



|N|o.|2|9|8| |F|E|B|R|U|A|R|Y| |2|0|1|5|



www.crosswordclub.org



Obscurity often brings safety.
Aesop, 7th century BC, *The Tree and the Reed*, in *Fables*.

|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 2015. Details of renewals and the names of those who have recently donated to the 2015 Prize Fund can be found on p6. We hope that in 2015 you will enjoy the wonderful selection of puzzles and quizzes selected by our Puzzle editor Ace Ian Williams.

2015 is a Special Year for the ACC. In April we celebrate our 25th Anniversary: that is our Silver Anniversary and a valuable silver prize will be one of the features of the month for a lucky solver. We will also have other prizes definitely worth winning! Not to mention the wonderful selection of worthy prizes throughout 2015. We are privileged to have 23 current members who were original members of the ACC in April 1990. Happy Anniversary!

Our proficient Puzzleman **Ian Williams** has selected another fascinating range of puzzles for you this month. **KA** has contributed the eminently solvable Half 'n Half puzzle in Slot 1 and in Slots 2 and 3 we are privileged to publish cryptics from *Colinebrii* and *Robespierre*. The popular **AJ** puzzle this month has been devised by the well-respected *Flowerman* and in Slot 5, the legendary crossword and ACC Compiler of the Year *Crowsman* has contributed another challenging Cryptic. *Buzzer* has set a special puzzle in Slot 6 called *Teaser* which should be totally delightful. The Quiz No 2/2015 featured on p9 titled *Double Trouble* has been skilfully devised by *Valkyrie*.

The solutions to the Christmas 2014 Bonus Puzzles and Quiz can be found on p13 of *e-Crozworld* and as a separate insert for the hard copy of *Crozworld*.

Good Luck with your solving this month. —Patrick

Thank you to all the members who sent their good wishes and cards. It certainly makes the role of adjudicator most pleasant.

Slot 1: This puzzle was generally well received but obviously there was some confusion with 26dn. Originally, the intended answer was SOUR but with a 50/50 response of DOUR, we have decided to allow both answers as correct given the slight ambiguity with the clue. Other than that, just a couple of solutions giving UNBEARABLE for UNBEARABLE, and a couple of variations on TAMARISK. The only other errors appear to be typographical.

Slot 2: No real problems, just omissions and typos.

Slot 3: This puzzle certainly attracted the most comments both complimentary and critical! Some concerns were voiced about the repeat use of PALINDROME but this also attracted a number of COTM votes. The only clue that caused any real problems was 3dn, with PIDDLE or PADDLE for PUDDLE. Other problems include TREATIES for THEATRES and UNDERDOG for UNDERTOW. Another error was DREADFUL for WRONGFUL.

Slot 4: This was a very popular puzzle. The two problem clues were YARDS for YANDY and HELICAL for HELIPAD. Other errors include OOSER for wooser and REWARDERS instead of REGARDERS.

Slot 5: No real problems here either, except perhaps for 6ac with MILLS or MUSES for MULES. Another minor problem was 14ac, with HOLE and HALL for HOLY. Other than that the problems are spelling mistakes and transcription errors.

COTM: It is a credit to the club and the compilers that the COTM nominations are spread across all the Slots. Slot 3 had nominations for 5 different clues, Slot 4 had 8 different clues nominated and Slot 5 had 6 different clues named. The end result was a three way tie between Slot 4 W (WOOPER), Slot 5 19ac (SHEPHERDS) and votes for 14/18ac in Slot 3 PALINDROME until the very last day when two votes came in for SHEPHERDS. Congratulations to *Zinzan* and all setters!

Compiler of the Year: Lots of nominations for our compilers but again it is *Crowsman* who collected the most votes, closely followed by *Raoul*. Congratulations to Len and thank you to all our compilers for your contribution to our club. Without you the club does not exist!

—Jean Barbour

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	109	110	85	98	105	507
Correct entries	98	105	74	80	81	438
Success rate (%)	89.9	95.5	87.1	81.6	77.1	86.4
Prizewinners	Gary Armishaw	Barbara Tofoni	Dave Parsons	Helen Perrow	Hilary Cromer	from 111 members

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

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Prizewinner: January 2015 Slots 1-5: Keith Potten. Congrats!

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

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Jan 1-2015

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

Jan 2-2015

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

Jan 3-2015

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

Jan 4-2015

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

Jan 5-2015

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

Dec 6-2015

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

MEMBERS RESULTS for DEC 2014 Slot 6 & JAN 2015 Slots 1-5

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
ALLEN W
ANDERSON C
ARCHIBALD C
ARMISHAW G
AUDRINS K
AXELSEN U
BARBOUR J
BARNES J
BAYLIS J
BILKEY C
BLAKE M
CAINE R
CALLAN A&D
CARPENTER R
CARROLL L
CHAMPION G
COATES D
COCKBURN B
COLE G
COLGAN L
COLLINS M
COPLAND F
COULTON L
COWAN M
CROMER H
CROWE J
DAVIS M
DEARIE P
DE GRYS A
DENNIS M
DOBELE T
DOUGLAS R
DUCKER R
DYER A
FOWLER J
FREELAND J
FULLER G
GARNER P

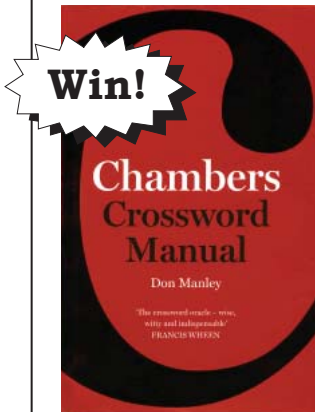
MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
GLISSAN B
GOODERICK R
GRAINGER D
GREENBERGER O
HAGAN R
HAMBLING C
HARPER K
HEMSLEY D
HEYES N
HOCKING A
HOWARD V
HOWELLS S
IBBOTT B
JARMAN L
JERMY A
JONES D
KENNEDY L
KENNEDY M
KNIGHT S
LANKSHEAR J
LEE C
LEEDS G
LEIGH J
LLOYD G
LEMON G
LLOYD G
LOBSEY V
LORD P
LOW R
McCLELLAND C
MACKAY-SIM C
McKENZIE I
McKENZIE R&P
McMANUS D
McPHERSON T
MARTIN A
MARTIN F
MEEK D
MERCER P
MILES A

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
MILTON R
MOLINE R
NOBLE C
O'BRIEN, Eileen
O'HARA H
PARSONS D
PATTERSON A
PEARCE J
PERROW H
POTTEN K
POTTS M
PROCTER D
PROCTER M
PYC M
RENDELL A
RODDICK M
ROLFE G
ROULSTON S
RYAN W
SHIELD A
SIEGMAN B
SIMONS A
SKINNER R
SMITH J
STOREY N
SYMONS B
TAYLOR R
TAYLOR S
THOMPSON I
TICKLE B
TOFONI B
WALTER A
WATT K
WEBBER B
WENHAM J
WILCOX C
WIMBUSH R
WOODFORD J

F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y
2	0	1	5				
S	L	O	T		1		

Half 'n Half
by
KA

Prize:



Prize kindly donated
by **Ross Fraser** of
Hodder & Stoughton

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		

Across

- 1 Clean (5)
- 4 Mode of conduct (9)
- 9 Speak fluently (4,3)
- 10 Missile component (7)
- 11 Hitch up (5)
- 13 Thingumajig (5)
- 15 Skate (3)
- 16 A luminous discharge (3)
- 17 Readily available (2,3)
- 19 Dance (5)
- 21 Literature stored on a computer (1-4)
- 23 Recipient (5)
- 24 Militarise (3)
- 25 Law agency (3)
- 26 Patty's first name (5)
- 28 Sane (5)
- 29 Shows off (7)
- 31 Sea mammal (7)
- 33 The common herd (3,6)
- 34 A leaf (5)

Down

- 1 Population ratio established by delivery frequency (9)
- 2 English supportive member at reorganised CIA is unhappy (7)
- 3 A cow's blue? (3)
- 4 Obscure – live with a mist (5)
- 5 Be indecisive when having fruit (3)
- 6 Change overs for the left-hander (5)
- 7 Defeat by being on top of smuggling operation (7)
- 8 Prime Minister facing the unknown looks healthy (5)
- 12 Broken agreement with runner is in the booth (5)
- 14 Upset Pip, surrounded by unknown variables, becomes active (5)
- 18 Backward cat, say, with fish, is disinterested (5)
- 19 One hundred stagger to a basket (5)
- 20 Supply a herb with oxygen to turn it into an animal (9)
- 22 Oriental art for former royalty captured by returning image (7)
- 24 Comalco holding includes vodka production (7)
- 25 A fraction of a musical interval (5)
- 26 This drum was good at work (5)
- 27 Short stretch at disjointed Uni created boredom (5)
- 30 Money hidden by insolvency (3)
- 32 Military going a long way in reverse (3)

Slots 1-5: Col Archibald, 38 Holloway Drive, Jilliby, NSW 2259.

e-mail: carchiba6@bigpond.com

Closing mail date: Friday 27 February 2015.

e-lodgment: ianw@webone.com.au

Slot 6: Bhavan Kasivajjula, 4 South Quay Drive, Biggera Waters

Qld 4216. email: kbhavan@gmail.com


Closing mail date: 13 March 2015.

|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

F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y
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S	L	O	T		2		

Cryptic
by
Colinebrii



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

Across

- 1 Official Branch dismantled cart (10)
- 11 Thickness of loaf on Thursday? (7)
- 12 Umbrella lacks measure of shade (5)
- 14 Unnatural beadiest disease (7)
- 15 Horny branch worker on the French river (6)
- 16 Stab back at these in the belfry? (4)
- 17 No more than a lake! (4)
- 19 Pretentious with twice the life force (8)
- 21 Logo up to date, straight from the factory (5-3)
- 24 Laurence found disorderly in blue (8)
- 26 Gambler is an ordinary bloke (6)
- 27 Tailless parrot pageant (4)
- 29 Prepared to be qualified (4)
- 31 Spirit of wayward priest (6)
- 33 Queen Mother expresses surprise at Navy Institute (8)
- 34 Collarenebri detour shows newlywed (5)
- 35 People of fashion definitely get haircut (7)
- 36 Kind dog suitable for a compositor? (10)

Down

- 2 Amber fluid concealed in harbour in error (5)
- 3 Mare's trained holding bridle (8)
- 4 Real swimming title (4)
- 5 Sum final quantity added (6)
- 6 Gamble with rubles on year in Embassy office (8)
- 7 Girl takes precious stone (4)
- 8 ABC and EMI composed the description of a protozoan changing shape in America (6)
- 9 Opening for two Arthur English organised (7)
- 10 Stormy progress for negative particle consumed (10)
- 13 Sentimentally childish bloke back, close to girl alongside (5-5)
- 18 Tire with ecstasy and spirit say, consumed (8)
- 20 Plain incision sharp in outline (5-3)
- 22 Regret heard over stinging remark in rumpus (7)
- 23 As stable as Eddie? (5)
- 25 Insure wild bearlike creature (6)
- 28 Fired up about metric measure! (5)
- 30 Quiet salesman does his homework (4)
- 32 Over completed (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Thank you for my delightful gift from the ACC and the splendid accompanying scroll. My thanks to the Executive Committee for another wonderful year and my very best wishes to you all, and to all members of the ACC, for a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year, including lots of successful solving!
Margaret Davis
- Many thanks for the very welcome gift, but try as I might, I could not find the secret compartment containing a heads-up on January's lot. Thanks to Patrick, Bev and Ian. I really do have a great time with the puzzles despite my moaning. Wishing all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and health and happiness during 2015.
Eileen O'Brien
- Thank you Patrick, Bev and Ian for the lovely festive greetings and pen. I'll try and put it to good use in 2015! I look forward to a new year of solving the ACC puzzles, so many many thanks to all of you for the wonderful work you do to come out with our monthly brain teasers. My best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
Caroline Mackay-Sim
- Many thanks for the lovely crossword pen: it was a nice surprise. I would like to thank the ACC for all the work done: it is very much appreciated.
Joan Smith
- Many thanks for the prize cheque. Good wishes too for Christmas and the New Year.
Ken Watt
- I was delighted to receive my prize — David Astle's *Puzzles and Words* — and, believe me, it has come at a good time. Lately I seem to have lost the plot with my solving: maybe the book will kick-start my brain again.
Joan McGrath
- What a lovely pen! Thankyou. I need all the help I can get these days but I am not sure if the pen is going to give me the answers I want.
Veniece Lobsey

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2	0	1	5				
S	L	O	T		3		

Cryptic
by
Robespierre

Prize:



1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
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11								12						
			14							15				
16		17				18		19						
20						21		22				23		24
25								26		27				
28								29						

Across

- 9 Type of eclipse may be seen as translunar once primary radio-satellite transmissions are removed (7)
- 10 Area of enthusiastic support for vehicle component? (3,4)
- 11 Bomb, perhaps constructed from junction in nerve cell (7)
- 12 South African and German input make heel (and 16 across) (7)
- 13 Reworking without fun characters, reformulating without final result produces waffle (9)
- 15 Grain from extra cereal (5)
- 16 Jumper is unfair, if not this (7)
- 19 Modern book readers may be "Nice, the Definite Article in Nice" (7)
- 20 Hole for digging up nitrate lacks sex appeal (5)
- 21 Type of crime found in Old Testament? (6,3)
- 25 Prolific scorer betting nothing takes the place of upstart (7)
- 26 Shortage comes from hard, rough times (7)
- 28 Spooner's brown study provides illumination (7)
- 29 Network beat open-air garden pest (7)

Down

- 1 Spinster (redhead) is dynamic hitter (6)
- 2 Not recognised without 17 down? (6)
- 3 Slight kiss becomes kish? (4)
- 4 Bird with forked tail is a booby (6)
- 5 Brake deviating delivery (3, 5)
- 6 Relaxed but possibly embarrassed if fly is found in this condition (10)
- 7 Dance is lifeless when playing stops (4,4)
- 8 With nothing on, harried streakers have taken off the last item of attire (8)
- 14 British insectology leader, wearing ring, has hesitation identifying nipper (5-5)
- 16 Controversial skipper imprisons stunted dwarf! (8)
- 17 Reading about nothing in husband's absence (8)
- 18 Getting branch going without overhead (8)
- 22 "Quick, edge sideways and grab the last card" (6)
- 23 Was puzzle? (6)
- 24 Beefy English all-rounder – bad smell close to him – takes hat-trick (6)
- 27 Admits topless dresses (4)

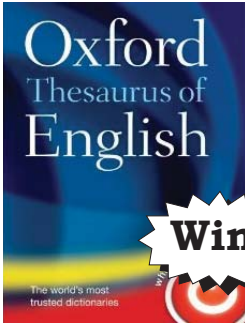
GENERAL COMMENTS (cont'd):

- Thank you for my Slot 5 prize, *Cluetopia*. I'm looking forward to delving into it. It has been a great year for all of us *Crozworlders*. I never cease to be impressed by the ability of our setters, for both crosswords and quizzes. Someone was asking about the origin of the expression 'one over the eight'. I'm sure you'll have lots of members responding to this query. I thought I knew the answer, but went straight to my Brewer's *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* where I found the following: "One over the eight: Slightly drunk. In this expression, the 'eight' is a reference to eight pints of beer, which were traditionally regarded as a reasonable amount for an average person to drink." Thank you and all the team for the work you do for us; it is greatly appreciated. *Gabrielle Leeds*
- Many thanks, not just for ACC's most recent munificence, but for the many, many hours of enjoyment ACC has provided me over the year. John Baylis and I conduct regular ACC-centred conversations at the local Bowls Club, where members have absolutely no idea what we are getting so excited about ... or should that be "... no idea about what we are getting so excited"? As a dear friend of mine was given to observing, irregardless, we both gain a great deal of pleasure from our involvement in ACC, and extend to Patrick and the team every kind wish for 2015 and beyond. *Ian Mason*
- Thanks for the ACC pen (most welcome) and another year of fun and games and especially this month's puzzles which allowed me to take time out from all the hustle bustle and retreat into my own idea of fun! I seem to have acquired a reputation in my family as 2 of my Xmas gifts were a Sandy Balfour book (I Say Nothing (3)) and a subscription to the 3D Calendar Puzzle 2015 published to raise money for the BBC Children in Need Appeal. For information on the 3D puzzles (I thoroughly recommend them) website www.calendarpuzzles.co.uk. *Catherine Hambling*
- A very pleasant way to start the New Year. *Jim Fowler*

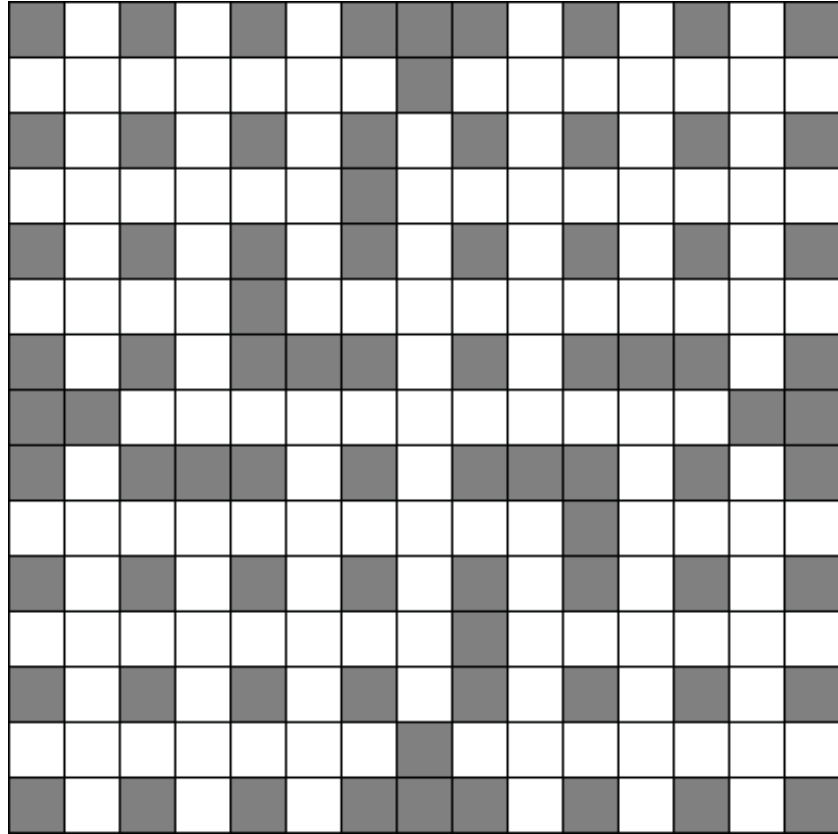
F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y
2	0	1	5				
S	L	O	T		4		

AJ
by
Flowerman

Prize:



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



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>A Pilot dodges broadcast after a first-rate victory overturned (8)</p> <p>B Preserve resolve (6)</p> <p>C Necessary to abbreviate, with ten shortened, as X (8)</p> <p>D Store in Paris that concealed key ultimately had to be dissolved (11)</p> <p>E European team finally bagging us, describing our brief as scanty (8)</p> <p>F Hunters in charges holding nothing back (7)</p> <p>G Weathered danger by contriving to keep low primarily (7)</p> <p>H Wild litchis oversold initially as a kind of medicine (8)</p> <p>I Plan of assistant to have leader swap sides! (4)</p> <p>J Animals with footwear (7)</p> <p>K Chest returned to king by a character from Greek island (8)</p> <p>L House tracks here? (7)</p> <p>M One finds gear using this guide (6)</p> | <p>N Gas a setback for babies (8)</p> <p>O Animals' colour almost sandy at first (6)</p> <p>P Star split after becoming drained of energy (7)</p> <p>Q Absurdly quaint council not telling our leaders of an arrangement for five (11)</p> <p>R Family banks absorb losses initially (7)</p> <p>S Traces of ruin left in one castle (10)</p> <p>T A couple of beasts rising to challenge (6)</p> <p>U Universities cunning to draw in eccentric count with affected charm (10)</p> <p>V Animals at centre rescued and having to be relocated (7)</p> <p>W Yield from rouseabout encouraging at first? (6)</p> <p>X He famously set up a boundary around most of opposing force (7)</p> <p>Y Talk about black horse being backed (6)</p> <p>Z Flavour of 'characteristic' soup ingredient is French (4)</p> |
|---|---|

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2015: Bilkey C, Chance C, Dodd M, Duggan N, Freeman J, Lobsey V, Manson G, McCulloch I, Meek D, Parsons D, Potten K, Sims J, Taylor S, Vnuk M and Wenham J.

DONATIONS TO THE 2015 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM: Chester Chance, Chris Bilkey, Mary Dodd, Nick Duggan, Hazel Freeman, Veniece Lobsey, Gareth Manson, Drew Meek, James Sims and Jenny Wenham.

General Comments:

- Best wishes for 2015 to the Executive and members.
- Lovely parcel! Prize, certificate, book and pen. Thank you to all who make the club possible.
- My thanks to all those clever members who keep us supplied with so many great crosswords.

Odette Greenberger

Margaret Pyc

Betty Siegman

Something Unexceptional...

Charles Storey sent us a photo of this sign which is on a post at the entrance of a local Nursing Home. Said Charles: "We are so glad they accept ambulances."



F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y
2	0	1	5				
S	L	O	T		5		

Cryptic
by
Crowsman

Prize:



1		2			3	4		5		6		7		8
				9										
10						11								
12										13				
								14						
	15					16				17				
18														
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21					22			23	24					
							25							
26										27				
28							29				30			

All Across clues, including length indicators, are normal cryptic clues, yielding a word. **Do not enter this word into the grid.** Instead, enter a homophone, not necessarily of the same length, and possibly of the same etymology. For example, the clue "Singer bent rules (6)" yields REIGNS, and so you need to enter RAINS or REINS. The Down clues are normal.

Across

- 1 Took steps supporting king, full (6)
- 3 Lied about not working (4)
- 6 Shy model (4)
- 10 Redraft, but without second wide survey (6)
- 11 Schedules a loan – put into vehicles (9)
- 12 Doctor argues about sick fighters (9)
- 13 Without exception, good was lacking in G W Bush! (6)
- 15 Agreement is essential – about to rejoin new church (14)
- 19 Those approaching teenage deplore a hotchpotch set of fragrances (14)
- 21 Hunted, changed course, bearing right (7)
- 23 Ovid's first poetry, while abroad (8)
- 26 Maharaja supports Indian cricket competition rule (9)
- 27 Cajole a parting helmsman (4)
- 28 Young chap is new in electronics corporation (5)
- 29 Haul machine around (4)
- 30 Norm rejected modern music (3)

Down

- 1 Greek character with Russian name turned up for Polish dumplings (6)
- 2 Survive issue surrounding patently obvious secret mission (6,9)
- 4 A cold scoundrel raised capital once (5)
- 5 Lie about money being short (4)
- 6 Cold part of foot comes from child's play (5)
- 7 After resting, draughtsman announced a program involving word processing (8,7)
- 8 Writer James, say, is taking part (8)
- 9 Spring roll component, reportedly refined (4-4)
- 14 Manages various females (7)
- 16 A bottom fish (4)
- 17 Fast and productive legendary actress (8)
- 18 Composed happiest inscriptions (8)
- 20 Consumes exercise drink (4,2)
- 22 Affix end of toy with adhesive (5)
- 24 Farewell troupe's foremost man (5)
- 25 October's birthstone? "Ring a friend!" (4)

Vale Wendy Villiers

We were saddened to hear of the untimely death of Wendy Villiers on 8 January 2015. Wendy had been driving her two grandchildren in her car when another car crossed the road and collided with Wendy's head on. We believe that the children are OK. Wendy joined the ACC in January 2003 and was an outstanding solver, winning no less than nine prizes over the years. She was a regular attender at the Christmas in July function and in 2014 she won one of the valued book prizes. She was a long-standing member of the Eastwood Golf Club in the Dandenong Ranges and managed the Senior Ladies' Thursday competition. In 2008, Wendy's husband John, who was also a member of the ACC, sadly passed away. In 2006, Wendy introduced the outstanding solver Robyn Caine to the ACC. Robyn said she was "devastated that we have lost such a lovely person. It was Wendy who introduced me to the ACC and I know we will all miss her very much. She visited her sister in England last year and went on a golfing holiday to Spain with her – something she

had really looked forward to." We send our sincere condolences to Wendy's loving family.

Vale Verna Dinham

We were saddened to hear of the death of Verna Dinham who passed away peacefully on 29 November 2014 aged 91 years. Verna joined the Club in June 1996 and was an excellent solver. In March 2014 her son Richard wrote to our Secretary as follows: "I wish to advise that long term and very ardent member of your club, Verna Dinham has, unfortunately, had a severe stroke and has moved from her unit at Charingfield to the Gertrude Abbot Nursing Home in Surry Hills. While this means she has great difficulty doing the crosswords, she certainly can work out the clues and she wants to remain a member and continue to receive the CrOZworld Magazine. Verna won many awards in her time of membership and it was a great drive in her life. So it still will be." In fact Verna won 15 prizes over the years. We send our sincere condolences to Richard and Family.

F	E	B	R	U	A	R	Y
2	0	1	5				
S	L	O	T		6		

Teaser by Buzzer

Prize
\$75

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

Across

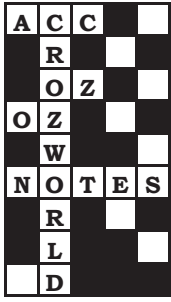
- 1 Attendants left tea cosy carelessly (8)
- 6 Thirst after eggs and tea (6)
- 9 A fruit tea, each comes free with a small program (6)
- 10 Reckon teatime's fantastic (8)
- 11 Increased intake of tea took extra toll (10)
- 12 Close in on tea or starters put out (4)
- 13 Case of trains being on time (3,5)
- 15 Grand dame, the one in the middle of teashop is Ms Moncrieff (6)
- 16 Run through tea leaves a team pile around (6)
- 18 Special limy tea brewed hotly (8)
- 20 Wrongly ordered two parts of tea for chief (4)
- 21 Map fitted in to a T for a tea estate perhaps (10)
- 23 Unthinking viscount often seen cheerily gulping last drop of tea (8)
- 24 Elements of China tea seemingly natural (2,4)
- 25 A long list of ingredients missing in litchi tea noticeably (6)
- 26 A minor variety of green tea (8)

Down

- 2 Catch tea cup slipping over edge of saucer (7)
- 3 Lavender tips in real Thai herbal tea tonic (5)
- 4 Four unfinished teas left round a sofa (4-1-4)
- 5 Cunning sledge at the onset of tea (7)
- 6 A group having anxiety disorder taking in tea oddly (5)
- 7 Minty herb kind of tea preceded lamb roast (5,4)
- 8 Showing too much curiosity about tea is hard (3,4)
- 14 Having the same tea before and after a dance (3-3-3)
- 15 Tea garden turned away domestic dog (5,4)
- 17 Spoil tea reportedly, tipping over in vermouth (7)
- 18 Ruddy mark/line on most of tea counter (7)
- 19 A glimpse of miss drinking fine tea heartily (4-3)
- 21 Average tea for the audience in gathering (5)
- 22 Greek character has tea interspersed with hot sides (5)

Post
Solution
to:

Bhavan Kasivajjula,
4 South Quay Drive, Biggera Waters Qld 4216.
email: kbhavan@gmail.com
Closing mail date: 13 March 2015



Solutions to Quiz 12/2014 I am not an Animal! Movie Quiz by Virgo (Adjudicated by Warren Allen): Along Came a Spider 2. A Man Called Horse 3. Butterflies are Free 4. Flamingo Road 5. Monkey Business 6. One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest 7. Poor Cow 8. Raging Bull 9. Rooster Cogburn 10. The Day of the Jackal 11. The Elephant Man 12. The Flight of the Phoenix 13. The Lion in Winter 14. The Mosquito Coast 15. The Mouse that Roared 16. The Night of the Iguana 17. The Sandpiper 18. The Snake Pit 19. To Kill a Mockingbird 20. Where Eagles Dare.

Adjudicator's Comments: Thanks for all the kind wishes and Christmas and New Year greetings. This quiz did not pose too many problems for the members. A couple found the instructions unclear or misleading. There was 1 Rooster Coglean for Rooster Cogburn, 1 Madame Butterfly for Monkey Business and 1 The Taming of the Shrew for The Night Of The Iguana – all have the incorrect number of letters.

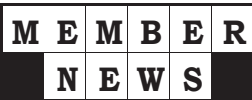
Entries: 45 Correct: 42. Success Rate: 93%.

Winner: Betty Siegman. Congratulations!

Results: 20. Patricia Abbott, Karl Audrins, Ulla Axelsen, Maureen Blake, Robyn Caine, Richard Christiansen, Julie Crowe, Alan Dyer, Jim Fowler, Pat Garner, Ray Gooderick, Susan Howells, Barb Ibbott, Ann Jermy, Catherine Jones, Doreen Jones, Jill Lankshear, Julie Leigh, Gary Lemon, Pat Lord, Claire McClelland, Robyn McKenzie, Yvonne McKindlay, Ian Mason, Andrew Miles, Carole Noble, Eileen O'Brien, Helen Perrow, Sue Pinder, Judy Randall, Betty Siegman, Richard Skinner, Joan Smith, Margaret Steinberger, Brian Symons, Ian Thompson, Brian Tickle, Lorna Waites, Alan Walter, Jenny Wenham, Cheryl Wilcox and Robyn Wimbush. **19.** Bev Cockburn, Kath Harper and Mike Potts.

Members' Comments:

- I am afraid I didn't figure out too many without resorting to the Internet, but I enjoyed the research. *Ian Thompson*
- I'm not a filmgoer, but happily most of these titles were familiar to me. *Pat Garner*
- I have less of these movies than I should. *Alan Dyer*
- Not as enjoyable as some as "Mr. Google" made things easy. *Cheryl Wilcox*
- Another interesting puzzle. I was surprised at how many of these movies I've actually seen. *Ulla Axelsen*
- We didn't realise how many films have creatures in their titles. After the research we hope our daily 5 minute quiz scores will improve as we are always hopeless with the movie questions! *Robyn McKenzie*
- Not the hardest of quizzes, what with Google *et al.* Dates made the search fairly simple. It was, however, enjoyable. *Jim Fowler*
- I was pleased to find that, even though I had not seen them all, I was familiar with all but two of these films. *Susan Howells*
- Don't put me in the running for a prize as I had to Google almost all of them! *Judy Randall*
- Thanks so much for adjudicating Audrey's quiz. I really enjoyed it. *Brian Tickle*
- Lots of Googling for this one but finding the animals was fun. I thought I was on the right track and all the hidden animals were there for the finding but I was obviously led astray by the first one, which I guess, could still be asp... *Robyn Wimbush*
- A bit tough this one as we never go to the movies! None the less we've attached what we believe to be the answers. They all have animals in anyway! *Richard Skinner*
- I knew quite a few but it did require quite a bit of research. I was really surprised at the number of titles that included animals! *Bev Cockburn*



New Member: We extend a warm welcome to **Gareth Manson** from Upper Coomera Qld. Welcome to the wonderful world of *Crozworlding!*

Puzzle Adjustments:

- Julie Crowe gained five dots for December Slots 1-5. Roger Douglas earned dots for slots 1,2,3 and 5 in December. Mike Potts has received a dot for November's slot 6 *Crowsman* puzzle. Pat Garner received dots for November's slot 6 and 7 puzzles.
- Amendment to January 2015 Slot 6 puzzle: the clue to 12ac should read:
12 Father and mother, finally sent out with lures (7)

Words and Crosswords

• Thanks to Karl Audrins who has reminded those who do not subscribe to the newspaper that David Astle's (DA) regular column on things cruciverbal in the *Sydney Morning Herald* is available online. The link given below is particularly interesting to those who solve a variety of crosswords and his other articles can be accessed by typing in "David Astle" in the search box in the top right-hand corner of the web page:

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/nothing-cryptic-about-brickbats-for-crossword-compilers-20141209-122gzw.html>

• Can't find (or confirm) agelast, averruncator or know what a batologist does? It's not cricket! Due to a printing error in *Chambers* 13th edition, around 500 words are missing that were in the 12th edition – they are the "enriching" words which were highlighted in that edition. The words are in the electronic versions of *Chambers* 13th edition available for computers and smartphones, but they aren't in the printed edition. The list of missing words in the 2014 edition of *Chambers Dictionary* is now available on-line at <http://www.chambers.co.uk/downloads/Chambers%20Missing%20Words.pdf>.

Our thanks to Derek Harrison of the Crossword Centre for this information.

Quiz No 2/2015 Double Trouble by Valkyrie

All answers contain two sets of double letters. Send your entry to Ulla Axelsen, 6 Maud Street, Donnybrook, QLD 4510: e-mail: ullaaxelsen@hotmail.com

Closing date 13 March 2015. Prize \$75.

- 1 Give a talk (7)
- 2 Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire's milieu (8)
- 3 A coffee bar regular (10)
- 4 Take possession (10)
- 5 A measurement (12)
- 6 Thin and fragile (8)
- 7 Australian world champion surfboard rider (8)
- 8 A deadly wire worker! (9)
- 9 An insect (11)
- 10 Joy (9)
- 11 Hopeless (12)
- 12 A station hand (8)
- 13 A musician (13)
- 14 Stupidity (9)
- 15 Pamper (11)
- 16 Compactly built (8)
- 17 Derivative (8)
- 18 Someone who pulls the strings! (9)
- 19 A grinder (10)
- 20 North American mammal (7)
- 21 Prosperous (10)
- 22 Money collecting point (9)
- 23 Misery (11)
- 24 A sport (10)
- 25 An Australian jumper (8)
- 26 An upstart (14)
- 27 Bishop's headwear (9)

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

- One of the most interesting Slot 1 puzzles – well, certainly one of the trickiest! Congratulations Jean!
Len Colgan
- A little harder than the usual slot 1 I thought, perhaps due to the cleverly succinct clues. A satisfying solve.
Tony Dobe
- Straightforward but fun. A couple of not so simple synonyms made us think.
Richard Skinner
- A nice mix of words in the grid made it enjoyable.
Rob Moline
- A nice starter, not too easy.
Margaret Davis
- No problems here. Nice easy cryptic clues, gettable straights.
Andrew Patterson
- The Across clues were well-chosen, spot-on but not too easy. Also liked ONYX, ABATED and SOIREES.
Max Roddick
- An enjoyable Slot 1 puzzle with a lovely prize of Don Manley's *Chambers Crossword Manual*.
Alan Walter

January 2-2015: Cryptic by Zythum (Roger Douglas)

- Nice idea, Roger. 14dn appealed.
Len Colgan
- After last month and this slot we should all be very proficient at anagram clues now!
Tony Dobe
- Once the anagram thingy was sussed out this was not too hard. That's a lot of anagrams though!
Richard Skinner
- Some beautifully smooth surfaces in the acrosses; but knowing they were all anagrams made them much easier.
Rob Moline
- It didn't take too long to spot the anagram theme and then it was pretty plain sailing.
Margaret Davis
- A relatively easy puzzle with nearly all across clues solvable without cross letters.
Andrew Patterson
- Nice workout, Buzzard!
Raoul
- Very good surface reading for SELF-DENIAL. The Down clues were all very clever. Liked ELUDE best.
Max Roddick
- Thanks Zythum for a good cryptic puzzle.
Alan Walter

January 3-2015: Cryptic by Blue King (Roy Low)

- Some very nice clues, especially 9ac, 18ac, 4dn. Elsewhere, a few minor quibbles such as the 24ac clue, and the use of "over = o" in 6dn. I cannot find that abbreviation in any dictionary or online reference, but I assume it relates to cricket. Also, "incessant" should be "incessantly" in 22ac, because "talk = rabbit" only as a verb. Thanks for your contributions Roy.
Len Colgan
- Some obscure definitions made this a bit too 'clever' for a slot 3 I thought. Not sure about 24ac, 17dn, 20dn.
Tony Dobe
- My COTM goes to *Blue King* for PALINDROME – very original!
Catherine Hambling
- I found Slot 3 very difficult, especially to get started. I liked his clue 13dn.
Julie Crowe
- My vote for COTM goes to *Blue King* for two clues for PALINDROME in the one crossword!
Nea Storey
- Interestingly, we found this the hardest of the five, by quite a way. I do like a good palindrome though and two is a bonus. Did like "Simmer down" (13dn).
Richard Skinner
- Off the wavelength. A bit dubious about 1ac and 24ac, totally stumped by 17dn (hoping it's a cricket reference). Didn't know INDENT as import order. Does 13dn need a text-spell or homophone indicator? *Rob Moline*
- We had a lot of trouble with Slot 3 and two clues giving the same answer seems odd – however we went with that anyway. *Al and Dave Callan*
- 1ac: Execute > behead to indicate taking b from St Bede seems somewhat forced. 10ac: there is no part of the clue that helps the solver find the answer. "On edge" is the definition but it only after that is guessed that the second can retrospectively be fitted. 11ac: in club references I couldn't find landless to mean "fly" or specifically a tenant farmer (though these are landless, landless lords also exist). 14ac/18ac: first time I've seen the same word twice in a grid. Don't like "Irreversible (or not?)" as a definition for palindrome. 23ac: "grown" seems to be an extraneous word which detracts from the direction to remove last call (L) from full. 24ac: I guessed the answer as "oracle" but if so, I can't parse the clue. "over" suggested an anagind and oracle is an anagram of "or clear" minus an R but I couldn't see the subtraction being indicated by "unclear". 25ac: including the anagind as part of the word to be jumbled is not Ximenean. 3dn: I don't think bishop is a good indicator of DD. I'm assuming it's for Doctor of Divinity but bishops don't necessarily have one and one can be awarded to those who aren't bishops. 13dn: you (U) [but no homophone indicator] and "I" don't "change places" but I replaces U. 15ac: I like the second but why does "squabbling fliers" indicate sparrows? 20dn: presumably office but I can't parse the clue.
Drew Meek
- It took me a long time to come to terms with the use of the answer PALINDROME for two different clues in Slot 3. I don't think that I have seen this before in an ACC puzzle.
Susan Howells
- A few things I am not happy about. PALINDROME twice? INFIELD is not hyphenated and I doubt it can be pluralised.
Margaret Davis
- 17dn INFIELDS should be one word and I doubt the plural version. Although there is nothing in the rules of setting crosswords about repeating an answer that I know of, I do not like the practice (PALINDROME)
Doreen Jones

- I had many problems with this puzzle. 1ac – 'execute' could be any method but behead is needed to remove the B of ST BEDE? 11ac – 'fly' is land only by association. 14ac – I didn't understand the definition. 18ac has no wordplay. 22ac: RABBIT isn't a noun in this sense, perhaps incessantly would have been easier. 24ac – what does the 'or' do, assuming 'over' is 'o'? 26ac – 'sibling' doing double duty or incorrect definition? 4dn – the surface is impenetrable. 13dn – 'we' implies homophonic 'you/u' and 'I'. 17dn – IN FIELDS is a vague answer. Why not as one word which is definable? Was there a point to 14ac and 18ac being the same?
Andrew Patterson
- Less said, the better.
Raoul
- Liked TURN DOWN, SIMMER DOWN, UNSURE, SOLUTION, and for a laugh, PUDDLE. The second PALINDROME was a surprise.
Max Roddick
- Not easy. Is LANDLESS a tenant farmer? REVOLVER for planet was tricky. I liked I & U (WE) changing places in SUMMER.
Roy Taylor
- 1ac: STAMPEDE, why the need for 'Westminster'? Who would have thought 'never odd or even' was a palindrome? 26ac: SADIST does not equate to CRUEL. 13dn: No homophone supplied to equate U to YOU. 21dn: a clever clue. The LH bottom corner of this puzzle was overly difficult to solve.
Alan Walter
- Had me beat this month – did Palindrome really appear twice?
Alan Dyer

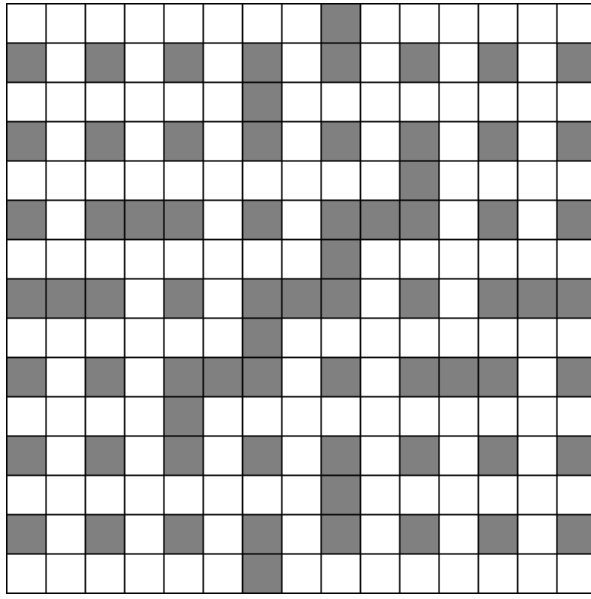
January 4-2015: AJ by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)

- I'll have to put one of my AJ puzzles on the back-burner. You keep duplicating my ideas, Ulla!
Len Colgan
- A bit more difficult than the usual slot 4 with imaginative clueing (table number of 80, Romeo flips his middle eg). Yandy took some finding on Google but the lingerie hits were interesting to say the least!
Tony Dobe
- I love YANDY!!
Nea Storey
- They are always a challenge this style are they not? This was no exception. Thought that TRANSFER was beautifully worded and is my COTM.
Richard Skinner
- Liked the "bull-artist". Q and S were guess first figure it out (much) later. V was the opposite, get it from the cryptic then look it up to make sure it's a word. Liked the flipping M -> W; took a while to see it.
Rob Moline
- Yandy is a bit *** etc obscure [*but in Macquarie - Adj.*].
Jim Fowler
- A great &lit clue and my vote for COTM.
Drew Meek
- I liked 'Wooer', which I nominate as my COTM.
Julie Crowe
- Quite a tricky AJ. The W clue was the last one I solved.
Margaret Davis
- I wasn't thrilled by the W clue. In A, isn't 'the likes' a plural? Otherwise an interesting AJ.
Andrew Patterson
- I'm still trying to find the male equivalent of VIVANDIERE – going to put it on my tax returns from now on!
Raoul
- Plenty of brain exercise. Loved PICADOR, LEANT, WOOPER and ZEBUS.
Max Roddick
- CAPSTONE not in *Chambers*. Lots of clever, difficult clues. I was very slow getting the obvious 'flipped' M to W, and the reversed LAUDA in ADMIRAL.
Roy Taylor
- P was a very clever and humorous clue. Z clue Spoonerism was also clever. Thanks *Valkyrie* for an enjoyable AJ.
Alan Walter

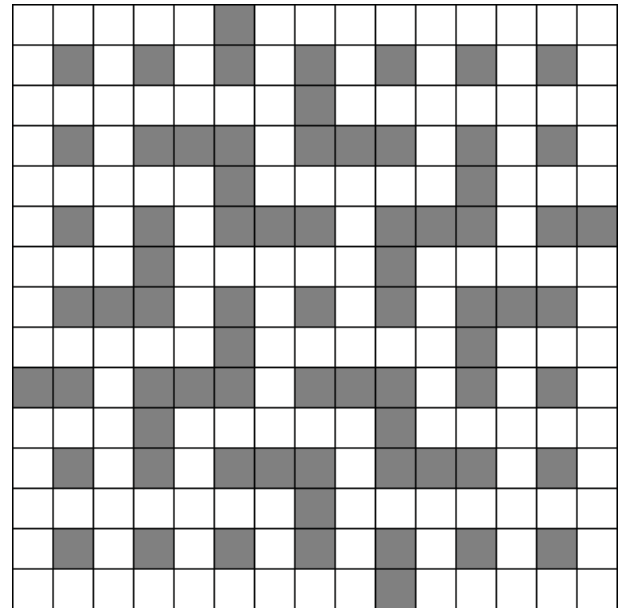
January 5-2015: Cryptic by ACC Compilers

- Speaking as one of the many compilers for this crossword, it was fascinating to see the final answer – and what a bonus, a Christmas Puzzle! (Thanks to David Stickley for that.). I liked the concept of the composite compilers, hope we can do it again next year.
Nea Storey
- I enjoyed the smorgasbord of slot 5, with its little tastes of so many different compiler styles.
Kath Harper
- A Spoonerism! Mules as spinners! Christmassy! It had it all.
Richard Skinner
- Well-made grid, so many theme words. Some great clues, too – the crooked field-denizens especially. REINDEER was good, even though I usually dislike Spoonerisms.
Rob Moline
- All of you compilers must have had fun putting together Slot 5; I certainly enjoyed solving it. There were some delightful seasonal clues and solutions and it will be very interesting to see who is responsible for each of them. Perhaps you should have held a guessing competition – who could match the greatest number of clues with their setters.
Susan Howells
- Our talented compilers obviously had a lot of fun with this. When making my good copy I had a lovely vision of the SHEPHERDS with an ESKY!
Margaret Davis
- Maybe the compilers of Slot 5 could have worked 'EYES BIGGER THAN BELLY' into their grid!
Eileen O'Brien
- There should be more like this. Every clue was sensible and achievable.
Andrew Patterson
- They only trusted me with a three letter word.
Raoul
- What a cluefest! Particularly liked SHEPHERDS, DONUT, REINDEER, LEI – and I can't wait to see whose work they were!
Max Roddick
- Thanks ACC compilers for your appropriate Christmas theme puzzle. In 21ac, presumably the 'old royal refuge' = SKYE.
Alan Walter

|F|E|B|R|U|A|R|Y| |6| |2|0|1|5|



|F|E|B| |1| |2|0|1|5| NAME.....



Send solution to: Bhavan Kasivajula,

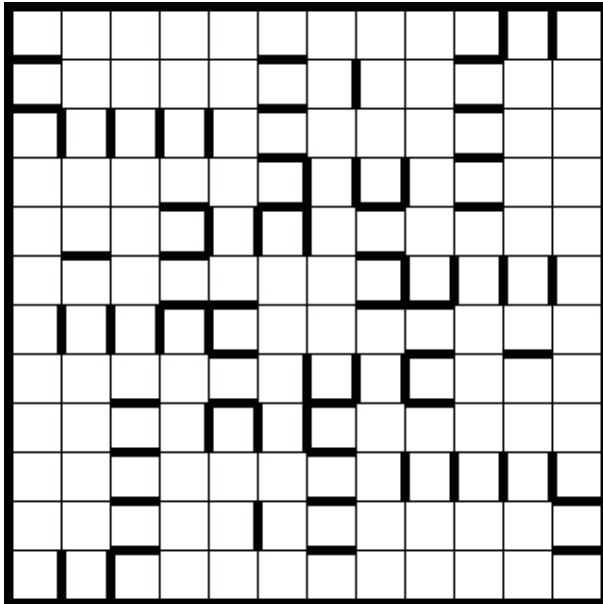
4 South Quay Drive, Biggera Waters Qld 4216.

Closing mail date: Friday 13 March 2015.

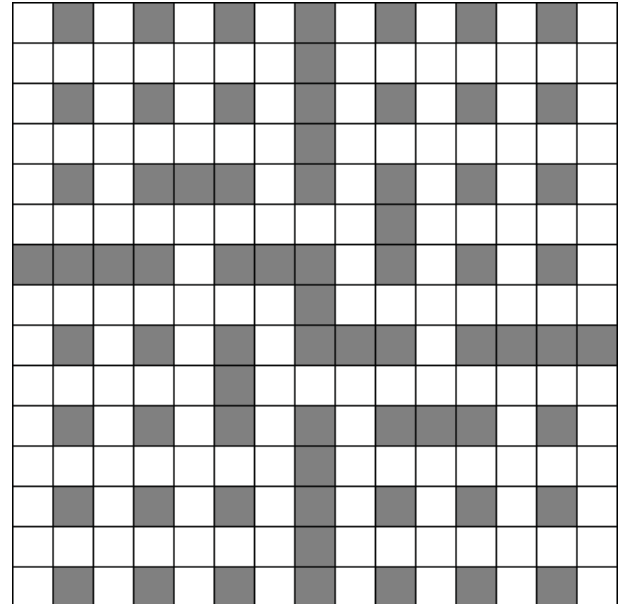
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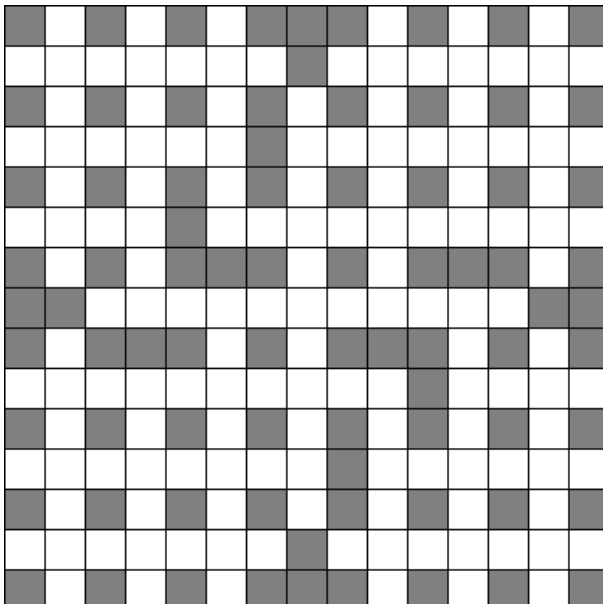
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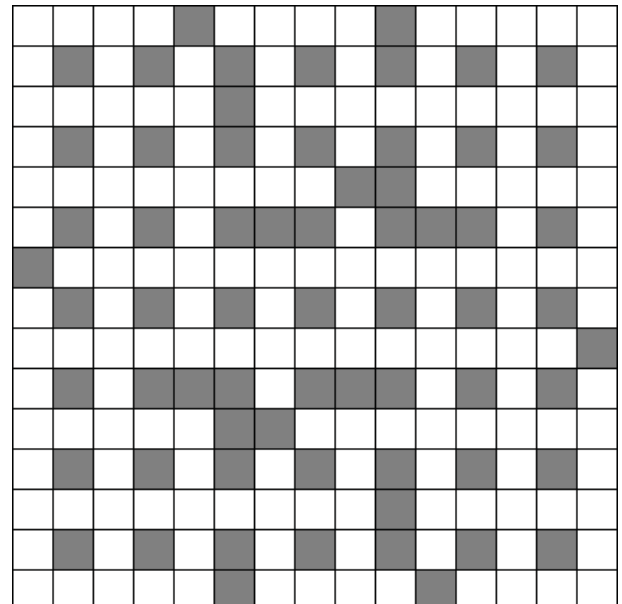
|F|E|B|R|U|A|R|Y| |3| |2|0|1|5|



|F|E|B|R|U|A|R|Y| |4| |2|0|1|5|



|F|E|B|R|U|A|R|Y| |5| |2|0|1|5|



Clue of the Month

December 6-2014: Themes and Variations by Betelgeuse (Gillian Champion)

Results: Entries 62; Correct 56; Success rate: 90%.

Winner: David Procter. Congratulations!

Adjudicator's Comments:

Thank you all for your welcome cards, letters, emails and feed-back in general. The theme was the four suits of cards which, with their variations, were: HEARTS (anagrams of the word), DIAMONDS (names of famous diamonds), SPADES (different meanings of the word) and CLUBS (different types of club). There were some queries regarding GELDING. As well as a few other meanings, *Chambers* maintains that 'Spade' (4) is equivalent to 'spado' a term for a neutered animal or person although this is marked as rare. It is not clear whether there is any connection between this and the word 'spay', but apparently the first comes originally from the Greek 'spado/e' to pull or tear, whereas 'spay' comes from the Anglo-French 'Epee', (word for 'sword'). As they have different sources, any similarity could be coincidental. The Theme and Variation type puzzle has been around for many years, perhaps conceived either by one of the legendary compilers *Afriit* (Dr Alistair F Ritchie) or *Azed* (Jonathan Crowther).

—Gillian Champion

Solutions: ACROSS 8. ISHMAEL= Anagram of 'Is he mal' 9. GRANULE=Cunning G-U(I)LE one leaves+RAN- 10. MOULT=Second MO+last -ULT 11. BOLLINGER=Throw back (lob rev) BOL+last mouthful -L- +fashionable-IN- +German -GER 12. NET-HE-R= -HE- into anagram of RENT 13. PISTOLES= anagram of STOP LIES 14. SERAC=hidden word 16. EGG=quarterE+horse (heard) -GG 17. CLEEKvariation of 4dn 20. ETHYLATE anagram of THEY-+ -LATE 22. AS SUCH= anagram of SUMACH 25. RETAINING= RESTRAINING minus SR 26. ALIGN=M/ALIGN minus M 27. HERBAGE=HERB-(homophone of Thyme)+-AGE(generation) 28. ELECTRO=ELECT-(choose)+RO(rev of 'or'). **Down:** 1. DIAMONDS=THEME (A) 2. CHAUNTER=C-(caught)+-HAUNTER(ghost) 3. PATTLE=variation of Theme (D) 4. CLUBS= THEME(B) 5. SADISTIC=SAD-(blue)+-I-(one)+-STIC(tack homophone) 6. CUDGEL=variation on Theme B 7. HEARTS=THEME C 15. CULLINAN=variation of Theme A 16. ENTWINE=ENT(anagram of TEN)+-WINE 18. EXUVIATE=anagram of X(ten)+ 'I'VE A UTE' 19. KOH-I-NOOR=variation of Theme A 20. EARTHS=variation on Theme C 21. HATERS=variation on Theme C 23. SPADES=THEME D 24. AGLEY=(E)AGLE+Y.

Members' Comments

- Once the triple, DIAMONDS, CULLINAN, KOH-I-NOOR were found, the other three suits were predicted. I really liked the clue for 18dn EXUVIATE. *Len Colgan*
- As usual, a great workout for the grey matter. I spent some time on working out the anagram for 23, 3 and 9. At first, I was sure there was an error (a missing H) as I assumed the letters of height had to be subtracted from the fodder. Eventually by working backwards I realised height was just H and prince was P. Nice deception on the spades theme. I was a little hesitant about the hearts, earths, and haters triumvirate, as I was looking for a more clearcut theme word. However, I'm assuming the fact that they're all anagrams of one another is the theme. For the conventional clues, I liked ISHMAEL, BOLLINGER and RETAINING. I'm guessing EGG is the mine, coming from E (quarter) + GG, but it did vex me. *Michael Kennedy*
- Quite difficult, as expected, with lots of new words. Didn't know ISHMAEL, PISTOLES, CHAUNTER, PATTLE, EXUVIATE or GELDING as a SPADE; vaguely knew EGG as a mine and AGLEY from Burns. With the H and the N in place in 19dn a word-finder gave Koh-I-Noor which I knew (and have seen? or is a fake on display?) and immediately all became clear. I've also heard of the Cullinan diamond, which Wikipedia tells me is also represented in the crown jewels, so I've probably seen parts of it, too. A bit dubious about HATERS and EARTHS - they're anagrams but not hearts, yet the other theme words are spades, diamonds and clubs. HERBAGE worried me until I figured out it was a homonym in the clue, not answer: TIME -> THYME. Not too happy with RETAINING, if I've parsed it correctly - take S and R separately out of RESTRAINING. Seems a little looser than the usual high standard of your clues. Quite liked SADISTIC and BOLLINGER. *Rob Moline*
- I found it to be a great challenge and most enjoyable. I had to make a wishful guess at the 23, 3 and 9dn group. I'd love to know how many hours you sacrificed pondering to our masochistic delectation. I greatly appreciate your labours. *Ray Gooderick*
- Phew! What a challenge that was! We are still not sure about a few, 9dn included! Thank you for posing such a tough one. *Julie Leigh*
- Innovative structure! *Ian McKenzie*
- Amazing Gillian - the Moonlight Sonata of crossword composing. *Brian Symons*
- Your puzzle was an absolute humdinger! It had me on the edge of my seat for hours, especially deciphering the Down clues. The 4 related Theme words were card suits (1) DIAMONDS related to CULLINAN & KOH-I-NOOR (2) CLUBS related to CUDGEL, CLEEK (3) HEARTS related to EARTHS, HATERS and (4) SPADES related to PATTLE, GELDING and all these answers were contained in your 4 super-duper anagram clues! 27ac - cleverly took 'Time, say' as THYME=HERB+AGE. ...This puzzle of your 4 huge anagrams without any definitions for them must be the upper

- limit of rationalisation! Thanks for your utterly stunning puzzle! *Alan Walter*
- This was a very interesting and challenging puzzle. Even though I managed to get my mind around it fairly quickly, I have no idea how you could conceive of it in the first place! Well done. *Frank Martin*
- Congratulations on another clever puzzle. I think it was the HEARTS set that let me into the theme. Nice work. *Andrew Patterson*
- Thanks for an enjoyable puzzle. I had only worked out about six of the conventional clues when I started to struggle, so I took the plunge with trying to work out the shortest of the compound anagrams. After a minute I saw cudgel, then saw cleek, and then saw that clubs was left over. Five minutes later I saw clubs as a suit. Despite that fortunate early success, the puzzle was still nice and challenging to complete. I enjoyed the way your groups varied in different ways. *Ian Thompson*
- Another really "clever as" crossword. Perhaps not quite so difficult as some others of yours (I do worry about the way your mind works) but I say that having worked out the four related words etc. Fingers crossed we sussed it. *Richard Skinner*
- Extremely challenging! Koh-i-noor was the first theme/variation I found, which had me looking for other gemstones! Trust I have all the variations correct. *Nea Storey*
- Thanks Gillian for a very clever puzzle which required a lot of juggling of words and neurons. *Roy Taylor*
- A very enjoyable exercise - once the penny had dropped. *Bob Hagan*
- Once again you've come up with a very clever concept with one or two entirely new words for my vocab! *Bev Cockburn*
- An enjoyable challenge as always!! *Andrew Miles*
- Boy! You really made us work for this one! Thank heaven for the anagrams of hearts that got me started. I really had to dig deep to find 'pattle'. Thanks for an enjoyable and challenging puzzle. *Brian Tickle*
- What a terrific puzzle!!! The four related themes had me completely floored until 7, 20dn & 21 suddenly gave me the three hearts which suggested what the others might be. *John Baylis*
- You never fail to please with your challenging and different puzzles. I assume that this one was your pack of Xmas cards. *Jim Fowler*
- Sac: maladjusted = mal adjusted??? Where is the indication to split the word? With very few down clues, made getting into the puzzle more difficult than normal. *George Rolfe*
- Thanks for your challenging puzzle. My favourite clue was ISHMAEL with a cleverly disguised anagram indicator. *Jeremy Barnes*
- Unusually gettable puzzle from *Betelgeuse*. Don't know why when I got 'diamonds' I went for jewellery and gem stones first! Good fun solving all the anagrams. *Tony Dobebe*
- It was, once again, an enjoyable challenge. *Lesley Carroll*
- Yet another brilliant crossword. It was very interesting to find the different meanings for "spade". And how very appropriate that "Bollinger" got a mention for the festive season. *Robyn Caine*
- Call me Ishmael! *Raoul*
- Thanks for a very challenging puzzle. A clever idea and well executed. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Good fun with this - days are dull when the puzzles are done for the month! Over ironing and vacuuming! *Eileen O'Brien*
- A great idea for a themed puzzle - more than just synonyms or word lists, but anagrams and the clever GELDING for spades! I had actually finished this about 2 weeks ago whilst on holiday, but did not send it in immediately. In the meantime I misplaced my completed copy, and had to sit down and start again. Only a little bit easier the second time around. *Mike Potts*
- I struggled long and hard with your puzzle. Even after I got two of the theme words, it took me a long time to make the connection to the rest of the set - though that might have just been my brain in holiday mode. Thank you for a very clever and challenging crossword. *Kath Harper*
- I would be very surprised if this is totally correct. But since I can't remember getting a slot 6 out completely ever before, have to send it in! *Judy Randall*
- You really gave me a headache with this puzzle especially as I did not cotton on to the theme until finished. *Barbara Glissan*
- Got the diamonds first, the hearts last. Is there a message in that? Liked BOLLINGER, EXUVIATE, and especially EGG. *Max Roddick*
- Here's my proposed solution to your cunning puzzle. Took most of the Xmas holidays to work out your fiendish anagrams and I loved the diamond and clubs references. The others are a little less certain - for instance, I can see that a gelding has been spayed, but am having trouble making a connection with Pat Pattle, a WW2 flying ace. However those are the only letters I had left and it fits in...Anyway, whichever way it goes, it was an absorbing puzzle. *Ron Carpenter*
- Difficult! Even when I had identified the four theme words. Very much enjoyed the word play and spent ages trying to find the names of suits in other languages. Cudgel and cleek (for clubs) gave me a hint and once I had worked out that Koh-I-Noor was one answer I understood the variations were very diverse. *Alan Dyer*
- Thank you for this interesting crossword. I was a bit slow getting going but, when I had, for 19dn, _ _ H _ - N _ O , there was only one possible answer and that led me on to everything else. *Susan Howells*
- Most enjoyable - very cleverly done. *Dave Parsons*
- A very challenging puzzle, this one! *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Loved the clue for 'Moult'. *Marian Procter*

Vape

Oxford Dictionaries announced recently that they have made *vape* their international Word of the Year 2014.

This odd little word, with its compounds, has risen from almost total obscurity to high fashion in less than half a decade. The award has been made because its use has more than doubled in the past year alone.

It's now widely known that if you *vape*, you inhale and exhale the vapour produced by electronic cigarettes (*e-cigarettes* or *e-cigs*). These contain a solution of water and glycerin plus nicotine and flavourings. This mixture is passed over a hot filament to deliver it as a vapour. Using an e-cigarette makes you a *vaper*. The action is *vaping*, and a single inhalation and exhalation is a *vape*. The e-cigarette is also sometimes itself called a *vape*:

"Her post-shoot model kit today is a simple pair of jeans and a lumberjack-check, cheongsam-style Marc by Marc Jacobs shirt, plus vape in hand that she occasionally puffs."

Sunday Times, 2 November 2014.

The apparent rise has been rapid. The first e-cigarettes were put on sale by a Chinese company in 2003. They were initially marketed as ways for smokers to cut down their tobacco consumption or kick the habit altogether. Instead, they came to be widely used by smokers and non-smokers alike because they seemed to be a cleaner and more healthy alternative to traditional cigarettes. This is denied by many health experts and their advertising and use are being restricted in some jurisdictions.

It seemed inappropriate to describe using them as *smoking* and so these new terms were created, obviously enough from *vaporise* or *vaporiser*. One reason for the increasing popularity of *vaper* is that e-cigarette smokers are banding together, using it as a self-identifying term, to campaign against proposed EU rules banning many e-cigarettes because their nicotine levels are too high.

A good marker for the success of something new is the rise of a specialised vocabulary. The first generation of *e-cigs* were disposable items, designed to look like the tobacco sort, and have been nicknamed *cig-a-likes*. They're being replaced by second-generation pipes, *vape pens*, sold in *vaporiums* (you may prefer *vaporium*, though vapers generally don't), *vape shops* or *vaping lounges* by specialists called *vapologists*. These pipes are more expensive to buy but are refillable with a cartridge — variously called a *vape tank*, *clearomizer* or *cartomizer* (shortened to *carto*), according to type. The flavoured solution of nicotine is called *e-juice* or *e-liquid*. That's turned into vapour by the heating element, the *atomiser* (shortened to *atty*). Enthusiasts — *flavour junkies* and *cloud chasers* — like to customise or *mod* (modify) their pipes, all the better to blow *killer clouds* of pungent vapour. The retronym *tobacco cigarette* has appeared to make it clear which sort of cigarette is meant.

Vape and *vaping* aren't new as abbreviations. The oldest found by WorldWideWords is from the early 1950s in the name of the doubly-abbreviated *Vape-Sorber*, a device for removing petrol and oil vapour from the air. There's also the long-established electric *vape mat*, which releases insecticide. Some science-fiction writers have used *vape* for killing opponents with an advanced weapon that flashes them into smoke, while others (especially those writing *Star Wars* spin-offs) have found *vape*, helpfully rhyming with *rape*, to be a usefully euphemistic epithet. But Oxford Dictionaries say that the first use in the current sense is astonishingly early:

"There have also been experiments with a "non-combustible" cigarette, looking much like the real thing, but again delivering a metered dose of nicotine vapour. (The new habit, if it catches on, would be known as "vaping.")"

New Society, 28 July 1983.

So the word existed long before the phenomenon. The evidence suggests that this sense began to appear in online bulletin boards in the 1990s but that it took until the rise of widely available e-cigarettes around 2009 for it to be encountered regularly in mainstream sources:

"His study of 40 smokers is trying to determine how e-cigarettes deliver nicotine and whether they suppress withdrawal symptoms. I found "vaping" too, well, plastic to be enjoyable."

Independent on Saturday (South Africa), 16 May 2009.

The active component isn't always nicotine. A newspaper report from San Francisco in 2005 suggested that cannabis was already being used instead. The recent legalisation of the drug in a few US states has encouraged this:

"Our mission is to rebrand marijuana," said Miss Mannix, holding a smokeless "Vape-Pen" containing cannabis oil."

Daily Telegraph, 27 January 2014.

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Additions to the Oxford Dictionary

The recent addition of 'mahoosive' to the Oxford Dictionaries — among a record crop of 1000 other words or terms — flags that it is considered a perfectly fine descriptor by the boffins who shape the English language. So we now have a portmanteau (two words thrust together) that combines 'massive' with 'huge' = mahoosive.

There's a special Aussie update that enshrines the 'shiny bum' (a bureaucrat or office worker), 'the ant's pants' (an outstanding person or thing) and the 'silvertail' (a socially prominent person, or one who displays social aspirations). Keeping alive the great Australian tradition of undercutting officious authority with catchy wit is the 'sticker licker' (a parking official), while nowhere else are MPs labelled 'pollies'.

In the words of Angus Stevenson, head of content at Oxford Dictionaries, Australian words are "brilliant and lively", and he expects many more to make the 2015 cut. Other terms — not necessarily coined by Aussies — include the cycling acronym 'MAMIL' (middle aged man in Lycra), 'al desko' (the practice of eating at your desk) and the 'five-second rule' (the practice of picking up food you've dropped on the floor within five seconds, and eating it in the belief it will be uncontaminated by bacteria in that timeframe).

How do new words make the final cut for Oxford Dictionaries? Every month, 150 million words are collected from a range of sources and analysed, then added into a database. The editors use this to track and verify new and emerging word trends.

So, sometime recently, two word nerds probably had a heated debate over whether 'duckface' (an exaggerated pout for a photograph), should make the final cut ahead of 'resting bitch face' (a person who looks mean even when their face is expressionless). It did.

Gary Nunn

The Age 5 December 2014