the vision I have for all countries – hoards of children clamouring to learn Scrabble, and their teachers encouraging them, with the basic learning centres being universities or similar, giving Scrabble the prestige it deserves.

Karen Richards

Chair, Youth Committee

WESPA

(World English-language Scrabble Players Association)

TILES WANTED

We are currently promoting short Scrabble in schools, a version of Scrabble that fits into break and lunch times. We have the boards but we don't have the tiles. If you have any spares tiles or old sets that you no longer need, then please send them to me:

Paula Davenport, Idsall School, Shifnal, TF11 9PD

For further information: pdavenport@idsall.shropshire.sch.uk

absp personality

Jackie McLeod



One of my favourite tournaments has always been the Nomads, so it is appropriate that I have been a bit of a nomad all my life. Originally a Londoner, I have also lived in Cheshire, Bristol (boarding school), Oxford (St Hilda's College, dropped out after 1st year), Ghana (social anthropologist ex-husband's research), Cambridge, then London again for a very long spell between 1978-2011. Six months ago I made probably my last move, and have settled very happily in Richmond, North Yorkshire. Everything here is perfect, except perhaps the local Scrabble. There is a very small club which meets for only two games once a month, a far cry from the highly organised and competitive London Scrabble League. I will try (gently) to upgrade it, and am also hoping to get something going with our local U3A.

You all have my late father to thank (or blame) for my long association with the Scrabble world. He was not particularly interested in children until they were able to solve The Times cryptic crossword and play Scrabble. I learnt quickly and proved quite good at both. I already had an interest in words, apparently having taught myself to read even before primary school, and used to love the weekly spelling tests that were the norm in those faraway days. Later I showed an aptitude for languages, studied Latin, German, French and Spanish at school, then German and French at Oxford. Without doubt Latin has been the most valuable of these, particularly when I worked as a medical secretary and faced the daily challenge of obscure anatomical, pharmaceutical and diagnostic terminology. Some of it comes from Greek, but much of it is Latin based too.

I married the first likely person I met at Oxford, which was a mistake, though we produced three lovely children, boy-girl-boy, the eldest born in Ghana during nearly 5 years of colonial expat life there. I was confined to bed for weeks on end during that pregnancy, rediscovered my Travel Scrabble set, and played hundreds of games "left hand against right", until the baby was born. Ex-husband scorned most games, so I never found a real opponent until returning to London as a single parent in the late 70s. I joined Mensa, and won their Scrabble tournaments a couple of times. Once was against the late Ron Hendra - a very tough Best of Three, after which he declared that there were two ways in which a young woman could exhaust an older man, and that had been the less enjoyable. Another Mensa member, Colin King, took me along one Sunday to a London Scrabble League Drive, and the rest is history: More than 30 years of competitive Scrabble, great tournaments, and good friends all around the country. Particular thanks are due to the London Scrabble League - my second "family" for so many years, that I have had to abandon since moving away from London.

Non-Scrabble interests include cryptic crosswords, antiques and collectables, car boot sales, selling on eBay, travel, theatre, and of course TV quiz shows. I won Series 2 of Turnabout with a prize of a tour of New Zealand (beating Darryl Francis along the way). I was a finalist on Countdown Series 21, losing to Barry Grossman. In 2008 I proved not to be the Weakest Link, and the prize money paid very nicely for my new garden patio. There have been numerous other appearances and some lesser prizes too, though mostly on daytime quizzes that nobody remembers. There is one more in the pipeline, Clever Dicks, to be shown on Sky Atlantic shortly.

I served on the London Scrabble League committee for a number of years and produced their Newsletter for a while. I was also ABSP Publicity Officer, when I organised a National Scrabble Week with the aim of raising public awareness of club and tournament Scrabble. It ran for a second year, but was then discontinued. Another small legacy was my naming of BEST, though I seem to remember the suggestion being scorned a little at the time.

I have won numerous minor events over the years, though the only Major I ever won was the 1998 Winter Matchplay. My best NSC performance was in 1997 as runner-up to Andrew Cook, at which point my rating rose to its highest ever and I was (very fleetingly) the highest rated female UK player. One of my proudest achievements was at Nottingham Nomads, where I won not only Group B on the Saturday but also Group A on the Sunday against many higher rated players. My most recent win was Twixmas 2011.

I'd like to improve enough to qualify for The Masters, or to upgrade my Expert status to Grand Master, or to qualify for WSC. Sadly, though, I am far too lazy to undertake the necessary studying, particularly with yet another dictionary update now. I will happily continue as a good, but not outstanding, A player. Any rating increase or prizes along the way will be very welcome, but mostly I still play just because I love the game.

absp all-time records

Game Scores

Highest score in one game	850	Weibin Toh, NI Championships Belfast 2012 (<i>new record</i>)
Largest winning spread	591	Weibin Toh, NI Championships Belfast 2012 (<i>new record</i>)
Highest combined score in one game	1129	D Webb 627 and N Richards 502, UK Open, Coventry 2011
Highest losing score	545	C. Beevers UK Open 2011
Highest score draw	522	A Webb vs N Deller P'boro 2009

Move Scores

Highest score for one single play	311	R MacInerney, TWEEZERS, Swindon 2010
Highest score for a non-9x bonus	148	F Madeley, QUIZZES, Twixmas 2007
Highest score for a non-bonus play	153	B Northcott, VOUCHING, Ilford 2011
Highest opening move	112	I Coventry, JAZZERS, UK Open 2009
Highest outplay (last move)	221	A Davis, ECHOIZEd, BEST QF 2001

Tournaments

Youngest ever tournament winner	12y 4m	A Shin, Melton Mowbray 2002
Oldest ever tournament winner	82	C Budge, Scottish Championships 1992
Most consecutive tournament game wins	27	M Nyman, October 2001 - July 2002

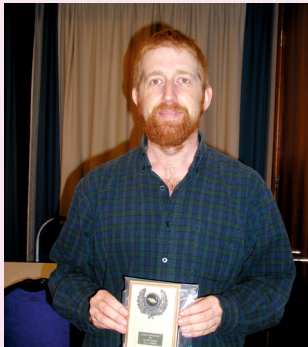
All of the above are achievements which occurred during ABSP-rated matchplay tournaments, and are believed to be the best there is. If you know of any superior claims for any of the categories then please email the editor .

Please note that the records must have occurred during an ABSP-rated matchplay game. Rated league matches and BEST matches are valid. The record for the most consecutive game wins can span more than one event. Oldest and youngest tournament win claims apply to Division A only.

around the tournaments

Winter Matchplay (Milton Keynes)

November 19-20 (15 Rounds)



Winter Matchplay A

Adam Logan	11	1190
Adekoyejo Adegbesan	11	160
Paul Gallen	10	781
Craig Beevers	10	438
Elie Dangoor	10	156



Winter Matchplay B

Maureen Chamberlain	12	638
Yvonne Eade	10	445
Graham Maker	10	149

Winter Matchplay C

Rosalind Wilson	10	624
Esther Kasket	10	296
Barbara Lukey	10	268

Winter Matchplay D

Philippa Morris	11	727
Jacquie Aldous	11	628
Sheila Anderson	10½	718

Ilford

November 27 (7 Rounds)

Ilford A

Cecil Muscat	6½	441
David Holmes	6	226
Mike Whiteoak	6	4

Ilford B

Noel Barnes	7	197
Stephen Wintle	6	233
Len Edwards	5	274

Ilford C

Jo Ramjane	8	211
Sheila Anderson	7	348
Ron Bucknell	6	394

Harrogate

December 2-4 (14 Rounds)

Harrogate A

Trish Matthews	10	358
Juliet Green	8	-74

Harrogate B

Ann Coleman	11	549
Sue Thompson	8	498

Harrogate C

Anne Lynas	14	870
Maggie Shutt	9	799

Mountnessing Christmas Invitational

December 10th (7 Rounds)

Report from Cindy Hollyer

The Christmas tournament is always a very happy event with competitors complying with the request to wear something festive and Feroze Bartlett looking especially cute (*sorry, no photo supplied!*).

The format was Round Robin with 5 tables of 8:

Winner	Division A	Vince Boyle	Ratings	Phil Kelly
“	Division B	Len Edwards	“	Priscilla Encarnacion
“	Division C	Marian Hamer	“	Sue Ball
“	Division D	Sheila Anderson	“	Jenny Corps
“	Division E	Hilda Bennett	“	Cindy Hollyer

Southend Invitational (Ilford)

December 27 (7 Rounds)

Southend A			Southend B			Southend C		
Calum Edwards	6½	186	Anne Golding	7	633	Martin Bloomberg	7	709
Mike Whiteoak	6	58	Evelyn Wallace	6	480	Phyllis Fernandez	7	177
Mike Chapell	6	50	Carmen Toscano	6	341	Damian O'Malley	6	430

Twixmas (Daventry)

December 29th-30th (15 Rounds)

Report from Alec Webb



Twixmas A			Twixmas B			Twixmas C		
Jackie McLeod	10	561	Ginny Dixon	12	657	Barbara Morris	11	613
Anne Ashmore	10	-130	Margaret Harkness	11	311	Dave Hoskisson	10½	428
Elie Dangoor	9	712	Peter Darby	10	561	Barbara Lukey	9	317

Twixmas, the final event to be played to the CSW7 word authority in the UK took place on the 29th and 30th December at Staverton Park Hotel near Daventry.

In Division A the stars of the first day were the ladies, all performing well. Donna Stanton had crushed Anne Ashmore in round one, but Anne responded in the best way possible by dismantling top ranked Wayne Kelly in round two. She then continued winning until at the end of Day One she was leading the field one win ahead of husband John.

In Division B Ginny Dixon opened with a convincing win over Peter Darby and then continued in the same vein through to the end of the day. At that time Ginny was the only player at the event with a 100% record, although not the only unbeaten one.

In Division C Dave Hoskisson had a 404-404 draw against Jean Owen in round three which had been sufficient to move him to the top of the table where he stayed until close of play.

Anne Ashmore continued where she left off at the start of Day Two. A win over Barry Grossman moved her two wins clear of the field, but that was the point at which her progress faltered, winning only one of her next five games. It was the two players who had been sitting in 7th and 11th places overnight, Jackie McLeod and Elie Dangoor who both put together five winning rounds to move up to 2nd and 3rd behind new leader John Ashmore.

Going in to the final round there were five players on 9 wins and none of them were playing each other. Anyone could win. However, only two of them managed victories in the final round, Jackie and Anne who finished first and second respectively.

In the B Division, Ginny lost her opening game of Day Two to Margaret Harkness, but not her place at the top of the table. In fact Ginny was never headed throughout the tournament, taking the division with 12 wins from 15. But it was Margaret who had the best tournament of anyone at the event with a performance rating 34 points higher than her start rating.

Dave Hoskisson managed to keep his Division C lead until round 12 when a defeat to Barbara Morris saw Barbara go top by just half a win. Barbara would not have expected just one win from her last three games to be enough to hold on to the division but that was what it proved to be. Barbara lost heavily to Dave in the final round, but the winner's cheque was already hers.

UK Open Warm Up (Coventry)

January 3-4 (18 Rounds)

Report from Alec Webb

This was the first tournament in the UK to the new CSW12 word authority. Divisions B-E were all 10 player double round robins. Division A was a very strong group of 12 players with an average rating of over 180 playing an 11 game round-robin followed by Swiss pairing and finally King of the Hill.

After 9 rounds, when each of the divisions B to E had completed their first Round Robins the leaders in Division B were Peter Thomas from Sandie Simonis, in C Dippy Dolly (aka Kim Hands) led from Suzanne Dundass, in D Len Moir from Tolani Ayo-Awojobi and in E Jenny Sakamoto from Georgie Burchall.



UK Open Warm Up A

Calum Edwards	12	451
Nigel Richard	11	834

UK Open Warm Up B

Sandie Simonis	15	1534
Nuala O'Rourke	11	345

UK Open Warm Up C

Kim Hands	13	767
Nicky Huitson	12	480



UK Open Warm Up D

Len Moir	13	822
Sylvia Swaney	12	518

UK Open Warm Up E

Barbara Lukey	12	206
Jenny Sakamoto	12	203

In Division A after round 11 when their Round Robin element had been completed, the surprise leader was your reporter Alec Webb. However, there was still another seven rounds to go and I was destined to lose them all. Perhaps an even bigger surprise was World Champion, Nigel Richards who had lost five consecutive games from round 3 to round 7.

In the remaining rounds Nigel's results naturally improved, but he had left himself just too much to do, and in the final round the Division A title was to be decided in the final game between Calum Edwards and American visitor Bob Linn (front cover photo). It was Calum who was victorious and took the divisional winner's cheque, with Nigel pipping Bob for second place.

In Division B Sandie Simonis won all her second Round Robin games to finish a convincing four wins clear of Nuala O'Rourke.

In Division C it was a much tighter affair, although Kim Hands was never headed at the top of the table, but a storming seven wins from nine by Nicky Huitson saw her rise from 5th at the half way stage to take second place at the end.

In Division D Len Moir had to concede the lead, first to Tolani and then to Sylvia Swaney, but he finished strongly to regain the lead at the end, one win ahead of Sylvia.

Barbra Lukey had been floundering in seventh place after the first Round Robin in Division E, but eight wins from 9 in the second set saw her just nick the division by a mere 3 points of spread from Jenny Sakamoto.

UK Open Main Event (Coventry)

January 5-8 (38 Rounds)

Report from Alec Webb

UK Open A

Nigel Richards	34	3657
Phil Robertshaw	28	2100
Weibin Toh	27	2735
Craig Beevers	27	1443

UK Open B

Theresa Scallan	27	1149
Tom Wilson	24	968
Eileen Meghen	23	652
Jim Wilkie	23	318

UK Open C

Ted Lewis	25	1424
Brid Ui Bhriain	24½	1314
Dave Hoskisson	24	1793
Ovidiu Tamas	24	1033

So now Nigel has warmed up! The first 27 rounds of the 28 player A Division was a straight round robin. There was a wide range of abilities in thae division, and one or two mismatches were inevitable. Nevertheless, Nigel was still impressive as he completed the opening day unbeaten on 9-0, two wins clear of Martin Harrison in second place.

This competition is a marathon however, not a sprint and Nigel lost his opening game on day two to Craig Beevers - but then proceeded to win the other ten games, and was then three wins clear of Phil Robertshaw. Defeats to Femi Awowade and Weibin Toh were not enough to stop Nigel stretching his lead to five wins by the end of Day Three. Despite a defeat to Theresa Brousson on day four Nigel went on to clinch the A division title and harvest the £1650 winners cheque, with four rounds still to play. Sue Bowman took the £280 cheque for the player with the best performance above their starting rating.

At this event last year Irish player Theresa Scallan romped away with the D division winning by seven clear games. It led to claims that despite a low ABSP rating, which had been based on one disappointing tournament, she had been placed in the wrong division and her high placing in the Irish ratings should have been taken into consideration. This year Theresa was placed in the B division - and duly won the £750 top prize by three clear wins.

The C Division was a much closer affair with the top three players separated by just half a win going in to the last round. However, Brid Ui Bhriain failed to defend her narrow lead against challenger Ted Lewis, and it was he who took the divisional winner's £750 cheque.

Pitlochry

January 15-18 (15 Rounds)

Pitlochry-1 A			Pitlochry-1 B		
Margaret Armstrong	11	584	Sheila Anderson	15	1193
Trish Matthews	11	423	Jo Holland	12	1082
Kate Leckie	10	397	Lena Glass	11	601

January 18-20 (10 Rounds)

Pitlochry-2 A			Pitlochry-2 B		
Caroline Atkins	9	505	Sheila Anderson	8	491
Mary Jones	7	249	Maria Marczak	7	340
Trish Matthews	7	133	Paul Cartman	6	324

After winning all 15 games in Division B of the January 15-18, 2012 Pitlochry tournament, Sheila Anderson (Romford club) won her first 6 games in Division B of the January 18-20 2012 Pitlochry tournament, a sequence of 21 wins.

Sheila's previous rated event was the Mountnessing Christmas Invitational on December 10th 2011, where her 7-game results were LWWWDW, giving her a 27-game record of 26 wins and a draw. If she had scored one more point to win the drawn game, she would now have equalled Mark Nyman's ABSP record of 27 consecutive wins.

And her first loss at Pitlochry, to end her 21-game winning sequence there, was by only 5 points!

John Grayson ABSP Ratings Officer

West Berks

January 21 (7 Rounds)

Report from Ian Burn

In all 70 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. With an expectation that one car with two players, was on route and delayed in traffic, the tournament started at the advertised time. In the event, the players

West Berks A

Andrew Cook	6	587
Philip Nelkon	6	366
David Sutton	5	699
Quentin Baker - Ratings		

West Berks B

Evelyn Wallace	7	284
Terry Jones	5	434
Len Edwards	5	335
Nova Williams - Ratings		

West Berks C

Fran Burling	7	477
Elizabeth Terry	6	357
Audrey Medhurst	5	484
Joy Rowe - Ratings		



concerned failed to find the venue so unfortunately there were byes in each round of the event. Interestingly, those people involved in byes played (unrated) friendly games.

In the A division, the lead changed hands on virtually every round, with Andy Cook and Vince Boyle among the major contenders. The 6th round game between them was always going to be pivotal, and 5 back to back bonuses at the start of the game put Andy well in contention. Going into the final round, Andy Cook, David Sutton and Philip Nelkon were on 5-1 records with the latter two playing each other. In the event, Philip beat David, but a good win by Andy meant that he secured the title (photo left).

In the B division Evelyn Wallace recorded a 100% record with 7 wins, although all of the games would appear to have been close, with a low total spread.

In the C division it was a similar story, Fran Burling led the division after the first round and never relinquished the top spot.

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 Fran Burling (West Berks club) repeating her performance from 2007. 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 £357.54 to the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance.

NI Championships (Belfast)

January 21-22 (15 Rounds)

Report from Alec Webb

NI Championships

Paul Gallen	12	1106
Kevin McMahon	11	1060
Stewart Holden	11	719
Toh Weibin	10	1075
Feargal Weatherhead	10	891
Naomi Landau - B Ratings		
Dave Mills - C Ratings		

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

A tournament full of upsets with many big scalps taken, mainly by local players Dave Mills and Tom Creed whose performances both exceeded their start ratings by 30+ points. Nevertheless, as usually happens, the cream rose to the top and top-rated Irish player Paul Gallen took the title.

The tournament was particularly noteworthy for one game won by Singaporean Weibin Toh over Rik Kennedy by 850-259 which smashed the ABSP and World records for highest score and highest winning margin. The record breaking board is shown above.

ratings snapshot

These pages are a snapshot of how the ratings looked on 18th January 2012. Players listed here have played at least 30 ABSP-rated games in total on that date, and at least 1 since January 18th 2011. ABSP membership number is in the column before name, or blank if not a member. There are rated games taking place every week so for the most up-to-date list you should go to the ABSP website: absp.org.uk > results > ratings

208		Adam Logan	178	1000	Stewart Holden(GM)	168	1349	Fidelis Olotu
206	1841	Nigel Richards(GM)	178	770	Jake Jacobs	168	123	Noel Turner(Exp)
199	57	Mark Nyman(GM)	178	1814	Rik Kennedy(Exp)	168	162	Alec Webb(Exp)
199	774	Brett Smitheram(GM)	178		Philips Owolabi	167	6	Darryl Francis(Exp)
196		David Eldar	178	1908	Ben Withers	167	999	Kay McColgan
196	764	Lewis Mackay(GM)	177	1197	Christian Brown	166	1116	Paul Bassett
194	1427	Mikki Nicholson(GM)	177	1102	Paul{England} Richards	166	978	Andy Becher
192	1355	Craig Beevers(GM)	177	41	Gareth Williams(GM)	166		Philip Cohen
192	147	Helen Gipson(GM)	176	1347	Adekoyejo Adegbesan	166	45	Barry Grossman(Exp)
192	158	Ed Martin(GM)	176	880	Femi Awowade(GM)	166	888	Chris Keeley
192	1368	Phil Robertshaw(GM)	176		Yi_En Gan	166	609	Bob Lynn
192	482	Neil Scott(GM)	176	1846	Albert Hahn	166	165	Cecil Muscat
191	1898	Weibin Toh	176	60	Terry Kirk(GM)	166	1714	Karen Richards
190	1618	Paul Gallen(Exp)	176		Steve Polatnick	165		David Delicata
189	751	Paul Allan(GM)	176		Jason Carney	165	1164	Karl Kwiatkowski
189	745	Harshan Lama'suriya(GM)	175	1202	Russell Byers(GM)	165	213	Neil Rowley
189		Kevin McMahon(Exp)	173	58	Neil Green	165		Chris Vicary
189	1713	Alastair Richards	173	1191	Philip Nelkon(GM)	165		Mike Willis(Exp)
189	846	Austin Shin(GM)	173	4	James Rossiter	164	1486	Ashley Coldrick
187	823	Wayne Kelly(GM)	173	1469	Victor Amartey	164	1221	Jojo Delia
186	1220	Theresa Brousson(Exp)	172		Stephen Hunt	164	14	Di Dennis(GM)
185		Evan Cohen(Exp)	172	1491	Gary Polhill(Exp)	164	1419	John Hardie
185	1422	Wale Fashina	172		Jared Robinson(Exp)	164	1429	Stewart Houten
185		Chinedu Okwelogu	172	814	Brian Sugar(GM)	164		Mihai Pantis
185	338	David Webb(GM)	172	5	John Ashmore	164	1170	Paloma Raychbart
184	1497	Azu Ogbogu(Exp)	171	1016	Vincent Boyle	164		Jin_Chor Tan
184	1488	Ed Rossiter(Exp)	171	914	Simon Gillam(Exp)	164		Bob Violett(Exp)
184	21	Evan Simpson(GM)	171	59	Ian Gucklhorn	163		Chris Cummins
183	15	Phil Appleby(GM)	171		Chris Hawkins(Exp)	163	734	Nick Deller
183	362	Gary Oliver(GM)	171	368	Toke Aka	163	836	Chris Fenwick
182	7	Allan Simmons(GM)	170	1679	Danny Bekhor	163		Mark Goodwin
181	1428	Martin Harrison(Exp)	170	103	Penny Downer(Exp)	163	86	Frankie Mairey
181	1851	Bob Linn	170	202	Jackie McLeod(Exp)	163	101	Robert Richland(Exp)
181	1687	Howard Wilde	170	38	Mike Whiteoak	163	555	Raymond Tate
180	478	Elie Dangoor(Exp)	170	1057	Carmel Dodd	162		Alex_Gboye Balogun
179	1423	Calum Edwards	169		Ross Mackenzie	162		David Brook
179	1163	David Sutton(Exp)	169	1006	Steve Perry	162	1120	Anand Buddhdev
179	1869	Feargal Weatherhead	169	281	Mohammad Sulaiman	162	199	Graham Harding
178		Andrew Goodwin	169		Mike Chappell	162	1608	David Holmes
			168	1375		162	1706	Clement Ikolo

162		Dan Sandu	156	1674	Ricky Zinger	146		Ed Breed
162	428	Kwaku Sapon	155	471	Anne Ashmore	146	1765	Beverley Calder
162	1268	Ebi Sosseh	155		Tony Bearn	146	1602	Kim Hands
162	1231	David Steel	155	1824	Oliver Garner	146	923	Teresa Lyes
162		Dianne Ward	155		Ed Garrett-Jones	146	408	Nuala O'Rourke
161	1635	Nick Ascroft	155	530	George Gruner(Exp)	146	1411	Rebecca Sheldrick
161	1211	Ian Coventry	155	1862	Stu Harkness	146		Fran Thompson
161	463	Helen Harding	155		Bartosz Pieta	145	1631	Jack Ancomb
161		Mark Hollingsworth	154	180	Neil Darbyshire	145	1210	Graham Bonham
161	873	Matthew Pinner	154	488	Marion Keatings	145	458	Eileen Meghen
161	115	Diane Pratesi(Exp)	154	1389	Paul{Tranmere} Thomson	145	1768	Charles Micallef
161	1510	Jessica Pratesi	154	229	Graham Wakefield	145	1287	Stuart Solomons
161		Andrei Russell-Gebbett	153		John Barker	145	1598	Carmen Toscano
161	226	Alan Sinclair	153	1301	Rick Blakeway	145		Lesley Trotter
161	116	Martin Thompson	153	343	Amy Byrne	144		Nicky Vella-Laurenti
161	292	Wilma Warwick	153	69	Moira Conway	144	1770	Tia Corkish
160		Bob Berry	153	79	Chris Finlay	144		Mike Evans
160	553	Brian Jones	153		Gerard Fox	144	688	Lorraine Gordon
160	1863	Tim Knight	153	837	Peter Liggett	144	760	Sanmi Odelana
160	154	Mike O'Rourke	153	268	Donna Stanton	144	480	Anne Ramsay
160	479	Andrew Roughton(Exp)	152	835	Maurice Brown	144		David Reading
159		Billy Dott	152	852	Maureen Chamberlain	144		Mario Saliba
159		Alan Georgeson	152		Naomi Landau	144	1189	Martin Taylor
159	1362	Graham Haigh	152	20	Janet Phillips	144	1149	Jim Wilkie
159	997	Phil Kelly	152	476	David Shenkin	143	1870	Abiodun Adeyemi
159		Joseph McGinley	151	534	Caroline Atkins	143	635	Philip Aldous
159	810	Linda Vickers	151		Chris Downer	143	228	Adrienne Berger
159	1279	Ben Wilson	151	1456	Andrew Eames	143	1559	Joe Bridal
158	1754	Quentin Baker	151	1051	Elizabeth Hull	143		Alan Cathrall
158	1243	Doj Graham	151	631	Alison Sadler	143	1145	Peter Darby
158	105	Elisabeth Jardine	151		Kevin Synnott	143	469	Tony Davis
158	1203	Greg Kelly	151		Fern Wheelwright	143		Wendy Lindridge
158	88	Sandie Simonis(Exp)	150	1739	Feroza Bartlett	143	713	Trish Matthews
158	1649	Paul{Halifax} Thompson	150		Timothy Lawrence	143	1269	Richard Moody
158	1459	Ronan Webb	150	93	Ruth MacInerney	143		Mark Murray
157	1440	Tim Charlton	150	176	Jayne Mackenzie	143	1457	Amanda Sodhy
157	1380	Anthony Pinnell	149	789	Alan Bailey	143	1468	Kathy Suddick
157		Chris Quartermaine	149	1404	Chris Harrison	142	1861	Rose Calder
157	111	Neil Talbot	149		Victoria Kingham	142		James Crooks
156		Olakunle Ajayi	148	51	Cathy Anderson	142	1262	Ginny Dixon
156	1693	Rafal Dominiczak	148		Christine McKenzie	142	1466	Suzanne Dundas
156	793	Joanne Hiley	147	84	Pauline Johnson	142	1217	Carolyn Emery
156	986	Robert Pells	147		Pramit Kamath	142	507	Kathryn Henry
156	919	Peter Thomas	147		Lynne Murphy	142	1732	James Squires
156	1691	Wojtek Usakiewicz	147		Omri Rosenkrantz	142	489	Tom Wilson
156	94	Rachelle Winer	147	589	Anne Steward	141		John Balloch
			147	719	Kate Surtees	141	1412	Melanie Beaumont

141	66	Sue Bowman	137	876	Evelyn Wallace	131		Lee Graham
141	1473	Neil Broom	137		Michael Zinger	131	1877	Jayne Grey
141	399	Louise Brundell	136	1455	Angela Burke	131		Terry Jones
141	3	Laura Finley	136	81	Joyce Cansfield(Exp)	131		Jayanthi Kannan
141	1022	Nicky Huitson	136	61	Lorraine Crouch	131	1853	Sarah Khawaja
141	1479	Bob Jarvie	136	1413	Geoff Goodwin	131	423	Alec Robertson
141	983	Martin Leverton	136	232	Iain Harley	131	996	Kenneth Ross
141		Brenda Margereson	136	1115	Nick Jenkins	131	177	Henry Walton
141	1511	Colin Nicol	136	875	Jim Lyes	130	511	Samantha Beckwith
141	1294	Christine Strawbridge	136	267	Graham Maker	130		Martin Bloomberg
141	637	Val Wright	136	1317	Marjorie Struggles	130		John Harrison
140	1383	Sarah-Jane Jamison	135		Jean Bridge	130		Peter Hunt
140	161	Margaret Pritchett	135	1424	Len Edwards	130	1654	Ian Kendall
140		Jean Rappitt	135	1484	Karen Game	130		Bryn Packer
140	1123	Chrystal Rose	135	689	Kenneth Gordon	130		Gordon Procter
140	1849	Theresa Scallan	135	242	Sheila Green	129	943	Carol Arthurton
140	422	Carol Stanley	135	1533	Colin Kendall	129	238	Margaret Burdon
140	1053	Stephen Wintle	135	28	Lorna Rapley	129	992	Geoff Cooper
139	96	Diana Beasley	135	790	Margaret Staunton	129		Barbara Dein
139	1020	Derek Bower	135	291	Sylvia Swaney	129	1199	Richard Hitchcock
139	449	Alan Childs	135		Richard Woodward	129	904	George Newman
139	163	Yvonne Eade	134	427	Peter Ashurst	129	829	Kim Phipps
139	1035	Andy Gray	134	1892	Noel Barnes	129		Rita Todd
139		Alan Guy	134	406	Moya Dewar	128		Liam Donnelly
139	523	Kate Leckie	134	92	Priscilla Encarnacion	128	1238	Juliet Green
139	150	David Longley	134		Sonny Hemachandra	128	737	Margaret Harkness
139		Kate McNulty	134		Duncan Keet	128	1293	Dennis Hussey
139		Kay Powick	133	1179	Janet Adams	128	263	Sheila Jolliffe
139	636	David Williams	133	80	Mary Allen	128	1577	Esther Kasket
138	738	Margaret Armstrong	133		Graham Buckingham	128	1854	Michael Thomas
138	254	Ian Burn	133	124	Ivy Dixon-Baird	128	1003	Sheena Wilson
138	544	Marjory Flight	133	1282	Barbara Goodban	127	856	Minu Anderson
138	100	David Lawton	133	886	Ruth Marsden	127	557	Janice Bease
138		Jonny Maitland	133		Martin Sheehan	127	822	Jill Bright
138		Marc Meakin	133	1175	Rosalind Wilson	127	1092	Heather Burnet
138	1270	Len Moir	132	1504	Andrea Adnan	127		Sylvia Carroll
138	1237	Dorn Osborne	132	1010	Tolani Ayo-Awojobi	127	1843	Chris Davies
138	802	Patricia Pay	132	639	Esther Bacon	127	223	June Edwards
138	1206	Sarah Wilks	132	603	Linda Bradford	127	776	Peter Hall
137	899	Jake Berliner	132	1005	Verity Cross	127	975	Jill Harrison
137	1540	Rowan Callaghan	132	1509	Heather Laird	127		Sheila Hinett
137	933	Ann Golding	132	401	Sharon Landau	127	1169	Yvonne Holland
137	1591	Mick Healy	132		Frankie Latham	127		Mauro Pratesi
137	655	Mary Jones	132	1823	Elizabeth Ramsay	127	632	Carol{Norwich} Smith
137		Celine McCart	132	960	Mary Siggers	127	775	Pat Wheeler
137	1050	Yvonne McKeon	132	470	Norman Smith	126		Terry Corps
137	35	Lois McLeod	131	1762	Reeyaaz	126	570	Jean Gallacher
137	932	Jill Parker			Goolamhossen	126	1136	Ted Lewis

126		Stella Magnus	120	1298	Helgemarie Farrow	116	1442	Gordon Winter
126	625	John Mitchell	120	868	Christine Gillespie	115	1373	Stany Arnold
126		Pauline Russell	120	1054	Barbara Lukey	115		Anna Borg
126	1580	Nigel Sibbett	120		Josephine Mayo	115	185	Lou McMeeken
126		Martin Smith	120	1889	Valerie Morris	115	1341	Pam Sparkes
125		Sue Ball	120		Julie Nelkon	115	1450	Christine Tudge
125	924	Linda Barratt	120	1867	Pauline Weatherhead	115		Paul Walford
125		Mario Camilleri	119	1049	Ken Bird	114	1263	Barbara Barker
125		Carmen Dolan	119		Pat Broderick	114	1007	Margaret Irons
125	1667	Mary Doyle	119		Joe Caruana	114	1222	Bronagh Kenny
125	1066	Barbara Morris	119	1705	Sharon Hewitt	114	320	Fay Madeley
125	1656	Damian O'Malley	119	901	Dave Hoskisson	114		Freda Marcus
125	1315	Tanya Robson	119	1089	Vivienne Newman	114		Paul Mifsud
125	246	Wendy Tiley	119	1848	Sally Twine	114	626	Martha Mitchell
124	922	Barbara Allen	119		Albert Zammit	113	735	Hilary Birdsall
124	252	Steve Balment	118	1752	Carol Bartlett	113	1525	Caroline Foy
124	682	Janet Bonham	118	330	Viv Beckmann	113	1331	Carol Grant
124	1385	Mark Bradley	118	1403	Emma Brown	113	1064	June Johnstone
124		Catalin Caba	118		Jennifer Clifford	113		David Mills
124	964	Phyllis Fernandez	118	920	Eleanor Dobson	113	782	Richard Pajak
124	840	Rhoda Gray	118		Lorna Franks	113	1276	Evelyn Wansbrough
124	381	Michael Harley	118		Norma Galley	113		Carole Wheatley
124	572	Val Hoskings	118	715	Barbara Hill	113		Judy Young
124		Sammy Mangion	118	414	Jill Jones	112		Ben Berger
124		Mario Seychell	118	77	Joy Lloyd	112	982	Ron Bucknell
124	1675	Mark Smith	118	1575	Margaret Marshall	112	1119	Anne Darby
123	110	Liz Barber	118	1773	Cody McCormick	112	1779	Joe Knapper
123	1146	Leonora Hutton	118	1574	Ken McGinness	112		Mary Orr
123		Ralph Obemeasor	118		Brenda Northcott	112	1478	Vivienne Stokes
123		Jo Ramjane	118	1738	Heather Roberts	112	1640	Nova Williams
123		Tom Sharp	118	169	Sue Thompson	112	356	Pamela Windsor
123	477	Malcolm Shaw	117	953	Peter Bailey	111	1038	Jacquie Aldous
123		Ovidiu Tamas	117	725	Paul Cartman	111	1503	Maureen Barlow
123	1666	Brid Ui_Bhriain	117	565	Ann Coleman	111		Linda Beard
122		Sheila{Perth} Anderson	117		Paul Dundas	111		Irene Catherall
122		Marian Hamer	117	718	Pat Friend	111	1489	Anne Cheesman
122		Sheila Jeffery	117		Sara Hardy	111	420	Marie English
122	938	Helen Polhill	117	1113	Chris Jackson	111	1532	Lyn Kendall
122	29	Marlene Skinner	117	1696	Ena McNamara	111	931	Janet Milford
121	390	Betty Balding	117		Judy Monger	111	1183	Priscilla Munday
121		Eileen Basham	117		Mary Morgan	111	1868	Trevor Warwick
121		Linda Bird	117		Maureen Underdown	111		Jane Weston
121		Gila Blits	116	1625	Georgie Burchell	110	743	Nora Bain
121	1653	Tim Butcher	116		Maureen Hoch	110	257	Syd Berger
121	402	Sally Fiszman	116	1009	Jenny Sakamoto	110		Jill Burgess
121	948	Eileen Foster	116		Willie Scott	110	1657	David Garland
121	1642	Alan Payne	116	1683	Janet Southworth	110		Paul Grimshaw
121	972	Denise Saxton	116	1253	Philip Turner	110		Sylvia McCulloch

110	211	Philippa Morris	104		Philip Bowden	98	726	Christine Cartman
110		Jean Owen	104	1327	Sonia Cox	98		Pauline Cilia
110	1118	Remie Salazar	104	1742	Lee Fisher	98		Florence Davies
110	917	Nicola Staunton	104	1480	Doreen Jarvie	98	1524	Malcolm Davis
110	1788	Julie Tate	104	791	Rosemary Jordan	98		Yvonne Lambert
109		Joyce Ashmore	104	1644	Kenneth Lovell	98	1726	Duncan MacFarlane
109		Gill Carr	104	1085	Betty Simmonds	98		Jenetta Mills
109		Frans Farrugia	104		Alfred Xuereb	98	1873	Paul Roberts
109	826	Elizabeth Terry	103		Rachel Bingham	98	1506	Gill{Norwich} Thompson
109		Sandra Walton	103	384	Mabel Choularton	97	709	Betty Benton
108	1259	Sheila{Rmfrd} Anderson	103	1855	Jack Durand	97		Anne Connolly
108	1063	Irene Atkinson	103		Joan Ellis	97		Fay Goble
108		Fran Burling	103	1729	Paul Harding	97		Barbara Hagggett
108	928	Iris Cornish	103	798	Peter Lindeck	97		Sandra Harrap
108		Maggie Fleming	103		Jean Mainwaring	97		Sandra Harrap
108		Pawlu Frendo	102		Elisabeth{Clvlnnd} Allen	97	1134	Dorothy Kemlicz
108	941	Audrey Harvey	102		Janice Ball	97	1304	Linda Moir
108	1552	Charles Tollit	102		Anne Convery	97	1633	Robert Peters
107		Raquelle Azran	102		Joyce Frost	97		Maria Treadwell
107		Les Costin	102	1112	Peter Johnson	96	1820	Rosemary Wood
107		Cecilia Cotton	102		Barbara McLaren	95	1544	Anne Atherton
107		Maisie Culpin	102	927	Audrey Medhurst	95	1168	Brian Beaumont
107	1200	Caroline Elliott	102	1297	Graham Pace	95	1548	Viv Bishop
107	298	Mavis Harding	102		Jeanne Rossiter	95		Shirley Cave
107		Peter Sime	102	357	Jean Shaw	95	1225	Lena Glass
107		Pamela Vahed	101	405	Peter Ernest	95		Sally Hanson
106	1686	Angele Andrews	101	1910	Alan Everitt	95		Baldip Kaur
106		Dominic Borg	101	736	Molly Lane	95	1502	Cathy Poacher
106	1471	Scott Bowman	101	1554	Vicky Owen	95	1787	Natasha Pratesi
106		Jenny Burgess	101		Moreen Shillitoe	95		Joan Rees
106		Lena Cook	101	1084	Rod Winfield	95		Jan Vokes-Taylor
106		Helen Sandler	100		Bridget Busk	94	1465	Doreen Clayton
106	1171	Susan Thorne	100	1704	Paul Carter	94	1008	Yvonne Goodridge
105	1630	Ted Anscomb	100	1340	Paula Docherty	94	83	Pat Rockley
105	1905	Rosina Cornelius	100	1904	James Ducker	94	1448	Joy Rowe
105		Jenny Corps	100	1212	Marjorie Gillott	94		Beryl Shoesmith
105		Peter{Prtsmith} Edwards	100	451	Vera Sime	94	1252	Ruth Turner
105	1306	Margaret Emmott	100	483	Peter Terry	94		Claire Violet
105		June Faulkner	100	935	Ian Whyte	94		Isla Wilkie
105		Marjorie Gardner	99		Joan Everitt	94	1501	Brenda Young
105		Barbara Kent	99		Florence Fontaine	93		Sybil Berrecloth
105		Maria Marczak	99		June Lindridge	93	1207	Hannah Corbett
105	976	Adrian Noller	99		Jean MacLellan	93	1648	Irene Lawes
105		Colin StHill	99	1828	Mel Maltz	93		John McCart
105	1699	Nick Stone	99	1587	Irene Newberry	93		Avril Shaw
104		Nancy Alroy	99		Robert Orr	93	1398	Jill Warren
			99	818	Rose Wall	92	1866	Terry Avery
			98		Jean Buckley	92		Hilda Bennett

92	Eileen Bradshaw	86	Martyn Washbourne	74	Jean Geldard
92 1834	Peggy Fehily	86	Amabel Winter	73	Pat Carr
92 1176	Gordon Lamb	85	Marcia Hall	73 1719	Eileen Johnson
92 1392	Chris Leathem	85 1332	Sheila Wyatt	73	Anne Parry
92	Gwen Linfoot	84 1745	Douglas Morris	73	Helen Thompson
92 1832	Shrinidhi Prakash	84	Reno Zammit	72	John Boughton
92	Sandra Weston	83	Rita Barton	72	Steve Wilkinson
92 872	Jacqui White	83 1767	Martin Byrne	71	Ann Gregson
91	Norah Cole	83	Linda Marguy	70	Mary Harris
91 1289	Kerry Constant	83 1599	Margaret{Fife} McGhee	70	Steven Henry
91 1073	Jenny Harris	83	Judith Puttick	70	Margaret{Edbgh} McGhee
91 1261	Jo Holland	83	Doreen Searles	69 1399	Carol Russell
91	Anne Lynas	82	Margaret Aldous	69	Shirley Stokley
91	Monica Marden	82 998	Jean Hendrick	69 1874	Lucille Terry
91 1734	Olive Martin	82	Joyce Hoffbrand	68	Jane Craig
91 1232	Brett Scaife	82 1710	Sandra Richards	67 1334	Catherine McMillan
91 485	Ann Toft	81 359	Vera Allen	66	Dorothy Jackson
90	Peter Basham	81	Lionel Howard	65	Michael Slow
90	Chris Chapman	81 1882	Gil Hunter	65 1774	Margaret Smith
90 1781	Carol Joahill	81 1390	Maria Raffaelli	63	Bob Horne
90 1852	Estelle Matthews	80 410	Myra Copleston	63 1805	Marion Loewenstein
90 1267	Margot Montgomery	80 1795	Valery Jansen	61 1741	Bill Croft
90 1792	Dan Smith	80	Olive Matthew	60 1316	Veronica Baker
90	Margaret Speight	80 1135	Sylvia Oates	60 1028	Peggy Lavender
90	Alison Stilwell	80	Alison Peters	59 949	Barbara Horlock
90 1454	Janet Watson	80 1850	Rena Waddell	58 1748	Connie Walton
89 30	Ruby Flood	80 1819	Stanley Wilkinson	57 1844	Gemma Davis
89	Frances Goulding	80	Keith Woodruff	56 1740	Zandra Begg
89	Peter Thorpe	79	Dorothy Henry	56 541	Pamela Brown
89 1893	Angela Wright	79 1229	Eileen Hunter	55 1474	Carol Mouncey
88 1677	Mary Baty	79 1541	Marjorie Lunn	54	Judy McBride
88 1148	Renee Gilbert	78	Chris{S'hampton} Baker	50	Elisheva Auerbach
88 799	Cindy Hollyer	78	Brigitte Brath	50	Lucy Beckmann
88	Hazel Packham	78 1782	John Fyfe	50	Beate Holder
88	Maria Scicluna	78 1822	Pat Johnson		
88 1523	Kath Williams	78	Michael Murray		
87 985	Carmen Borg	78	Olga Robinson		
87 683	Mavis Ernest	78	Sheila Johnston		
87	Rosemarie Howis	77	Paula Davenport		
87 1769	Jennifer Payne	76	Patricia Parton		
87	Mary Pugh	76	Margaret Scamell		
87 851	Sheila Smith	76	Audrey Shergold		
86	Sheila Bromly	76	Mary Kennedy		
86 1039	Dorothy Edwards	75 1290	Fred Burford		
86	Pat Evans	74 563	Letty Burrell		
86 828	Moira Metcalf	74 1143	Margaret Cooke		
86 1629	Maggie Shutt	74	Tom Creed		
86 1397	Christine Silvester	74			

dusting off the archives

A stroll down Memory Lane with Robert Richland

20 years ago

APSP Newsletter, February 1992, editor Clive Spate

This issue was in stapled A4 format and unnumbered.

- Ratings Officer, Terry Hollington wrote a lengthy article about the APSP Official Rankings, including the end-of-year list for 1991 and several other statistical observations.
- Terry also had an article in this issue called 'Factors and Fancies' where he opened with the comment: 'Scrabble is a game of skill – not chance!' He also said that 'the only element of luck is the tiles you actually draw from the bag', concluding at the end that 'the luck factor is equal . . . the ability to win more often than others is due entirely to your skill'.
- Clive wrote about Italian Scrabble; Spears had brought out an 'Edizione Italiana' of Scrabble in 1980, which contained 130 tiles and a standard 15 x 15 board. Then in 1983, Italian company Editrice Giochi came out with an amended version with 130 tiles, but with letter values adjusted and a larger 17 x 17 board !
- There was a list of suitable tunes for 'Scrabble' in this issue, including: Elvis Presley's *The Wonder Of U* (when stuck with an unplayable Q), Doris Day's *Move Over, Darling*, David Bowie's *Changes*, and the classic *Una Paloma Blanca* !

The only recent tourney win: Mark Nyman (Winter Matchplay),

Top 3 ratings (Jan 1st 1992): Clive Spate 196, Gareth Williams 195, Mark Nyman 194

15 years ago

APSP Newsletter, issue 52, February 1997, editor Phil Appleby

Tournament Coordinator, Martin Fowkes, remarked that the 64 rated events in 1996 was a huge increase on 1993, when there were only 29.

- Andrew Fisher was the NSC Champion, beating Terry Kirk 3 – 1 in the Final.
- David Webb had earned Expert status.
- In the article 'Opening Racks', Brian Sugar put five top players (plus computer program Maven) to the test with ten 'problem' starting racks that didn't yield a bonus. Included were the perennial IRELAND and TIELAND. Since then, however, HINTERS, DETAINI, PAGEDI?, IMAGED? and NOLACES have become bonus racks!
- Terry Kirk played more rated games in 1996 than anyone else, 259 games in 29 tourneys. Terry gave us an insight into his 'record-breaking' year. Nowadays, of course, with so many more events in the calendar, these figures are easily eclipsed by many!
- Recent tourney wins (NSC aside): Wendy Lindridge (British Amateur Championship), Terry Kirk (Merton Charity), Neil Scott (Tynecastle), Martin Bloomberg (Essex Classic), Janet Phillips (Chester), Di Dennis/Brian Sugar/Philip Nelkon/Robert Richland/Allan Simmons ('Nottingham Nomads' event in London), Helen Gipson (Hampshire Congress)

Top 3 ratings (Jan 1st 1997): Allan Saldanha 205, David Acton 199, Gareth Williams 199

10 years ago

The Last Word, issue 82, January 2002, editor Christina French

- Five years on from Terry Kirk's 259 rated games in 1996, Sheila Green almost matched him with 257 in 2001.
- Phil Appleby's long-running 'Across The Board' feature made its debut in this issue. It included an annotated game between Andrew Fisher and Andrew Perry (from the 2001 WSC), two game puzzles and a look at 'irritating vowel syndrome' !
- This month's member interview featured both Chris Hawkins and 12 year-old Austin Shin. Chris and Austin recently played each other non-stop in a 24-hour Scrabble charity marathon and broke the world record for the most number of points scored in that time. In their 17th game, the 13-letter word DEMAGNETIZING was played !
- David Shenkin, under 'He Brews A New List', reminded us that all the Hebrew letters were now playable, from ALEPH to TAV.

Recent tourney wins: Peter Liggett (Swansea), Ian Burn (Southend), Andrew Cook (MK Winter Matchplay). Cleveland won the North East Club tourney.

Top 3 ratings (Dec 31st 2001): David Webb 206, Robert Felt 204, Andrew Fisher 202 (unchanged from the previous issue).

5 years ago

TLW, issue 112, February 2007, editor Elisabeth Jardine

- This issue included a two-page obituary for Graeme Thomas, who was tragically killed in November 2006. The obituary was adapted from the eulogy given by Stewart Holden at Graeme's funeral.
- When it came to knowing the meanings of the more obscure words and their origins, Graeme had very few (if any) peers. Whilst not known to suffer fools gladly, Graeme had the gift of keeping everyone's minds occupied during long trips to and from tourneys with a whole spectrum of subjects to do with Scrabble. And in the days before the UK-Scrabble and World-Scrabble email boards had gathered momentum, Graeme was already building bridges across the pond between the UK and USA, attending several tourneys in the land of the stars and stripes.
- Another long-standing Scrabbler passed away on November 24th, Michael Partner, who founded several clubs, including Croydon and Carshalton, over the years. Michael was also the founder of the Southern Counties Scrabble League which he ran for 17 years until he retired at the end of 2001.
- Mike Whiteoak was easily the 'most games played' title holder for 2006 . . . 410 in all. Rael Hayman was the most improved player for 2006, his rating climbing by 26 to 164.
- Stewart Holden became a Grand Master, and Expert status was bestowed upon five others: Ed Martin, Wayne Kelly, Barry Grossman, Austin Shin and Craig Beevers.
- Alan Childs cleverly pieced together 'Sugar White's Moving Story', in which every capitalised word in the story could be prefixed with NON-. Amongst such words were SUGAR, WHITE, URBAN, GREEN and NAVAL.

Recent tourney wins: George Gruner (Luton and also Hockley), Craig Beevers (Winter Matchplay), Jill Bright (Harrogate HB), Christian Brown (Manchester), Wayne Kelly (Stoke Rochford), Paloma Raychbart (South Essex RR), Stewart Holden (Isle of Wight).

England won the Home International . . . the winning team were Craig Beevers, Wayne Kelly, Adam Philpotts and Brett Smitheram.

Top 3 ratings (Jan 21st 2007): Adam Logan 211, Brett Smitheram 202, Andrew Davis 198. Davis, Helen Gipson and Brett Smitheram 198.

Please say hello to a sparkling, shiny new member of the ABSP, Katy Edge. Still to sample the delights of tournament Scrabble or acquire a rating, yet enthusiastic to write of her Scrabble experiences to OnBoard. Welcome indeed, Katy!

Mattel Prattle – The Diary of a Scrabbaholic



In my family, there's no slightly awkward "What do you want for your birthday?" discussion. My home has become a bit of a shrine to Scrabble, almost without me noticing. In the kitchen, we have mugs with K_5 and P_3 on them; in the lounge, several versions of the game along with some strategy guides and dictionaries; in the bedroom, the deluxe boxed set. My radiators are covered in magnetic tiles, and there's even a travel board in my car. Yes, I'm a Scrabbaholic – and I'm not ashamed.

I was introduced to Mattel's magnificent game by an ex-boyfriend (thinking back, this may have been the high point of our relationship) when I was at school. Since then, a full-blown addiction has taken root*.

Even as a teenager, when my peers were busy doing respectable things like drinking their bodyweight in beer and piercing their noses, I could often be found sitting in my parked car of an evening, playing Scrabble by torchlight. The fact that I couldn't drive was immaterial; my equally nerdy friends and I were content simply to sit in this stationary word-building haven of steel with our choice of music blasting happily through the stereo.

I'd like to think I've developed since then. I trundled off to university after finishing college – to study English, naturally – where I encountered, to my delight, plenty of like-minded linguaphiles. Inevitably, essays and coursework took a back seat to tie-breaker games, and scheduled matches took precedence in my diary. During exam season, when willing opponents were curiously few in number (I got through the unwilling ones pretty quickly), I resorted to playing parody word games on Facebook. And then, joy of joys, I stumbled across online Scrabble.

It's not an exaggeration to say that this has made my life a better place. Since I entered the glorious world of graduate employment (well, I have to fund my habit somehow) my games have been carefully arranged around coffee breaks, lunch hours, mealtimes and sleep. One of the great things about online play, I've learned, is the opportunity to 'save' and record high scores, bonuses and so forth. Of course, this is at times a curse as well as a blessing; it may be ego-boosting to make a twelve-letter word across two 'triple word' squares, but it's royally disheartening to have your precious stats spoiled by a sore loser, a cheat or a mind-boggling genius. And to realise that you've played over 1,000 games in the last six months is, frankly, a bit of a shock.

But I've met some wonderful people along the way. Forgetting the angry lady who responded to my unexpectedly easy win with an email saying "Thanks for using me as fodder for your stats!!!", I've made some lasting friendships – notably a gentleman based in America who travels a lot on business. Our regular games occupy his lonely hours spent in hotel rooms, and I get a lovely travelogue to boot. Web-based Scrabble is also great for playing my boyfriend when we're sitting side-by-side on the sofa with our laptops, but are trying to stop our cats from eating the tiles (*Beep* "Your turn, dear").

A rather unfortunate consequence of my Scrabble-themed chatter ("Mum, do you think a lady in her 80s would be offended if I put down the word *bollocks*?") is that lots of people are no

longer prepared to play me. At parties, a lull in the entertainment is inevitably addressed with the suggestion of board games – but my knowing friends glance nervously at me and say, “Er, Monopoly? I really REALLY love Monopoly let’s play that.”

Still, I can take it. I’m a martyr to my cause. And if my love of Scrabble makes me an occasional social liability, so be it. Anyway, better be off, I’ve got innocent online gamers to defeat...

* No Scrab-hab for me. Heh heh heh. Oh dear – perhaps this is a sign that I should get out more.

David Sutton’s Word of the Week

About a year ago, David Sutton started posting a ‘Word of the Week’ on the WESPA website. David’s work is always worthy of a wider readership, so with a good size archive already available to choose from I will, with David’s permission, select some of the more interesting or useful words to bring to the pages of OnBoard.

Week sixteen: **MELTITH**

The primary meaning of MELTITH is 'a meal', as it is a Scots form of meal-tide, but according to Chambers it can also mean 'the amount of milk given by a cow at one milking'. Since one would have thought this varied dramatically with the kind of cow, the age of the cow, what the cow had been eating and, of course, what sort of moo-d the cow was in, MELTITH seems admirably well qualified to join the ranks of a number of other wonderfully imprecise old measurement words, whose casualness of approximation may be found refreshing in an age so obsessed with accuracy of measurement that it is now trying to derive all primary units from the basic constants of nature: for example, since 1983 the metre has been defined as the distance travelled by light in vacuum in $1/299,792,458$ of a second.

So, along with MELTITH, we have MELDER, a quantity of meal ground at one time. We have CARUCATE, as much land as a team of oxen could plough in a season, and OXGANG, OXGATE, OXLAND or BOVATE, all of which are words for one eighth of a CARUCATE, or the share that may be attributed to one ox in the standard team of eight oxen. We have VIRGATE, an old land measurement of 'about 30 acres'.

We have FISTMELE, 'the breadth of a fist with the thumb extended, esp as used as the measure of the correct distance between the string and the handle of a braced bow'. We have GOWPEN, 'a double handful'. We have CUBIT or CUBITUS, the length of the arm from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger, between 18 and 22 inches.

We have HAIRBREADTH or HAIRSBREADTH, HANDBREADTH or HANDSBREADTH, FOOTBREADTH and FINGERBREADTH. And we have the presumably fairly minimal HANDSTURN, as in 'he never did a handsturn of work'.

And all this is without getting into the ancient units which did claim rather more in the way of precision. I will leave you to investigate FIRLOT and CHALDER, LIPPIE and KILDERKIN, KEMPLE and CRAN. And I will end with my favourite: MUTCHKIN, 'a Scottish liquid measure, three-quarters of an imperial pint, or a quarter of an old Scottish pint'. If my arithmetic is correct, that makes an old Scottish pint three of our pints.

Never get in a drinking contest with an old Scot.

finally, tomorrow we can...

That was the subject line of a posting to OzScrabble by Trevor Halsall of Melbourne. It was sent on New Years Eve, just hours before the almost global adoption of CSW12, announcing the arrival of many new words into our game, some perhaps a little overdue.

So finally tomorrow we can...

...put on the **aircon**, eat an **aloo** or **bolognese** or our **brussels** or **bucatini** or **chermoula** or steak **diane** or **edamame** or **goji** fruit or a **grissino** or **jamon** or chicken **kiev** or peach **melba** or **ossobuco** or **paninis** or **panko** crumbs or a **ragu** or **razorclams** or a **ribeye** or some **roesti** or a lamb **saag** or **sugo** or some **sweetlip** or **tartufo** or a **tian** or a few **tortelli** or a **vienna** roll or **vongole** or some **wagyu** or just **brainfood** in general.

We can go **apeshit**, watch an **arthouse** movie (maybe the **maltese falcon**?), **autosave** a spreadsheet, use a **ballpeen** hammer or **flyspray** or a **footpump**, wonder about **barcodes** and **shemales**, dance the **boogaloo** or the wild **thang** or go **krumping**, make **bresaola** from a **saola**, get a **carphone** plan with better **calltime** or **talktime**, worry about our **cankles** or **combover** or **moobs** or even being a **ranga**.

We can put in a **catflap**, present **costings**, build with **dowelings**, look forward to further interest rate **easings**, respond to **emailers**, **facebook** or **myspace** someone, wear a **flannie** or even a **mankini**, talk about the **flipside**, go to a **gastropub** or even la **porchetta** - maybe with a **rellie**, drink **grenache** (possibly **unoaked**) or a **mojito** or **prosecco** or a **voddy** - even the **piddliest** amount, sign the **guestbook**, adjust a **gunsight**, make a **handpass** or even a **handknit**, survive a **heatwave**, **hoon** around, visit **india** or the **illawarra**, check our **inbox**, watch out for the **irukandji** or **landmines**, join the **jaycees**, watch the **pacemen** bowl on the **legside** leading to some **stumpings**, go down to the **minimart** or ye **olde** sweet shop, pretend kiss (**mwah**), avoid the **nutjobs**, act like a **packmule**, culture in a **petri** dish, get out the **playdough** or a **snowglobe** or onto the **pushbike**.

We can have a **quicky**, finally read a **readme** file, **regift** some of those presents, use a **snotrag** or a **spork**, dress **sluttily**, take a **stacation**, water your **staghorns**, vote for the conga line of **suckholes**, revel in a **swansong**, throw in an extra **teabag**, put out the **tealights**, read the **thornbirds** or a **wiki**, rent a **timeshare**, laugh at the **toolies**, **topscore** at the next tourney even though you **ummed** about a few words, look after the **uncared** for, **upsell** your customers, take a **valium** (but only one), go for **walkies**, catch some **warehous** (but watch out for that end hook), avoid the **xrays** and **ziplock** some food - even though you're **bonetired**. **Woohoo!**

Graham Bonham's egotistical anagram quiz

Here are 20 combinations of the word "I" with various verbs. Combine the letters of each pair, or group, of words and see if you can find the words which can be made with those letters. Number of solutions is shown in brackets after each anagram.



- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. I CALLED (1) | 8. I DEPOSE (2) | 15. I WARBLE (2) |
| 2. I CAN SPELL (1) | 9. I GNASHED (3) | 16. I ESCAPED (1) |
| 3. I DREAMT (1) | 10. I PERCHED (2) | 17. I FLASHED (1) |
| 4. I OUTHEAR (1) | 11. I PHONED (2) | 18. I HECKLED (1) |
| 5. I PLAYACT (1) | 12. I REWASH (2) | 19. I PARTAKE (1) |
| 6. I REACHED (1) | 13. I SCHEME (2) | 20. I PLANNED (1) |
| 7. I SALUTE (1) | 14. I STRETCH (4) | |

Answers page 39

the perfect game - 2

In the October issue of OnBoard, Alan Childs presented us with his opinion of the 'Perfect Game'. It should be completed in the minimal number of moves possible, fourteen. Every move made should score the 50 point bonus. It should be as high scoring as possible. Preferably the blank tiles would not be used and be left unplayed at the end of the game.

Alan showed us his best attempt (right) which scored an aggregate of 2300, which included 4 nine-timers and one 4-timer. I challenged OnBoard readers to improve upon it.

One reader did take up the challenge, **Rose Calder** of Nailsea S.C. Her submission is shown below

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

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

Rose's 'Perfect Game' may not have the beauty of Alan's almost corner to corner symmetry, but easily surpasses his aggregate score because of the cleverly set up 27-timer VENTRILOQUIZING

Rose sent me her game at the end of October, but it was not included in the December OnBoard through lack of space.

If I had received in it January I would have had to disallow it because, as Rose has since pointed out to me, there is a word included that has become illegitimate with the adoption of CSW12.

I'll let you figure out which one it is!

PLAYER 1		PLAYER 2	
EXPANDS	100	NEMATODE	76
ERUDITE	92	REEDSTOP	72
LAEVULIN	63	QAWWALIS	78
DOORJAMB	134	PATRONLY	102
KEFFIYAH	114	EUCARYON	82
ICEBERG	79	INGATES	76
NOIRISH	101	VENTRILOQUIZING	1346
TOTAL	1186	TOTAL	1832
AGGREGATE	2515		

NEMATODE: A kind of worm

LAEVULIN: A sugar

QAWWALIS: (pl) Devotional Sufi music

KEFFIYAH: An Arab headdress

EUCARYON: (biology) A type of cell nucleus

NOIRISH: Somewhat bleak

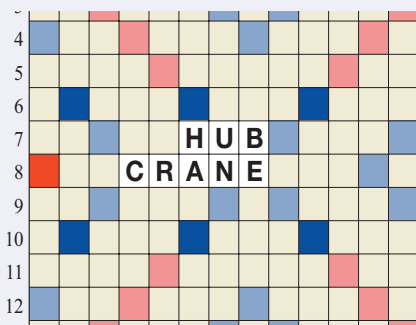
scrabble tips

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.

Improving your I-sight

Finding yourself with a surplus of Is on the rack is a common predicament in Scrabble. The problem can easily arise from holding back an I when there are plenty still left in the bag. Equally, an unfortunate pickup of several at once could be to blame. It's worthwhile sacrificing a few points early on in the game to avoid holding back multiple Is as an investment for a more balanced subsequent rack. Take a look at the following early game position. What are the enticing 30-plus scoring plays with each of these racks? What would be the wiser lower-scoring play to use one of the Is? Read on when you're ready.



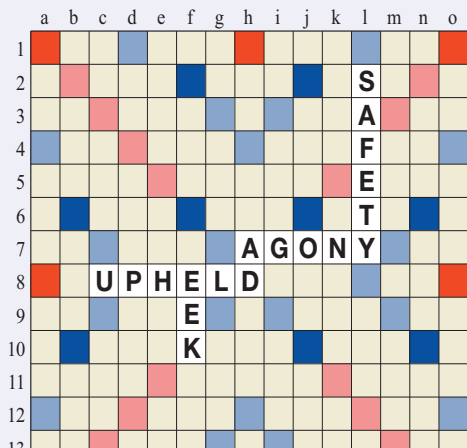
A C F G I I T

A D F F H I I

If you have three Is then you'll be looking to use at least two of them. The following selection, one for each letter of the alphabet, should be helpful in this respect:

AALII BIDI CILIA DIVI ECHINI FINI GENII HILI
IWI JINNI KIWI LIRI MIDI NIDI OIDIA PILI QUINIA
RADII SIMI TIPI UNCINI VIGIA WILI IXIA YITIE ZITI

With the first rack above FACT D6a (32) or CRAFT E7d (31) both leave a weak IIG. Better plays are TIG F9a (21) (which sets up possibilities for (C)HAT), or CRAIG E7d (Scots for CRAG), scoring 27. The second rack cries out for CHAFF D8d (32) to be played but at the expense of keeping IID. The superior play is HID F9a (27) to leave the more pleasing AFFI.



Note that one of the newly allowed words is FILII (plural of FILIUS, son) which is a great way to rid of three Is (should it be wise to do so)!

Even with three Is you should not be bonus-blinded. What are the eight-letter words yielded by the following unlikely racks, using the board position below? You may be surprised to know that they are all common words.

I I I G N N T I I I D R S T

I I I A G L N

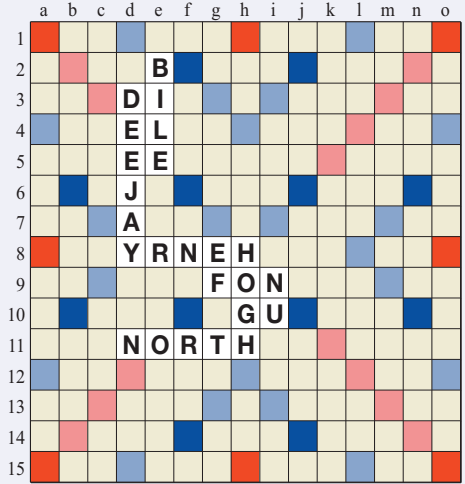
Score or Balance

The two prime considerations of a play are score and rack leave. Generally, there has to be ongoing compromise between them because the highest-scoring play rarely gives the best rack leave. In the following example, using the top left of the board (below), and each of the two racks supplied, what are the highest-scoring plays available and what are the better lower-scoring plays for rack balance? Read on when you're ready.

A A C E I K Y **B E N T U U Y**

The difficulty is judging how many points it is worth sacrificing to leave a good synergy of letters on the rack. Generally the more points sacrificed by not playing the highest scoring play available the better the rack leave has to be to have a fair chance of scoring more over two moves than you would do otherwise.

With the example racks, the best scores available are KYE F1d (37) and BYE F1d (35) leaving the awkward AACI and NTUU respectively. With the first rack, I'd be inclined to favour AY (28) in the same spot. It doesn't leave the K for the opponent to score a triple word from, and the balance of ACEIK is



pleasant. The two Us are a major handicap if they are retained on the second rack. Playing NUDITY B3a (28) to keep BEU would be a wise compromise on score.

Imagine the board has now developed into the position left. Noting what goodies (JQXZ, Ss and blanks) remain unseen, what are the best scores available with the following two racks?

E E I B F L Z **E E I B F Q T**

What, if any, are better strategic plays under the circumstances?

See solutions on page 39 for suggestions.

Some definitions:

KAIE a spelling of QUAY

VATU monetary unit of Vanuatu YRNEH the inverse of HENRY (unit of inductance)

Scrabble articles like these can be found each Saturday in The Times. There is also a book, published by Collins, of a collection of over 90 of such Scrabble tips and articles by Allan Simmons that appeared in The Times. (Collins) *The Times Scrabble Workout* – ISBN 978-0-00-730303-8 rrp £7.99

SCRABBLE® LOGOLOGIC

Compiled by Allan Simmons

Your challenge is to recreate the Scrabble game using all the **18 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.

When you have completed the diagram can you find the elusive highest scoring play that scores exactly **79 points** with this rack?

W A C K R A T

No.					2	3	4	7	6	4	5	3	4	4	4
Val.					14	3	7	14	10	6	14	6	4	6	11
1	2	Red		Light Blue				Red				Light Blue			Red
1	1		Pink			Blue				Blue				Pink	
1	4			Pink			Light Blue		Light Blue				Pink		
5	17	Light Blue			Pink			Light Blue				Pink			Light Blue
1	1				Pink						Pink				
1	1		Blue			Blue				Blue				Blue	
8	22			Light Blue			Light Blue		Light Blue				Light Blue		
2	2	Red			Light Blue			Pink				Light Blue			Red
7	18			Light Blue				Light Blue		Light Blue			Light Blue		
4	4		Blue			Blue				Blue			Blue		
1	1				Pink						Pink				
4	8	Light Blue			Pink			Light Blue				Pink			Light Blue
3	7			Pink			Light Blue		Light Blue				Pink		
1	1		Pink			Blue				Blue				Pink	
6	6	Red			Light Blue				Red			Light Blue			Red

A M A T E D E W Y H A H E H I
 I D I O T A O U T R A N P A R T
 P I P E Q U I V E R T A E T E R M
 V A C V E T C H Y A D Z L O T Y

cryptogram

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

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

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

Anagrid

The clues are simply anagrams of the answers

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. EFTSTONE
2. LINNAGES
3. LOVELUNE
4. MATIONED
5. RISEBUTE
6. DREADTIN
7. REELGAIN
8. CREASSSA
9. GOOLISS
10. HUNDERACC
11. REETWAW
12. TPSICHSUT
13. ALNNUSI
14. COSTIMIER
15. DIEROSS

VERTICAL CLUES

- a. UNWINDO
- b. BLOSSOFAL
- c. FORTEEN
- d. MRIELEVEN
- e. DISLOAZ
- f. NEGONILIS
- g. PISCESS
- h. RITENESE
- i. TOPANADI
- j. SEDIMENC
- k. SACCENEL
- l. ARTENSIC
- m. RICHLEES
- n. SINGULES
- o. ESTICIDE

prize puzzle

This puzzle is within the capability of all OnBoard readers and everyone sending in a correct solution will be entered into a draw to win a £10 voucher toward the purchase of goods from TILEFISH 'your one stop Scrabble shop'.

Your target is to score 48 points with the rack shown.

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 17th March 2012.

The puzzles on this page were 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 National Lottery numbers. Assigned numbers are posted on uk-scrabble.

The winner of the last prize puzzle was Elie Dangoor who found the deceptively simple answer ONYX as shown on the board below.

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

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

CEGLNOS



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tel: 0800 0430 059

Shop open at many tournaments
throughout the year

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

NSC/NSCT Regionals

South	Southampton	Sunday, 20 May
London & SE	Southgate, London	Saturday, 9 June
Scotland	Perth	Sunday, 10 June
North	Shipley	Sunday, 17 June
Midlands	Peterborough	Saturday, 23 June
Northern Ireland	Belfast	TBC
South West/Wales	Bristol	TBC
Contact – Philip Nelkon 01628 500283 philip.nelkon@mattel.com		

Project Trust, Southgate 7 games

Saturday 11th February 2012
 Contact Philip Nelkon
 Telephone 07785 737530
 Venue Guide Hut, St Thomas Church
 Prince George Avenue,
 Southgate, London N14 4SN
 Registration 09:30
 First game 10:10 Departure 18.15

2 division tournament
 Lunch included and tea/coffee available on arrival and throughout the day.
 Entry costs: £18.00 for ABSP member
 £20.00 for non-ABSP member
 Cheques payable to PA Nelkon and sent to 21 Oakwood Avenue, London N14 6QH
Charity event with proceeds going to the orphanage in Peru at which Philip and Julie's daughter worked during her gap year.

Corby 16 Games

Saturday 18th–Sunday 19th February 2012

Contact: Carmen Toscano
 Telephone: 01536 601987

Leicester 7 games

Saturday 25th February 2012
 Contact: Alison Sadler
 Telephone: 01509-550797
 Emergency number on day only
 Mobile: 07773-629118
 Venue: St. Peter s Church hall, Church
 Road, Glenfield,
 Leicester. LE3 8DP

Registration: 09:00
 First game: 09.45 Departure 17:30
 Tea/Coffee available throughout the day
 Entry costs: £12.00 for ABSP member
 £14.00 for non-ABSP member
 Deduct 50p if bringing clock which you are prepared to lend
 Cheques payable to Leicester Scrabble Club and sent to Alison Sadler, 31 Kenilworth Avenue:, Loughborough, LE11 4SL

New Malden 7 games

Saturday 3rd March 2012
 Contact: Elizabeth Terry
 Telephone: 01483 474011
 Emergency number on day only
 Mobile: 07995 090101
 Venue: Christ Church Centre, Coombe
 Road, New Malden, KT3 4RE
 Registration: 09:15–09:45
 First game: 10:00 Departure 17:45

3-5 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

**Peterborough 5 point penalty
7 games**

Saturday 10th March 2012
Contact: Chris Hawkins
Telephone: 01733-223202
Emergency number (on the day)
Telephone: 07775 438682
Venue: Millfield Community Centre,
439 Lincoln Road, Peterborough,
PE1 2PE
Registration: 9:15
First game: 9.45 Departure 17:45

Tea/Coffee available on arrival and throughout
the day.
Entry costs: £14.50 for ABSP member
£16.50 for non-ABSP member
Deduct 50p if bringing clock which you are
prepared to lend
Please note players entering both this and the
free challenge event can deduct £6 from the
combined entry fee.
Cheques payable to Peterborough Scrabble
Club, and sent to Chris Hawkins,
39 Peterborough Road, Eye, Peterborough,
PE6 7YA

Pitlochry 23+ games

Sunday 11–Wednesday 14th March

Contact: Amy Byrne
Telephone: 0131 6613869

Swindon 7 games

Sunday 11th March 2012
Contact: Steve Perry
Telephone: 01367-244757
Venue: St Joseph s Catholic College,
Ocotal Way, Swindon,
SN3 3LR
Registration: 09:00
First game: 10:00 Departure 18.15

3/4 division tournament
Tea/Coffee available on arrival and throughout
the day.
Entry costs: £13.50 for ABSP member
£15.50 for non-ABSP member
Cheques payable to Steve Perry and sent to
29 Elm Road, Faringdon, Oxon SN7 7EJ or
Paypal to sperry123@talktalk.net (please send
confirmatory email with standard information
and pay credit/debit card charges)

Coventry Double 22 games

Saturday March 24th–Sunday March 25th

Contact: Len Moir
Telephone: 01913 880033

Coventry Triple 27 games

Tuesday 27th–Thursday 29th March

Contact: Len Moir
Telephone: 01913 880033

Aylesbury 7 games

Saturday 31st March 2012
Contact: Janet Bonham
Telephone: 01296 483717
Venue: Stoke Mandeville Village
Community Centre, Eskdale Park
Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville
HP22 5UJ
Registration: 09:15

First game: 10:00 Departure 17:45
3/4 divisional tournament
Tea/Coffee available 9.30 onwards
Entry costs: £14.00 for ABSP member
£16.00 for non-ABSP member
Cheques payable to Aylesbury Scrabble Club
Tournament Account, and sent to Janet
Bonham, 14 Earlswood Close, Aylesbury,
Bucks, HP21 7PG

Easter (Bristol) 8/21 games

Friday 6th - Monday 9th April

Contact: Ronnie Reid
Telephone: 01256 895690

Peterborough Free Challenge

7 games

Saturday 14th April 2012
Contact: Chris Hawkins
Telephone: 01733-223202
Emergency number (on the day)
Telephone: 07775 438682
Venue: Millfield Community Centre,
439 Lincoln Road, Peterborough,
PE1 2PE
Registration: 09:15
First game: 09.45 Departure 17:45

Tea/Coffee available on arrival and throughout the day.

Entry costs: £14.50 for ABSP member
£16.50 for non-ABSP member
Please note players entering both this and the 5 point penalty event can deduct £6 from the combined entry fee.
Deduct 50p if bringing clock which you are prepared to lend
Cheques payable to Peterborough Scrabble Club, and sent to Chris Hawkins,
39 Peterborough Road, Eye, Peterborough,
PE6 7YA

Southampton 6 games

Sunday 15th April 2012
Contact: Alan Bailey
Telephone: 02392-384360
Emergency number on day only
Mobile: 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

Newcastle 7 games

Saturday 21st April
Contact: Michael Murray
Telephone: 0191 2742420
Emergency number on day only
Mobile: 07818 831917
Venue: West Denton Community
Association, 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 Michael Muray. 12 Benwell Village Mews, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 6LF

Havering Evergreens - Over 50s 7 games

Saturday 21st April 2012
Contact: Cindy Hollyer
Telephone: 01277-822050
Venue: St John s Church Hall, Church
Road, Mountnessing,
Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0RH
Registration: 09:15

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, Dodinghurst, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0RH

Isle of Wight 16 games

Friday 27th – Monday 30th April

Contact: Noel Turner
Telephone: 01983 614426

Spring Matchplay Staverton 25 games

Saturday 5th–Monday 7th May

Contact: Amy Byrne
Telephone: 0131 6613869

European Open – Malta 32 games

Friday 11th - Monday 14th May

Contact: Amy Byrne
Telephone: 0131 6613869

Bournemouth Spring 7 games

Sunday 13th May 2012
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 18th - Sunday 20th May

Contact: Josephine Mayo
email: +356 799 65207

Chigwell Pairs and Singles 7 games

Entries can be from pairs or from individuals

Sunday 20th May 2012
Contact: Diane Pratesi
Telephone: 0208 556 2902
Venue: Victory Hall, Hainault Road,
Chigwell, Essex IG7 6QX

Registration: 09.30
First game: 09.40 Departure 17.15
Refreshments available throughout the day,
Lunch is NOT provided
Entry costs: £15.00 for ABSP or LSL member
£17.00 for all others
Cheques payable to Diane Pratesi and sent to
33 Amberley Road, Leyton, London E10 7ER

Luton 7 games

Saturday 26th May
Contact: Rosalind Wilson
Telephone 01582 507249
Emergency number on day only
Mobile 07753 143262
Venue: St. Luke s Church Hall, High
Street, 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 member
Cheques payable to Luton Scrabble Club and
sent to Rosalind Wilson, 22 Sherborne
Avenue:, Luton, LU2 7BB

Grand Jubilee (Coventry) 36 games

Saturday 2nd - Tuesday 5th June

Contact: Len Moir
Telephone: 01913 880033

New Malden 7 games

Saturday 16th June 2012
Contact: Elizabeth Terry
Telephone: 01483 474011
Emergency number on day only
Mobile: 07995 090101
Venue: Christ Church Centre,
Coombe Road, New Malden,
KT3 4RE
Registration: 09:15–09:45

First game: 10:00 Departure 17:45
3-5 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

Project WYSC Chigwell 8 games – 20 minutes

Sunday 24th June 2012
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,
Lunch is NOT provided
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

Lincoln 7 games

Saturday 30th June

Contact Teresa Lyes

Telephone 01652 648 697

Emergency number on the day

Mobile 07901 754 445

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

Divisions according to entries

Registration 9.30

First game 10.00 Departure 18.00

Tea/Coffee and biscuits available before the
start and between gamesEntry costs: £15.00 For ABSP members
£17.00 for non-ABSP memberAdd 50p if not bringing a timer that you can
lend. Deduct £5 if aged under 18 on the day of
the eventCheques payable to Lincoln Scrabble Club and
sent to Teresa Lyes 10 Queen Street, Kirton
Lindsey, Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 4NX

**Festival of Scrabble Mkt Harboro
(19 games)**

Saturday 7th - Sunday 8th July

Contact: Amy Byrne

Telephone: 0131 6613869

English Open (Coventry) 21 games

Friday 13th – Sunday 15th July

Contact: Len Moir

Telephone: 01913 880033

Corby 7 games

Sunday 22nd July

Contact J. Carmen Toscano

Telephone 01536 601987

Emergency contact no on the day

Mobile 07960 156775

Venue Hampton by Hilton,
Rockingham Leisure Park,
Princewood Road, Corby,
NN17 4AB

Registration 09:00

First game 09.45 Departure 18.30

Tea/Coffee available mid-morning and mid-
afternoon. Entry fee includes buffet lunchEntry costs: £22.00 for ABSP member
£24.00 for non-ABSP member

Add £1.00 if unable to bring and lend a timer

Cheques payable to Corby Scrabble Club and
sent to: J C Toscano, 14 Corfe Close, Corby,
Northants, NN18 8PQ

**Peterborough All Nighter
27 games**

Saturday 28th - Sunday 29th July

Contact: Chris Hawkins

Telephone: 01733-223202

Romford 7 games

Saturday 11th August 2012

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 gamesEntry costs: £13.50 For ABSP members
£15.50 for non-ABSP memberDeduct 50p if you are able to bring and lend a
timerCheques payable to Romford Scrabble Club
c/o Cindy Hollyer, 78 Peartree Lane,
Doddington, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 0RH

Bournemouth Autumn 6 games

Sunday 7th October 2012

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 17.30

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

**Romanian Open Bucharest
22 Games**

Friday 12th–Sunday 14th October 2012

Contact: Dan-Laurentiu Siddhu

Email: dls@scrabblero.ro

Solutions

An Egotistical Anagram Quiz

1. CEDILLA
2. SPELLICAN
3. READMIT
4. THIOUREA
5. ATYPICAL

6. CHARIDEE
7. SITULAE
8. EPISODE
POESIED
9. DEASHING
HEADINGS
SHEADING
10. CIPHERED
DECIPHER

11. DIPHONE
PHONIED
12. WASHIER
WEARISH
13. CHEMISE
SCHEMIE
14. CHITTERS
RESTITCH
RICHEST

15. BRAWLIE
WIRABLE
16. DISPEACE
17. DEALFISH
18. HELIDECK
19. PARAKITE
20. PINELAND

Scrabble Tips

Improving Your I-Sight

IGNITION J1d (65), DISPIRIT D5d (72), LIAISING H2a (70)

Score or Balance

With the Z rack FRIEZE J10d (46) is the best score but a better less open play is FEZ C13a (43). However, using more letters to try and get one of the blanks, while blocked the X hotspot with BELIEF B5d (36) is an excellent strategic play.. There are also five As unseen and one of those out of the bag gives the possibility of ZA M7a (44) next turn.

With the Q rack BEEF B7d (32) scores most but you may be tempted to rid of the Q in QAT M7d (26). Actually, in this case the highest scoring play of BEEF is best to remove the X danger and score. Using four letters in BEEF rather than two in QAT, doubles your chances of getting a blank. Holding QIT back gives you plenty of insurance to use the Q next turn either with QAT, or with an A pickup, QADI B3a. QI F1d and QUIT O0d are also Q dumping plays but not ideal.

Logic Solution (p30)

No.	Val.	2	3	4	7	6	4	5	3	4	4	4
		14	3	7	14	10	6	14	6	4	6	11
1	2											D
1	1											W
1	4											A
5	17							Z	L	O	T	Y
1	1											E
1	1											R
8	22			Q	U	I	V	E	R			A
2	2					A						T
7	18			V	E	T	C	H			H	E
4	4						I	O	T	A		K
1	1									A		
4	8					P	I	P	E			
3	7					Y	A	D				
1	1					R						
6	6					O	U	T	R	A	N	

Anagrid Solution (p32)

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

Cryptogram Solution (p31)

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

tournaments coming up - refer to previous pages and back cover

Map	Location	Date	Games	Contact	Telephone No.
1	Southgate	Feb 11th	(7)	Phil Nelkon	01628 500283
2	Corby	Feb 18th-19th	(16)	Carmen Toscano	01536 601987
3	Leicester	Feb 25th	(7)	Alison Sadler	01509 550797
4	New Malden	Mar 3rd	(7)	Elizabeth Terry	01483 474011
5	Peterborough 5pp	Mar 10th	(7)	Chris Hawkins	01733 223202
6	Pitlochry	Mar 11th-14th	(20)	Amy Byrne	01316 613869
7	Swindon	Mar 11th	(7)	Steve Perry	01367 244757
8	Coventry Double	Mar 24th-25th	(22)	Len Moir	01913 880033
9	Coventry Triple	Mar 27th-29th	(27)	Len Moir	01913 880033
10	Aylesbury	Mar 31st	(7)	Janet Bonham	01296 483717
11	Easter	Apr 6th-9th	(8/21)	Ronnie Reid	01256 895690
12	Peterborough fc	Apr 14th	(7)	Chris Hawkins	01733 223202
13	Southampton	Apr 15th	(6)	Alan Bailey	02392 384360
14	Newcastle	Apr 21st	(7)	Viv Beckmann	01912 742420
15	Havering Evergreen	Apr 21st	(6)	Cindy Hollyer	01277 822050
16	Isle of Wight	Apr 27th-29th	(16)	Noel Turner	01983 614426
17	Spring Matchplay	May 5th-7th	(25)	Amy Byrne	01316 613869
-	European Open	May 11th-14th	(32)	Amy Byrne	01316 613869
18	Bournemouth	May 13th	(8)	Ruth Marsden	01202 707148
-	Malta May	18th-20th	(24)	Josephine Mayo	
19	Chigwell Pairs/Singles	May 20th	(7)	Diane Pratesi	02085 562902
20	Southampton NSC	May 20th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
21	Luton	May 26th	(7)	Rosalind Wilson	01582 507249
22	Ilford Invitational	May 27th	(9)	Kevin Synnott	07941 260935
23	Grand Jubilee	June 2nd-5th	(36)	Len Moir	01913 880033
24	London NSC	Jun 9th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
25	Brighton*	Jun 10th	(9)	Doj Graham	01273 699811
26	Perth NSC	Jun 10th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
27	New Malden	Jun 16th	(7)	Elizabeth Terry	01483 474011
28	Shipley NSC	Jun 17th	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
29	Peterboro NSC	Jun 23rd	(7)	Philip Nelkon	01628 500283
30	Chigwell Project WYSC	Jun 24th	(8)	Diane Pratesi	02085 562902
-	ABSP Masters*	Jun 30th-Jul 1st	(16)	Wayne Kelly	
31	Lincoln	Jun 30th	(7)	Teresa Lyes	01652 648697
32	Festival of Scrabble	Jul 7th- 8th	(19)	Amy Byrne	01316 613869
33	English Open	Jul 13th-15th	(21)	Len Moir	01913 880033
34	Corby	Jul 21st	(7)	Carmen Toscano	01536 601987
35	Peterborough All Nighter	Jul 28th-29th	(27)	Chris Hawkins	01733 223202
36	Romford	Aug 11th	(7)	Cindy Hollyer	01227 822050
37	BMSC*	Aug 24th-27th	(6/21)	Wayne Kelly	
38	Morecambe*	Sep 7th-10th	(14)	Viv Beckmann	01912 742420
39	Warwick*	Sep 21st-23rd	(14)	Viv Beckmann	01912 742420
40	Cock o' the North*	Oct 5th-7th	(22)	Len Moir	01913 880033
41	Bournemouth	Oct 7th	(7)	Ruth Marsden	01202 707148
42	Coventry Triple*	Oct 9th-11th	(27)	Len Moir	01913 880033
-	Romanian Open	Oct 12th-14th	(22)	Laurentiu Siddhu	
43	Chester*	Oct 12th-14th	(14)	Viv Beckmann	01912 742420
44	Bourne*	Oct 14th	(7)	Betty Benton	01778 425234
45	Cambridge*	Oct 26th-28th	(14)	Viv Beckmann	01912 742420
46	Luton	Nov 3rd	(7)	Adrian Noller	01582 656234
47	Project WYSC	Nov 11th	(7)	Diane Pratesi	02085 562902
48	Winter Matchplay	Nov 24th-25th	(15)	Mike Willis	07976 256554
49	Harrogate*	Nov 30th-Dec 2nd	(14)	Viv Beckmann	01912 742420

*Rating not yet applied for

