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www.crosswordclub.org



Words that open our eyes to the world are always the easiest to remember.
Ryszard Kapuscinski, 1992, 'Daguerreotypes', in *Shah of Shars*.

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

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|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 2018. 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 2018 Prize Fund can be found on p6. Further renewals and donations will be acknowledged in the next *Crozworld*. Many thanks for your generous sponsorship of the ACC in 2018.

Don't forget about the special offer where you can sign up a new member for 2018 for only \$35. 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: *Fortuna 48*, *Penobscot*, *Manveru* and *The Lady and the Scamp* with challenging puzzles. We are delighted to publish the first puzzle by *Murphyslore* (Ken Callan) in Slot 2. Our dynamic compiler *Zplig* has compiled a stunning cryptic in the Slot 5 position and *Lexi Conner* has given us a brilliant cryptic composition titled *Britannia* for Slot 6. Brian Symons has devised another fascinating Quiz titled *Three of a Kind*.

Kindly note the early closing date – **Tuesday 19 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. Well done, Joan.
—Patrick

It is a lot different these days to adjudicate: most of the work is done by ACCOLADE (thank you Ian for all your help) although I do miss the friendly cards and letters.

I would have liked to attend the Luncheon but with 4 Granddaughters there is nearly always a dance concert the same day. Thank you Robyn for the lovely card I received with your entry.

Slot 1: Well received by the members. MEDICS (16) for MEDICO was the major problem. Other errors were EXISTANCE (4) for EXISTENCE and EMPHASIZE for EMPHASISE.

Slot 2: Quite a few members had ACCEPT for OCCUPY and it was decided to accept both answers. 5dn SALE created the biggest problem with this puzzle. CANE (8) GAME (3) and five other individual mistakes.

Slot 3: Another popular puzzle: no major problems. 2 PEACE for PHASE, 2 OPAH for ORAL and had the highest number of entries for COTM.

Slot 4: A popular AJ and ADVENT 6 for ADVERT resulted in lost dots: also one mail entry. X-A- also received many COTMs.

Slot 5: Some comments said it was difficult and there were fewer entries for this puzzle. REBELS for REBECS lost 19 dots. ELECTRONICS and EXITS both lost 5.

COTM: All slots received nominations with Slot 3 receiving the most with 12; however, Slot 4 JOSTLE won the prize with 5 points.
Congratulations *Valkyrie*.
—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 | 77 | 78 | 80 | 60 | 384 |
| Correct entries | 68 | 58 | 65 | 64 | 35 | 290 |
| Success rate (%) | 76.4 | 75.3 | 83.3 | 80 | 58.3 | 75.5 |
| Prizewinners | Laurence Kennedy | Jean Barbour | Merv Collins | Nea Storey | Mike Potts | from 94 members |

Prizewinner: November 2017 Slots 1-5: Robyn Caine, Congratulations!

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

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

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Half and Half
by
Fortuna 48



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Across

- 8 Old city guy in a hurry (6)
- 9 Searching around a ghostly visitation (8)
- 10 So in vain! Illegal encroachment (8)
- 11 Biscuit tracer (6)
- 12 Blackbird follows vehicle on merry-go-round (8)
- 13 Brown coal not left to start fire (6)
- 14 Awkward lies following promise to worship (7)
- 17 United Nations mortal is eternal (7)
- 20 How Wednesday's Child may be described? (6)
- 22 *Rebellious rodent didn't finish eating uranium can (8)
- 25 Abundance (6)
- 26 Critical interpretation of Biblical text (8)
- 27 Throbs (8)
- 28 Seize a piece of harness (6)

Down

- 1 Sot (8)
- 2 Set at zero to make frozen treat (6)
- 3 The science of morals (6)
- 4 Cut a tile? (7)
- 5 Join something that may be extreme, after first of January (8)
- 6 American solicitor (8)
- 7 Apply oil for most of 5 (6)
- 15 Lacking animation (8)
- 16 A salt of sulphuric acid (8)
- 18 Relating to navigation (8)
- 19 To engage deeply (7)
- 21 Make available for settlement (4,2)
- 23 For that reason (6)
- 24 An obelisk (6)

Slots 1-5: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.
e-mail: mcanzap@bigpond.net.au
Closing mail date: Tuesday 19 December 2017.

Slot 6: Ron Shapiro, 168/5 Wulumay Close, Rozelle NSW 2039.
email: rmbjs@inet.net
Closing mail date: Friday 12 January 2018.

For Online entry, submission and adjudication of all puzzles via ACCOLADE
click on www.crosswordclub.org/accolade


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Cryptic

by
Murphyslore



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Across

- 1 Realistic if elk lie awkwardly (8)
- 5 Composer holding the French cleaning agent (6)
- 9 Church not involved in criminal franchises but has a font (8)
- 10 Fights for left-overs (6)
- 12 Consumed in the tea tent (5)
- 13 Sounds like a regular occurrence you took in to get used to it (9)
- 14 Good advice from the Roman Chamber of Commerce? (6,6)
- 18 Inappropriate aural conduct from a mythical noble (5,7)
- 21 Power over misguided northern comedian (9)
- 23 Former partner follows leading international news directors' list (5)
- 24 Put up with finish you heard about (6)
- 25 Appropriate C sharp, for example. Pay attention! (4,4)
- 26 It returned, passed on and cleaned up (6)
- 27 Extremely docile men Edward followed, afflicted with a mental illness (8)

Down

- 1 Leant over to one side and led, holding first place (6)
- 2 Can be counted when confused feminist is missing her title (6)
- 3 Falsehood in Western Australia – it could precede an ambush (3,2,4)
- 4 Glory-seeker of yesteryear has one thousand endless nights before Her Majesty rants without first scowling (6,6)
- 6 Fifty-one comes before one hundred – it is legal (5)
- 7 Current art in beverage means a separate price for every dish (1,2,5)
- 8 Accommodation for disturbed holy rest (8)
- 11 Stumbling block in front of an ethnic group leads to a challenging competition (8,4)
- 15 Pill I'm bringing back to the original Ethiopian Dung Eater insect (9)
- 16 Ultimate trial of litmus paper? (4,4)
- 17 Not in fashion, end of end, obsolete! (8)
- 19 These days the French king has time to be skilful (6)
- 20 Lengthen time to finish after king loses his head (6)
- 22 Scandinavian Ron going North, then South East (5)

Murphyslore (Ken Callan)

Born and educated in the UK, I taught English in Morocco and France for a few years. For our honeymoon, my wife, Paula, and I spent three months backpacking overland to Australia in 1974. We're still here! I retired from teaching here in Queensland a couple of years ago and, by joining the ACC, I hope to develop my crossword writing skills. "Murphyslore" is the name of a band I played in for a few years.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- I was very excited to win such a wonderful prize this month. The cheque and lovely certificate came today. Thank you so much. Robyn McKenzie
- Many thanks for the Slot 6 prize; a most enjoyable surprise. Tony Dobe
- Thank you for the prize money for Slot 7. Wonderful surprise. Ann Millard
- Another month; another fine lot of puzzles; couldn't finish Slot 5; still seeking finkelharp or whatever! Max Roddick
- Most enjoyable. Some clever clues. Cheryl Wilcox
- Many thanks for last month's Slot 3 prize. A very pleasant surprise. Odette Greenberger

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Cryptic
by
Penobscot



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Across

- 1 I see, we hear, what we see with (8)
- 5 Targeted bird (6)
- 9 Essence swallowed in a rare distillation by hospital doctor (9)
- 11 Reduce publicity attraction (5)
- 12 Motet about family symbol (5)
- 13 Behold! Short scouting trip has no leader (4)
- 14 Early explorer sounded skilful (4)
- 16 Keen to bend this? (4)
- 17 Be equal can be smooth (7)
- 20 Jack's back to chew fat (3)
- 21 Group festival follows regularly each year (7)
- 22 Peter returns in true fashion (4)
- 25 14 can be skilful (4)
- 26 Fairy for each individual (4)
- 27 A compound of waving trees (5)
- 29 Singularly 1 Down (5)
- 30 Mandy's son could be a council member (9)
- 31 Pity about the General Staff. What a mess! (6)
- 32 Irish town's song heard as tribute to French seat (8)

Down

- 1 I'm not sure. Artist, thanks very much, makes mistakes (6)
- 2 Top to bottom for utmost degree. Another one is said to be too many (6)
- 3 Introduce ideas? It's instinctive, taking in competition round (10)
- 4 Mount down under? What rot! (13)
- 6 Moreover found in kalsomine (4)
- 7 Fruity games with suspended weights? (8)
- 8 Formerly rang a bell and praised (8)
- 10 Stephenson's proclivity is not simple (6,7)
- 15 Man on boundary not inner about enclosure (10)
- 18 Settle and prepare to settle violently (6,2)
- 19 Badger friend to boast about (8)
- 23 Trouble on the green from eye trouble - taking note (6)
- 24 On this you're partly involved (6)
- 28 Worrisome sort of work? (4)

2017 GET-TOGETHER AND HAVE FUN!!

The ACC's Annual Get-Together will be held at William 'Raoul' Ryan's delectable pub *The Harold Park Hotel*, cnr Wigram Road and Ross Street, Glebe NSW on Sunday 26 November 2017 commencing at 11:30am. William has allocated a comfortable and spacious room upstairs and he serves 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 cruciverball! 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 prizes to give away and our dynamic Secretary Bev Cockburn has some exciting intellectual challenges for you. Looking forward to meeting up again. Be there!



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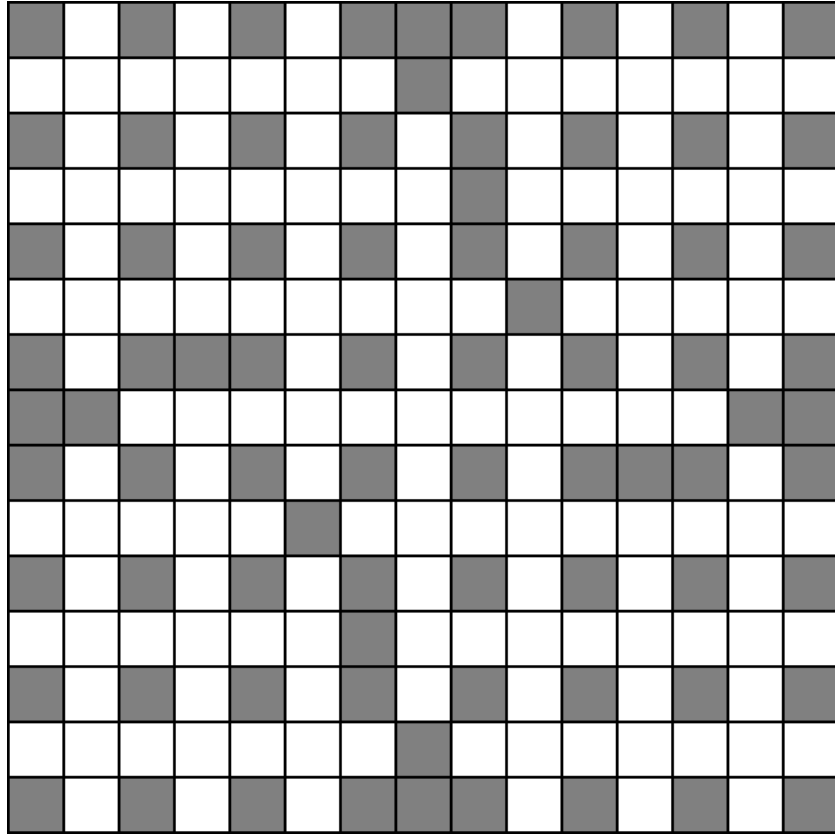
AJ

by

***The Lady and
the Scamp***



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



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| A Gates identified at several social functions (11) | N Tribesmen giving in order that Indonesian returned (7) |
| B Disqualify unfinished work from bynamed poet (5) | O Requires too much from open cuts (9) |
| C Named, going around embarrassed, but accepted (8) | P Aircraft circles vessel – it's beyond chance! (4,4) |
| D Excludes intimates carrying rarer blood group (6) | Q Opening bowlers, coupled with unsafe surface! (9) |
| E Foliage's left off overhang (5) | R How to respond to let stand-by substitute? (7) |
| F Female left out of rugby team for other alternatives (9) | S Glutton interrupting person drinking too much from tap (6) |
| G Cheats unknown traveller (5) | T Was sitting up before delirium state (8) |
| H Landing place has rim in Cape (7) | U Tradition provides our group with maturity (5) |
| I Come to a conclusion over rising fire (7) | V One behind person succeeding a queen (8) |
| J Playful family gets runaround (6) | W Loves being held in arms in romantic pursuits (7) |
| K Exhausted King Derek is able to set out northwards (9) | X Isolated times turned up synthetic resin (7) |
| L Spooner's picnic was ineffective (6,5) | Y Less mature second person has bitterness, but not initially (7) |
| M Intellectual fellows converse endlessly (6) | Z Life involving beheaded hero is coming to nought (7) |

ACC MEMBERSHIPS and RENEWALS FOR 2018:

Allen W, Armishaw G, Axelsen U, Baker D, Barnes J, Barrett A, Batum C, Bendigo Bank, Blake M, Caine R, Carpenter R, Carroll L, Chilcott B, Christiansen R, Clayton J, Coates D, Cockburn M, Coote P, Cromer H, Davis K, Dennis M, Dorrell R, Fauser G, Freeland J, Freeman H, Fuller G, Gleeson C, Grainger D, Greenberger O, Groves J, Hagan B, Hambling C, Harper K, Heath P, Heyes N, Horadam K, Howard V, Hull B, Ibbott B, Jones D, Kennedy L, Lankshear J, Lemon G, Lord P, Mackay-Sim C, Matthews S, McKenzie R, Millard A, Milton R, Moline R, O'Brien E, Otrupcek R, Patterson A, Pearce J, Perrow H, Potten K, Procter D, Procter M, Randall J, Raw M, Roulston S, Shield A, Siegman B, Skinner R, Storey N, Taylor R, Tickle B, Tuckfield J, Veress M, Vic Teachers MB 18419, Thompson I, Veress M, Whitehead R, Wilcox C, Williams R, Wimbush R and Woodford J.

DONATIONS TO THE 2018 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM:

Warren Allen, Ulla Axelsen, Dianne Baker, Arthur Barrett, Bendigo Bank, Maureen Blake, Jeremy Barnes, Robyn Caine, Lesley Carroll, Beryl Chilcott, Richard Christiansen, Denis Coates, Hilary Cromer, Ken Davis, Rosemary Dorrell, Jill Freeland, Hazel Freeman, Cheryl Gleeson, David Grainger, Odette Greenberger, Bob Hagan, Catherine Hambling, Kath Harper, Phyl Heath, Norma Heyes, Kathy Horadam, Valerie Howard, Bronwyn Hull, Barbara Ibbott, Doreen Jones, Laurence Kennedy, Jill Lankshear, Gary Lemon, Pat Lord, Caroline Mackay-Sim, Robyn McKenzie, Ann Millard, Robert Milton, Rob Moline, Eileen O'Brien, Robina Otrupcek, Andrew Patterson, David Procter, Marian Procter, Judy Randall, Margaret Raw, Sonia Roulston, Betty Siegman, Alison Shield, Richard Skinner, Nea Storey, Roy Taylor, Brian Tickle, Michael Veress, Vic Teachers MB 18419, Cheryl Wilcox, Ian Thompson, Robyn Whitehead, Richard Williams and Robyn Wimbush.

A sincere thanks to you all for your kindness and generosity.

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| Cryptic by Zplig |
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Across

- 1 Ref's hesitant sound followed rookie giving large amount of money (4,3)
- 5 Squeal about old bishops weeping (7)
- 9 Idiots assault lieutenants (5)
- 10 Philosopher's tense last letter was in Chinese, oddly (9)
- 11 Bind conservative editor to go back on extracting energy from fuel – hypocritical (9)
- 12 Thorn fixed to point (5)
- 13 Returning pupil starts to reveal mistake (4)
- 15 Concise introduction to symposium united colleges concerned with linking carbon and temperature (8)
- 18 Panic if Korea's ruined in the future (5,3)
- 19 Damage unknown partner of 21 (4)
- 22 As it were Aquinas had surgery following sodium deficiency (5)
- 24 Former scoundrel on Holy Land trip (9)
- 26 Clearly strange levity walking around lion's enclosure (9)
- 27 Gene almost got an Oscar (5)
- 28 Rebellious senator betraying one's government (7)
- 29 Trading places with unknown king like Paul and John perhaps? (7)

Down

- 1 Pholadidae uncovered – fancy! (2-2-2)
- 2 Low-level scientific procedure metamorphosed cure-all (9)
- 3 Discover Hawaii's seafood cuisine (5)
- 4 Revolutionary aims, often! (9)
- 5 Spread out in first-class (5)
- 6 Old city near South Africa organised non-Eastern minuet (9)
- 7 Provoke inclusive university rule (5)
- 8 Travel east towards the German writer (6)
- 14 Jewish men reshape one dissolute on the Sabbath (9)
- 16 Deluge by Cam bringing in cheers about the ends of Churchill, Trinity, and King's (9)
- 17 Sincerely concentrate on liberal year (9)
- 20 Stern exam? (1,1,4)
- 21 Economist begins to work after election's contents are exhausted (6)
- 23 Green diamonds for Dodgson's girl (5)
- 24 I heard old English school is becoming worried (5)
- 25 Producer lost good crew member (5)

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Britannia
by
Lexi Conner



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Across

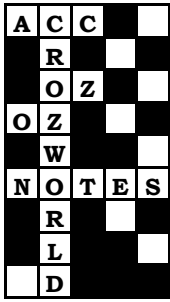
- 1 Street fair in a Cornish town (2,4)
- 4 Tax on straps for dogs (8)
- 10 Women abandon union not backed by PM on TV (9)
- 11 Nine players shuffle off upsetting countrymen where Taffy says he's from (5)
- 12 Actress in dire mess pursuing gemstone (5,4)
- 13 A resident of 4's homeland might wear this gear if overlarge? (4)
- 16, 31 Cook felt unwell when rotated with metal worker (5,5)
- 19 Whizz-bang lobbyist retains English-speaking Canadian (5)
- 20 Dishonest bad actor identified social reformer (7)
- 21 Reserve at the end of entrance to harbour (5)
- 23 European Community takes prize for Emmerdale set (5)
- 25 Returning from Northern Ireland, some point to poet's country (4)
- 26 Sir Henry Morgan was one exclaiming a "dollar an organ!" (9)
- 31 see 16
- 32 Relax and a cocktail will make you a queen! (9)
- 33 Wisdom of a comic nature, extremely dry, in Surrey village (8)
- 34 We hear disapproval over her naming Herriot's home (6)

Down

- 1 Idle characters depart speedily for river (4)
- 2, 30 Observatory scientist from Krypton accepts doctor on top of the line panel (7,4)
- 3 Lyle showing evidence of being in a bunker? (5)
- 5 Tony winner presents argument against television industry leaders (5)
- 6 Yanks swear off awestruck religious member of outlaw gang (4)
- 7 What Charles one day may say to first person making trouble (1,2,4)
- 8 Les Cuneo's heart is with Aussie swimmer in Lincolnshire town (10)
- 9 Outburst not unusual in parliament (8)
- 14 One such as Lennon took up issue with boy unrelated by birth (7,3)
- 15 Domesticated flower (4)
- 17 Abstainer shunning spot in an estuary in 11 (4)
- 18 Prime minister emerged from a month at Cherbourg (8)
- 22 Director dispensed cod-liver oil to be rid of cold (7)
- 24 Avoid using mixture from undischarged manufactured product originally from Somerset (7)
- 27 Unladylike perhaps, silly Nelly leaves for poverty-alleviating British fund (1,1,3)
- 28 Welsh town sheltering in coastline at Holyhead (5)
- 29 Singer-songwriter Gilmore featured in two articles (4)
- 30 see 2

**Post
Solution
to:**

Ron Shapiro,
168/5 Wulumay Close, Rozelle NSW 2039.
email: rmbjs@inet.net
Closing mail date: Friday 12 January 2018.
[or submit via www.crosswordclub.org/accolade]



Solutions to QUIZ 10/2017

EVEN SO! by Fortuna 48 (Nea Storey)

Winner: Jim Fowler, Congratulations!

Entries Received: 33. Percentage Correct: 85%.

Results: 27: W Allen, U Axelsen, M Blake, R Caine, B Cockburn, H Cromer, J Crowe, J Fowler, P Garner, B Glissan, R Gooderick, B Hagan, K Harper, D Jones, J Leigh, G Lemon, P Lord, F Martin, I Mason, C McClelland, A Miles, A Millard, H Perrow, M Procter, B Symons, R Taylor, I Thompson and R Wimbush. **26:** R McKenzie, D Meek, E O'Brien, J Pearce and K Williams.

Answers: 1 Alike 2 Balanced 3 Calm 4 Composed 5 Despite 6 Equal 7 Evening 8 Flatten 9 Flush 10 Horizontal 11 Impartial 12 Just 13 Level 14 Match 15 Neutral 16 Odds 17 Parallel 18 Placid 19 Quits 20 Regular 21 Square 22 Stable 23 Still 24 Uniform 25 Unruffled 26 Vesper 27 Yet.

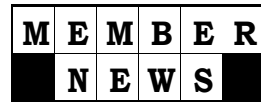
Adjudicator's Comments:

Members enjoyed this quiz, many expressing surprise at the number of synonyms for EVEN. MATED for MATCH was disallowed, as the clue clearly called for a noun. A selection of comments follows:

Members Comments:

- Nothing there to disturb my equanimity. You struck a nice balance!
Andrew Miles
- Thanks for the challenge.
Ulla Axelsen
- It is always a pleasant relief to finish the last crossword and arrive at the quiz: this one was particularly good.
Julie Leigh
- I get a great deal of pleasure out of the quizzes.
Ray Gooderick
- Enjoyed working the brain.
Kate Williams

- Very enjoyable quiz. I prefer this type where you have to use a bit of grey matter.
Bob Hagan
- Had fun with this quiz; there were just so many possibilities!
Pat Lord
- I found this a most interesting quiz discovering all the similes for 'even'.
Maureen Blake
- I didn't realise there were so many synonyms and different meanings for 'even'.
Julie Crowe
- I enjoyed doing this quiz.
Claire McClelland
- Wide ranging set of possible meanings – a good test of thinking broadly.
Frank Martin
- Amazing array of words meaning even – English really is a rich and varied language thanks to its history of borrowing.
Kath Harper
- Clever quiz.
Gary Lemon
- Interesting quiz. Not as easy as it first appeared.
Ann Millard
- How clever, but "even so" many synonyms.
Marian Procter
- I had to revisit it several times, more pennies dropping each time.
Roy Taylor
- As usual clever and difficult. It has taken the whole month which I like.
Robyn Wimbush
- Tougher than I initially thought!
Pat Garner
- Who would have thought there were so many meanings for even?
Warren Allen
- Clever and not so easy. Took me quite a while to find the connections!
Bev Cockburn
- Entertaining quiz. I thought it was very fair, with some challenging clues. Best of all, no googling required!
Robyn Caine
- Interesting and quite tricky. Unruffled needed a bit of lateral thinking.
Jim Fowler
- This was a corker!
Barbara Glissan
- Not sure that I felt calm and composed by the time I had finished it, but very clever of you to find all the words to fit your theme.
Hilary Cromer



New ACC memberships: Philip Coote from Leichhardt NSW, John Tuckfield from Balwyn Vic (introduced by Ian Mason) and Dianne Baker from Braidwood NSW (introduced by Maurice Cowan). Welcome to the wonderful world of Crozworlding.

Puzzle Adjustment: Pat Lord obtained a perfect result in relation to the June 2017 Slot 6 puzzle.

Unrecorded ACC renewals for 2018

We have some recent renewals which do not identify the ACC members name. If you are able to assist, kindly contact me at: pstreet@bigpond.net.au

- IMB, \$70, 4 October 2017
- Bendigo Bank, \$50, 30 October 2017
- Vic Teachers MB 18419, \$85, 30 October 2017.

Charming email from USA

"Just wanted to send a quick note to thank you, some savvy kids and I have been getting a lot of use from your site. Our STEMjuniors workshop has been playing a lot of brain teasers and logic games this month. We've been searching for some fun puzzles or crosswords which is how we stumbled onto your page here, http://crosswordclub.org/ext_links.html ...it's been tough finding non-spammy sites so you have our thanks!

Your page gave us some great ideas to brainstorm. As a token of our thanks we wanted to share another page that one of our superstars Mia found: it's a lengthy list of tangram puzzles and crosswords for younger students. Some of them can be a bit challenging though! We enjoyed the print out activities. Maybe you might even find it useful for your page? Let us know what you think.

Tangrams and puzzles: <http://www.commercialofficecleaning.com/tangrams-and-puzzles-for-kids.html>

Hopefully you like it too! If you do decide to add it I'll be sure to show the gang you liked her find. We love crosswords too, another site that we printed a lot from is <https://www.puzzles-to-print.com>. I love sharing so if you have any needs or cool project ideas please feel free to pass them my way! Thanks again and sorry for rambling, I'm excited about this connection. :) Cheers and well wishes, **Katie Vogel**"

Quiz No 12/2017

Three of a Kind (1 and 2 or 2 and 1) by Brian Symons.

The answers are in alphabetical order and all but one fit one of the two above patterns. The odd one out only fits if spelled out aloud. One answer is not fully in *Chambers*. Send your answers to Brian Symons, 1 Kookaburra Place, Grays Point NSW 2232 e-mail: bms65@bigpond.com. Closing Date 12 January 2018. Prize \$75.

- 1 Animal (8)
- 2 Don't tell this person your secrets (12)
- 3 Policeman (5)
- 4 Body part (6)
- 5 Quiz that is too easy (6)
- 6 Early polar explorers perhaps (11)
- 7 Occupation (8)
- 8 Boxing (10)
- 9 Flock of certain birds (6)
- 10 Overbearing (10)
- 11 Leg deformity (5-5)
- 12 Song type (7)
- 13 Part of the year's cycle (9)
- 14 Overprotective (8)
- 15 Inflammation of a female organ (10)
- 16 In the open air (7)
- 17 Something of little value (10)
- 18 Doll manipulator (9)
- 19 Disinter (9)
- 20 Splitting (8)
- 21 Engine part (8)
- 22 Relax (6)
- 23 Traditional cricket bat perhaps (10)
- 24 Twenty nine (4)
- 25 Nap (4)

November 1-2017: Half 'n Half by InGrid (Jean Barbour)

- 5dn 1,1,3 surely? *George Rolfe*
- A good puzzle; *Ingrid* never fails. *Betty Siegman*
- A great way to start a new month. Thank you *InGrid*.
Ann Millard
- Thanks for a good slot 1. *Barbara Ibbott*
- Good start to the month. Thank you *Ingrid*.
Robyn Wimbush
- Great clues – especially 4, 5, 16 & 21dn. *Anne Simons*
- Liked RETARDANT, EXISTENCE, ABSORBENT, TUTTI.
Max Roddick
- This puzzle was just right for oiling my brain cogs. Thanks *InGrid*.
Gabriel Fuller

November 2-2017: Cryptic by St Jude (Drew Meek)

- A most unfair and unbalanced grid. With only 21 answers there is a preponderance of answers having more than nine letters. In addition, 12 has an unchecked to checked letters of 9:6 as well as 3 consecutive unchecked letters. 16 begins with 2 unchecked letters; another unfair device. One trusts this grid is never used again. *George Rolfe*
- Contubernally! That's a remarkable new word for me. Sale was also new, but I knew *Salix*, which helped.
Ian Thompson
- Nearly put accept for 16 dn; but it does not mean hold. Occupy can mean take up according to *Chambers* xword dictionary. *Roy Taylor*
- After spending time trying to work out a way to use "contubernally" into my everyday vocab, had no effort left to solve 5dn so used the old pin trick. Have no idea how 'willow' and 'deal' are connected!
Eileen O'Brien
- Nice fair puzzle. *Nea Storey*
- Some challenges for me. Still don't reason 'Willow deal'. Time will tell!
Ann Millard
- 7ac Contubernally fits word play but we can't find it in a dictionary anywhere nor can we find an alternative that fits so...fingers crossed. Trouble is that means we struggled mightily with 5dn. Went with CANE eventually but once again...Finally, 10ac we assume was ESCAPE but can't see how the wordplay works. Never had so much trouble with a slot 2.
Richard Skinner
- Some unusual words made this fun. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Unsure of 5dn. What a lot of long words! *Anne Simons*
- CONTUBERNALLY definitely my word of the month. Thanks *St Jude*.
Ian Thompson
- Liked SHOPPING CENTRE, HONEST, HAIRSPLITTERS, but can't quite see how 18ac. clue works. *Max Roddick*
- I've had great fun asking my friends when last they were contubernal.
Robyn Wimbush
- HOMOPHOBIC 11dn? I cannot understand the clue.
Doreen Jones
- Contubernally: Have I learnt a new word or just made it up? (A good puzzle though!)
Laurence Kennedy

November 3-2017: Cryptic by Manveru (Michael Kennedy)

- Many excellent clues. *Brian Symons*
- Really nice effort. GYMNASIUM easily COTM.
Andrew Patterson
- Very nice puzzle. Mostly straightforward but trickier to work out the final clues.
Ian Thompson
- Loved ORCHARDS and ONIONS. *Bev Cockburn*
- PHASE/FAZE – good homophone. *Nea Storey*
- Too many good clues to list but will give 9dn FIBRES my COTM.
Ann Millard
- Liked MEADOW; simple and elegant. *Rob Moline*
- Liked the clues for 12ac & 1dn. *Anne Simons*

- Liked SITE, IMMEDIATE and especially TRANSLATED.

Max Roddick

- I always enjoy *Manveru's* cluing. Favourites this time were PHASE and LABORATORY. *Brian Tickle*

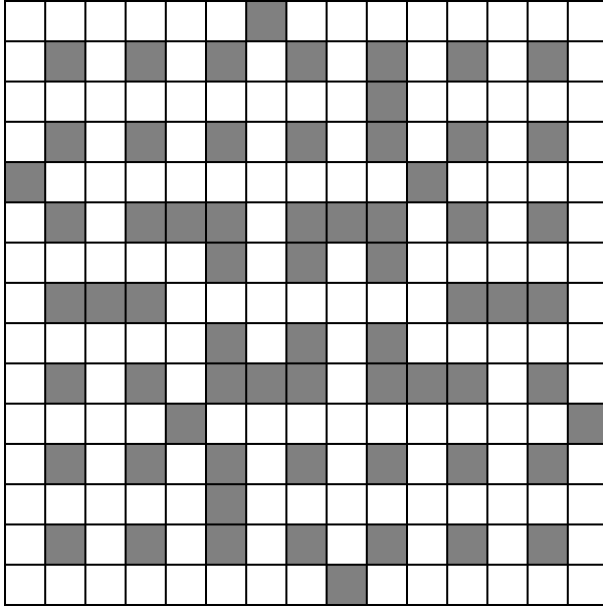
November 4-2017: AJ by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)

- *Valkyrie* comes up with so many great variations of AJ grids. *Brian Tickle*
- I found this Slot 4 quite difficult. *Nea Storey*
- Always a favourite and this didn't disappoint. Thank you *Valkyrie!*
Ann Millard
- Met up with new words. Hope they are right. Thanks for keeping my brain working. *Norma Heyes*
- I liked quidnunc and Napoleon – my tastes are simple.
Robyn Wimbush
- Loved JOSTLE. *Rob Moline*
- Very worthy slot 4. These "new" grids add to the challenge. *Richard Skinner*
- CONCATENATION was a new word to me; so hope it's correct. M & S were my favourite clues. *Anne Simons*
- CONCATENATION immediately jumped out at me; the word 'chain' made it too easy. Perhaps 'linked events'? In the EPICAL clue, learned a new meaning for 'pica'.
Max Roddick

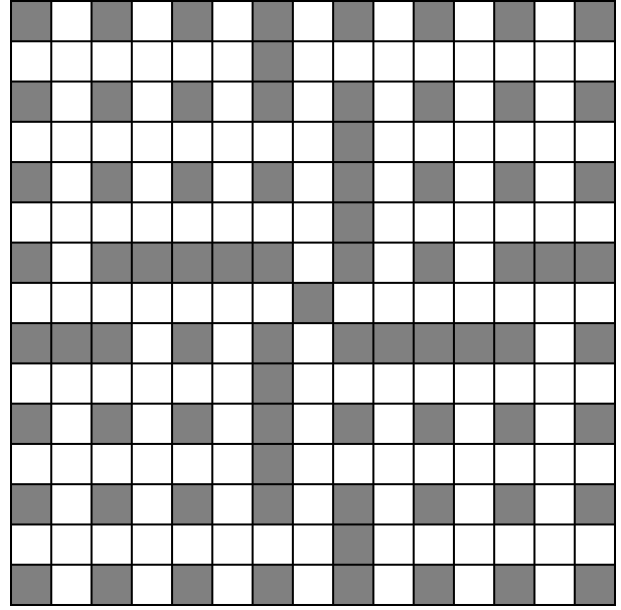
November 5-2017: Cryptic by The Mythtics (Ulla Axelsen & Ian Williams)

- A few unfamiliar words here. Gave websites COTM.
Roy Taylor
- Extremely difficult; (perhaps a Slot 6?) saved by excellent clues. Loved ROOT. *Bev Cockburn*
- This was a difficult puzzle, and 5dn was a trap. Not eligible for the theme as it was defined; and not an ancient musical instrument! SILOS was my runner-up for COTM.
Nea Storey
- Just about a whole medieval orchestra in there. Well done *Mythtics*; loved the puzzle. *Betty Siegman*
- I can't justify either REBELS or NEBELS for 6dn so have opted for NEBELS as I only have 9 other undefined instruments and this would make 10. *Jenny Wenham*
- Mystified by 15dn but hoping for the best. Not much choice really. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Lots of new words and excellent cluing. Not sure about the spelling of 17dn Spinette? It seems to be Spinet in our references? [*Chambers has both spellings - Adj*] Liked 15dn Electrodes. *Richard Skinner*
- Luckily I got 9ac very early. *Anne Simons*
- I would have had very little chance of solving this puzzle without aids. Always interesting to see the richness of our language. *Ian Thompson*
- A particularly enjoyable puzzle! *Sonia Roulston*
- Not convinced about 6dn: the theme suggests rebecs, the clue 'rebels'. Couldn't justify the former: gone for the latter. [*This caught out a number of solvers – not intentionally. The clue should be read as "Dissenters [Rebels] and [substitute] Club (c) for Liberal (L) – the intention would have been clearer had we used the more normal abbreviation "clubs" for the C – our apologies – The M*] *Merv Collins*
- Some great clues with 25dn SOFA, 17dn SPINETTE and 20dn HUBCAP. Still not happy with a couple of my answers and it appears that 5dn is defined; which added confusion. Difficult in my opinion. *Ann Millard*
- By no means an easy puzzle.... lots of research needed to find all the old musical instruments. *Maureen Blake*

|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |6| |2|0|1|7|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |1| |2|0|1|7|

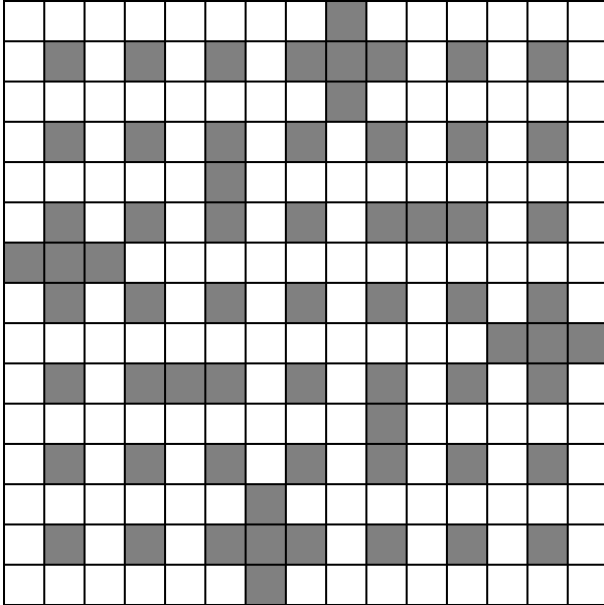


Send solution to: Ron Shapiro,
168/5 Wulumay Close, Rozelle NSW 2039.
Closing mail date: Friday 12 January 2018.
NAME:

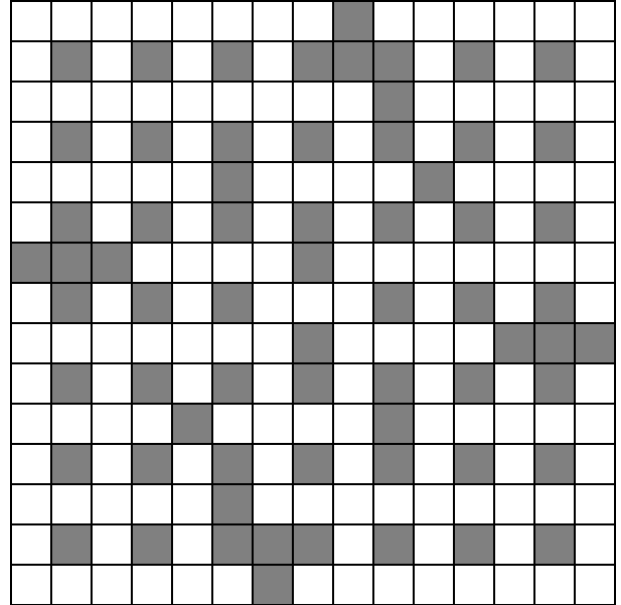
NAME.....



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |2| |2|0|1|7|

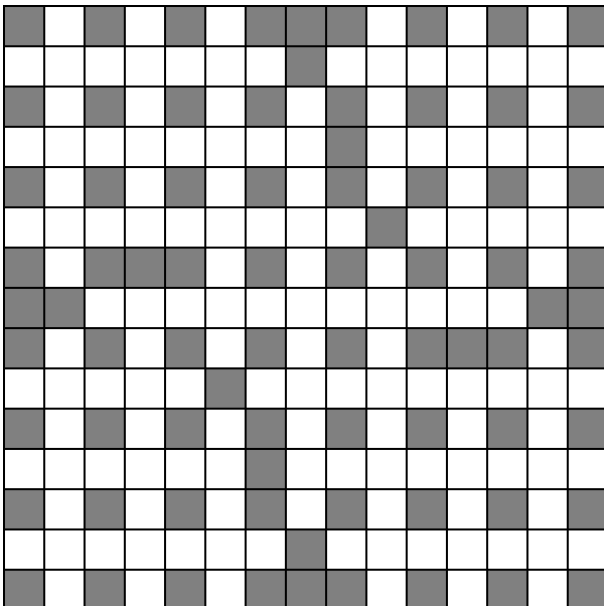


|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |3| |2|0|1|7|

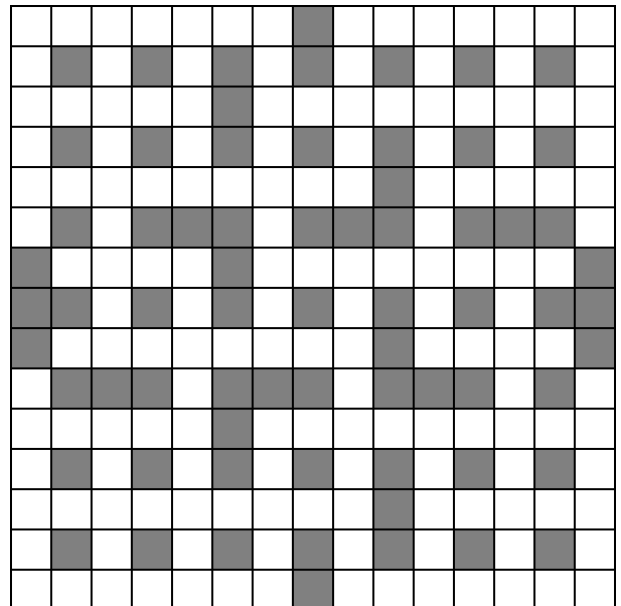


Clue of the Month

|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |4| |2|0|1|7|



|D|E|C|E|M|B|E|R| |5| |2|0|1|7|



October 6-2017: OFF COLOUR by Betelgeuse (Gillian Champion)
Entries: 57; Correct: 44; Success rate 77%.
Prizewinner: Susan Howells. Congratulations!

Setter's comments: Thank you for all of your cards, letters and comments. The colours concealed in the across clues were ANIL (the colour of indigo from the plant), LIME, BROWN, SAGE, TAN, PEACH, TEAL, ROSE, AMBER, PUKE, RED, PLUM, ECRU (the colour of raw linen) and INK (deepest black). PUKE was the colour that caused most problems (2 "cured" and 4 "puced") neither of which could fit with the secondary workings.

For those interested, you can look it up in *Chambers*, or Google "puke colour", where you will find (after bypassing all the disgusting stuff) a reference to Shakespeare's Henry IV (although the title here is for Henry V). According to this reference, puke colour seems to have been somewhere between black and grey (*Chambers* has it as "russet or purple and black"). Whatever it was, it was a dark serviceable colour used for hose for the common man (in contrast to Sir Andrew Aguecheek (Twelfth Night) and his bright yellow stockings and matching weskit). And again, according to the same reference, there is no relation between "puke" and the word "puce". *Chambers*, indeed, describes 'puce' as a brownish purple or flea colour, and sources its root from the French pule/Latin pulex, -icis (Pulex is the flea genus), whereas the word for the colour 'puke' comes from the Middle Dutch "puuc" and is actually a description of the material woven (literally "the best woollen cloth").

Other errors were a couple of misspelt UREDIA, LIMPEST, RUMPS, PLUMBAGS (nice!) etc and some other transcription and spelling mistakes.

Explanations: Across: 8 MA and ANIL, **9** LIME + ANTS, **10** BROWN + GIN*, **11** DO + SAGE, **12** TAN + GO, **14** PEACH + "I'M ED", **16** S (TEAL) (T) H, **18** ROSE + (AT T)<, **20** AMBER + homoph "grease", **21** PUKE + D, **24** heads UIA + RED, **25** PLUM + BAG + O, **27** ECRU in (STIR)*, **28** INK in PIE. **Down: 1** sPARRow, **2** WIG + WAG, **3** VAPour + ID, **4** PAN + GAMY, **5** FIDDLE + BOW, **6** (IS CLEVER)*, **7** S + LET* with (A + G + BEET) inside, **13** anag, **15** (TT IS MAGIC)*, **17** (MEN ScARED)*, **19** W (IMP) ISH, **22** URBAN + E, **23** BUM + PS, **26** BILGe<.

Solvers' Comments:

- A masterly feat with such a limited set of appropriate Across answers from which to operate. And fine Down answers to boot!
Len Colgan
- Even though the title gave away the common element, it was still a very challenging puzzle.
Ulla Axelsen
- Another challenging, clever puzzle by *Betelgeuse*. 21ac I assume "was sick" = PUKED and "died" = D but the colour is PUCE.
Ian McKenzie
- After getting a few, I wrote down 'colours!' then saw it was in the title. Doh!
Tony Dobele
- Another terrific puzzle from Gillian. The colour themed across clues were well thought out and extremely well written.
Julie Crowe
- Great composition as usual; fun to do. I just hope PARR is right; but can't see why OT = pig. [Sorry, Roy, SPARROW - sow, not PARROT -ot - B]
Roy Taylor
- Many challenges in Gillian's colourful puzzle!
Nea Storey
- Some unusual words here....and methinks 13dn should be indicated as 2 words. Ecru, Anil and especially Puke were new colours for me and took some checking. Thanks for a great puzzle.
Maureen Blake
- Great puzzle again Gillian! Really enjoyed the challenge.
Pat Lord
- As intricate as ever.
Rob Moline
- Loved this. Very clever across clues; many thanks Gillian.
Betty Siegman
- Found this difficult but hope I got there in the end. Difficult but satisfying.
Catherine Hambling
- Betelgeuse* proves yet again that learning new words can be fun.
Kath Harper
- I found this to be very tricky and it wasn't until I found AMBERGRIS that I had a clue to what was going on. Enjoyed the challenge. Thank you *Betelgeuse*. Still not happy with 21ac??
Ann Millard
- Very clever Gillian and quite a challenge. 21ac still has me

- puzzled. I obviously don't have the right dictionaries. Many thanks.
Robyn Wimbush
- So. We had just got through slot 5 wondering how on earth *Flowerman's* brain works and what do we find? *Betelgeuse!* Not fair (but a great couple of days working it out). So puke is a colour too? The things you learn crosswording. By the way. Shouldn't ANTE-MORTEM be at least hyphenated; if not two words and noted as such in the clue?
Richard Skinner
- Some lovely colours included - not just the predictable ones. I didn't know puke before.
Robyn McKenzie
- Very clever discovery of words to support the colour concept especially RECRUITS!
Bev Cockburn
- 1dn: Only *Betelgeuse* could see the fish inside a bird! I dips me lid.
Max Roddick
- I love the fact that I keep coming across previously unknown words while completing (or trying to complete) cryptic crosswords - PANGAMY, PUKE as a colour.
Susan Howells
- I think 1dn is PARR but don't see why OT is pig. Enjoyed the clever puzzle.
Roy Taylor
- Another beauty! Great misdirection with "brand new" in 15dn - kept me busy for hours! And amazing what you find when you Google "puke colour" for 21ac!!
Mike Potts
- Great fun, *Betelgeuse*.
Raoul
- A very clever puzzle! This type of puzzle always takes quite a while to adjust the thinking.
Bob Hagan
- Loved 'puke'd!
Anne Simons
- Hope I won't be a complete dunce inn solving this clever puzzle.
Odetta Greenberger
- I loved the colourful "colourless" crossword. Not sure I'd like to wear a puke coloured outfit though!
Robyn Caine

Explanations for clues in November Grids

- Slot 1 InGrid. Down: 1** anag comedi, **2** retard+ant, **3** car+go, **4** e+is+(sounds like tense)tence, **5** PO + box, **6** anchor+man, **7** anag, **8** dm, **14** E + (mishap)* + SE, **16** abs+or+bent, **17** scrub+land, **20** anag, **21** dm, **23** rev hidden, **24** anag, **25** tut+ti.
- Slot 2 St Jude. Across: 7** CON+TUBE+RN+ALLY, **9** SHOPPING+CENTRES, **10** ESC+APE, **11** HONE+ST, **12** anag, **14** DD, **17** PRE + CIS, **18** (S + ORGANIC PENCILS)*, **20** H+AIRS+P+LITTER+S. **Down: 1** DD, **2** STOP< + PAGE, **3** OB+LITERATE, **4** DD, **5** DD, **6** PLUTO+N, **8** anag, **11** HOMO + PHO + B (I)C, **13** CRE(O+SOT)E, **15** homoph "try" + BAL, **16** DD, **19** AU+RA.
- Slot 3 Manveru. Across: 1** (A + MOWED)*, **4** OR+CHARDS, **10** (I+AM+MY+GUNS)*, **11** L(EGA)L, **12** CATS*, **13** TRA(I)NS+LATE+D, **15** Hidden rev - iSLAM IN Arabia, **16** S+Y+STEM, **19** Cryptic double definition, **21** BILL+I+ON, **23** A+P+P+EAR+AN+CE, **25** S(PR)ITE, **27** Play on a piano - 88 keys, **28** I(M)MEDIATE, **29** Hidden 'game VERY ONE-sided', **30** A+S(P)ECT. **Down: 1** Anag MANIAC around GI, **2** A + D + MISSION, **3** c(ORAL), **5** (MERe)< + IN + D + S, **6** HEL(P) L + E + S + SLY, **7** homoph rite, **8** SA+L+AD+S, **9** FI(B)RE+S, **14** LABOR+A+TORY, **17** (AILMENT+I+E)*, **18** (THINNER & E)*, **20** DD, **21** B(E+CO+M)E, **22** S+AMPLE, **24** Homoph "faze", **26** c(ODES).
- Slot 4 Valkyrie. A** ADVERB - B + T, **B** A+LOW behind BUNG, **C** CON+(ENACT)*+(INTO A)*, **D** DIS + A + L + LOW, **E** E(PICAL), **F** (UNFAIR CLUe)*, **G** (EVALUATING - INLET)*, **H** HOUSE+WIFE pun, **I** IN+I+QUIT+Y, **J** J+OSTLEr, **K** K(E+MP)T, **L** (LOSES VALUE - S)*, **M** MEDLa + homoph "evil", **N** (NOEL+O+PAN)<, **O** Replace O for SIN in SINGLE, **P** Hidden, **Q** QUID+NUN+C, **R** R+ELEANOR change N to S, **S** S(E+XI)LY, **T** T+A+UTE+(END)*, **U** U(N(HO)O)K, **V** VENT+I+LATE, **W** WHIST+LE+B+LOWER, **X** X(homoph "ex") + MASS, **Y** Y (A MEN) S **Z** Z(LOT)Y.
- Slot 5 The Mythtics. Across: 8** FLUTE - F, **9** (RADIOTELEPHONIC - noart)*, **10** O+RIG+IN, **11** SE (R + PEN) TS, **12** C(R)E+ MONAS (homoph "moaners", **14** N+OSIER, **16** Double, **17** S (IL) OS, **18** WEE+D, **21** SACJ + BUTS, **23** TIM (BR) E + L + S, **26** (NO+GIRT)<, **27** anag, **28** SEVEN - S. **Down: 1** G ((AU)< + RD) ROOMS, **2** (EMBARGO)*+T, **3** JO + IN + IN, **4** Hidden, **5** hidden, **6** REBELS replace L by C, **7** AD + IT, **13** anag, **15** homoph "elect Rhodes", **17** S (PIN) ETTEe, **18** (set+is+be+w)<, **20** H+rUgBy ChAmP, **22** CIT(O+L)E, **24** FINNS-F, **25** SOF(i)A.