

# THE LONDON SCRABBLE LEAGUE

SCRABBLE® and associated trademarks and trade dress are owned by, and used under license from Mattel, Inc.  
SCRABBLE is a registered trademark of J. W. Spear & Sons Ltd., a subsidiary of Mattel, Inc. © 2024 Mattel, Inc. All Rights Reserved  
January 2024

## \* KAREN GAME R.I.P.

It is with deepest sorrow that we have to inform members of the passing of League member Karen Game.

*Karen is pictured here with the Graeme Thomas Memorial Trophy she won in 2008.*  
Photo ©2008 Mauro Pratesi



Karen was a generous, larger than life person, with pink hair and flamboyant style of dressing. She was a regular tournament player until Covid. She had been in poor health for a while but became ill with a chest infection and had been in hospital for about a month. She was getting better and finally was allowed home. However, she became very ill again, paramedics were called but their efforts were in vain. Karen passed away at home on the morning of 4<sup>th</sup> January.

She would have been 64 in July.

In 1998 she featured in the furthest London League fixture outside London. Karen, Phyllis Fernandez, Alison Stilwell and Richard Woodward played two official League matches in a rented cottage in Sinalunga, Italy.

In the LSL summer season of April-September 2010 Karen won a gold scroll for the highest scoring word of the season. QUANTER for 194.

In 2008 at the Northwood Tournament she won the Graeme Thomas Memorial Trophy for the closest word associated with Graeme: SIBLING. (Graeme had a twin brother).

Then at New Malden in June 2012 she won the Ron Hendra Memorial Trophy for the best performing London League player at that tournament.

*"Karen has been struggling with her mobility and health for many months and has been in and out of hospital for tests and blood transfusions. She was still managing to play most of her games (and well)."*

*Certainly pre Covid, Karen was always very kind to others in need, including going out of her way to be able to offer lifts to tournaments to others, and visiting those in hospital. One particular occasion sticks in my mind. This was when another Scrabbler died (the person was very dear to me). Driving was hard for me at that time. The woodland funeral was held in Brighton, with just me and the celebrant scheduled to attend. I mentioned it to Karen and she immediately said she would come, and along with another LSL member, she drove us down. It was a sunny day, and we gave our friend a good send off, then had a cheery pub lunch.*

*Let's hope many of us will be able to give her husband Bobby our support in giving Karen a worthy send off. Rest in peace Karen."*

Kim Phipps London League member

*"So sorry to hear this news. I only played Karen on a few occasions, but found her to be a very pleasantly competitive player. May she rest in peace."*

Shailain Shah London League member

*"This is quite a surprise because I played Karen exactly one month ago on the 5<sup>th</sup> December at Jenni Chan's and she appeared outwardly in reasonably good health so her illness must have followed on quite quickly."*

*As usual Karen played a solid game on that occasion and only a late bonus play on my part allowed me the win. She did win her other game and we all received a bye on the third one, as the fourth player did not show up!*

*Checking the LSL app, that appears to have been her final Scrabble fixture and knowing what a reliable and committed League player Karen was, I feel quite moved to have been there for her for this very last time.*

*With continuing good thoughts of Karen and condolences for her family and close friends."*

Phil Cohen London League member

*"I will miss her too - she always slaughtered me at League matches! But recently she'd been playing poorly online, and now I realise why. R.I.P. Karen. And condolences to Bobby."*

*As Phil says, Karen played at mine on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the reason I think there was something wrong (apart from her play online having gone downhill) is that she stayed behind for a while to chat, and she seemed rather sad/wistful."*

Jenni Chan London League member

*"Very sad news. I only played Karen a few weeks ago in a fixture and, while obviously unwell, she was the same tough competitor and lively personality as she had always been over many years of matches. RIP and condolences to her friends and family."*

David Holmes London League member

*"So sorry to hear this sad news, Karen will be very much missed. We had some good games in the League. Condolences to Bobby."*

Ruth Cawsey London League member

*"I am sad to read this. Karen was always a good laugh and a formidable Scrabble opponent. She will be missed."*

Lee Graham London League member

*"So sorry to hear this news. Often played Karen in pleasant games at tournaments."*

Marian Hamer Outgoing London League Treasurer

From the ABSP Discussion Group:

*"I have lost a dear friend. I just can't stop crying. She had driven me everywhere in this country to play Scrabble tournaments. I am so sad. She was very good to me. Rest well Karen."*

Mohamed Alieu Kamara former London League member

*"That really did take me aback. Karen offered a good challenge when it came to Scrabble but could take a loss graciously. So sociable and supportive. Condolences to her friends and family."*

Angele Andrews London League member.

*"Oh how very sad. I was very fond of Karen because she looked after me in Antalya (a city in Turkey - ed) when I had a bit of an upset. and we both loved cats. RIP Karen."*

Elisabeth Jardine former London League member