



|N|o.|2|3|6| |D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |2|0|0|9



www.crosswordclub.org



I like to collect little curiosities for the language chaps.
It's like handing round a bag of liquorice allsorts. They're terribly grateful.
Tom Stoppard, 1977, *Professional Foul*

|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|

We have been delighted with the excellent response to the renewal of subscriptions and the generous donations to the ACC prize fund 2010. It looks like the New Year will be richly rewarding for all solvers! Details of renewals and the names of those who have kindly donated to the 2010 Prize Fund can be found on p9. Further renewals and donations will be acknowledged in the next *CroZworld*. Many thanks for your generous sponsorship of the ACC in 2010.

Don't forget about the special offer where you can sign up a new member for 2010 for only \$30. Some of the members have already taken up this great offer. It will make a wonderful gift to your friends and a great Christmas present!

Puzzleman Ian Williams has selected another excellent range of puzzles for you this month. Many of your favourites are featured: *Virgo* and *midships* with excellent cryptics, *The Eager Beaver* compiles another enjoyable *Half 'n Half*, and *Betelgeuse* with the popular AJ. Perennial favourite *Brother Naga* occupies the Slot 5 spot with a challenging puzzle titled *On the Grasshopper & the Cricket* and William Ryan, our amiable Mine Host shows off his 'unquenchable knowledge for thirst' with a Slot 6 puzzle he has named *On the Turps*. This puzzle should give all solvers something to drink about... And our Quizmeister *Fortuna 48* has challenged us with another one of her fascinating and interesting quizzes titled *Familiar Aussies* (see p9).

Kindly note that we have an early closing date with this issue – **Friday 18 December**. This will enable us to get the January *CroZworld* out in time for Christmas. Finally, a special note of thanks to the Williams team – Kay and Ian – for adjudicating the Slots 1-5 puzzles plus the e-lodgment ones too! And thank you sincerely for your Best Wishes for my upcoming surgery.
—Patrick

Many thanks for all the greetings and thanks from many members. It turns adjudicating from work into a pleasure. As usual, a great pity that so much effort is lost because of sloppy proof-reading of entries. One common fault is to repeat the last letter written while the hand catches up with the brain or vice-versa. There doesn't seem to be much excuse for blank squares, which a cursory second glance should identify before the entry is put into the envelope. E-lodgers have the advantage that AxWord indicates where a square is left blank – it doesn't stop typos though, if members don't use the proof-reading facility.

Slot 1: Members either loved it or hated it. It was the only Cup puzzle submitted and for that reason deserved a guernsey – and it provided a somewhat different romp up hill and down dale via the Ns, Zs and Os. All dots were lost because of misspelling, even where members submitted typed entries. My favourite was Rogan Gosh.

Slot 2: A variety of reasons for missed dots, an unusual number for one of Noel's puzzles, but there were a few quite abstruse words to confuse the unwary and those who did not check their entry in any dictionary. EVENTING made an appearance for EVERTING.

Slot 3: Not many problems with Shirl's puzzle – typos excepted. The only non-typo was DEFRAG for DEFRAY in 4dn.

Slot 4: Sadly, no member commented on the neat way in which Doug had woven the ANCIENT MARINER and concepts therefrom through his puzzle, despite the S T COLERIDGE solution. Some members entered St Cole Dingo, one of the less common holy men? The most common error, which caught some surprising personalities, was XEROXED for XEROXES, which neither fits the definition nor the implied sex in the secondary indication. VAPORSITY was another problem – certainly "varicosity" is concerned with fluids but doesn't meet the gaseous quality requirement or the VA + POROSITY construction.

Slot 5: Very few non-typo problems with Roy's typically expert Ximenean. COTYLAS was accepted in 9dn as a valid anglicised version of the intended COTYLAE from *Chambers*, as it fitted the definition (from some sources) and construction.

COTM: Insufficient agreement to anoint any compiler this month. 20 nominations were spread fairly evenly over all four conventional puzzles, only two clues, Slot 3 14ac TIDE OVER and XEROXED in slot 4 gained two votes. Many members wished Patrick well for his forthcoming surgery and expressed appreciation for his devotion to the Club in continuing and intending to publish the magazine throughout this difficult time for Sandra and him. On a more cheerful note, we look forward to seeing as many as possible at the Cauli.
—Kay Williams

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	75	82	82	59	79	475
Correct entries	71	68	76	75	76	438
Success rate (%)	95	83	93	79	96	92
Prizewinners	J Balnaves S Trollope	L Howard B Morris	A Martin G Lloyd	C Noble	J Randall A Jermy	from 88 members

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

	page
Half 'n Half	
by <i>The Eager Beaver</i>	3
Thematic by <i>Virgo</i>	4
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AJ by <i>Betelgeuse</i>	6
On the Grasshopper & Cricket	
by <i>Brother Naga</i>	7
On the Turps by <i>Raoul</i>	8
Quiz No 12/2009	9
Subscription renewals	9
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Members' Comments	10

Prizewinner: November 2009 Slots 1-5: Jean Barbour

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

President	Patrick Street	395 Canning St, North Carlton Vic 3054	Ph (03) 9347 1216	pstreet@bigpond.net.au
Secretary	Bev Cockburn	12 Norman St, Merrylands West NSW 2160	Ph (02) 9635 7802	bevco4@bigpond.com
Puzzle/Quiz submission	Ian Williams	12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615	Ph (02) 6254 6860	ianw@webone.com.au

Nov 1-2009

- 1 JEZABEEL 1998
- 2 COMIC COURT 1950
- 3 ZULU 1881
- 4 ROGAN JOSH 1999
- 5 POSEIDON 1906
- 6 FOXZAMI 1949
- 7 COLONUS 1942
- 8 WOTAN 1936
- 9 SUBZERO 1992
- 10 LORD NOLAN 1908

Nov 2-2009

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

Nov 3-2009

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

Nov 4-2009

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

Nov 5-2009

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

Oct 6-2009

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

STAINER; BEETHOVEN

MEMBERS RESULTS FOR OCT Slot 6 & NOV 2009 Slots 1-5

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
ALLEN W
ALSTON B
AUSTIN A
BALNAVES J
BARBOUR J
BARNES J
BARRETT A
BENNETT B
BROTHERTON J
BUTLER D
CAINE R
CALLAN A & D
CAMPBELL G
CHAMPION G
COATES D
COCKBURN B
COLE G
COLLINS M
COOKE L
COPLAND F
CROMER H
DAVIS M
DEARIE P
DE GRYS A
DINHAM V
FOWLER J
FREELAND J
GALBREATH M
GARNER P

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
GILLIS J
GRAINGER D
HAGAN R
HAMBLING C
HANNOUSH J
HARPER K
HOCKING A
HOWARD L
HOWARD V
HOWELLS S
HULL B
IBBOTT B
JERMY A
JESSOP N
LEEDS G
LEEDS G
LLOYD G
LORD P
McADOO G
McCLELLAND C
McKENZIE I
McPHERSON T
MARTIN A
MARTIN F
MEEK D
MILES A
MORRIS B
NOBLE C
O'BRIEN S

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
O'ROURKE R
PARSONS D
PATTERSON A
PROCTER D
PROCTER M
PYC M
RANDALL J
RODDICK M
RYAN A
RYAN W
SHIELD A
SIEGMAN B
SIMONS A
SMITH J
SOLOMON B
STEINBERGER M
STOCKS J
STOREY N
SYMONS B
TAYLOR R
TAYLOR S
TICKLE B
TROLLOPE S
WAITES L
WALTER A
WENHAM J
WILCOX C
WILLIAMS K&I
WILSON N
WILSON R
WINDOW D
WOOD J

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
2	0	0	9				
S	L	O	T		1		

Half 'n Half
by
The Eager
Beaver

Prizes: \$50



Win!

[2007 edn]

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			
38						39					40		
		41							42				
43											45		

Across

- 1 Void (dialect) (4)
- 4 Knot (4)
- 7 Wading bird (4)
- 10 Hoar-frost (4)
- 11 Expression (6)
- 12 Lengthened (4)
- 13 Reflect (4)
- 14 Sluggish (4)
- 15 Plate of a blast-furnace opening (4)
- 17 Village (6)
- 19 Conclude (9)
- 22 Grind (5)
- 24 Flavouring essence (7)
- 26 An ester (7)
- 29 A large southern constellation (5)
- 31 Active (9)
- 33 Sudorous (6)
- 36 Tiny particle (4)
- 38 A great potentate (4)
- 39 Wail (4)
- 40 NE wind (4)
- 41 Rich cake (6)
- 42 Stupid person (4)
- 43 Low in pitch (4)
- 44 Drink container (4)
- 45 Musical instrument (4)

Down

- 1 Lift was annoyingly over-late (8)
- 2 Past tense of revised prettier characters (8)
- 3 ...and thirdly, oddly neat (4)
- 4 This course strand of wool is found in an unkempt state (4)
- 5 A horrible tophus was the outcome (6)
- 6 Echoes of a drowned valley reach a satellite of Saturn (4)
- 7 Small island lies incongruously (4)
- 8 Hammered pulse interrupted by the Maori (6)
- 9 Garden implement that can initially safely cut your tall hedges effectively (6)
- 16 Powerful computer is an important structure (9)
- 18 Chaplin's creation led to glare of publicity (9)
- 20 Aroused for a vigil (5)
- 21 Common weed loses nitrogen on purpose (5)
- 23 If a golfer misses this, he's out of the game (3)
- 25 Whichever meany gives me the boot will get it! (3)
- 27 Metallic element looks like it's against currency (8)
- 28 Secures cap adequately being concealed for the adventure (8)
- 29 The two guys came to a standstill (6)
- 30 Excessive fondness loses time and needs direction for the correct portion (6)
- 32 Vexatious Spenser put you between the denials (6)
- 34 'Stole' sounds like a criminal charge (4)
- 35 Those Scots cultivated hate (4)
- 36 Kinsman Wally lost direction (4)
- 37 Timber wolf turned up ancient foreign coin (4)

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


Slots 1-5: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.
e-mail: apatterson@hp.com
Closing mail date: Friday 18 December 2009.
e-lodgment: ianw@webone.com.au
Slot 6: William Ryan, Cauliflower Hotel, 123 Botany Rd, Waterloo NSW 2008. email: raoul@cauliflower.com.au/ Fax: 02 9698 7073
Closing mail date: Friday 8 January 2010.

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

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
2	0	0	9				
S	L	O	T		2		

Thematic

by
Virgo



Across clues are indicated by associations

1		2		3		4	5		6		7		8
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	12					13		14					
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19		20				21					22		
				23									
	24						25	26					
27						28							29
30								31					
32									33				

Across

- 1 Kiss (6)
- 4 Graffiti (8)
- 10 Massage (7)
- 11 Monk (7)
- 12 Bean (7)
- 14 Heel (5)
- 16 Snow (9)
- 17 Cat (4)
- 19 Silk (4)
- 21 Horsemen (9)
- 24 Salad (5)
- 25 Mustard (7)
- 30 Falcon (7)
- 31 Doll (7)
- 32 Tomb (8)
- 33 Tiger (6)

Down

- 1 Sole snapper or angle (4)
- 2 Tee off after former – for example, Biblical scholar (7)
- 3 Rhode Island initially calm in suspect case before a Grand Jury (8)
- 5 Proper to encounter in accounts? (4)
- 6 Remove impediment abroad (3,3)
- 7 Greek instrument made from Thai car components (7)
- 8 A fool seen in – in Ongar! (4)
- 9 Hare disturbed bird (4)
- 13 Disgusting – coming from number one and a few others! (7)
- 15 Steers one – ten at sixes and sevens! (4)
- 16 A small thing Cypriot artist framed (4)
- 18 To mix colac see recipe (8)
- 20 Broadcasting song (quiet song) (3-4)
- 22 Is going out and is also taking to court (7)
- 23 A fault to change sides (6)
- 26 Never a denial involving Romeo? (4)
- 27 Sergeant Major ends the lecture for a bird (4)
- 28 Said to be supreme in the letter (4)
- 29 Colour when sick in mid-morning (4)

Get-Together 2009

It's not too late to 'sign up' for the ACC's Annual Get-Together to be held at William 'Raoul' Ryan's charming Cauliflower Hotel, Waterloo, Central Sydney on Sunday 29 November 2009 commencing at 11:30am. Raoul's Hotel has a wonderful bistro with delicious meals at bargain rates and drinks at pub prices. It will be a lot of fun and we can discuss all manner of things cruciverbal! There will be plenty of the Club's best known personalities in attendance. Why not come along and say 'hello'? Pay on the day. We will have some prizes to give away and there will be a fascinating Quiz. For those who would like to gain the advantage of e-lodgement but may be daunted by the intricacies, Ian Williams will demonstrate the use of AxWord to complete grids and lodge by e-mail. Do bring your problems and questions. Kindly let Bev Cockburn know if you will be attending. Looking forward to meeting up again.

Explanations to November Slot 5 by Praxis (Thanks, Roy)

Across: 1 COUNTRY – UN follows Co./try; 6 BASIC – BA/sic (so Latin); 10 ASPEN – as/pen; 11 MEXICO – XI in anag; 12 AGE LIMIT – anag/it; 13 PEWTER – (Saint) Pe(w)ter (Matt 16:18); 15 GLUEY – g/anag; 16 ONE-STEP – one (a)/step (stair); 19 LITHUANIA – Lit/Hu(A) n/AI (rev); 21 ASPARTAME – a/s(part)ame; 25 ECUADOR – anag/ad/or; 28 BANAL – ana in BL (Batchelor of Law); 29 EUNICE – EU/Nice; 30 AMENABLE – A/men/able; 31 RIBAND – R(hode) I(sland) /band; 32 TEE UP – double definition; 33 ACTED – ACT/E/d(istrict); 34 CSARDAS – C/sad ras (rev). **Down:** 1 CAMPO – Cam/Po; 2 OSTEND – OS/tend; 3 UPSWEEPS – up/sweeps; 4 NESTS – N(Est) S; 5 REGRETTED – e/egret Ted; 6 BELGIUM – b(el)GIUm; 7 AXILLA – ill after ax/a; 8 ICIER – ici/ER; 9 COTYLAE – cot/anag/E; 14 SPHACELUS H in anag; 17 ANODISED – a/don/anag; 18 BARBARA – bar/Arab (rev); 20 IRELAND – ire/land; 22 ARANAE – anag around a; 23 NOCTUA – anag; 24 GAMIC – anag; 26 ANGER – (b)anger; 27 REAPS – anag & Lit.

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
2	0	0	9				
S	L	O	T		3		

Thematic
by
midships



A number of clues broadly follow a theme and are not otherwise defined.

	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 Pants off! See the wild celebration! (5,2,7)
- 10 God accepting East German mark (7)
- 11 Harass 14's French cop within boundaries of Agincourt (7)
- 12 Follower of Barbara Cruz ana (5)
- 13 Restrain animals (8)
- 15 Steal interrupted short vacation in South Australia, in Tasmania? (5,8)
- 18 Rum folderols I brewed (4,2,7)
- 22 Large Space-man at topical feast, say (8)
- 24 The pure in heart have Labor leader (5)
- 26 Cup or tea plate for frozen treat? (7)
- 27 When in Greek character, actor's initial ability to express thought (7)
- 28 7, perhaps, faint on board when females heard on head of gangway (5,9)

- 3 Fuzzy Maoist pic gives warm hearted feeling (9)
- 4 "All right" admitted in grunting voice (4)
- 5 Best figure when, most cunning, drug fortune first invested (10)
- 6 Small and charming in travel finery (5)
- 7 Exclamation of rage on railway, finding worm in water (4-3)
- 8 Does he barely enjoy a holiday? (8)
- 9 Father's into sadomaschism – gets convulsion (5)
- 14 Those who repeat part of their speech confuse Mrs Steamer (10)
- 16 In literary horse race – members may shout "Win 'im!" (9)
- 17 Milton's language abilities directed to complaint on scene shifting (8)
- 19 Fancy cake for unusual cartoon elephant? Not right! (3,4)
- 20 Science fiction writer goes the distance with single offspring (7)
- 21 Evergreen young Conservative, taken in by dishonourable person (5)
- 23 Fixes decapitated gastropods (5)
- 25 Note with silver content (4)

Down

- 2 Concentrated extracts not caught by original kibbutzniks (7)

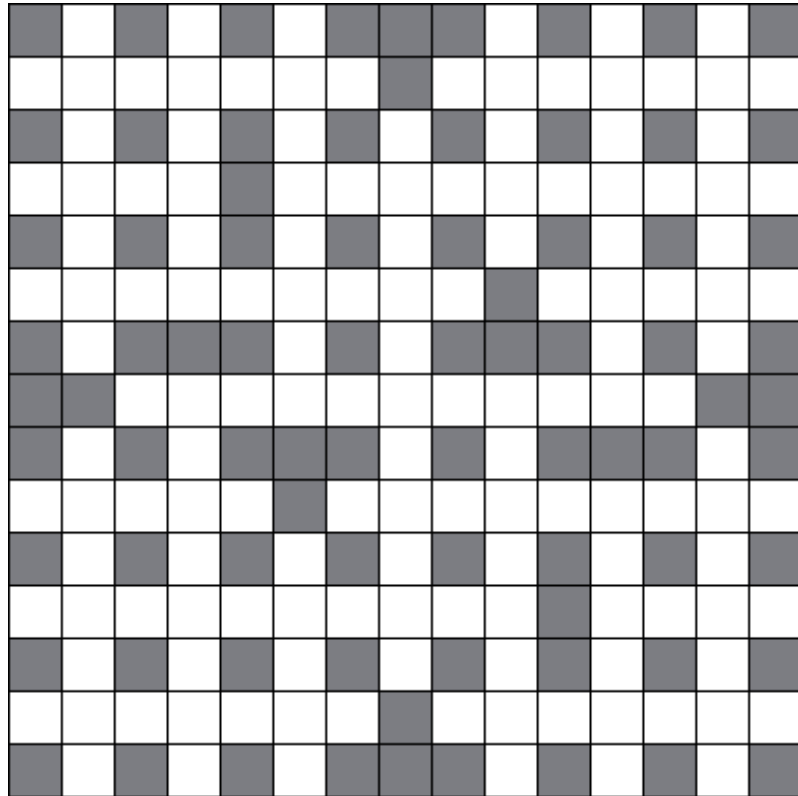
GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Many thanks for my prize for Slot 2 October puzzle. It really made my day! *Brenda Webber*
- Many thanks for the great book prize for the September Bonus Quiz – a dictionary of Australian Colloquialisms – I'm enjoying it already. *Bev Cockburn*
- Am currently @ Mallacoota which is as far as you can get from Melbourne without going Interstate. My CrOZworld arrived only today so there isn't a hope in Hades that I'll be entering this month's competitions, but I did want to let you know how surprised and thrilled I was when a cheque fell from the envelope and I discovered I was a winner. Thank you very much. *Margaret Raw*
- Many thanks for the slot 6 September prize. *Roy Taylor*
- A few years ago I cut out of a newspaper a list of Cup winners and pencilled in the margin the length of each name. How useful was that? *Margaret Davis*
- Thanks for my book prize for Doug's "The Greats" quiz – *Stone the Crows* Oxford Dictionary of Modern Slang. Lots of knowns and unknowns in it. *Jenny Wenham*
- I just wanted to write and thank you for my lovely book prize. It is most appreciated. I was disappointed that we aren't getting a Christmas *Compendium* this year, but can appreciate all the hours of work needed to put into this and all the rest of the puzzles etc. *Claire McClelland*

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
2	0	0	9				
S	L	O	T		4		

AJ
by
Betelgeuse

**Book
Prize**



Solve the clues and place the solutions, jigsaw-wise, where they fit

- A** Musical instrument loses one working harmony (6)
- B** Kind of utterly bemuses? (6)
- C** Is cautious at first, bound into whirlpool (9)
- D** Germany and Spain to receive protection (7)
- E** Used to smooth nail mark in weird table (5,5)
- F** Pays the French in trifles. (7)
- G** French Republican informally acceptable in riding school (8)
- H** Old belief in magic first met in nonconformist (8)
- I** One finds nothing in obscure language (5)
- J** Hip name traded for sun-beam (5)
- K** Mix long drinky to remove moisture? (4-3)
- L** Laid low, even in the van (8)
- M** Real name of slippery river monkey, very shy (7)
- N** Goose quarters (4)
- O** Bergamot to yield fragrant oil (4)
- P** Growth floppy without fine tuning (5)
- Q** Close or return counterfeit sound system (11)
- R** Shower around dry lake line (7)
- S** Work hard in pickle place to produce US spirit (10)
- T** Frequently foggy (5)
- U** Nude wraps around sailor – how tasteless! (8)
- V** Dishes for Avon idols' production (9)
- W** Blue admonition to the listener (7)
- X** Nothing to do with central heating in present guesthouse (11)
- Y** Hunger for woman not new since time began (4,3)
- Z** US punchlines hum and bend around the vacant

Lose your marbles — Meaning: Lose your wits.

Origin: To 'lose one's marbles' is to lose one's mind. In the 1954 film *The Caine Mutiny* Humphrey Bogart linked insanity with marbles when he showed his character, the demented Lt. Cmdr. Queeg, restlessly jiggling a set of metal balls when under stress in court. Bogart's performance was so affecting that many have supposed the film to be the source of the phrase. It is American, but originated in the late 19C, not the 1950s. The expression has now been shortened to simply 'losing it'. The point is that the person in question has, as in another earlier variant, 'a bit missing'. Perhaps 'marbles' meant 'mind' or 'wits' before 'lose one's marbles' was coined. That's worth investigation at least, so let's have a go.

Marbles are the little glass or metal balls that children use to play the eponymous game. From the mid 19C 'marbles' was also used to mean 'personal effects', 'goods', or more generally 'stuff'. This latter meaning derives from the French word 'meubles', which means 'furniture'. From the 1920s onward two US expressions became established – 'to pick up the marbles' and 'to pick up one's marbles'. These mean 'to carry off the honours or prizes' and 'to withdraw from activity or game and cause it to cease' (like the UK variant 'take one's ball home'). 'Marbles' also meant testicles and has been used that way since at least the mid 19C. It has been suggested that the 'losing one's mind' meaning derives from the *Elgin Marbles*. These are the collection of sculptures, some from the Parthenon Frieze, which were taken from Athens by Lord Elgin in 1806. The supposition is that the expression derives from the loss of the artworks by the Greeks, or their subsequent loss at sea when the ship that was transporting them sank. An interesting theory, but no more than that; there's no evidence to support the idea.

It's more likely that 'marbles' was coined as a slang term meaning 'wits/common sense', as a reference to the marbles that youngsters play with. The notion of 'losing something that is important to you' appears to have migrated from the image of a forlorn child having lost his prized playthings.

[continued next page]

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
2	0	0	9				
S	L	O	T		6		

On the Turps by Raoul



Whilst not condoning the irresponsible service of alcohol, tackling the following with a glass of your favourite poison in hand may make it easier.

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						

Additional prize: A Methuselah of Rene Pogel 1962 from Raoul's cellar.

Across

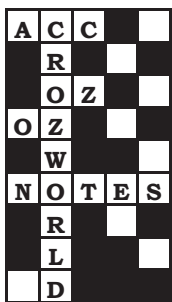
- Hovelfish on the menu (9)
- A good dog does this for bad eggs (5)
- I can hear my father's bull-market advice – or was it another animal? (5)
- BA is big smoke for this fellow (9)
- 007's is a Martini (3,5)
- Tie down a few schooners here (6)
- Water is this fellow's ale (4)
- Bullied by thug lying in fermented dread (9)
- Personified in Aston-Martin car? Na! Testarossa! (9)
- Gin sting (4)
- Home French cheese without French reverence (6)
- Greek dish – Not Nana, but pretty close! (8)
- Colourful tough fight (5,4)
- Ask for P25 ingredient (5)
- Skins these with, er, Internal Police (5)
- Drank too much re O'Teddy's Ruin? (9)

Down

- The Dr of Accounting is outgoing (6)
- You'll need glasses to avoid this (7)
- A good eight does this with his ear (5)
- Cockney place to enjoy 11 everywhere! (4,3,3)
- Shaggy dog's tale about a gas (4)
- Wait – but if you swap over for part two you'll be sorry (4,5)
- Volume, but not the liquid sort (7)
- Good ones know your "11"! (8)
- These not allowed in theatre after 17 part one go down down? (4-5)
- Rough moral digs encountered in the bed (9)
- Quick drink, then has a smoke (6,2)
- Host McDonald's without the duck? (7)
- Copper refinery is one, especially for 26 (7)
- Open the tinny? Done. (6)
- This is not Low-Alcohol beer! (5)
- Labour bill (4)

**Post
Solution
to:**

**William Ryan,
123 Botany Road, Waterloo NSW 2008.
email: raoul@cauliflower.com.au/
Fax: 02 9698 7073
Closing mail date: Friday 8 January 2010.**



Results of Quiz No 10/2009:

Que Sera Sera by Brian Symons

Entries 59. Winner: Nancy Hazell. Congratulations!

RESULTS: 24: Y Ainsworth, W Allen, H Annand, S Atkinson, A Austin, R Caine, B Cockburn, G Cole, P Dearie, V Dinham, B Foott, J Fowler, M Galbreath, R Gardiner, B Glissan, K Harper, N Hazell, P Heath, V Howard, S Howells, B Hull, B Ibbott, D Jones, G Leeds, G Lloyd, P Lord, J Martin, J McGrath, C McClelland, T McPherson, D Meek, A Miles, C Noble, T O'Brien, S Pinder, A Simons, M Steinberger, J Stocks, N Storey, R Taylor, B Tofoni, M Veress, W Villiers, L Waites, A Walter, K Watt, J Wenham, N Wilson and H Zucal.
23: M Collins, I McKenzie, J Pearce, D Procter, B Siegman, J Smith, C Wilcox and R Wimbush. **22:** P Mercer **21:** J Randall.

Answers: 1 BARQUE 2 BASQUE 3 BISQUE 4 CLIQUE 5 MOSQUE 6 OPAQUE 7 PLAQUE 8 RISQUÉ 9 TORQUE 10 UNIQUE 11 ANTIQUE 12 BAROQUE 13 BEZIQUE 14 OBLIQUE 15 BOUTIQUE 16 CRITIQUE 17 MYSTIQUE 18 ARABESQUE 19 BURLESQUE 20 GROTESQUE 21 MARTINIQUE or MARINDUQUE 22 MOZAMBIQUE 23 ALBUQUERQUE 24 DISCOTHEQUE.

Adjudicator's Comments:

Members seemed to enjoy a relatively easy quiz. There were few mistakes and most of these were spelling mistakes. With so many completely correct entries only the five who put an acute on the e in risqué were considered for the prize. Thanks for the many pleasant comments — just a few follow:

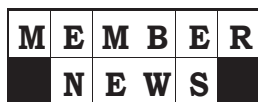
- Magnifique! *Margaret Steinberger*
- You have no idea how long it took me to solve 'oral film'. I thought it must be some obscure type of movie! *Gabrielle Leeds*
- My favourite quiz this year. It's so good to have most of the answers in one's head for a change. *Carole Noble*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2010:

Anderson C, Archibald C, Barnes J, Boyall R, Brotherton J, Coates D, Cooke L, Davis M, Fowler J, Hazell N, Horan P, Howells S, Hull B, Jermy A, Kennedy M, King J, McKindlay Y, Mercer P, Miles A, O'Brien S, O'Rourke R, Procter D, Procter M, Shipway S, Steinberger M, Veress M, Waites L and Williams I & K.

DONATIONS TO THE 2010 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM:

Corryn Anderson, Jeremy Barnes, John Brotherton, Denis Coates, Margaret Davis, Nancy Hazell, Jim Fowler, Pat Horan, Susan Howells, Bronwyn Hull, Ann Jermy, Michael Kennedy, Yvonne McKindlay, Shirl O'Brien, Ron O'Rourke, David Procter, Marian Procter, Sally Shipway, Margaret Steinberger, Lorna Waites and Robyn Whitehead. Many thanks for your kindness and generosity.



New Members: Nan & Ian Greig from Kiama Downs, NSW (a Membership Gift from Jeremy Barnes). Welcome to the wonderful world of *Crozworlding!*

Thank you: Many thanks to **Maurice Cowan** for his generous donation to the ACC Prize Fund 2010.

Puzzle Adjustment: Dallas Window was awarded a dot for Slot 1 October 2009.

**The Australian Oxford Dictionary
WORD OF THE MONTH**

thaumatrope *n. hist.* 1. a disc or card with two different pictures on its two sides, which combine into one by the persistence of visual impressions when the disc is rapidly rotated. 2. a zoetrope. [ORIGIN: formed irregularly from Greek *thauma* 'marvel' + *tropos* 'turning'.]

The Australian Oxford Dictionary, Second Edition, 2004. Edited by Dr Bruce Moore. \$115. ISBN 9780195517965

The **OUP Australian National Dictionary** is now available free online. In honour of OUP's 100th anniversary of publishing in Australia, OUP have launched this wonderful national language resource readily available to all Australians – 10,000 words and idioms that make up the Australian contribution to the English language. Visit: <http://www.oup.com.au/> and click on Our Gift to the Nation.

From **Mrs Byrne's Dictionary of Unusual Obscure & Preposterous Words**, Granada Publishing, 1979.

- chaetiferous: having bristles.
- diaskeuasis: editorial revision.
- entwicklungsroman: a novel dealing with the protagonist's character development from childhood to maturity.
- insusurratation: whispering in the ear; insinuation.
- lelotrichous: smooth-haired.
- nosocomephrenia: depression from prolonged hospital stay.
- philonoist: a searcher for knowledge.

Quiz No 12/2009

Familiar Aussies by Fortuna 48

These well known Australian (sadly, sometimes former Australian!) companies, products and names appear in alphabetical order. Length indicators do not specify if the answer is an acronym: eg *Radio almost away* (3) = AWA. Send your entry to Nea Storey, 10 Whiteman Street, Wanniasa, ACT 2903. Fax: 02 6231 0820. Email: neachy2@netspeed.com.au Closing mail date: Friday 8 January 2010. Book prize.

- 1 Jelly craft (9)
- 2 Ruffled auk with undergarment worn on head (6)
- 3 Tots ran around for Aussie cookies (6'1)
- 4 Nanny's partner may be required on bush picnic (5)
- 5 Bad smell, rotten gas – it's beer! (5)
- 6 The ties that bind your undies. (5)
- 7 Alcoholic waterfall (7)
- 8 Scientific group Sirocco in trouble without commander (5)
- 9 Castor avoiding tax collector. Sweet! (3)
- 10 Formal name for man with locker in store (5,5)
- 11 Coat Ken put around redhead and one unknown sailor (9)
- 12 Advantage beginners have with canned vegetables (6)
- 13 From last to first, Scottish island is the place for cold stubbies (4)
- 14 Eat prepared spread (3)
- 15 Ale from posters, increasing initial volume (7)
- 16 In Rome you may find 7-Up for your washing (5,5)
- 17 Mohammed Ali: I'm the best in a jam (3)
- 18 Dead in France with one German spray (7)
- 19 Man's address around the old department store (4)
- 20 Rev. Sir plays up in menswear (6)
- 21 Two girls in the soup! (8)
- 22 Say nothing for a cracker (3)
- 23 Excessive calls for attention produces drinks on tap (7)
- 24 Using pawnbroker's beer-mugs for cereal (5,5)
- 25 Guy thanks grass cutter (5)
- 26 Beer with fourfold rating not suitable for general consumption (4)

November 1-2009: Steep Starts by *Aeolian* (Max Roddick)

• I first intended not to bother with Slot 1 as I am not too keen on this sort of puzzle – but I wanted a dot, which, hopefully, I have. Have to admit that the N/Z trick was neat but, frankly, not much buzz from this one. *Jim Fowler*

• Thanks, *Aeolian* for your Melbourne Cup full of winners. *Alan Walter*

• Very clever and surprisingly difficult. *Brian Symons*

• A nice topical start. Unfortunately the list I chose for reference (I can barely remember what won last week!) spelt FOXZAMI without a Z, so that caused a bit of angst! *Catherine Hambling*

• Enjoyed this puzzle – alas too short. *Anne Simons*

• I enjoyed this – a puzzle with a novel twist. *Roy Taylor*

• Ingenious. *Gabrielle Leeds*

• I am not a big fan of this sort of puzzle as one of our main five. All it requires is going through a long list of Cup winners to find ones to fit the slots. Not much effort required of the brain, really. Prefer a puzzle where there are ways to work it out other than getting on the internet. Plus, when I calculated the time span between first and last, my count is out by one. So did I pick a wrong horse, or is someone's arithmetic a tad off? *Barbara Morris*

• No matter how many Melbourne Cup puzzles I do, I always find a winner I've never heard of. *Jenny Wenham*

November 2-2009: Cryptic by *Jesso* (Noel Jessop)

• Assuming 6dn is 'faded' – I don't get the easily covered bit. Otherwise a good puzzle (of course). *Jim Fowler*

• A testing cryptic, thanks Noel. Much liked 9ac IMSHI. In 6dn if F+AD+ED is correct, how does this equate to "easily covered the bet"? *Alan Walter*

• A bit tougher than some of Noel's recent offerings and very enjoyable. I particularly liked 18ac: Up, up, up (7) = UPRISEN. *Brian Tickle*

• A very good cryptic. A new meaning (to me) for FADED. *Brian Symons*

• I really enjoyed *Jesso's* contribution – some great clues and I chose 20ac SUSSEX for COTM. *Catherine Hambling*

• Some excellent clues. I loved IMSHI – it made me laugh – and UPRISEN was really clever. *Gabrielle Leeds*

• *Jesso* appears tireless. Where would we be without him? *Margaret Davis*

• Found this one very challenging, and have my fingers crossed. Have no idea if I am even close for 6dn: it was the only word I get to fit, which may mean something else is wrong [A OK: K]. *Barbara Morris*

• I'm assuming 6dn is FADED. I can see the secondary indication but can't find the definition. Also, could you explain how 7dn works. [CON (FRONT) ATION + AL - **conation** n the psychological processes, including desire, instinct and volition, that lead to purposeful action (cf **cognition**) *Chambers*]. I liked the definition for GREENWICH. I must admit to spending quite a while working out where the "LD" came from in 5dn. *Jenny Wenham*

November 3-2009: Cryptic by *Southern Cross* (Shirl O'Brien)

• Slot 3 was enjoyable even if straightforward with no fiendishness. Re Freycinet I had worked out and confirmed the answer when, a day later and also a day late, I turned the page of my bog wall calendar. Lo and behold it's a picture of Freycinet. Well, would you ever. *Jim Fowler*

• Yet another excellent cryptic puzzle, thanks, Shirl. 11ac took some time to rationalise THE + S + MALLS + CREE + N. So also did 7dn CONSER + VAT + ION + IST, where CONSER is an anagram of "reckons" without the K for king. In 19dn, if STA + TOR is correct, I felt "something churning inside" was a vague definition. *Alan Walter*

• Great clues from Shirl as usual. My favourite was 16dn. *Brian Tickle*

• The usual high Shirl standard. My favourites – MAIN EVENT and TIDE OVER. *Brian Symons*

• As always I loved this one – 14 and 18ac were close contenders for my COTM. *Catherine Hambling*

• Shirl had me stumped for a bit with her bustard. I was looking for a human plain-dweller, an avian one. A good puzzle, as always. *Margaret Davis*

• Found this one easier to complete, but then again I've been known to put something incorrect in the grid when I thought it was too easy! *Barbara Morris*

• A bit harder than usual from Shirl, but still good enough to be in contention for my COTM. *Jenny Wenham*

November 4-2009: AJ by *dB* (Doug Butler)

• A good challenge and fun. I had to Google 'cracked' to get the mad competitor bit. I know and used to read *Mad* but didn't know of *Cracked*. *Jim Fowler*

• The AJ was very challenging. The Q clue took a good time to explain Q + U + EER + ED where in *Chambers* "queer someone's pitch" is to spoil (or alter) one's chances. *Alan Walter*

• With the C and R clues I filled in the most likely answer based on the letters I had. The penny only dropped when I was filling in my good copy. Younger members may not even remember *Mad* magazine let alone its competitor *Cracked*. Loved the clue. *Brian Tickle*

• A particularly hard AJ: my favourites, especially S. T. Coleridge. If CRACKERS is correct, can you explain, please [see Brian Tickle's comment above – K] *Brian Symons*

• AJs are always my favourite and there were some excellent clues in this one, especially P (plug into). S and L caused the most trouble, so fingers crossed! *Catherine Hambling*

• The hardest of the bunch. I had trouble with N and O and I'm not too sure of C. *Roy Taylor*

• Did anyone else have trouble with the "S" clue? I hadn't come across "ridge" in that text before, only as part of "ridgy-didge". I still have a lot to learn about Australia even after almost 37 years! *Margaret Davis*

• A very challenging AJ, I thought. Had a lot of trouble with the last 4 words I tried to slot in. Not positive on the N clue (New Latin?) and the Y clue (Yarras?) I can't find any corroboration for at all. So perhaps not correct. X (Xeroxes) is a total guess as well. *Barbara Morris*

• For a long time I didn't think I would finish this, but eventually got the 2 11-letter answers which set me on the right track (I hope). I don't know about YARRAS but it's backwards in 'disarray' and I did find a reference to a lunatic asylum, so hoping it's right. I'm also dubious about CRACKED, but it's my best guess. *Jenny Wenham*

November 5-2009: Cryptic by *Praxis* (Roy Wilson)

• Most enjoyable – good and fair clues. Don't, however, like 'Aranae' as the answer to 22dn. 'Araneae' would seem to be correct. But... I may be wrong. I thought I was wrong once but I was mistaken! [*Roy writes: Aranae comes up on AxWord but I must have got the definition from Aranea in Chambers. I hope I've not caused too much confusion.*] *Jim Fowler*

• Very enjoyable Ximenean puzzle, thanks Roy. [some explanations omitted where covered in detail in Roy's explanations, see p4] 22dn I could only find ARANEA as the spider genus, not ARANAE. ARANEAE is plural according to *Chambers*. *Alan Walter*

• Great puzzle, Roy. I thought the best clue was 6ac. *Brian Tickle*

• Another wonderful Ximenean. COTYLAE is tricky – but ARANEA? I can find ARANEAE and ARANAE. *Brian Symons*

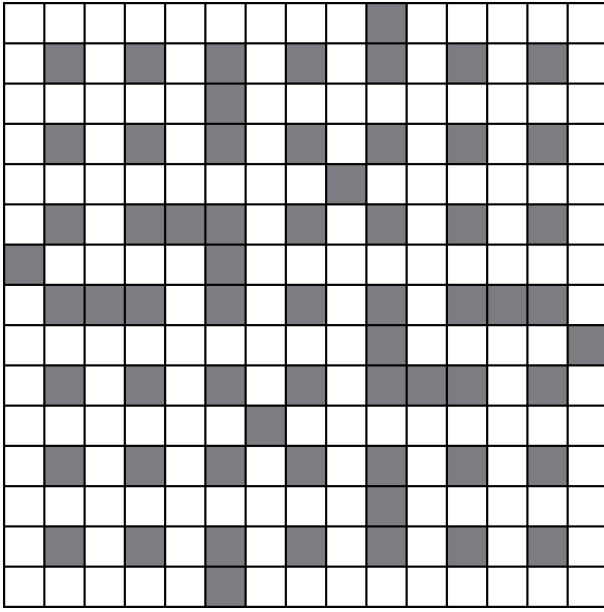
• Some good things in this one as usual with *Praxis*, but I think 22dn ARANAE (or ARANEAE) is the plural of the spider genus and the singular is ARANEA, so here's hoping! *Catherine Hambling*

• [Comment on 22dn] I liked 18dn – BARBARA. Lots of good clues. *Gabrielle Leeds*

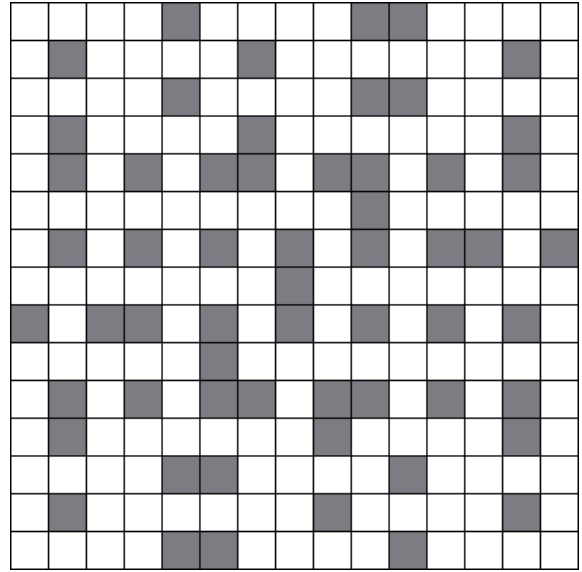
• No hint in the title that we were travelling so far afield! "Sphacelus" was Roy's gift this time – there's always one new word. *Margaret Davis*

• Loved 5dn, which got my COTM vote. Not so sure about 22dn. According to my *Chambers*, 'Aranea' is the genus. *Jenny Wenham*

|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |6| |2|0|0|9|



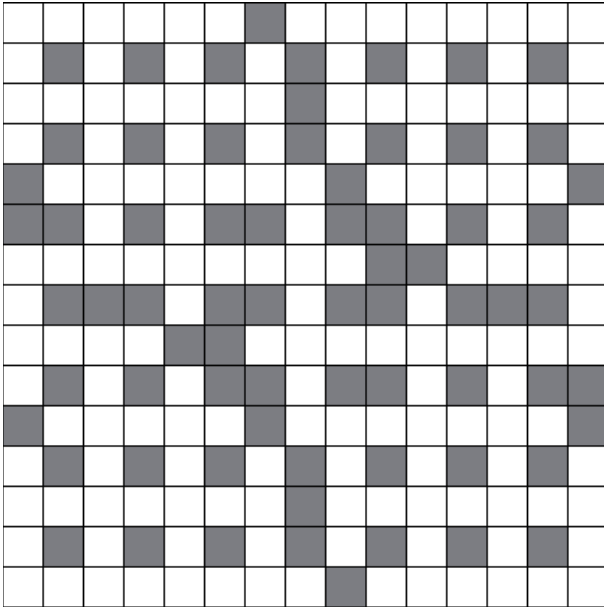
|D|E|C| |1| |2|0|0|9| NAME.....



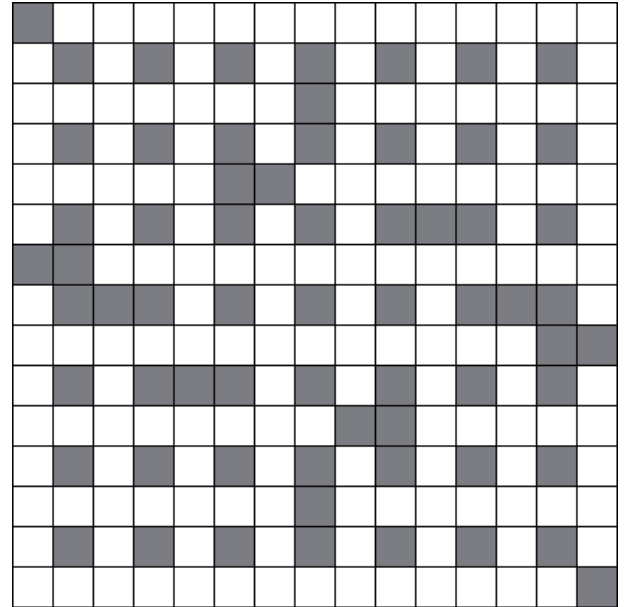
Send solution to: William Ryan,
Cauliflower Hotel, 123 Botany Road,
Waterloo NSW 2008.
Closing mail date: Friday 8 January 2010.



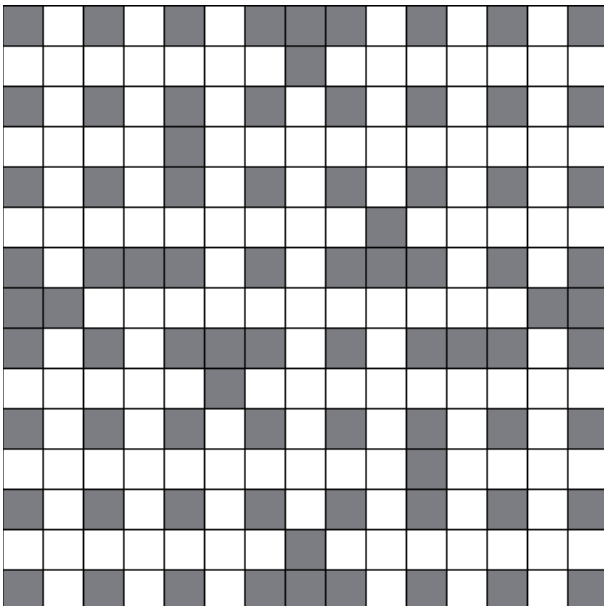
|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |2| |2|0|0|9|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |3| |2|0|0|9|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |4| |2|0|0|9|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |5| |2|0|0|9|

1					R			F						
2					O			M						
3					E			N						
4					D			I						
5					V			N						
6					T			I						
7					S			U						
8					A			A						
9					N			S						
10					I			I						
11					N			A						
12					I			T						
13					A			S						
14					I			L						

Clue of the Month

October 6-2009: Notables by stroz (Patrick Street)

Entries: 35. Correct: 27. Success Rate: 77.1%.

Winner: Brian Symons. Congratulations!

Adjudicator's comments:

Many, many thanks to all those solvers who sent delightful cards and made such kind and helpful comments. Thank you also to Ian Williams who checked the puzzle in his usual careful and thorough style and made useful comments. Here are the Explanations: The misprints were: 12ac: *bass* for *pass*; 13ac: *Cele* for *Cole*; 15ac: *peace* for *place*; 31ac: *Hit* for *His*; 4dn: *hut* for *but*; 6dn: *stook* for *stock*; 8dn: *Van* for *man*; 16dn: *let* for *lot*; 18dn: *natter* for *matter* = BEETHOVEN. **Across:** 9: HALLOW is archaic for a saint. 12: Aviso is an obsolete meaning for a notification. Short *pass* = Vis(a) in AO = order. 13: Double def. 15: Re+Sale (Gippsland town). 17: Faces (dials) up (backwards) = *slaid* plus *spies* (MI = military intelligence). 19: letter = ES holding no date = ND. 20: Homophone of "I sledge". 22: Marshal Ney (French) holding anag of *argot* = *gator*. 24: green light = *go* plus *al(bert)*. 25: three sages = *magi* backwards (*igam*) in *try* = three points in Rugby league. 30: double def. 31: The Queen = ER plus *jeans* (denim) backwards. 32: Hole = gap in *Io* (satellite of Jupiter). 33: Number = N plus A = acre. 34: Husband = H in anag of *heavy* = *Yaveh*. **Down:** Modestly = *Coily* but change Henry (H) for Y (150) = COOLY. 5: Judge = *hear* takes in *Vie* = contest. 6: Double def. 7: Shak's wink delete *go* (leave) from anag of (off) *ladili* = *illiad*. 8: man = M + very good = A1 + student = L. 14: new driver = L + anag of *galore* = *allegro*. 16: when = as + romance = *saga* + not a lot = 1. fish = *gar* in anag (*batter*) of *sepia* = *agarapes*. 21: jerks = PE (physical education) in *comer* = a person who shows promise. 23: anag (torn) of *mag* in a drink (*gin*). 26: nearly 50 = IL (49) plus 1 + Bill = ac. 27: Supporter = bra + Violet = vi. 29: *tony* = in (fashionable) + touching = re. See the helpful comments below from Alan Walter concerning other aspects of this puzzle. —**stroz (Patrick Street)**

Solvers' Comments:

- Many thanks for this excellent crossword. *Bill Alston*
- Doing a couple of degrees at night, whilst being a full-time teaching Principal in a school built around me was a piece of cake compared with the third degree "Notables" put me through! I knew Mendelssohn's *Songs Without Words* and started to piece it together – hope it's right after a solid week's work. *Bill Bennett*
- What a challenging puzzle! I have gone even greyer, I'm sure, and I just hope I've found the right answers. Having said that, I really enjoyed the experience! *Robyn Caine*
- A challenging puzzle, but enjoyed it thoroughly. *Gillian Champion*
- I eked this puzzle out, bit by bit, with a few 'eureka's' thrown in when something worked. Whilst I was not sure of some of the unnumbered clues, I was eventually able to find all of the 'Notables'. *Bev Cockburn*
- I am sorry but I am unable to complete your *very* challenging puzzle. I like to solve testing puzzles but this one was too much for me. I actually screwed up the answer grid, but took it out of the bin to show you that I did attempt your puzzle. Actually I was pleased to get what I did! *Graeme Cole*
- Whew! Sums it up with much whewing post Stainer. Beethoven seemed to be suggested from some misprints but not in clue order. Apropos "Esth": My partner is/was Finnish and has never heard of it. Not hard to find though given the first few letters and since the only spoken language close to Finnish is Esti (Estonian), but "th" in Finnish? When I revealed the answer comment was: "En usko", which when spoken in a particular tone of voice can mean "You're having me on". *Maurice Cowan*
- I found your puzzle very challenging and still haven't worked out exactly which clues are mis-spelled. I am happy to have completed the puzzle as I did not think I would do so. *Peter Dearie*
- Must be one of the biggest stinkers I have had the pleasure of completing – successfully I trust – in many a long moon. Fiendish is the word that comes to mind, also perhaps brilliant

- take your pick. Funny old language tho'. What is a misprinted letter – is it the letter that should have been or the letter that is? Context (clue order) eventually solved that one. *Jim Fowler*
- This was a very challenging puzzle but extremely interesting. It kept me working away at every spare moment till I finished it. I really did work hard at this, so I hope I haven't made any foolish errors! But even if I did, it remains true that it gave me a great deal of pleasure. Thank you for that. *Margaret Galbreath*
- Well, wasn't this a brain buster! I'm by no means convinced that I have nailed it. *Pat Garner*
- In the time I have been a member I have encountered a few puzzles which I thought were beyond me. However, perseverance has paid off. I am now sending my completed effort to you just for my own satisfaction. I am not happy that I am correct, but after all the work I could not not send it. *Barbara Glissan*
- Herewith your very devious Slot 6. Even more than convinced than your usual Xmas offerings. *Bob Hagan*
- This was a truly diabolical puzzle! What fun you must have had in creating this beauty. I'm not at all confident that I've solved it completely, but I came close. In this case, "notable" may have to become "not able". *Kath Harper*
- It took me an especially long time to discover Espla and his connection to the Levantine scale. I'm sure that your puzzle helped in the fight to keep Alzheimers at bay. *Susan Howells*
- I thought last month's No 6 was hard but this was worse!!! My poor old brain can't take much more of this! Anyway, I persevered and hopefully have come up with the correct answers. *Ann Jermy*
- Thanks for your puzzle — something different and challenging. It's been a long time between drinks! Favourite clue: 25ac. I liked your touch of (less than ten) for Beethoven. Thanks again — it's the best puzzle for a long time. *Doreen Jones*
- Not able is my title for this. I really didn't think I'd complete it. *Carole Noble*
- Thank you for this puzzle. I have submitted my entry at this late stage because I have put so much time in on it, but am not at all confident with my entry. *Ron O'Rourke*
- Pretty hard. Composers are beyond me so it took a lot of investigation. I'm confident of the answers but half a dozen elements of wordplay elude me. I'm glad I finished – I nearly gave up. *Andrew Patterson*
- Thank you, Patrick for a difficult puzzle. *David Procter*
- Tough, mate. Very tough, and that was just the instructions! Enjoyed your puzzle immensely. Thank you. *Raoul*
- Thank you for your puzzle. I don't understand clues 4 and 29dn. I'm glad that Ian is going up to the top in his classroom studies (NAIL, 8dn). *Bev Solomon*
- Nice one Patrick. Took days to match the composers to the hints even when I had their names. The writer of instructions for programming VCRs etc, has finally been revealed. *Jack Stocks*
- Great to get a cryptic from you — and such a beauty. Just what Slot 6 should be like! I especially liked NACRE & ENDS as the clue misleadingly seemed to require ERAS — the last bits of letter *has*. I must admit not fully understanding 4dn — actually 'not fully' means hardly at all! Hope this is not a one-off and there are more to come. *Brian Symons*
- Thanks for your super challenging puzzle. Your staggering puzzle will send successful solvers into symphonic rhapsody! The answers associated with the unnumbered clues are: *Informator Choristorum* = Taverner; Rout = Bliss; To govern (or rule) Britannia = Arne; The Glee Maiden = Charpentier; Haydn's Wife (nickname) = Boccherini; Wordless Songs = Mendelssohn (aka *Lieder Ohne Worte*); Levantine Scale = Espla; The Imps (or Devils) of Loudun = Penderecki. The unchecked letters lead to (Sir John) Stainer who was organist at St Paul's Cathedral from 1872-1888. He was also professor of music at Oxford University from 1889. His best known cantata is *The Crucifixion* (1887). He was knighted in 1888. Misprints lead to the super notable Beethoven. *Alan Walter*
- My entry, I think, is a stamp wasted! But what a lot of fun I had. *The Chambers Dictionary* 11th ed is next on the list. Many, many thanks. *Robyn Wimbush*