



|N|o.|3|0|8| |D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |2|0|1|5|



[www.crosswordclub.org](http://www.crosswordclub.org)



O there are words that should not be repeated,  
/And he who speaks them – is a spendthrift.  
Anna Akhmatova, 1917, in *Anna Akhmatova: Selected Poems*, Penguin, 1988.

|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 2016. 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 2016 Prize Fund can be found on p7. Further renewals and donations will be acknowledged in the next *Crozworld*. Many thanks for your generous sponsorship of the ACC in 2016.

Don't forget about the special offer where you can sign up a new member for 2016 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 not to mention a year-round intellectual challenge for your friends!

Our outstanding Puzzle Editor **Ian Williams** has selected another excellent range of puzzles for this month. Your favourites are featured: *Virgo*, *Lexi Connor* and *The Lady and the Scamp* with challenging puzzles. Our dynamic compiler *Crowsman* has compiled a stunning AJ in the Slot 4 position and *Betelgeuse* gives us one of her brilliant cryptic compositions for Slot 5. *Hot and Cold* have devised another fascinating Slot 6 cryptic and we are delighted to publish another commendable Quiz by *InGrid*.

Kindly note the early closing date – **Friday 18 December**. This will enable us to get the January *Crozworld* out in good time for Christmas. Best of Luck with your solving. And we sincerely thank our Adjudicator – **Andrew Patterson** – who has taken on the pleasant task of adjudicating Slots 1-5 for December.

Finally, a special note of thanks to Joan Smith for adjudicating the Slots 1-5 puzzles this month.

—Patrick

Once again it was nice to receive lovely cards and letters with entries, though not as many as usual. A few members thought the puzzles were a bit harder but fun to do. Things are improving with snail mail entries only one INNTE and one with -R-E the other losses of course were with incorrect answers. Slot 5 created a big problem with ABROGATES for ARROGATES leaving 43 members with a missing dot.

**Slot 1:** Less entries for this puzzle than usual. ROOT/OUTTRAY for PLOT/LITURGY lost 2 members their dots. A couple of others were REDOIBLE for REDOUBLE, ARTISY for ARTIST and RECRUIT for RECOUNT.

**Slot 2:** DENTAL caused the most errors in this slot with 16 entries having VESTAL. Slot 2 also had the most nominations for COTM.

**Slot 3:** Quite a few individual mistakes but OUTSHINE (8) for OUTSHONE and LANCES (6), LANCET (2) for LANCED were the main ones.

**Slot 4:** HOOPSHOT (4) for HOOKSHOT and VIGARO (5) for VIGORO were the main errors. Other mistakes, Xeros (XEROX), YEANLING (YEARLING) and ZONBIE for ZOMBIE.

**Slot 5:** Wow! 42 ABROGATES and one ABRIGATES, the other problem was with STAMFORD BRIDGE (STAFFORD BRIDGE) 5 and STANFORD BRIDGE (2).

**COTM:** All Slots received nominations from 52 members with Slot 2 receiving 18. The winner was a tie with JERSEYS five and ARMAGEDDON five. There were three with four nominations – CUMMERBUND and MARBLES Slot 2 and ACIDIC Slot 3. Congratulations to *Valkyrie* and *Blue King*.

—Joan Smith

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	89	91	87	84	77	428
Correct entries	77	67	59	62	31	296
Success rate (%)	86.5	73.6	67.8	73.8	40.2	69.2
<b>Prizewinners</b>	Shelia Taylor	Stephen Matthews	Tony Dobele	Norma Lee	Rosemary Ducker	from 95 members

**Prizewinner: November 2015 Slots 1-5: Brian Tickle, Congratulations!**

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

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

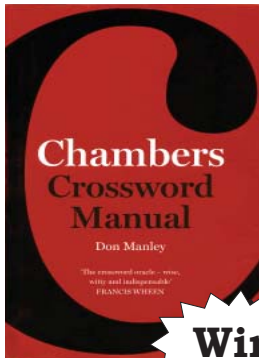
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D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
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S	L	O	T		1		

**Half 'n Half**  
by  
**Virgo**

**Prize:**



**Win!**

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**Across**

- 1 Make another request to a parish priest in trust (7)
- 5 Way China involved last Indian perhaps (7)
- 9 Owing to one half beer, lad got drunk (9)
- 10 Bar us from outings arrangement (5)
- 11 A number put on ligament (6)
- 12 "Hi Rector! – dreadful oratory!" (8)
- 14 Document holders distributed in Pip's parcel (10)
- 16 A button farm? (4)
- 18 Arab in American city? Never! (4)
- 19 A battle for betrothal (10)
- 22 A glass-bottomed boat? (8)
- 23 Call for legs on the side (6)
- 26 Old Scots receiver featured in pictures, etc (5)
- 27 Dogs are done – Hulk's shattered! (9)
- 28 Streams, bats, tournaments and teachers (7)
- 29 Forgetting a name is unfortunate (7)

**Down**

- 1 House cover (7)
- 2 Wrestling style (3-2)
- 3 Aid to scoring (8)
- 4 Himalayan myth (4)
- 5 Former officer (10)
- 6 Robbers (6)
- 7 Smoke (9)
- 8 Saw (7)
- 13 Looters (10)
- 15 Procurements (9)
- 17 Trite (4-4)
- 18 Remedy (7)
- 20 Country (7)
- 21 Shove (6)
- 24 Heraldic plates (5)
- 25 Tropical plant (4)

Slots 1-5: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.

e-mail: [mcanpap@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mcanpap@bigpond.net.au)

Closing mail date: Friday 18 December 2015.

e-lodgment: [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au)

Slot 6: Jenny Wenham, c/o Post Office Comet Qld 4802.

email: [sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au)

Closing mail date: Friday 15 January 2016.

For Online entry, submission and adjudication of all puzzles via ACCOLADE click on [www.low.net.au/accolade/](http://www.low.net.au/accolade/)

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

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

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

## Cryptic

by

*Lexi Connor*



1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
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### Across

- 1 Enticed Pip to wrap returned partly digested food (7)
- 5 Challenges review of Esquire (7)
- 9 Callas admitted Martino disclosed disease (7)
- 10 Family of liquids utilised in waterproof cloth (7)
- 11 Virus found in passage linked to ANZAC's heart (9)
- 12 Nobody is at the end of the queue beyond midday (2-3)
- 13 Crook loves crack (5)
- 15 Abbreviated word for the immediate future (5,4)
- 17 Recognise learning begins at frontier of intelligence (9)
- 19 Extremely naughty supplying speed to beautiful maiden (5)
- 22 Taking advantage of funny discarded middle name (5)
- 23 The press reveals religious service by people communicating with the dead (4,5)
- 25 Joined when provided with clothes containing cotton finish (7)
- 26 Takes exception to articles (7)
- 27 External wrong marker is gone forever (7)
- 28 Brook comes to hasty conclusion after "QUIET!" is uttered piercingly (7)

### Down

- 1 Mountain tops appear to have total mist dispersed (7)
- 2 Sad to suggest too many unemployment benefits? (7)
- 3 Realistic or functional housing for Mediterranean island (5)
- 4 Somehow easing odd identified problem (9)
- 5 Allocation reached by initially questioning users of temporary allowances (5)
- 6 Which Duke avoided Iron Duke's war front? (9)
- 7 Irritating smirk sometimes is a cover-up (7)
- 8 Rafter follows Sol into a stream of light (7)
- 14 Advise most men to reduce load (9)
- 16 Lots of bowling with garden tools and galoshes (9)
- 17 Get down to this joint to apply yourself earnestly (7)
- 18 Rust evident on tick-tack-toe pieces with one warped side (7)
- 20 Claimed reassessment for health examination (7)
- 21 According to rumour, hyenas risk any odds (7)
- 23 Award for 20 down not announced, I see (5)
- 24 Key quarter of the municipality is excluded from adulthood (5)

### GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Many thanks to the club for my prize for winning slots 1-5: was a very pleasant surprise and will be spent wisely! *Col Archibald*
- Thank you to the club. I was very excited to receive a Cheque for \$125 for Slots 1-5 for October. Wow!! Thank you also for another fascinating set of puzzles. Great fun!! *Jean Evans*
- Thanks for the wonderful book for the clue writing competition. It will be very useful. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Very pleased to receive the prize for quiz no 9. Many thanks. *Judy Schulz*
- What a great surprise to discover I had won the prize for October slot 2. It's great encouragement. Thank you ACC and at this time of the year; thank you for the wonderful challenges you set for us each month and Happy Christmas to everyone. *Lynn Jarman*
- Have had to work hard this month. Seem to be going well and one answer defeats me! *Cheryl Wilcox*
- Slots 1 to 4 were very enjoyable. That's as far as I have got so far! *Laurence Kennedy*
- Please thank everyone for my cheque last month – what a THRILL. *Alison Hocking*

From *The Wit's Dictionary* by Colin Bowles

- *ad libber*: a man who stays up all night memorising spontaneous jokes.
- *brave*: the first man to swallow an oyster.
- *dogma*: the collective wisdom of individual ignorance.
- *hair restorer*: balderdash.
- *magistrate*: someone who has risen by his gravity.
- *putt*: being unable to place something where you want it.

Twelve answers do not possess a clue but are collectively defined by another answer.

D E C E M B E R   2 0 1 5   S L O T   3
<b>Cryptic</b>  by <i>The Lady &amp; the Scamp</i>


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**Across**

- 1 See rubric (11)
- 7 Briefly omit runner (3)
- 9 See rubric (5)
- 10 Joined forces but yearn for one not seen (9)
- 11 Wise man restrains the angry person (7)
- 12 Guarantees results being about right (7)
- 13 See rubric (6)
- 14 See rubric (6)
- 18 See rubric (6)
- 20 See rubric (6)
- 23 Pedal operator's time determines movie length (7)
- 25 Money squandered while gambling is wrong, breaking records (7)
- 27 See rubric (9)
- 28 See rubric (5)
- 29 See rubric (3)
- 30 The boss arranges youth's escape from jail (11)

**Down**

- 1 Keeps small birds (5)
- 2 Fellow admits outfit is dress (7)
- 3 Lifted sack, any one of the 6 in shed (9)
- 4 See rubric (8)
- 5 Released, but has legal claim made against (6)
- 6 Ratifies motions (5)
- 7 Mocking, I interrupted animated racist (7)
- 8 Asian banker's effort providing diligent work (8)
- 15 Dials out during exploits making oleates (4,5)
- 16 A police force initially assembled, situated at earthquake's centre (8)
- 17 Manchester redeveloped bend restricting railway track (3,5)
- 19 See rubric (7)
- 21 Legion mistakenly surrounding Berber leader's base (7)
- 22 Where routed by accident? (6)
- 24 See rubric (5)
- 26 Small tool provides seed (5)

**Explanations to Clues in November Grids**

**Slot 1 InGrid. Down:** 1 ac(credit)ed, 2 anag documents - end, 3 dm, 4 anag , 5 StOlldLy, 6 reconCILER <, 8 h(raves)\* t, 12 all+o+w, 14 (validates + W)\*, 16 l (it) ury, 17 snaps + hot, 21 anag, 22 no+os+e, 24 bus< + S, 25 hidden.

**Slot 2 Zythum. Across:** 1 E(ra) + PRIME\*, 4 (PLAY PUTS)\*, 9 TOM in (t)ENB(y), 10 AC + ILL in BUS, 12 DD, 13 D + E + FAME, 15 L + Y + N + X, 16 C sUMMER + B + UND cd, 19 DD, 20 dd, 23 SAC + RED, 25 EGG + REMIT<, 27 EWE in RIVER\*, 28 Hidden, 29 DD, 30 DD. **Down:** 1 (AT L ERNE)\*, 2 (GOAT A PAIN)\*, 3 RE + MOTE (sounds like MOAT), 5 O in (c)LAN, 6 TOILE + TRY, 7 (LOP)< + cocK + A, 8 US< + SPEND, 11 DD, 14 (GRAB ME)< + O, 17 ULTIMAT UM e, 18 THI(S) + EVER + (unhapp)Y, 19 R in WASTE + L, 21 DD , 22 STR(EET) + E(ast) + W(est) + N(orth) , 24 CI v IC (Roman numerals), 26 PIKE\*.

**Slot 3 Illywhacker. Across:** 6 PrInCe+ (COOL)\*, 7 (LIES)\* around (PAN), 9 ALE+R(o)T, 10 DIM+ (ONES IN)\*, 11 LEMUR\* around FF, 13 rev hidden, 15 (TOXIC MENU CAME)\*, 19 CH(E)ATS, 20 REV+ER+SEes, 23 DARK+ homoph(hoarse), 24 IN+T+RO(ro), 26 (LEAFINSECT- fit)\*, 27 IN+pERTh+IA. **Down:** 1 AC+H(ot-wir)E, 2 FOE+ aTfAuLt, 3 (FOLD CREAM)\*, 4 MAG(NET)IC, 5 (BUSIER LIFT)\*, 6 P(ainfu)l+AS+M(ascar)A , 7 S+A+ME, 8 LA(N)CED, 12 FOX+T(ERR)IER, 14 (GREEN)\* + (CITE)<, 16 (SHOUT)\* + ONE, 17 AC(ID+I)C, 18 ...FED OR A..., 21 (DEVIL + (E))\* , 22 (s)URGE, 25 homoph "to to".

**Slot 4 Valkyrie. A** (GAEL)\* + BRA + IC, **B** BRING + SUP, **C** C+AVE, **D** DIP+SOS, **D** Hidden, **E** E+ MEETS< +ED, **F** F(RANK)LING, **G** Double, **H** Spoonerism of SHOOK+HOT, **I** FORMER following IN, **I** INN+ anag of TEA, **J** & Lit - double (cows [in nursery rhyme] & jumpers), **K** LA(A)RK<, **L** LIMb + A, **M** M+USE, **N** (SATIN NET + S)\*, **O** ORC+HID+S, **P** PR(ENT)ICES, **Q** Homophone of coin, **R** RE+ anag of VICE + ER, **S** Hidden, **T** (BRATS PEE)\*, **U** URBANE, **V** VIGOROUS - US, **W** WRY+NESS, **X** X+ER+O+X, **Y** Anag of kENYAn GIRL, **Z** ZO (MB + I) E.

**Slot 5 Blue King. Across:** 1 TOMATO/potato - Ira Gershwin, 4 (S (RAW RAT) S)<, 10 (METRE RAKE)\*, 11 PUR (G) E, 12 Chelsea FC ground & Civil War site, 14 Rev hidden, 16 dd/cd, 18 AT +TRACTOR, 20 SET > + LA, 21 cd, 25 homoph (a veil), 26 OVER + BOA + RD, 27 C HE aYENNE, 28 NE (W) + TO + N. **Down:** 1 TI + ME + SIGN + AL, 2 (AI + RAM)<, 3 TW + ELF + ThE, 5 Them + ROBBed, 6 (georgE + LIT + PER) <, 7 A R b ROGATES, 8 dd, 9 (TRIREMES)\*, 13 ARM + AGED + DON, 15 (E + ATE TRAIL)\*, 17 RAG< + OTTER, 19 ABS + OLovE (O moved up), 20 TRE (M) BLE, 22 THORN, 23 O (TRAP)<, 24 spe(CIAL) <.



D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
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S	L	O	T		4		

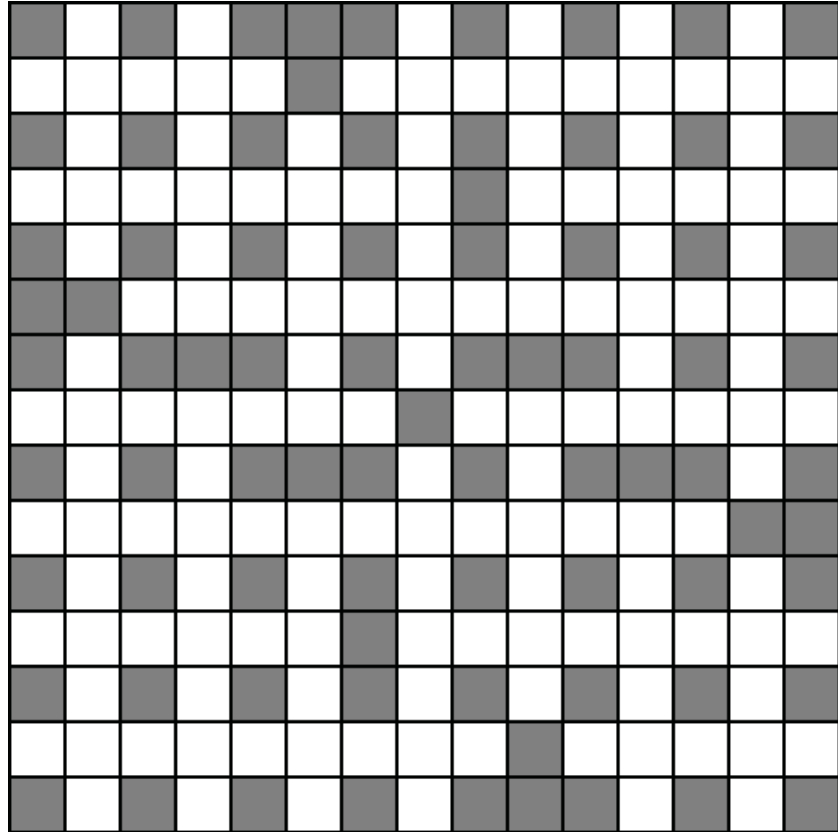
**AJ**

by

**Crowsman**



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



- A** Supply a rise (6)
- B** Container in kitchens supplies recreational venues (7,6)
- C** "Goodbye!" breaks sense of ethics with no-one healing (13)
- D** Reveal record waste (8)
- E** Conscript receives silent treatment (6)
- F** Enjoyed a meal, but the contrary around start of Easter (7)
- G** Overenthusiastic hoodlum initially trapped by pistol-shot (4-2)
- H** Chinese diseases of the feet and joints (8)
- I** Model has one contract (5)
- J** Combine there, it is said, with someone succeeding in partnership (5,4)
- K** Expressly calls for massages (6)
- L** Automobile row held back Finland (9)
- M** I split as a rule in tears (7)
- N** Most recent group of us in retreat (6)
- O** Smell nothing severe (5)
- P** Tips salt amongst trees (9)
- Q** Shake an American Indian accessory (6)
- R** Attacking gang brought around backup (7)
- S** Gun users get small group voicing disapproval (8)
- T** Follow, beginning to end, by means of a discussion programme (4,4)
- U** One leading drug dealer's no leader! (5)
- V** Opening plant fertiliser without a risk (7)
- W** Capital observed after conflict (6)
- X** Warrior princess encompasses national obsession for foreign things (9)
- Y** Cowardly cry with pain (6)
- Z** Retrospectively study Australia divided into regions (5)

**Australian Crossword Club  
Active and Notable Compilers 2015**

Aeolian – Max Roddick  
Agnacenus – Mike Pogson  
Ann Ass – Jenny Wenham  
Aristides – Alan Eason  
Banjo – Chris Bilkey  
Barney Naga – Bob Hagan & Jeremy Barnes  
Betelgeuse – Gillian Champion  
Blue King – Roy Low  
Bogeyman – Ian Williams  
Both Sides – Nea Storey and Anne Simons  
Brother Naga – Bob Hagan  
Buzzer – Bhavan Kasivajjula  
Colinebrii – Col Archibald  
Crowsman – Len Colgan  
Daintree Lady – Daphne Titus-Rees  
dB – Doug Butler  
Drover's Dog – John Gillis  
Elsie – Claire Clark

Flowerman – Ian Thompson  
Fortuna 48 – Nea Storey  
Grottesco – Iain McCulloch  
Hot and Cold – Jenny Wenham & Ian Williams  
Illywhacker – Alex Forbath  
InGrid – Jean Barbour  
Isla – Rob Moline  
Jack – Jack Stocks  
Jesso – Noel Jessop (d)  
KA – Karl Audrins  
Kaiela – Ann Simons  
Lady & the Scamp – Len Colgan & Bev Cockburn  
Lexi Conner – Ron Shapiro  
Manveru – Michael Kennedy  
Neir B'Odet – Ted O'Brien (d)  
Penobscot – Maurice Cowan  
Pindar – John Brotherton  
Praxis – Roy Wilson  
Raoul – William Ryan

Red One – Doreen Jones  
Robespierre – Ian McKenzie  
Sinbad – Graeme Cole  
Southern Cross – Shirl O'Brien (d)  
St Jude – Drew Meek  
Stroz – Patrick Street  
Tawdry Ducky – Al McCartan  
The Co-op – Bev C & Mal C  
The Eager Beaver – Bev Cockburn  
The EmCee – Merv Collins  
The Posers – Bev C and Joan S  
Timid Terrier – Joan Smith  
Tobi – Barbara Ibbott  
Valkyrie – Ulla Axelsen  
Virgo – Audrey Austin (d)  
Waratah – Carole Noble (d)  
Whynot? – Tony Dobele  
Zinzan – Andrew Patterson  
Zplig – Dover Dubosarsky  
Zythum – Roger Douglas

D E C E M B E R   2 0 1 5   S L O T   5
<b>Authors' Darlings</b> by <b>Betelgeuse</b>


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The perimeter, from the top left corner clockwise, comprises 8 unclued authors (4, 6, 6, 7, 8, 8, 8, 9 letters – not in that order): each has a one name character in the grid. The characters' clues have cryptic indications but are otherwise undefined.

**Across**

- 7 Old poet, not run into debt, is given new quarters (7)
- 8 Hot musical offering, second alternative not considered (7)
- 9 Audition of "Furs for a naughty girl!" (4)
- 10 Is resistant to treats before Lent? (6,4)
- 12 Short recess in arrest of astronomical object (9)
- 14 Cut short modest protest (5)
- 16 Something very hackneyed eliminating cold in the big city (5)
- 17 Workers with a type of neck clamp (9)
- 18 Track competitors, sounding gruff, are in tears (10)
- 22 Artist, one cast from retro epic (4)
- 24 Model with certain non-eastern contortions of a type of yoga (7)
- 25 Lessening degree in a noise (7)

**Down**

- 1 Feature led to ruin in one older (9)
- 2 With a pip, it sounds timely (4)
- 3 A piece of French in bathroom decor? (5)
- 4 See bird look happy at the opera (9)
- 5 Nameless island to the South provides a screen (5)
- 6 Mouths firstly open, seeming to ingest algae (5)
- 11 Fruit, not with Arsenic (4)
- 13 Shape of her cold lips a snarl (9)
- 14 Mild expletive remains following day (4)
- 15 Weightlifting a woman (9)
- 19 District not enough for highest singer (5)
- 20 Bear with rise in temperature (5)
- 21 Somewhat rather a severe way to eliminate (5)
- 23 Month on ecstasy (4)

**ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER 2015**

We are looking forward to celebrating the 2015 Get-Together at William Ryan's exciting **Harold Park Hotel** which is situated cnr Wigram Road and Ross Street, Glebe NSW. The date is Sunday 29 November and the festivities commence at 11:30am. Many thanks to William for making his 'pride and joy' available for us to meet and discuss important things of a cruciverbal nature. And there will be grid challenges plus worthy prizes definitely worth winning! It's not too late to accept the invitation. Kindly contact our Secretary Bev Cockburn to tell her that you would like to be one of the prestigious members attending this VIP function. Bev's email is: [bevco4@bigpond.com](mailto:bevco4@bigpond.com). William has suggested a phrase he uses for his school reunions – "Please drop in, whether for 5 minutes or 5 hours. We'll be delighted to see you." Be there!!!

**ACC MEMBERSHIPS and RENEWALS FOR 2016:**

Agent Deposit 478029312, Barnes J, Batum C, Callan A&D, Carpenter R, Coates D, Cockburn M, Cromer H, Davey J, Dennis M, Dorrell R, Glissan B, Grainger D, Groves J, Hagan B, Hagan R, Hambling C, Hemsley D, Heyes N, Kennedy L, Kennedy M, Lee N, Leeds G, Lemon G, Lloyd G, Lord P, Low R, Matthews S, McDermott P, Mercer P, Milton R, Morris B, Otrupcek R, Patterson A, Shapiro R, Shield A, Siegman B, Skinner R, Symons B, Veress M, Whitehead R and Woodford J.

**DONATIONS TO THE 2016 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM:**

Jeremy Barnes, Alison & David Callan, Denis Coates, Hilary Cromer, John Davey, Rosemary Dorrell, Barbara Glissan, David Grainger, James Groves, Bob Hagan, Catherine Hambling, Don Hemsley, Norma Heyes, Laurence Kennedy, Michael Kennedy, Gabrielle Leeds, Glenda Lloyd, Barbara Morris, Andrew Patterson, Ron Shapiro, Alison Shield, Betty Siegman, Richard Skinner, Brian Symons, Robyn Whitehead and Judith Woodford. A sincere thanks to you all for your kindness and generosity.

D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R
2	0	1	5				
S	L	O	T		6		

**Cryptic**  
by  
**Hot and Cold**



	1	2		3		4		5		6		7		
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Three clues are associated with a theme and three further clues are associated with each of them. None of these six clues is defined.

**Across**

- 1, 4-across, 3 In the end came evensong, composed and performed in 8 (4, 9, 7)
- 9 Steer east to the old, wild chrysanthemum (2-3)
- 10 and 19 Rewriting tune, then his lines, in 16-down (3,3,3,5,2)
- 12 Registers dogs (8)
- 13 Cut new flower (6)
- 15 Crash organised in Portugal (5)
- 16 Utilises snares he's constructed (9)
- 18 Presenting together – salmon and pop singer (2-7)
- 20 Song contest assessor, say, rejected Jack for loud sweetie (5)
- 21 Spruce relation may be rolled out in song (6)
- 23 Royal Academy of Music second audition first rejected Beautiful People! (5,3)
- 26 Silencer to stop piano and organ (5-4)
- 27 Twelfth Night character's instrument (5)
- 28 Refreshment once fashionable extended internally by Eastern advance (6,3)
- 29 Lines come to the surface, it's said (4)

**Down**

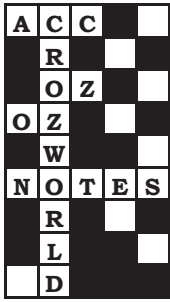
- 2 Venture too far above stretch of river (9)
- 3 See 1-across
- 4 Mathematician, English, adopting rule improperly (5)
- 5 Capital, perhaps. It is in Cyprus (4)
- 6 Sportsman, Athol, loses nothing by destroying tee (7)
- 7 Smack to enjoy carnally, according to the Bard! (5)
- 8 Oceanic setting (5,7)
- 11 Senior turned tail after service became optional (3-9)
- 14 Block for 27 perhaps is an ornament (4)
- 16 Covering (4)
- 17 See 25
- 19 See 10
- 20 Endless painful degree of anxiety about alternative (7)
- 22 Our compiler - exciting coloratura, but no actor (5)
- 24 I ram a compound in 25, 17 (5)
- 25 and 17 Narrative on direction of party (4,4,5)

Note: Allow at least 3 days prior to closing date to ensure posted solutions arrive in time.

Post Solution to:

Jenny Wenham,  
c/o Post Office Comet Qld 4802.  
email: sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au  
Closing mail date: Friday 15 January 2016.  
[or submit via [www.low.net.au/accolade](http://www.low.net.au/accolade)]





**Quiz No 12/2015: Syllacryptic 2 by InGrid.**

Using the given syllables below, build answers to the following clues. The first (1-33) followed by the last (1-33) letters of the answers read downwards will spell out a quote. The number after the clue indicates the number of **syllables** required for the answer.

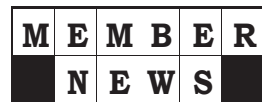
Send your solution to Jean Barbour, PO Box 290, Wonthaggi Vic 3995. e-mail: [jeanb1405@gmail.com](mailto:jeanb1405@gmail.com)

Closing date: 15 January 2016. \$75 prize.

- 1 I swear it becomes this plant (4)
- 2 Points to boundary ring (3)
- 3 Suitable fight before National Trust (3)
- 4 Into pasta, not appetizer (4)
- 5 Information about railway posts (2)
- 6 Measure in fish paste (3)
- 7 Morning picnic pest not left walking (3)
- 8 Rope girl for nothing (2)
- 9 Ailment not a sort of wailing (4)
- 10 Stab arm on alien (3)
- 11 He bills me wrongly for ornament (3)
- 12 Sweet nurse climber (4)
- 13 Moral rule of some thickness (2)

- 14 Round about each poem (2)
- 15 Pick up on what is by us, it seems (3)
- 16 Bury specialisation of old doctor (2)
- 17 Offspring a girl of music (4)
- 18 Bring home the material support, living high on the hog? (2)
- 19 Increase old guard (2)
- 20 Immobile feline a stimulant (4)
- 21 Article set for power perhaps? (2)
- 22 You said beat one about heaven (4)
- 23 Avoid lateral course of action (2)
- 24 Unnecessary without lost art (2)
- 25 Peter stockists perhaps? (2)
- 26 Logic not so confusing for specialist (4)
- 27 Masculine team not in second half initially (2)
- 28 Plunge backwards before measure of church manifest (3)
- 29 Leap a really empty barrier (3)
- 30 Space launch (3)
- 31 Dog run after uproar (2)
- 32 We call boy lost on public transport (2,1)
- 33 Break for Billie perhaps (3)

a a a a am an an ba bay bell bound bu cab cat col com com con day deau dence din els em en en en ers et eth ev ex ex ey gel gist go hear hi hol hon i i ic ic ing ish ish lam lant lass le mann na new ni o o o o on on ow pas pass pe pen pi ri ron ry sell side son step suck ta ta te tend tent ti ti tion to to tomb ton tra u ver wis yell



**New Member: Robert Hagan**, Bunbury WA (a Gift Subscription from Bob Hagan). Welcome to the Wonderful World of CrOZworlding.

**Puzzle Adjustments:** Bob Hagan has been awarded a dot for the *Barney Naga* puzzle in October 2015 Slot 2. In Quiz 11 "Opposites" by KA, #3 and #4 are out of alphabetical order. Karl Audrins apologises for the error. Denis Coates has been awarded dots for October's slots 1 to 5 inclusive.

**Quiz 10/2015. Measure for Measure by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)**

**No of entries: 38. Winner: Trish McPherson. Congratulations!**

**Results:** 26: Allen W, Cockburn B, Cole G, Fowler J, Garner P, Gooderick R, Hagan B, Harper K, Leigh J, Lemon G, Martin F, McClelland C, McKenzie R, McPherson T, Meek D, Miles A, Millard A, O'Brien E, Potts M, Skinner R, Symons B, Thompson I, Walter A, Wenham J and Wimbush R. 25: Audrins K, Caine R, Colgan L, Crowe J, Grainger D, Howells S, Leeds G, Procter M and Wilcox C. 24: Perrow H. 23: Abbott P and Siegman B. 21: Randall J.

**Answers:**

1. Acupuncture 2. Banknote 3. Beleaguer 4. Brainchild 5. Chandelier 6. Clinker 7. Dreamboat 8. Emolument 9. Farewell 10. Headquarters 11. Hispanic 12. Homiletic 13. Impoundment 14. Lime tree 15. Mispronounced 16. Nacreous 17. Plutonium 18. Revolting 19. Smolensk 20. Supercharge 21. Surefooted 22. Swatter 23. Tamperers 24. Unchained 25. Unfathomable 26. Xeroderma.

**Adjudicator's Comments:** Thank-you for all the lovely comments: it's great to learn that you enjoy solving them as much as I like creating them. Sorry I did not acknowledge some of your emails but I was away. There were a few mistakes including where the letter count of the unit of measurement was incorrect and a couple of people had **troublers** for no. 23. Unfortunately **rouble** is a currency and not a unit of measurement. —**Ulla Axelsen**

**Solvers' Comments:**

- The quiz is always my favourite CrOZworld challenge and yours is no exception. Thank-you. *Ray Gooderick*
- I did enjoy your quiz. Sooo clever! I've just finished it and couldn't wait to send it to you. *Bev Cockburn*
- I enjoyed your quiz and have come up with 26 answers. It was very cleverly done. The easy ones were the hard ones I found! Many thanks. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Really enjoyed your quiz and it certainly provided some challenges. Although SUREFOOTED, I was looking for something more technical than a SWATTER. *Ann Millard*
- I really enjoy a quiz that demands a little more than simply Googling for the answers, and this one certainly gave my brain cells a workout. *Betty Siegman*

**Quiz 10/2015: Comments continued from left:**

- What a great idea for a quiz! (by any measure) An A1 effort. *Brian Symons*
- What a good idea for a puzzle – it was enjoyable to solve! *Andrew Miles*
- Thanks for our challenge this month, quite different again. It has taken us three days to complete! *Julie Leigh*
- Thanks for a very enjoyable quiz – I am sure the brains of you clever "setters" are wired differently! You look at a word and see its potential, I look at a word and – nothing! *Eileen O'Brien*
- Deceptively hard in places, nonetheless enjoyable. Thanks for composing it for our enjoyment. *Pat Garner*
- I thoroughly enjoy the quizzes, and this one was no exception! *Julie Crowe*
- Provided a really good brain workout, and was something a bit different! *Judy Randall*
- Thank you for your most challenging and entertaining quiz. *David Grainger*
- I really enjoyed this quiz. What to do, look up kinds of measures to provide a hint, or determine the definition and spot the measure for confirmation? Mostly the latter for me. Got down to the last five fairly quickly, then slowly to the last two, then, nothing for an hour or two, then, relief. *Ian Thompson*
- It took me a while to get your measure, and quite a while after that to find all the complete and hidden answers. But the measure of a good quiz is not how much time it took, but how much pleasure it gave! *Kath Harper*
- This was a challenge! *Frank Martin*
- Gosh some of those were hard. But very enjoyable and challenging. *Trish McPherson*
- Thank you for this very clever quiz, Ulla. I really enjoyed puzzling it out. *Gabrielle Leeds*
- Loved the challenge. Number 9 had me foxed: ell was at the end of the word farewell, so I spent ages looking for another answer. Finally the penny dropped. Keep these quizzes coming. *Cheryl Wilcox*
- Shakespeare I am sure would very much have enjoyed this clever quiz. This was a true gem and indeed very challenging. *Alan Walter*
- How clever and original, it still surprises me after 25 years the different quizzes and crosswords. *Marian Procter*
- Clever idea and yet another very enjoyable quiz. *Richard Skinner*
- Thanks for an excellent quiz, quite tricky in places. *Jim Fowler*
- A fun quiz – thanks. *Mike Potts*
- That was great fun. *Patricia Abbott*

## November 1-2015: Half 'n Half by InGrid (Jean Barbour)

- 16dn: L+URGY is a GOON show condition or disease. Adding IT gives L+IT+URGY = office. Thanks *InGrid*, a thought-provoking Slot 1.  
*Alan Walter*
- Brain teaser & last finished!  
*Anne Simons*
- Quite a few unusual words.  
*Robyn Caine*
- TIDAL WAVE for COTM!  
*Max Roddick*
- Slot 1 was rather more difficult than usual and it was, in fact, the last one to be finished. I agonised for ages over TIDAL RULES which I had never heard of before – but which did seem to meet the criteria of VALIDATES and HIGH ROLLERS.  
*John Baylis*
- I liked 'stock block' for STEM and 'high rollers' as a cryptic definition for TIDAL WAVES.  
*Brian Tickle*
- I found this one much harder than any of the others this month.  
*Christina Lee*
- Amazing how often the straight clues give the most trouble!  
*Nea Storey*
- I found this a fairly difficult slot 1. Last one in was my favourite clue LITURGY. I didn't know the origin of lurgy.  
*Ian Thompson*
- Thanks *InGrid*. Enjoyed your puzzle especially 16dn.  
*Robyn Wimbush*
- Liked 14dn definition.  
*Ulla Axelsen*
- A suitable brain tickler for slot 1 – enough to stir the grey matter.  
*Gabriel Fuller*
- The across clues weren't so 'quick' as had been indicated.  
*Hilary Cromer*
- A testing Slot One. Pleased to finish as one clue held me up.  
*Cheryl Wilcox*
- 16dn is a guess. Can't wait to see why.  
*Andrew Patterson*
- Several unsatisfactory clues; notably 16dn. When did a "lurgy" become a "goon" [the "dreaded lurgy" was a disease invented by the Goons – Adj]?  
*Margaret Davis*
- Not an easy slot 1. I struggled to find a slang word for lout which held me up for some time.  
*Barbara Ibbott*
- As a former English teacher I feel really uncomfortable about filling in PLOT as the answer to the clue THEME. I spent years teaching my students the difference. Otherwise a suitable and satisfying Slot 1 puzzle.  
*Susan Howells*

## November 2-2015: Cryptic by Zythum (Roger Douglas)

- 28ac: Maiden talk hides DEN+TAL. 7dn: Cut back = POL cocktail = K, per = A giving POL+K+A = dance. 22dn: First half of thoroughfare = STR(eet), three quarters are 3 directions E + W + N giving STR+EWN = spread out. Good cryptic, thanks *Zythum*.  
*Alan Walter*
- Some good clues eg. 13 & 16ac & 5, 6 & 12dn.  
*Anne Simons*
- I hope "weatherman" is correct, as I don't really understand the clue.  
*Robyn Caine*
- Many witty clues:- EMBARGO, THIEVERY, MARBLES, EGG TIMER and CUMMERBUND – middle management cover up. Liked that one!  
*Max Roddick*
- Slot 2 was delightful and I gave ULTIMATUM my COTM.  
*John Baylis*
- I thought BACILLUS and TOILETRY were good and difficult clues.  
*Ian Thompson*
- I really liked the clues for 'toiletry' and 'thievery'.  
*Brian Tickle*
- I enjoyed this puzzle; especially JAGUARS and STREWN with 'three quarters'.  
*Ann Millard*
- Thanks for your "no issues" puzzle; although I cannot find a reference giving "long = L".  
*Len Colgan*
- Good, fair clues.  
*Nea Storey*
- What an enjoyable puzzle; with some very clever clues!  
*Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Slow to start but enjoyed the puzzle once I got into it. Cumberbund was a contender for my COTM.  
*Cheryl Wilcox*
- Challenging – many lesser-used words in this slot.  
*Lynn Jarman*
- Lots of clever clues in this puzzle.  
*R & P McKenzie*
- I had to dig back into my memory for the answer to 19ac – WEATHERMAN.  
*Susan Howells*

## November 3-2015: Cryptic by Ilywhacker (Alex Forbath)

- 22dn: will = URGE, rise without head = (s)URGE. 4dn: MAG + NET + IC, (to) bag = (to) net MAGIC = supernatural. 12dn: FOX TERRIER FOX = outsmart T + ERR + IER = level + mistake inside. Thanks *Ilywhacker* for a well made cryptic.  
*Alan Walter*
- Another challenge. I almost gave fox terrier COTM.  
*Anne Simons*
- An enjoyable cryptic but I thought 27ac should have had "sloth" reversed.  
*Robyn Caine*
- *Ilywhacker's* clues, thought out to the last detail, are a pleasure! Liked MUFFLER best.  
*Max Roddick*
- Slot 3 another entertaining puzzle and I thought DARK HORSE a good clue.  
*John Baylis*
- Nice clue for 'ache'.  
*Brian Tickle*
- Plenty of great surface readings; especially COTM 13ac. I'm not convinced that "cut" is an anagram indicator; though.  
*Len Colgan*
- An interesting puzzle and just the right degree of difficulty for a

slot 3; I think.

- 12dn definition had me thinking for a while even with having the f and x.  
*Ian Thompson*
- I gave COTM to 17dn ACIDIC; but I am left wondering when and where the tart will be identified – possibly in the next *CrOZworld!*  
*Ulla Axelsen*
- I do not understand clues 8dn LANCED or 22dn URGE provided of course that they are the answers.  
*Susan Howells*
- I do not understand clues 8dn LANCED or 22dn URGE provided of course that they are the answers.  
*Doreen Jones*

## November 4-2015: AJ by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)

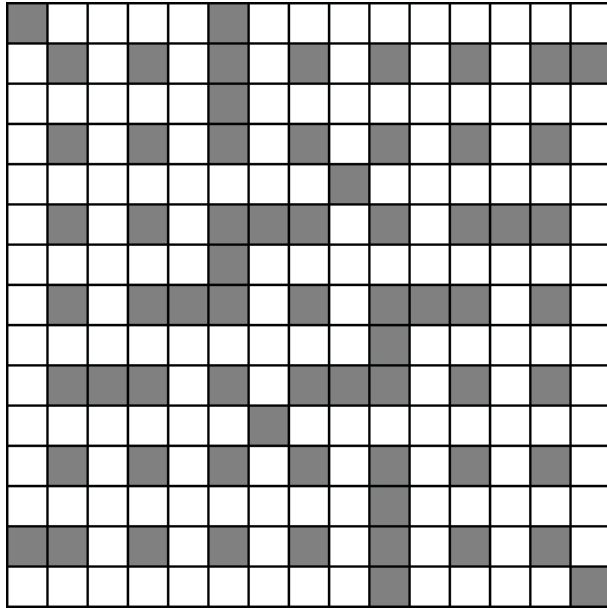
- The answers KRAAL & URBAN can be interchanged in their positions. In clue B, brings up = vomits = cats in the US. A surprise answer! An entertaining AJ thanks *Valkyrie*.  
*Alan Walter*
- Some juggling required. Took a long time to get W & R (a good clue). Hookshot is a guess.  
*Anne Simons*
- An unusual AJ with two "d" and two "i" solutions. There were some very challenging clues and it was satisfying to finish this one.  
*Robyn Caine*
- The K clue was a fine piece of red-herringry. We all know Kylie sings, and Kylie is a boomerang, 5 letters as required – but it won't fit! And when you find the right answer – what a lark! Thanks *Valkyrie!*  
*Max Roddick*
- Slot 4 was a great teaser, and with no intersecting long clues to provide an easy starting point one had to work very hard. I eventually had to use the quartet of four letter words.  
*John Baylis*
- Quite a tough and enjoyable challenge. I'd appreciate a parsing of the B clue please. [see p5 – to "cat" is US slang for vomit (bring up) – Adj].  
*Brian Tickle*
- HOOKSHOT close to COTM.  
*Roy Taylor*
- I see that KRAAL and URBAN are interchangeable. Do not understand the B clue but hope I have it right.  
*Christina Lee*
- Lots of delightful definitions; such as those for cave; groomsmen; and dipsos. Clever clues for informer; jerseys.  
*Nea Storey*
- Another no-issues puzzle from Ulla. Thanks.  
*Len Colgan*
- My main challenge here was getting past the absolute conviction that boomerang + songster = KYLIE!  
*Kath Harper*
- U and K obviously interchangeable. If my B is correct – why?  
*Karl Audrins*

- Don't understand the "B" clue. What has it to do with American cats?  
*Col Archibald*
- I enjoyed the Moon jumpers clue!  
*Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- The ingenious grid caused much ado; but Accolade came to the rescue.  
*Gabriel Fuller*
- The K word was very sneaky!  
*Valerie Howard*
- I finally had to fill in BRINGS UP/BRING SUP although I do not know its connection to 'American cats'.  
*Susan Howells*

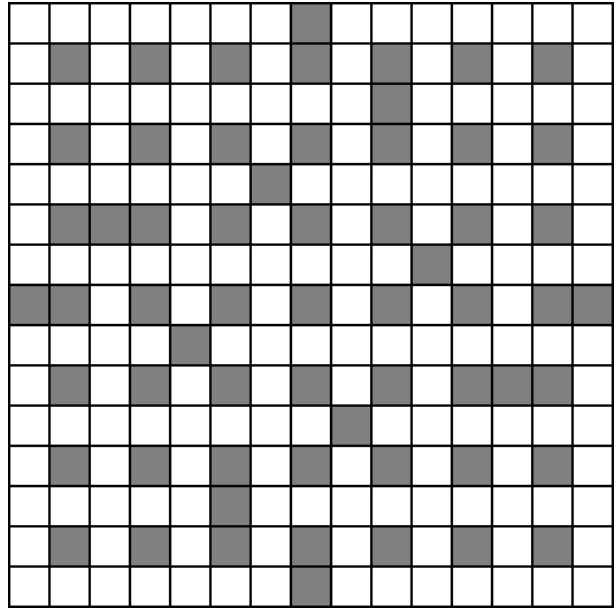
## November 5-2015: Cryptic by Blue King (Roy Low)

- 12ac: C Stamford Bridge, an historic answer. 7dn: Formally revokes = ABROGATES (put) Royal = R for British = B giving ARROGATES = claims. Tricky clue! 20dn: Dart's target ring = TREBLE, includes letter M (Miles) gives TRE+M+BLE = QUIVER. 22dn: Prickly character = THORN (=th) in Old Norse or Old English. A very challenging puzzle. Thanks *Blue King*.  
*Alan Walter*
- Lots of great, fun clues. I particularly liked 21ac and 26ac.  
*Robyn Caine*
- How neatly ARMAGEDDON works out! Also liked MERRIEST and CLOSE TO THE BONE.  
*Max Roddick*
- Having been taken to see Chelsea play in 1939 and being well versed in King Harold I had no trouble with Stamford Bridge and greatly enjoyed this puzzle.  
*John Baylis*
- Many great clues. I especially liked 4ac; 26ac; 27ac; 13dn and 22dn.  
*Brian Tickle*
- Really enjoyed this puzzle with a great variety of clues. I did like EGGBEATER!  
*Ann Millard*
- Armageddon & time signal great clues. I don't think close to the bone means dirty [Chambers lists that meaning – Adj].  
*Roy Taylor*
- I particularly liked 5dn; 7dn; 13dn.  
*Len Colgan*
- Finding Stamford Bridge was a battle in itself. My very limited knowledge of UK football didn't extend to identifying it as that sort of battleground as well as the historical kind.  
*Kath Harper*
- Thank you for all those clever clues!  
*Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Some very clever clueing. 19dn had me scratching my head for a while but then I had that ah-ha moment. Consequently I've given it my COTM.  
*Ulla Axelsen*
- This puzzle had so many good clues I could not decide on a COTM – Cheyenne; overboard and time signal are examples. This gets my award for POTM (puzzle of the month).  
*Maureen Blake*
- I liked several of the clues in this slot. Toss up between Armageddon, merriest and eggbeater for COTM. Chose Armageddon.  
*Hilary Cromer*
- Pleased to complete a *Blue King* puzzle.  
*Cheryl Wilcox*
- 7dn: ABROGATES or ARROGATES? [most definitely the former – Adj].  
*Doreen Jones*

|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |6| |2|0|1|5|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |1| |2|0|1|5|



Send solution to: Jenny Wenham,

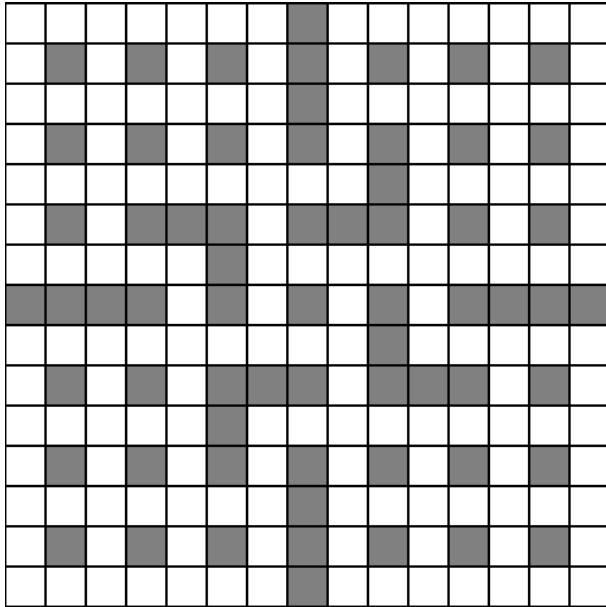
c/o Post Office Comet Qld 4702.

Closing mail date: Friday 15 January 2016.

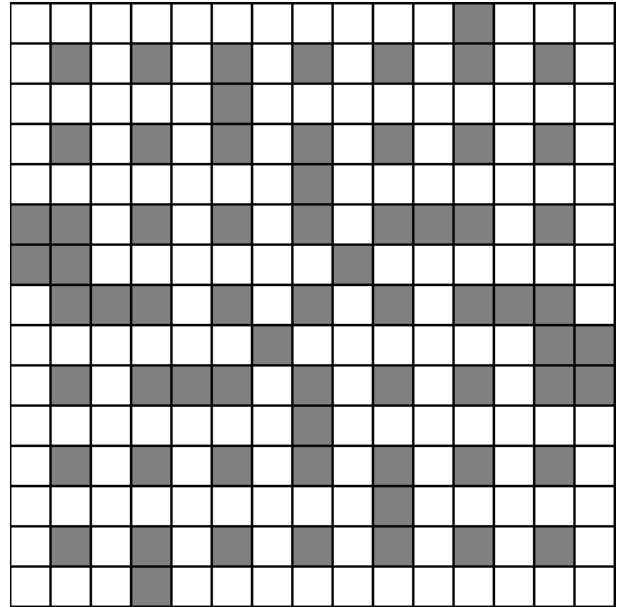
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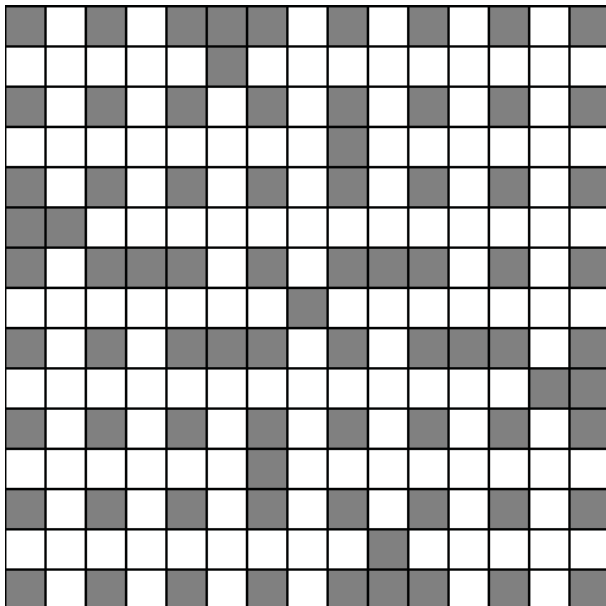
|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |2| |2|0|1|5|



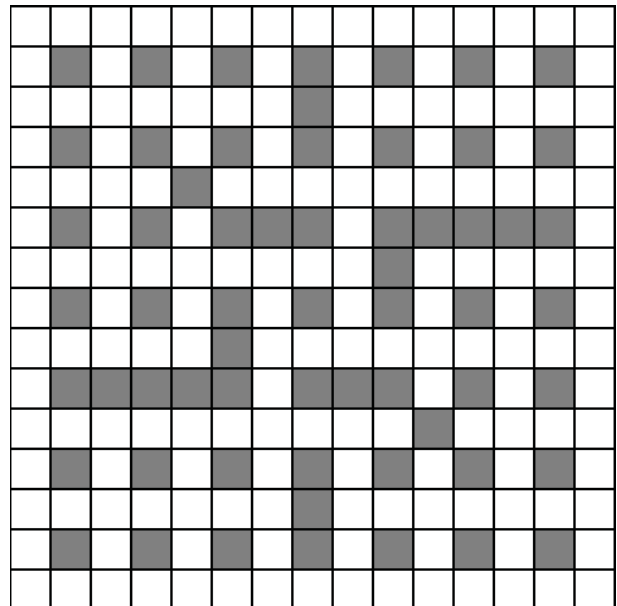
|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |3| |2|0|1|5|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |4| |2|0|1|5|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |5| |2|0|1|5|



NAME.....

Clue of the Month .....



**October 6-2015: Cryptic by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)**

**Entries: 74; Correct: 45; Success Rate: 61%.**

**Prize Winner: Ian McKenzie. Congratulations!**

**Adjudicator's Comments:** Thanks for all your wonderful comments and feedback. I am glad that you enjoyed the challenge and that so many people gave it a go even though they may never have been fans of the Beatles. There were a few clues that caused grief and one of those was SYBIL. The name can be spelled either Sibyl or Sybil but the clue clearly indicated the latter. There were a few NOTCHES or NOTATES for NOTICES, MEET for MEED and PART TIME for PORT SIDE. Unfortunately there were some obvious transcription errors as well including TWIDT and SHOUT, UNCTUOSS and SUBIL. Even though WAGIN started with 2 unchecked letters (sorry) most solvers eventually found the correct answer and appreciated the clue. Once again thanks.

—Ulla Axelsen

**Explanations: Across: 1.** HAG+(RAG<)+D **4.** B+EMU+S+E+D **7.** alternate letters (*now and then* is indicator) **8.** MO(VE)MENTS **10.** DIS+ I(N+TEG<)+RATE+D **12.** double **15.** AG(E LIM<)+IT(anag of GAIT) **17.** PRO+NO+UNS **18.** M(AID)EN **23.** anag **25.** GIR+ANDOLE(anag) **26.** B+LAIR **27.** NO(TIC)ES **28.** WE+L+FARE. **Down: 1.** H+AIR+DO+S **2.** GROSS+ER **3.** pun **4.** B(EVE) RAG+E **5.** S(e)Y<+NOD **6.** DISC+O **8.** homophone of MEAD **9.** MAT+HLDA(anag) **13/11.** POR(T)SIDE(anag) **14.** C+H+OR(-N+R)ION **16.** remove the letters BASE and then anag **19.** DIOR<+AMA **20.** Double **21.** pun **23.** W(AG)IN **23.** peek=peak (homophone)=TOR+AT all reversed **24.** S+Y+B+I+L (reversed first letters).

**Solvers' Comments:**

- Thanks for a wonderful thematic cryptic. Lots of good clues but I think PORT SIDE is outstanding. *Brian Symons*
- I really enjoyed this once I got into it – some very good clues. *Jill Freeland*
- If there was a COTM for Slot 6 I would have given it to HAGGARD – that 'paper' back was brilliant! *Bew Cockburn*
- I loved the Beatles theme. *Robyn Caine*
- I presume that the clues in italics had some relevance to the Beatles but we of the Bing Crosby and Glenn Miller era can surmount this apparent favouring of the younger generation and tender our submissions with modest expectations of success. (*Loved your comment – Adj.*) *John Baylis*
- You managed to fit in so many Beatles hits and the clues were delightful and so clever. *Betty Siegman*
- Loved it! Last in was WAGIN! *Raoul*
- Particularly loved HAGGARD and would have had it for COTM were that allowed. *Dale McManus*
- Many thanks for the very clever way that you wove in all those italicised literary titles. This was brilliant. *Alan Walter*
- WAGIN had me stumped for ages. Had trouble getting away from 'first place' not being a P. *Ann Millard*
- Brought back the music of my youth. *Pat Garner*
- Thanks for the sing-song. I enjoy a theme that's incorporated into the clues. My favourite clue was HAGGARD, given that She in the book is a witch. *Michael Kennedy*
- Thanks for your puzzle, it stirred my brain connections nicely. It may even have postponed Alzheimer's for a while! *Denis Coates*
- Very clever; but I was way off the wavelength. WAGIN gave no trouble – big advantage living in Perth and driving through it occasionally. *Rob Moline*
- Great theme. Great fun. *Brian Tickle*
- Great theme had me whistling well loved tunes. *Roy Taylor*
- The italics (all Beatles songs?) really put me off; until I decided to ignore them for the purpose of solving the clues. Hope I am correct with WAGIN for a "place in Australia". *Nea Storey*
- Can't help but enjoy the theme and the effort involved. *Andrew Patterson*
- Another grid with triple unchecked letters. Starting 22 and 28 with double unchecked letters is unfair. 4: No indication given that blackbird is to be split. If you mean black bird then say so. [*But the Beatles song is entitled "Blackbird" and any qualification would have affected the surface reading – Adj.*] *George Rolfe*
- Loved the clues for "PRONOUNS" and "TWIST AND SHOUT". *Marian Procter*
- When The Beatles came to Adelaide I won two tickets in a word competition run by a local radio station. For once I was the popular boy at school. *Len Colgan*

- Loved the Beatles theme – it's lucky there was no one around to hear me singing along! *Kath Harper*
- Lots of memories in these clues. *Warren Allen*
- All those Beatle song references must have taken a lot of compilation time. Thanks for a most interesting puzzle. The across clue 10 (Disintegrated) I thought was a very clever clue. *Maureen Blake*
- This is very clever and very enjoyable. You've done well to fit so many titles into the clues. My favourites were 1ac, 4ac & 8ac. *Jenny Wenham*
- I love how my vocabulary is expanded – need; chorion; girl dole!!! *Cheryl Wilcox*
- A cleverly woven theme – best clue was HAGGARD. *Michael Potts*
- An enjoyable theme. My favourite was TWIST AND SHOUT. *Ian Thompson*
- What a clever Beatles theme; well done! Loved the clue for PORT SIDE. *Tony Dobebe*
- Really enjoyed this puzzle. Some real challenges and particularly liked WAGIN and MEED. *Ann Millard*
- Thank you Ulla. Lots of fun. *Robyn Wimbush*
- As a tragic Beatles fan I thoroughly enjoyed your puzzle – learnt a few new words and found it quite challenging. *Jan Wood*

**The Oxford Dictionary's Word of the Year 2015** 😂 is not even

a word. It's a pictograph: an emoji officially called 'Face with Tears of Joy'. It was said that "There were other strong contenders from a range of fields but the result was chosen as the 'word' that best reflected the ethos, mood, and preoccupations of 2015."



"Face with Tears of Joy" was the world's most used emoji in 2015, according to figures compiled by Oxford University Press and mobile technology firm SwiftKey. It made up 20% of all emojis used in the UK and 17% of those used in the US in 2015. As for the word *emoji* – a Japanese loanword derived from *e* 'picture' + *maji* 'letter, character' – it has appeared in English since 1997. But data from the Oxford Dictionaries Corpus shows use of the word more than trebled in 2015, compared with 2014.

Although emoji have been a staple of texting teens for some time, emoji culture exploded into the global mainstream over the past year and they have come to embody a core aspect of living in a digital world that is visually driven, emotionally expressive, and obsessively immediate.

The announcement has been met with a mixture of disappointment and ridicule in some corners. "Like a tragically out-of-touch old person trying desperately to reclaim his youth, Oxford Dictionaries is clinging to every gimmick it can to prove it's still relevant," sniped *nymag.com*. *Techcrunch.com* was similarly aghast: "I was raised to trust everything the dictionary told me, but damn. What is going on with the world?"

These words made the shortlist for 2015:

- ad blocker**, noun: A piece of software designed to prevent advertisements from appearing on a web page.
- Brexit**, noun: A term for the potential or hypothetical departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union, from British + exit.
- Dark Web**, noun: The part of the World Wide Web that is only accessible by means of special software, allowing users and website operators to remain anonymous or untraceable.
- on fleek**, adjectival phrase: Extremely good, attractive, or stylish.
- lumbersexual**, noun: A young urban man who cultivates an appearance and style of dress (typified by a beard and check shirt) suggestive of a rugged outdoor lifestyle.
- refugee**, noun: A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.
- sharing economy**, noun: An economic system in which assets or services are shared between private individuals, either for free or for a fee, typically by means of the Internet.
- they** (singular), pronoun: Used to refer to a person of unspecified sex. *—The Age, 18 November 2015*