



|N|o.|3|3|5| |M|A|R|C|H| |2|0|1|8|



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For, just when ideas fail, a word at the right time can work wonders for you /
And save the situation / With words you can build a system.
Goethe, 1808, 'Studierzimmer', in Faust (trans.) 1.

|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 winners of the Annual Cumulative Slots 1-6 of 2017 with an outstanding score: **Len Colgan, Bob Hagan** and **Andrew Miles**. Congratulations!

The winners of the Quizzes Jan-Dec 2017 are: **Ulla Axelsen, Pat Lord** and **Brian Symons**. Congratulations!

Our masterly 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 ? and challenging cryptics by *Katydid* and *St Jude*. We are pleased to publish *KA* with the ever-popular *AJ* and in Slot 5, we welcome one of our favourites - *Valkyrie* - with another one of her fine puzzles. In Slot 6, the popular *Buzzer* tests all solvers with a brilliant cryptic and in Slot 7 we have *Nigrum Cattus* with an engrossing and stimulating cryptic. And there is a Quiz for your delectation by *Valkyrie*.

Michael Kennedy in his distinguished organisation of the Clue Writing Competition has provided detailed explanations about the clues provided by the ACC members for the word POT which is featured on p16. The winning clue came from **Karl Audrins** with a topical clue and a cleverly disguised definition as follows:

Shoot the leaders of Pakistan's operational Taliban (3) POT

Sincere thanks to you Michael and all of our acclaimed and illustrious compilers for their outstanding contributions to the ACC. They all make our lifestyle cruciverbally satisfactory and worthwhile.

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

Slot 1: As is normal with straight definitions involving unusual definitions, our ingenious solvers found valid alternatives to several of the clues. SHAPES was accepted in place of the intended SHADES and RETIRE fitted "surrender" as well as the unusual REMISE. Several types of woven piece fitted the pattern of _E_T but several dots were lost here, as "felt" is pressed, not woven. Unfortunately several REBOUNDS also missed dots as REDOUND requires "ginger" to provide the RED. The FTSE is an "index", fitting the clue as well as the intended FIST.

Slot 2: A number of members expressed appreciation of *Virgo's* puzzle. Most errors came from submitting ERRANT for TRUANT where the TRU came from the homophone of "straight" indicated by "talking".

Slot 3: A good success rate for *JAXA's* crossword. Typos spoilt some entries, together with some innovative spellings of FIRKIN. Kant, the philosopher was overlooked by a small number in solving 21-down.

Slot 4: This *Penobscot* special caused few problems. KNARL tripped up a small number and was a subtractive anagram. GRATING and WRITING were accepted in their valid alternative locations.

Slot 5: A popular offering, despite comprising all anagrams. The general conclusion seemed to be "challenging but fun". No systematic errors, just a few lost dots arising from failures to read definitions carefully.

COTM

Clues in all slots received nominations for COTM, but the stand-out winner was *Penobscot*, with his clever ATOM, followed closely by his Spoonerised FLAT BATTERY. Congratulations Maurice!
—Kay Williams

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	78	91	101	94	89	453
Correct entries	41	68	81	88	78	356
Success rate (%)	52.6	74.7	80.2	93.6	87.6	78.6
Prizewinners	Bev Cockburn	Betty Siegman	Alison Shield	Denis Coates	Stephen Matthews	from 104 members

Prizewinner: February 2018 Slots 1-5: Jenny Wenham, Congratulations!

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

President	Patrick Street	PO Box 106, North Carlton Vic 3054	Ph (03) 9347 1216	president@crosswordclub.org
Secretary	Bev Cockburn	12 Norman St, Merrylands West NSW 2160	Ph (02) 9635 7802	secretary@crosswordclub.org
Puzzle Editor	Ian Williams	12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615	Ph (02) 6254 6860	puzzle_editor@crosswordclub.org

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

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Feb 1-2018

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

Feb 2-2018

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

Feb 3-2018

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

Feb 4-2018

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

Feb 5-2018

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

Jan 6-2018

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

ACC MEMBERS RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 2018 Slots 1-5 & JANUARY Slots 6 & 7

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Abbott P.		•	•	•	•			Gooderick R.		•	•	•	•	•		Miles A.		•	•	•	•	•	•
Alexander J.			•					Hagan B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Millard A.		•	•	•	•	•	
Allen W.		•	•	•	•	•		Hagan R.	•	•		•		•	Moline R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Anderson C.		•	•	•	•	•		Hambling C.		•			•		O'Brien E.	•	•	•	•				
Audrins K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Parsons D.	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Axelsen U.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hearn R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Patterson A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Barnes J.	•	•	•	•	•	•		Heyes N.		•	•	•	•		Perrow H.		•	•	•	•			
Baylis J.		•		•	•			Hocking A.		•					Pinder S.		•	•	•				
Bennett D.			•	•	•			Horadam K.		•	•		•		Potts M.	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Blake M.	•	•	•	•	•			Howat S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Procter D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Caine R.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Howells S.	•	•		•	•	•	Procter M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Carpenter R.		•	•	•	•			Ibbott B.					•		Pyc M.	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Carroll L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jarman L.		•		•			Roddick M.		•	•	•	•	•		
Champion G.						•		Jones D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Rolf G.	•	•	•	•	•			
Coates D		•	•	•	•			Kennedy L.			•	•	•		Roulston S.		•	•	•	•			
Cockburn B.	•	•	•	•	•	•		Kennedy M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Schulz J.		•	•					
Cole G.				•	•	•		Knight P.				•			Shield A.		•	•	•	•			
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lankshear J.			•	•	•		Siegman B.		•	•	•	•			
Collins M.			•	•	•			Lee C.			•	•	•	•	Simons A.		•	•	•	•			
Coot P.			•	•	•	•		Leeds G.			•	•	•	•	Skinner R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Copland F.			•	•	•			Leigh J.			•	•	•	•	•	Smith J.	•	•	•	•	•		
Coulton L.		•	•	•	•			Lemon G.			•	•	•	•	Storey N.		•	•	•	•			
Cowan M.			•	•	•			Lord P.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Symons B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Cromer H.			•	•	•			Mackay-Sim C.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Taylor R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Crowe J.	•		•	•	•	•		Madden J.			•				Taylor S.	•	•	•	•				
Dennis M.				•	•			Martin A.			•		•	•	Thompson I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Dobele T.	•	•	•	•	•	•		Martin F.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Tickle B.		•	•	•	•			
Douglas R.			•	•	•	•		Mason I.				•	•	•	Tofoni B.			•	•	•			
Ducker R.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Matthews S.			•	•	•	•	Wenham J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Dyer A.						•		McAdoo G.				•			Wilcox C.		•	•	•	•			
Evans J.	•	•	•	•	•	•		McClelland C.	•	•	•	•	•	•	Williams Kate	•	•	•	•	•			
Fowler J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	McKenzie I.			•	•	•	•	Williams Kay	•	•	•	•	•			
Garner P.	•		•	•	•			McKenzie R.	•		•	•	•	•	Wimbush R.		•	•	•	•	•		
Glissan B.	•	•	•	•	•			Meek D.			•	•	•	•									

M	A	R	C	H	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		1

Half 'n Half
by
?



The mystery compiler will be revealed as you solve the puzzle.

1		2		3	4	5		6	7	8
	9	10				11				
12			13		14					
15							16			
	17									18
19		20		21			22		23	
	24		25		26			27		
28				29		30				
	31					32				
33					34					
35					36					

Across

- 1 Tribute (6)
- 5 Investigation (5)
- 10 Variety of cheese (4)
- 11 Slacker (5)
- 12 Rats (5)
- 14 Goddess (5)
- 15 Policeman (7)
- 16 Crowd (4)
- 17 Comebacks (7)
- 19 Stock managers? (4,7)
- 25 Dark and greenish yellow (7)
- 28 Item of furniture (4)
- 29 Proposition (7)
- 31 Greek character (5)
- 32 Nation that's hosted just one Olympic games (5)
- 33 African capital (5)
- 34 Pass over lightly (4)
- 35 Initiates (5)
- 36 Fungal filaments (6)

Down

- 1 Spooner's child focuses on relaxing baths (3,4)
- 2 Some Ioniceras bearing fruit (5)
- 3 An inspiration to have succeeded in space (4)
- 4 Host listened to music on vacation, perhaps (5)
- 5 Frenchman, irrational, almost made a mistake (6)
- 6 Poles endlessly eroded by salt (6)
- 7 Outwits son in wagers (5)
- 8 Told to bring in bird (4)
- 9 Wild female excited earl (5)
- 13 Miss end but not the beginning (4)
- 18 Distinctive nature of German city church (7)
- 20 Ugly fellow ejected from amusement park (6)
- 21 Animals in position briefly (6)
- 22 Proceed with difficulty, with big car short on power (4)
- 23 Rinse out exudate (5)
- 24 Wine temperature's agreeable (5)
- 26 Refuse to start treating outbreak (5)
- 27 Principal flipping over hot girl (5)
- 28 Group cut up when Di's sacked (4)
- 30 Annoying to lose penny container (4)

Slots 1-5: Andrew Miles, 62 Wilshire St, Dickson ACT 2602.
e-mail: smiles@grapevine.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 30 March 2018.

Slot 6: Bhavan Kasivajjula, 4 South Quay Drive, Biggera Waters Qld 4216.
email: kbhavan@gmail.com
Closing mail date: Friday 13 April 2018.

|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

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

M	A	R	C	H	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		2

**An Ordinary
Puzzle
by
Katydid**



	1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
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									9					
10														
									11					
						12	13							
14					15						16			
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18	19										20		21	
					22									
23			24						25					
					26		27							
28														
					29									
30														

Across


- 5 Dismal, I abandon DIY around the backyard (6)
- 8 No current agreement means inactivity (10)
- 9 The unborn child is an enemy model, with our group (6)
- 10 You sound literate, not I, following the notice to water down (10)
- 11 Seaman heard "Sail! Take the rope down!" (6)
- 12 Starts to smear painkiller on the pimple (4)
- 14 The mirror shows an Arab VIP (4)
- 16 It's a couple thing! (4)
- 17 Nails out of alignment in vessel causing minor error (6,3)
- 18 Without direction, seed remains unchanging (4)
- 20 Star of "Life. Be in it" gives average performance (4)
- 22 Sell – or finish after 5 (4)
- 23 Understudy begins witches' chorus in the Scottish play (6)
- 26 I stuttered, regrouped, and made good (10)
- 28 Evening wear for girls' party? (6)
- 29 Muslim VIP has impressive street clothes (5,5)
- 30 Sharp-eyed? (6)

Down

- 1 H'm, durum porridge is boring (7)
- 2 Signal arc traces a statistical shape (4,5)
- 3 Unending scream heard at landslip (5)
- 4 They lived in and around Cuzco (4)
- 5 Stewed feta diets produce a negative outlook (9)
- 6 7-Eleven's common odds (5)
- 7 In, in a way, is workaday (7)
- 11 It's obvious it's not pretty! (5)
- 15 Typically over-state lengthy period (2,7)
- 16 Popular nobelium-copper ring states it's non-injurious! (9)
- 19 Annoyed; mixed up a soother (7)
- 21 Retapes programmes previously broadcast (7)
- 24 Rookie in pop group is monotonous (5)
- 25 Rigid dystopian, inside, is capricious (5)
- 27 Moves off vertical, going up to move side to side (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- What a very pleasant surprise to receive your letter Patrick. First, to see that amazing calligraphy on the envelope, and then to find a cheque inside, again written in that amazing calligraphy! That all makes it particularly special. Thank-you so much for the cheque, and thank-you so much also for all the work that you put into the ACC and its publications!
Richard Williams
- Thank you for January's Slot 3 prize. It was a lovely surprise to receive the cheque in the mail recently – a real bonus on top of all the pleasure I get from the monthly puzzles!
Michael Veress
- I wish to thank the ACC most sincerely for the Prizewinner Slots 1-5 January certificate and cheque. It was quite a surprise for me as I never expected to achieve such heights. I look forward to the beginning of each month and the arrival of another batch of puzzles and I wonder at the dedication of setters and adjudicators. There must be many hours of work both mentally and manually.
Norma Heyes

M A R C H 2 0 1 8 S L O T 3
<h2>Cryptic</h2> <p>by</p> <h2>St Jude</h2>


1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9										10				
11						12								
13						14		15						16
17		18								19				
20				21				22				23		
24								25		26				
27						28								

Across

- 9 Ordering anaesthetic effect outside Emergency Room (9)
- 10 American epoch's application (5)
- 11 Lessee removing facade to get in (5)
- 12 Angry Iran tamed and tenderized (9)
- 13 Marked by whip, theologian captured and paraded like a duck (7)
- 15 Guardian's way: another way to protect (7)
- 17 They will never happen until biopsies' limit is broken (15)
- 20 Southern seamen gathered together (2,5)
- 22 Choose then dismiss a type of plate (7)
- 24 Separated divorcees? (9)
- 26 Baby who tripped me up with a pole (5)
- 27 Proprietor's roasted more but not by British (5)
- 28 French king joined another mounted on horse and partied noisily... (9)

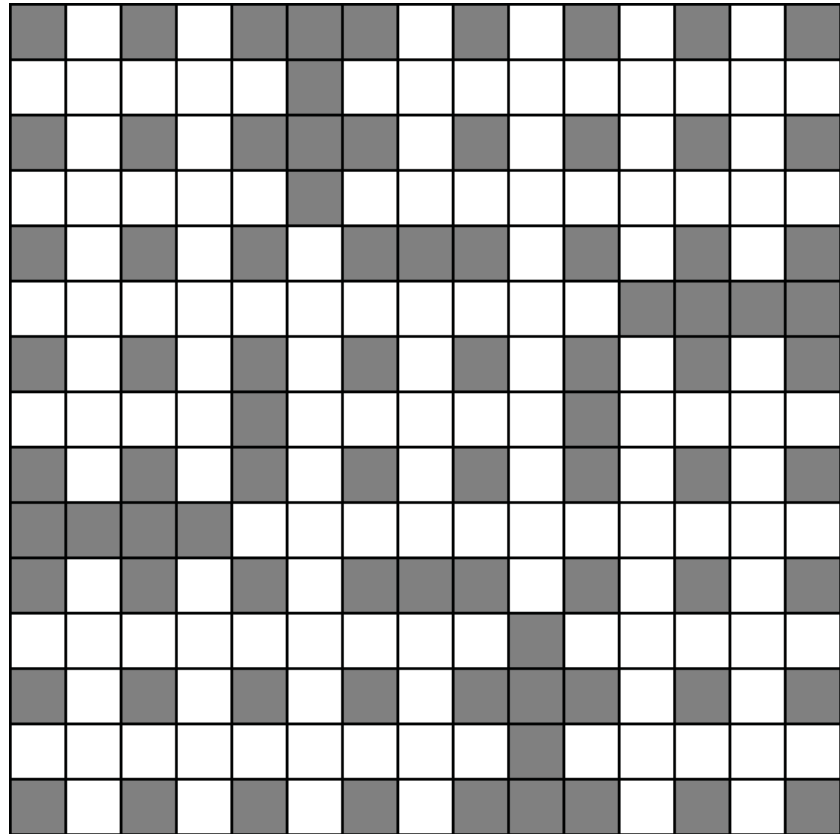
Down

- 1 ...and German queen takes document to Spain as guarantee (10)
- 2 Acted theatrically with some remote device (6)
- 3 Bands overthrow arbitrator to govern Sweden (8)
- 4 Energy of fervent nationalism not in retreat (4)
- 5 Hostile to revise gags willy-nilly (10)
- 6 French who go to new church with fruit (6)
- 7 Company of actors betray one of singers who've lost something! (8)
- 8 Pot at small depth (4)
- 14 Motivators take measure of slavers (10)
- 16 Inconvenience of musical genre dominating measure of song (10)
- 18 Smoothing tailless wildcat's cover (8)
- 19 The same fish substance (8)
- 21 Small whip jet (6)
- 23 Expresses disapproval about alternative teachers (6)
- 24 Down and low about destiny (4)
- 25 Doctor Internet Protocol to create a leak (4)

Members Comments cont'd from p4:

- I see that the slot 4 solution is now presented in a more readable format. Well done you; whoever you are. *Richard Skinner*
- Thank you very much for my prize for Slot 1 January. It was a great month because I submitted five puzzles for the first time. I have wonderful helpers and am feeling much more confident with cryptics. *Lynn Jarman*
- Thank you so much for my December prize. *Kathy Horadam*
- A few new words to add to the long list but in general they were not a complicated lot. *Bob Hagan*
- Thank you all for a fascinating month of puzzles. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Oh the frustration of not being able to complete Slots 1 and 2 all because of a couple of elusive clues. Though I have enjoyed all the puzzles this month. *Hilary Cromer*

M A R C H 2 0 1 8 S L O T 4
AJ by KA

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| A Volcanic rock retains record of palm tree (5) | O Vagueness of Old Boy with guarantee on giving up drug (9) |
| B Study holy man surrounded by enthusiast's baked goods (11) | P Quiet tunes for couples (5) |
| C Distribute acceptable rials irregularly held by Greek Goddess (11) | Q Verses for siblings accepting reformed Tara (9) |
| D Substituted document – inserted religious text into it (9) | R Her remote damaged the instrument (9) |
| E Leave old vermouth (4) | S Devilishly, the girl embraces a crazy antic (11) |
| F Carelessly trifle with vellum strainer (6,5) | T Transaction includes small nozzle (5) |
| G Two soldiers in old film (5) | U One is flat (4) |
| H River carries King to lake (5) | V Perhaps auxiliary will return in Carib revolution (4) |
| I Particulars of computing measures (5) | W Condensation pipe throws out waste materials (9) |
| J Panellist taking trick from magician (5) | X King returns with Cardinals for drink (5) |
| K First Kent pigs for the Irish, perhaps (5) | Y German eight follows unknown vessel (5) |
| L Stagger back to ogle (4) | Z Muezzin fan deliberately hid grape (9) |
| M Ponders change in friends (9) | |
| N Normally, a runt is agitated with friend (9) | |

M	A	R	C	H	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		5

Cryptic
by
Valkyrie



1		2		3			4	5		6		7		8
						9								
10										11				
12					13									
				14										
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														18
	19					20		21						
22														
23		24									25			
										26				
27						28								
29										30				

Across

- 1 Dog team went around Germany and England (6)
- 4 Cold beer restored us after introduction to rabid guard dog (8)
- 10 Paint used for dog disorder (9)
- 11 Improper take off! (5)
- 12 Darling dog is a mutt (4)
- 13 Reform crushed European Economic Community milk product (4,6)
- 15 The French fuss about Galena (4,3)
- 16 Centres of communal mateship declined breakfast (6)
- 19 Temperature hardens end of noisome insect (6)
- 21 Constant creed unorthodoxly penetrated (7)
- 23 Being short of ice, Spooner (Cedric) fixed match (10)
- 25 Voice provided by vocal toastmaster (4)
- 27 Opposition very involved in all round retreat (5)
- 28 Mongrel craze shuns tailless dog (9)
- 29 Many listen to seas (8)
- 30 Dashing fellows left during bad directions (6)

Down

- 1 Stalk daughter after exercise with Tom perhaps (8)
- 2 Ice-cream desserts say, follow on from when roast is eaten possibly (2,7)
- 3 Meet up under league grounds (4)
- 5 Rank, wretched model without a right (7)
- 6 Unhappy fisherman following hot dog (4,6)
- 7 Sack topless flirt (5)
- 8 "Double time cuts profit," said I (6)
- 9 One third of sportsmen take advantage of a mate (6)
- 14 We retail without a problem, first is bull dog (10)
- 17 Said fifty, not five, to be restricted to a specific place (9)
- 18 Postpones notices about a day in Paris with navy (8)
- 20 Laid bare, old attitude died (7)
- 21 Dash love for one old cover (6)
- 22 Blacken church after record of money owing was detailed (6)
- 24 Leader of Nauru pursuing disco bird (5)
- 26 Fish no alternative for dog (4)

M	A	R	C	H	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		6

Setters Special by *Buzzer*



One dozen answers
are related and are not
defined.

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9
10												11				
12												13				
14				15				16						17		
18						19						20		21		
22		23		24						25						26
27								28				29				
30								31								
32						33										

Across

- 1 One of 12 reckon special sort (6,7)
- 8 One of 12 left out of promotion (3)
- 10 Sailing careers in mother of all corruptions (8,3)
- 11 Beef cut for example repulsive to eat (5)
- 12 Confectionery box containing one small fudge occasionally (4,5)
- 13 Knocking sound barrier at a tattoo showing (3-1-3)
- 14 Years moved quickly without sign of joy as ways parted (1-6)
- 16 One of 12 an American city housing bears (5)
- 17 Floor covering for study area ultimately (3)
- 18 Good money Chinese spent initially over organic fertiliser (5)
- 19 Stole in silence breaking law (5)
- 20 One of 12 dead hollow (5)
- 22 One of 12 semi hard work (3)
- 24 Ones belonging to key group of celebrities (1-4)
- 25 Most of court/courts quietens down (7)
- 27 Resolve to treat cold away (7)
- 28 Concerning church, point I have is open to debate (9)
- 30 One of 12 fit for husband not son (5)
- 31 Wrongly recall how it is for salaried professional (5-6)
- 32 Not oddly I'd back Indian postal service (3)
- 33 One of 12 possibly key in sushi bar (8,5)

Down

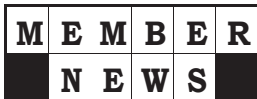
- 1 Chief mantra to hit high for a linguist (7)
- 2 One of 12 with lively energy jumping out of lakes in Polynesian dance (9)
- 3 Leaves be twisted at the end (5)
- 4 Ran down to ride on snow astride a gee-gee (7)
- 5 One of 12 is a natural dodgy bank covering up blunder (10,7)
- 6 Part of a castle conqueror's heading to finish completely (5,4)
- 7 Kindle presented with a delicate touch (5-6)
- 8 One of 12 clue indicator (7)
- 9 One of 12 gross to consume, sickly and ultimately unpalatable (5,4)
- 15 Catholic committees, for non-believer distressing/upsetting (11)
- 18 Square leg had circumvented umpire but bounded awkwardly (9)
- 19 Snare special passport for composing Weber (6,3)
- 21 Parts of cricket ground loudest if drunk (9)
- 23 Money stealing lad shot. That's unfortunate (3,4)
- 25 Those exuding out of backwater cesspools (7)
- 26 Believe in brand inspiring women along (5,2)
- 29 One of 12 up first in hen cage (5)

**Post
Solution
to:**

Bhavan Kasivajjula,
4 South Quay Drive, Biggera Waters Qld 4216.
email: kbhavan@gmail.com
Closing mail date: Friday 13 April 2018.
[or submit via www.crosswordclub.org/accolade/]

February 5-2018: The Myriorama Grand Puzzle by Hot and Cold (Jenny Wenham and Ian Williams)

- Yet another variation on anagram themes. *Len Colgan*
- Interestingly, the wordplay for 10ac contained a sequence of letters that anagrammed to an alternative candidate solution [BOOT]; similarly, 22dn [EDITED]. *Ian McKenzie*
- Wonderfully misleading clues. *Margaret Pyc*
- This was fun!! Thank you *Hot & Cold*. Learnt a couple of new words; GLORIA being one of them. *Ann Millard*
- Don't even try how to solve — it's remarkable (10)! [Thanks, very much, Max – to save other members a little frustration, ENTRYHOWTO anagrams to “noteworthy” – H & C] *Max Roddick*
- Nice to have a different kind of cryptic puzzle; and this one was fun to solve. An anagram of anagram is located in Myriorama Grand. *Ian Thompson*
- Clever way to extend anagram fodder. Liked it! *Tony Dobebe*
- We loved it! Look forward to seeing more like this one. *Julie Leigh*
- Never having compiled a crossword in my life; and not likely to at this stage of my brain – but surely this puzzle takes the cake! Had a tantrum when I first saw it but loved it when I settled down. Clever. *Eileen O'Brien*
- Clever concept. Liked MASSEUSE. GLORIA took a while! *Bev Cockburn*
- Good fun. *Richard Skinner*
- Different but enjoyable puzzle thank you. [Actually, for those with long memories, Cha-Cha (Catherine Hambling) gave us a similar puzzle in the Volume 1 Compendium in 2000 and Don Manley writes on them in his “Crossword Manual”, so they're not a new invention – but we found the clueing fun. – H & C] *Joan Smith*
- Challenging but satisfying; identifying all the concealed anagrams. *Nea Storey*
- Very enjoyable but fairly easy for a slot 5. *Ulla Axelsen*
- This was one of the most enjoyable puzzles for a long time. Thank you. *Barbara Ibbott*
- More difficult than it first appeared! *Maureen Blake*
- It definitely helped to know an anagram was somewhere in every clue; but tracking them down was still a challenge. *Kath Harper*
- What a great idea! Thanks *Hot and Cold*. *Kathy Horadam*
- This format was new to me and I liked it. *Roy Taylor*
- A deftly executed puzzle. *George Rolfe*
- A very clever puzzle. I thoroughly enjoyed it! *Anne Simons*
- Special thanks to *Hot and Cold* – I loved the anagram theme. *Jill Lankshear*
- The anagrams in slot 5 made an interesting change. *Robyn Caine*



New Member: We welcome **Jean Reid** of Franklin ACT for her membership of the ACC for 2018. Welcome to the wonderful world of Crozworlding!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 2018:

Bilkey C, Lee N, McManus D, Young A and Young S.

DONATIONS TO THE 2018 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM:

Patricia Abbott, Chris Bilkey, Norma Lee, Dale McManus, Kate Williams and Anne Young.

Sincere thanks to our generous members for their most big-hearted and magnanimous donations to the ACC Prize Fund 2018.

ACC PRIZE WINNERS for 2017:

Slots 1-6/2017: **Len Colgan**, **Bob Hagan** and **Andrew Miles** with an Excellent Score. **Congratulations!**

ACC 2017 Quizzes winners: Three equal: **Ulla Axelsen**, **Pat Lord** and **Brian Symons**. **Congratulations!**

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

Errata and Corrigenda for March issue

Ulla Axelsen gained a dot for January Slot 1.

Spoonerisms

The accidental transposition of the initial letters of the words in a phrase so as to change the phrase's meaning or make nonsense of it:

- 'You have tasted a whole worm.'
- 'You have hissed all my mystery lectures.'
- 'You were fighting a liar in the quadrangle.'
- 'You will leave by the town drain.'
- 'I have received a blushing crow.'
- 'Is the bean dizzy?'
- 'Let us toast the queer old dean.'

Metagrams

A metagram is a word that can be turned into a number of other words by the simple process of changing its initial letter.

- A vessel when empty I can make a great sound.....CAN*
 - For frying I'm used, in shape I am round.....PAN*
 - My lady she carries me off in her hand.....FAN*
 - All the boys did it when they heard the band.....RAN*
 - The King of creation, and proud of his race.....MAN*
 - A pretty girl's name if it's short's no disgrace.....NAN*
 - The law of the rebel laid me, alack.....BAN*
 - I'm an old Jewish tribe that existed long back.....DAN*
 - The sun takes your faces and paints them with me.....TAN*
 - Where the brave soldier stands, who would never fall.....VAN*
- Word Play by Gyles Brandreth, 2015, Coroner

WHY ENGLISH IS SO HARD

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hices.

If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet,
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?

Then one may be that, and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!

f /grammarly -ANONYMOUS

February 1-2018: Half 'n Half by KA (Karl Audrins)

- Chambers should be banned! *Rob Moline*
- Hard Slot 1 with some obscure answers and/or unfamiliar meanings. It will be interesting to discover which of various possible answers is expected for 22ac (Woven piece). [see page 1 - Adj] *Len Colgan*
- This was difficult! AIRLINE for VIRGIN had me puzzled for a long time as did 30dn. *Ann Millard*
- Nice puzzle with some tricky across clues. In 23dn does 'with' indicate containment? [Yes - even the Times compilers use it occasionally - Adj] *Tony Dobebe*
- Nice one - learned a few new words. All I need now is to remember them! *Eileen O'Brien*
- Enjoyed this Half'n'Half. Nice; fair clues. *Bev Cockburn*
- Uncommon meanings for common words made this a real challenge. *Kath Harper*
- Rather liked 32ac AIRLINE. *Richard Skinner*
- Almost the most challenging of this month's offerings. *Ulla Axelsen*

• Found this quite difficult for a Slot 1; quite a few alternative answers. *Marian Procter*

• Wasted time on 32ac before I realised Virgin is an airline. *Roy Taylor*

• A bit of a teaser for half !n half also shapes could be shades. *John Baylis*

• Found this one very challenging - apart from slot 6; last finished! *Anne Simons*

• Considering laetus is the Latin word for joyful, I wonder why there seems to be no derived word, such as laetal or laital, in English? *Caroline Mackay-Sim*

• This one caused me the most trouble as I was sure that FILE was the correct solution to "index". I didn't consider a second meaning for FIST for quite a while. *Bob Hagan*

• Virgin? Airline? Really? Very tricky. *Robyn Wimbush*

• Especially liked clue for 14dn (DISABLE). *Catherine Hambling*

• This seemed to be harder than any of the other puzzles! Stuck on AIRLINE and TANNER for much, much longer than I should have! *Mike Potts*

February 2-2018: Cryptic by Virgo (Audrey Austin)

• Some good clues - I particularly liked FLU and DWELLING. *Julie Crowe*

• Some interesting clues. Thanks to Virgo. *Ann Millard*

• Lovely to be reminded of Virgo's humorous clueing. *Brian Symons*

• I liked 15ac IGNITE and 8dn DWELLING. *Tony Dobebe*

• Enjoyed this. Some good clues. *Eileen O'Brien*

• Another gem from Virgo. Loved 11ac with its reference to Shirley Temple's signature song and also the clue for 28ac AITCH. *Bev Cockburn*

• Excellent slot two with a few posers. *Richard Skinner*

• 20ac was too opaque for me so I hope my guess was correct! I liked FLU, SCABS and OCHRE. *Kathy Horadam*

• Always fun to solve a Virgo puzzle. Originally had 'Who are you?' for 10ac but then just couldn't get a word for 4dn. *Ulla Axelsen*

• What a challenging slot! I needed lots of resources to answer some of these. *Lynn Jarman*

• SCABS, DINNER IS SERVED, OCHRE and TRUANT were good clues. *Anne Simons*

• Liked DOMINION, OBSTACLES, and MARCO. *Max Roddick*

• I particularly liked DINNER IS SERVED at 23ac and SCABS at 29ac. *Caroline Mackay-Sim*

• I loved SCABS and NINTENDO (my COTM). *Mike Potts*

February 3-2018: Cryptic by JAXA (Jack Alexander)

• Very enjoyable thank you. Challenging without being too frustrating. *Stephen Matthews*

• Quite a good puzzle. Minor issues are having eleven anagrams or part-anagrams; and the inclusion of the inactive and intrusive word "just" in the 16dn clue. *Len Colgan*

• A relatively easy slot 3; especially helped by the long clues being write-ins; however, the puzzle was nicely compiled. FRUSTUM was a new word for me. *Ian Thompson*

- Very good fun. *Jenny Madden*
- I really liked the clues for STAGE DOOR and BEGIN. *Brian Tickle*
- Liked SATRAP, NEGLIGENT, ASKANT and DISASTER - very smooth! *Max Roddick*
- Rather a lot of anagrams detracted a bit. *Tony Dobebe*
- Hope I got this right because it is my kind of puzzle - had to think but didn't lose any hair! *Eileen O'Brien*
- Clear and concise clueing. Most enjoyable. *Bev Cockburn*
- Clever anagrams: as always by Jack. *Richard Skinner*
- Loved PLUS FOURS and G-STRINGS. *Joan Smith*
- Some very fine clues! *Robyn McKenzie*
- Some clever hidden. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Chambers came in very handy. *Lynn Jarman*
- An enjoyable slot 3. *Barbara Ibbott*
- DISASTER was an easy inclusion clue; but read so well I gave it COTM. *Roy Taylor*
- Very enjoyable - I liked DISASTER and PUNSTERS. *Kathy Horadam*

• A tad too many anagrams. To have five successive clues of the same type is not a good idea. 25: 'Top' is better suited to a down clue. Why not; 'with neat front and back'? 21: 'Sceptically' is a more apposite definition for the clue' surface. *George Rolfe*

• Several good clues. FRUSTUM was a new word. *Anne Simons*

• Liked clue for TITULAR. *Catherine Hambling*

• Some excellent clues here. I liked PLUS FOURS and BEGIN. *Gabrielle Leeds*

February 4-2018: AJ by Penobscot (Maurice Cowan)

• Some really nice clues here - especially ATOM and YEAST. *Brian Tickle*

• Always a favourite. ZAPTIEH took some finding and thanks for the Collins clue. Interesting that a word is only in one dictionary. *Ann Millard*

• I rated the clues for ATOM and THREE CLUBS very highly. I can find no reference for "negative = N" needed in the S clue. *Len Colgan*

• Lots of good clues; but where's the chap from the front of PERSONATE? I miss 'im! *Max Roddick*

• G and W answers can swap places. *Brian Symons*

• Enjoyable AJ. For the A clue I got 'A to M' as half of 'A to Z' but didn't get 'The first (very small)'? *Tony Dobebe*

• Always a favourite and this one did not disappoint - meaning I only needed Google for one answer - pretty good for me! *Eileen O'Brien*

• A nice honest A-J. GRATING and WRITING are interchangeable. *Bev Cockburn*

• Still thinking about the J clue. Jewry? Thought the T clue was clever. *Richard Skinner*

• Another headache for adjudicators with alternative solutions in the bottom right corner - WRITING and GRATING interchangeable. *Kath Harper*

• Scratched my head about the clue for A; then the penny dropped. Very clever! *Ulla Axelsen*

• It is satisfying when the answer fits the clue. *Lynn Jarman*

• Some very good clues here. I particularly liked Vespers because of its clever misdirection. *Maureen Blake*

• My solutions WRITING and GRATING are interchangeable... ATOM was a great clue and so was THREE CLUBS. *Kathy Horadam*

Some of these clues were difficult and I have only just finished. I loved the F clue and have nominated it for COTM. *Barbara Ibbott*

• An enjoyable AJ, as ever. It would do no harm to indicate which definition is found only in a particular source. *George Rolfe*

• Great fun; as usual. D, F, P, T, V & W were my favourite clues. *Anne Simons*

• Some very good clues in this month's alphabetical; such as ATOM (my choice for COTM), THREE CLUBS, WRITING and FLAT BATTERY. Thank you Penobscot! *Caroline Mackay-Sim*

• Most enjoyable. *Gabrielle Leeds*

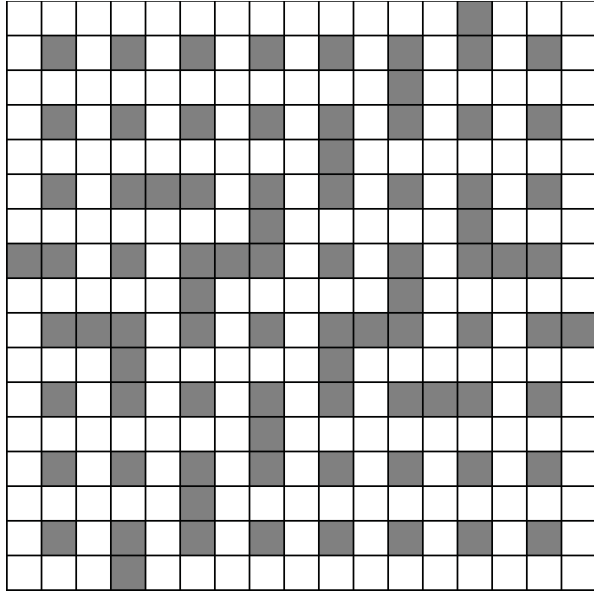
Send solution to: Bhavan Kasivajula, 4 South Quay Drive, Biggers Waters Qld 4216.

Closing mail date: Friday 13 April 2018.

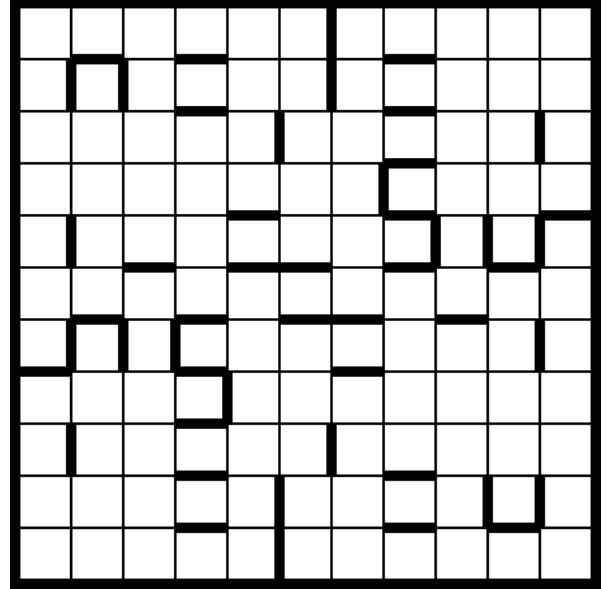
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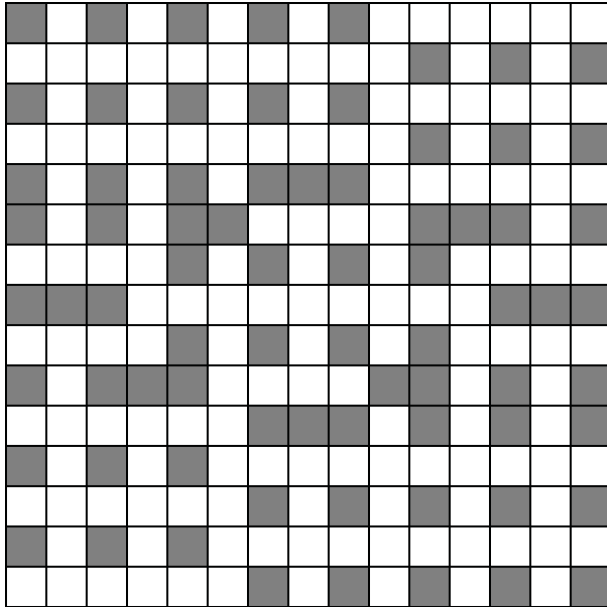


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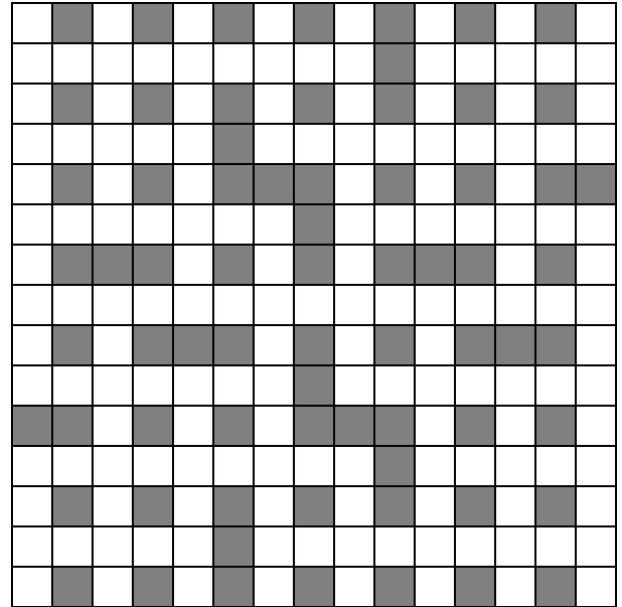


Clue of the Month

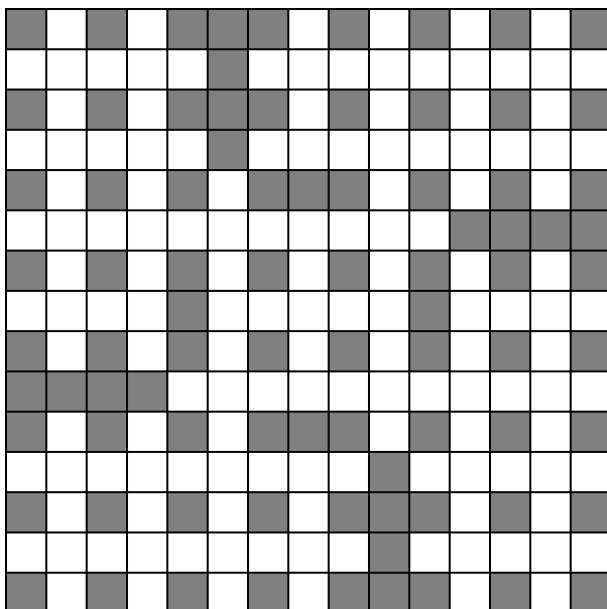
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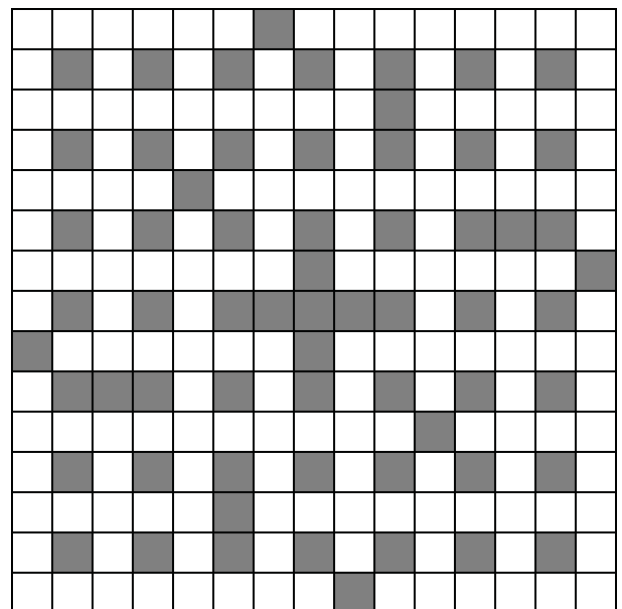
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|M|A|R|C|H| |4| |2|0|1|8|



|M|A|R|C|H| |5| |2|0|1|8|



January 6-2018: Duplicated Definitions by *Betelgeuse*
(Gillian Champion)

Entries 59. Correct 51. Success rate 86%.

Prizewinner: Robyn Wimbush. Congratulations!

Explanations: Across: 1 CAPT(iv)E* Def 25D STASH, **5** A + MERIN(o) + D Def 11A NOWHERE, **11** EREWHON< Def 33A SASSOON, **12** RE (TE) D< Def 1A EPACT, **13** TWEE(t) Def 30A AURA, **14** (A+TAX<) in EVIL< Def 2D POWERCUT, **15** RE + A + RED Def 28A BATTER, **18** A (C) TRESS Def 24A STERNAL, **21** I + CH + THY(r) OID Def 4D TELETHONS, **22** COMPL(AI<)NT Def 21A ICHTHYOID, **24** LANTER(N)S* Def 32A CRESSET, **28** BATT(i)ER Def 6D MEXICO, **29** SHI(n)E + LING Def 1D ENTRAILS, **30** homoph "OR A" Def 27D THEA, **31** K + homoph "ex" Def 34A SHADE, **32** (S+ SECRET)* Def 5A AMERIND, **33** (NOO (ASS) - S(a)< Def 18A ACTRESS, **34** SHADES with S to back Def 12A DETER. **Down: 1** RA in (SILENT)* Def 14A LAXATIVE, **2** PO (CREW<)--UT Def 20D SATURATE, **3** C (HER) T Def 31A KECKS, **4** TEL< + HONEST* Def 16D ATHLETICS, **6** (COME)* round XI Def 7D RETARD, **7** TRADER* Def 23D MATICO -, **8** (ENTERTAIN - E + I)* Def 17D STILLAGES, **9** EVEN< Def 13AC TWEE, **10** DRE* + Y Def 26D ASKS, **16** anag Def 8D ITINERANT, **17** STILL + AGES Def 22 COMPLIANT, **19** S + NUDE* + RED Def 29A SHIELING, **20** (TARTARE SAUCE - care)* Def 19D SUNDERED, **22** homoph "CREAKS" Def 15A REARED, **23** MA (homoph "tick") O Def 22D CREEKS, **25** S (T) ASH Def 3D CHERT, **26** A + SK(i)S Def 9D NEVE, **27** HATE* Def 10D DREY.

Setter's Comments

Thank you, solvers, for your supportive comments. I'm glad that most seem to have enjoyed the challenge and that some described it as fun – isn't that what we should be aiming for? Not too many errors. A couple of "sternum"s for STERNAL, (defined as "of bone"), which led in both cases to the almost-desperate "musico" in place of MATICO. A couple of mis-spellings and some typos were responsible for the few other lost dots. Rest assured that there is another in the pipeline – though perhaps after a short rest?

Solver's Comments

- A fine puzzle. *Ian Thompson*
- Not that hard but one had to be organised. Good fun. *Andrew Patterson*
- This type of puzzle produces lots of fun and is eminently solvable. There should be at least one per year from Gillian. The clues for AMERIND and POWERCUT were clever; albeit split; of course. *Len Colgan*
- Great puzzle again *Betelgeuse*. Quite a workout! *Roy Taylor*
- A classic *Betelgeuse* mind-bender designed to drive you round the TRESS! As usual, I learnt multiple new words (this time CHERT, EPACT and MATICO); plus there was the twist – I had expected KECKS to be defined as trousers/underwear; but not so. The clue in Gillian's puzzles should really be double-spaced for all the working out that is involved! The only way I could parse 21ac (ICHTHYOID) was to proceed on

the basis that the direction to remove the R from the gland (THYROID) had been inadvertently omitted from the clue [*removal was accomplished via "to take out" where R means "to take" in the same context as "recipe" (Chambers) – B*]. *Andrew Miles*

- Diabolical! Brilliant! *Rob Moline*
- Superb, as always, Gillian! *Nea Storey*
- I admit to nearly not even attempting this but in the end it sure filled in all the time between Christmas and New Year! What a workout for the grey cells! *Maureen Blake*
- As if the clues weren't hard enough on their own! Think we've got it right but really just happy to finish it. *Richard Skinner*
- Wow this was hard to get your head around! *Robyn McKenzie*
- An excellent workout – as one has come to expect from Gillian. *Jim Fowler*
- My head is still in a whirl. A fun challenge. *Ulla Axelsen*
- This puzzle made no sense on first reading, but with a fair amount of effort, it came together. Hopefully correctly. Some wonderful clues. Thank you for the challenge! *Ann Millard*
- Well, what a workout that was! My scribble page was a mess. Thoroughly enjoyed it: many thanks. *Julie Crowe*
- Great challenge. *Alan Dyer*
- I love the progression from "No way!" through "Maybe..." to "Yes!" with kind of puzzle that *Betelgeuse* does so well. *Kath Harper*
- Enjoyable but very challenging. Feeling very chuffed to have finished the puzzle correctly I hope. *Joan Smith*
- This one took some sorting out – here's hoping! *Anne Simons*
- Such a clever puzzle on so many levels! Firstly the Ximenean grid; then the cryptic clues and finally the convoluted switcheroo! Amazing! *Bev Cockburn*
- Yet another acquired brain injury! A number of new words; and a couple of clues to query: 11ac NOWHERE is not quite a retro EREWHON; and 21ac ICHTHYOID take out what? I spent a while having ROLO pencilled in for 26dn; with the wrong interpretation of the wordplay; and matching it with "small and sweet" from 9dn. Betraying my sweet tooth I guess. A lot of fun. *Mike Potts*
- This was torturous to solve! I have no idea how you construct such a puzzle as this, Gillian, but you certainly dipped deeply into the esoteric for KEEKS and EPACT; let alone STILLAGES and SHIELING. *Susan Howells*
- A most challenging slot 6 with many clever clues. Couldn't come to terms with the construction of NOWHERE [*A reference to the novel "Erewhon" by Samuel Butler – nearly "nowhere" backwards or "retro" – B*]. I hope it's right! *Bob Hagan*
- You never disappoint! Another cracker of a puzzle with a few new words to add to my vocabulary (if only they stay in my ageing brain). *Robyn Caine*
- Thank you for an interesting and challenging puzzle. It was certainly a test for the brain cells. *Jean Evans*

Quiz No 3/2018



by Valkyrie

Quiz 3/2018. Centrally located top spot by Valkyrie

The central part of each answer has a common element, which is different for each answer. The answers are in alphabetical order.

Send your solutions to Ulla Axelsen, 6 Maud Street, Donnybrook Qld 4510 or by email to ullaaxelsen@hotmail.com

Closing mail date: 13 April 2018. \$75 prize.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1 Soak (9) | 11 Kerfuffles (11) | 20 Face with masonry (5) |
| 2 Scottish musicians (9) | 12 Took in (7) | 21 Kings (5) |
| 3 Beer plant (7) | 13 Paradox (13) | 22 Run off (9) |
| 4 Examinee (9) | 14 Understatement (7) | 23 Measuring instrument (11) |
| 5 Upset (15) | 15 Lots (9) | 24 Prosaic (13) |
| 6 Stomach discomfort (9) | 16 Waterfalls (7) | 25 Public opinion (3,6) |
| 7 Busy (7) | 17 Conferring (9) | 26 Saturday and Sunday (7) |
| 8 Heaven (9) | 18 Papal ambassador (9) | 27 Secluded places for women in India (7) |
| 9 Insect catchers (9) | 19 In a manner concerned with attributes (13) | |
| 10 Most dull (7) | | |

Solutions to Quiz 1/2018. What's In A Name? by KA (Karl Audrins)

Winner: Gabrielle Leeds: Congratulations!

Answers: 1 Ambrose 2 Beatrice 3 Benedict 4 Campbell 5 Candace 6 Clifford 7 Desiree 8 Duncan 9 Ernest 10 Feargal 11 George 12 Gervase 13 Hamish 14 Heather 15 Ingrid 16 Jason 17 Kelvin 18 Lionel 19 Mildred 20 Miles 21 Oscar 22 Peter 23 Randal 24 Reginald 25 Spencer 26 Tristram 27 Tracey 28 Veronica 29 Winston 30 Yolanda.

Results: Entries 30

30: W. Allen, U. Axelsen, M. Blake, R. Caine, B. Cockburn, L. Colgan, J. Fowler, R. Gooderick, B. Hagan, K. Harper, S. Howells, D. Jones, G. Leeds, J. Leigh, G. Lemon, P. Lord, F. Martin, A. Miles, M. Procter, B. Symons and J. Wenham. **29:** J. Crowe, E. O'Brien and A. Shield. **28:** I. Mason and R. McKenzie. **27:** P. Garner and K. Williams. **25:** A. Millard and C. Wilcox.

Adjudicator's Comments:

Thank you for all your entries and kind comments. Not surprisingly, some members came up with alternative answers, some of which could not be accepted, but others were – you know who you are. The most common alternative was "CALLIOPE" for #4. Fair enough. Hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Solvers' Comments:

- Another interesting quiz with some very interesting names. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Thank you for the hours you put in to entertain us with this quiz. *Maureen Blake*
- Thank you for a quiz which had some challenging components. *Robyn Caine*
- What an enjoyable and innovative quiz to start the year. *Bev Cockburn*
- Not just a great idea for a quiz, but a great execution too. *Kath Harper*
- Another clever and unusual quiz. *Marian Procter*
- Thank you for a great quiz. Loved the concept. *Eileen O'Brien*

Explanations to clues in slots 1-5

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 KA (Karl Audrins). Down: 2 (R (IVANA)*N <, **3** anag, **4** homoph "hail", **5** s+car, **6** ama+zed (last letter), **7** E(musical key)+ motive, **8** dd, **9** dd, **13** bet+semi<, **14** d+is able, **15** red + (h)ound, **20** fest + Al, **21** stasi + ma = Greek theatre songs, **23** ex(amin)e, **24** dd, **25** anag, **26** hidden, **29** dd, **30** d+ave.

Slot 2 Virgo. Across: 1 DO + MINION, **5** dd, **9** ST + RUM, **10** anag, **11** pun "Good Ship...", **13** LIRA<, **15** I + (I GENT)*, **17** hidden, **19** aT hAnD, **20** SPRInGS, **21** ref to Isle of ..., **23** anag, **27** OBS + homoph "tackles", **28** A + ITCH, **29** pun, **30** (NINE DONT)*. **Down: 1** anag, **2** MAR + CO, **3** NO (MAD) S, **4** tails, **5** (PALS DREW)*, **6** DAY + SHIFTS, **8** D (WELL) ING, **12** FAST + ID + IOUS, **14** IN + DONE'S + I + A, **16** triple inc GAR + FIELD, **18** (SEA + GAS + IS), **22** homoph "true" + ANT, **24** hidden, **25** homoph "Eton", **26** OH + IOn.

Slot 3 JAXA. Across: 1 Hidden, **5** SAT + RAP, **10** IT< + ARAbic, **11** PRO+BAT+(NO I)<, **12** OVER + DRESS, **13** Anagram, **14** neoCORTex + PUS, **15** lasT + (RITUAL)*, **18** Anagram, **20** FIR + KIN, **22** RUB + LE, **24** cd 4+4, **25** NEGLIGE(e)+NeAT, **26** ARE + N/A, **27** SO(NAN)T, **28** Hidden. **Down: 1** Reverse rePORTED, **2** Anagram, **3** anagram, **4** EX+PRESS, **6** Anagram, **7** Anagram, **8** Anagram, **9** Anagram, **16** (LIE)* + SURELY, **17** G + ST + RINGS, **19** TAP + PET, **20** FRUSTRated+UM, **21** AS + (Immanuel) KANT, **23** BEG+IN.

Slot 4 Penobscot. A pun A TO M, **B** dd, **C** C (ANN ON) ADE, **D** DREA(ME)R, **E** EXITS around Scene, **F** Spooner "bat flattery", **G** dd, **H** HEN + CE, **I** anag, **J** homoph "jury", **K** (BULK YARN - BUY)*, **L** hidden, **M** MU + (HIRES)*, **N** palindrome, **O** dd, **P** PERSON + ATE, **Q** QUI (ETE) N, **R** RE + NUN + CIA + TE, **S** S (P) I (N) STER, **T** pun, **U** cd, **V** Poem in (VERSES)*, **W** cd, **X** EX< + homoph "Bex", **Y** YE(A)TS<, **Z** ZAP + TIE + H.

Slot 5 Hot and Cold. Across: 8 [CLAD RANI], **9** [A SEX PE]rformance, **10** [TO BODybuilder], **11** poun[DS ON VERSE P]roduction, **12** rick[SHAW RE]pair, **14** [EDDA ETC U]niversity, **15** do[LCE WOME]n, **17** Brah[MINS REA]lly, **20** overex[TEND A TEE], **22** of[TEN REU]nite, **23** J[AMES DEE ESS]s, **24** [HOSE], **25** [RIGA LO]cality, **26** [ENTIRE LE]pidoptera. **Down: 1** t[EA BAGS TO], **2** wha[T I'D E]aten, **3** trade[R ON DO-It], **4** wher[E PEERS L]ounge, **5** uncl[E SAM USES], **6** geor[GE ELIOT AND], **7** double-ENDE]d, **13** [CREATE SIR E]dmund, **16** [VEIL MADE], **18** fi[RE RAINBO]w, **19** bright[EST REDS], **21** moun[T ELBER]t (or just ELBERT), **22** [DIET DI]abetics, **24** k[ILLOS].

January Slot 7-2018: Discount Fare by Flowerman (Ian Thompson)

Entries 25: Correct 19: Success Rate 76%.

Prizewinner: Robert Hagan. Congratulations!

Compiler's comments:

I feel I may be developing a reputation as a tough compiler! Maybe my next puzzle will be easier. Thank-you members for your comments, and congratulations to the successful solvers: K Audrins, U Axelsen, R Caine, L Colgan, J Fowler, B Hagan, R Hagan, R Hearn, D Jones, M Kennedy, J Leigh, A Miles, R Moline, A Patterson, D Procter, M Procter, R Skinner, and B Symons. It is clear from the comments that CUMBUNGI was the toughest clue, and that for all or most solvers the only way it could be solved was by a correct parsing of the wordplay. Did anyone know the word? I was very familiar with the plant as a child and I think I called it cumbungi as well as bulrush back then. A different food I could have used for this puzzle, potato (in compotator) was kindly pointed out to me by Robyn Caine.

Solvers' Comments

• My 12ac answer is a pure guess – no headway after spending more time on this clue than to solve almost other puzzles combined. Very tough puzzle.

Ian McKenzie

• With the early answer to 4dn clearly being CHAMPIONED; but the checked letters only allowing C_I_N_D; the theme became apparent; reinforced by the puzzle's title. It was then a matter of uncovering the 12-letter instruction. I stupidly overlooked the fact that one answer is in *Macquarie* but not in *Chambers*; and wasted many hours on 12ac. A compiling masterpiece!

Len Colgan

• Very tricky. A very tentative start until ARCHIPELAGO gave the game away. Then a reasonable flow until the last three altered words which took a long time. CUMBUNGI was very hard to finish with.

Andrew Patterson

• The fare was discounted but there's no such thing as a free lunch – had to work for that one! 'Take away food' (Pie; rice; ham; jam; chip; meat; cream; bun).

Michael Kennedy

• One of the hardest puzzles I've had to solve and especially finding the answer to 12ac CUMBUNGI.

David Procter

• That was hard.

Rob Moline

• Having just wrestled *Betelgeuse's* Displaced Definitions I thought it couldn't get any harder...how wrong I was! For a long time; I was sure this puzzle would defeat me. Solving 12ac BUNG+I after C(H)UM – CUMBUNGI – took longer than the rest of the puzzle probably by a factor of three. All I can say is that I learnt a great deal about hospital-related terms as part of the process! It wasn't helped by the misleading rubric. DAVIS CUP appears in *Macquarie* but not *Chambers* (in my editions anyway) which led me to think I was not looking for an obscure Australian word for 12ac when an obscure Australian word was precisely what was required!!

Andrew Miles

• Phew! It would have been easier to have the original word length; prior to removing the "Take Away Food". Thank you for keeping us entertained for weeks!!!!

Julie Leigh

• There we were getting over *Betelgeuse* when slot 7 came along. I think this has been the hardest to solve since we joined the club. Have we got it right? I hope so after consuming so much ham, meat pie and chip with cream rice and a jam bun!

Richard Skinner

• One of the hardest puzzles we have had for quite a while. My grey cells turned grey. I suspect that a dietician would raise an eyebrow at the foods on offer. It is take-away tho'.

Jim Fowler

• What a great challenge! Last word in was 12ac; a botanical word of course! Found it in my book of plants.

Ulla Axelsen

• Fiendishly difficult! Which, of course, makes it extremely enjoyable. I am not at all happy about my answers for 12ac and 31ac.

Julie Crowe

• Clear sailing in a very challenging puzzle; until 12 ac. Also 27dn took a while. I think it would be fairer to have word lengths for food words pre-deletion.

Roy Taylor

• Most challenging slot 7. The brain was fuddled quite often but I enjoyed the exercise.

Bob Hagan

• Absolutely loved it, even though it nearly drove me bananas!

Robyn Caine

Solution to January 2018 Slot 7

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

Results of the Clue Writing Competition: No 1/2018.

Scoring System

	Poor	Proper	Perfect
Definition	0	1	2
Secondaries	0	1	2
Fairness	0	1	2
Surface	0	1	2
x-factor	0	1	2

Total score Star Rating

0	0
1	*
3-4	**
1-7	***
1-9	****
10	*****

For the next competition, please write a clue for the word **SPARTAN (7)** 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 13 April 2018. Prize \$50.

Results of the Clue Writing Competition: No 1/2018.

Write a clue for POT (3)

Adjudicated by Michael Kennedy.

Definition from *Chambers* (12th edition):

n any of various *usu* deep and round domestic containers used as cooking utensils, or for preservation and storage; the contents or capacity of such a container; a chamberpot; a flowerpot or plantpot; a teapot; earthenware, or a handmade earthenware vessel; a vessel of fireclay used to contain the glass during melting (*glass-making*); a trophy, *esp* a cup (*infj*); a pocket or a stroke in which the object ball enters a pocket (snooker etc); (*usu* in pl) a large sum of money (*infj*); a large stake or bet (*infj*); an accumulated pool of bets in a gambling game; a heavily-backed horse; an important person (*usu* big pot; *infj*); a pot-belly (*infj*); a pot shot (*infj*); a simple helmet (*hist*); a wicker trap for lobsters, etc, a lobster pot; a size of paper (also **pot**) about 12 by 15 inches (30.5 by 38cm; so called from its original watermark). **adj** made of clay or earthenware. **vt (potting; potted)**; to put into pots, for preserving, etc; to cook in a pot; to plant in a pot; to manufacture (pottery); to drain molasses from (sugar) during the refining process; to shoot (a creature) for the pot (ie as a meal), by a pot shot, or generally to bag, win, secure; to pocket (a snooker or billiard ball); to epitomize or summarize, *esp* simplistically; to encapsulate (an electronic component) in a protective insulating resin; to sit (a baby) on a chamberpot. **vi** to make pottery, *esp* by hand; to take a pot shot (with *at*); to tittle (*Shakesp*). [Late OE *pot*; cf Ger *pot*; Swed *potta*; Dan *potte*; Fr *pot*; origin unknown] **n** the drug cannabis in any of its forms, *incl* marijuana and hashish; a deep hole in limestone country; a pothole.

Clueing a short word like *pot* is a two-edged sword. On the one hand it is replete with both various definitions and virtually every parsing option, making the parsing process a seemingly simple one. However, these attributes can make it tricky to conjure up a clue that stands out from the rest. There was a variety of techniques used, some more proficiently than others. The winning clue comes from **Karl Audrins** with a topical clue and a cleverly disguised definition.

Shoot the leaders of Pakistan's operational Taliban (3)

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

Belly hole perhaps *½**

A double definition with a twist. Both *belly* and *hole* can be types of pots – pot belly and pot hole. If *belly hole* also served as a complete definition this would be the perfect clue.

Degenerate dope weed in this? ***

This clue is a play on 'went to pot', something a *degenerate* may do. I can see it, but a touch too elliptic I'd say. Both *dope* and *weed* are definitions of pot, but of course they are synonymous. I do like clues where the secondaries define the solution, but I wouldn't know if this is the preferred storage option for weed.

Grass repeatedly found in impotent hippopotamuses ****

A novel idea to hide the solution in two places, as clearly indicated by the use of *repeatedly*. It's also a humorous clue, although probably not for the horny hippos! I also note that hippopotamuses, hippopotamus and hippopotami are all valid plurals.

Halt after the start, going back to the grass *½**

This clue cleverly uses the word sTOP before reversing it to get POT. The surface reading suggests a false start in a race perhaps.

Hippopotami sampling the grass ***

A similar idea to a clue above but on a smaller scale. I like the inclusion of *sampling* as a containment indicator.

Hoping to profit but holding some back for reserve **½

This one is a reverse hidden as perfectly indicated by *holding some back*. While the clue's surface sense is perfect, the superfluous word *hope* at the start of the clue is a detraction. I would have

been tempted to uset/op.... as the basis of a clue as there appear to be lots of options (e.g. light opera, covert operation etc.)

Hot tea and jam may precede something smoked *½**

This is not dissimilar to another clue that uses precursors of 'pot' (hot, tea and jam). The clue is very specific about the fact that they can precede *something smoked* (i.e. pot). In reality I suspect most people would prefer the sweets afterwards, but the clue itself reads sensibly.

Kettle critic? *½**

This cryptically defined clue is a reference to the saying 'the pot calling the kettle black'. It's an appealing little clue that would have been enhanced further if 'Kettle critic' could stand on its own as a misleading definition.

Leading players on tour score grass container *½**

This simple clue disguises the serious thinking behind its compilation. While the parsing indicates the initial letters, the clue also includes three definitions (i.e. score, grass and container) that all come together to make a coherent whole. It's debatable as to whether too much information is a distraction, or even unfair, but I do appreciate how this clue works.

Pan bank ***

Possibly the shortest clue I've ever received. It's a straight double definition that suggests criticizing a money lender. The definition is well disguised and I can see plenty of misleading potential with it.

Pressure with no time for bowl ***

A simple but effective use of abbreviations for P, O and T. If only the definition could have matched this terrific start to the clue. It's not that the definition isn't accurate, but rather its lack of cohesion with the secondaries. Perhaps working with 'shoot' as the definition may have elevated this clue.

River junction forming a deep hole *½**

Given there are only three letters to play with, it's not a surprise that this was the only attempt at a charade. It's a fine attempt and connects PO (a handy river to know) with the letter T – junction. The link word, *forming*, works well and one could easily imagine this riparian scenario.

Shoot the leaders of Pakistan's operational Taliban ****

A concise topical clue that takes the initial letters of the last three words. The surface sense is smooth, and the definition is beautifully disguised.

Soup lasting in saucepan **

I have to admit that this clue defeated me until I read the explanation. In essence, it's a subtraction style clue that removes AGE from *potage*. *Potage* for *soup* is fair enough but I would have opted for the actual indicator (age-less), rather than its synonym here. Of course, *ageless* and *soup* don't go together as well, and some reworking of the clue would be in order.

Spinner reversed into Kitty ***

If you turn around POT (spinner) you get a kitty or bank. A technically sound clue that does portray a potentially unfortunate moment for a feline. To embellish the clue some more I would have looked for a more creative indicator that 'reversed'. Remember that these clues can be either up or down so really there are a great deal of options

Used by short Celebrity Cook on Television! **½

We finish with the trickiest clue of the bunch. The celebrity cook is one *Poh Ling Yeow*, an Australian chef who featured on *Masterchef* and went on to host some TV shows. I only know that because I had to look it up, and I'm guessing that most solvers would have to do the same. It would also be more common to refer to the surname rather than the first, but perhaps this is how this chef is referred to. The surface sense is great, although it just needs 'It's' at the beginning of the clue to indicate the nounal definition.

[Continued on p15]