

SPOIL YOURSELF IN

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIAN SCRABBLE CHAMPIONSHIP

EASTER ~ 3-5 APRIL 2021

Grand Ballroom
 Bankstown Sports Club
 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown

Entry Fee: \$150

Payment by eftpos will be available on the day and fee will be \$155

CHAMPIONSHIP: Players rated above 1300 at time of entry

PLATE: Players rated below 1300 at time of entry

24 Games: 8 each day ~ 25 minutes per player on clocks.

Free challenge, Australian Rules

Tournament Director: John Hamilton

Tea, coffee and light refreshments provided in the breakout area

There will be no presentation dinner.

Accommodation available at venue at a discount rate for players.

Bookings can be made through the event website at

<http://www.scrabble.org.au/nsw/auschamp>

or <https://bit.ly/2021Sydney>

Further information and registration at

<http://www.scrabble.org.au/nsw/auschamp>

Enquiries: Bob Jackman rjackman@ozemail.com.au or **0400 226 541**

CASPA Office Holders

CASPA Coordinator: Carol Johnsen **VIC**

Newsletter Editor ATB: Richard Birch **NSW**

Trademark (Mattel)

Liaison Officer: Carol Johnsen **VIC**

Youth Coordinator: Tony Hunt **NSW**

Treasurer: Rene Chelton **NSW**

Rules Officer: CASPA Coordinator (*Carol Johnsen*) **VIC**

Web Coordinator: Nick Ivanovski **VIC**

Ratings Officer: Barry Harridge (*including Qualifications*) **VIC**

Records Officer: Martin Waterworth **QLD**

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Western Australia

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0427 175 699

**Closing date for
contributions to next
issue of Across the Board
7 May 2021**

The World Youth tournament won by Thailand was a wonderful exhibition and its success was attributed to by the diligent organising abilities of Tariq Perez of Pakistan and dozens of volunteers in Pakistan and across the world.

The recent successful organisation of the virtual World Youth tournament has encouraged WESPA to go ahead and plan for a Seniors Championship (to be held in July or August) and a virtual World Championship (to be held in October or November). The format of both tournaments will be determined later, i.e. whether individual or team events. Stay tuned!

CASPA looks forward to holding its AGM on April 2, whether in person or by Zoom.

- Carol Johnsen
CASPA Coordinator



The following has been received from WESPA. If you have any comments it would be appreciated if you could direct them to my email at caroljscrabble@gmail.com whereupon I will summarise for the benefit of CASPA to be able to consider their response.

Carol Johnsen,
CASPA Coordinator

Dear WESPA Member,

Last week we were contacted by Mattel regarding the official Scrabble word list. They are changing the box rules of Scrabble to specifically exclude words which are hateful slurs from the scope of playable words. Working with Collins, they have developed a list of about 400 words (including inflections) which are designated as such and will be removed from official Scrabble branded products including the Collins Official Scrabble Words dictionary. WESPA, as a Mattel licensee, has been asked to implement this change in officially sanctioned tournament play. It has been made clear that our continued licensing agreement with Mattel is conditional on accepting this request.

We understand the strong opposition among players and among member associations to

the removal of words. The situation is being heavily discussed by the WESPA Executive Committee. We have scheduled an Extraordinary General Meeting of our membership for 28th February to consider our options and make a final decision. In the meantime, however, be aware that Mattel will begin promoting these changes to their branded products.

Respectfully,

Chris Lipe,
Chairperson, WESPA

Positions Vacant

All CASPA Officer positions are declared vacant each year at the Australian Scrabble Championship

Should you wish to nominate for any position, then your name together with a nominator and seconder should be forwarded to Carol Johnsen, CASPA Coordinator for consideration at the AGM to be held on Good Friday, (the day before commencement of the Nationals)

The positions are:

- **CASPA Coordinator/
Mattel Liaison**
- **Treasurer**
- **Newsletter Editor ATB**
- **Rules Coordinator**
- **CASPA Ratings Officer/
Web Coordinator/
Records Officer**
- **CASPA Youth Coordinator**

Around the States

Australian Capital Territory

Tournament Roundup

The ACT Championships were held on the weekend Nov 14/15, 2020, at the Southern Cross Club in Woden with 24 players participating. John Hamilton was the director. We were very pleased with the number of entrants at a difficult time. The outstanding result of the tournament was Jakob Teitelbaum's amazing first place with 16 wins from 16 games, which has never before been achieved in this event. Karen Richards came second with 11 games and Ronnie Bennett came third, also with 11. Tony Hunt and Joanne Craig came fourth and fifth respectively on 9 games. Other awards are as follows:

Winner, 1000-1400 Ratings Band: Richard Birch

Runner up, 1000-1400 Ratings Band: Colleen Birch

Winner, Under 1000 ratings band: Terry Horan

Runner up, Under 1000 ratings band: Tony Beer

High Word (lower half): Richard Birch (TOOTHING, 158)

High Game (lower half): Anne Schick 507

High Word (upper half): Noel Barrett (PLERIONS, 149)

High Game (upper half): Joanne Craig 590

Highest Ratings Gain: Jakob Teitelbaum (65 points gained)

Social Scrabble

We are very pleased to announce that Wednesday night Scrabble has been added to our Thursday session at the Southern Cross Club in Woden. The contact is Tim Reddan (please see Club Directory for details). Wednesday sessions will run from 7 pm until 10 pm. Thursday 9 am – 1 pm Scrabble is continuing as usual. We are happy to report that we have gained some new members this year as a result of some advertising and club-run Scrabble training in strategy and basic skills.

Club Directory

See *Tournament Directory* on pages 10-11

Article from John Hamilton

*John Hamilton has provided a link to an interview he had with Michael Weaver (from "The Riotact") on November 10, 2020, just prior to the ACT Championships. It's an excellent article (with pictures) entitled **My word! Can zolpidem really help you win at Scrabble?***

Extract starts:

What is your greatest Scrabble word?

According to the president of the ACT Scrabble Association, John Hamilton, the best word he's seen is **ZOLPIDEM**, the chemical name of a sleeping pill.

Zolpidem earned its player 257 points.

"Most competitors would be happy with a word score of between 50 and 100," Mr Hamilton said as Scrabble enthusiasts in Canberra rejoice at the return of official competition after the COVID-19 shutdown.

Full article can be read at:

<https://the-riotact.com/my-word-can-zolpidem-really-help-you-win-at-scrabble/418076>

or <https://bit.ly/2MTOpoj>

Any questions directly related to the article are best addressed to John:

jjhamilton5@gmail.com;

Arlene Williams (Secretary, ACT Scrabble)

New South Wales

Nationals Planning

Planning is progressing well for the 'Spoil Yourself in Sydney' Nationals at Easter. Trophies have been purchased and entries are trickling in. The hope is that confidence in travel will increase once COVID vaccinations in Australia kick off. The growing list of entries plus all other relevant details about the event can be viewed at

<http://www.scrabble.org.au/nsw/auschamp/>

The playing area booked for this event is breath-taking, and we expect to have large

screens in operation for viewing of draws. Coupled with that, draws will also be made available on the tournament website with these being accessible by phone. QR codes will be available to players to scan with their phone, in order to access draws online (or you can type in the URL on your device). Other COVID safety measures in place will be joined tables to ensure player spacing and freely available bottled water.

Tournament Roundup

Despite the COVID impact, tournament play in New South Wales has occurred regularly thanks to players stepping up to organise home-based tournaments and alfresco events. It is expected that club-hosted tournaments will start up again soon, but in the meantime Scrabble NSW will be organising Gap events to fill the void.

The first reportable event was the WORDS event staged in the Albion Park Rail home of Alex Timpano. The limit of 18 was easily reached for the eight-game event which proved to be a close affair at the finish. Three players recorded 6 wins with Graeme Lock Lee winning on spread over Tony Hunt and Richard Birch.

Next up it was the popular Bundanoon tournament organised by John Hamilton, where the playing limit of 42 players was quickly reached. Players were divided into four Divisions this year with Joanne Craig winning narrowly by half a game over Rocky Sharma, recording a high game of 618 along the way. In B Division it was Richard Birch maintaining his good form to win over Lexie Neale. In C Division Alex Timpano was the winner by spread over Sue Fullarton, while in D Division Dorothy Fields won all her games to record a comprehensive victory.

The first event of 2021 was the Chipping Norton Out in the Open Open organised by Tony Hunt. 16 players played 5 games in a park and at end of the day it was Tony himself winning all games to beat Chris Ostrowski one win further back. The undoubted highlight of this event was the 710 scored by youngster Alex Lam, getting down a record score of 293 for **ANTIQUES** along the way.

The next event of 2021 was the JanBoree. This is always a very popular tournament but

this year only 29 players took part. Despite several glitches with the draws indirectly caused by no shows and surprise arrivals, the nine games were comfortably fitted in. In A Division it was Joanne Craig winning with 7 wins over John Holgate on spread, in B Division Felicity Devitt upset Natalie Tadday with 8 wins and in C Division it was Julie Banister prevailing over Liz Jackman.

The internationally rated City of Sydney Masters was the next event to take place. With border closures as result of the mini COVID outbreak in Sydney, no interstate players were present and the field was reduced to 24 players. Chris May won 16 out of the 18 games to take the title, with Esther Perrins one win behind in second place. Rod Talbot finished third on 12 wins.

An interesting sideline were the substantial \$100 prizes for high word scores involving heavy letters, made possible by a \$300 donation from the Rolf family (see Joanne Craig's report) and \$100 donated by Norma Tracey. Graeme Lock Lee picked up \$200 with the high **J** and **Q** words (**JEZAIL** for 88 and **SQUIRES** for 91), Chris May won the **x** word with **POSTTAX** for 108 while Ivor Zetler won the word prize with **ZOEAS** for 112.

The 2021 Matchplay Qualifier was the last event for the period, this being played in the new venue of Club Condell parked, sourced by VP George Khamis. The playing area was spacious with an interesting aspect overlooking the Banskdown trotting track, and the club facilities were excellent. The 23 players were split into two groups for the 9 games. In A Division it was Bob Jackman on 8 wins narrowly pipping Joanne Craig on spread, thanks to a big win in his last game against Natalie Tadday. Rod Talbot was one win further back in third place. In B Division Vincent Nguyen who had made the trip to Sydney from Canberra won all his 9 games to easily win over Margaret Berliner on 6 wins. Against Liz Jackman, Vincent managed to construct the 10-letter word of **WOMANISERS** by progressively extending the word **WOMAN**.

The top 8 players in A Division will progress to the Matchplay playoffs over three rounds, whereas in B Division the top 4 will play two rounds to decide a winner.

2020 Matchplay

The 2020 Matchplay concluded just in time for the winners be presented at the 2021 Matchplay qualifier. The onset of COVID introduced difficulties in getting players together with Karen Richards unable to get to Sydney to play her quarter final. Other players were unable or reluctant to use ISC or GO, resulting in some matchups not being played at all. John Barker was declared the winner in B Division having won all his games to get the final, whereas in A Division Bob Jackman narrowly defeated Rod Talbot in a best of 11 final to take the honours.

Rating Gainers

Richard Birch	+46	WORDS
Dorothy Fields	+58	Bundanoon
Victor Tung	+32	Scroker
Margaret Berliner	+33	OITOO
Felicity Devitt	+54	JanBoree
Moana Nepia	+64	CSIM
Bob Jackman	+43	Matchplay Qualifier

Queensland

My favourite Queensland tournament is the Last Chance held just before Christmas at our usual venue in Coorparoo, Brisbane. That's when we use the format of round robins of 4 players playing in rating order groups, but with promotions and demotions after each round of 3 games. Wins and margins decide who goes up or down. There is always great anticipation as this is worked out and suitable sighs of relief or groans are usually heard as players inspect the new groupings. Thanks as usual to Olga Visser for organizing this and doing the maths.

While the Covid restrictions have limited numbers somewhat it was good to see 40 players attend the Southport tournament in December. Unfortunately the January weekend lockdown in Brisbane meant the Logan tournament had to be rescheduled to February. Otherwise we have planned as normal for this year. Please note the Qld champs are at Southport August 21st-22nd.

Some clubs have had to make their own adjustments because of Covid restrictions too. While some of not been able to return to normal yet, Redcliffe has restarted its evening

club at a new venue and Toowoomba now has a Tuesday morning club. See the list of clubs.

I was sorry to hear of the passing of two players. They will both be missed and our condolences go to family and friends.

Erica Williams passed away at the age of 92. Erica was one of the earliest members of the Southport Club and always a strong competitor at tournaments. She will be remembered too for her friendly nature and immaculate dressing.

Marie Horn passed away recently too. Marie loved to play at the club in Lismore in northern NSW. She enjoyed going on the Scrabble cruises organized by Wayne Willis and to Norfolk Island.

Have a great Scrabble year everyone.

Jane Brown

South Australia

Dear Scrabblers,

First, a big apology for the lack of an SA report in the last edition of the ATB. Unfortunately the deadline snuck up on us and we missed it.

The big news is that the South Australian Championship will take place again on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th of March at the Prospect Primary School gymnasium. The event was a big success last year at this venue and we hope it will be similarly successful this year. Again we will play 9 games on the Saturday and 7 games on the Sunday with the aim to finish around 5pm on Sunday. If you would like further information or would like to enter the event, please email AntonyKimber@outlook.com

A new series of fundraising tournaments run at Seaford will begin in May titled Seaford Saturday Sessions. Each tournament will consist of 2 sessions of 3 games each (morning & afternoon) on the following Saturdays - May 22, June 19, July 17 and August 21st. Players can choose to participate in one or both sessions, with an entry fee of \$10 per session. Funds raised will help a men's mental health charity in India. For more information or to register, please contact Jane Taylor via jjroadshow@gmail.com

Over the past few months there have been a number of tournaments held at the SA Bridge Association in Unley. Neal Whibley seems to be the player to watch at the moment after winning his division 3 times since September. Could it be the marathon Scrabble sessions with Mel Leckie have helped this run of success? Also having a lot of success recently with her big scoring words has been Louisa Atsas. Her **JOBLESS**, **FORAYED** and **SPLASHY** all scored over 100 points. For more detailed tournament results, please see the listings below.

At our Christmas Leftovers tournament in December, we held our AGM which had been deferred from earlier in the year. Adam Kretschmer & Helen Jones decided to have a break from the committee, while we welcomed Judy Mansfield and welcomed back Jane Taylor to the committee for 2020/2021. Baheej Al Kassem also accepted an invitation to join the committee after the first committee meeting held this year.

The AGM approved a reduced membership fee of \$15 for the current financial year due to the interruptions to tournaments in 2020. Could I please request SA members to pay this as soon as possible to Tony Miller who will continue as Treasurer for this financial year.

The committee members for 2020/2021 including officer bearers are as follows:

Simon Walton (President)
Jane Taylor (Vice-President)
Antony Kimber (Secretary)
Mel Leckie (Stationery & Purchasing Officer)
Suzanne Healey (Marketing Sub-committee)
Malcolm McAnulty
(Marketing Sub-committee)
Tony Miller (Treasurer)
Larrie Strautmanis (Rules Officer)
Judy Mansfield (general member)
Baheej Al Kassem (general member)
Best wishes,

*Simon Walton (President)
Scrabble SA*

**Club Details
are on page 12
Results on page 14**

Victoria

At the time of writing, Victoria is in an expected-to-be brief lockdown as a result of COVID19; this news though masks the fact that Scrabble events in our fair state have been held amid much enjoyment!

We returned to play in December with two "thank you" tournaments for our members and supporters prior to Christmas. These were designed to give players an opportunity for over the board Scrabble, something not previously had for 10 months previous!

Balwyn Community Centre has been a most popular venue for us and allows us to provide Scrabble whilst maintaining social distancing and other COVID requirements.

Of course, it means we have had to make some adaptations;

- rules regarding mask play have been communicated to members openly
- electronic entry forms allows for players to get to know the conditions of play easily and prior to registration
- no laptop adjudication has allowed us to trial self-adjudication with the support of runners for those who cannot self-adjudicate. These have worked well.

These are among the innovations introduced to adapt to the new world of play. I commend other states on their own adaptations and am happy to share our best practices.

Barry Harridge has given our website a makeover, which is hugely appreciated. The work done on the site by Marj Miller has been appreciated greatly and, with Marj unable to continue, our site is now looked after by Carol Johnsen.

The new Committee has been sworn in and with that, has seen the introduction of two roles. Membership has been split between current and new member activities. Rob York has taken on the role of development, especially for those new players at our events. We have introduced a Clubs officer, with Christie Godby accepting this role.

We are enthusiastic about the year ahead - there will be more innovations that we are intending to introduce; stay tuned as news arises.

With the tournaments that have occurred so far, we have noticed a steady level of support and are on the look out for more players to share in what we provide.

Notable performances so far include Christiane McCann winning the top division of our newly introduced Victorian Plate, Anand Bharadwaj and David Eldar each winning their divisions with a greater than 500 point average.

Players on Facebook who want to follow what we do can find us at Scrabble Victoria; our page has video reports of all our events which are easy to produce and provide people with the visuals missing from the usual displays of results. I am happy to share how to do this so we can all benefit from this feature.

Hopefully, our lockdown is brief and, when next I report, we will have minimal references to COVID impacts. Happy Scrabbling.

*Nick Ivanovski
President, Scrabble Victoria*

**Club Details
are on page 12
Results on page 14**

Western Australia

Upcoming Tournaments

Joy Deans Memorial Open ~ 14 March ~
Carol Hudson ~ 9370 5692

Round Robin ~ 11 April -
Carol Hudson ~ 9370 5692

Melville ~ 16 May ~
Alan Mathews ~ 0400 330 615

WA Championship ~ 6 & 7 June ~
Carol Hudson ~ 9370 5692



Need a missing tile?

**We may have what you
want — no cost to you.**

**Contact Carol Johnsen
caroljscrabble@gmail.com**

0476 639 195

A photo of a tile from the set would assist.

10 Years Ago

A Way With Words

Sam Greenberg from New South Wales sent these quotes

Polish-born Sam Goldwyn was a pioneer film producer who never quite mastered the English language. Here are some "Goldwynisms".

That's the trouble with directors, always biting the hand that lays the golden egg.

We have all passed a lot of water since then.

I don't think anyone should write their autobiography until they're dead.

Coffee isn't my cup of tea.

Gentleman, include me out.

Too caustic? To hell with the cost, we'll make the picture anyway.

Why did you name him Sam? Every Tom, Dick and Harry is named Sam.

Anyone who sees a psychiatrist should have their head examined.

If people don't want to go to the picture nobody can stop them.

I had a monumental idea this morning, but I didn't like it.

I don't care if it doesn't make a nickel, I just want every man, woman and child to see it.

We want to make a picture that starts out with an earthquake and works its way up to a climax.

He is costing us everything but he is worth it.

I was independent even when I had partners.

I can tell you in two words: impossible.

Pictures are for entertainment, messages should be delivered by Western Union

Let's bring it up to date with some snappy 19th century dialogue.

Bob Jackman received an unexpected call in December from Michael Roth seeking a scrabble session with an expert player as a birthday present for his father Stanley who is a keen amateur player. Bob called me and I agreed to play.

I went to Stanley's harbourside home the Sunday before Christmas and met him, his son Michael and family. We spent an enjoyable afternoon playing four games. Although I won them all the last one was close with Stanley losing by only 6 points.

In lieu of payment a donation was made to Scrabble NSW and used as additional prize-money at the CSIM held on January 23 & 24. The prizes were for the highest scoring **J**, **Q**, **X** and **Z** words.

I was hopeful of receiving the **J** prize after scoring 70 for **JESUS** (a size of paper) in my first game but it was overtaken by Graeme Lock-Lee with 88 for **JEZAILS**.

Despite losing Stanley eagerly accepted the challenge I offered him of a rematch at my home.



Records for 2021 were not available at time of going to press

20 Word Quiz

Some sevens and eights. Some might have multiple anagrams, but we are looking for a specific line of commonality.

Level = Expert

Solutions on page 16

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. ACENORS | 11. CEHLPPS |
| 2. AAACNRV | 12. BBIKOSS |
| 3. EEFIIRR | 13. ACNOSTW |
| 4. ABCEIOT | 14. AEILSSV |
| 5. EJNORUY | 15. ALNOOPV |
| 6. AADEKKY | 16. AACIITV |
| 7. AAELNPU | 17. AIORSTV |
| 8. AAEPNST | 18. ADEGOVY |
| 9. GIILMPR | 19. ANORWWY |
| 10. DELOOPT | 20. EIILNPZ |

Receiving ATB

Our magazine, *Across the Board (ATB)* is produced in an electronic format as well as a hard copy. If your membership is up-to-date, you will receive your hard copy every quarter as usual. If you have requested an electronic copy, it will be emailed to you by your State's Membership Officer.

To read this version and take advantage of navigation tools, you will need a recent version of Adobe Reader, which is a free download from <http://www.adobe.com>.

If you wish to receive the ATB via email, please notify your State Membership Officer.

Contacts for Membership Officers appear on the website and on page 2:

<http://www.scrabble.org.au/about/states.htm>

Editor: Richard Birch richardbirch@me.com

WORD BUILDER

Collins 2019 words shaded for ease of identification

All core words by length to 9 letters, with part of speech and hooks designated for each word.

343 pages - A5 format

\$40 including postage ~ Mail cheque to:

Bob Jackman, 31 Gwandalan Crescent,
Berowra NSW 2081

MAGNIFICENT SEVENS

A new word book from

Bob Jackman

The complete guide to seven-letter words (*soon to be updated to CSW19*) with part of speech and hook status designated for each word.

Nearly 5000 definitions of unusual verbs, adjectives, gerunds and heavy letter sevens, now at your fingertips

174 pages – A5 format

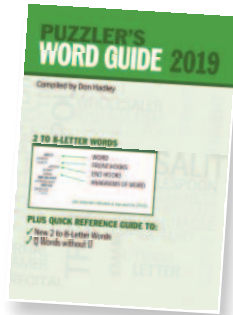
\$22.00 includes postage

Mail cheque to: Bob Jackman
31 Gwandalan Crescent
Berowra NSW 2081

Contributions to Across the Board

We are always looking for items of interest to publish in your magazine. If you have an idea but not sure how to go about getting it included, just email the Editor outlining what you have in mind. We are happy to include high resolution photos of Scrabble related events, short stories, annotated games, puzzles, articles on strategy or word power. When submitting by email, be sure to include "ATB" in the subject line. richardbirch@me.com

The WORD GUIDE



available from Don Hadley,
10 Barnard Street, Gladstone NSW 2440
email dh101187@gmail.com
\$40.00 plus postage and packing

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rjackman@ozemail.com.au

or 0400 226 541

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<https://collins.co.uk/products/9780008320133>

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**Offer valid until 31st March 2021.*

Delivery charges apply.

*Best wishes
Victoria Goodhew
Campaign Manager*

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Collins



**OFFICIAL
SCRABBLE
BRAND Crossword Game
WORDS**

S

1

The official word list for **SCRABBLE™**

Club Directory

Any changes to this club directory should be made to the Editor editor@scrabble.org.au as well as your State representative. Club information to be limited to name of club, time of operation, club contact and contact phone number. Full details can be obtained by visiting <http://www.scrabble.org.au/clubs/index.htm>

ACT (area code 02)

Southern Cross Club, Woden Thurs 9 am to 1 pm Arlene Williams (02) 6161 6507

Southern Cross Club, Woden Wed 7 pm to 10 pm Tim Reddan (02) 6179 5000

New South Wales (area code 02)

Banora Point ~ Fri 1-3pm ~ Anne Bennett ~ 5513 0319

Baulkham Hills~Tue 7pm~Chris Ostrowski~0410 448 286

Belmont ~ Mon pm ~ Bob Burr ~ 0431 887 087

Blacktown ~ Thur 9.30am-3pm ~
Jan Pincott ~ 0421 103 910

Bomaderry ~ Wed 10:30am-4:30pm ~

Margaret Neal 0428 429 077

Bondi ~ Wed 7.30 pm ~ Owen Fisher ~ 0412 931 440

Bowral 2nd & 4th Fridays, Sylvia Carless 0419 165 293

Brisbane Waters~Wed 6.30-9.30pm ~ Trish Windhurst ~
4341 9929

Brunswick Valley, Tues 1-4pm, Barbara Hancock ~ 0479
183 183

Bundanoon, 1st-3rd Wed ~ 10am-4pm Sandy
Mackenzie 0423 518 947

Cessnock ~ Thurs 9.30-1.00 pm. 4990 9599,

Coffs Harbour ~ Wed 1-4pm ~ Keith Bancroft ~
0421 334 216

Empire Bay ~ Tue 9.15-12.30 ~ Shirley Crocker 4369
2634

Inner West Day (Marrickville) ~ Tues 9.30-13.30, Sue
Tuckett, 0401 644 096

Kiama ~ Tues 4pm ~ 8pm ~ Marie Dalton ~ 4233 2778

Lake Macquarie ~ Thurs ~ 10-1.00pm ~ Morisset
Library, 39 Yambo St Morisset 4921 0573

Lane Cove 2nd-4th Thur, 6.00 ~
Anne Hrovat 0414 560 536

Lismore ~ Wed 11-3 pm ~ Ademiyi Johnson ~ 6622 0649

Macarthur, 2nd&4th Wed 7pm, Tony Hunt 0417 470167

Maitland ~ Tue 10-2pm ~ Pam Rowlands ~ 0421 111 253

Mittagong 2nd-4th Tues, 10am-4pm, George Khamis
0405 201 552

Moulamein ~Tues 7.30 pm ~
Josef Peeters ~ 0497 001 284

Newcastle ~ Sat 11.30-3.30pm ~ Julie Russell 4956 3008.

Nowra ~ Sat from 12.30 ~ Rodney Wallace 0412 931 780

Oatlands ~ Wednesday 9.30am-4pm ~
Lauraine Overton 9626 9359

Orange ~ Alt Sun from 2pm ~ Audrey Ferris ~ 6362 0068

Ourimbah ~ Thurs 10 ~2pm ~ Sandra Elliott 0410 438 525

Port Macquarie, Tues 1-3pm, Wayne Willis 0415 572 017

Ramsgate ~ Thurs 1-4.30 ~ TBA

Revesby ~ Tue from 7pm ~ Peter Griffiths 0432 638 994

Sanctuary Point ~ Thurs 12.30 - 4.30 ~ Margaret Hille
0437 708 672

South West Rocks ~ Alternate Thurs 10am ~ 4pm ~
Shirley Winkler ~ 6566 7220

St George ~ Tues 10-3pm ~ Jo Anne Deady ~ 9718 4069

Sutherland ~ Thur 10.30-4.00 ~ Ann Fiddler-9589 0128

Sydney ~ Monthly Sunday Comp 11.30am ~
Cheryl Michler, 0408 595 219

Sydney's West ~ All Fri ~ Frances de Lange ~ 9671 7336

Tahmoor ~ Mon from 1pm ~ Murray Hamer 4655 6755

Terrigal ~ Mon 10am~2pm ~ Mike Oxby ~ 4332 6485

Tumut ~ Fri 10am ~ 3pm ~ Bev Sutton ~ 6947 6505

Turrumurra ~ Tues 6pm ~ Janine Whittaker ~
0408 421 340

Ulladulla ~ Mon 1pm ~ 5pm ~ Gary Pollard ~ 4456 5139

Umina Beach ~ Wed 9-12pm ~ Doreen Picker
0407 297 713

Wagga Wagga ~ Wed 7pm ~ Norm Byng 0418 293 453

Waverley ~ Tue 1 pm ~ Devorah Ullman ~ 0434 190 396

Wollongong ~ Mon evening and Friday daytime ~
Rene Chelton ~ 4283 2442

Woy Woy ~ Thur noon-4pm ~ Denise Smith ~ 4365 5645

Queensland (area code 07)

Albert & Logan, Mon 12-4.30p.m.,
Marilyn Smith 040 3205 040

Banora Point, Fri 1-3 pm, Anne Bennett 5513 0319

Bargara, Thu 1.30pm Virginia Christian 4159 1935

Brunswick Valley, Tues 1-4pm, Barbara Hancock
0479 183 183

Bundaberg, Liz Blanch 4155 2231

Cairns ~ Caroline Polak Scowcroft ~ 0400 427 627

Coominya, Tues 6.30pm, Matthew Forno 0417 446 556

Coorparoo, Tues 9am-1pm, Benita O'Neill ~ 3398 4494

Lismore, Weds 1pm, Ademiyi Johnson, (02) 6622 0649

Logan City, Tues noon ~ 4.30pm,
Karrin Henderson 3133 3204

Redcliffe, Weds 1pm, Trish Brighton 0402 736 532

Redcliffe, Thurs 7pm, Trish Brighton 0402 736 532

Southport, Weds 1pm ~ Diana McManus 0419 022 520

Sunshine Coast ~ Nambour RSL ~ Fridays 2-4pm ~

Anna Palmer ~ 07 5457 3116 or M: 0401 799 650.

Toowoomba, Tues, 10.30am, Jane Brown, 0417 903 079

Toowoomba, Thurs 6.30pm, Jane Brown 0417 903 079

Townsville, 2nd Weds of month ~ 5.30-8.30 p.m., Julie

Walder. 4740 4175, Mob 0408 011 185.

Underwood, Tues 1-6pm, Marilyn Smith 040 3205 040

South Australia (area code 08)

Blackwood ~ Wednesday 12-4 ~ Raelene Nicholls

0416 203 515 ~ nichollsraelene@gmail.com

Brighton ~ Thursday 12:30pm ~

Julie Hockley 0410 053 973

Henley & Grange ~ Friday 1pm ~ Jacqui Pearce 0439

806 309

Maslin Beach ~ Wednesday 1-4.30pm ~

Rosemarie Mitchell 0448 948 224

Noarlunga / Christies Beach ~ Wednesday 7.30pm ~

Robyn Davill 0401 364 019

Nuriootpa Library ~ Tuesday 1:30pm ~ (08) 8563 8440

Port Adelaide Library ~ Monday (excl. Public Holidays)

2:30-5:30pm ~ sarah.antoniw@cityofpae.sa.gov.au

Prospect ~ Tuesday 1.30pm ~ Louisa Atsas 0432 907 646

Seaside (Yankalilla) ~ Monday 1pm ~

Lorraine Downes 8558 2549

Victor Harbor ~ Wednesday 1pm ~

Marilyn Evans 0401 337 686

West Torrens Community Centre ~ Monday 2-4pm ~

Katherine 8416 6333

Tasmania (area code 03)

Beaumaris ~ Sun 2pm ~ Marion Merickel ~ 6372 5337

Bellerive ~ Thu 7pm ~ Margaret Bishop ~ 6244 5545

Glenorchy ~ Tue 1pm ~ Jill Norton ~ 6228 1861

Kingborough ~ Tue 7.30pm ~ Khen Meerding ~ 6229 5840

Ulverstone ~ Wed 9.30am ~ Jan Hill ~ 6425 5415

**Most clubs listed here have
suspended regular meetings due
to COVID-19 restrictions.**

**When those restrictions are lifted
there will no doubt be many
changes to this list.**

**We would hope to bring this list
up to date when that happens.**

Victoria (area code 03)

Ballarat ~ Tues 10am ~ Marjorie Clark ~ 0456 098 982

Balwyn ~ Mon 1pm ~ Marj Miller ~ 9850 2366

Bentleigh - Mondays 1pm-4pm (during School terms) -
Carol Johnsen 0476 639 195

Box Hill ~ 1st& 3rd Tue 1pm ~ Marj Bloom ~ 9808 1386

Cranbourne ~ Monday 9.30am-1pm ~ Cranbourne

Library ~ Katie Rowe ~ 0420 934 176

Essendon ~ Tue 7pm ~ Rob York ~ 0417 512 535

Fairfield/Northcote ~ Mon 7-9pm ~

Rob York ~ 0417 512 535

Fitzroy - Occasional - Nick Ivanovski - 0412 175 251

Frankston ~ Wed 1pm ~ Brenda Thurgar ~ 5971 5686

Frankston North ~ Sat 1-5pm ~ Ray Alford ~ 5977 0819

Geelong ~ Sat 1.30pm ~ Marlene Ellis ~ 5275 0363

Golden Age (Mt Waverley) ~ Mondays ~ 9.30-3pm and
Wed 9.30am-3pm ~ Christiane McCann ~ 0432 290 880

Greensborough Tue 12.30pm ~

Marisa Nuccitelli ~ 9459 4529

Langwarrin ~ Tue 7pm ~ Dorothy Rice ~ 9775 6150

Mt Martha ~ Tue 1pm ~ Marjorie Barnes ~ 0402 081 466

Paynesville ~ Tues 10am ~ Sylvia Galloway ~ 5156 7443

Rosanna ~ 2nd & 4th Thurs ~ 6.30pm ~

Rob Hutchinson ~ 0407 533 525

Sunbury ~ Mondays 3-6pm ~

Norma Fisher ~ 0450 356 407

Watsonia ~ Wed 12-3pm ~ Angie Winkler ~ 9439 1634.

Weishpool ~ Mon 7pm ~ Jeanette Swann ~ 0429 702 122

Wodonga ~ Thur 1st & 3rd 5-8pm ~

Ruth Grogan ~ 0448 989 833

Western Australia (area code 08)

Albany ~ Mon 10am ~ Jane Taylor ~ 0429 448 666

Bassendean ~ Wed 9am ~ Anne Stewart ~ 0410 346 849

Bunbury ~ Fri 9am ~ Marie Cross ~ 9721 5704

Darlington ~ Tue 9am ~ Carmelita Maxwell ~ 9299 6713

Esperance ~ Sat 1pm ~ Ann Wallace ~ 0412 942 205

Floreat ~ Tues 12.30pm ~ Wendy Naunton ~ 9446 3108

Hamersley ~ Tues 1pm ~ Joan Dye ~ 9345 4275

Hamersley ~ Sat 1pm ~ Mike Clarke ~ 0438 606 617

Mandurah ~ Wed 8.30am ~ Marg Fisher ~ 9581 6852

Manjimup ~ Wed 1 pm ~ Pat Parkinson ~ 9771 2882

Melville ~ Mon 10am ~ Alan Mathews ~ 0400 330 615

Nedlands ~ Tues 9.45 am ~ Chris Hassell ~
0428 846 325

Perth ~ Thurs 9 am ~ Anne Stewart ~ 0410 346 849

Rockingham ~ Mon 9.15am ~ Dee Harrison ~
0431 345 139

Spearwood ~ Tues 10 am ~ Jenny Coetzee ~ 9434 9349

Results Roundup

ACT

14.11.2020 ACT Championships

OPEN: 1 Jakob Teitelbaum; 2 Karen Richards; 3 Ronnie Bennett; **HG** Joanne Craig 590; **HW** Richard Birch **TOOTHING** 158

NSW

12.12.2020 BUNDANOON

A: 1 Joanne Craig; 2 Rocky Sharma; 3 Alex Boiko; **HG** Joanne Craig 618; **HW** Greg Pinchbeck **ADAPTING** 95

B: 1 Richard Birch; 2 Lexie Neale; 3 Janine Whittaker; **HG** Alison Pollard 475; **HW** Gary Pollard **TOUSIER** 95

C: 1 Alex Timpano; 2 Sue Fullerton; 3 Kara Eddington; **HG** Owen Randall 476; **HW** Greg Hopson **ENTICED** 100

D: 1 Dorothy Fields; 2 Patrick Huynh; 3 Jenny Templeton; **HG** Dorothy Fields 496; **HW** Claire Pham **MEDICAL** 91

13.12.2020 Scrocker11

BIG BLIND: 1 Victor Tung; 2 Mark Smith; 3 Rocky Sharma; **HG** Victor Tung 540; **HW** Mark Smith **PIROQUES** 212

05.01.2021 oitoo by lake 05012021

OPEN: 1 Tony Hunt; 2 Chris Ostrowski; 3 John Holgate; **HG** Jeffery Lam 710; **HW** Jeffery Lam **ANTIQUES** 293

09.01.2021 JanBoree

A DIVISION: 1 Joanne Craig; 2 John Holgate; 3 Bob Jackman; **HG** Rod Talbot 523; **HW** Noel Barrett **COVERTLY** 103

B DIVISION: 1 Felicity Devitt; 2 Natalie Tadday; 3 Norma Tracey; **HG** Moana Nepia 524; **HW** Sunny Wright **AWNINGS** 110

C DIVISION: 1 Julie Banister; 2 Liz Jackman; 3 Dorothy Fields; **HG** Steven Savona 462; **HW** Liz Jackman **FROSTING** 149

23.01.2021 CSIM

OPEN: 1 Chris May; 2 Esther Perrins; 3 Rod Talbot; **HG** Esther Perrins 612; **HW** Esther Perrins **DEADLINE** 149

QLD

15.11.2020 November Bonanza

Alexandra: 1 Cameron Farlow; 2 Arnold Appelhof; 3 Jane Brown; **HG** Arnold Appelhof 565; **HW** Kerry Reimers **FAQUIRS** 110

Kingsbury: 1 Jeanette Hansen; 2 Karen Woodhead; 3 Josie Parkin; **HG** Lyn Mandelikova 465; **HW** Elize Plaganyi **REQUINS** 105

06.12.2020 Southport

A: 1 Andrew Hamblin; 2 Cameron Farlow; 3 Karen Richards; **HG** Karen Richards 563; **HW** Cameron Farlow **STINTERS** 122

B: 1 Lyn Mandelikova; 2 Shekinah Giffen; 3 Elize Plaganyi; **HG** Gaile Clark 511; **HW** Anne Pragnell **BRONZES** 105

10.12.2020 Bethania Thurs

ALL: 1 Sheryl Davidson; 2 Olga Visser; 3 Jeanette Hansen; **HG** Kerry Reimers 512

20.12.2020 Last Chance

ALL: 1 Sheryl Davidson; 2 Laurel Burrows; 3 Paul Richards; **HG** Cameron Farlow 566; **HW** Paul Richards **TRANQUIL** 128

07.02.2021 Logan Clovers

A: 1 Cameron Farlow; 2 Jane Brown; 3 Paul Richards; **HG** Paul Richards; **HW** Olga Visser **ISOTOPES** 140

B: 1 Laurel Burrows; 2 Jenny Schafer; 3 Kerry Reimers; **HG** Elize Plaganyi 501; **HW** Diana McManus **SNIVELLY** 114

SA

27.12.2020 Xmas Leftovers

A: 1 Michael Vnuk; 2 Daniel Piechnick; 3 Tony Miller; **HG** Tony Miller 554; **HW** Tony Miller **REDDIEST** 131

B: 1 Margaret Gibson; 2 Françoise Finlayson; 3 Tony Williams; **HG** Tony Williams 565; **HW** Margaret Gibson **THIEVES** 108

C: 1 Wendi Symes; 2 Susan Roberts; 3 Dieter Jedamski; **HG** Dieter Jedamski 453; **HW** Lyn Austin **LAZIEST** 100

D: 1 Emanuel Atsas; 2 Sue Lyons; 3 Baheej Al Kassem; **HG** Sue Lyons 463; **HW** Louisa Atsas **JOBLESS** 107

17.01.2021 SA January

A: 1 Antony Kimber; **2** Daniel Piechnick; **3** Adam Kretschmer; **HG** Antony Kimber 542; **HW** Michael Vnuk **SQUIRLS** 107

B: 1 Antonios Syrigos; **2** Rob Marotta; **3** Malcolm McNulty; **HG** Susan Roberts 529; **HW** Dieter Jedamski **ARTESIAN** 122

C: 1 Neal Whibley; **2** Lyn Austin; **3** Julie Robins; **HG** Julie Robins 525; **HW** Lyn Austin **MONKEYS** 96

TAS

28.11.2020 Ross November 2020

OPEN: 1 Khen Meerding; **2** Margaret Bishop; **3** Martin Rose; **HG** Martin Rose 472

15.12.2020 kingrob1

GROUP A: 1 Stephen Mooney Pursell; **2** Martin Rose; **3** Margaret Bishop; **HG** Margaret Bishop 508

GROUP B: 1 Sandy McConnell; **2** Bonnie Donehue; **3** Pam Thomas; **HG** Pam Thomas 489; **HW** Sandy McConnell **JERKIEST** 106

06.02.2021 ulv0621

OPEN: 1 Dianne Brumby; **2** Margaret Griggs; **3** Margaret Bishop; **HG** Khen Meerding 528; **HW** Khen Meerding **SLEEVING** 149

VIC

13.12.2020 RETURN II

A: 1 Nick Ivanovski; **2** Geoff Wright; **3** Jenny Brysha; **HG** Nick Ivanovski 506

B: 1 Rob York; **2** Rod Casey; **3** Christie Godby; **HG** Rob York 574

C: 1 Siva Sivapalasundram; **2** Trish Magee; **3** Angie Winkler; **HG** Siva Sivapalasundram 479

13.12.2020 RETURN II

A: 1 Nick Ivanovski; **2** Geoff Wright; **3** Jenny Brysha; **HG** Nick Ivanovski 506

B: 1 Rob York; **2** Rod Casey; **3** Christie Godby; **HG** Rob York 574

C: 1 Siva Sivapalasundram; **2** Trish Magee; **3** Angie Winkler; **HG** Siva Sivapalasundram 479

27.12.2020 After Xmas

A: 1 Anand Bharadwaj; **2** Naween Fernando; **3** David Eldar; **HG** Peter Kougi 580; **HW** Anand Bharadwaj **OVERRIFE** 97

B: 1 Sandra Masel; **2** John Rider; **3** Cheryle Jerram; **HG** Sandra Masel 490; **HW** Paula Messer **QUEERING** 107

C: 1 Oscar Ivanovski; **2** Siva Sivapalasundram; **3** Christiane McCann; **HG** Oscar Ivanovski 516; **HW** Doreen Ivanovski **GLITZIER** 131

17.01.2021 VICTORIAN PLATE/SIDE

PLATE (A): 1 Christiane McCann; **2** Dianne Gibson; **3** Rob York; **HG** Christiane McCann 502; **HW** Rob York **OUTFISH** 98

PLATE (B): 1 Betty Egan; **2** Oscar Ivanovski; **3** Angie Winkler; **HG** Mohammed Hegazi 519; **HW** Annette Casey **DIETERS** 84

SIDE DIV: 1 Anand Bharadwaj; **2** Geoff Wright; **3** Natasha Podesser; **HG** Anand Bharadwaj 623; **HW** John Rider **LOQUATS** 124

07.02.2021 Bayside Scrabble

A: 1 David Eldar; **2** Mythili Rudra; **3** Trevor Halsall; **HG** David Eldar; **HW** David Eldar **VALIDATE** 149

B: 1 June Valentine; **2** Noel Coulter; **3** Carol Mascitti; **HG** June Valentine 522; **HW** Christie Godby **UNIQUER** 117

WA

06.12.2020 AGMBISEC

A: 1 Ian Ting; **2** Louise Love; **3** Chris Hall; **HG** Ian Ting 557; **HW** Benjamin Lee **BARITES** 107

B: 1 Jenny Coetzee; **2** Henny Yates; **3** Colleen McCormick; **HG** Chris Sanders 532; **HW** Jenni Henderson **QUINTES** 99

NATIONAL SCRABBLE CHAMPIONSHIP

SYDNEY

EASTER 3-5 APRIL 2021

scrabble.org.au/nsw/auschamp

Am having a hard time reading: Samuel Pepys: The Unequalled Self – am up to page 61, and he's about to undergo an operation to remove his gall stone ... it's March 1658 - and I'm a wuss. (Also WOOSE ...) (Spoiler alert: he lives to write a diary for many years ...)

However, before this scary episode, I found one new (to me) word on page 48: a drinking companion of Samuels was Peter Luellin, who was an **UNDERKEEPER**. I had fun looking that one up. The author had hyphenated it, but Zyzzyva allows it and defines it as “a subordinate keeper”; Collins reckons that to **UNDERKEEP** is to suppress; Chambers quotes Spenser, who used it to mean “to keep under or in subjection”... and Merriam Webster ignores it ...

So then I checked Zyzzyva for “How many words start with **UNDER-**” 788 are listed, the second being **UNDERN** and the last **UNDervaluations**.

Am quite relieved that there are a mere 28 words ending with **-KEEPER**, the second being **BARKEEPER**, and the last, **GROUNDKEEPER**.

So then I wondered how many playable words start with UNDER- and end in **-ER** ... and found another 28: from **UNDERDOER** to **UNDERSTRAPPER**.

Oh, and **UNDER** has 3 front hooks ...

Can feel myself going **UNDER** ... more next time.(Maybe.

PS Nicked this from www.rmg.co.uk. Enjoy!

“Pepys was bothered by bladder and kidney stones from a young age. It was an ailment that also affected his mother, uncle and brother. He suffered continually from ‘fits of the stone’ until, at the age of 25, he could bear the pain no longer and resorted to the knife of skilled surgeon Thomas Hollier. In his cousin’s house on 26 March 1658, without anaesthetic, antiseptic or pain relief, Pepys was strapped down and Hollier performed a lithotomy: quickly removing a stone from his bladder the size of a billiard ball through a three inch incision between his scrotum and anus.”

PPS: So of course I braced myself and read the dreaded pages, (61 to 65) from the preparations for the procedure to the harrowing ordeal I hadn’t wanted to confront and through to the joyful recovery months later in May ... and it was worth the pain, both Pepys’s and mine; a few words I had not come across before, not being allowed by Zyzzyva, I shall omit ... but I did learn that at the time of Samuel’s operation his surgeon, one “Thomas Hollier of St Thomas’s and Bart’s”, was “ at the height of his powers as a **LITHOTOMIST**” (page 65). There, that’s dealt with. Phew.

By the way, ULU lists 118 words starting with **LITHO** ... of which 9 start with **LITHOTO** ... the shortest of which is **LITHOTOMY**.

20 Word Quiz

Solutions from page 10

All travel related but some have non-travel anagrams, they are listed below.

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. CANOERS | 8. PETARAS | 15. VANPOOL |
| 2. CARAVAN | 9. PILGRIM | 16. VIATICA |
| 3. FEIRIER | 10. POOTLED | 17. VIATORS |
| 4. ICEBOAT | 11. SCHLEPP | 18. VOYAGED |
| 5. JOURNEY | 12. SKIBOBS | 19. WAYWORN |
| 6. KAYAKED | 13. SNOWCAT | 20. ZIPLINE |
| 7. PAENULA | 14. VALISES | |

1. also **CARNOSE, COARSEN, CORNEAS, EARCONS, NARCOSE**; 2. also **FIERIER, REIFIER**;
13. also **NOWCAST**; 14. also **VESSAIL**; 16. also **AVIATIC**; 17. also **TRAVOIS**.

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

If you know ahead of time that you'll have to go into hotel isolation, start to think ahead. I was pretty smug, because I'd haunted the internet and advice on Western Australia's websites before leaving Victoria, but here's the reality check.

All information implied that I'd be loaded onto a bus and deposited at a quarantine hotel — I've seen that vision so often on TV — at a stated tariff which included all meals but no cleaning. I figured I could handle hotel food for two weeks. I packed a few snacks, my favourite tea-bags, and a bundle of projects to fill my days; all the tech I would need and a Kindle loaded with books.

On arrival at Perth airport, however, a helpful police officer said I couldn't leave the airport until I showed confirmation of a reservation in a hotel (of my own choosing), which was willing to accommodate me in isolation! When my jaw had realigned itself, I googled hotels, then chose one by sticking a pin on the page, metaphorically speaking, and going with that. I didn't have time to ring around for the best option with my friendly policeman

urging me on, but this one looked good at a reasonable tariff, a little less than the government's "quarantine hotels" (which are only for international travellers so I was told).

The taxi (\$50) dropped me at my chosen home from home, now recorded with WA Police, and I learned that no meals were included, and there were no cooking facilities aside from a kettle. Look, I was upgraded to a lovely king-size room with a view of the river through floor to ceiling windows, but I'm here for 15 days (day 1 doesn't count). Room service is available for a fee. Lovely menu, but expensive, and every day? For every meal?

The surrounding suburbs are riddled with food options, from McDonalds up to 4 star restaurants, and food delivery companies will deliver anywhere. But here's the thing: almost all have a minimum purchase clause; all have a delivery charge from \$2.99 to \$6 and even \$7. Thus I would have to order too much food for one elderly woman, and it's an expensive way to live for a fortnight. Save some for the next day? But there's no microwave for reheating.

So choose your hotel carefully, in an area where there are plenty of shops. At a minimum you need a refrigerator, a microwave, a toaster, air-con and wifi. Bring some fresh food, and keep in mind that the big supermarkets will deliver so check there is at least one nearby. The fridge in hotel rooms is usually small, so you can't stock up for more than a few days. Then make a list: think cutlery, tea-towels, kitchen tidy bags, paper towels, a couple of pegs, toothpaste and toilet paper. Enough medication for two weeks.

Or you could go with my solution: have a son living nearby. By sheer chance I had located myself less than 10 minutes from his home.

He and his partner filled up at the supermarket for my first care package: a bag full of fruit and vegetables, avocado, bread, smoked salmon, baked beans, and detergent. And a little toaster! They continue to deliver thoughtful gifts most days, making me so much more comfortable. And tonight they have promised a little microwave.

I think I'll make it now.



October 2020

No Saturday morning would be complete for me unless I temporarily abandon the iPad and its Sydney Morning Herald digital edition and head up the path in search of the Saturday printed version.

Scanning through the racing, home furnishing, sport and business sections, hovering briefly over the foodie pages, I go looking for *Wordplay* – David Astle's weekly column.

I try to memorise any new jargon or **COVID** inspired words or phrases that he has included. A few lodge into my brain, which I deem to be useful, and wonder why there has never been a word for that before.

A source of new words is the *Macquarie Dictionary* and I have shamelessly plucked some content from their website (<https://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/resources/view/word/of/the/year/2020>).

Among those, working their way into our **VOCAB** (but still not allowable), are **DOOMSCROLLING** (googling until one finds a depressing enough story to linger on and learn more, presumably one can indulge in a bit of **SCHADENFREUDE** at that story).

COVIDIOT is "a person who refuses to follow health advice aimed at halting the spread of COVID-19"; **COTTAGECORE**, guilty as charged, (see this column a couple of editions ago) basically making your own sourdough bread, knitting your own socks out of teabag strings – that sort of herbal approach to lockdown life.

Previous words of the year, are **ANECDATA** *information presented as if it were based on systematic research but is actually based on personal experience*. **MUKBANG** *a broadcast online in which someone films themselves eating large amounts of food whilst talking to their audience*.

December 2020

Thoroughly enjoyed Netflix series *The Queen's Gambit*. Lots of parallels to Scrabble tournaments, hitting the clock to signify turn, writing down moves, severe studying of the board, and the general pecking order of rated players and the egos they carry with them.

(Not referencing any particular Scrabble Player, I hasten to add).

As I write, there has been a cluster of Covid cases on Sydney's Northern Beaches. Christmas for us has been receiving lots of Amazon parcels intended for grandchildren from Victoria. So all that results in hastily amended plans.

A quick trip to the supermarket on a wet Sunday afternoon to stock up on essentials stopping to chat to many local people I know and dodging people juggling 6 packs of toilet paper.

January 2021

Having survived Christmas and on again – off again visits by Melbourne family, we decided to take a break in the caravan near Nowra on the NSW South Coast. A bush walk to try out new **GIZMO** (Apple Watch) to count steps was on our list of things to do. The watch also has a feature called Fall Alert which I was able to successfully test as I took a tumble over what I call a gravity surge. Ground came up to meet me and a rock broke my fall.

Decided to decline calling emergency services which was a suggestion on the watch face. (A friend of mine once had a fall in bush north of Auckland once and it involved helicopters, emergency services and a guest appearance on TV News).

There was a handy Accident and Emergency unit on the way back to the car and seeing that I had a lump resembling an extra head we called in. The triage nurse and I gazed into each others eyes, she shone a torch at me and tested my general knowledge – what day is it? what year is it? where are we? who is the President of USA? What is the anagram of **CORONAVIRUS**?

Then I was invited to inspect the inside of the CT Scanner (nothing to report). Over the next few days my face took on different guises. But my smart phone still managed to recognise me – mainly. If you see me at a tournament soon, I'll be wearing sunglasses and a hoody – and be even easier to beat at Scrabble.

Ratings Snapshot

Top 200 at 9 February 2021

1	David Eldar	2135	68	Antonios Syrigos	1423	135	Maureen See	1256
2	Andrew Fisher	2026	69	Trish Brighton	1417	136	Carol Colwill	1255
3	Chris May	2001	70	Barry Harridge	1417	137	Sue Gergelifi	1254
4	Anand Bharadwaj	1966	71	Adam Kauschke	1417	138	Susan MacGillivray	1250
5	Esther Perrins	1962	72	Garth van Vliet	1414	139	Jan Hill	1242
6	Jakob Teitelbaum	1962	73	Dianne Davis	1412	140	Shaun Donnelly	1242
7	Naween Fernando	1927	74	Khen Meerding	1406	141	Sandra Masel	1240
8	Peter Kougi	1924	75	Gwen Lampre	1403	142	Christie Godby	1239
9	Trevor Halsall	1901	76	Peter Shaw	1401	143	Natalie Tadday	1232
10	Cameron Farlow	1874	77	Julie Brice	1401	144	Rob York	1231
11	Edward Okulicz	1855	78	Kerry Constable	1400	145	Lorraine Thomas	1229
12	Daniel Piechnick	1851	79	Louise Love	1399	146	Tracey Kneebone	1222
13	Michael Cameron	1797	80	Malcolm McNulty	1381	147	Marjorie Giffen	1221
14	David Vanzyl	1753	81	Marj Miller	1379	148	Norma Tracey	1218
15	Victor Tung	1749	82	Colleen Birch	1374	149	Khwanjai Thammaping	1218
16	Joanne Craig	1741	83	Margaret Neal	1374	150	Janet Bau	1218
17	Mythili Rudra	1740	84	Karrin Hendersson	1372	151	Yvonne Edwards	1213
18	Adam Kretschmer	1738	85	Therese Nichols	1371	152	Jeanette Hansen	1205
19	Wayne Jones	1732	86	Felicity Devitt	1371	153	Patti Ashwin	1204
20	Stephen Mooney <i>Pursell</i>	1721	87	Keri Heart	1363	154	Robin Andersen	1200
21	Rod Talbot	1709	88	John Barker	1362	155	Tim Walton	1200
22	Trevor Tao	1698	89	Tim Reddan	1356	156	John Parker	1196
23	Andrew Hamblin	1685	90	Monica Dwyer	1354	157	Rowena Vnuk	1189
24	Russell Honeybun	1684	91	Caroline Polak <i>Scowcroft</i>	1353	158	Jan Chapman	1187
25	Carmel Dodd	1675	92	Keith Bioletti	1353	159	Cheryl Michler	1186
26	John Holgate	1672	93	Richard Birch	1351	160	John Salmon	1185
27	Karen Richards	1669	94	Geoff Shephard	1351	161	Mal Eden	1183
28	Geoff Wright	1639	95	Olga Visser	1350	162	Marion Miller	1177
29	Joan Rosenthal	1639	96	Charles Quartey	1350	163	Margaret Berliner	1174
30	Bob Jackman	1625	97	Angie Pearse	1348	164	Rhona Kenyon	1174
31	Rocky Sharma	1624	98	Martin Waterworth	1346	165	Lynne Jarvis	1173
32	Nick Ivanovski	1621	99	Lexie Neale	1344	166	Yvette Copley	1171
33	Tony Hunt	1600	100	John Rider	1340	167	Judy Mansfield	1171
34	Simon Walton	1596	101	Anne Zion	1339	168	Frank Csarics	1170
35	Jane Brown	1582	102	Jenny Brysha	1332	169	Jenny Schafer	1168
36	John Spaan	1581	103	Margaret Webb	1329	170	Tony Kalayzich	1167
37	Natasha Podesser	1563	104	Hailey Sutton	1328	171	Jean Gillespie	1166
38	Norma Fisher	1562	105	Shirley de <i>Silva</i>	1327	172	Betty Smith	1164
39	Paul Richards	1561	106	Tony Williams	1326	173	Paula Messer	1160
40	Chris Hall	1558	107	Trish Windhurst	1325	174	Kerry Reimers	1155
41	Tony Miller	1557	108	Neil Leow	1325	175	Wendi Symes	1151
42	Eddie Mueller	1556	109	Kris Howat	1323	176	Alan Mathews	1150
43	Ian Ting	1545	110	Margaret Griggs	1321	177	Maureen Hilder	1150
44	Carol Johnsen	1543	111	Chris Ostrowski	1315	178	Dianne Gibson	1149
45	Barry Jordan	1541	112	Benjamin Lee	1313	179	Dieter Jedamski	1149
46	Graeme Lock <i>Lee</i>	1533	113	Penny Wells	1312	180	Kannan Sethuraman	1145
47	Dianne Ward	1530	114	Lainie Chojna	1312	181	Arlene Williams	1141
48	Antony Kimber	1524	115	Hanne Marks	1310	182	Wendy Taylor	1141
49	Noel Barrett	1519	116	Margaret Bishop	1309	183	George Khamis	1138
50	Jane Taylor	1506	117	Rhonda Rickard	1309	184	Glen Chandler	1136
51	Roberta Tait	1491	118	Faye Williams	1308	185	John Linney	1136
52	Michael Vnuk	1487	119	Cheryle Jerram	1299	186	Rene Chelton	1135
53	Jegatheva Jegathesan	1486	120	Noel Coulter	1293	187	Victoria Gates	1135
54	Dianne Brumby	1481	121	June Valentine	1287	188	Leslie Smith	1134
55	Alex Boiko	1476	122	Margaret Gibson	1287	189	Sandra Elliott	1133
56	Ronnie Bennett	1475	123	Janine Whittaker	1286	190	Peter Wilkins	1133
57	Mark Smith	1471	124	Liz Blanch	1286	191	Susan Roberts	1131
58	Ivor Zetler	1460	125	John Hayes	1283	192	Alison Pollard	1128
59	Jyoti Chandna	1454	126	Anne Schick	1279	193	Jane Walker	1128
60	Sheryl Davidson	1453	127	Rod Casey	1275	194	Rhonda Reynish	1127
61	Greg Pinchbeck	1449	128	Anne Stewart	1269	195	Bernice Jonathan	1127
62	Kashi Thiris	1441	129	Glenys Logan	1269	196	Bonnie Donehue	1125
63	Martin Rose	1439	130	Moana Nepia	1267	197	Fiona Braendler	1124
64	Arnold Appelhof	1438	131	Sharon Sorensen	1266	198	Helen Jones	1117
65	Phillip Hamilton	1438	132	Gary Pollard	1262	199	Oliver Podesser	1115
66	Jon Ford-King	1437	133	Larrie Strautmanis	1260	200	Alex Lam	1110
67	Alan Burn	1429	134	Francoise Finlayson	1256			

Part 3b: Queensland

COVID-19 meant it was not feasible for Queensland to host the 2020 Australian Scrabble Championship as originally planned or to defer it to 2021 instead.

Our National website archives were created in 1998. This article covers the Championships held in Queensland since then in 2013, 2006 and 2000. The following table shows entry numbers for these three events.

Entry Numbers			
	Championship	Plate	Total
2000	74	42	116
2006	106	80*	186
2013	94	94	188

* This total includes 28 players who entered the one-day event in that year.

Of these 34 players took part in all three events, 74 in two of them and 240 in one of them.

Similar to Hobart, the following table shows average scores have gradually edged up over time whilst Championship averages have remained about 30-35 points higher than Plate averages.

Average Scores		
	Championship	Plate
2000	381	346
2006	382	345
2013	394	361

The highest average score by any player was 457 by the 2006 Australian Scrabble Champion, Andrew Fisher. He was runner-up in 2013.

The high game by any player was Naween Fernando's score of 649 in 2006. The high word over the three years went to Helen Hynes, who scored 194 points for LYRICISE in 2013.

What happened to our last Queensland winners? Our 2013 Australian Scrabble Champion, David Eldar, is currently the number 1 rated player in Australia. Our 2013 Plate Champion, Rhonda Rickard, last played at Redcliffe, Queensland, in October, 2020. She is currently rated number 116 in Australia and her rating has consistently remained around the 1250 – 1350 mark.

I hope you found this follow-up study of interest. For earlier articles in my series see the June 2018 ATB (Canberra), the June 2019 ATB (Hobart) and the June 2020 ATB for the Fantasy Scrabble Competitions.

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