



|N|o.|2|7|6| |A|P|R|I|L| |2|0|1|3|



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Ramsay MacDonald could squeeze less thought into more words than anyone else I know.

Winston Churchill, attributed by Philip Howard in Richard Bickle (ed.) *U and Non-U* (1978) p47 [cf 56;15].

|G|R|I|D|A|T|O|R|I|A|L|

|F|R|O|M| |T|H|E|
|A|D|J|U|D|I|C|A|T|O|R|

On 8 April 2013, the ACC celebrates its 23rd Anniversary. It's been 23 years of brilliant and inspired crosswords, quizzes and puzzles of all sorts. And the ACC is thriving 23 years on! We wish to honour our founders: Carole Noble (Secretary), the late Noel Jessop (Puzzle set-up person) and Alan Walter (Treasurer and Publisher of *Crozworld* for the first ten years). They had the inspiration and foresight to establish our Club and it's been a true success story right from the start. We sincerely thank our Founders for their history-making contribution to the Cruciverbal Art in Australia and for their continuing support over the years. We also thank our other valued contributors such as David Stickley (Puzzle set-up person No 2), Bev Cockburn (Second Secretary), Ian Williams (our current Puzzle Editor) and Patrick Street who has been our President since 1992 and has published our exciting monthly magazine *Crozworld* for almost thirteen years. Well done to you all! Here's to another 23 years of success and puzzling perplexity! Many Happy Returns!

Our brilliant Puzzle Editor **Ian Williams** has selected another fascinating range of puzzles for you this month starting with a Semi-Cryptic by *Virgo*. In Slots 2 & 3 we feature our favourites *Jesso* and *Ann Ass*. In Slot 4 we publish the popular AJ compiled this month by the challenging *Timid Terrier* and the legendary *Crowsman* has given us another of his accomplished puzzles in the Slot 5 spot. In Slot 6 the dynamic *zinzan* has compiled another beauty this time titled *Minor Error*. To celebrate our 23rd Anniversary we have excellent book prizes to give away for these puzzles. Plus to celebrate our 23rd Anniversary, Bev Cockburn and Bill Bennett have given us an Anniversary Quiz which should delight all puzzlers. We sincerely thank all of our Compilers, Adjudicators and Members for making the ACC such a Special Club over the past 23 years.

Good Luck with your solving this month. —Patrick

Hello to my "my crossword family". I despaired at the number of transcription errors – bewildebs, asss, llian, annl, bewildejing, bbwildering – and the number of blank spaces – M_N, SL_E, C_R, L_LIAN and TUMBLE-D_IER.

Slot 1: By far the biggest problem here was IRAQI. 13 members wanted to place Baghdad in IRAN. EPHEDRINE was the undoing of 8 members who offered EPHEIDRINE or EPHEADRINE. 16dn: anag DR HEAP+IN(popular)+E(drug) – the 'and' was just a linking device given the proximity of LT HARE.

Slot 2: No great problems here – an odd assortment of errors. 9dn: Delicacy (def) FROGS (depression in bricks) LEGS (stages).

Slot 3: A variety of errors except for TANGLE (x2) & INCENSE (x3). Plenty of member comment with this one.

Slot 4: Always a popular puzzle and this month was no exception. The only real problem here was AG-BIKE where members offered AG-PIPE, AG-LIME, AG-RIDE & AG-FIRE. There were a few POMEGRANITE(s) – not so tasty.

Slot 5: A variety of spellings for KANDYANS included LANKYANS, RANDYANS & PANDYANS. A variety of spellings for YELDRING included YELDRINE, YELDLING & YELDRINS.

COTM: 33 words were nominated (some from every slot) with MISTER the winner with 7 votes. Well done, Len. 17dn: SPRAY(n) = vacant M(ano)r (not to be confused with Mrs).

Thankyou for all the greetings with your entries – they lighten the load. Thank you also, to all the members who take time to write neatly.

Happy Crosswording for the remainder of 2013. Hope the Easter bunny visits with bundles of goodies. —Veniece

|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |F|I|G|U|R|E|S|

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	127	123	107	122	112	591
Correct entries	86	109	91	103	91	460
Success rate (%)	67	88	85	84	81	77
Prizewinners	J Pearce A Walter	N Hazell S Pinder	S Knight V James	M Vnuk	M Cowan	from 128 members

|H|I|G|H|L|I|G|H|T|S|

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Prizewinner: March 2013 Slots 1-5: Shelia Taylor. Congratulations!

|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |L|I|G|H|T|S|

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March 1-2013

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

March 2-2013

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

March 3-2013

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

March 4-2013

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

March 5-2013

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

Feb 6-2013

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

MEMBERS RESULTS FOR FEB Slot 6 & MAR 2013 Slots 1-5

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
ALLEN W
ANDERSON C			.	.	.	
ARCHIBALD C			.	.	.	
AUSTIN A		
BARBOUR J
BARNES J
BARRETT A
BAYLIS J	
BENNETT B
BENNETT D
BLAKE M
CAINE R
CAMERON H	
CARPENTER R
CARROLL L
CHAMPION G
CHANCE C	
COATES D
COCKBURN B
COLE G
COLGAN L
COLLINS M
COPLAND F	
COULTON L
COWAN M
CROMER H	
CROSSMAN Dr B
DAVIS M
DEARIE P
DE GRYS A
DENNIS M
DINHAM V
DOBELE T
DORRELL R
DOUGLAS R
DUCKER R
EGGLETON B
EVANS Jean
FOWLER J
FRELAND J
FULLER G
GARNER P
GLISSAN B

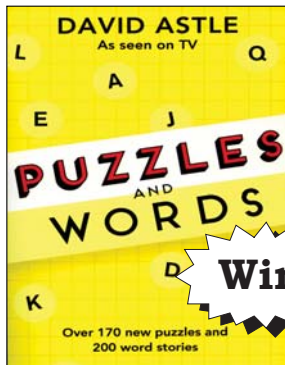
MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
GOODERICK R
GRAINGER D
GRENBERGER O
GREENING D
HAGAN R
HAMBLING C
HARPER K
HAZELL N
HEMSLEY D
HOCKING A
HOWARD L
HOWARD V
HOWELLS S
IBBOTT B
JAMES V
JERMY A
JONES C
JONES D
KENNEDY L
KENNEDY M
KNIGHT S
LEE N
LEEDS G
LEIGH J
LEMON G
LLOYD G
LOBSEY V
LORD P
LOW R
McADOO G
McCLELLAND C
MacDOUGALL I
McGRATH J
McKENZIE I
MACKAY-SIM C
McKINDLAY Y
McMANUS D
McPHERSON T
MARTIN A
MARTIN F
MASON I

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
MAY S						.
MEEK D
MERCER P
MILES R
MOLINE R
MORRIS B
NOBLE C
O'BRIEN Eileen
PARSONS D
PATTERSON A
PEARCE J
PINDER S
POTTS M
PROCTER D
PROCTER M
PYC M
QUINN C
RODDICK M
ROULSTON S
RYAN W
SHIELD A
SIEGMAN B
SIMONS A
SKINNER R
SMITH J
SPICER L
STEINBERGER M
STOREY N
SYMONS B
TAYLOR R
TAYLOR S
THOMPSON I
TICKLE B
TOFONI B
VILLIERS W
VNUK M
WALTER A
WENHAM J
WILCOX C
WILSON R
WIMBUSH R
WOOD J
WOODFORD J
YOUNG S
ZUCAL H

A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	3		
S	L	O	T		1

Semi Cryptic
by
Virgo

Prizes: \$75



Autographed by DA

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9								10						
						11								
		12						13		14				
15						16								
			17	18				19		20				21
		22												
23						24								
												25		
26						27			28	29				
						30		31						32
33				34				35						
36						37								

Across clues share a commonality which may not be defined

Across

- 1 Daffy Duck in research (9)
- 6 In short, an English county (5)
- 9 A tart with nothing on top, for ... (7)
- 10 ... nights! (7)
- 11 Hoover (3)
- 12 Dull colour (4)
- 13 Rail support (7)
- 15 Inlet (3)
- 17 One who doesn't move may last the course! (7)
- 20 Soar over 49 (5)
- 23 Scale (5)
- 24 Reddish brown herb (6)
- 25 Hermitage? (3)
- 26 Show with horsepower appearing back in Sinai lava country (7)
- 28 Sea on the moon (4)
- 30 Pester (3)
- 33 A measure of liquid wind (7)
- 35 Fifth in directions (7)
- 36 John the Avenger? (5)
- 37 Orchestra medley (9)

Down

- 1 Cherry (4)
- 2 Ministers (6)
- 3 Heft (5)
- 4 Fishy ex-PM? (4)
- 5 Formal tests (5)
- 6 Snake feathers? (3)
- 7 How birds sing? (8)
- 8 Echo location system (5)
- 14 Comic TV schoolgirl (5)
- 15 Ointment (4)
- 16 Those that can see (4)
- 18 Complete destruction (5)
- 19 Uncommon (4)
- 21 Wagon turns in the garden (4)
- 22 A tributary of the Orinoco (8)
- 25 Rob ... - Actor, director and producer (6)
- 26 Cyphers (5)
- 27 Caper (5)
- 29 Highly effusive (5)
- 31 Clobber (4)
- 32 Actual existence (4)
- 34 Supreme being taking dog back (3)

|S|E|N|D|
|S|O|L|U|T|I|O|N|S|
|T|O|:

Slots 1-5: Doreen Jones, 89 Second Ave, Rossmoyne WA 6148.
e-mail: dorjones@bigpond.com
Closing mail date: Thursday 25 April 2013.
e-lodgment: ianw@webone.com.au
Slot 6: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.
e-mail: mcandap@bigpond.net.au
Closing mail date: Friday 17 May 2013.

G	O	O	D		
G	R	I	D	S	
P	A	G	E		11

A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	3		
S	L	O	T		2

Cryptic

by
Jesso



1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
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										13				
14						15								
						16								
17										18				
										19				
20					21									22
						23								
24										25				
26						27								

Across


- 1 Dress gone mad – bought up completely (9)
- 6 Palms off a mould (5)
- 9 Revised letters of Roy in Socratic method (5)
- 10 Grasping to blow little account with notes (9)
- 11 Acquitted but retaxed one in a different arrangement (10)
- 12 Summon heads to come in to explain (4)
- 14 Recourse, a quiet plea revision (6)
- 15 Pennsylvania golfer off game (4-4)
- 16 Poor section of Barbados (3)
- 17 Poor choice with both sides gets angry (8)
- 18 Beer with cherry extract is not as bitter (6)
- 20 Excited with silver turnaround? (4)
- 21 Fleet woman runs into jam on the ground (10)
- 24 Gang-leader always around, completely, profitably (9)
- 25 One article about informal business in island (5)
- 26 Fire set back in building blocks (3,2)
- 27 No worry working with aluminium of a certain shape (9)

Down

- 1 Ease, say, around illuminated flower (5)
- 2 Spoil the groom, go off with a scientist (15)
- 3 Employed gas treatment to negate doxy unconventionally (10)
- 4 Rex in to cook for a large number coming continuously (6)
- 5 Exhausted priest permitted to go into exploit (8)
- 6 Kiss Gregory? (4)
- 7 To Ida and I a romantic break-up – outcome of another break-up! (6,9)
- 8 Errand-boy's secretary-bird (9)
- 13 Society for psychical research has hint it's raining (10)
- 14 Roguish backer's pigeon (9)
- 15 A pound on account for coccid deposit (3)
- 16 The Italian on bath scattered the competition (8)
- 19 North African's book never returned (6)
- 22 Prolonged utterance of rising protégé and learner (5)
- 23 Beginning to adjust to companion's hairstyle (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Thank you very much for the two books I was lucky enough to win last month. It is always satisfying to solve the crosswords and puzzles, and an added thrill to win the prize. Thanks to all the people who work so hard to keep this club so appealing... committee and compilers. *Robyn Caine*
- It gave me considerable pleasure to see one particular name listed amongst your February winners – MINE! Many thanks. I was also moved to cast a vote for the first time in the selection of the "Clue of the Month" – Slot 2: 17ac: Knowledgeable regarding *Ode to Spring*. WELL-VERSED – Brilliant in its brevity! *Ian Mason*
- Many thanks for the COTM certificate and prize. An interesting little volume! I hope I live long enough. *Ian Williams*
- Many thanks to you Patrick and the club for my very nice book prize or the Slot 8 *stroz* puzzle. *Brian Symons*
- Thank you for my certificate and cheque for last month's slot 2. I was pleased and surprised to receive them as I found last month's challenges harder than usual. *Lesley Carroll*
- Many thanks for the February prize – very much appreciated. It's great to see the ACC going from strength to strength, no doubt due to the excellent efforts of the 'leading lights' and other hard-working members. *Tony Dobebe*
- Thank you for the copy of *Almost Impossible Word Puzzles* for January's clue writing competition. I'm looking forward to many hours of brain teasing frustration. *Jenny Wenham*
- A belated thank you for my December Slot 6 prize – *The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations*. I opened it and was immediately lost in browsing for hours! The little book of misquotations is just as fascinating. Thank you. *Mike Potts*
- What a lovely surprise to receive David Astle's book for the Slot 1 February prize, especially as I had to rush my entry in as I was away for most of the month. Thanks to all involved with the club. I do look forward each month for the new lot of challenges. *Hilary Cromer*

A P R I L 2 0 1 3 S L O T 3
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">by</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Ann Ass</h2>


1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9						10								
11										12				
13				14		15		16				17		
18										19				20
21		22				23				24				
25										26				
27										28				

Across

- 1 Dismissal – caught by drunk soldier (7)
- 5 Greatest singer accompanying Ross! (7)
- 9 Least disposed to make water (5)
- 10 Worshipped good – if, that is, embraced by God (9)
- 11 Now Edward is gifted (9)
- 12 Look down on ditches flowing west (5)
- 13 Flog Henry's stolen junk (5)
- 15 I'm beat! Insert drip for rash (9)
- 18 Crews interrupt a daytime reform (9)
- 19 Pares back the rest (5)
- 21 Baby traps both hands in plug (5)
- 23 Most passionate meteorologists distressed without loo, for example (9)
- 25 Rum erases cocktail nip pourers! (9)
- 26 Good seed fruit (5)
- 27 Time for a feast for St Doris. Her reputation precedes her (4,3)
- 28 Fermented date – yes, fermented (7)

Down

- 1 Drunk to M-Mark (7)
- 2 About time to go out of state, typically (2,7)
- 3 A grievance the night before exercise? (5)
- 4 What should turn out to make this grid solvable finally (5,4)
- 5 Foil a rude thing to say? (5)
- 6 I'm so stuck in the 50s in poodle skirts, originally, and canvas shoes (9)
- 7 Exclusive cloistered nuns scrambled? (8)
- 8 Confirm Ewoks' home is on the outskirts of space (7)
- 14 Stubborn Spooner's bear trail (9)
- 16 Lawrence enters. Religious liturgy ends mournfully (9)
- 17 Clumsy realignments Mrs Short fudged (9)
- 18 Food store where tramp is surrounded by lean mince (7)
- 20 Compulsive drawer, maybe? (7)
- 22 Remove weapons from lunar modules (5)
- 23 *Sound of Music* album is worn out (5)
- 24 It's not rock solid government that cuts dams (5)

Explanations for March Grids where provided by compilers. Thanks to Joan, Len and Roy.

Slot 1 Timid Terrier Down: 1 DD, 2 Star + fish, 3 Initials, 4 Le + ad, 5 Ga (tea) u, 6 hidden, 7 M + ere, 8 Us + ed + up, 9 anag, 16 Ephedr (-a) +in + e, 18 Half + baked, 20 Op + a + h + s, 21 Ro(me)o, 23 hidden, 25 Reverse hidden, 27 Len + t + lily, 28 Susp (puss) anag. + ends, 29 Imp + art, 30 DD, 32 T(r)owel, 34 anag, 35 anag, 36 Id(l)e, 37 hidden.

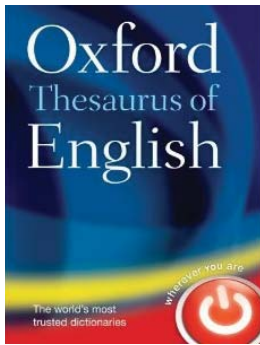
Slot 3 Crowsman Across: 6 anag of 'up bold men' around Latin; 9 lager(rev); 10 be(wild)ers; 11, 'name pa' (rev); 12 led(anag) inside be/wiring; 13 be(Wilder)ing; 16 – be(wild/Erin)g; 18 sold(i)ering; 19 has te(a); 20 – never(rev)/(flees guns)anag; **Down:** 1 traps(rev)/an; 2 J/angle; 3 laid up; 4 (s)mouldering; 5 head(anag)/ring; 7 be(wild)e/ring; 8 us/age; 10 Be(Wilde)ring; 12 – anag; 13 be wilder; 14 – a/bash; 15 double def; 17– M(ano)r.; 19 (w)hale.

Slot 5 Praxis Across: 1: US (rev)/ET/y; 5 CE/dared; 10 car (Dodge)/a/cole; 12 V(anag)R; 13 anag/(m)en; 14 anag; 15 L(owl)Y; 18 (Dam)on/CE; 19 Ada/PT/6 dn ers(t); 21 Homoph/ring; 23 lieu(tenant); 26 Mia/MS<; 28 anag; 30: I/vied; 31 ave/UN</E; 32 dear/ling; 33 nets after son; 34 is/Les; **Down:** 1 sav(el)oy; 2 UN/ironed; 3 E(n do)W; 4 anag; 5 Carr/AD/Io; 6 anag; 7 Da(Rb)y; 8 R(our k)e; 9 den/SE; 11 court/lines/S; 16 anag; 17 press/anag; 20 d/d; 22 Ll/nail<; 24 anag – T; 25 (p)addle; 27 lun(N)a<; 29 Ida</T.

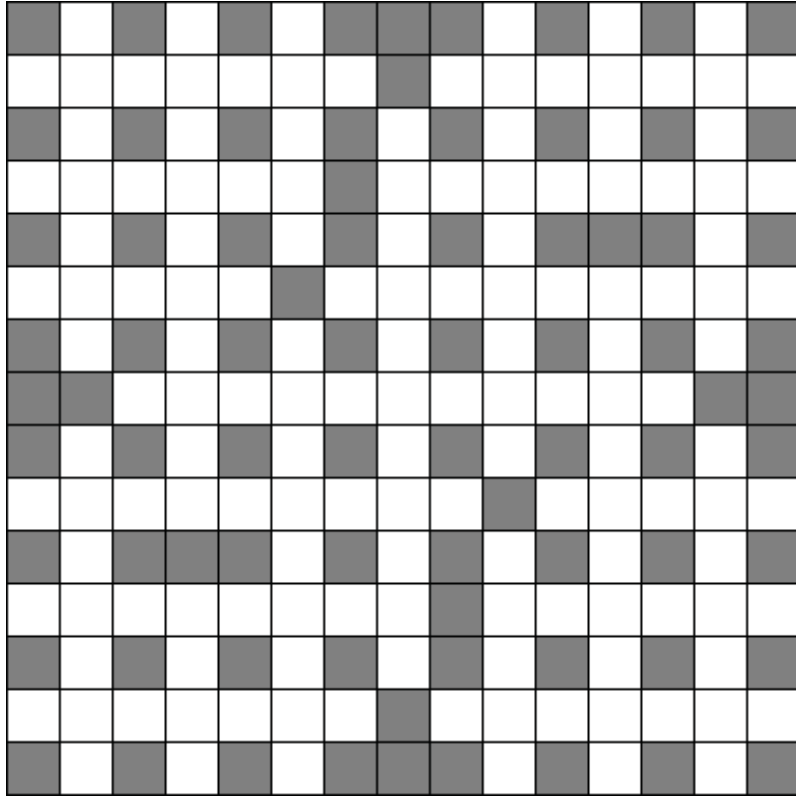
A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	3		
S	L	O	T		4

AJ
by
Timid Terrier

Prize:



3rd ed: 2009 rrp \$99



Solutions begin with the given letter.
Place them in the grid, jigsaw-wise, where they fit

- | | |
|--|---|
| A Unorthodox aboriginal behind shrine I heard (11) | O Initially on the increase treatment involving sedatives for ear infections (6) |
| B First-class supplier for popular book (10) | P Kitty bakes meals (3,6) |
| C Taco cook prepared bird? (8) | Q Investigation confining mosque student (5) |
| D Nursed a broken Nureyev (7) | R Animal water hunter (5,5) |
| E Encourage no return after bomb (3,2) | S Neves returned on high for card game (5-2) |
| F Plume in one's cap perhaps? (7) | T Meet (say) on deck (7) |
| G Benevolent independent Earl; Graeme Garden (6) | U United Nations turns and relaxes (7) |
| H Stolen food a controversial issue (3,6) | V Will to warn about a cipher in synthesizer (7) |
| I Avatar in colour (11) | W Immoral man in Grenada (5) |
| J Good-humoured, sweetheart copper heads off looter at racecourse (7) | X Book sent back to lady on ship (5) |
| K Cap featuring shrike pinion (4) | Y Ancient boasting of the old Labour Party in government (7) |
| L Valentine corrupted Israelite (9) | Z Pueblo Native American unknown at college (4) |
| M High-handed commander almost drunk (9) | |
| N The quickest pinch tarts in Thailand (8) | |

Some Weird and Wonderful Words by Erin McKean, OUP, 2002.

- **zetetic** a rare word meaning 'proceeding by inquiry or investigation'. It comes from the Greek verb meaning 'to seek'.
- **xesturgy** an obsolete and rare word meaning 'the process of polishing'. From a Greek word meaning 'to polish'.
- **woofits** an unwell feeling, especially a headache; a moody depression; a hangover. In one citation this is called "that dread disease that comes from overeating and underdrinking" and "the ailment that comes with 'the morning after the night before'".
- **wabbit** a Scottish word meaning 'exhausted or slightly unwell', as in "I'm feeling a bit *wabbit*". Its origin is uncertain.
- **viliorty** a rare word meaning 'the fact of being cheaper or of less value'. From a Latin root meaning 'to make viler'.
- **utraquism** a rare word meaning 'the use of two languages on an equal basis'. From a Latin phrase meaning 'under each kind'.

Famous Last Words

A man who was researching his own genealogy, was searching for the grave of his long lost but famous uncle. On arrival at the cemetery, he was dismayed to find that the layout had been rationalised and all the older unattended gravestones had been moved to form a neat grid pattern to one side. After much searching in vain, one of the graveyard staff – who was the last person to let you down – approached him to see if he could be of any help. "Yes, I'm looking for the grave of an uncle of mine. I'm told that the headstone makes some mention of the fact that he invented the cryptic crossword". "Oh that one!" said the helpful assistant, "that's easy to find. It's twelve down and fifteen across".

A P R I L 2 0 1 3 S L O T 5
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">by</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Crowsman</h2>
Prize:


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

Across

- 8 Most certain – our group backed others! (6)
- 9 Noel, idle, recklessly filled incisions with a black substance (8)
- 10 Turn over plough furrow and lay borders pretentiously (8)
- 11 Sounds of “Elect Xenophon!” hamper trip (6)
- 12 Where film actors are beginning (5)
- 13 Fence, without right, narrow strip of land (9)
- 15 Detectives fool the fellow housed by prairie dwellers (12,3)
- 18 Fan is tense within act (9)
- 20 Objective of first person is to break hunger in republic (5)
- 23 Transferred, but no hospital examined (6)
- 24 Cricket opener is involved in manipulation of oil into bat (8)
- 25 Hurry home to scold furiously (4,4)
- 26 Be engaged in a fight – run away quickly (4,2)

Down

- 1 Concerned with fall, plan mutual unrestricted rises (8)
- 2 Union measure (6)
- 3 European duet devised a composition (5)
- 4 Noblest ontogeny is reinterpreted as Jesus, say (4,8,3)
- 5 Pet pig she shot using this? (4,5)
- 6 Sources of flavouring determine beer prices (8)
- 7 Long-term prisoner turned left to get second drink in glass (6)
- 14 Blocking old customer initially, previous partner is removed from bar (9)
- 16 Young Victor, perhaps, introduced himself (8)
- 17 Reclusive Eric has sentence upheld (8)
- 19 Salary in Thailand expressed as foreign capital (6)
- 21 High priest overturned pilgrimage for prophet (6)
- 22 Diving apparatus from small island nation (5)

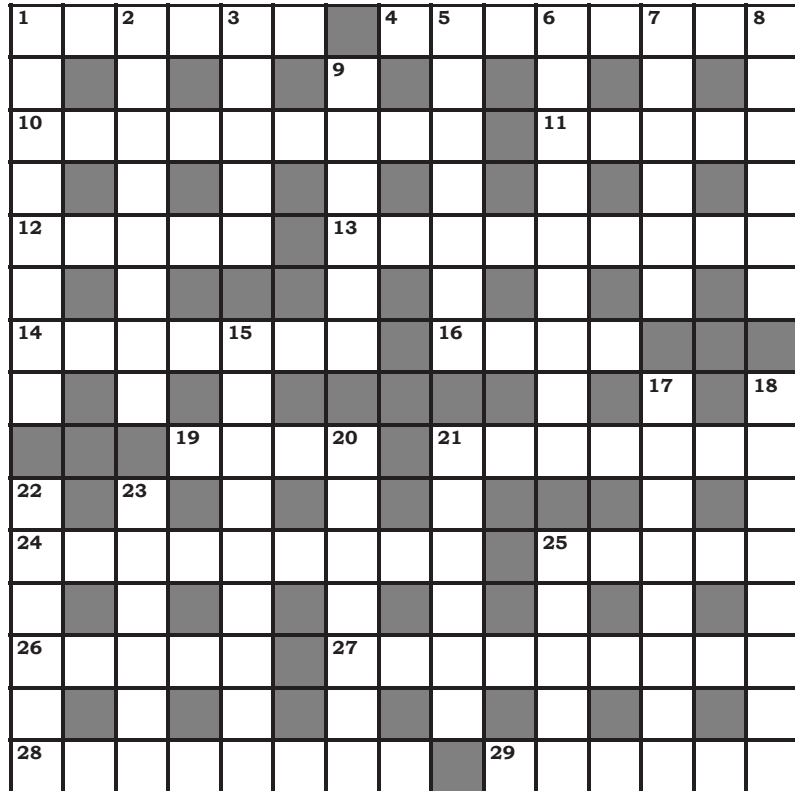
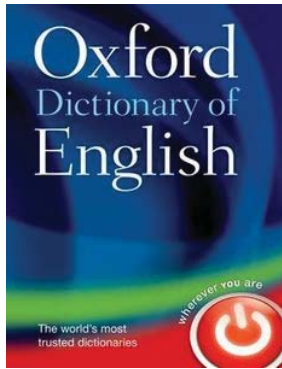
Twenty-three: from *The Oxford Book of Ages*.

- 'Jane will be quite an old maid soon, I declare. She is almost three and twenty! Lord, how ashamed I should be of not being married before three and twenty!'
Lydia in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, 1813
- Already I feel myself to be a trifle outmoded. I belong to the Beardsley period ... *Cedo junioribus*.
Max Beerbohm, *Diminuendo*, 1895
- At twenty-three, [Einstein] was already the man whom the world later wished, and failed, to understand. He had absolute confidence. He had absolute faith in his own insight. He was set on submerging his personality, for good and all, in the marvels of the natural world.
Einstein, in CP Snow, *Variety of Men*, 1967
- I would there were no age between sixteen and three-and-twenty, or that youth would sleep out the rest; for there is nothing in between but getting wenches with child, wronging the ancientry, stealing, fighting.
The Shepherd in Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*, 1623
- It may be as well to inform the reader that Miss Fanny Squeers was in her three-and-twentieth year. If there be any one grace or loveliness inseparable from that particular period of life, Miss Squeers may be supposed to have been possessed of it, as there is no reason to suppose that she was a solitary exception to a universal rule. She was not tall like her mother, but short like her father; from the former she inherited a voice of harsh quality; from the latter a remarkable expression of the right eye, something like having none at all.
Charles Dickens, *Nicholas Nickleby*, 1838-9

A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	3		
S	L	O	T		6

Minor Error by *zinzan*

Prize:



A famous septet is hidden in disguise among the answers. One of them, however, has made a slight error with the disguise. Who is it? And what disguise was intended? A correctly filled grid will gain a dot. An additional correct identification will stand a better chance of winning the prize.

Across

- 1 Heavy weapon sent to the West by enemy at last (6)
- 4 Full description of an amblyopic verminous trio? (8)
- 10 Cherished partnership of no.3 and 9 is broken (9)
- 11 *Revolver* – disc to be embraced by leaders in rock 'n' roll (5)
- 12 Remained for the clap given outside
Licence To Kill (5)
- 13 Was a leading man in denial he'd had surgery ? (9)
- 14 Looking more nauseous, time to replace new theatre worker (7)
- 16 Ratio appears in equilateral section (4)
- 19 Having been whacked on the ear, one's full attention is given (4)
- 21 Prepare an application as Thumbelina was about two of these? (7)
- 24 Half-way out, no men lost in rebellion (9)
- 25 The barest hint a piece of Toulouse-Lautrec artwork's framed the wrong way (5)
- 26 Regular emptying of carton's small burden to bear (5)
- 27 Quiet call almost reaches board's takeover target in retreat (9)
- 28 Mr T is dismissed from farcical government's service! (8)
- 29 Unstressed 199? (6)

- 3 Article censored from common rag (5)
- 5 Makes popular ringleaders in revolution release girl (7)
- 6 Fliers, beginning in aerobatics, spiral out of control over Northern end of aerodrome (9)
- 7 Prayer offered by laity confused about Vatican's last letter (6)
- 8 Put down of communist uprising by leaders of incumbency, democratically elected (6)
- 9 Part of a plant which might be thought by yourthelf! (6)
- 15 Guys absorb endless round of drinks in Chinese restaurants (9)
- 17 Is it possible a native American's not in a type of canoe? (8)
- 18 Delicately sensitive girl made a mess with lace (8)
- 20 Crime rate's affected by nothing new (7)
- 21 One following another's routine took a lift inside hotel (2,4)
- 22 Cupid's loved one quietly harmonised, no doubt initially bereft (6)
- 23 Be a nuisance to that Cockney fellow's stance (6)
- 25 Philosophy 101? (5)

Down

- 1 Discipline mounted via wise man after Dr Edelsten's first point (8)
- 2 Spooner's new-for-old replacement of fertilized eggs (8)

Send solution to: Andrew Patterson,
372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.
e-mail: mcandap@bigpond.net.au
Closing mail date: Friday 17 May 2013.

A	C	C		
	R			
	O	Z		
O	Z			
	W			
N	O	T	E	S
	R			
	L			
	D			

Results of Quiz No 2/2013 – Fun & Games by Fortuna 48 (Nea Storey)

Entries received: 34. **Success rate:** 62%.
Adjudicator's Comments: Catherine Jones pointed out that whisk was the early name for whisk. Points lost for spelling: VIGARO for VIGORO, LACROSS for LACROSSE. **Winner: Barbara Ibbott.**

Results: **25:** B Cockburn, L Colgan, P Dearie, V Dinham, J Fowler, P Garner, B Glissan, K Harper, L Howard, B Ibbott, D Jones, C McClelland, J McGrath, A Miles, C Noble, W Ryan, A Simons, J Smith, B Symons, A Walter and R Wimbush. **24:** C Anderson, R Dorrell, C Jones, D Meek, M Procter and R Taylor. **23:** H Cromer, J Leigh and I Thompson.

22: G Cole, T McPherson and C Wilcox. **21:** B Siegman.
Solutions: Archery, Backgammon, Chequers, Darts, Eventing, Flapdragon, Gin rummy, Hurling, I-spy, Jack Straws, Knur and Spell (or Knurr-spell), Lacrosse, Mumbletypeg, Napoleon, Ombre, Paintball, Quoits, Rouge et noir, Roulette, Stoolball, Tiddlywinks, Trampoline, Vigoro, Whisk, Zero Sum.

- Just a few Members' Comments:**
- Good fun and games – “No money in Uzbekistan” indeed! *Len Colgan*
 - Thanks for another enjoyable, well-clued quiz. *Brian Symons*
 - Thank you for the quiz. It was quite enjoyable. *Joan Smith*
 - What an amazing array of Fun & Games. No.13 MUMBLETYPEG was definitely the hardest to solve ... (not) in *Chambers* nor *Macquarie* dictionaries. Eventually located it in *Collins Australian Dictionary*. Zero Sum was a fascinating answer where SUM is a standard monetary unit in Uzbekistan and The Zero Sum Game crops up as a contest in Game Theory indicated in the *Macquarie Dictionary*. *Alan Walter*
 - Another clever quiz which wasn't at all easy. Some needed a lot of thought but all clues were honest and you knew when you had the right answer. *Bev Cockburn*
 - Some of these I remember fondly, others brand new! *Andrew Miles*

- Another interesting quiz. No.13 nearly had me stumped. *Claire McClelland*
- Required a bit of research. Found it challenging and enjoyable. *Trish McPherson*
- I really enjoyed your quiz. I managed most answers without research. I expected to find Monopoly and Scrabble amongst the answers, but you surprised me. *Barbara Ibbott*
- Fun and games indeed! I was stalled on No. 22 for so long I was almost ready to throw in the towel. Thanks for the pleasure your quizzes bring. *Kath Harper*
- This Quiz certainly lived up to its title! Several of these were totally unfamiliar to me – thank goodness for the alpha order. *Pat Garner*
- Thank you for a really entertaining quiz – loved the clues. *Catherine Jones*
- I have tried everything for No.13 but can't find the answer. Otherwise an enjoyable quiz which brought back lots of memories. *Marian Procter*
- Thanks for the quiz – good fun and some good clues. Only query is with 25 – zero sum which appears to be a game type rather than an actual game. *Jim Fowler*
- I got Flap-Dragon, Knur & Spell and Vigoro before Eventing and Napoleon! Mumbletypeg was dredged from memory: the only reference I could find was in my wife's 1968 *World Book Dictionary*. A most enjoyable quiz. *Peter Dearie*
- We have puzzled for so long over Nos. 11 & 13 that we are truly stumped. *Julie Leigh*
- Interesting and quite challenging quiz. K and M had me puzzled. *Betty Siegman*
- This quiz was true to its title: I enjoyed it. *Joan McGrath*
- I love flap-dragon. A well-read friend helped me with mumbletypeg. *Rosemary Dorrell*
- Thank you for an interesting puzzle – an eclectic mix. I was fascinated to learn about Flap-dragon, Jack Straws and Mumbletypeg especially. *Ian Thompson*
- Thanks for a do-able and fun quiz. *Hilary Cromer*

M	E	M	B	E	R
	N	E	W	S	

New Member: Dr Bill Mackie from Bathurst, NSW (A Membership Gift from Bill Bennett). Welcome to the Wonderful World of *Crozworlding!*

Dots adjustment: Jill Freeland gained dots for February Slots 1-5. The dots allocated to Hazel Freeman were incorrect.

Puzzle Adjustment: There was a certain lack of precision in the text of the rubric to the March slot 6 puzzle **Associates** by *Betelgeuse*, for which we apologise. The rubric should read “All across solutions are to be modified before entering them into the grid by exchanging a part of **the solution** for another word commonly associated with **that part of the solution**. Eg if the answer to the clue is S(COO)ter (7), the word to be entered could be S(BILL)ter (8), the associates being "bill" and "coo". The first word length indicator following the across clues applies to the clued word and the second to the modified word to be inserted in the grid. The words across may not be proper words, as in the example above. All down clues are normal cryptic.

A Special Thank you to **Maurice Cowan, Bill Bennett** and **Ian Mason** for their generous donations to the ACC Prize Fund 2013.

Welcome renewal of subs from: **Margaret Banks, Grace Brice** and **Helen Perrow**.

Results of the January 2013 Bonus Quiz:

Actors by Virgo (Audrey Austin).
Solutions: Part 1: 1. Kevin Spacey 2. Eric Roberts 3. Daniel Radcliffe 4. Albert Finney 5. Eric Idle 6. Ethan Hawke 7. Ugo Tognazzi 8. Liam Neeson 9. Kiefer Sutherland. **Part 2:** 10. Clint Eastwood 11. Valerie Hobson 12. Erik Estrada 13. Tyrone Power 14. Edmond O'Brien 15. Ian Holm 16. Romy Schneider 17. Ronald Reagan 18. Christopher Reeve.

Successful solvers i.e. 18 pts were: Robyn Caine (prizewinner), Carole Noble, Sue Pinder, Verna Dinham, Ann Jermy, Jim Fowler, Kath Harper, Claire McClelland, Bev Cockburn, Robyn Wimbush, Andrew Miles, Joan Smith, Eileen O'Brien, Joan McGrath, Sonia Roulston, Margaret Steinberger, Pat Garner, Barb Glissan and Alan Walter.

Audrey has not been enjoying 100% Good Health recently but she kindly sent us this reassuring message: "Thanks for your good wishes. My head has cleared a bit now. Don't they drug you up in hospital?! Cheers! Audrey."

Quiz 4/2013: ACC's 23rd Anniversary Quiz by Bev and Bill Bennett and Bev Cockburn

Theme: The number 23 (or 23rd) is involved in every question. Send your entries to Bev Cockburn 12 Norman Street, Merrylands West NSW 2160. e-mail to bevco4@bigpond.com. Closing date 17 May 2013. Book prize.

- 1 Letter of the Greek alphabet (3)
- 2 1st five words of this psalm (3,4,2,2,8)
- 3 Australian Prime Minister (6,5)
- 4 Theme in French (5-5)
- 5 Mathematically it is a ____ ____ (5,6)
- 6 President of the USA (8, 8)
- 7 Letter of the Classical Latin alphabet (4)
- 8 Significance to Shakespeare (4,3,4)
- 9 Element on periodic table (8)
- 10 NATO phonetic alphabet (7)
- 11 Pre 1966, least number of coins in pence (4)
- 12 American slang for “getting out while the going's good” (6-5,6))
- 13 This day in April plus two days (5,3)
- 14 Worn by this Australian cricketer (5,5)
- 15 Star of the movie (2007) about the theme (3,6)
- 16 Squared (5,7,3,6-4)
- 17 An April birthday for this famous child star (7,6)
- 18 Given name of this pope (6,8)
- 19 Prime Minister of New Zealand (7,6,6)
- 20 American 1994 Nobel prize winner obsessed with it (4,4)
- 21 Fear of this number (13)
- 22 Supposedly stabbed this many times (6,6)
- 23 Side by side Post Code (4,8)

March 1-2013: Half 'n Half by Timid Terrier (Joan Smith)

- A nicely paced Slot 1 with a couple of 'look-up' answers. In 21dn, I don't think it's right to clue RO--O as a homophone of 'rue'. We discourage indirect anagrams. This is an indirect homophone, at best. *Andrew Patterson*
- I liked 27 & 32dn. In 36dn, does "idle"="dead"? I can't quite verify that. In 16dn, "drug" would appear to be doing double duty. *Jenny Wenham*
- TT seems to have the Half 'n Half down to a fine art. Not hard but a good warm-up. *Jim Fowler*
- Thank you, Joan, for an excellent 'Half 'n Half'. Your clues are always fair and you know when you're right. *Bev Cockburn*
- So STARFISH are asteroids? I often see them on the beach - didn't know they'd fallen from the sky! *Max Roddick*
- 1dn took longer than it should have done, given that the Clarence is fairly familiar. Loved 2dn (asteroid = starfish). *Peter Dearie*
- Excellent starter. 9 and 16dn were good. *Carole Noble*
- 16dn: EPHE+DR+INE = ... and DR HEEP modified. How does INE relate to 'and'? Good no. 1 Puzzle. *Alan Walter*

March 2-2013: Cryptic by Virgo (Audrey Austin)

- Nice cryptic to start with. 31ac, 20 & 22dn favourite clues. *Joan Smith*
- A lovely crossword! Whilst I liked VACANT, PULIT, AVIARIES & MAIDENS, I gave my COTM to SHAMPOO. 9dn took me a long while! *Nea Storey*
- Favourite clues were 31ac, 3dn & 20dn. Assuming I have 26dn correct, could you please provide an explanation? [sc = *sculpsit* - he/she sculpted (this work) + am: Adj]. Re 13ac, I have often wanted to use "gg" for "horse" but have never been able to verify it. I can only find gee-gee, and therefore feel that this clue should have a homophone indicator. [Perhaps, but its use in crosswords seems so time-honoured that a homophone indicator would be superfluous - Adj] In 15dn, the reference to the "aforementioned composer" makes it an indirect anagram, as it requires having solved 11ac to get half the letters. *Jenny Wenham*
- A good solid puzzle but not overtaxing. *Jim Fowler*
- Some very clever clueing in this puzzle with a few contenders for COTM. *Lynne Spicer*
- W.G. Grace is a real trap for transcription error. And what about Beelzebub - especially in a down clue. (Much easier to get it correct if down clues are transferred first. VL) *Brian Tickle*
- One of Virgo's best. Loved SAMPLE, BEELZEBUB - my COTM WELL-VERSED. *Brian Symons*
- Nice one, Virgo. I particularly liked 3dn PULPIT and 22dn SHAMPOO - both made me smile! *Bev Cockburn*
- A chuckle in every clue; 13ac suggests WG Grace in a Derby. No, as an English gentleman he'd wear a toppler! *Max Roddick*
- An enjoyable puzzle. 17ac: "well versed" was "well" clued. *Peter Dearie*
- A few nice clues here. *Margaret Davis*
- Liked 17 and 28ac. Good one Virgo. *Carole Noble*
- 26dn: Ref. Chambers: SC = he/she sculpted. Thanks Virgo. *Alan Walter*

March 3-2013: Cryptic by Crowsman (Len Colgan)

- Ah, Len! I am definitely bewitched and bothered! *Robyn Wimbush*
- I had a good laugh when I kept coming up with the same answers over and over again with Len's slot 3 puzzle. *Roy Wilson*
- The choice of grid suggested something was at play. It was a lovely idea. I did feel a bit short-changed by filling in ten answers without thinking much. That's not how a Crowsman puzzle should be. *Andrew Patterson*
- Amazing puzzle. How clever to have so many different clues for the same word. Great clues; esp liked 3, 5 and 19dn. *Joan Smith*
- I'm bewitched, bothered and bewildered! After I got BEWILDERING for two clues, it wasn't too hard to guess that there would be more of the same. Very clever of Crowsman to work in the director and the playwright. PLATINUM BLONDE was lovely! *Nea Storey*
- Another enjoyable puzzle from one of my favourite setters. Crowsman's cryptics are always different, testing and quirky. A couple of possibles for COTM, but, for me, 17dn just pipped 3dn. *Ro Ducker*
- When I first saw this puzzle I was baffled and bemused by the grid construction. When I found two solutions were the same I was bamboozled. Eventually the lights came on and I was no longer bewildered. Favourites were 11 & 19ac and 2, 3 & 15dn. MISTER was my last in. After working with all sorts of synonyms for "manor" didn't I have a kickself moment when the penny dropped? *Jenny Wenham*
- A bewilderment of answers. I like Len's inventiveness - one can be assured of something different. I am bewildered by 17dn - Mister. Spray - no problem. Vacant manor? - an 'n' removed from Minster? But Minster ain't no manor in my book(s). [vacant **M**(ano)**R** = MISTER - Adj] *Jim Fowler*
- What a lovely chase Len sent us on with this puzzle with the same answer for many clues. I am stumped on 17dn, whether it should be 'mistled' or 'missed'; hopefully it is another word altogether. Regardless a great puzzle. thanks Len. *Lynne Spicer*
- I particularly enjoyed this "bewildering" puzzle. *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Two strings of three unchecked letters is a small price to pay for such a fun puzzle! I loved your clue for ape man (after I overcame my initial bewilderment). *Brian Tickle*
- Wonderful clues. Took me ages to understand 17dn. Bewildering to say the least. *Brian Symons*
- You've done it again, Len. I'm not sure everyone will get it but 3dn DIAL is my COTM. Of course, it's LAID up and when you're laid up you are bedridden!! *Bev Cockburn*
- Crowsman, by me you can have as many unchecked letters as you like, if you come up with puzzles as weird and funny as this one. *Jain MacDougall*
- Some of the non-bewildering words were a bit bewildering. I gave PLATINUM BLONDE my COTM. *Roy Taylor*
- No tame clues - they couldn't be wilder - but they do! *Max Roddick*

- I think there should have been a special vote for the favourite clue for Len's "bewildering". I couldn't believe my eyes, but personally liked 10dn. Loved Platinum Blonde, Incense, Spartan and mister, but DIAL got my COTM...so precise! *Dale McManus*
- I am bewildered by the reasoning behind the creation of a crossword which had the same word repeated so many times! *Val James*
- This puzzle would make you act more feral in Gabon! I hope 17dn, 'mister' is correct - I cannot work out what 'vacant manor' refers to. *Peter Dearie*
- Did Crowsman set out to bewilder us or did he just want us to see how many different ways there are to clue it? *Margaret Davis*
- Thank you Crowsman!! Bewildering for a while. *Judith Woodford*
- What a bewildering array of clues from Crowsman. What fun he would have had composing so many cryptic clues for one word. *Maureen Blake*
- Repetitive theme in poor grid made this a disappointing puzzle to solve. However, I did find a couple of gems in DIAL and MISTER. *Carole Noble*
- Almost 35% of this grid contained blackouts. Noel Jessop would not be happy with this! 8 answers contained the word BEWILDER as the base word. This repetition should not be encouraged in any crossword. 3dn being bedridden = LAID. No upward indicator!? *Alan Walter*
- I was mystified, almost speechless and confused at first by the disconcerting and seemingly inexplicable set of clues that produced a bewildering 32% of the answers being surprisingly similar. *Bob Hagan*
- Tell Len Colgan he's not trying hard enough! There were at least 18 clues where the answer wasn't bewildering - though, then again, most of the others actually were. Well done, Len. *Merv Collins*

March 4-2013: AJ by Fortuna 48 (Nea Storey)

- Very enjoyable AJ with good clues. C, I, P and Y were my favourites. *Joan Smith*
- A good mix of clues with nothing too difficult but enough to strain the brain. KICKSHAW is a new word for me. My favourite was the H clue. I don't usually pick anagrams but I liked the surface of this one. *Jenny Wenham*
- A good solid puzzle but not overtaxing. *Jim Fowler*
- A clever clue for 'E' - did my head in for a while just thinking about it! *Lynne Spicer*
- Never get tired of the wonderful AJs our compilers come up with. *Brian Tickle*
- A nice honest AJ. Thank you, Nea. I used to own a GEMINI so that brought back memories! *Bev Cockburn*
- I couldn't find eyeshields and AG-BIKE in Chambers. *Roy Taylor*
- CENSUAL was a newie. Liked EYESHIELDS best. *Max Roddick*
- Usually I have such trouble with the 4 letter words... this time A kept my space blank for ages, and included a 4-letter word, so I was most relieved there is an ag bike outside my Chambers. Determined to make Merlin fit, but finally found MIRAGE! *Dale McManus*
- A nice AJ. I can't find "bush shanty" in any of my references but I like the idea of George W. singing while humping his swag! *Margaret Davis*
- Could not find AG BIKE or EYESHIELDS in our reference dictionaries. Otherwise a good effort. *Carole Noble*
- D+ESSE+R+TWIN+E where double ecstasy = TWIN+E. TEST+UDO = experiment +Aralia. A+GBI+KE= AG BIKE. Found no dictionary reference. *Alan Walter*

March 5-2013: Cryptic by Praxis (Roy Wilson)

- Good to see Praxis back at Slot 5. It's always a highlight. I always wanted to know how to serve a cabbage . . . or dodge one. *Andrew Patterson*
- Always enjoy Roy's puzzles and this was no exception. Pick of the clues were 15, 23, 32 and 34ac 25 and 27dn. *Joan Smith*
- I took a while to get going on this one but eventually got it. It seems to be pre-empting my upcoming holiday, as we'll be passing through Rouen and visiting Robert Burns country, all the while listening to the car radio. We may even visit some isles, though we won't be staying at any Holiday Inns. Thanks. *Jenny Wenham*
- Enjoyable as a puzzle but not hard enough for a #5. And far too many proper nouns in the answers or clues. I found 11. *Jim Fowler*
- Clue of the month 17dn in Slot 5: "to rue bending to coercion" is brilliant. Surprised at Slot 5 being do-able; never yet finished a barred-grid crossword I've attempted. *Rob Moline*
- 28ac [HOLIDAY INNS] had me stumped for ages as I was thinking of words for good Samaritans, then the penny dropped and what a belly laugh I had. Just goes to prove you need to keep an open mind and think outside the square! *Lynne Spicer*
- Another beauty from the master who doesn't need black squares. *Brian Tickle*
- Another gem from Roy! 20dn - SUMMERS is my favourite because I always forget about lintels other meaning! *Bev Cockburn*
- Praxis at his best: very hard to choose which COTM to vote for! Settled for "car radio". *Bill Bennett*
- Nice to meet Praxis again, with a splendid feast of clues. ROUEN took my fancy. *Max Roddick*
- Another smasher with lots of new-to-me words. YELDRINE(?) (not in my references) loved suety and kandyans! *Dale McManus*
- Although "Vidmar" must be the answer to 12ac, I have never heard of him. Liked the "holy Indians" anagram. *Peter Dearie*
- Praxis always gives me a new word. I didn't know "whids" in spite of being a Scot. *Margaret Davis*
- Roy always gives good value. *Carole Noble*
- 5ac: CE+DARED. Chambers gives DARE=defy, so DARED=restricted. 33ac: SEAN'S is taken as SEANS = SEINE = (fishing) NETS, SON = ISSUE, poetry = SON+NETS. Another good Ximenean puzzle. Thanks Roy. *Alan Walter*

|A|P|R|I|L| |2|0|1|3|

|G|O|O|D| |G|R|I|D|S|

Send solution to: Andrew Patterson,

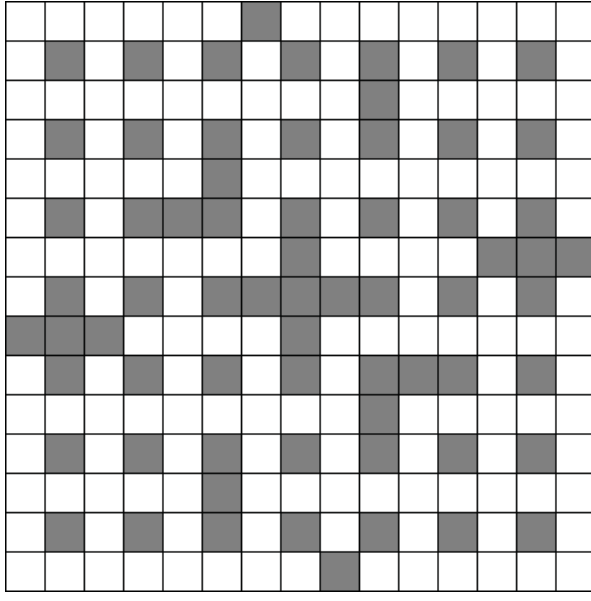
372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.

Closing mail date: Friday 17 May 2013.

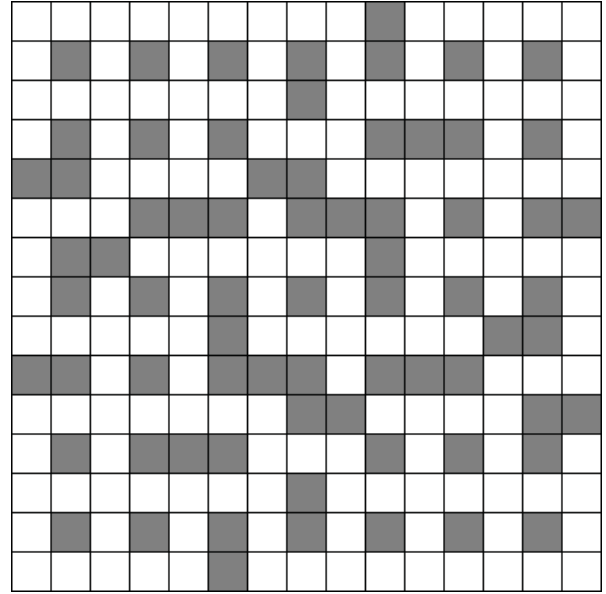
NAME:



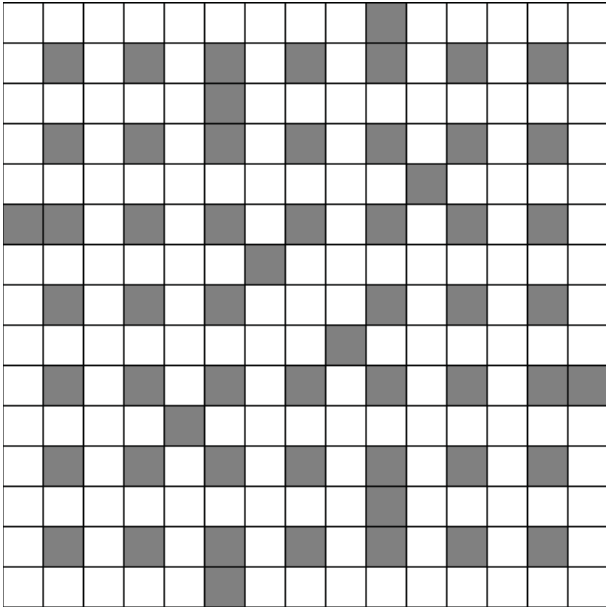
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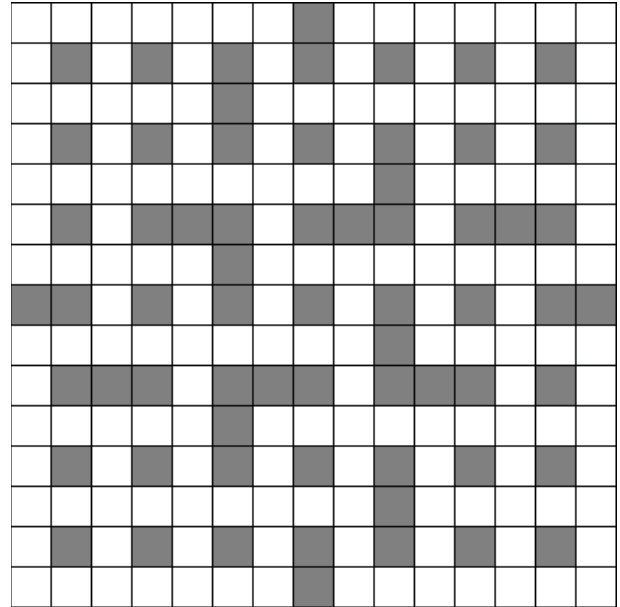
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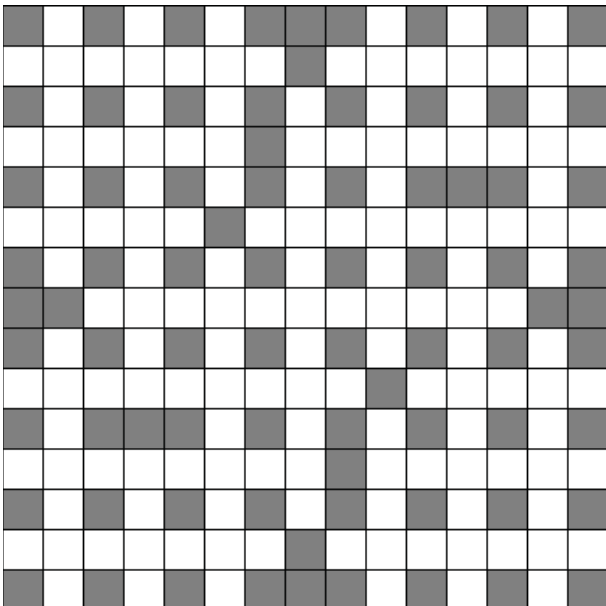
|A|P|R|I|L| |2| |2|0|1|3|



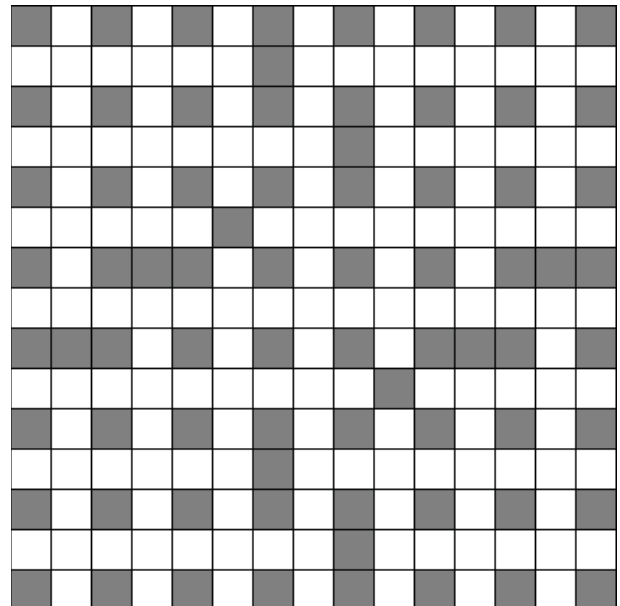
|A|P|R|I|L| |3| |2|0|1|3|



|A|P|R|I|L| |4| |2|0|1|3|



|A|P|R|I|L| |5| |2|0|1|3|



Clue of the Month

February 6-2013: Cryptic by Raoul (William Ryan)

Entries: 78. Correct: 68. Success Rate: 87.2%.

Last Raoul entries: 77. Success Rate: 100%

Lapsed solvers: 26; New solvers: 27.

Prizes: There were 68 correct entries – I listed the correct entries, assigning them a number and waited for the first draw this morning: Out came 27 and 61, corresponding to:

Sandra May wins *The Oxford Thesaurus* 3rd ed. [rrp \$99.99]

Richard Skinner wins the bottle of Chateau Rene Pogel 1962 which will come disguised as a Prince Albert Pinot Noir Geelong 1991 [rrp >\$99.99]

Setter's Comments: Record number of new entries, whilst losing a similar amount – I must try harder. Thank you for the letters wishing me well and/or serious ill-health. The fish arrived safely. The only problem was EARLOBE. My intention was alluding to the parlour game, Charades, where to signal 'sounds like' one pulls ones earlobe. I am always generous with my dodgy clues, but, try as I could, I could not award anything else – earhole, earrope, earsore, enroots, ebriose. Happy to field correspondence. Dice is the plural of one die. Yes, and I did miss the obvious link with Dolly's ASSETS. —*Raoul (William Ryan)*
Director's Cut: Many thanks to Ian Williams for his indefatigable editing of my dogs' breakfasts; he turns them into Eggs Benedict. Anyone wishing to see what ended up on the cutting-room floor – Dolly's implants, some scatology and several references to the male genitalia – please email me.

Explanations: Across: 1 DD (lefts=punches) 8 LA + S("T) WORD, 9 DD 11 e+MISSIONS, 12 CAT-(Scan) = Computerised Axial Tomography, 13 Gag (they=plural=dice) 15 DD 18 Gag "in tents", 20 DD, 23 Homophone 24 S AND F + LIES, 26 Gag 27 Homophone (sort-of!) 28 S (TAR SANDS TRIPE) S **Down:** 1 DD 2 Rev hidden, 3 KI+Women's Institute+Ss, 4 'Sounds like' signal in the game of Charades 5 DD 6 IMP+AIRE 7 DD with a touch of rhyming slang 10 Hidden 14 IG (NOR+A SUM> 16 DD 17 Anagram 19 Hidden 20 DD 21 Gag 22 DD 25 Gag.

Members' Comments (expurgated due to space, profanity and libel laws):

- Give me a dot, please! Best clues – RIP TIDES, ABSINTHE, EARLOBE. One of your best actually – I'm suspecting performance enhancing substances. *Manveru*
- There are so many clues in your puzzle that I enjoyed – KNUCKLE SANDWICH made me smile. *Joan McGrath*
- Loved this puzzle and especially love the W.I. reference. Things you learn from crosswords! *Eileen O'Brien*
- A good crossword, although KNUCKLE SANDWICH eluded me for some time. *Jill Freeland*
- Lots of fun. Loved ABSINTHE and BIG TOP. Took a lot of diagonal thinking. *Roy Taylor*
- Thanks, *Raoul*, for a tough puzzle. Took a long time to confirm EARLOBE and AXIAL. *David Procter*
- Thanks for an enjoyable puzzle. Loved SANDFLIES. *Brian Symons*
- I had a lot of fun solving this puzzle. I hope you do more like this. *Sandra May*
- A wonderfully entertaining Slot 6 puzzle. Dolly Parton's circus venue was very humorous and TAR, SANDS, TRIPE on board (SS) – very clever! *Alan Walter*
- Loved your cryptic crossword. The clue that caused the most trouble was DICE. Not sure about KIWIS [Jam and Jerusalem refers to the Women's Institute]. *Marian Procter*
- Would Rene Pogel be gin? Just wondering? *Robyn Caine*
- Thank you, William, for a puzzle I found to be very challenging. *Maureen Blake*
- Definitely your best crossword ever. Loved the humour, especially Dolly Parton's BIG TOP. Funny that ASSETS was the solution to your next down clue. *Carole Noble*
- Ahh, this was a lot of fun but, having said that, I'm not sure I have it 100% right. Very enjoyable just the same. *Praxis*
- William, I spent weeks on 4dn – I hope it's correct. *Warren Allen*
- Thanks very much – liked 11ac. Always enjoy your puzzles; you tackle everything from left field. *Trish McPherson*
- My solution attached. Thanks for an interesting and enjoyable puzzle. *Roger Douglas*
- Had to look up AXIAL, a bit unsure about DICE, OATH, DRAMATIST, EARLOBE. Loved OMNIBUS, ABSINTHE caused a groan;-) Technically I reckon you should have had a capital H in hood in 25dn? Allowed to capitalise random letters in clues, but not allowed to decapitalise proper nouns? *Rob Moline*
- Many thanks for this puzzle – it really put the brain cells to work. *Pat Garner*

• I was unaware that "Jam and Jerusalem" gives "Women's Institute", but 4dn was the real problem. Assuming that the question mark is meant to represent the ear, I inserted EARLOBE, neglecting the temptation to use EBRIOSE for the benefit of the compiler.

Len Colgan

• Herewith your interesting Slot 6. As always, a challenge for us lesser mortals. I thought ABSINTHE 'made the fart go Honda'. *Bob Hagan*
 • Great puzzle – Loved KNUCKLE SANDWICH, BIG TOP and INTENSE. ABSINTHE makes the heart grow fonder! DICE and EARLOBE were somewhat obscure. *Bev Cockburn*

Dr Bob

• Thanks for another entertaining puzzle – I particularly liked ABSINTHE. *Jeremy Barnes*

• What a hoot of a puzzle, with a couple of LOL moments. Your puzzles are always tricky but very enjoyable. Not sure about the PC of BIG TOP but I did laugh! Don't know if it's all okay – had to guess a couple of answers but here you are. *Jean Barbour*

• Whilst I was perhaps a little more motivated by the prize than my wife, we none the less both enjoyed the puzzle. Dolly Parton's Circus Venue! Good one. Thanks for all the time you and your fellow setters put in. It's appreciated. *Richard Skinner*

Richard Skinner

• BIG TOP is probably Politically Incorrect, but it certainly made me chortle! *Nea Storey*

• Quite a few guesses – EARLOBE, HOTELIER, AXIAL: look forward to explanations. Favourite clues were BIG TOP & ABSINTHE.

Jan Wood

• Thanks for your contribution to my entertainment activities. Good fun this one. I think one should 'abstain' if it results in awful puns. Oh, how I laughed. Poor ol' Dolly – she really cops a lot of flak one way or another. Cops a few bob as well so the laws of compensation are upheld. I trust that KNUCKLE SANDWICHES aren't on your a la carte menu but have to be specifically ordered. My only doubt (dangerous statement) is 4dn. Got to be Earhole or EARLOBE but I think the lobe gets it as a pulled upon object. And that's what I wrote. *Jim Fowler*

• I was wondering how HOTELIER works and it only appeared after many viewings. Very *Raoul*. Very entertaining. *zinzan*

• I particularly enjoyed KIWIS (WI = Jam and Jerusalem took a bit of figuring!), AXIAL and EVIL EYE (Julie Bishop?). I still can't quite see 4dn, but this is my best guess. I always enjoy your puzzles – often a bit outside the regular rectangle. *Mike Potts*

• Enjoyed the puzzle, mate. Glad I didn't have to choose a COTM – I would have picked INTENSE. *Bill Bennett*

• Did enjoy your puzzle! It almost defeated me so I was delighted to be able to send you a completed slot!! Am going to make the End of Year Get-Together! *Cheryl Wilcox*

• Thanks, William. Love KNUCKLE SANDWICH, so evocative – as long you're not on the receiving end! *Robyn Wimbush*

• Thank you for your puzzle. I must say your contributions are always entertaining and sometimes cheeky, as for instance, BIG TOP. Not sure about EARLOBE, but put it in preference to earhole, as it can be tugged, i.e pulled. *Margaret Davis*

• Thank you, *Raoul*! I always enjoy your puzzles – they are a lot of fun! This one was no exception. *Sonia Roulston*

• Thanks, *Raoul*. Now that I have a little time on my hands, I look forward to knocking these over from the beach at Amalfi. *Pope Emeritus BXVI*

• Thanks for another entertaining puzzle. I'm surprised you still have bottles of Rene Pogel '62 left. Does that mean it doesn't work or maybe it works so well only a little is needed?;) 4dn has me totally stumped – I have EARLOBE but it doesn't seem to fit the clue. It could be EBRIOSE (drunk) although you don't allow them in pubs anymore... *Tony Dobebe*

• An enjoyable quirky puzzle. My favourite clue was STARS AND STRIPES, very nicely done. ABSINTHE was also interesting. EARLOBE was also a good one, except I wonder if that should be 'pullee'? *Ian Thompson*

• I am reminded of the NQR Shop when I do your crosswords – they are eccentric and amusing but somehow Not Quite Right! *Merv Collins* p.s. Just thought of the word for your crosswords – Anarchic, I think.

• This was a tough one! DICE is dicey, and I took a wild guess at EARLOBE. Stumbled into KNUCKLE SANDWICH and STARS AND STRIPES which helped get me started. *Anne Simons*

• Thanks for setting a very challenging puzzle. I've agonised over some of my answers and hope for the best! *Ron Carpenter*

• Thanks for your enjoyable puzzle. *St. Jude*

• Some very clever clues but also some difficult, particularly 4dn. Had to keep leaving the puzzle and coming back with fresh eyes to finally finish! *Hilary Cromer*

• Another of your goodies! *Betty Siegman*