



|N|O.|3|1|1| |M|A|R|C|H| |2|0|1|6|



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[Wackford Squeers, describing the death of one of his boys] A candle in his bedroom on the very night he died – the best dictionary sent up for him to lay his head upon. Charles Dickens, 1838-9, *Nicholas Nickleby*, Ch 4.

|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|

The ACC Executive Committee is delighted to announce the winner of the Annual Cumulative Slots 1-6 with a perfect score: **Andrew Miles**. Congratulations!
The winners of the Quizzes Jan-Dec 2015 are: **Julie Leigh** and **Andrew Miles**. Congratulations!

Many thanks to all who sent greetings and entries albeit not so many via snail mail now with the advent of ACCOLADE which in my view is the best invention since (you guessed it!) sliced bread!

Given the impressive renewal rate of subscriptions, it is worth mentioning the huge workload of our tireless Secretary/Treasurer **Bev Cockburn** who has had to carry out the many admin tasks of banking etc but also the paperwork necessary to keep the membership records up-to-date. Not to mention her inspiring puzzles and quizzes! And the work done by our Puzzle Editor **Ian Williams** in the process of checking and selecting the puzzles and a quiz each month deserves to be quietly applauded and his skilful e-lodgment adjudication every month. There is a lot of work done by the members of the Executive Committee behind the scenes to keep our successful Club thriving. We would like to mention the brilliant invention of **Roy Low**: ACCOLADE. It has been very successful. And where would we be without the loyal assistance of our brilliant Adjudicators? They are simply THE BEST!!!

My apologies to any whose comments do not appear here. I'm in the middle of moving and my desk is now shambolic! Also Windows 10 is not doing me any favours: my advice is to stick to earlier versions!

Our brilliant puzzler **Ian Williams** has selected an outstanding range of puzzles and a quiz to keep you fully occupied during March. Ian has chosen a Half 'n Half by *Lexi Conner* and challenging cryptics by *Virgo* and *Jesso*. We are pleased to publish *Valkyrie* with the ever-popular AJ and in Slot 5, we welcome back one of our favourites – *Manveru* – with another one of his fine puzzles. In Slot 6, *Betelgeuse* tests all solvers with another of her admirable cryptics titled *Misprints* and in Slot 7, we have *Crowsman* with an engrossing cryptic titled *No odd answers here!* We have a Quiz for your delectation by *Fortuna 48* and Michael Kennedy is again organising the Clue Writing Competition which is featured on p16.

Slot 1: Not too many problems here, the main culprit being WRECK for WREAK also SPOT for SPIT and CHEW for CHEF.

Slot 2: Main offender here was FRIGHTS for FLIGHTS and typo's claimed a few scalps.

Slot 3: 27dn was the executioner in this slot with LOSE, TONE, MOVE and TOPE in place of DOPE. PARAPOT for PARAPET was also a favourite.

Slot 4: KELTY and KEITH for KELTS and LATII for LITAI; otherwise few mistakes here.

Slot 5: CRESTS and CRISES for IRISES erased the most dots in this puzzle also ICIEST and ACCEPT for YCLEPT with FORESTALLS for FORESHADOWS not too far behind.

COTM: Brian Tickle (*Pentangle*) was the outstanding winner of the Clue of the Month with his clue for 4ac in Slot 3 (HALF MOON), and in second place with his clue for 27dn (DOPE). Well done Brian.

It looks like another busy month for ACC solvers. Happy Crozworlding!
—Patrick

—Col Archibald

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	85	81	70	81	71	388
Correct entries	69	70	44	71	53	307
Success rate (%)	81.2	86.4	62.9	87.6	74.6	79.1
Prizewinners	Maureen Blake	Ian Mason	Bob Hagan	Max Roddick	Alison Martin	from 87 members

Prizewinner: February 2016 Slots 1-5: Karl Audrins, Congratulations!

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

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

	page
Half 'n Half by Lexi Conner	3
Cryptic by Virgo	4
Cryptic by Jesso	5
AJ by Valkyrie	6
Cryptic by Manveru	7
Misprints by Betelgeuse	8
Members' Comments	10
Results January Slot 6	12
No odd answers here!	
by Crowsman	13
Quiz No 3 by Fortuna 48	14
Results January Slot 7	15
Clue Writing Comp	16

Feb 1-2016

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

Feb 2-2016

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

Feb 3-2016

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

Feb 4-2016

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

Feb 5-2016

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

Jan 6-2016

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

MEMBERS RESULTS FOR Slots 1-5 FEB 2016 & JAN Slot 6

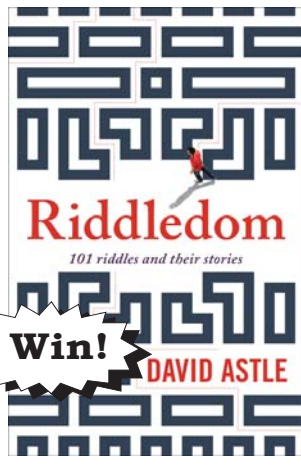
MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
ABBOTT P	.	.				
ALLEN W	.	.				
ANDERSON C	.	.				
ARCHIBALD C
AUDRINS K
AXELSEN U
BARBOUR J
BARNES J
BARRETT A
BAYLIS J
BENNETT D
BLAKE M
BRADBURY W
CAINE R
CARPENTER R
CARROLL L
CHAMPION G
COATES D
COCKBURN B
COLE G
COLGAN L
COLLINS M
COPLAND F
COULTON L
CROMER H
CROWE J
DAVIS M
DEARIE P
DE GRYS A
DENNIS M
DOBELE T
DOUGLAS R
DUCKER R
EVANS J
FOWLER J
FULLER G

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

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
MATTHEWS S
MEEK D
MERCER A
MILES A
MOLINE R
O'BRIEN E
PARSONS D
PATTERSON A
PEARCE J
PERROW H
PINDER S
POTTS M
PROCTER D
PROCTER M
PYC M
ROBERTSON S
RODDICK M
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
WILCOX C
WILLIAMS K
WIMBUSH R
WOOD J
WOODFORD J
YOUNG S

M	A	R	C	H	
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Half 'n Half
by
Lexi Conner



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27										28				

Across

- 1 Sister is one (7)
- 5 Waste (7)
- 9 Boys and girls in blue? (9,6)
- 10 Vortex (4)
- 11 Protective framework (5)
- 12 Retain this (4)
- 15 Glorify (7)
- 16 Chest of drawers (7)
- 17 Obsolete (7)
- 19 Nutritive substance, white perhaps? (7)
- 21 Scratch (4)
- 22 Away (5)
- 23 Article (4)
- 26 Be careful (8,7)
- 27 Proverbs (7)
- 28 Nestle (7)

Down

- 1 Big hug for the boyfriend (7)
- 2 Home lender developing the broader community (8,7)
- 3 Metal press (4)
- 4 Paste diagrammatic representation of eucalyptus oil source (3,4)
- 5 Played and cheated (7)
- 6 Graphic online storage for computer image (4)
- 7 Mother's nighty - it could be over three decades old! (6-9)
- 8 Lessee admits second person to come inside again (2-5)
- 13 In retrospect, the cheeseboard has too much fat (5)
- 14 Rosemary Elliott and Basil Alpert perhaps? (5)
- 17 They eat around mid-evening; what do they eat? (7)
- 18 Stops some believers incorporating the last rites (7)
- 19 Attention deficit disorder afflicts half the junkies (7)
- 20 Vote against abundant supply being given to fourth rate contender (7)
- 24 Sick aunt, oddly enough, shows how to read a barcode (4)
- 25 Nips out of the way from model pursuing mentor (4)

Slots 1-5: Andrew Miles, 62 Wilshire St, Dickson ACT 2602.
e-mail: smiles@grapevine.com.au
Closing mail date: Thursday 24 March 2016.

Slot 6: Gillian Champion, c/o Post Office, Metung Vic 3904.
email: gchampion@westnet.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 8 April 2016.

For Online entry, submission and adjudication of all puzzles via ACCOLADE
click on www.low.net.au/accolade/

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

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

M	A	R	C	H	
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S	L	O	T		2

Cryptic by Virgo



1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
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27		28								29				
30						31								

Across

- 1 Extinct bird – one travelling on a bus? (9)
- 6 Make confused when returning from field day (5)
- 9 Groan mended heart, perhaps, (5)
- 10 Does 11 give reason to act cautiously? (9)
- 11 Where animal may play – perhaps with discomfort? (3,3,4)
- 12 Almost perfect thought (4)
- 15 Owner of 10 in animal accommodation becoming crazy (6)
- 17 Idle actor following European drunk – mysterious (8)
- 19 Cunning Ron a Nazi statesman (8)
- 20 Party members' bonds embracing alternative (6)
- 22 Chum casually shot free (4)
- 23 Observer of reformations if missing in chaos (10)
- 27 Wildflowers spread uncut, cut on Long Island (9)
- 29 English seasonal entertainment for two leather-covered 10s! (5)
- 30 Rumoured to be a place to see (5)
- 31 Writers try taking one to the streets (9)

Down

- 1 Milne character taking cocaine – a dog (5)
- 2 Artists on 1 Aug moved house (11)
- 3 Length of short night in France results in tiredness (5)
- 4 Temple tower where Republicans hear you, God (6)
- 5 Reaction concerning old club with no centre quarter (8)
- 6 Radical type shown by excavation of Mary Leakey (4)
- 7 Pair of the French have nothing (3)
- 8 Captivates indoors! (9)
- 13 Blasted streamlined trains off the track (11)
- 14 Toto annoyed another chap (4)
- 15 Salt silly bird's bags (9)
- 16 God is in authority (4)
- 18 Rubber stroke to employ (8)
- 21 Bands for limbs, as children might say! (6)
- 24 Fast former waitress (5)
- 25 Strongholds for cheats? (5)
- 26 Put knight in gear and come together (4)
- 28 Complain about horse (3)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- I've joined the happy solvers using my i-pad to solve and submit puzzles. (About time did I hear you say?!) So no need to deal with the vagaries of the postal system. It is a great step forward.
- Thanks for my quiz prize. It will come in very handy.
- Don't ever stop.
- My first entry using ACCOLADE: I'm converted. Very user-friendly; many thanks to Rob and all at ACC. *Betty Siegman*
- "Thank you" for my slots 1-5 prize for January. It was a huge surprise – I've never got 5 slots correct in one month before. It really made my day, thank you!


Alison Hocking

Ulla Axelsen

Sue Robertson

Betty Siegman

Jill Lankshear

M A R C H 2 0 1 6 S L O T 3
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">by</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Jesso</h2>


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Across

- 1 Late English he's written out for a play (3,7,4)
- 9 Not out to send a message around old city — it's hopeless (9)
- 10 Company bank west of Nyngan (5)
- 11 Boy nearly circulated (5)
- 12 E. Wheeler's off in another place (9)
- 13 Damned Dane hides collection of myths (4)
- 15 Will adoration stop the Italian model in a fishing boat? (10)
- 18 Beast backed with ring layering (10)
- 19 Spent dues foolishly (4)
- 22 Old-fashioned individual's starting point (6,3)
- 24 Blue, in fear, taking time off (5)
- 26 Behind time with heart of Texas plant emission (5)
- 27 Atmospheric problem carries little weight with individual at golf location (5,4)
- 28 "Full English" could provide example: start diet counter (9,5)

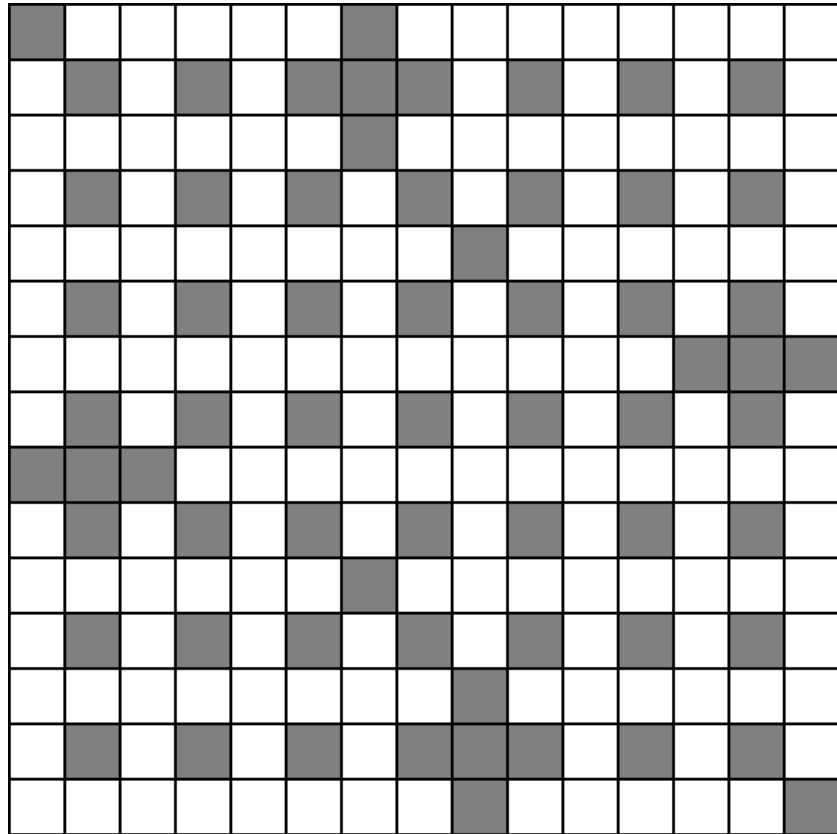
Down

- 1 Start to turn right anger on me in the galley (7)
- 2 Hero caught in English hat (2,3)
- 3 Serial reappointment for the country (6)
- 4 Seasoning a sailor on board (5,4)
- 5 Note inserted in radical's pipes (5)
- 6 Food we left on top of dresser in the joint (4,4)
- 7 Writings of Sir Bottle revised (9)
- 8 Touchy one goes about right on railway (6)
- 14 War hero's a doctor, taking house cleaner outside (9)
- 16 Risky turbulence of ground and sea (9)
- 17 One old king with return of sloth has loss of appetite (8)
- 18 Alcoholic literally ends richly (6)
- 20 Woman with a football in the valley (7)
- 21 Smallest number of women after ecstasy in party (6)
- 23 Working away. Switch positions (2-3)
- 25 Greek character, a doctor, prescribing a lozenge (5)

Solvers' Comments for Slot 5 continued from p10

- The title gave the Nina away; clever all the same. 14ac was a well disguised reversed hidden. *Ulla Axelsen*
- *Buzzer* rings a bell. Only time will tell. Lines 1 and 15. A Nina will be seen. *Jim Fowler*
- Thank you for a challenging puzzle. *Joan Smith*
- I loved the clue Skeletal and I was so excited to find my first Nina in only time will tell. Yes this was very good! *R & P McKenzie*
- Nina – Only time will tell. *Doreen Jones*
- I've had to do some guessing in this one; a few of the clues not making sense to me. Was the dog in 20ac meant to be French? I like the last discovery: "Only time will tell". *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- I didn't ever work out why this crossword was entitled "Is this any good?" *Susan Howells*

M A R C H 2 0 1 6 S L O T 4
AJ by <i>Valkyrie</i>

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Love without right protection (6) B Curb interruption in speech (5) C Tips I briefly relish after conservative article's supplement (8) D Don or Martin? (4) E Planet experiencing a temperature-pressure exchange required a communication aid (8) F First to be welcomed by supernatural becomes high-spirited (6) G Angry riot eliminating head radical destabilised revolution (8) H Boy displays leg: the result of too many Gs (4,4) I Took advantage of erroneous deposit after switch in market limits (7) I Spin-doctors independently lose sources of selective political chat time when not outside (7) J Agents travel north to join leaders of jazz and rock (6) K Luck sank when CID unexpectedly hit (7,8) L Make fun of a politician guarded by bird (7) M Capital setter is on top of answer (5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N New heads of Exploring Ancestry are at ease about dead possessing four next-of-kin (7,8) O Think too much of terrible times amongst gorged (12) P Arrange a thousand, then a hundred, small plants and animals (8) Q Briefly stop revolutionary making food (6) R Revised game plan, after changing sides and direction, created riots (8) R Fish increase in the telling (4) S Fixed a time during call on date (6) T Spike dashed in back street scam (8) U Union report to look at country (6) V Channel 7 acquired 1 following start of vitriol about Cairo (8,4) W Argument about initially tabulating drug dose is to one's advantage (5,2) X Legendary city got backing of university and a strange, unknown person (6) Y Contradictory votes (3,3,2) Z Remote control changes current for American interlocking system (6) |
|--|---|

Solvers' Comments for Slot 5 continued from p10

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only time will tell. The Nina is to be found on the top and bottom lines! • Loved the Nina answering <i>Buzzer's</i> question "Is this any good?" Of course "Only time will tell"! • ONLY TIME WILL TELL. • Long time since I've come across YCLEPT. The Nina answers the title: IS THIS ANY GOOD? – TIME WILL TELL. • 4dn was a source of confusion for ages. What an odd word! • A NINA "Only time will tell". • Thank-you for replenishing the supply of beer. Not so keen on unindicated French word elements. Wrote in YCLEPT from the cryptic; but couldn't believe it was a word – turned out to be correct. | <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>Julie Leigh</i>
 <i>Bev Cockburn</i>
 <i>Warren Allen</i>
 <i>Nea Storey</i>
 <i>Julie Crowe</i>
 <i>Marian Procter</i>
 <i>Rob Moline</i> </p> |
|---|---|

M	A	R	C	H	
2	0	1	6		
S	L	O	T		5

Cryptic
by
Manveru



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

Across

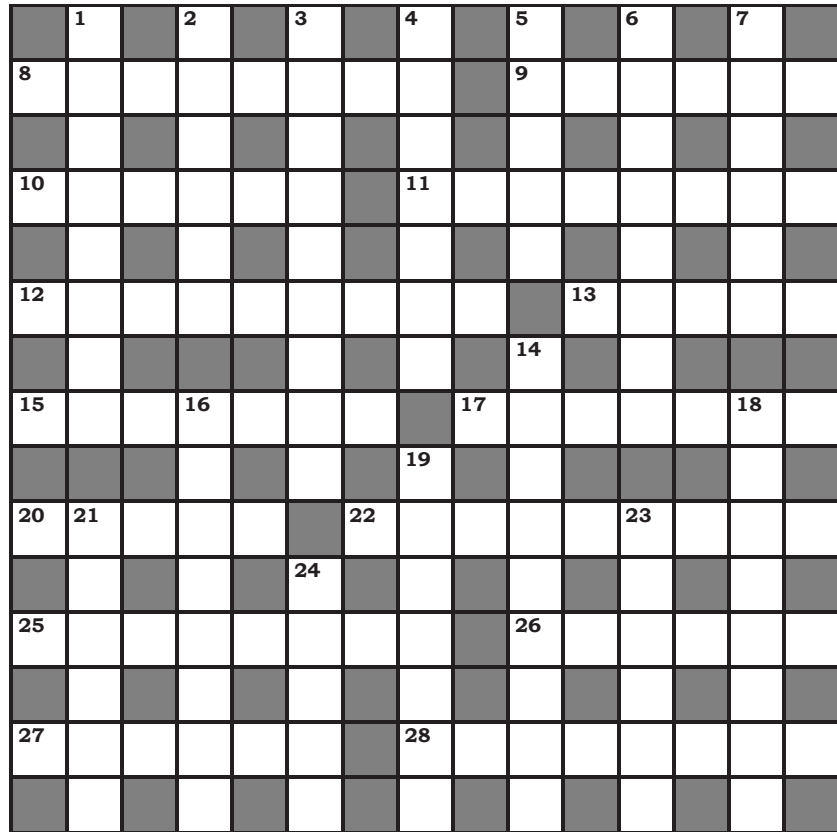
- 1 The Origin of Species is an example of this? (6)
- 4 Good career – not quite satisfied with 'easy' (8)
- 10 Exhibit new enterprise after iPhone's launch is cancelled (9)
- 11 Material cited from online newspaper (5)
- 12 Who is needing both hands? It's convoluted (5)
- 13 Binding tie placed by specialist surgeon (9)
- 14 Annoyed after session with acupuncturist (7)
- 16 Proverb, says to "rise to a great height" (4)
- 19 Understand a verbal denial (4)
- 21 Dress company must redesign ensemble from the beginning (7)
- 24 Government to stage kidnapping of leader of IS on Victory Day (9)
- 25 This travels around river with Hawaiian perhaps (5)
- 26 Attaching and using a keyboard without power (5)
- 27 These people need support networks, ultimately to control unpredictable anger (9)
- 28 Hell! New rates are a fiasco (8)
- 29 Poetry against oration? (6)

Down

- 1 Wife has no right messing about and having a fling (8)
- 2 Went off with old girlfriend, Penny – rich and no amateur (8)
- 3 Cyanide – a lethal compound for example (5)
- 5 Steps aside after Republican tries corruptibly to secure Delaware's base (7)
- 6 Checked timetables? (9)
- 7 Chimney and flue – two names spelt differently (6)
- 8 The essence of a ruler is to extend and measure this? (6)
- 9 Became uneasy as son on drug went into care (6)
- 15 Siamese, Persian and Manx perhaps, with various meows? (9)
- 17 Bishop issues name to undermine affair (8)
- 18 Bridge builders with many crowning achievements? (8)
- 20 Blew this vigorously after the kickoff! (7)
- 21 Gifted Conservative turning party upside-down (6)
- 22 Write small piece like *The Famous Five* (6)
- 23 Star, for example, on the rise after input from Italian virtuoso (6)
- 25 Ray blade (5)

M	A	R	C	H	
2	0	1	6		
S	L	O	T		6

Misprints by Betelgeuse



Across clues have a misprint of one letter in their definition but are otherwise standard cryptic clues. Down solutions have to be changed by one letter to make a new word and each down clue comprises a definition of the original word, plus subsidiary clues to the new word to be entered into the grid. The changed letter always occurs on a checked square. One word will not be found in the normal references but is in *Webster*.

Across

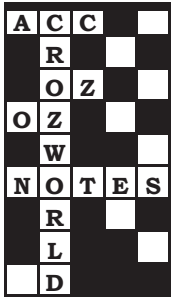
- 8 Game, big game, one for old goat (8)
- 9 Created back entrance with input of a kind of energy (6)
- 10 A second time tucked into chicken curry? (6)
- 11 Kiss in river-boat is characteristic of one very biddable (8)
- 12 One on the lake heard to greet bird, we hear (4-5)
- 13 Grew fat eating one (5)
- 15 She washes but not the French strap (7)
- 17 Harper ought doubtfully to precede the Queen (7)
- 20 Fairy leaves extended viewer with mange (5)
- 22 A demonstration of ability when mostly into claret, drunk (9)
- 25 Starting off heeding every symbol – a sign of good solver (8)
- 26 Vigorous way to dress fool, we hear (6)
- 27 ... fool with no time at all, triples trouble (6)
- 28 Sets out to dance unhooded (8)

Down

- 1 Writing down sounds, sonata so declines into variations (8)
- 2 Fine fruit not one to fail (6)
- 3 Right way of thinking means therefore 15 changing sides (9)
- 4 Tend to forget current prodigy (7)
- 5 Dull, quiet man gets by (5)
- 6 Could be Vesuvius in general, is losing cover? (8)
- 7 Prop up, including each plant (6)
- 14 Happy match in fruit department? (9)
- 16 Repressed outcast picked up in the van (8)
- 18 Banish tax collected mid-term (8)
- 19 Phenomena of deep space tasks, e.g. cooking (7)
- 21 With little warmth, fuel largely lacks body (2-4)
- 23 Jumble up old age after brief fling (6)
- 24 Source of finance for endless measurement of astronomical distances (5)

**Post
Solution
to:**

Gillian Champion, c/o Post Office, Metung Vic 3904.
email: gchampion@westnet.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 8 April 2016.
[or submit via www.low.net.au/accolade]



Explanations for clues in February 2016 grids

Note: cd = cryptic definition; dd = double definition; rev or < = reversal; homophones are noted as "homoph" and words from which they are derived may be shown in quotes; anagrams as anag. if straightforward, or (NNNN)*. "Heads" or "Tails" are first or last letters of part of a clue; letters forming solutions are normally written as capitals and removals as lower case; hw or hidden = hidden word. Explanations provided by individual compilers may vary from this format.

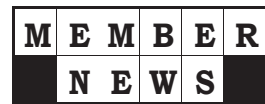
Slot 1 InGrid: Explanations to cryptic clues: Down: 1 tips <, **2** Heads, **3** anag, **4** as+sent, **5** fi (in<) shed, **6** NC in (READ) <, **7** anag, **8** e+n+treaty, **11** WaRrEmArK, **15** anag, **16** ice+picks, **17** tang+(bile)*, **19** arm (our) ed, **20** lie+eg<, **22** dm, **24** no+body, **27** ch(i)ef, **28** dd.

Slot 2 Barney Naga: Across: 1 2xdd, **5** A + FF + RAY, **9** homoph "calmer Su" + ART*, **11** IN + CUR, **12** SUNNI + ER, **13** (HOLLA hOA)*, **14** hidden, **15** A + RID + STATE, **17** CRIM in (StRIPE)*, **19** vEtO oNeS, **21** mIS TAKEN &-lit, **22** A + VIA + TO + R, **23** I (RON) S, **24** (REGULARITieS)*, **25** anag, **26** PREMIER + E. **Down: 1** (SHEIKS ART - SET)*, **2** AD + MINIS + T + RATIONS, **3** TEST + IF + Y, **4** INTER + NATIONAL, **6** F + LIGHTS, **7** 3xdd, **8** YARD (AGE) S, **10** ATOM + I + (CORRECT + A)*, **16** ASPIRIN + G, **18** anag, **19** EPic + GRAM, **20** WeRe AsSiStEd.

Slot 3 Pentangle: Across: 1 A + (APPLE)*, **4** cd, **10** (APPAREnT)*, **11** RE + TREAT, **12** homoph "tough", **13** SPINe + DOCTOR, **15** TALE + NT, **16** GET + A + WAY, **20** PO (ROOT)* O, **21** dd, **24** EXTRA + ACTION, **26** (RATE)*, **28** (NO I TALE)<, **29** Pu (ROVER) B, **30** (TEETH)* + RED, **31** SEE + THE. **Down: 1** A + M(PUT)ATE, **2** (TOP FLOOR + I)*, **3** rASPS, **5** A + R(ORANGe)ED, **6** F (A + MOTH)* ABLE, **7** cOVERT, **8** mAURE + N, **9** SPOTS<, **14** (INVITE)* containing NOVA, **17** A BEAT* + homoph "meant", **18** CON + (UNTIE)*, **19** T+ERR + bIBLE, **22** DEFLECT - L, **23** M (OR) PH, **25** TO + A + ST, **27** DO + PE.

Slot 4 KA: A ant(r)e, **B** blood+o+range, **C** con+und+rums, **D** anag, **E** eve+n, **F** hw, **G** gr+ill, **H** h+u+man, **I** ici+er, **J** j(ump)y, **K** dd, **L** anag, **M** molly+coddle, **N** lousy(nitty)+game(gritty), **O** ob+st+(tenia)*, **P** p+ian+o, **Q** quick + lime, **R** rebel+lion, **S** screw+topped (bettered), **T** net< +or, **U** u(l)na, **V** auxiliary is a type of verb = VERBally, **W** where=NZ house + ouse, **X** x(ma) sx s=small size (eg clothing), **Y** rev hw, **Z** (peep)* inside zlins = Moravian town's.

Slot 5 Buzzer: Across: 9 HI + ER + ARC + H...Y, **10** RO(A + S)T, **11** (REPLENISH BEER)*, **12** F + (b-)O(LI)O(-k), **13** TRA(-i)NS + RIPE*, **14** Reverse Hidden, **17** EVAN<- + GEL, **19** (UNCLE CUTS)*, **22** ENJOY with V for J, **24** C in (EG A RICH LOAM)* + S, **26** (d-)OWNER, **27** A + SS + OC + I + ATE. **Down: 1** O(H)M, **2** NE(-ar) + URAL, **3** (M + LAPTOPS)*, **4** (c-)YCLE(-s) + PT, **5** TYPE + F + ACE, **6** I + RISES, **7** MAR + BLING, **8** Hidden, **12** FOR + E + SH(AD)OW, **15** CA in (A MINOR)*, **16** LEKS <- + ET AL, **18** (YEA CAN BE)*, **20** UN + CUR + (tai-)L, **21** Heads, **23** V + LEAST*, **25** (f-)EEL.



New Member: Rupe Harrison from Cheltenham Vic. Welcome to the wonderful world of *Crozworlding!* Much appreciated ACC subscription renewals for 2016 from **Alex Forbath** and **Ralph Penglis**.

Errata and Corrigenda:

Dots: Pat Lord gained dots in January for slots 1 to 5. Claire McClelland for slots 2, 4 and 5 and Margaret Davis for slot 4.

As a result of a review by the adjudicator of the acceptability of the combination of AIRHOLE and GEE UP in January slot 1, the following members have been awarded a dot: Jeremy Barnes, Bev Cockburn, Len Colgan, Rosemary Ducker, David Grainger, Julie Leigh, Nea Storey, Brian Tickle and William Ryan.

ACC PRIZE WINNERS for 2015:

Slots 1-6/2015: **Andrew Miles** with a Perfect Score. **Congratulations!**

ACC 2015 Quizzes winners: **Julie Leigh** and **Andrew Miles**. **Congratulations!**

Our sincere thanks to **Bev Cockburn** and **Brian Symons** for their valued assistance with the management of these awards.

ACC Christmas-in-July 2016



We are pleased to announce that the Victorian Christmas-in-July Get-Together will be held at the Royal Oak Hotel, 442 Nicholson Street, North Fitzroy on **31 July 2016** from 12-4pm. This has been a very successful location over many years and the quality of the food has been outstanding not to mention the Puzzles and Quizzes! We have booked out

the comfortable Lounge and look forward to meeting up with you all. Kindly make an entry in your Diary now.

Sir Jeremy Morse (1928-2016)

Derek Harrison wrote: "The sad news this month on 4 February was the death of Sir Jeremy Morse. Much more famed for his work in banking, Sir Jeremy was a genius in writing clues. He excelled throughout the years of *Ximenes* and continued with the *Azed* competitions. It is well worth browsing the andlit archive to read his stunning clues.

http://www.andlit.org.uk/azed/by_cluer.php?series=B&cluer_id=22

I only met him on a couple of occasions and I found him a thoroughly amiable and sympathetic person. I first met him at the *Apex* lunch when I had the unique opportunity to take a photo of him with Dorothy Taylor who entered the competitions under the alias of Mrs B Lewis. They were the pair that Colin Dexter chose to name his inspector and sergeant.

<http://www.crossword.org.uk/dorothy.jpg>

Shortly after I was trying to get an honour for *Apex* and, realising that it would be helpful to get some big names backing the submission, I asked Sir Jeremy to help. He was absolutely magnanimous in his help. When I found out that *Apex* had been awarded the MBE I phoned him with the news. He was delighted and added that of all the requests for which he had written references this was the first success.

His death is a sad loss to the crossword community and I offer my condolences to his family.

Phi has also commented on CJM and you can see his Jeremy Morse puzzle at <http://phionline.net.nz/my-other-puzzles/other-puzzles/the-jeremy-morse-crossword/>

You can also read Alan Connor's tribute and some of Sir Jeremy's cracking clues at <https://www.theguardian.com/crosswords/crossword-blog/2016/feb/08/crossword-blog-farewell-to-jeremy-morse>

February 1-2016: Half 'n Half by InGrid (Jean Barbour)

- Was rather more difficult than usual and I have assumed 14ac is not edible. *John Baylis*
- Mostly straightforward, but a few tricky ones in the end – HEMSTITCH< SKIRRET and FINISHED! *Rob Moline*
- I particularly liked the clue for DANCER. *Brian Tickle*
- Excellent puzzle Jean. Better to use "war remark periodically" than "periodic war remark". *Len Colgan*
- Thank you Jean. Hopefully a good start to the month. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Enjoyable start to the puzzles this month. *Bev Cockburn*
- Had trouble with ARMOURED. *Nea Storey*
- Hemstitch brought me back to my days of primary school sewing classes. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Nice start to February puzzles: liked the clue for NOBODY. *Joan Smith*
- A good slot one which once again taught me a new word – skirret. *Barbara Ibbott*
- Funny how much harder I find the plain clues than the cryptic! *R & P McKenzie*
- Perplexed is an interesting word to use for an anagind. *Hilary Cromer*

February 2-2016: Cryptic by Barney Naga (Jeremy Barnes and Bob Hagan)

- Seemed somewhat easier and I am reasonably confident. *John Baylis*
- It took a while to realise what 'trips over' meant in 6dn. Sneaky! I also liked KAMA SUTRA, LITURGIES and ASPIRING. *Brian Tickle*
- The 2- & 3-word phrases and the 15-letter clues made this difficult! *Nea Storey*
- Some good succinct clues. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Enjoyed the challenge. *Sue Robertson*
- Great puzzle lots of nice clues; favourites were Aviator, Irons, Internationals and Aspiring. *Joan Smith*

February 3-2016: Cryptic by Pentangle (Brian Tickle)

- Was a real humdinger and kept me guessing for a long while. I presume that UNDERSIZED is a new yet unnamed indicator requiring us to remove surplus letters, in this case A to convert extra action into EXTRACTION which earns my COTM. *John Baylis*
- Enjoyable puzzle with my last two in: HALF-MOON and EXTRACTION being my favourites. *Ian Thompson*
- Most enjoyable puzzle with 4ac being my favourite clue. *Len Colgan*
- Gave MORPH COTM. Unsure of 27dn. Hope is MOVE. DOPE was a tricky clue. *Roy Taylor*
- Lots of lovely clues. Thanks Pentangle. Liked 23dn and especially 4ac. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Some nicely crafted clues with 'out of the ordinary' definitions made this a tough but enjoyable challenge. *Tony Dobe*
- Very good puzzle with challenging definitions especially. The word play was often obtuse too! *Richard Skinner*
- Wonderful clues especially 5dn and 27dn. *Bev Cockburn*
- I loved the clues for TERRIBLE and DOPE. *Nea Storey*
- Some good clues here. I particularly liked amputate and had a chuckle at half moon. *Maureen Blake*
- 24ac had me beat for ages. Still not sure how it works, but seemed to be the only word to fit! *Julie Crowe*
- So many good clues: hard to pick COTM. *Marian Procter*
- Good workout. Lots of words within words: enjoyed it. COTM for 4ac. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Thoroughly enjoyed this puzzle; lots of top clues. Favourites were 11, 28, 29 and 31ac, 19 and 27dn. *Joan Smith*
- This one made us laugh out loud! *R & P McKenzie*
- A challenging and enjoyable puzzle. Thank you! *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Some enjoyable and quirky clueing here. *Kath Harper*
- Sometimes I'm ever so grateful for Slot 1. Thank you Jean. *Gabriel Fuller*

February 4-2016: AJ by KA (Karl Audrins)

- This was a tricky grid with all of those 5- and 9-letter solutions but the clues were fair and clever. I particularly liked NITTY GRITTY. *Brian Tickle*
 - I look forward to this puzzle every month. Always tricky but satisfying! *Ann Millard*
 - Fairly easy clues; enjoyable tricky placement. *Roy Taylor*
 - Sometimes 1 COTM isn't enough! *Robyn Wimbush*
 - Good AJ. A bit harder to place answers than usual. *Richard Skinner*
 - I love the AJ, but this one really tested me. I will be interested to see if I manage a dot! *Cheryl Wilcox*
 - Even when I had most of the clues out, the grid made the solution difficult. *Nea Storey*
 - This was more challenging than usual due to the unusual grid. It took quite a bit of juggling until I could place all the answers. *Maureen Blake*
 - It was trickier with fewer variations in word length I found but a good challenge. Liked the nitty gritty clue. *R & P McKenzie*
 - Another excellent AJ. I do enjoy them! *Julie Crowe*
 - Very tricky – not just a few unknown words, but getting them all into the grid. Much harder to fill than a normal AJ grid. *Rob Moline*
 - Liked the challenge of having only 4 word lengths. It helped that Xmas could only fit in one place. *Ulla Axelsen*
 - I always enjoy these alphabet puzzles. *Sue Robertson*
 - Enjoyable AJ: liked Conundrum. *Joan Smith*
 - The grid was a little difficult to fill in although the clues were straight forward. *Barbara Ibbott*
 - Grid lay-out made it more difficult to get started but I loved the clues, particularly 'conundrum'. *Hilary Cromer*
 - Wasn't enjoying this puzzle until I eventually cottoned onto Molly Coddle and Nitty Gritty! Became a joy after that! *Glenda Lloyd*
 - I always look forward to these alphabeticals! *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
 - This was a lovely AJ which required careful orientation. *John Baylis*
- ## February 5-2016: Is this any good? by Buzzer (Bhavan Kasivajjula)
- Undeclared NINA: ONLY TIME WILL TELL. *Michael Potts*
 - 4dn: I solved this only because at school in the olden days I had to study Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. *Denis Coates*
 - You can tell Buzzer that I thought it was very good. *John Baylis*
 - Several candidates for COTM here. I really liked the surface readings of TRANSPIRE, ENVOY, OWNER and FORESHADOW. Only the NINA saved me from an error in 6dn. *Brian Tickle*
 - Nice puzzle. The Nina and answer to the titular question is "Only time will tell". *Ian Thompson*
 - Simply discharge returning Swiss archer. Best clues are COTM 16dn and 8dn. *Len Colgan*
 - Buzzer's puzzles are always tricky and intriguing – this one was a fine example! *Roger Douglas*
 - NINA – ONLY TIME WILL TELL. *Michael Kennedy*
 - Nice one Buzzer. YCLEPT is a new word for me! 14ac: I spent some time trying to fit HG in, before seeing the reverse inclusion. *Roy Taylor*
 - Thanks Bhavan. Lots of fun with this one. *Robyn Wimbush*
 - Nina – 'Only time will tell'. A most enjoyable puzzle: up to Buzzer's usual high standards. *Andrew Miles*
 - Sneaky Nina. Apparently, ONLY TIME WILL TELL though. *Richard Skinner*
 - Is this any good? Only time will tell!! I think the answer is yes. *Cheryl Wilcox*

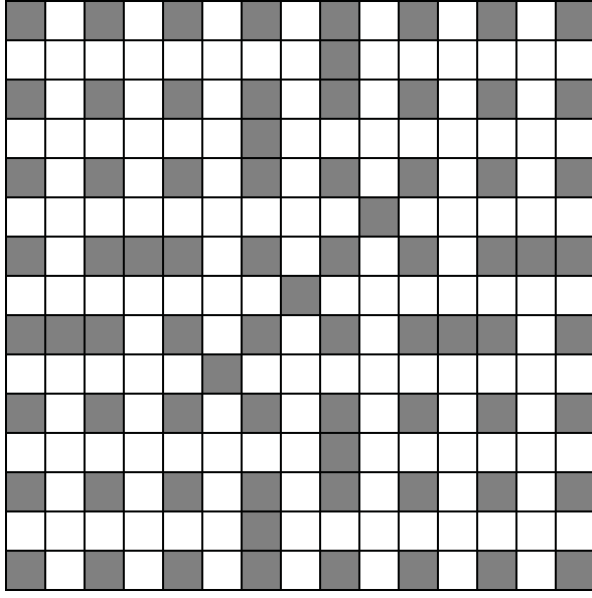
Send solution to: Gillian Champion,
c/o Post Office, Metung Vic 3904.

Closing mail date: Friday 8 April 2016.

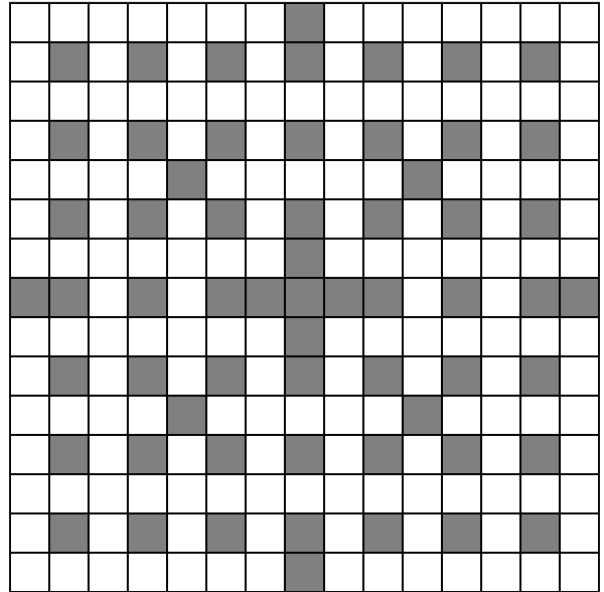
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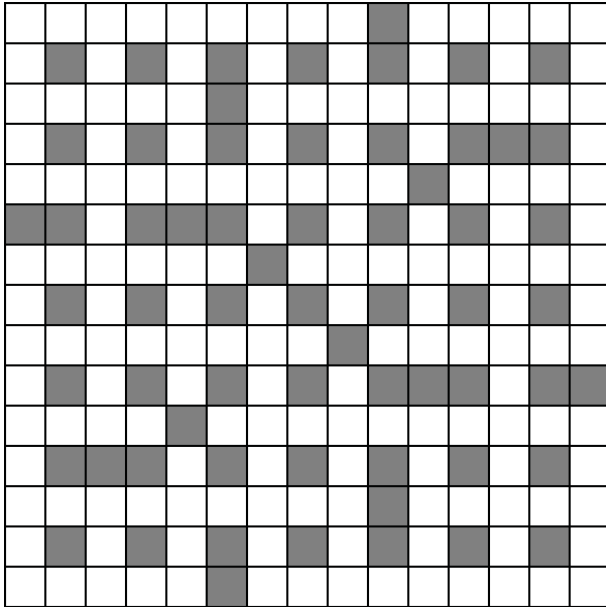
|M|A|R|C|H| |6| |2|0|1|6|



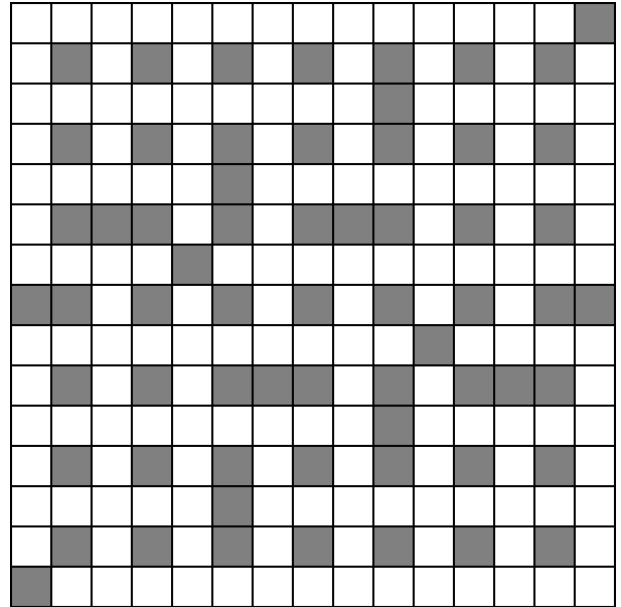
|M|A|R| |1| |2|0|1|6| NAME.....



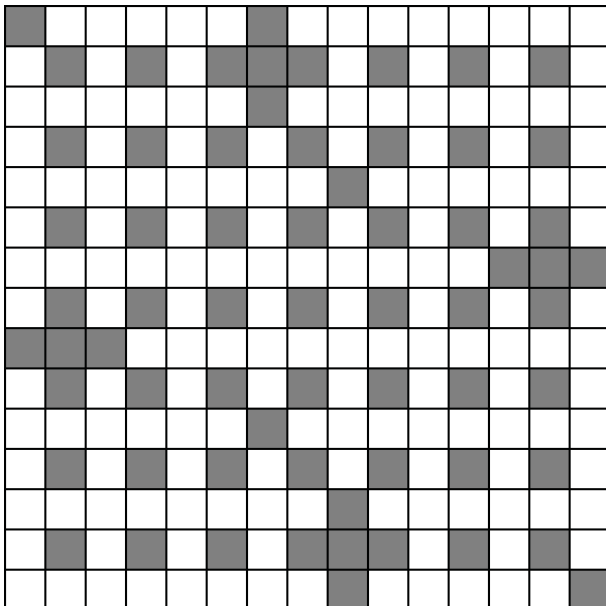
|M|A|R|C|H| |2| |2|0|1|6|



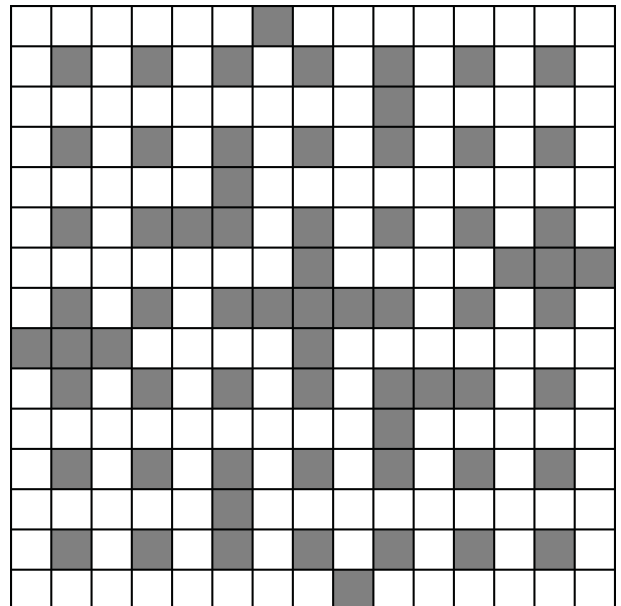
|M|A|R|C|H| |3| |2|0|1|6|



|M|A|R|C|H| |4| |2|0|1|6|



|M|A|R|C|H| |5| |2|0|1|6|



Clue of the Month

January 6-2016: Cryptic by Crowsman (Len Colgan)

Entries 82. Correct 50. Success rate 61%.

Prizewinner: Brian Symons. Congratulations!

Adjudicator's Comments:

The Nina is THE AUSTRALIAN CROSSWORD CLUB, formed by taking, in order, the first letter from all of the Across and Down answers. This was identified in 34 of the members' submissions, all but three of which were totally correct. The most common errors were MAKING or MATING instead of LACING (many times), and HEELER instead of REELER, when the Nina was not detected. Unfortunately, IMHO, the best clue in the puzzle was for 22ac LACING, with an answer starting with L as part of the Nina. Several members mentioned the CROSSWO but didn't find the rest.

—Crowsman (Len Colgan)

Explanations:

Across: 8 (I + RAM) inside SUIT*; 9 H + A(ir) + RARE; 10 ST(SIT) ILE<; 11 AN + GIN + A; 12 (c)UMBRIA; 14 dd; 16 TURNING THE (S)CREW; 18 R + (h)EELER; 20 ALL + (p)URE; 22 LAC(k)ING; 23 (t) IMBE(r) + LICE*; 25 ACCU(r)SE; 26 RAN< + ROWER; **Down:** 1 anag; 2 (c)RAFTSMAN; 3 anag; 4 SUBST(ANTI)ATIONS; 5 S + HEARST + EEL; 6 W(atercolour) + RIGHT; 7 O(RANGE)MEN; 13 RUNS* (* = RAGGED); 15 anag; 17 (p)UR(e) inside CACAOS; 19 laid up = LAID<; 21 anag; 24 dd.

Some of the comments, other than merely identifying the Nina:

- Without solving the Nina, I had MATING at 22ac but realised it had to start with L and soon worked out the answer was LACING. *David Procter*
- I really liked 13dn and 19dn; a bit left field. *Ulla Axelsen*
- First letters of the answers in clue order. I got sucked in at first with the top line on the grid and spent some time looking in the wrong place. *Richard Skinner*
- Would have voted for 3dn as COTM if it was in Slots 1-5. *Drew Meek*
- Despite the glaring CROSSWO along the top, I can't fathom the Nina. *Peter McDonald*
- Particularly liked 2dn, 13dn & 22ac (neat!). *Gillian Champion*
- Your puzzle was most enjoyable. The "SLA Patty" reference stumped me until I realised that HEARST was part of the answer – almost ancient history, though a major event at the time. *Peter Dearie*
- Can't find the Nina. All I could find was CROSSWO across the top. Hope my solution is otherwise OK (It is! LC). Thanks for a great puzzle. *Catherine Hambling*
- I believe the Nina is CROSSWORD CLUB (half! LC). Patty Hearst was a blast from the past – I haven't thought about her in years! *Alison Martin*
- I can only see a Nina in the top line of the grid – so I'll have to submit UNFINISHED CROSSWORD (very imaginative! LC). Thanks for a great puzzle. *Brian Tickle*
- The Nina I am not too sure about. Across the top CROSSWO is obvious. *Ian Thompson*
- Thanks for another excellent puzzle. It took me a while to find the Nina, even after I noticed the letters in the top line! I seem to remember another of your puzzles with a similar Nina (correct, but then it was in the perimeter. LC). Too many good clues to choose a favourite. *Jan Wood*

Touch and go

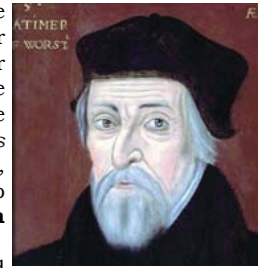
Meaning: A risky, precarious or delicate case or state of things – such that the slightest change could prove disastrous.

Origin: 'Touch and go' is a highly unusual expression in English in that it has developed with several different meanings. The one given above is the most commonly used but, as the meanings lead us to the origins, let's list the variations first.

- Briefly touch on something and then go on to something else.
- Involving rapid or careless execution: "Noel Coward wrote many touch and go witticisms."
- A precarious situation, one in which a small deviation could cause calamity: "He almost didn't make it through his heart operation, it was touch and go for a while."

These meanings may differ but they do have a common structure – each version is of the form 'something is briefly the object of attention and then some action is taken'.

The early uses of each meaning of the expression give some clues as to whether they came about independently or whether they come from a common source. The first time 'touch and go' is known to have appeared in print is in *Seven Sermons Before Edward VI*, published in 1869, which is a record of sermons preached to the young king by the English cleric **Hugh Latimer** in 1549:



As the text doth ryfe, I wyl touch and go a lyttle in every place, vntyl I come into much. I wyl touch al the forfyed things, but not to much.

[As points arise I will refer to each of them briefly and elaborate later. I will refer to all the previous items but only in passing.]

The meaning there is clear, Latimer declaring his intention to touch on the things he intended to say and then to enlarge on them later. That's not unlike the present day mantra given to speechmakers – 'you tell them what you are going to tell them, then you tell them, then you tell them again'. Assuming that the 1869 publication was a faithful record of what Latimer said then the 'briefly touching on something' meaning is where 'touch and go' started.

The *Seven Sermons* is quite a thick book and not exactly a laugh a minute. Edward VI was only eleven at the time so he must have had some considerable patience to sit through Latimer's exhaustively long and repetitious preachings. His successor Mary I was less accommodating to Latimer and had him burned at the stake in 1555.

The second and third meanings both arose in the early 19th century. The 'careless execution' meaning was associated especially with the theatre and is first known from Horatio Smith and James Smith's *Rejected Addresses*, 1812:

There is an art in writing for the Theatre, technically called touch and go, which is indispensable when we consider the small quantum of patience, which so motley an assemblage as a London audience can be expected to afford.

This version of the expression seems to be built around the notion that theatrical sketches and skits could be improvised and thrown off with little effort. This parallels the modern day expression 'good enough for government work'. This meaning can be seen as a development of the earlier 'Latimer' meaning. It alludes to something being given scant attention.

The more common 'precarious situation' meaning followed soon after, in a letter taken from the memoirs of the Scottish clergyman Ralph Wardlaw, published in 1815:

'Twas touch and go – but I got my seat.

It isn't easy to see how this 'precarious' meaning could have been a development from the previous versions – there doesn't seem to be any connection. In fact, there wasn't. This meaning came about as an allusion to ships or stage-coaches giving a glancing blow, to the seabed or to the wheels of other coaches respectively, before continuing their journey. To collide might mean disaster but a mere touch meant a narrow escape and the ship/coach could continue to 'go'. This was explained by Admiral W. H. Smyth in his *Sailor's Word-book*, 1867:

Touch-and-go, said of anything within an ace of ruin; as in rounding a ship very narrowly to escape rocks, &c., or when, under sail, she rubs against the ground with her keel, without much diminution of her velocity.

So, the first use of 'touch and go' was by Hugh Latimer but he didn't mean what we now understand the expression to mean; for that we have to look to the era of stage-coaches and sailing ships. This will be welcome news to the members of CANOE – the Committee to Ascribe a Naval Origin to Everything.

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M A R C H 2 0 1 6 S L O T 7
No odd answers here! by Crowsman
Prize \$75

Four clues
(12dn, 7dn, 11ac, 23ac)
are normal cryptic clues.
The other twenty-two answers
(where 12 7 represents 12dn,
7dn) are totally undefined,
with only a secondary
indicator.

Send your entry to:
Len Colgan
1 Ailsa Avenue,
Warradale SA 5046
or by email:
len.colgan@unisa.
edu.au
Closing date:
8 April 2016.

[or submit via *www.*
low.net.au/accolade]

Across

- 5 12 7 high IQ group (4)
- 6 12 7 wastes money (8)
- 9 12 7 bowel movements (10)
- 10 12 7 wash (4)
- 11 Mandarin, perhaps, has one scheduled completion (8)
- 12 12 7 hand over (6)
- 13 12 7 pine (6)
- 14 12 7 blossom (6)
- 17 12 7 people who worry greatly (6)
- 19 12 7 celebrations (8)
- 20 12 7 supporter (4)
- 21 12 7 not modulated (10)
- 22 12 7 making into a steep slope (8)
- 23 Poos by accident. Mildly sorry! (4)

Down

- 1 12 7 flag of British merchant ships (8)
- 2 12 7 strong attachment to worldly things (10)
- 3 12 7 Italian wines (2,2)
- 4 12 7 objective (6)
- 6 12 7 proposing (6)
- 7 Departed, having cut a number centrally – emotionally gutted! (12)
- 8 12 7 drops in value (12)
- 12 Have roots in atrocious former dive (6,4)
- 15 12 7 naval viewer (8)
- 16 12 7 bowing (6)
- 18 12 7 auricular protection (6)
- 21 12 7 out of condition (4)

ROUGH COPY

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

GOOD COPY: Name

Quiz No 3/2016



by **Fortuna 48**

Quiz 3/2016. Windy Ones by **Fortuna 48**.

All answers have something in common, and are not defined.
Answers are in alphabetical order.

Send your solutions to Nea Storey, 10 Whiteman Street, Wanniasa, ACT 2903.
Fax: 02 6231 0820. Email: neachy2@netspeed.com.au.

Closing date 8 April 2016. \$75 prize.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1 Pleated sari (4) | 12 Festivity doesn't end with ecstasy when ... (4) | 21 South American lime squash (6) |
| 2 Almost harsh (6) | 13 ... enjoyment lacks oxygen (4) | 22 Knight, one in charge – coming and going (7) |
| 3 So easy! It's a (6) | 14 Potassium with Christmas dinner? Wrong! (7) | 23 Dance Queen (7) |
| 4 Horse-breaker (6) | 15 Opposite of 9 (2,4) | 24 Airs (10) |
| 5 North American Indian Tribe (7) | 16 Round poles in satellite (7) | 25 Determination announced why testament unknown (5,5) |
| 6 Working in series (7) | 17 Deny less than full employment (5) | 26 Afford, reportedly (6) |
| 7 Treat ... (6) | 18 No Go Area with zero gravity (5) | 27 Heartless Zeno scrambled DNA (5) |
| 8 ... with a dose of medicine (7) | 19 A type of pastry (4) | |
| 9 Free on line (2,4) | 20 Group of orchestral instruments (5) | |
| 10 Half continent for you and me (5) | | |
| 11 Level country (6) | | |

Results of Quiz 1/2016: No Repeats by **Crowsman (Len Colgan)**.

Entries: 45. Winner: Margaret Steinberger. Congratulations!

30: P Abbott, W Allen, K Audrins, U Axelsen, J Barnes, R Caine, B Cockburn, G Cole, J Crowe, P Garner, R Gooderick, B Hagan, K Harper, S Howells, C Jones, D Jones, G Leeds, J Leigh, G Lemon, P Lord, C McClelland, R&P McKenzie, T McPherson, F Martin, A Millard, E O'Brien, J Pearce, M Procter, M Steinberger, B Symons, R Taylor, I Thompson, B Tofoni, K Watt, J Wenham, C Wilcox and R Wimbush; **29:** J Fowler, R Hearn, P Heath, V Howard, I Mason and M Potts; **28:** J Evans and B Glissan.

Solutions: 1 ambidextrously; 2 behaviour; 3 boundaries; 4 cautioned; 5 discourage; 6 double spacing; 7 equation; 8 euphoria; 9 exhumation; 10 facetiously; 11 gelatinous; 12 housewarming; 13 hydropneumatic; 14 inoculated; 15 jailhouse; 16 leaving out; 17 malnourished; 18 nefarious; 19 overhauling; 20 precautions; 21 question mark; 22 rhapsody in blue; 23 sequoia; 24 shadow figure; 25 subordinate; 26 tambourine; 27 tenacious; 28 unforgivable; 29 vaulting-horse; 30 warehousing.

Setter's Comments: The few mistakes usually involved omitting the "ly" from ambidextrously or facetiously, giving adjectives with the wrong letter count rather than clued adverbs.

— *Crowsman (Len Colgan)*

Other Solvers' Comments:

- I enjoyed the quiz and can't imagine how long it took you to put together. *Robyn Wimbush*
- What I really enjoy about your quizzes is that, apart from introducing me to a few brand new words, they make me look at familiar words in a completely new way. *Kath Harper*
- Thanks for a very enjoyable quiz; not much referencing needed, just lots of thinking. *Roy Taylor*
- Thank you for your terrific quiz – once again I'm reminded that the English language is an amazing animal! *Margaret Steinberger*
- An interestingly different concept. Thanks for the exercise. *Karl Audrins*
- Very clever and using all the vowels; wish I could find a word with all the vowels to convey my puzzle "post-fatigue!" (OK, but "t" repeated? LC) *Marian Procter*

DIVERTING INFORMATION ...

- In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'.
- Many years ago in Scotland a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden'... and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.
- The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV were Fred and Wilma Flintstone.
- Every day more money is printed for *Monopoly* than the U.S. Treasury.
- Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better.
- Coca-Cola was originally green.
- It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.
- The first novel ever written on a typewriter: *Tom Sawyer*.
- The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.
- Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history: Spades – King David. Hearts – Charlemagne. Clubs – Alexander the Great. Diamonds – Julius Caesar
- $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
- If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
- Q. Most boat owners name their boats. What is the most popular boat name requested? A. Obsession.
- Q. If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'? A. One thousand.
- Q. What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common? A. All were invented by women.
- Q. What is the only food that doesn't spoil? A. Honey.
- In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase: 'goodnight, sleep tight.'
- It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

January 7-2016: Cryptic by Zinzan (Andrew Patterson)

Entries: 64. Correct: 50. Success rate 78.1%.

Winner: Peter McDonald. Congratulations!

Setter's comments:

Thank you to everyone who submitted a solution. ON THE SAME PAGE just seemed a neat idea that needed a puzzle to surround it. Most queries related to CRYPTIC. I like Spoonerisms but they're always so obvious. So I hoped enough people would know his first name, Rev William. At least the answer (Sp:trip/kick) was part of the theme and gettable. See Roy Taylor's comment for the METTLE clue. Most errors were of the typo variety but three RENTS appeared and three STUFF ITs. Enjoy the rest of 2016! —Zinzan (Andrew Patterson)

Correct entries:

Allen W, Anderson C, Axelsen U, Bennett D, Blake M, Caine R, Carroll L, Cockburn B, Cole G, Colgan L, Crowe J, DeGrys A, Dobele T, Ducker R, Fowler J, Garner P, Glissan B, Gooderick R, Greenberger O, Hagan Bob, Hambling C, Hearn R, Howat S, Howells S, Kennedy M, Lee C, Leigh J, Lord P, Martin F, Mason I, McClelland C, McDonald P, McManus D, Meek D, Miles A, Millard A, O'Brien E, Pinder S, Potts M, Procter M, Siegman B, Simons A, Skinner R, Symons B, Taylor R, Thompson I, Tickle B, Wilcox C, Wimbush R and Wood J.

Summary of Errors Found:

EMACIATED (EMACIATES) occurred 2 times
 RENTS (RENDS) occurred 3 times
 STUFFIT (SNUFFIT) occurred 3 times
 MISSIL (MISSAL) occurred 1 time
 JOLL (JOLT) occurred 1 time
 GENTLE (METTLE) occurred 1 time
 AMACRATIC (EMACIATES) occurred 1 time
 PRICE (PRIZE) occurred 1 time
 ILEGIST (ELEGIST) occurred 1 time

Solvers' comments:

- This puzzle had several interesting and entertaining elements and clues were very well constructed. CRYPTIC was a great clue – I almost overlooked trying to parse it, but was delighted when I finally worked out that it was a Spoonerism. Thanks for the mental exercise. *Ian Thompson*
- Lots of quality clues. 21dn is a ripper. 23ac has excellent surface. Well done. *Ian McKenzie*
- The 10ac clue for PILFERERS is superb! I've finally reconciled ACCENT but am still working on CRYPTIC. *Len Colgan*
- I put METTLE for 13ac; fits a definition but didn't get the clue. Last one solved was METTLE. Zinzan is ME, then t(i)tle. Tricky! *Roy Taylor*
- Lots of great clues. My favourites were pilferers, cryptic, stop press, knee-deep, watertight and of course, on the same page. *Brian Tickle*
- An enjoyable challenge. Will be interested to see how 'cryptic' is derived. *Ulla Axelsen*
- What a clever concept! I found seven words 'on the same page'! Eight, if you include 'page'! *Bev Cockburn*
- Loved the "on the same page" answer. A great help once I "got it"!! *Cheryl Wilcox*
- This caused much head scratching & quite a few guesses. Unsure of METTLE. *Anne Simons*
- Really enjoyed this puzzle. Just a variety of clues. *Ann Millard*
- Loved the clue about Depp's flippin' dogs that yapped! *Ron Carpenter*
- Not sure how METTLE answers 13ac. I must be missing something. *Marian Procter*
- A high standard puzzle one has come to expect from Zinzan. I particularly liked 21dn. I larfed. *Jim Fowler*
- Your puzzles always make me chuckle. SNUFF IT made me LOL. Not sure how some of my answers work and look forward

to explanations.

- Definite theme here with JANUARY CRYPTIC PRIZE DOWN ACROSS SLOT all 'ON THE SAME PAGE'. 14dn I thought 'caught' was not necessary. *Jan Wood*
- A bit of a theme defined in 15ac? ACROSS, DOWN, JANUARY, CRYPTIC, PRIZE, SLOT. *Tony Dobele*
- Very clever but I groaned at 14dn. *Michael Potts*
- Loved Depp's flippin' dogs! *Gabrielle Leeds*
- Thanks for a great puzzle. METTLE took me ages to understand and CRYPTIC remains just that. *Alison Martin*
- Did enjoy this despite the fact that some of my answers will give you a "What the . . ?" feeling. Some clues were so good, pity they don't qualify for COTM. *Bryan Symons*
- Loved YAPPED! What a hoot that was. *Eileen O'Brien*
- It was an engrossing puzzle while I must confess that I do not understand all the clues. I still have no idea what a hashtag is and how we get CRYPTIC from Rev William. *Robyn Caine*
- Your clue for DOWN kept me chuckling for some time. *John Baylis*

Pat Garner

Solution to January 2016 Slot 7

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

Results of the Clue Writing Competition: No 1/2016 (continued from p16).

Toper Hal incoherent after excessive amount ***
 This is anagram of *tope* *hal* as indicated by *incoherent*. I enjoyed the *inebriated* theme, although with unusual word fodder such as *tope* and *hal*, the anagram indication becomes obvious. A good clue though.

Trap hole repaired with a large amount, loosely *½**
 A neat anagram of *trap hole* as indicated by *repaired*. What I particularly love about this clue is the clever definition that is lifted straight out of *Chambers*, including the word *loosely*, and the fact that it fits snugly with the hole-filling image.

Clue Writing Competition No 2/2016
 For the next competition, please write a clue for the word **MOBILE (6)** complete with explanation. Note: only one clue per person.
 Send your clue and explanation to the adjudicator Michael Kennedy, 27 Hennessy Lane, Figtree NSW 2525 or by email to: manveru@bigpond.com

Closing mail date: Friday 8 April 2016. Book prize.

Results of the Clue Writing Competition: No 1/2016.

Write a clue for PLETHORA (8)

Adjudicated by Michael Kennedy.

Definition from *Chambers* (12th edition):

n excessive fullness of blood; over-fullness or excess in any way; loosely, a large amount. [Gr *plēthorā* fullness, from *pleos* full]

I chose *plethora* simply because I liked the cut of its jib, but I soon learned that it has plenty of other attractions, ranging from choice anagram fodder to its suitability to be hidden. Many of you were also quick to spot and make use of *thor* inside *plea*, and this is ultimately where the winner came from. There were a healthy nineteen entries, with the winning one coming from the pen of **Rob Moline**.

Earnest entreaty to stop the hammering (God! It's too much!) (8)

The entries are listed in alphabetical order and the definitions, where appropriate, are *italicised*.

A great deal formed, despite the fact that, from the start, rigmarole interrupted the defendant's statement ***

At sixteen words and no less than four separations, this is one of the longest clues I've come across. The parsing involves placing THO *despite the fact* and the letter R into PLEA. It's technically sound but the lengthy surface is lacking flow. More often than not, *less is more* when it comes to compiling a more appealing clue.

Beseeking god in excess ***

And now we have the shortest clue. This uses the most enticing parsing method for *plethora* (i.e. Putting THOR into PLEA). With the obvious overlap between god and prayer, I reckon I would have gone for something similar too. The trick in using the obvious method is to make it stand out from other clues that have used the same idea. In this clue *beseeking* (noun for plea) has the *god* THOR inside. It works, but would fare better with some work on the surface sense.

Bustling Perth, alone, without direction, has huge wealth to distribute **½

This clue is an anagram of PERTH and ALONE without NE. I do like clever subtraction anagrams, and while direction normally indicates N,S,E, or W, here it indicates NE. Helpfully, NE does not require unscrambling so it's a fair subtraction. The definition is somewhat misleading as *plethora* has nothing to do with distributing wealth, but I do see how it fits with the clue's theme.

Central Templeton woman has hyperaemia **½

Who knew that *plethora* had a medical definition of an overabundance of blood? Not I. This bright compiler managed to use a definition *hyperaemia* that would have had most of us reaching for the nearest dictionary or doctor. The relative obscurity of the definition is not helped by the parsing. While PLE from *central templeton* is just acceptable (central could also refer to L or even MPLET), it's the woman's name of Thora that makes this clue a solver's hair-puller. Thora, a Danish name meaning thunder, is just too obscure for the solver. While there is a loose list of generally accepted common names (e.g. Ron, Ed & Eve), it's fairer to try and avoid using them, or alternatively providing more information.

Earnest entreaty to stop the hammering (God! It's too much!) ****

Here we have another clue placing THOR into PLEA, but that's about where the similarity ends. The compiler has imaginatively used some clever synonyms such as *earnest entreaty* for PLEA and *the hammering God* for THOR, to come up with a storyline that is different again. *It's* can be read literally – as in '*it is*' the answer, so definitely not superfluous. There's a plethora of punctuation but nothing that's prohibited. A fine clue!

Earnest request involving god causes embarrassment

I must thank Ian Williams for noticing this clue published in the *Sunday Times* (no. 968) last October. You can see that even the experts will often look for the 'obvious' parsing, but doing so in a creative and sensible sounding way.

Earth pole almost displaced excess *½**

This clue demonstrates a clever way of dealing with an extra letter in an anagram. The fodder is EARTH and POL(e), with the word *almost*, indicating that not all of *pole* is used. The indicator is a fitting choice and I'm envisaging a massive ice melt maybe.

Excess may be mapped by a choropleth or an isopleth **½

This is a hidden clue as nicely indicated by the *mapped* term. I had no clue as to what a choropleth or an isopleth referred to, but for those who are interested, they are cartographical terms. While *plethora* is certainly hidden, it's at the expense of the superfluous word *isopleth*. It's only there to finish the sentence but in a perfectly hidden clue, *all* the words are used to contain some of the answer.

Excessive fat in ample thoraces? **½

Here we have another medically themed hidden as indicated by the word *in*. I only wish that *blood* had been used instead of *fat*. The latter was chosen as a supplementary definition (i.e. fat – abundance) but this would only serve to confuse the solver. As *plethora* is defined as an excess of blood, this would have served well in a clue that could be taken straight out of a medical paper.

For appeal an ample thorax has plenty **½

There's nothing I like better than an ample thorax. Here it also serves as the container for *plethora* as indicated by *has*. While those elements work well, the first three words, *for appeal an*, seem to be superfluous as they are only being used to pad the surface.

God involved in petition gives an excessive amount (X2) *½**

I've had some similar clues before, but I think this is the first time that I've received two perfectly identical ones. Both compilers have done a splendid job in creatively placing THOR in PLEA, and maintaining a plausible premise.

God overwhelmed by request to provide an abundance *½**

Not dissimilar to the above clue. I like the use of *overwhelmed* as a containment indicator.

It all becomes too much when Thor enters a plea *½**

This is unusually parsed as the definition is found in the middle of the clue. However, you need to read this clue as instructional or literal to fully appreciate its cleverness. After THOR enters PLEA, it all, *literally*, becomes something that means 'too much'. I would have opted for a synonym for at least one of the word fragments, but otherwise I really enjoyed this clue.

Over supply of simple thoracoscope part ***

A simple hidden clue as indicated by the word *part*. While it's relatively clear what the compiler's purpose is, *partly* would be more accurate grammatically, but obviously wouldn't work on this occasion.

Patrol he misled went over the top **

This is a simple anagram of *patrol he* as indicated by *misled*. However, I'm not convinced by the definition as it's adjectival. The compiler explains that 'going over the top *leads* to an overabundance or a plethora'. That may be true but as the solver would be looking for a *direct* definition, this would be hard to justify.

Plentiful lot, extra times, heaps of range about faces! ***

Hands down the most elaborate and unusual clue this month. In essence, it's simple – just take the initial letters as indicated by *faces*. For an orthodox clue one would then be looking for a separate definition. In this clue, as indicated by the exclamation mark, the clue itself serves as the definition (actually four of them if you look closely), making it a partial &lit clue. I agree with the compiler that it does lack some coherence in its surface sense.

Shorten: The alternative is to cut defence excess ***

In case you don't recognise him, Shorten is the name of the current opposition leader. This topical clue is parsed with THE and OR inside PLEA (defence). I love the fact that the clue reads like a headline, and while the parsing works well for the most part, it's tarnished by *alternative* for the conjunction 'or'. Strictly speaking, it should be 'alternatively' or 'as an alternative'. For those who are new to this game, *The Times* actually have a policy of not clueing living people.

[Continued on p15]