



|N|o.|2|3|5| |N|O|V|E|M|B|E|R||2|0|0|9|



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[On the various plural forms of *rhinoceros*] The moral that I draw from these is/ The plural's what one damn well pleases. Anonymous, 'Hints on Pronunciation for Foreigners', in *The Faber Book of Useful Verse* (1981) p149.

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

|F|R|O|M| |T|H|E|  
|A|D|J|U|D|I|C|A|T|O|R|

We are looking forward to celebrating the 2009 Get-Together at William Ryan's exciting **Cauliflower Hotel** which is situated in Waterloo, South Sydney. Many thanks to William for making his 'pride and joy' available for us to meet and discuss important things of a cruciverbal nature. It's not too late to accept the invitation. See further details on p7.

We have been delighted with the number of subscription renewals for 2010 and the generous donations made by our loyal members. In order to maintain the high level of prizes for 2010 we need to take advantage of your generosity once again. Thank you for your kindness. We acknowledge all renewals and donations to date on p9 of *Crozworld*.

Just a reminder as to how much our tireless Committee members do for you. Bev is extremely occupied filling the roles of Secretary and Treasurer and this time of year is particularly busy for her with the incoming subs. And Ian Williams is the *Go-to Man* — he is the e-lodgment adjudicator, the puzzle & Quiz submission person, the Forum moderator and also compiles and adjudicates his own puzzles. He is also greatly assisted by his marvellous spouse Kay who contributes so much to the ACC. On your behalf I would like to thank Bev, Ian and Kay for their sterling work for the ACC. It's much appreciated.

The *Go-to Man* Ian Williams has furnished you with a challenging array of puzzles this month. We have gems from *Aeolian*, *Jesso*, *Southern Cross*, *dB* and *Praxis* and *zinzan* makes a welcome return with an *Eightsome Reels* puzzle in Slot 6. The perennial favourite *InGrid* has provided us with an excellent AJ in Slot 7 and we have two Quizzes — one by the ace duo *The Busybodies* and a bonus Quiz by Graeme Cole. Plus another Clue Writing Competition adjudicated by the skilful Steve Trollope. This time Steve would like you to write a clue for MATURE (6). If you submit a clue, don't forget to include the explanation. See p16 for further details. Kindly note the early closing date of Friday 20 November 2009. Best of Luck with your Melbourne Cup selection and Happy *Crozworlding!* —Patrick

Thanks for all the greetings and good wishes which came with so many of the entries. I am sorry we won't be able to be at the Cauliflower Get-together this year to see lots of you — hopefully next year.

**Slot 1:** Most solvers had no trouble with this one. I allowed both ISAR and IBAR for 22ac as they are both European rivers. 20dn EXUDE caused 4 errors (EDUCE & ELUDE). All other errors were misspellings or the like.

**Slot 2:** The shocker here was 6dn AUGUR — 25 solvers had AUGER which is a TOOL not a SOOTHSAYER. 4dn SPECIAL with an extra A and no E in the anagram caused some comment but no errors. Other random errors included 1ac — DIMNESS which became DIMMERS, DAMPERS or DICKENS and 20dn TWITTER for TWISTER.

**Slot 3:** I expected trouble here from 12ac MILLA MILLA which should be MILLAA MILLAA (see Shirly's comment on p10) but although there were comments, the only wrong answers were BILLA BILLA and MILLI MILLI. The misprint (BATTIER for BATTLER) in 8dn did not faze anyone. A few did not twig to WAX (Ruby) in 18ac and gave us RAW, MAY, DAY, RED or TAG MATCHES.

**Slot 4:** The problem for most solvers was the J clue — BASEEJ. 23 had BASSEJ, 4 BASSET and there were also a few other variations. H (4) SIKH caused some lost dots with BISH or WITH.

**Slot 5:** The errors here were mainly spelling such as STEEL for STEAL and ANTAGONISM in various forms. This puzzle was very popular with solvers.

**COTM:** About 70 members sent votes for COTM and they were right across all 5 puzzles. Most went to slots 3 and 5 (23 each) but slot 5's 23ac LIEUTENANT took 1<sup>st</sup> place with 11 votes. (A little lavatory humour always brings a smile!). Congratulations, John Brotherton (*Pindar*). —Catherine Hambling

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

| Puzzle No.          | 1                                | 2                         | 3                            | 4                   | 5                       | Total            |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Entries received    | 130                              | 128                       | 129                          | 108                 | 124                     | 619              |
| Correct entries     | 115                              | 89                        | 111                          | 75                  | 111                     | 501              |
| Success rate (%)    | 88.5                             | 69.5                      | 86.0                         | 69.4                | 89.5                    | 80.9             |
| <b>Prizewinners</b> | <b>O Greenberger</b><br>H Cromer | <b>P Lord</b><br>B Webber | <b>B Wallace</b><br>S Taylor | <b>C McClelland</b> | <b>M Raw</b><br>R Hagan | from 132 members |

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

|   | page |
|---|------|
| <b>Steep Starts</b> by <i>Aeolian</i>             | 3    |
| <b>Cryptic</b> by <i>Jesso</i>                    | 4    |
| <b>Cryptic</b><br>by <i>Southern Cross</i>        | 5    |
| <b>AJ</b> by <i>dB</i>                            | 6    |
| <b>Cryptic</b> by <i>Praxis</i>                   | 7    |
| <b>Eightsome Reels</b> by <i>zinzan</i>           | 8    |
| <b>Subscriptions &amp; Donations</b>              | 9    |
| <b>Oxford Word of the Month</b>                   | 9    |
| <b>AJ - Are we there yet?</b><br>by <i>InGrid</i> | 13   |
| <b>Quiz #11</b> by <i>The Busybodies</i>          | 14   |

|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |L|I|G|H|T|S| **Prizewinner: October 2009 Slots 1-5: Gillian Champion**

|                               |                |  |                  |                        |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------|------------------------|
| <b>President</b>              | Patrick Street | 395 Canning St, North Carlton Vic 3054 | ph(03) 9347 1216 | pstreet@bigpond.net.au |
| <b>Secretary</b>              | Bev Cockburn   | 12 Norman St, Merrylands West NSW 2160 | ph(02) 9635 7802 | bevco4@bigpond.com     |
| <b>Puzzle/Quiz submission</b> | Ian Williams   | 12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615         | ph(02) 6254 6860 | ianw@webone.com.au     |

## Oct 1-2009

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

## Oct 2-2009

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

## Oct 3-2009

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

## Oct 4-2009

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

## Oct 5-2009

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

## Sept 6-2009

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

## MEMBERS RESULTS FOR SEPT & OCT 2009 & SEPT Slot 7

| MEMBER       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ABRAHAM T    |   | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| AINSWORTH Y  | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ALLEN W      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ALSTON B     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ANDERSON C   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ANNAND H     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ATKINSON S   |   | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| AUSTIN A     |   | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BALNAVES J   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BANKS M      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BARBOUR J    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BARNES J     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BARRETT A    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BENNETT B    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BENNETT D    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BROTHERTON J |   | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BRYANT R     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BUTLER D     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CAINE R      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CALLAN A&D   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CAMPBELL G   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CHAMPION G   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CHANCE C     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COATES D     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COCKBURN B   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COLE G       | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COLLINS M    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COOKE L      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COPLAND F    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| COWAN M      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CROMER H     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DAVIS M      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DEARIE P     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DENNIS M     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DINHAM V     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DODD M       | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DUCKER R     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| EGGLETON B   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| FOOTT B      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| FOWLER J     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| FREELAND J   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| FREEMAN H    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| FULLER D     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GALBREATH M  | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GARDINER R   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |

| MEMBER        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| GARNER P      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GILLIS J      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GLISSAN B     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GRAINGER D    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GREENBERGER O | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HAGAN B       | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HAMBLING C    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HANNOUSH J    | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HARPER K      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HAZELL N      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HEATH P       | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HEENAN C      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HEMSLEY D     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HOCKING A     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HORAN P       | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HOWARD LJ     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HOWARD V      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HOWELLS S     | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| IBBOTT B      | . | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| JERMY A       | . | . | . | . | . |   |   |

|N|O|V|E|M|B|E|R|  
|2|0|0|9|  
|S|L|O|T| |1|

**Steep  
Starts  
by  
Aeolian**

**Prizes: \$50**



**Win!**

[2007 edn]

The solutions to the puzzle are all Melbourne Cup winners. Every horse (except No. 1) gets an uphill or downhill start & then follows where the course leads, letters being aligned with the slope. Names can only cross at the letters O or N/Z. In the latter case, a Z in one name becomes an N in the crossed name, and vice versa. (See sample in the Cup base). There are four N/Z crossings only. The letters C U P are given. It may help to know that the time span including the earliest and latest winner is 119 years.



**WORD LENGTHS**

- 1 (8)
- 2 (5,5)
- 3 (4)
- 4 (5,4)
- 5 (8)
- 6 (7)
- 7 (7)
- 8 (5)
- 9 (7)
- 10 (4,5)

Slots 1-5: Kay Williams, 12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615.

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

Closing mail date: Friday 20 November 2009.

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

Slot 6: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.

email: [apatterson@hp.com](mailto:apatterson@hp.com)


Closing mail date: Friday 4 December 2009.

|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|

|N|O|V|E|M|B|E|R|  
|2|0|0|9|  
|S|L|O|T| |2|

**Cryptic**  
by  
**Jesso**



|    |  |   |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |
|----|--|---|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|--|----|
| 1  |  | 2 |  | 3  |  | 4  |  | 5  |  | 6  |  | 7  |  | 8  |
|    |  |   |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |
| 9  |  |   |  |    |  | 10 |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |
|    |  |   |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |  |    |
| 11 |  |   |  |    |  |    |  |    |  | 12 |  |    |  |    |
|    |  |   |  |    |  |    |  |    |  | 13 |  |    |  |    |
| 14 |  |   |  |    |  |    |  |    |  | 15 |  | 16 |  |    |
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**Across**

- 1 Contracting to change internally for crying out loud! (9)
- 6 Heads of Foreign Office cut up and somehow concentrate (5)
- 9 Starts to invest money with his crook? Get away! (5)
- 10 Marshy upland Ali cultivated (9)
- 11 Turning out always with a ring (8)
- 12 Lover of a party concerned with republic's beginning (6)
- 14 Start to find upper-class liberal fellow bright (7)
- 15 Genuine reformation for an inexperienced young woman (7)
- 17 Finish den off (3)
- 18 Up, up, up (7)
- 19 Confront each belly-dancing? (7)
- 20 Figure out former county (6)
- 22 Old writer back to see about tree shoot (4,4)
- 25 Squalid old English crook is a harem slave (9)
- 26 Good shot of the interior (5)
- 27 Yemen could be the opponent (5)

- 28 Dramatist revamped heartless haughty clauses (9)

**Down**

- 1 Starting to sign lease for the county (5)
- 2 Surely dress Latin lad casually for he who portrayed elongated characters (7,8)
- 3 Investigator in railway satellite sent off south (5,4)
- 4 I'm contrite? On the contrary (10)
- 5 Go like mad first and last for riches (4)
- 6 Easily covered the bet supplied without notice (5)
- 7 Driving force about forward health centre is hostile (15)
- 8 Fly around one side room's power generator (5,4)
- 13 Some dresser predicted returning the juicer apparatus (5,5)
- 14 Crew to notch up eighty (9)
- 16 Inexperienced West Indies church in place of time (9)
- 21 A man may finish a woman (5)
- 23 Lugs around the middle of Trenton . . . makes money (5)
- 24 Marine called Beryl? (4)

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

- Many thanks for the cheque and certificate I received for Slot 2, October 2009. What a great surprise! How fortunate I feel to belong to a Club which not only accords me much pleasure, but also rewards me for participating! My appreciation to all who contribute to the production of *CrOZworld*.  
*Arthur Barrett*
- Thank you for selecting me as last month's Slots 1-5 winner, something I have vainly aspired to, but never expected to attain. I was amazed to find that there was also a cheque.  
*Pat Garner*
- Thanks for my welcome letter and for weeks of challenge and fun. At first I thought I'd never finish a grid but they gradually filled in until four were complete. I just loved the challenge of getting a few words in the other two.  
*Helen Annand*
- AGAIN!!! May I say a huge 'thank you' for a prize in last month's puzzles – a great word finder! Thank you so much CROZZIE CLUB!! When I told one of my grandchildren I'd won another prize, she said "Too much fun Nanna! They won't let you play with them if you win too many!"  
*Del Kennedy*
- Thank you very much for the Slot 5 prize. There's next year's subscription accounted for.  
*Iain MacDougall'*
- A really enjoyable set of puzzles this month – nothing outlandish, but all setting a pretty high standard, especially *midships'* JA. (How do they work such puzzles out???) I had trouble picking a COTM – NEBRASKA & SIKH in Slot 4 were great but I have to give my vote to 9ac in Slot 5 – ETCETERA.  
*Ted O'Brien*
- Thank you for my prize for the September Slot 1 puzzle. *The Macquarie Crossword Dictionary* is a splendid addition to my growing reference library.  
*Margaret Davis*

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|S|L|O|T| |3|

**Cryptic  
by  
Southern  
Cross**



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**Across**

- 1 Plain-dweller almost late after taking public transport ... (7)
- 5 ... manages to arrange credit before banks close (7)
- 9 Maverick – one trapped between two sides (5)
- 10 Tiny reef possibly around cape in Tasmanian peninsula (9)
- 11 TV then includes landslide from mountain covering shopping centres (3,5,6)
- 13 In favour of quietly giving support (4)
- 14 Edit, to enable one to cope temporarily (4,4)
- 17 Heads of committee like important matters attended to in confidence, like 21's observations (8)
- 18 The way the Myer Centre deals with a complaint (4)
- 21 Castrated ram, they say, tied to post where the staff is phenomenally observant (7,7)
- 23 Chief attraction in yacht race perhaps (4,5)
- 24 Interrogate after the poor girl left? (5)
- 25 Where "Hamlet" was directed by Ophelia? Quite the opposite! (7)
- 26 A substance causing chemical changes about Canberra alternatively (7)

**Down**

- 1 Bouncer employed for social occasion (4)
- 2 Agreement in time with historians on NYC involvement (15)
- 3 A symbol of faith presented to the other side (6)
- 4 Half dead, Barney gets clear (6)
- 5 Petite US star Sandra sporting tartan, cunningly made (4-4)
- 6 Rebound for wealthy company taken in by Spielberg's film (8)
- 7 Environmentalist reckons crazy king disposed of tax charge first (15)
- 8 Straighten up matching pieces functioning correctly (3,2,5)
- 12 Room for a lady presumably, as part of NASA program (10)
- 15 Hard currency only for soft fabric (8)
- 16 Fire is put out before church liturgy ends angrily (8)
- 19 Sat out on hill, something churning inside (6)
- 20 Model held by Greek character – it's a disgrace! (6)
- 22 A slight indication to the musician (4)

**GENERAL COMMENTS: [continued from p4]**

- Every month I wonder how the Adjudicator copes with the task. Dedication, a cheerful disposition, very good organization, a capacity for work, and a few other ingredients too. However it's done, be sure it is appreciated by all of us puzzlers. [Thanks, Max – on behalf of the other 11 adjudicators, I am happy to acknowledge your appreciation. One can do without some of these qualities if you have what I have – a very cooperative life partner! CH] Max Roddick
- I am in awe of all your talents! Compilers, adjudicators, markers – yet again, many thanks. [As above. CH] Robyn Wimbush
- Thanks to the club for the cash prize for September Slot 1 – timely and appreciated. John Gillis
- The puzzles were great fun as usual. I had a couple of question marks at 4dn in slot 2, and 8dn in slot 3. I was assuming (or rather hoping) that there may have been slight typos in the clues. [see adjudicator's summary] Bill Alston
- A challenging lot this time – I just had a stab at slot 3 16dn. A few votes for COTM slot 3, 1dn (narrowly) from Slot 1, 20dn and slot 2 27dn. Jean Barbour
- In my enthusiasm to complete and send my September answers before we went away for a holiday, I omitted to say many thanks for my prize of \$50 which I received for the August crossword. Needless to say it came in very handy for my trip although I always get a great thrill out of the CrOZworld puzzles particularly if I can complete them! Ro Ducker
- As a general thought I found Slots 1-3 a bit underchallenging and pedestrian. Not a whinge but they were a bit easy. Jim Fowler



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**AJ**

by

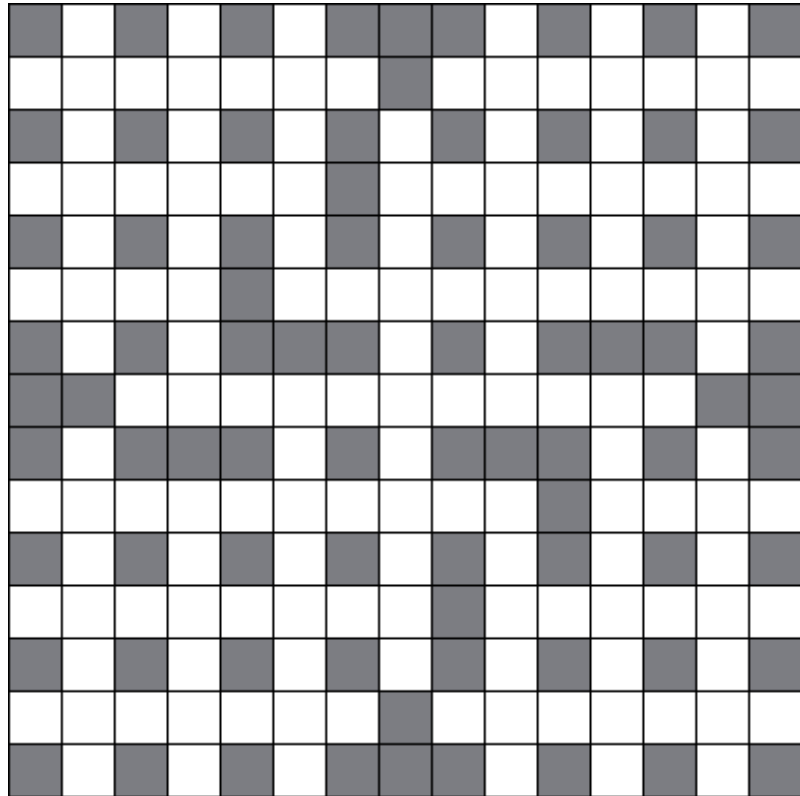
**dB**

**Prize:**

**Tornado  
Crossword  
Pencil**

[rrp \$77.00]

Solve the clues and place them jigsaw-wise into the puzzle where they fit



- A** Really old, Greek maybe, but developed nice tan (7)
- B** Take ribs to make a cut of meat in Scotland (8)
- C** Mad competitor of the 60's almost broke (7)
- D** Perform or hold sovereign for the man at the gate (10)
- E** Southern British weaving machine to cause dismay (7)
- F** Flattering people from North, South, East and far West (7)
- G** Gave out in a grumpy way to cultivate a little light source (7)
- H** Question the way the French detective cried (6)
- I** Privy to fashionable switch position (2,2)
- J** Keating's recovery gives shape to sound of a bird (1-5)
- K** Head man has not taken lead in Boy Scout exercise (8)
- L** Stout, genial, disturbed - how Tennyson may have described S (5-6)
- M** Sir Neville loses right to become a seafarer (7)
- N** Put money on revised City language abandoned by Newton (3,5)
- O** Capital letters denoting excessive company founded by Fisk (6)
- P** Comic pup takes a drink to make connection (4,4)
- Q** How pitch was altered - always poetically after you texted in final proof (7)
- R** Usher and Stewart are in, and laughed immoderately (6)
- S** Poet and Saint, Old King and true Australian (total 11 letters)
- T** Mark in restaurant where the players retire after the game (4,4)
- U** International organization regretted having given no opinion (8)
- V** State how fluids pass through solids: it's the quality of a gas (10)
- W** Cry sounds like a Pink Floyd opus (4)
- X** Copies reciprocal relations between man and woman, or previous spouse (7)
- Y** Aussie lunatics coming back in disarray (6)
- Z** Aspro fish seen in amazing elaboration (6)

**Explanations October Grids:**

**Slot 4 midships:** **A** DD (Double Definition), **A** DD on abbreviation, **B** BOY rev, **C** DISCo, **D** WHIZZ + KID, **D** anag, **E** anag, **F** FLOG rev, **G** DD, **H** TRILL + (L) ION + THe, **H** phonetic ref to hide & seek, **I** ANT + I, **J** BASENJI - IN +E implied inside, **K** WO r K, **L** DD, **M** ALIEN ISM, **N** C (LAR) ION **O** FIA r S + CO, **P** OX + SLIP, **P** Will (Shakespeare) GALL + W.A.S.P., **Q** Ira + Q, **R** DD, **S** EYE + GLASSES, **S** A KEN in the WINGS, **T** RE+ SON + ANT, **U** HW, **V** chicken (fowl) Kiev, **W** DD see SOED, **X** LAST + EX, **Y** pALLY, **Z** phonetic.

**Slot 5 Pindar: ACROSS** 1. Double definition (DD) 9. anag, after ET 10. Fo(e) + rest 11. AN IS (TAG ON) M 12. Hidden word (HW) 13. Anag + br 16. S + TALKER! 17. PEA + NUTS 20. anag E EXPATS around ERA 22. Homophone 23. Homophone 25. IMP + AIR 26. Anag 27. DD. **DOWN** 2. ROO - M-I-E - ST 3. anag 4. Homophone 5. Test + ate 6. S (C) AG 7. DEVI(L) + CE 8. homophone of missed in pals 14. Over + eating 15. LANDS + C APES 16. Homophone 18. Anag 19. MA (RA) UDS 21. DD pun 24. E (R) GO.

|N|O|V|E|M|B|E|R|  
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|S|L|O|T| |5|

**Cryptic**  
by  
**Praxis**

Prizes: \$50



[2006 edn]

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**Across**

- 1 UN's after a firm endeavour for the nation (7)
- 6 Scholar's Latin's so necessary (5)
- 10 US ski centre, for example, has an animal confine (5)
- 11 lac to come around about eleven (6)
- 12 Restriction: lame GI worked on it (8; two words)
- 13 Water's beginning to split rock used in alloy (6)
- 15 Good Yule spoiled; became tacky (5)
- 16 Dancer, Fred, announced the dance (7; hyphenated)
- 19 Drunk barbarian held a first-class return to lac (9)
- 21 A similar piece included artificial sweetener (9)
- 25 Cue new promotion, the alternative to lac (7)
- 28 Lawyer squashed gossip that's commonplace (5)
- 29 Woman's with European Union at French resort (6)
- 30 Ace troops, qualified and responsive (8)
- 31 State orchestra gets the prize? (6)
- 32 Arrange a game of golf? (5; two words)
- 33 Canberra's Eastern district initially performed ... (5)
- 34 ... Hungarian dance in common time; unhappy prince retired (7)

**Down**

- 1 Open grassland in Brazil contains two rivers (5)
- 2 Large nurse employed in 6 down? (6)
- 3 Excited by strokes creating coiffures (8)
- 4 Partners will keep established resorts (5)
- 5 Felt sorry for starting to ridicule birdman (9)
- 6 lac has hobo grab the Spanish soldier (7)
- 7 Armpit's crook after American cut one (6)
- 8 Here in Paris Her Majesty's less friendly (5)
- 9 Bed lay broken, bearing ancient drinking vessels (7)
- 14 Mortification! Smashed capsules contained heroin (9)
- 17 Covered, a Mafia boss is setup and dies horribly (8)
- 18 She'll check horse's back (7)
- 20 lac shows displeasure with tract (7)
- 22 New arena is harbouring a spider genus (6)
- 23 Count a metamorphosed family of moths (6)
- 24 Sexual magic developed (5)
- 26 Top's cut off snag in pique (5)
- 27 Cuts pears (5)

**2009 GET-TOGETHER AND HAVE FUN: WONDERFUL LOCATION!!**

The ACC's Annual Get-Together will be held at William 'Raoul' Ryan's 'Gastropub' The Cauliflower Hotel, Waterloo, Central Sydney on Sunday 29 November 2009 commencing at 11:30am. William says: "It is South Sydney's most famous pub, five minutes walk from Green Square Station and 10 from Central. Parking is plentiful." See what's on offer at: <http://cauliflower.com.au/> Come along and meet the team! William has assured us that his "Friendliest Pub" has a wonderful bistro with delicious meals at bargain rates and drinks at pub prices. It will be a lot of fun and we can discuss all manner of things cruciverbal! There will be plenty of the Club's best known personalities in attendance. Why not come along and say 'hello'? Pay on the day. Our Secretary Bev has a puzzle for us and there will be a Quiz, so bring along your knowledge bank. We will have plenty of prizes to give away together with Lucky Door prizes. Looking forward to meeting up again.



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|S|L|O|T| |6|

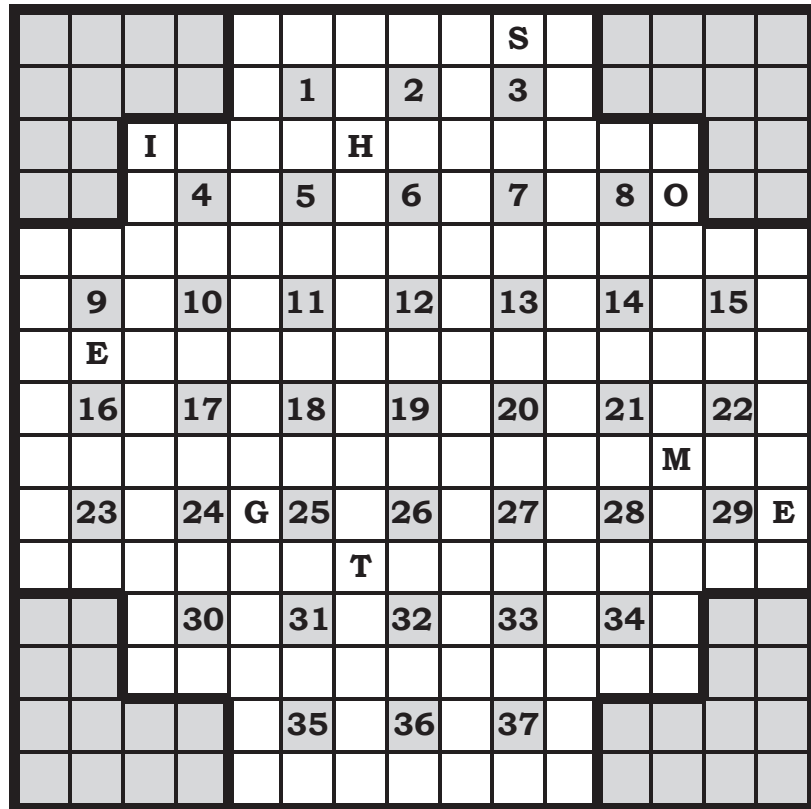
## Eightsome Reels by zinzan



Solve the clues and enter them in a clockwise or anticlockwise direction around the appropriate number in the grid. All solutions are of 8 letters, two-word solutions are indicated.

According to *Chambers 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*, answer 11 is archaic and 29 is biblical. Answer 10 is not listed but it's fully checked in the grid and very solvable.

- 1 He carped about being lectured
- 2 Aeroplanes maybe, new and extremely enormous, go beyond the speed of sound
- 3 Cool efficiency left wanting? Disorder!
- 4 Dribble uncontrollably over university flyer
- 5 How Hawke's second wife may sign, Hazel (and others) having disappeared
- 6 Machine reproduced new left-handed deliveries
- 7 Title given in prison term
- 8 Party with small source of cocaine on a Caribbean island
- 9 Lousy student receives an 'E' without too much trouble
- 10 NSW State Of Origin side rejects a US grass grown for hay
- 11 Quite like man's belt in a queer sort of way
- 12 Colours' loudness decreased in 13
- 13 Fanciful inventions have the Feds in paroxysms
- 14 Lewis reaches around cash machine in time to get aromatic herbs
- 15 Stationery company housed in dull, expensive exterior (4,4)
- 16 Needed time for 3rd instalment of mortgage to be paid back



- 17 Seem strange when about to give up a leguminous plant
- 18 Battered esteems last from 4 - 6 months
- 19 How a steeplejack might charge for sweat?
- 20 Near madness amid convulsions caused by little stingers (4,4)
- 21 Sedatives left everyone repressed by pets
- 22 Fuel provider fudged one claim (4,4)
- 23 Some amount of statistics central to liquor – claret, martinis and ales
- 24 Bribing is, by itself, increasing
- 25 Element of spoken language is on special card
- 26 Star called regularly after being held in Australia
- 27 C-Listers from The Biggest Loser may be taken here?
- 28 Dance fad a man danced without care
- 29 Stony boundaries about Zinzan's mulberry tree
- 30 Makes a mark on Cockney fellow and Royal fellow reportedly
- 31 Bad joke cracked by zealous cardiothoracic surgeon?
- 32 More likely to be remembered as one intruding on a baseball player at home
- 33 Second small jug's an absolute beauty!
- 34 Greek character and I object to risqué use of figures
- 35 With English having right substitute, in Test series utterly outplays their opponent!
- 36 They get ready as riches are relocated
- 37 Edits again as the last of 500 pages arrives?

**Post  
Solution  
to:**

**Andrew Patterson,  
372 Great North Road, Abbotsford NSW 2046.  
email: [apatterson@hp.com](mailto:apatterson@hp.com)  
Closing mail date: Friday 4 December 2009.**





**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS/MEMBERS FOR 2010:**

Abraham T, Allen W, Annand H, Atkinson S, Balnaves J, Barbour J, Barrett A, Bennett B, Bennett D, Bernard P, Brotherton J, Butler D, Callan A&D, Campbell G, Carlin B, Carroll L, Christiansen R, Clayton J, Cockburn M, Cole G, Cowan M, Culligan L, Dennis M, Dinham V, Ducker R, Eggleton B, Evans J, Fauser G, Fiddling B, Foott B, Freeland J, Fuller D, Galbreath M, Galli M, Gardiner R, Garner P, Gillis P, Gleeson C, Grainger D, Greenberger O, Hagan B, Hannoush J, Heath P, Heenan C, Hemsley D, Horan P, Howard L, Howard V, Ibbott B, Johnson J, Jones C, Jones D, Kennedy D, Kennedy M, Knight S, Knight V, Lloyd G, Lobsey V, Lord P, MacDougall I, Maunder M, May S, McClelland C, McDermott P, McKenzie I, McManus D, McPherson T, Morris B, Noble C, O'Brien T, O'Hara H, Otrupcek R, Pearce J, Petterson D, Pinder S, Pyc M, Randall J, Raw M, Rendell A, Roddick M, Roulston S, Ryan A, Ryan W, Shield A, Siegman B, Simons A, Smith T, Solomon B, Standard J, Steinberger M, Stocks J, Storey N, Symons B, Taylor R, Thompson J, Tickle B, Tofoni B, Twells J, Villiers W, Webber B, Wenham J, Wilson N, Wimbush R and Wright H.

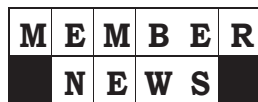
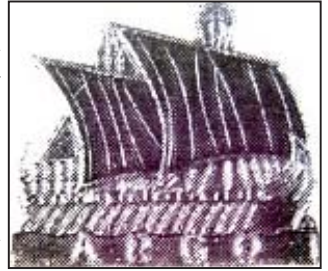
**DONATIONS TO THE 2010 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM:**

Thora Abraham, Warren Allen, Sonia Atkinson, John Balnaves, Jean Barbour, Arthur Barrett, Bill Bennett, David Bennett, John Brotherton, Doug Butler, Geoff Campbell, Lesley Carroll, Richard Christiansen, Graeme Cole, Maurice Cowan, Brian Eggleton, Barbara Fiddling, Bertha Foott, Jill Freeland, David Fuller, Rosemary Gardiner, Pat Garner,

John Gillis, Cheryl Gleeson, David Grainger, Olive Greenberger, Bob Hagan, Christine Heenan, Don Hemsley, Pat Horan, Valerie Howard, Barbara Ibbott, Catherine Jones, Del Kennedy, Michael Kennedy, Sally Knight, Val Knight, Glenda Lloyd, Veniece Lobsey, Claire McClelland, Iain MacDougall, Trish McPherson, Marie Maunder, Sandra May, Barbara Morris, Carole Noble, Ted O'Brien, Robina Otrupcek, Sue Pinder, Judy Randall, Max Roddick, Sonia Roulston, Alison Shield, Betty Siegman, Tom Smith, Bev Solomon, John Standard, Margaret Steinberger, Jack Stocks, Nea Storey, Brian Symons, Roy Taylor, Jack Thompson, Brian Tickle, Barbara Tofoni, Wendy Villiers, Jenny Wenham and Norm Wilson. Many thanks for your generosity.

**ARGONAUTS CLUB**

**Doug Butler** is building a page on the Argonauts' Club for *Wikipedia*, and would dearly like to incorporate a picture of the Club badge. Doug says: "The colours were (from memory) green and silver. If I take the photo myself there's no copyright problems, and will look better than this one I cribbed from a book. I've tried all the commercial outlets I know without success. Does any member of the ACC have a picture of the Club badge? I suspect at least 20% of ACC members were once argonauts. A Dragon's Tooth badge and/or Golden Fleece as well would be fantastic. Doug (once Tantalus 37)." If you can help Doug kindly contact him on [d.butler@internode.or.net](mailto:d.butler@internode.or.net)



**New Members:** We extend a warm welcome to new members **Harold James Wright** from Mt Pleasant, Queensland, **Jan Pearce** from Wodonga Vic and **Helen Annand** from Specimen Hill, Vic. Welcome to the wonderful world of *Crozworliding*.

**Puzzle adjustments:** Kath Harper gained dots for September slots 1,2,4 and 5.

**From Doug Butler:** Here is a perfect '& lit' clue: Subject of autobiography writing material on a politician, fascist leader (4,5)

**The Australian Oxford Dictionary**

**WORD OF THE MONTH**

**ratite** *adj. & n.* 1. *adj.* (of a bird) having a keel-less breastbone, and unable to fly (opp. **CARINATE**). 2. *n.* a flightless bird, eg. an ostrich, emu, cassowary, etc. [ORIGIN: Latin *ratis* "raft".]

*The Australian Oxford Dictionary*, Second Edition, 2004. Edited by Dr Bruce Moore. \$115.00 ISBN 9780195517965

**The OUP Australian National Dictionary** is now available free online. In honour of OUP's 100th anniversary of publishing in Australia, OUP have launched this wonderful national language resource readily available to all Australians – 10,000 words and idioms that make up the Australian contribution to the English language. Visit: <http://www.oup.com.au/> and click on Our Gift to the Nation.

**Betty Hew**, the Marketing Coordinator, OUP, Australia and New Zealand has kindly sent us copies of Susie Dent's *Words of the Year*. Following the dramatic success of *The Language Report*, Susie Dent returns with *Words of the Year* – a fascinating A-Z collection of new and newly resurrected words that have been selected for their topicality and resonance. Highlighting why certain words have come into use through current preoccupations or events, Dent charts the very latest linguistic changes and the interesting stories behind them. Dent bases her discoveries on the most authoritative and up-to-date evidence available: the unparalleled resources of the *Oxford English Dictionary* reading programme and the *Oxford English Corpus*, the world's largest language databank. A truly witty and insightful snapshot of current language usage, *Words of the Year* highlights the words of our time and delves into captivating etymologies along the way. Thank you, Betty. These will make wonderful book prizes in the next few months.

**BONUS QUIZ**

**Australian Smilies by Graeme Cole.**

The word omitted in each familiar 'smilie' is to be selected from the accompanying list below and then amended so each reads correctly. Only a list of the amended words in order is required to be submitted. Send your answers to Graeme Cole, 114 Skye Point Road, Coal Point NSW 2283. Closing mail date: 4 December 2009. Book prize.

- 1 She was as skinny as a sapling with the wood ... off
- 2 It was as ... and dark as a bushman's grave
- 3 He shot through like a Bondi ...
- 4 He's as silly as a ... bob watch
- 5 He's as ... as a meat-axe
- 6 He's so mean that when a fly lands in the ... he shakes its feet before he kills it
- 7 He's ... than a snake's belly
- 8 He's miserable as an orphan bandicoot on a ... ridge
- 9 He was running around like a headless ...
- 10 He lay ... like a stunned mullet
- 11 He was as ... as Ned Kelly
- 12 He was ... than a goldfield Chinaman
- 13 He was ... than a sewer rat
- 14 He ran like a hairy ...
- 15 They sat on stage like a bank of faded ...
- 16 He's as busy as a ... taxi-driver with an itch (hyphenated)
- 17 It was so windy that it 'ud blow a dog off its ...
- 18 He's got more problems than there are beef ... at a butchers' picnic
- 19 The crop was so poor you couldn't find a ... to clean your pipe in the whole paddock
- 20 The ... was so thick a dog couldn't bark in it

**List:**

Tow, dam, mart, clod, mega, toga, China, argus, brunt, rowel, warts, curbs, three, choko, skates, rename, phraser, red-caps, demeanor, measuring.

## October 1-2009: Half 'n Half by Jesso (Noel Jessop).

- Thanks Noel for your two halves. 7dn A PRIORI reasoning took a while to find this foreign phrase. In 29dn apiece = EACH, state = WA & presumably Y = branch?  
*Alan Walter*
- A nice easy start to the puzzles. DUST DEVIL was a new word for me.  
*Joan Smith*
- This crossword taught me a few things I didn't know, so top marks to Jesso for an informative puzzle.  
*Carole Noble*
- I always enjoy a Jesso Half 'n Half in Slot 1.  
*Jenny Wenham*
- I had to look up *oblite*, otherwise nice and straightforward.  
*Nea Storey*

## October 2-2009: Cryptic by Virgo (Audrey Austin)

- 4dn SPECIAL seemed to have an E missing from the clue. [This was noted by many – see Adj com. CH]. Otherwise a straightforward cryptic.  
*Joan Smith*
- Slot 2 was a beauty; lots of hard ones.  
*Catherine Jones*
- Excellent lead-in cryptic, *Virgo*.  
*Carole Noble*
- Two very smart clues for 3-letter words, PRY and EAR.  
*Max Roddick*
- 5ac: I assume Mess = DRAGGLE [mess(verb). CH]. 19dn I can't justify ARBUTUS [A(admin)R(right)BUT US = bush. CH]  
*Graeme Cole*
- I enjoyed 5dn, 19dn and 4dn, but I can't see how the E is indicated in 4dn.  
*Jenny Wenham*
- *Virgo* always has some interesting clues. I liked 2dn *mused* and 29ac *gloated*. *Draggle* was new to me.  
*Nea Storey*

## October 3-2009: Cryptic by Southern Cross (Shirl O'Brien)

- Sorry about Milla Milla. I've been there a couple of times but have always spelled it that way, which it often is.  
*Shirl O'Brien*
- I loved Shirl's clues which included my nomination for COTM. However, I didn't feel the same about the grid – so many darks around the outer edge, resulting in so many unchecked initials. 88 darks in a 15 x 15 grid is a lot, resulting in only 26 clues for the puzzle – a shame when the clues are so good.  
*Brian Tickle*
- Thanks Shirl for your cryptic. Much liked 18ac WAX MATCHES & 22ac HEADACHE.  
*Alan Walter*
- My COTM went to Shirl's 7dn HANDLE. I also liked her 3dn OVERHANG.  
*Bev Cockburn*
- Though I do not like this type of grid for a cryptic puzzle, it was well clued. Many clues in contention for COTM, 11, 13 and 24ac and 1 and 7dn.  
*Joan Smith*
- Many good clues, as usual, Shirl.  
*Carole Noble*
- Only Shirl could make us smile at HARDSHIP!  
*Max Roddick*
- Am not too sure about Milla Milla – a complete guess. [Well guessed – see Shirl's comment above. CH]  
*Barb Ibbott*
- WAX MATCHES [your COTM selection! CH] – what a shocker in slot 3. Thank goodness for my wife who told me that Ruby Wax is a lady comedian. I need to get out more often!  
*Don Hemsley*
- 1dn – A great clue! 7dn – Not sure who Monica is? [Monica said=moniker=name=handle. CH]  
*Graeme Cole*
- This gave me more trouble than usual for a *Southern Cross* puzzle! *Re bullfighter*: the *bull* is clear enough, but don't understand *fighter*. *Spelling bee*, *hardship*, and *barney* delighted me. And, even when I had *matches* it took me so long to remember Ruby Wax, that I am going to give it my COTM. Is *Milla Milla* a local spelling? My Post Code book gives Millaa Millaa.  
*Nea Storey*
- My sources have the town spelled Millaa Millaa and it is somewhat serendipitous that 5ac is "Inarow" and a few weeks ago I added *Fortebus es inaro* as my signature on Deef. Should "Spelling Bee" be spelled "Speling bea"??  
*Jim Fowler*
- I was a little disappointed to see that *Southern Cross* had misspelled Millaa Millaa (assuming, of course, that that is what she meant), seeing that it is a town only 40 km from where I live, but in the same week the local paper had it wrong twice in the one edition. If the locals can't get it right, who can blame the rest of you? Dare I even mention the campaign by the inhabitants of Mir(r) iwinni (near Innisfail) to get back their missing 'r' which apparently disappeared in the '40s?  
*Dave Parsons*
- Not at all sure about Milla Milla. It certainly fits the clue but seems to be Millaa Millaa on checking. Hopefully it's like Ballaarat (or is it Baallarat?)  
*Gillian Champion*

## October 4-2009: JA by midships (Ian Williams)

- I always enjoy the AJ, but this month it is in the too hard basket. Obviously I can't manage words in reverse!  
*Chris Heenan*
- AJ is my favourite each month so it was grand to have a JA. There was one many moons ago and I missed the fine print. Took me years to get over it! Tell *midships* I loved his puzzle. [Done. CH]. A few queries to be explained. I'll just wait until November comes along.  
*William Ryan*

- You were very brave to compile a 'JA'. Well put together. Shame about 'baseej'. I couldn't even find it in my library's copy of SOED.  
*Brian Tickle*
- Thanks *midships* for your challenging JA = Jigsaw – Alphabetical. The answer BASEEJ was difficult to locate & in N finding US descendant = CION took a while to rationalise. Also in P finding 'will scoff' = GALL (Shakespearean). Much liked R for HAYMAKER.  
*Alan Walter*
- JA slowed me down – it took some time to get GALL WASP.  
*Bob Hagan*
- H(1) – Isn't TRILLIONTH a very small number? [I agree – should be SMALL not BIG. CH]  
*Graeme Cole*
- A very challenging JA. Just recently bought myself a new *Chambers* 11<sup>th</sup> edition and was delighted to find BASEEJ but not LASTEX (if that is right) [It is. CH]. Some clever clues giving my poor old brain a real workout. Particularly liked the M word and gave it my COTM.  
*Joan Smith*
- Enjoyed the challenge of this month's puzzles – although slot 4 caused some angst. Much prefer when answers begin with each letter!  
*Anne Simons*
- Clue W: no reference book of mine claimed a patron saint of RN, but found a quote for ANDREW in Paul Gallico's 'Jennie'. [ANDREW is patron saint of Scotland and also a nickname for the Royal Navy. CH]  
*Dale McManus*
- These ZIXATOTICS [What are these? CH] are always difficult. Loved the HAYMAKER clue.  
*Carole Noble*
- AJ very tricky. Quite a challenge!  
*Sonia Roulston*
- Slot 4 I found a bit of a puzzle! Finishing it, whether or not successfully, [spot on. CH] didn't give me the usual satisfied feeling. More 'Well I finished it – But?' Also if NEBRASKA is right...why? [NB stands for both 'note well' & Nebraska CH].  
*Yvonne Ainsworth*
- 1dn got my vote for COTM, purely for the groan it elicited.  
*Jenny Wenham*

- Tougher than a normal AJ, so I tackled this one first and surprised myself by finishing it quite quickly. Must be an indication of the excellent cluing. It's a nice change from the usual slot 4 but I wouldn't want to do them too often. I guessed the X answer early on but it was still one of the last ones in, mainly because I wouldn't commit to it until I verified it. My favourite clue was "Round and round the world" for GLOBAL.  
*Jenny Wenham*
- This was very difficult. A JA is so much harder than an AJ and having more than 26 clues didn't help! I hope I've got it right in the end, but had to guess at a couple.  
*Nea Storey*
- Loved the JA.  
*Trish McPherson*
- A most pleasant outing, but marooned in the Territory without my OED, had to guess at LASTEX and BASSEJ. I thought *midships*, of all people, could have come up with a better clue for AT SEA [Oh! I quite liked it – IMW].  
*Doug Butler*
- Vote for COTM this time goes to slot 4, second H clue – SIKH. The neat misdirection of Hyde had me stumped for quite a while. Having rallied from the shot across the bows of having words end rather than start with the given letter, I enjoyed the added challenge of the "JA" – and learned a few new words to add to the armoury.  
*Kath Harper*
- I loved the devilish slot but I find those reverse AJs so very difficult. Why are they called AJs? I've often wondered? [As originated by John Graham (*Araucaria* of the Guardian) – he calls them Alphabetical Jigsaws – IMW].  
*Jean Barbour*
- Baseej seems to be a very obscure spelling (a nasty spelling for a nasty mob?) [In *Chambers*. IMW] but I like the reverse AJ – it certainly adds a challenge.  
*Jim Fowler*

## October 5-2009: Cryptic by Pindar (John Brotherton)

- Some great clues in this puzzle.  
*Brian Tickle*
- Loved the puzzles this month especially *Pindar's* – very entertaining.  
*Fay Copland*
- Enjoyed this puzzle once I got into his wavelength. So many good clues – especially liked 17, 23 & 27ac & 14dn.  
*Joan Smith*
- Most amused by 23ac LIEUTENANT. Gave it my COTM.  
*Carole Noble*
- I really enjoyed *Pindar's* witty setting.  
*Sonia Roulston*
- Enjoyed slot 5 which I often find too challenging.  
*Barb Ibbott*
- Quite straightforward for a slot 5, I thought, but a pleasure to solve nonetheless. My favourite clues were 1ac, 8dn and 14dn.  
*Jenny Wenham*
- Not as bad as it looked at first sight. 19dn gave me some trouble, and *scag* was new to me. I liked the clue for 2dn.  
*Nea Storey*
- Good, very good.  
*Jim Fowler*



Send solution to: Andrew Patterson,  
372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.  
Closing mail date: Friday 4 December 2009  
NAME: .....

NOV | 6 | 2009 |

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NOV | 1 | 2009 | NAME.....

- 1 (8)
- 2 (5,5)
- 3 (4)
- 4 (5,4)
- 5 (8)
- 6 (7)
- 7 (7)
- 8 (5)
- 9 (7)
- 10 (4,5)

Clue of the Month .....



NOV | 2 | 2009 |

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**September 6-2009: Misprints by Betelgeuse (Gillian Champion)**

**Entries: 40. Correct: 19. Success Rate: 47.5%.**

**Prizewinners: Maurice Cowan and Roy Taylor. Congratulations!**

**Adjudicator's Comments:**

Thank you for all your letters, cards and comments which are always very welcome. This was quite a difficult puzzle. Even when the clues were solved, it probably made everyone cross-eyed trying to make sure that every word was in the right place, (and not easy to compile either!) A lot of entries were correct except for a single error. The main culprits were 22ac (FLUGEL), 23ac (CONTROLS), 17ac (BRUNT) and 21dn (COSTARD which with its misprint should have been entered as EOSTARD). Many, otherwise correct, chose EUSTARD. It was pointed out that the definition for FLUGEL was "grand piano", so the clue is inaccurate and possibly misleading. "A kind of porn" would have been more appropriate, but after some reflection it was decided to discount this clue altogether.

Some explanations: 10ac: Shaped like a Rocket GLENOID = it's primarily engraved (E) in gold twirls (anag of "in gold"). 22ac: Recall the French LE- + war -GULF on Horn FLUGEL. 23ac: CommAnds experiments as a means of comparison = CONTROLS (a double meaning of "Commands" and "experiments as a means of comparison". 17ac: Force of a Blow BRUNT = right R into belly B-UNT. 21dn: Pudding (CUSTARD) + you soundly eschew (minus U) + but accept egg (O) = fruit COSTARD. 14ac: Cry (YELL) + "Ouch" (OW) + to follow (DOG) = cuR. —**Betelgeuse (Gillian Champion)**

**Solvers' Comments:**

• Phew! You sure had to have your mind focussed to follow the rules and think this through. I found it very challenging but very satisfying. *Roy Taylor*

• What a mindbending puzzle of misprints and misleading clues! Every clue proved to be a saga. STEGOPHILIST was quite a difficult word to find being a "climber" who likes scaling buildings for sport. YELLOW DOG from a lovely humorous clue, LEG+IT was a clever clue. 23ac: I tossed between CONTESTS and CONTROLS, the latter being appropriate, equating to commands. HOT SPOT was another humorous clue. 24dn caused a good deal of analysis giving BREAD where B=book, READ=interpret and BREAD=cover (with breadcrumbs). 21dn was so tricky. First put CUSTARD but finally changed this to COSTARD to eschew (avoid) the U and accept the egg=O to give a fruit COSTARD = cooking apple. This puzzle was a stunning mindblaster! *Alan Walter*

• After seven days of banging my head against a brick wall this padded cell feels good now. With medication I should recover in time for next month's puzzles. *Carole Noble*

• It was a toughie, Gillian, but I love that 'wow factor' when it all comes together. *Roy Wilson*

• It took some time to sort out the way the instructions worked but then it proved to be an enjoyable exercise. *Bob Hagan*

• Excellent fun - hopefully I have "correctly mistranscribed" the solution. *Bill Alston*

• Thanks for your excellent puzzle. *John Gillis*

• Whew! What a tough Slot 6! Should have been a Slot 10! Some great clues - I laughed when I solved 20dn "Hot Spot". Also, I don't begrudge the inordinate amount of time I spent on your puzzle - it was worth it. *Graeme Cole*

• It was extremely difficult to solve (if indeed I have). I'm sure there will be many who will find it impossible to complete - perhaps one or other of the misprints, either across or down, would have sufficed. I must admit that once I had finished it, I felt quite pleased with myself but not the time it took - too long. *Bev Cockburn*

• Phew! I can't believe I have actually finished your "Misprints" crossword. How did you ever compile this? Your head must have been spinning by the end, because mine was. It was awkward filling in the down answers with the incorrect letter. I originally had Callow Dog for 14ac so that threw me for a while with 1dn until I thought of "stroppey" and then "yellow dog". Also 24dn, I had never heard of "bread" for cover. *Marian Procter*

• I enjoyed this a lot - it was a simple but thought-provoking complication. Your clues have improved greatly as well. 14ac and 21dn were stand-outs. *Andrew Patterson*

• What a challenge that was. Thought I'd give it a miss at first glance. Glad I persevered. Just a couple I could not justify, so hope I have them correct. *Barbara Glissan*

• This was a real challenge! Having solved it, it took me a long time to get the grid right - well I hope I did! *Pat Garner*

• What a ripper. You are ywis a bit 28ac. Took a long time to finish

but most enjoyable, thank you - last in was 23ac and I am not sure the definition quite fits. I understand that a "control" forms a part of an experiment for comparison but is not, *per se*, an experiment. However and whatever - a great puzzle. *Jim Fowler*

• I didn't even start it. When I read the instructions and realised there were non-words in the solution I decided not to as I don't like puzzles like that. That's just me. I'm sure there'll be plenty of members who do enjoy it. *Jenny Wenham*

• Not an easy crossword. I almost didn't do it after reading the instructions!! I persevered and hope that I got the correct answers in the end! 22ac had me stumped deciding between Feudal and Flugel and am still not sure which - if either - is correct!!! It really put my poor brain in a spin! *Ann Jermy*

• Loved "Hot Spot" Gillian - thanks. *Bill Bennett*

• Thanks Gillian - a terrific puzzle. The bottom left hand corner was particularly difficult. *Brian Symons*

• I don't know if this is a crossword, but I can tell you I said a few cross words while I was doing this one. It has taken me ages to complete. *Ron O'Rourke*

• Thin broody guzzle dearly grove me nits. *Peter Dearie*

• Was a real challenge but we think it might just about be OK even though we think 28ac is fairly descriptive. *A & D Callan*

• You used the words 'normal' and 'normally' in your instructions, but this was one of the most abnormal puzzles I have ever encountered. I learnt some new words; I loved 'nipcheese' and shall add it to my vocabulary. Banana eustard for dinner tonight. *Gabrielle Leeds*

• When it comes to difficulty this must rate as a Slot 6 cubed. I hate to think how much time I've spent on it and I'm still not sure of all my answers. *Nea Storey*

• What a great crossword! I don't know if the answers are all right, but I certainly enjoyed the challenge. *Robyn Caine*

• This would have to be the most mind-boggling puzzle I've ever done! There are still a couple of clues I'm finding it hard to justify, but there's no more time, and I didn't think I'd ever be sending it off - so here's hoping. Don't know how your brain coped when you were setting it. Thanks anyway for a great challenge. *Shirl O'Brien*

• I found it challenging but immensely enjoyable. *Margaret Davis*

• Words fail me! *Robyn Wimbush*

• I have finally finished it! 17ac and 24dn were the stumbling blocks and I am not totally convinced about 21dn. It was a great challenge and an interesting twist. *Jill Freeland*

**OVER THE MOON — meaning Very happy or Delighted.**

'Over the moon' has been part of the language for more than a century. It has become more widely used in the past 20-30 years, since it was adopted by English football managers when interviewed after 'the boys' managed a victory.

The increased use of televised post-match interviews and hours of studio commentary during the 1970s brought many football managers before the cameras. These days such men are likely to be cultured and erudite Frenchmen or Spaniards. Before that they were usually British ex-footballers who had left schools in the English or Scottish back streets early to play football. It's fair to say that many of them have little interest in the finer points of English grammar.



Two of the best-known English football managers of recent years, who have maintained the English tradition with their engagingly entertaining way of mangling the language, are Ron Atkinson and Terry Venables. The list of quotations from them is long and includes:

"The Spaniards have been reduced to aiming aimless balls into the box." (Atkinson)

"If you can't stand the heat in the dressing room, get out of the kitchen." (Venables)

"If Glenn Hoddle said one word to his team at half time, it was concentration and focus." (Atkinson)

"I felt a lump in my throat as the ball went in." (Venables)

[continued on p15]

|   |
|---|
| N O V <br> 2 0 0 9 <br> S L O T   7                 |
| <b>AJ – Are we<br/>there yet?<br/>by<br/>InGrid</b> |
| <b>Book<br/>Prize</b>                               |

Post solution to:  
**Jean Barbour**  
 PO Box 290,  
 Wonthaggi Vic 3995  
 email:  
[william.barbour@bigpond.com](mailto:william.barbour@bigpond.com)

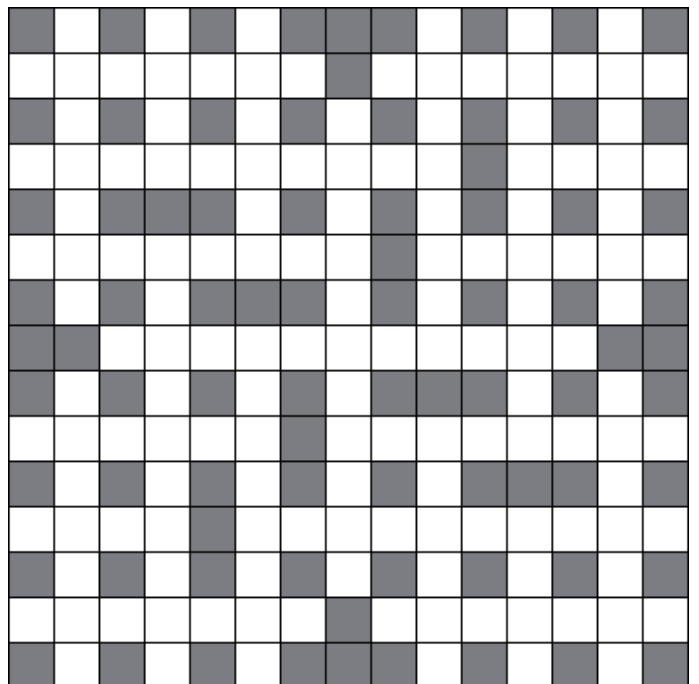
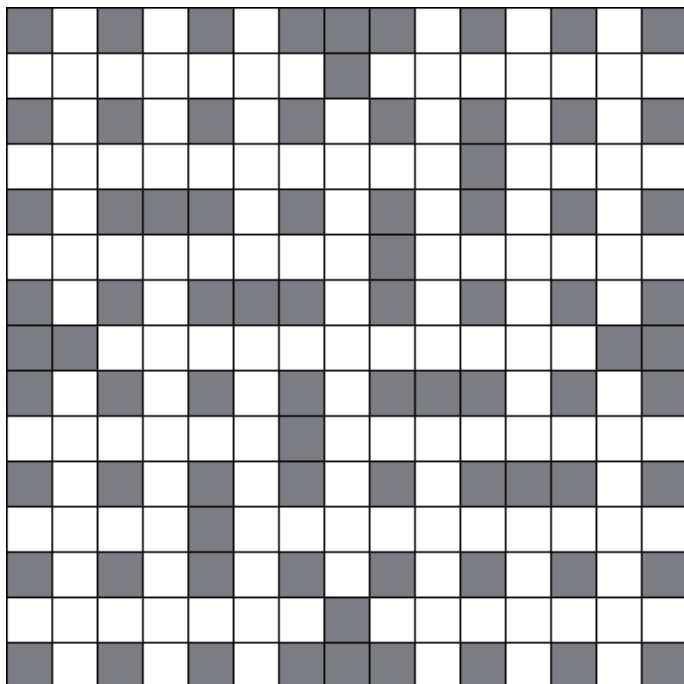
**Closing mail date:**  
**4 December 2009.**

The solutions begin with the given letter. Enter them in the grid, jigsaw-wise, where they fit. Unclued solutions marked "\*" have a common theme.

- A** Sleeve for the leader to take a seat (8)
- B** \* (10)
- C** A man carts a doctor to these boats (10)
- D** Act around channel and docked (8)
- E** I've backed this bird to be it for a year and forever (10)
- F** Bug upends a sprite (4)
- G** Lively leave work (4)
- H** Secretly greet priest with a measure of heartless levity (8)
- I** Matier sort of inn (6)
- J** Cheerful sweetheart can upset nominated departmental heads (6)
- K** \* (6)
- L** Prop a peg under the heir (7)
- M** Note to stretch king until he's more submissive (6)
- N** Scotsman spoke, not on time (4)
- O** \* (4)
- P** Settle on a crew, in a nutshell (7)
- Q** Queen has one swing at the traitor (8)
- R** Correct tilted bent (5-6)
- S** \* (5,6)
- T** Bridge for lost settler (7)
- U** School questionnaires in a riot without eccentric individuality (10)
- V** \* (7)
- W** Court mare over rocket range (7)
- X** More sax fixes dry eyes (7)
- Y** Unknown chook workers are actually burglars? (7)
- Z** Cereal pest is endlessly keen (7).

**ROUGH COPY**

**GOOD COPY - Name .....**





## Quiz No 11/2009



by **The Busybodies**

|           |                       |           |                              |           |                      |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| <b>1</b>  | Light, cheerful (7)   | <b>12</b> | Northern countryman (9)      | <b>22</b> | Avocado dip (9)      |
| <b>2</b>  | Scratch (6)           | <b>13</b> | Long pin (for meat, etc) (6) | <b>23</b> | Bewildered (9)       |
| <b>3</b>  | Canine film star (6)  | <b>14</b> | Colourful bird (10)          | <b>24</b> | A tap (6)            |
| <b>4</b>  | Discussion (6)        | <b>15</b> | Outwitted (8)                | <b>25</b> | Sparkling wine (8)   |
| <b>5</b>  | Clemency (11)         | <b>16</b> | Two quarts of alcohol (6)    | <b>26</b> | Prickly bush (7)     |
| <b>6</b>  | Exuberant (9)         | <b>17</b> | Someone who takes the        | <b>27</b> | German sausage (9)   |
| <b>7</b>  | A flower (8)          |           | blame (9)                    | <b>28</b> | Having bristles (10) |
| <b>8</b>  | Disperse (7)          | <b>18</b> | Allotted (6)                 | <b>29</b> | Tungsten (7)         |
| <b>9</b>  | Angry frown (5)       | <b>19</b> | Furniture wood (8)           | <b>30</b> | Eskimo canoe (5)     |
| <b>10</b> | Take arbitrarily (10) | <b>20</b> | Ostentatious (10)            |           |                      |
| <b>11</b> | River in France (8)   | <b>21</b> | Weed for tea (9)             |           |                      |

### Quiz 11/2009. Captured Animals by **The Busybodies**

Each answer contains, at the beginning, end or in the middle, an animal: eg Bald (8) – h**AI**rless. Definitions and word lengths for the complete answer are given. Answers are in alphabetical order of the animal. Send your entries to: Bev Cockburn, 12 Norman St, Merrylands West, NSW 2160: e-mail to [bevco4@bigpond.com](mailto:bevco4@bigpond.com)  
Closing mail date 4 December 2009. Book prize.

### Quiz No 9/2009: The Greats by **dB (Doug Butler)**:

**Solutions:** Abaco, Attractor, Awakening, Barrier Reef, Britain, Cham, Dane, Depression, Drought, Eastern, Escarpment, Fire, Game, Lakes, Leap Forward, Plains, Red Spot, Republic, Rift, Rift Valley, Society, Train Robbery, Trek, Wall of China, War, Western, White Way. **Winner: Jenny Wenham. Congratulations!**

A pleasing response to a quiz which (again) required lateral thinking and for which Google™ was useful only to confirm knowledge or guesses.—**dB (Doug Butler)**

**Alternative answers:** Architect (Cosmology) Charter/Council (Confederation) Earthquake/Extinction (Geology) Salt Desert (Geology) were accepted. Andromeda, Book, Walk received ½ mark.

Great Ambon/Aloha/Aleut (Island) Astronomy/Absurdism/Aftermath (Cosmology) Bondage/Bishops/Canon (Confederation) Club/Code/Coup/Dada (Literature) Dudinas (Steeplechase) Exhibition (Geology) Fish (Espionage) Mohave/Mojave/Libyan (Desert) Rhea, Rhos (Astronomy) Senator/Scandal/Speaker/Session (Politics) missed out altogether.

Although no-one got a perfect score, the 'correct' answer to each clue was also the one most submitted (reassuring to this setter).

**Results:** **26:** B Cockburn, G Leeds, A Miles, A Walter and J Wenham. **25½:** J Stocks and D Procter. **25:** C Noble, R Gardiner, P Garner, B Glissan and M Steinberger. **24½:** V Howard and B Symons. **24:** P Dearie, T McPherson and R Wimbush. **23:** B Siegman. **22:** C Anderson and N Storey. **21½:** A Simons.

#### Members' comments:

- Thank heavens for the alpha order! *Pat Garner*
- Great Scott, what a Great Quiz; must have taken a Great deal of time to compile this list of Greats! Thanks Doug. *Alan Walter*
- Some were familiar, others less so, and three remain a mystery; however I have had a guess at these. No.10 is probably wrong as it is not in alphabetical order. *Peter Dearie*
- Thanks for another "great" quiz. Sorry to say I couldn't give a definite answer for No.9 so have put in a guess. *David Procter*
- Enjoyed it! *Barbara Glissan*
- What a mixture this was. Some easy, others reasonably easy to track down, and a couple of, I fear, impossibles. *Gabrielle Leeds*
- Not sure of some of these answers. *Anne Simons*
- Thanks for a Great Quiz. *Brian Symons*
- I did enjoy your quiz and learnt a few things whilst I was about it. *Bev Cockburn*
- Thanks so much for such an interesting challenge – well set. *Trish McPherson*

- I'm not so sure that all these are familiar – at least not to me *Jenny Wenham*
- A most enjoyable quiz. *Valerie Howard*
- I think you forgot the Great Ocean Road and The Great Dividing Range. *Nea Storey*
- Cheers and many thanks for a lot of fun. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Thanks for a GREAT quiz. Took a bit of digging to come up with some of these. Not sure about Great Libyan Desert as none of the atlases in the local library reference it so had to resort to Google™. Have opted for Rift Valley as being more geological than Salt Desert. *Jack Stocks*
- Just about the last answer I found was No.19, which annoyed me no end, as I spent 30 years working with the CSIRO Australia telescope and hadn't heard of the Great Rift! *Betty Siegman*

### Answers to Bonus Quiz September 2009 (For results see p16)

|           | £              | s         | d        |
|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------|
| <b>1</b>  | L [ˈɛll ]      | 1         | 0        |
| <b>2</b>  | Guinea         | 1         | 0        |
| <b>3</b>  | Penny          | 1         |          |
| <b>4</b>  | Joey           | 3         |          |
| <b>5</b>  | Wing           | 1         |          |
| <b>6</b>  | Pony           | 25        | 0        |
| <b>7</b>  | Noble          | 6         | 8        |
| <b>8</b>  | Patrick        |           | ½        |
| <b>9</b>  | Bob            | 1         | 0        |
| <b>10</b> | Iron Man       | 1         | 0        |
| <b>11</b> | Farthing       |           | ¼        |
| <b>12</b> | Tanner         | 6         |          |
| <b>13</b> | Nicker         | 1         | 0        |
| <b>14</b> | Mancus[s]      | 2         | 6        |
| <b>15</b> | Penny-farthing |           | 1 ¼      |
| <b>16</b> | Zack           | 6         |          |
| <b>17</b> | Monkey         | 500       | 0        |
| <b>18</b> | Dandyprat      |           | 1 ½      |
| <b>19</b> | Squid [ge]     | 1         | 0        |
| <b>20</b> | Tenner         | 10        | 0        |
| <b>21</b> | Posh           |           | ½        |
| <b>22</b> | G[r]oat        | 4         |          |
| <b>23</b> | Half-a-crown   | 2         | 6        |
| <b>24</b> | Florin         | 2         | 0        |
|           | <b>540</b>     | <b>17</b> | <b>9</b> |

**September 7-2009: "... and Dry" by Gramineae (Graeme Cole and Ian Williams)**

**Entries 63, Correct 46. Success rate 70%.**

**Prizewinner: Bob Hagan. Congratulations!**

**Compilers' comments**

Thanks for your many comments indicating that you found this an enjoyable puzzle. The title suffered a little from the publishing gremlins, the intention being as shown above but the outcome adding another layer of encryption. Nevertheless, most solvers found their way down to the WATER hidden in the grid – proceeding upwards from the "W" of 20ac. Unfortunately, several solvers failed to highlight or otherwise indicate "water", as required by the rubric, leading to a number of the missing dots. Several solvers highlighted BILGE, which we hope was not a comment on the puzzle. Responses to individual queries are shown in the comments below.

**Solvers' comments:**

- Pretty involved! Hope I'm dottable. *Bill Bennett*
- Thank you for the great puzzle. *Joan McGrath*
- Thank you for an enjoyable puzzle. It was a lot easier than I expected after reading the instructions. *Roy Taylor*
- You guys certainly had me bamboozled for a while – even after I had filled in all the squares I couldn't spot the hidden word – and yet I'd mentally added the word WATER when filling in BILGE, LOGGED etc. You also cleverly managed to include a few other words (eg WHARF, ROWLOCK) with a connection to the concealed word. *Nea Storey*
- The instructions turned out to be less daunting than they first appeared. An enjoyable challenge. *Bob Hagan*
- Thank you *Gramineae*. There were some real doozies in there. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Many thanks for your puzzle, which was quite a challenge. It is always interesting and stimulating to have something different. *Margaret Davis*
- Some really good clues here. I think there's a good argument for a tenth water connection in these days of water tanks catching ROOF WATER. *Carole Noble*
- Many thanks for your clever puzzle which kept me busy for quite a while. Knowing that WATER was the missing link but where was it in the grid? I soon came upon it upside down – quite devious! I liked all the clues particularly 6ac. *Bev Cockburn*
- This was good fun. The bottom R/H corner was very tough. The clues for ROOF, BOURG & URUS were hard but clever. *Brian Symons*
- Thanks for the challenge. *Jan Wood*
- Thanks for an entertaining and rather watery puzzle. *Gillian Champion*
- Thanks for a challenging puzzle with very solvable clues. *Jenny Wenham*
- Thank you for this puzzle. It was a lot of fun. *Sandra May*
- Thank you for an enjoyable puzzle. I wondered why the theme was "... DRY", when water was the associated word, until it occurred to me that the relevant answers were all "waterless". [See above for the true explanation, but we like yours better, Peter. G/I] *Peter Dearie*
- Fabulous workout. Took me several read throughs of the instructions. Thank you. *Raoul*
- A very interesting and challenging puzzle. You may not believe this, but last Sunday I was puzzling over the missing word; I looked at Heater and Closet, and began to get a faint glimmer of what it could be when I heard a strange noise downstairs. Upon investigating, I found that my hot water heater had finally given up, and I had a minor flood on my hands. The bad news is I am now several dollars poorer, BUT the good news is that the missing word is found – and it's WATER! *Betty Siegman*
- I identified 8 clues linked to "water" [See above for the 9 G/I] I don't understand 13ac – the part about 'the central coast of NSW'. Couldn't find any reference to watercott or cottwater but maybe that's the 9<sup>th</sup>. [Some redundant words perhaps, but Tascott is fairly small (but well-known to the G of our collaboration) and we thought that an extra bit of geographical help would help G/I]. *Drew Meek*

**Explanations for September Slot 7 Gramineae** (Note that clues marked \* need WATER to complete) **Across:** 1 Anag, 6 Anag -BE, 11 E+ N + RA + GE, 12 Anag, 13 hidden word (HW), 14 odd letters, 16 pun tot Al, 17 double definition (DD)\*, 18 DD\*, 20 pun rollick, 21 DD, 22 CO (whore - EW) T, 24 anag, 29 Shackleton - ton, 30 HW, 31 Cherbourg - cher (Fr = dear), 34 DD, 35 RO (BBED) OF - , 36 G (L) UE, 37 DD, 38 HW, 39 T + (O + SS) + ED. **Down:** 1 DD\*, 2 (T) ONTO, 3 T (RE) T, 4 B (AC) ALL, 5 DETRAC + T, 6 from *Chambers* definition, 7 DD\*, 8 Heads, 9 RU + MEN, 10 SOT back + SES, 12 DD\*, 15 HW, 19 A (WHISKY - sky) LE, 21 anag, 22 DD\*, 23 ROU (G) E, 24 SH (ORE - e) ED, 25 exchange O for I, 26 DD\*, 27 DD, 28 DD, 29 anag SET inc LE, 32 DD, 33 DD\*.

**Solution to September 7-2009: "... and Dry" by Graminaea**

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

**'Over the moon' defined: [continued from p12]**

The humorous magazine *Private Eye* picked up on these and began publishing them in its *Colemanballs* column. The name was taken from the sports commentator David Coleman, who could give even the managers a run for their money: "Nottingham have now lost six matches in a row without winning." (Coleman)

It was really *Private Eye*'s lampooning that made this phrase popular. There is an associated phrase, 'sick as a parrot', which was used when 'the boys' lost. This has a much shorter pedigree and it's quite likely that it was invented by a writer at *Private Eye* rather than in a football stadium. It certainly gained currency because *The Eye* always printed the two phrases together in their parodies. 'Sick as a parrot' was probably influenced by the famous Monty Python 'Dead Parrot' sketch, which could be quoted verbatim by many in the UK at the time and which remains one of the most popular sketches ever shown on British TV.

Well, that's the last 30 years. The actual origin of 'over the moon' is much earlier and, although not widely used before the 1970s, it would have been familiar to all who grew up in Britain in the 20C. Why? Because the source was included, as *High Diddle Diddle*, in the influential 16C nursery rhyme collection, *Mother Goose's Melody; or Sonnets from the Cradle*, circa 1760: High diddle diddle/The Cat and the Fiddle/The Cow jump'd over the Moon/The little dog laugh'd to see such Craft/And the Dish ran away with the Spoon.

As with most nursery rhymes, the first appearance in print may well post-date the first use by years, centuries even – children didn't write their rhymes down. The text of such rhymes was subject to a 'Chinese whispers' effect over all of that time and, whatever the origin may have been, the version passed down to us is quite probably nonsense and isn't easily interpreted. What is clear is that the 'over the moon' line is a reference to excitement and energy. That's evidenced by one of the earliest allusions to the phrase in print – Charles Molloy's *The Coquet, or, The English Chevalier*, 1718: "Tis he! I know him now: I shall jump over the Moon for Joy!"

[Many thanks to "A phrase a week" ([www.phrases.org.uk/meanings](http://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings)) for permission to reprint this article.]

**Results of the Clue Writing Competition:  
September No 5/2009. Write a clue for CHAMBERS (8)  
Adjudicated by Steve Trollope.**

- Definition of **Chamber** from *Chambers On-line Dictionary*
- 1 (old use) a room, especially a bedroom
  - 2 a hall for the meeting of an assembly, especially a legislative or judicial body
  - 3 one of the houses of which a parliament consists
  - 4 (chambers) a suite of rooms used by eg a judge or lawyer
  - 5 an enclosed space or hollow; a cavity
  - 6 the compartment in a gun into which the bullet or cartridge is loaded
  - 7 a room or compartment with a particular function – a decompression chamber.

Sixteen clues were submitted this month, as shown below. The winning clue this month is:

**My word! Book the rooms** by Hilary Cromer.

This was the hardest decision I have had to make in this competition with several excellent clues vying for the prize. I finally chose this one because it is short, all the words were part of the indication or the definition and because of its cleverness. A common factor among many of the best cryptic clues is to use a key word which can be a noun in one reading of the clue and a verb in another reading. This clue, read as punctuated, uses BOOK as a verb. However the cryptic reading is “My word book – the rooms” both parts leading to Chambers, but this time using BOOK as a noun. Well done, Hilary.

I don't agree with some clue writers who add the words “punctuation may mislead” to their cryptic crosswords, when the whole aim of a cryptic clue is to mislead. This can also lead to that wonderful AHHH moment when the solver realises how the clue reads, or, even better, realises what the theme of the crossword is.

For the guidelines which I have used to determine the winner see the March 2006 *Crozworld*. I have written each clue to identify the **definition (in bold)** and the *indication (in italics)*, then underneath I have added some comments.

*Cleaning ladies receive an award to make up rooms*  
CHARS plus MBE; a very ‘tidy’ clue.

According to **my dictionary** *the heart and the legal profession at least have these in common*

Refers to *Chambers 20<sup>th</sup> Century Dictionary*, first published in 1901 according to *Wikipedia*, and the fact that chambers are found in the heart and are used by the legal profession – remember Rumpole?

*Dr. Queen is in Charles’ suite*

MB plus ER in CHAS; MB is an abbreviation for *Medicinae Baccalaureus*, in English a Bachelor of Medicine.

*Which amber signal does the lexicographer show?*

CHAMBERS is hidden in the indication, however the indicator (*show*) suggests that the hidden letters are in lexicographer. To be a ‘fair’ clue it would be better written as – “Which amber signal shows the lexicographer?” It might not make as much sense as the original, but that is the skill of a well written clue – to hide the meaning in a clue that makes good reading.

*Doctor in frantic search for rooms*

MB in an anagram of SEARCH, with ‘frantic’ as the anagind.

*Cleaners holding international award in legal studies*

Very similar to the first clue; in this case the definition uses studies to mean rooms.

**A place where one can be heard with volume in order to explain meaning, for instance**

This is a double definition clue, where the first part refers to Judges’ chambers and the second refers to dictionaries (a dictionary is a volume which explains the meaning of words, which are listed in alphabetical order) and *Chambers* is an example.

*Frantic search for a Doctor in the dictionary*

Another anagram of SEARCH with MB fitted in.

*My word! Book the rooms*

‘My word book’ is *Chambers* (and it is my word book). An excellent concise clue which meets all the requirements of a fair clue.

**Dictionary** puts order into short letters

Order is MBE and short letters indicates CHARacterS, (but sorry, this entry arrived too late to be considered !)

*Archimedes bowled out! Die is cast for foremost cruciverbal orthographic reference*

‘Out’ is an anagind referring to ARCHIMEDES plus B (for bowled) minus DIE.

*Disciplined head boy marches to dormitories*

Anagram of B (head of boy) plus MARCHES (disciplined is the anagind).

*Burns member in apartments*

Burns = CHARS with MBE inserted.

*Last word, definitely, in Judges’ offices*

The indicator refers to a dictionary being the last word on the definition of an entry, but I find this a rather vague reference without the mention of a book.

It’s a meaningful reference with *room for judgement*

The definition refers to *Chambers 20<sup>th</sup> Century Dictionary* as a reference book.

**Clue Writing Competition No. 6/2009.**

Adjudicated by Steve Trollope.

Write a clue for the word **MATURE (6)**

Note: only one clue per person. Send your clue and explanation to the adjudicator Steve Trollope, 28 Pannosa Court, Capalaba Qld 4157 or by email to: [steve.jt@bigpond.net.au](mailto:steve.jt@bigpond.net.au)

Closing mail date: Friday 4 December 2009. Book prize.

**Results of Bonus Quiz September 2009. Answers see p14.**

**What’s old money worth? by Kaycee (Kay Williams)**

**Entries 6. Winner: Bev Cockburn. Congratulations!**

**Solvers’ comments**

- I have searched the internet for the missing answers without success. They may be in *Chambers*, but the clues have me baffled – especially #19. I’ve learned a lot about slang terms for money though! *Peter Dearie*

- Thanks for an unusual but great quiz. It’s a great help to have been brought up on pounds, shillings and pence. *David Procter*

- What an interesting and nostalgic quiz – some lovely old words and some completely new! Unfortunately, I am not satisfied with my addition and have obviously got at least one value wrong so I have had to guess to make the total right. [Guess(es) worthy of Daphne of *The Eggheads!* K] *Bev Cockburn*

- What a difficult quiz to complete! A cryptic quiz takes so much time to solve without any extra help from letters in a grid. Especially here where most of the answers are slang, archaic or obsolete, this naturally implies much brainstorming & research. Thanks Kaycee for a mind-blowing quiz. *Alan Walter*

- Brings back memories of adding up in £ s d. What a sterling idea. *Marian Procter*

- I enjoyed the research for something different and learned a lot. *Carole Noble*

**Results and setter’s comments: 24:** Bev Cockburn. **21:** Carole Noble, David Procter, Marion Procter and Alan Walter. **19:** Peter Dearie. A disappointing entry: Perhaps the combination of archaisms and cryptic clues put some off, but it seems to have been enjoyed by the small number who tackled it. Sorry about the missing word length indicator for #7 (noble), but it fooled no one. All solutions were in *Chambers*. Just as well that I resisted the temptation of including some from our *The Slang Dictionary* of 1872 including “quartereen” (a farthing), “Abraham’s” (for Abraham’s willing) (1s), “flatch” (halfpenny), “cripple” (a [bent] sixpence) and “James” (20 shillings or a sovereign). All but Bev failed to identify #5 as WING (1d); unfortunately neither *Chambers* nor the *SOED* is able to help on the etymology. #3 Dreadful cost? referred cryptically to a “penny dreadful” (1d); the derivation of the other answers should be clear in the solutions given on p14. — *Kay Williams*