



|N|O|2|9|3| |S|E|P|T|E|M|B|E|R| |2|0|1|4|



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This is thought's miracle that word
Lies down with word and lover with lover.
David Gordon Campbell (1915-1979), *Words and Lovers*.

|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|

Our brilliant members came up with some highly original efforts in our recent ACC CruciverbaLimerick 2014 Competition. Many thanks to **Brian Symons** for skilfully managing the Comp. The worthy winner was **David Grainger** who compiled this beauty (see all entries on p14):

Remember the crosswords I sentia?
And that dictionary, too, that I lentia?
Used carefully each day
In a meaningful way
Is a guaranteed cure for dementia!

Our **Crossmas Cruciverbal** on 27 July 2014 in Melbourne was another outstanding success with a very impressive number of members in attendance. ACC members came from various metropolitan places, the ACT and all the way from NSW and South Australia. We sincerely thank everyone who attended and made the day memorable and enjoyable. See p9 for further details.

Our accomplished Puzzle Editor, **Ian Williams**, has selected another outstanding set of excellent puzzles for you this month. Distinguished puzzlers like *Fortuna 48*, *Blue King* and *Betelgeuse* are there for your ongoing enjoyment plus another skilful offering from *Bogeyman* in Slot 5. Our brilliant compiler *Zinzan* has given us another of his challenging puzzles in the slot 6 and *Crowsman* will entertain you with his cryptic puzzle in Slot 7. A new compiler *KA* has contributed the Half 'n Half puzzle in Slot 1 and you can read his interesting profile on p6. And *Both Sides* have submitted a fascinating Quiz titled *Three Little Letters*.

Our dynamic Clue Writing Competition Adjudicator **Michael Kennedy** challenged clue-writers to devise a clue for **MORSEL (6)** and his results together with his insightful comments and analyses from the entries submitted can be found on p16.

Best of Luck with your solving this month. —Patrick

Many thanks for all the nice cards and messages. However, the pleasure of adjudicating is muted by seeing so often the hard work of solving the puzzle undermined by not thoroughly checking the grid to avoid blanks (eg APS-), typos (eg BRITISHRAZ) and accidental (rather than true) misspelling (eg BILBB). Only real mistakes are highlighted below.

Slot 1: Some commented this was too hard for a slot 1, but mistakes were relatively few. BEAUFORT SCALE defeated some with a consequent cascade of across errors. Other slips were RHEME, OVA, CINCH and CISCO.

Slot 2: Several variations in spelling SCORBUTIC and GEMINID. A few RED SIENNA/DUSTING POWDER ('war' reversed and anagram of insane). But the biggest problems were ARMAMENT for ARBALEST (Anag of arab + lest) and HEDGEROWS for HEDGEHOPS (hedge + hops) cost 13 dots.

Slot 3: ECZEMA and ELIGIBLE were wrongly spelled 2x and most other faults were not sticking to the E theme. Comments were made that some clues were imperfect but this was not so — remember the E was not clued. ERYNGO was clearly meant as one answer but the clue did not sufficiently exclude ERINGO which was accepted to the relief of about 30 members!

Slot 4: DACQUIRI x3 (wrong spelling and anag of a DI plus central enQUIRIes. 10 dots went begging for STRIGINAE. There is in fact a sub-class of owls of this name but the clue requires STRIGIDAE with an anagram of aside. After some angst, I accepted sikh command.

Slot 5: Almost all of the few errors were of the avoidable type. ELANES, TRENOT and EPIPLOOM being exceptions. There was one mistake in allocating surnames.

COTM: All slots got lots of nominations but the clear winner was the clever INMATE in Slot 5, 15ac. Congrats *Praxis*. —Brian Symons

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	97	104	98	98	96	493
Correct entries	84	76	84	80	86	410
Success rate (%)	87	73	86	82	90	83
Prizewinners	Fay Copland	Brenda Webber	Alison Martin	Catherine Hambling	Alan Walter	from 110 members

Prizewinner: August 2014 Slots 1-5: Robyn Wimbush. Congrats!

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

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

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S	E	P	T		
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		1

Half 'n Half
by
KA

Prize:



Win!

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Across

- 1 A frappe alfresco has charm (6)
- 4 Shrieved, broke, and trembled (8)
- 10 Use half a garment to pocket money (7)
- 11 This stretch of water is calm (7)
- 12 He and she produce this pronoun (4)
- 13 Recalled where MP was hidden in the grass (10)
- 15 Become defenceless when marids reorganise (6)
- 16 Think when you use a mirror (7)
- 20 An American agenda in favour of weight (7)
- 21 Country is sustained by franc exchange (6)
- 24 Finally, a tied score with you, say (10)
- 26 A hoer broke down, but became a legend (4)
- 28 People living in bombed-out Eischen? (7)
- 29 Left grasping an old coin but lived (7)
- 30 Disintegrating asterids could be a catastrophe (8)
- 31 Changed, lost head, but was fixed (6)

Down

- 1 Elevation (8)
- 2 Academic (9)
- 3 Additionally (4)
- 5 Transpired (8)
- 6 Language (10)
- 7 Make mention (5)
- 8 Ten (6)
- 9 Executes (5)
- 14 Lambency (10)
- 17 Conterminous (9)
- 18 Language (8)
- 19 Put on the slate (8)
- 22 Duelled (6)
- 23 Unfamiliar (5)
- 25 Ways out (5)
- 27 Small lead weights (4)

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

Slots 1-5: Joan Smith, 4 Morley Avenue, Rosebery NSW 2018.
e-mail: joansmi@internode.on.net
Closing mail date: Friday 26 September 2014.
e-lodgment: ianw@webone.com.au
Slot 6: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046
email: mcandap@bigpond.net.au
Closing mail date: Friday 10 October 2014.

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

S	E	P	T		
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		2

Cryptic by Fortuna 48



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25									26					

Across


- 7 Painter of an archangel (7)
- 8 A radical Indian ascetic eats some corn (7)
- 10 Kinetic energy from perfect score of ecstasy gas (6)
- 11 The old noble switches hand, joining freeholders (8)
- 12 A network on mountain edge (5)
- 13 150 for each new drum of generic wine (9)
- 16 New sling! Circe refolded to go round several times (11)
- 19 Pointer of cheap metal and Cassiterite (9)
- 20 Raw colour (5)
- 22 Foreign call cut short by independent senator (8)
- 24 Acceptable in Georgia, North Dakota, and a part of Africa (6)
- 25 Author hugs the Italian impudently (7)
- 26 Tiger strike (7)

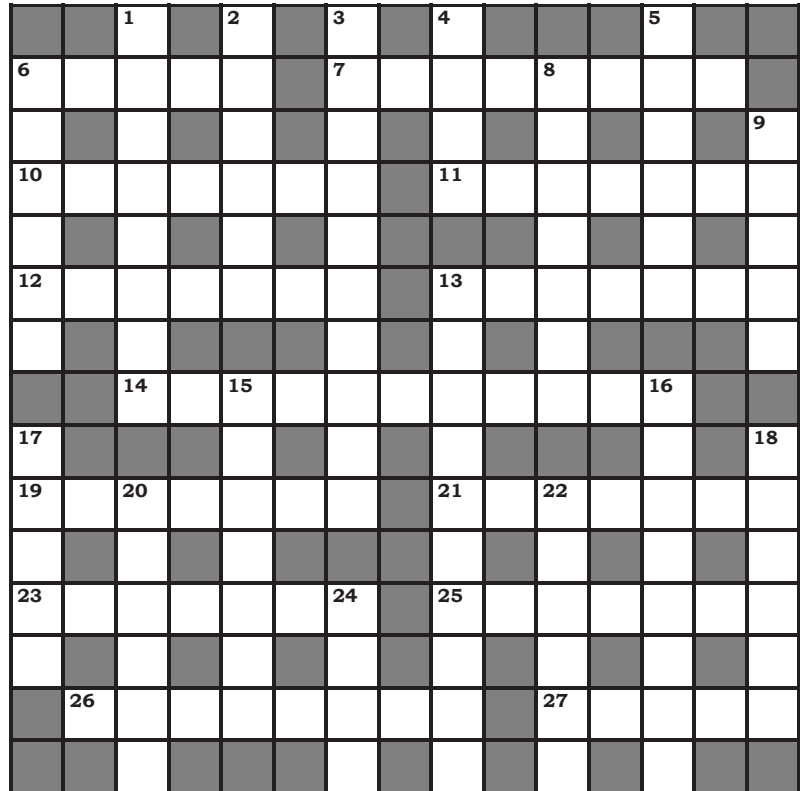
Down

- 1 Drink created by Gershwin? (7)
- 2 Theatre rebuilt by Kelly portended evil (10)
- 3 Last note, last notes from African musical instruments (5)
- 4 Organised a Roman in short film for wide screen (9)
- 5 I book a Greek letter (4)
- 6 Couturier comes back following false story of benign tumour (7)
- 9 Extra readings required to fill casual vacancies (2-9)
- 14 Sweet cocaine confectionery (5,5)
- 15 Existences may be put in torment by explosive device (4,5)
- 17 Old tree chopped up in railway vehicle (7)
- 18 He might handle a train safety device! (4,3)
- 21 "Bird may slacken" – according to Shakespeare (5)
- 23 Reverend gentleman in outsize gamble (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS

- My usual heartfelt thanks for a splendid job. It was an august month of puzzles! Thank you all. *Robyn Wimbush*
- I signed up for a cryptics course with U3A this year and one section was to come up with clues. I have the utmost admiration for our compilers. What an amazing job they do! *Lynn Jarman*
- We reckon this was a tough month and pondered long and hard on a few. Good fun though, eh? *Richard Skinner*
- What a great variety of puzzles this month – a themed Half 'n Half, a Noel Jessop classic, a clever cryptic variation, a clever AJ variation and a themed Ximenean. Congratulations to our brilliant compilers. *Brian Tickle*
- Many thanks to ACC for my prize for Len's quiz. It is wonderful to be rewarded for doing something that I absolutely enjoy. *Betty Siegman*
- Thank you for my prize for last month's slot 3 – a wonderful surprise. *Pat Lord*
- As usual, left with a dropped jaw at the cleverness of the compilers: what a great bunch. *Eileen O'Brien*
- Thank you so much for my prize for slot 4. I have such an enjoyable time doing the puzzles, this is an added bonus. *Corryn Anderson*
- The puzzles were all demanding and I liked the variations in slots 3 and 4. *Robyn Caine*
- The standard of crosswords this month leaves me amazed at how great our setters are – CrOZworld is a special place!! The barred grids are my favourite – Slot 5 wins the prize for the Crossword that added most to my vocabulary in the last 3 years and given I will only ever use a reference to check what I have already deduced – boy what a workout!! Wonderful! *Stephen Young*

S E P T 2 0 1 4 S L O T 3
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">by</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Blue King</h2>




Across

- 6 Sign in development application for performance (5)
- 7 Trickster, behold companion for graduate problem solver (8)
- 10 Unclear or nuclear explosion might remove a foundation (7)
- 11 Old British soldier studied farm animal's shelter by phone (7)
- 12 Irritated lesions expose cat's mother (7)
- 13 Labour leader has Tories thrown out and waits for the call perhaps (7)
- 14 Entertainment with competition using amazing deaf man's gun (3,3,5)
- 19 Modelled a short cut to Jerusalem's mills (7)
- 21 Eeyore's confusion may be heard in Piglet's home? (7)
- 23 English people in poor service environment make fire possibly (7)
- 25 In short, warm grog is sent back to cover criminal (7)
- 26 In timeless attractive bars, I have a milky relief for tummy trouble (8)
- 27 Original topless poled vessel carrying copper (5)

Down

- 1 Severely high and broke (5-3)
- 2 Clumsy cowboy short of oxygen at the end of life (6)
- 3 Examination for the very young or lunatics perhaps (10)
- 4 Teenagers have time for all of us (4)
- 5 Orwellian worker having a time out (6)
- 6 Spit and run (6)
- 8 Bounder with quiet hold on one element of batteries (7)
- 9 Secrete transom first in window frame (5)
- 13 Boss feller turns turtle? (10)
- 15 Genitor's dam sharp yellowish colour (7)
- 16 Small digger's added spirit for careless tier's hazard (8)
- 17 Old city has female escort (5)
- 18 Molotov once with sex appeal to authority (6)
- 20 Unsteady parent round cutter (6)
- 22 Leaving the south of France with cattle losing their final direction, climbing (6)
- 24 Raised high and drunk rubbish (4)

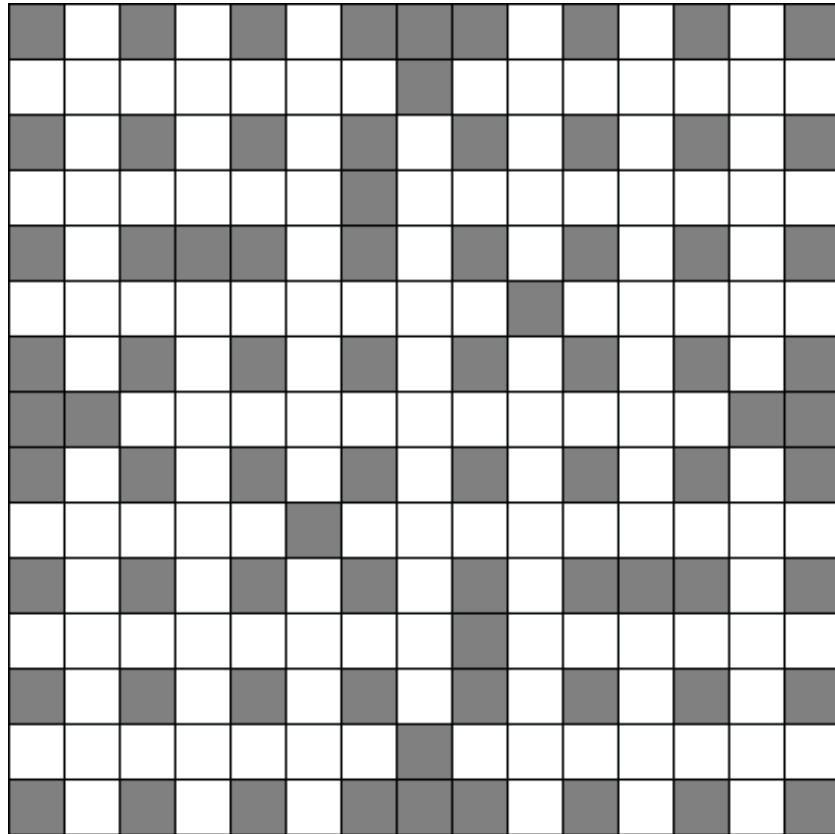
AUGUST SLOTS 1-5 COMMENTS (cont'd from p10):

- Full Marx, Roy.
- Thanks Roy for your truly entertaining, informative and historical puzzle. An epic gem.
- Clever one *Praxis!* It took some research to find out who was who.
- So clever to weave in all these names. Roy has not lost his master touch.
- A novel and engrossing puzzle with many clever clues.
- Almost did not even attempt this but eventually managed a few answers and fluked the theme.
- Took me hours to get a start and days to complete. Didn't know much about the Marx Brothers. Abbott and Costello were more my era!
- Great to have a Roy Wilson puzzle.
- A *Praxis* worth waiting for. Arthur is Harpo's second name – almost caused a no-dot.
- This was fun and I learned a lot about the Marx brothers.
- Delightful theme but what is Reichswehr lichway and since when has wider meant deeper?
- We really are finding it hard to pick out any one clue this month insofar as nothing actually jumped out. 21dn (BRUNOT) appealed but I think we'll go with 34ac EPIPLOIC simply because despite the clue being straightforward we didn't know we had it until we checked the dictionary!

Brian Tickle and Jim Fowler
 Alan Walter
 Roy Taylor
 Betty Siegman
 John Baylis
 Anne Simons
 Pat Lord
 Joan Smith
 Max Roddick
 Margaret Davis
 George Rolfe
 Richard Skinner

S	E	P	T		
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		4

AJ
by
Betelgeuse



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

- A** Rumour of troubles about phone – vandalised and disease carrier (9)
- B** One runs Sony fan, following black particles (7)
- C** Encouraged business in the van, with a joint included (7)
- D** Not quick but succeeded getting around chief freeloaders (9)
- E** Growing out in the garden, a tea plant is discovered (5)
- F** A fine uplifting party song (4)
- G** Gone almost mad over chic style for this dish (7)
- H** Costume for this one-off panto extravaganza? (3,5)
- I** Colder, more dangerous if first death included (5)
- J** Obscure man with hidden depth has resistance to small vibrations (7)
- K** Facetious child – Josh, Danny and wee Willy (not Ann) (11)
- L** It's mad moving without any reason (4)
- M** Am back for money to cover a second cold liqueur (10)
- N** After dizzy turn, you're heard to bring up (7)
- O** Work hard after a month of underwater sport (8)
- P** Gets cross in best piano exercises as aid to artistic endeavour (10)
- Q** Question reported weapon causing misgiving (5)
- R** Deny umpire a vehicle (6)
- S** Thoroughly female, one leaving before time (7)
- T** Fellow comes after return of one with German what's-its-name (9)
- U** Not alarmed by verbal abuse after kinky fun (9)
- V** River philosopher devoid of anger (5)
- W** Spokesman with command to dog correctly expressed (11)
- X** Woody unknowns for Idol struggle (6)
- Y** Heard address to old actor, denizen of the grave yard (3,4)
- Z** Belted a dozen fighting around bar (7).

Compiler profile: KA (Karl Audrins) "was born three quarters of a century ago in Latvia. Spent some interesting years in Germany until 1948, then emigrated to Australia, living in Bonegilla and Bathurst refugee camps. Moved to "suburban" Sydney in 1952, being educated at Bankstown Primary School, S.T.H.S., and Sydney Uni, graduating in 1960 as BDS (Hons). Joined the RAAF, and had a great time for 20 years all over Australia and Malaysia. There I met and married an RAAF Nursing Sister, who introduced me to the insanity of cryptic crosswords. This masochism has never left. A short stint in private practice proved too depressing and deleterious, so drifted from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, to bar manager, to Nature Park employee on Magnetic Island, *et al.* Presently living in Charlestown, NSW, very much retired, playing piano, building model ships, and doing crosswords, esp. *Guardian* and *Times*. No experience in setting prior to joining the Club, but I hope I can provide some entertainment and mental stimulation for members."

Puzzle Adjustments:

• **July Slot 1 4dn:** An appeal to accept EIRE in addition to the required EYRE on the grounds that a Lake Eire exists was allowed by the Executive Committee.

Accordingly, Anderson C, Dobele T, Hocking A, Howells S, Lemon G, Meek D, Procter M, Roulston S and Simons A are awarded a dot for that slot.

• Ulla Axelsen got 24 marks for the Anniversary Quiz and a dot for her June Slot 6 puzzle. Alan Dyer received a dot for the June Slot 6 puzzle. Drew Meek received a dot for the July Slot 1 puzzle.

• **Quiz No 6/2014 ABC by Crowsman:** We regret that Nea Storey's name was omitted from the Honours Board. She gained a full score of 37 points.

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Cryptic
by
Bogeyman

Prize:

Autographed by DA

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Across

- 8 Heard lodger whisper (6)
- 9 Delicious food made physician run out, incontinent! (8)
- 10 Cut off support, reversing taxi (3)
- 12 Helot is breaking old implements ... (7)
- 13 ...the users of which, perhaps, are warning people (7)
- 14 Impaled Ron, cunningly, on the outer (10)
- 15 Hera cooked big bird (4)
- 16 Aircraftsman on battle in the Third Crusade (4)
- 18 One French red-back below (5)
- 19 "Brandy" evangelist quoted (4)
- 20 Vegetable eaten by landscape assessor (4)
- 22 Tortilla made from a herb – one found after a short search (10)
- 24 Cupboard measurement put before ruler (7)
- 26 Descriptive of open car, maybe, organised from above (3-4)
- 28 Female shocked 15, missing article (3)
- 29 Verbal skill concerning political grouping, we hear (8)
- 30 Cactus found in urn after church (6)

Down

- 1 It's dawn, and MP leaves paramour reeling (6)
- 2 Gang with author on isle contrived to make ready (8)
- 3 Chief military manoeuvre not started (4)
- 4 Arrest in Tintern Abbey! (3)
- 5 Coptic bishop is 14! (4)
- 6 One who tries to impress by taking flower, by direction, to old city (6)
- 7 Honoured Brit may demolish reef pile (4,4)
- 11 As to Saturn, flying, these folk might go! (10)
- 13 Allow for Commander Swan to take skewered meat (10)
- 17 Top support declared for afternoon treat (5,3)
- 19 Protection by lower delivery (8)
- 21 Master engineered watercourse (6)
- 23 Poet has old hill to measure (6)
- 25 Sea monster heard to have one bristle ... (4)
- 27 ...alternatively exclaim "See a killer whale" (4)
- 28 Bird when "W" is missing! (3)

Explanations to August Grids, where provided by compilers. Thanks to Jean, and Roy.

Slot 3 InGrid: Across: 5 e+anag rule, 6 e+anag dive+n+ce, 9 e+ anag , 10 e+sounds like ex press, 11 e+m+broil, 12 e+anag , 13 e+le+anag crytolet, 18 e+le(c)t+or, 20 e+ye+ball, 22 e+anag equal+b, 24 e+n(tit+l)e, 25 e+anag the rent, 26 rathER NEST. **Down:** 1 li(anag glib)e, 2 e+ryngo, 3 e+In RE, 4 e+CZ+em+a, 5 e+soLEVENTurer, 6 e+scala+tor, 7 e+u+phony, 8 e+st+er, 12 e+lope+men+t, 14 e+a+table, 15 e+x+acting, 16 e+anag reel, 17 e+l(der)s, 19 e+LUnchDATE, 21 e+anag their, 23 e+on+s.

Slot 5 Praxis: Across: 1 BEG(UM)S; 5 theme HERBERT; 10 anag; 13 HEADS; 14 TRI(COR)NE; 15 cryptic def; 16 P (anag POLE) ER; 17: NOEL (Coward)< + O + V; 22 theme GROUCHO; 23 theme LEONARD; 29 J/anag; 32 BES< + HONE; 33 EL + CHE + E; 34 PIPE<+anag; 35 E(PS)A<; 36 TR + OUNCES; 37 NOT(CH)ED; 38 ESC - (APE = drill) + pORT; **Down:** 1 D/D; 2 ELAN + ElioT; 3 theme GUMMO; 4 theme MILTON; 5 theme HARPO; 6 subtractive anag ; 7 hidden; 8 RA + NEE; 9 ANAG; 11 ANI in ANAG; 12 anag; 18 RUB + ICON; 19 LP< + E + BEAN; 20 CONS + IST; 21 BRU (NO) T; 24 theme ADOLPH; 25 theme JULIUS; 26 D(EPEE<)R; 27 theme ZEPPO; 28 WEIR + D; 30 CHICO: theme; 31 anag.

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S	L	O	T		6

**8-Down,
4-Across**
by
zinzan



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Among the clue set, one word in eight different clues has been removed. They are different words but are a related group. Beyond that, the clues are the normal cryptic variety.

Across

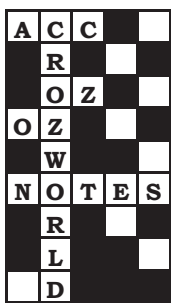
- 1 English football players caught with unrestricted bets on, primarily, struggling sides (6)
- 4 Overhanging stomach is morphologically a sign of bloated manhood (8)
- 10 Maybe the host's energy is drained by Oscar living away from normal home? (2,5)
- 11 Ruler's relative starts to set up lovely light area (7)
- 12 Support the people's opinion? Sounds like it (4)
- 13 Burst out again, doctor cures acne regularly (10)
- 15 With endless pained expression, decline one more drink (6)
- 16 Paint pots cast from volatile pyroclastic material (7)
- 20 In Australia he's known as the leader of the Communist Party? (7)
- 21 Why are the students learning via correspondence? (6)
- 24 Womenfolk may find relief in this poem (or 'word composition') (6,4)
- 26 Tropical vegetable buried by trained dogs (4)
- 28 Stroke, for one, reportedly terrifies all human beings (7)
- 29 A woman (married?) holds ring given by old Lothario (7)
- 30 Termination letter handed in amid teasers agitating inferior substitutes (8)
- 31 Finished answering the paper's questions, Obama's mob grasp the ultimate piece of great importance (6)

Down

- 1 It's a thing of brilliance amid extremely frumpy ornamentation (8)
- 2 Procession mounted in calm valour can't deny one half of all are gone (9)
- 3 South American monkey – and its return (4)
- 5 It's unrealistic to believe – arts back in the Canberra area! (8)
- 6 Escaping daily grind in house in front of garden (10)
- 7 Ship full of birds (5)
- 8 Small key found by old South American Indians (6)
- 9 How one gets fit from finest service? (5)
- 14 Dr Phil met the one responsible for relief in tropical areas (4,6)
- 17 Throughout hotel, a hint of resignation and reluctance is heard (6-3)
- 18 Doctor hugs architect, soldier or author? (8)
- 19 Speaks freely with Ban Ki-moon about a medal established in 1902 (8)
- 22 Stand up to work on a model outcome (6)
- 23 Having corrupted a foolish person, time inside (3,2)
- 25 Turning quietly, ship's bow heads off course (5)
- 27 One aspect of law drilled in to those listening (4)

**Post
Solution
to:**

**Andrew Patterson,
372 Great North Road, Abbotsford NSW 2046
email: mcandap@bigpond.net.au
Closing mail date: Friday 10 October 2014**



Results of Quiz No 7/2014.

It's All Greek to Me by *Virgo* (Audrey Austin) adjudicated by **Alison Shield and Alison Martin**.

Entries received 35.

Winner: Jim Fowler — Congratulations!

Results: 20: Warren Allen, Karl Audrins, Robyn Caine, Bev Cockburn, Alan Dyer,

Jim Fowler, Pat Garner, Kath Harper, Susan Howells, Doreen Jones, Carole Noble, Sue Pinder, Mike Potts, Marian Procter, Anne Simons, Ian Thompson and Robyn Wimbush. **19:** Patricia Abbott, Julie Leigh, Frank Martin, Eileen O'Brien, Betty Siegman, Joan Smith, Alan Walter, Ken Watt and Cheryl Wilcox. **18:** Ulla Axelsen, David Grainger, Barb Ibbott, Gabrielle Leeds, Claire McClelland, Trish McPherson, Andrew Miles and Brian Symons. **14:** Margaret Steinberger.

Solutions: 1 Angkor, 2 Bangkok, 3 Big Kev, 4 Blowing kisses, 5 Boxing kangaroo, 6 Bug killer, 7 Chiang Kai-Shek, 8 Dog kennel, 9 Flying kites, 10 Ginkgo, 11 Greg Kinnear, 12 G K Chesterton, 13 Having kittens, 14 Hodgkin's disease, 15 Hong Kong, 16 King Kong, 17 Log keeper, 18 Paring knife, 19 The Long Kiss Goodnight, 20 Whistling kettle.

Adjudicators' comments:

One person commented 'Isn't it delightful when the drachma drops?'. Well, unfortunately for some people it didn't quite, but even so the standard was still high! The quiz required the letters GK in that order, which ruled out a number of answers, including the alternative spelling of Ginkgo. Keeping answers to the correct word length was also a problem for some. For creativity, we particularly liked 'Bug bomber'.

A number of people passed on their best wishes and thanks to *Virgo* for an interesting and challenging quiz.

—**Alison Shield / Alison Martin**

Members' comments:

- I would not have believed there were so many words containing GK adjacent to one another. *Betty Siegman*
- Another interesting quiz with a twist – thank you!

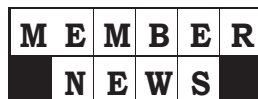
Mike Potts

- It was another of Audrey's clever combination letter puzzles which required some research as well as some quite easy answers once you found the 'something in common'.

Beverley Cockburn

- Took a while for the 'penny to drop' for the something in common, but once that had 'penetrated the fog' I was away. Very enjoyable quiz.

Cheryl Wilcox



New Members: We extend a warm welcome to **Julie Crowe** from Bendigo, Vic and **Susie Creagh** from Annerley, Qld.

Welcome to the Wonderful World of *Crozworlding!*

Vale Audrey Austin:

We were deeply saddened to hear that one of the ACC's most distinguished members — Audrey Austin — died on 27 August 2014 aged nearly 81. Her daughter Carolyn informed our Secretary Bev Cockburn that Audrey died peacefully of pneumonia with her family beside her. She will be long remembered for her monumental input to *Crozworld*, including this month's quiz. We will prepare an obituary which will detail her background and the extent of her outstanding contributions to the ACC and the cruciverbal Art in Australia and publish this next month in *Crozworld*. If you would like to comment about her achievements and make a tribute to this important person, kindly send them to Patrick at: pstreet@bigpond.net.au. We send our sincere condolences to Audrey's loving family.

Crossmas Cruciverbal 2014

It was another successful occasion for the **Christmas in July Cruciverbal** held at the Royal Oak Hotel on 27 July 2014. An impressive number of 33 keen crossworders attended including David Procter, David Grainger, Alison Shield, Alison Martin, Kath Harper, Mike Potts, Valerie Howard, Robyn Caine, Wendy Villiers, Gary Lemon, Gabriel Fuller, Judy Woodford, John Baylis, Ian Mason, Ian Thompson and George Rolfe from Vic. From interstate we were delighted to welcome Chris Bilkey (NSW), Nea Storey (ACT) and Richard Skinner (SA). The food and wine were enjoyed by all and there was a neat little puzzle and Quiz devised by *stroz* to divert and entertain and Ian Mason kindly presented us with an original and challenging puzzle called *Monolunacy*. Congrats to Nea Storey for winning the *Oxford English Thesaurus* and Alison Martin the *Chambers Crossword Dictionary*.

Here is a most welcome email from one of the ACC's well-respected Adjudicators: "Thank you for a marvellous lunch today. Hazel and I enjoyed it very much, met some new and entertaining folk, escaped the hang/draw/quarterming (over Slot 4 adjudication) and won a prize! DG (or, rather, G(rave) D(anger))"

Quiz 9/2014 Three Little Letters by Both Sides.

Each solution comprises only three different letters. Send your solutions to Nea Storey, 10 Whiteman Street, Wanniasa, ACT 2903. Fax: 02 6231 0820.

Email: neachy2@netspeed.com.au.

Closing date: 10 October 2014. \$75 prize.

- 1 Alf and ex-Communist Alfreda make hay, perhaps (7)
- 2 Veto collected tales of fruit (6)
- 3 Twice missing elegance – just affected! (6)
- 4 Judged the river went to the little sea (6)
- 5 Jewish ascetics have actual existence in 3 quarters (7)
- 6 A fault in soft down (5)
- 7 Governor-General's horsy sounds (3-3)
- 8 Ho! Hot, hot city of Northern China (6)
- 9 An Efik Bibi returned to moon (6)
- 10 Jackson's candlestick! (5)
- 11 Canoe paddles forwards and backwards (5)
- 12 Two learners in noose run without co-ordination (6)
- 13 Animal Mama confused in vacant motel (6)
- 14 Stupid Hotel in Big Apple (5)
- 15 Vegetable with iodine insides (5)
- 16 Bird to urinate twice (6)
- 17 Plait-in-waiting? (5)
- 18 Umpire to set free ruff's mate (7)
- 19 In outskirts of Sydney, little sibling is a cry-baby (5)
- 20 The Maori vandalised tree causing it to sway precariously (6)
- 21 Vulture to polish between two bends (5)
- 22 Richards' identity is very bright (5)
- 23 Two Hessian blankets needed in this city! (5,5)
- 24 Cricket teams' letters (3)
- 25 Wayward lad with body odour? What a lout! (5)
- 26 Bird occupies two menageries (6)

August 1-2014: Half 'n Half by *sinbad* (Graeme Cole)

- A lovely lot of nautical allusions – takes me back to my sailing days.
Robyn Wimbush
- Not an easy Slot 1, but I enjoyed the nautical flavour!
Nea Storey
- Nice nautical theme from *Sinbad*.
Tony Dobele
- Hardest to complete this month. Many were unknown foreign words. 1dn isn't cryptic, more descriptive.
Andrew Patterson
- Lots of interesting words – some of which are new (or new in context) for me. *Sinbad* managed to find some obscure definitions for the “easy” half! I am not confident with RESISTANTS: I couldn't find that definition in the resources I have at hand. Despite the fact that it was blowing a gale when I completed this, it still took me a while to figure out “BEAUFORT SCALE”!
Alan Dyer
- A shipload of boats. Not hard.
Jim Fowler
- Sinbad the Sailor – suitable theme.
Rob Moline
- This was a quite difficult but very interesting puzzle requiring considerable use of aids. Fortunately, I enjoy this aspect of puzzle-solving.
Ian Thompson
- 16dn: A homophone represents the same sound, including stress, as another word “Intended, by the sound of it” is represented by “ment”, very different from the unstressed m*nt in “shipment”, (the asterisk stands for an inverted e indicating an unstressed vowel.) I'm reminded of a clue in *CrOZworld* some months ago where “colporteur” was supposed to sound like “Cole Porter”. It does not. However, I could not solve the clue and missed out on a dot. Saying aloud “coal porter” and “colporteur” it's obvious that not only the sounds are different but also where the stress is placed (generally English has the stress on the first syllable of a word, French, on the contrary, on the last one). I hope I was not too 22ac.
Tony de Gryz
- Unusually this slot gets my COTM – copious.
Brian Tickle
- A good challenging slot 1.
Alan Walter
- Good clues, not easy.
Roy Taylor
- I used to consider slot 1 a warm-up before the fray, but I found this one the hardest of the lot. Had to chase up quite a few of the straight clues.
Betty Siegman
- Not so easy! Beaufort scale and seafood took some time.
Anne Simons
- A nice start for August. Favourite was SCHOONER.
Joan Smith
- COPIOUS brought a grin.
Max Roddick
- Too difficult for this slot.
Margaret Davis
- Thoroughly enjoyed this: BEAUFORT SCALE gets my COTM.
Glenda Lloyd

August 2-2014: Cryptic by *Jesso* (Noel Jessop)

- Not too many surprises – arbalest was a new one.
Robyn Wimbush
- 27ac was so nearly ARMAMENT: pays to re-check. Loved the Rudd clue – not so long ago so still reasonably relevant.
Tony Dobele
- Funny how one writes a word and it then looks strange – this probably has a name. “OPUSES” (5ac) did this for me and I nearly discarded it as a non-word!
Alan Dyer
- Very straightforward for a *Jesso* but it is a #2.
Jim Fowler
- With those checkers, 27ac had to be ARMAMENT; very tricky. A few pleasing short anagrams: DRAINS, CADET, BALSAL.
Rob Moline
- ARBALIST is the only word requiring a dictionary and then only for verification. “Liberally”, a nice anagind. Congratulations for keeping it simple.
Tony de Gryz
- Rungetter was my favourite.
Brian Tickle
- Thanks to Noel for a clever cryptic esp world without end.
Alan Walter
- Jesso's* are always good, this one no exception.
Betty Siegman
- Jesso's* clues spot on as always. Liked the picture of four cardinals on mountain for NEWSPEAK.
Max Roddick
- I always learn something from *Jesso* – geminid this time.
Margaret Davis

August 3-2014: Cryptic by *InGrid* (Jean Barbour)

- I enjoy these 'themed' puzzles – once the penny drops. Loved EUPHONY.
Robyn Wimbush
- Not too hard to solve once the missing letter was found, but how hard to compile! Sea holly can be spelt ERYNGO or ERINGO, but I chose the former, as the clue indicated a homophone.
Nea Storey
- A nice idea with sensible clues.
Andrew Patterson
- Eventually exposed extra element – entry “E”.
Alan Dyer
- Congratulations, Jean, on a most admirable puzzle. I am not sure that “over” in 6ac is an anagram indicator, but that is minor with respect to the overall achievement.
Len Colgan
- I solved it with E's but not with ease.
Jim Fowler
- Thanks for an interesting puzzle. Esy but not easy.
Ian Thompson
- This puzzle was very cleverly devised and, as I am an old Beatles' fan, my COTM is 2dn ERYNGO.
Susan Howells
- Excellent execution – encomiums earned.
Mike Potts
- The fact that the missing “element” was the same letter and also the initial letter in each word greatly facilitated solving this puzzle. Both the identity and the position of the letter were quickly made clear e.g. By “Euler” and “eleven”. Ethernet was the only word not known to me, but I now know it is a computer term for an internet connection. Eeler not in my dictionaries. Eryngo can also be spelt Eringo, which would make the solution invalid?
Tony de Gryz

- Especially liked equable, eluate and ester. Solved with ees.
Alan Walter
- E-Ringo, eh? Nice concise clueing.
Rob Moline
- Not entirely ee-sy. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Thanks *InGrid*.
Betty Siegman
- Some clever clues. Luckily the missing E became obvious early!
Anne Simons
- It does help to read the instructions. Thank *you InGrid* for an enjoyable puzzle.
Joan Smith
- What a great compilation idea: not having to worry about that ever-present extra 'e' that always seems to crop up. Good fun but not sure how 10ac works. (Remember the e is not clued so xpress is old stuff out loud: Adj)
Ulla Axelsen
- EUPHONY was a gem.
Max Roddick
- Very clever puzzle. Must have taken some time to compile.
Margaret Davis
- It didn't take long to get the E idea. Then it was not hard but fun. The clues read beautifully. EATABLE gets my COTM.
Roy Taylor
- Is it fair to say 'ate' is the end of 'date'?
George Rolfe

August 4-2014: AJ by *Valkyrie* (Ulla Axelsen)

- I started off thinking this would be almost impossible, but once the 11-letter words were in, it was easier. Amazing.
Robyn Wimbush
- AJs by last letters are always much harder, but I got there in the end – I hope!
Nea Storey
- The extra twist made this more difficult but the clues were gettable so all was okay.
Andrew Patterson
- I have said it before, I always enjoy a good AJ. The use of the final letter provided an interesting twist.
Alan Dyer
- A great N clue in a most enjoyable puzzle.
Len Colgan
- A very good JA. Is there a word for alphabetically backwards? eg Omegapsical?
Jim Fowler
- Liked D and K. O *had* to be Raleigh.
Rob Moline
- This was an enjoyable AJ. I spent 5 minutes getting nowhere, before parsing DAIQUIRI and realising I needed to re-read the instructions. After that it didn't pose too many problems.
Ian Thompson
- I always enjoy AJs, more so when a twist adds to the challenge.
Mike Potts
- A clever variant of the AJ. I appreciated the relative paucity of words with the same number of letters: 2 x 11, 2 x 10, 2 x 9, 4 x 8, 2 x 6, 4 x 5, 2 x 4 with eight words having seven letters each and therefore the hardest to position. A few queries: The explorers name baffles me, unless it is Occabot [Explorer CABOT > = TOBAC taking [adding] CO [care of]: Adj]. Clue T. biting rancour? [cOLD HATE: Adj]
Tony de Gryz
- These are tricky to make especially for J and V endings.
Brian Tickle
- Thanks *Valkyrie*. Very much liked the D clue and piltown man and british raj.
Alan Walter
- Strigidae took a while. Good fun puzzle, harder with final letter.
Roy Taylor
- A challenging variation.
Betty Siegman
- Always tough when ending in given letter. E and M clues best.
Anne Simons
- My favourite puzzle – the AJ – was certainly more challenging this month.
Pat Lord
- Loved HIGH COMMAND and CINQ.
Max Roddick
- So much harder with end letter given. Quite a challenge.
Margaret Davis
- A reverse AJ is a very clever trick. M clue better as a down clue.
George Rolfe

August 5-2014: Minnie's Boys by *Praxis* (Roy Wilson)

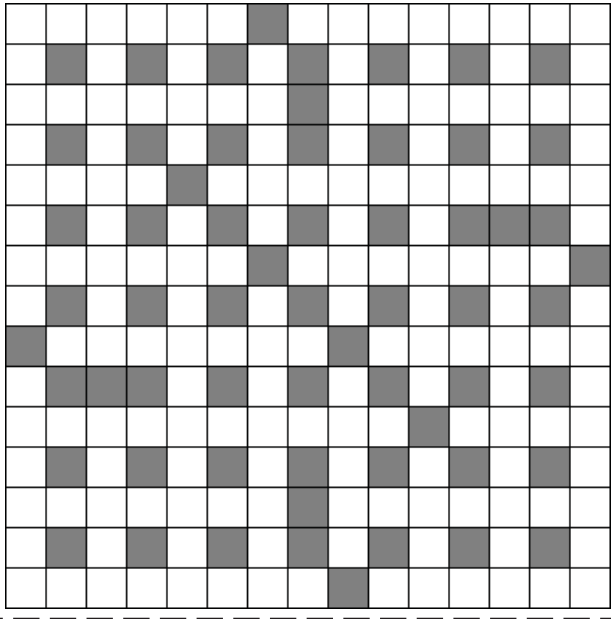
- I loved the way “Minnie's Boys” led to a (now) quite extensive knowledge of the Marx Bros. YouTube filled in the gaps. Thank you, (I think) *Praxis*.
Robyn Wimbush
- I couldn't even get started on this one, until I Googled Minnie's Boys. After that it wasn't too bad, although BESHONE, EPIPLOIC and REEST posed problems. I spotted the words “SAME” and “ORC” (which could have been clued) in the completed grid. [But the corresponding OIPE and INB might have presented difficulties for solvers: Adj]
Nea Storey
- Not too hard to get the theme but an enjoyable solve.
Tony Dobele
- Praxis* still delivers the goods.
Andrew Patterson
- I nearly started with Huey, Dewey and Louie – but Mortimer may have been more appropriate! Different Minnie.
Alan Dyer
- Never heard of Gummo... or their real names. INMATE was succinct and clever.
Rob Moline
- Seven words here that I have not met before. Re 38ac: Though the term “ape” is used loosely to describe both monkeys and apes as a group, strictly speaking a drill is a monkey, not an ape, as it has a tail. (There are other differences). Chimpanzees, Bonobos, Orangs, Gorillas and Gibbons are apes. Just saying.
Mike Potts
- 2dn, 4dn: Was Gummo (Milton Marks) also a comedy actor? Also, my *Macquarie* gives Arthur instead of Adolph as Harpo's given name (by the way “given” really applies to both stage name and name given at birth).
Tony de Gryz

[Comments continued on p5]

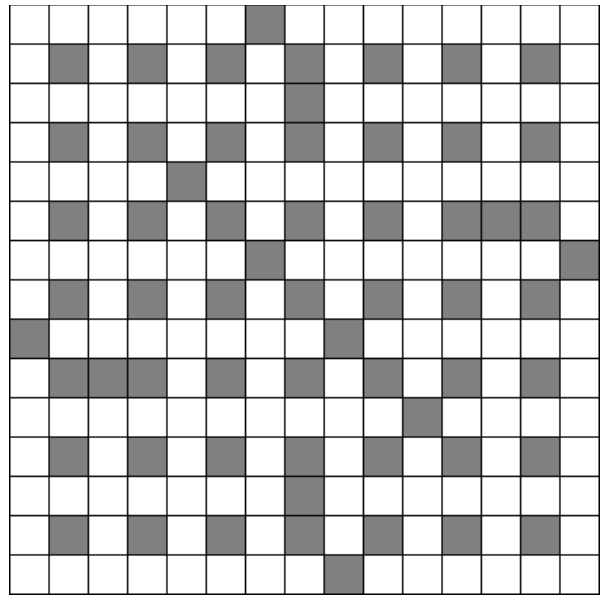
Send solution to: Andrew Patterson,
372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.
Closing mail date: Friday 10 October 2014
NAME:



|S|E|P|T| |6| |2|0|1|4|

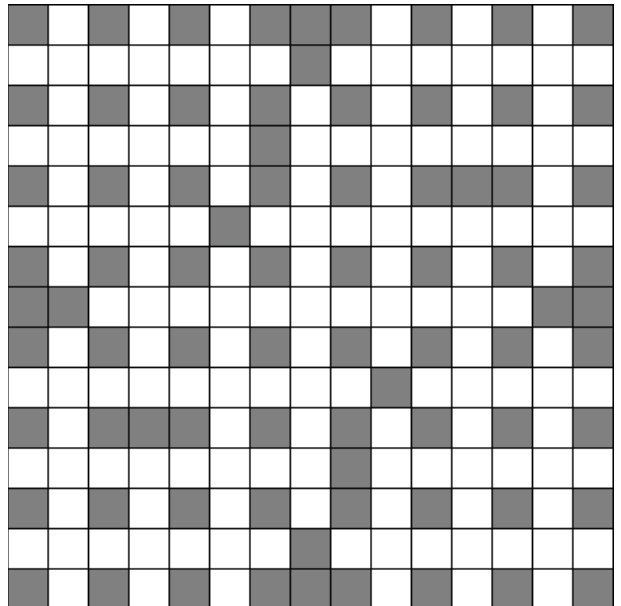


|S|E|P|T| |1| |2|0|1|4|NAME.....

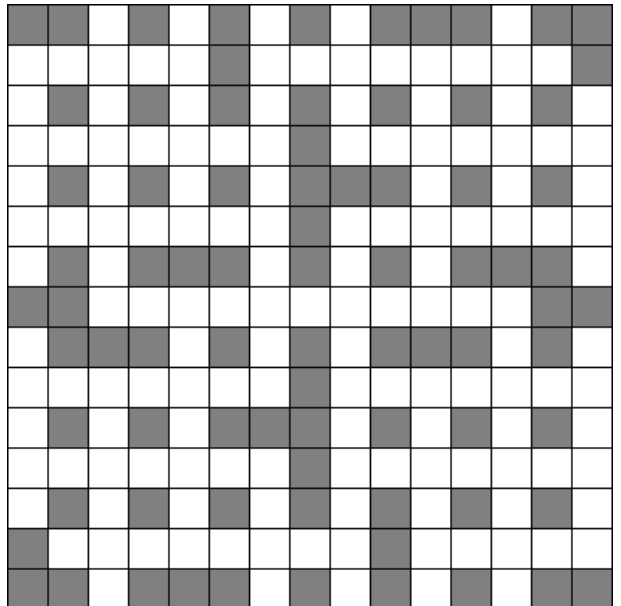


Clue of the Month

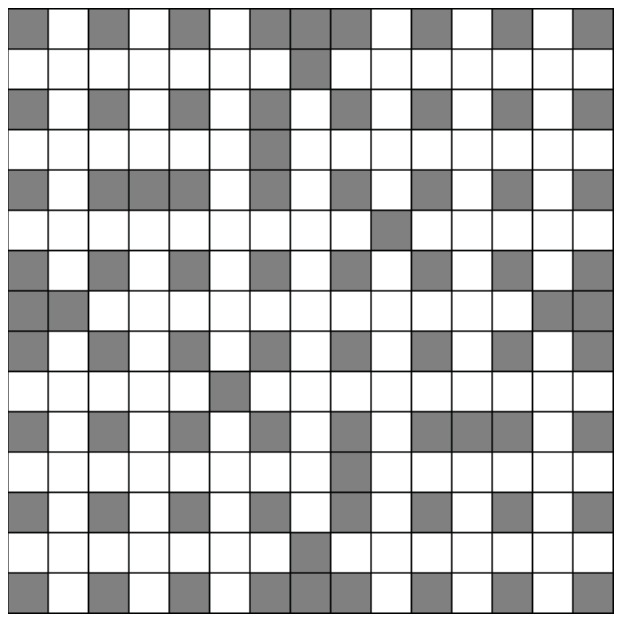
|S|E|P|T| |2| |2|0|1|4|



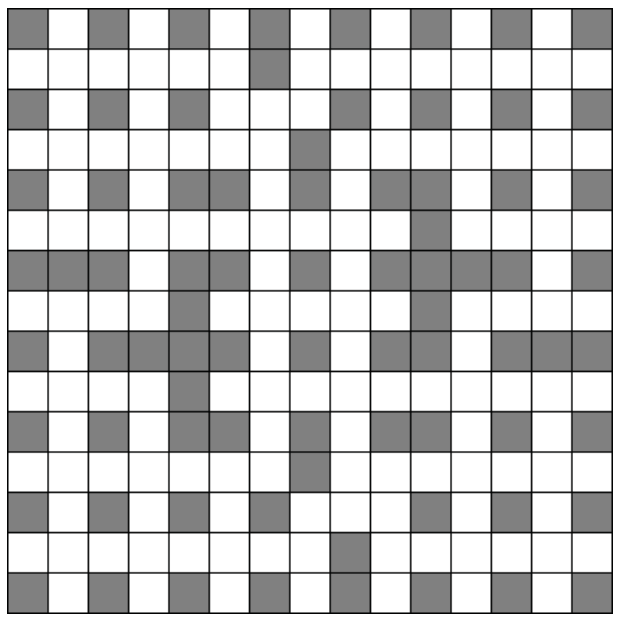
|S|E|P|T| |3| |2|0|1|4|



|S|E|P|T| |4| |2|0|1|4|



|S|E|P|T| |5| |2|0|1|4|



July 6-2014: One-off AJ by *Betelgeuse* (Gillian Champion)

Entries: 53. Correct: 46. Success rate: 87%.

Prizewinner: **Carole Noble. Congratulations!**

Adjudicator's Comments:

Many thanks for all your welcome cards, letters, emails and comments. There were a few words in this puzzle, unfamiliar to the compiler and probably also to most other people. This was unavoidable due to the nature of the clues and the restrictions of the grid. For example: 1. THIBLE, a Scottish and Northern England stick for stirring porridge (perhaps a relic of Cold Comfort Farm?), 2. SUINT, perspiration marks left on sheep's wool, 3. TAKIN, an obscure Tibetan type of antelope. 4. DERAY, an obsolete word meaning tumult or to derange (De+array?). As well as that, BATTEMENT (perhaps not so unfamiliar to fans of ballet), and SURTOUT (the historic old overcoat). There were a couple of queries about describing Venus as a "star", but, although it is a planet, it has always been known as the 'evening star'.

— *Betelgeuse* (Gillian Champion)

SOLUTION:

A= CENT(A)URY B=(B)ONE/LESS STA(B)LEST C=(C)HA(C)HA TAKES/(C)OVER D=SEVERE(D) E=TALLI(E)S F=UN(F)IT (F)IONA DE(F)RAYS (F)EARLESS G= TAKIN(G) H= POS(H)ER I=SAV(I)OUR GEN(I)E J=(J)OUSTED K=S(K)INNING L=BATT(L)EMENT GROW(L) ER M= THI(M)BLE LI(M)PID N=(N)ATRIUM O=VEN(O)US P=S(P)URT/ OUT Q=S(Q)UINT R=ORBITS ASTIR S=MU(S)COID T=CONGENI(T) AL U=HA(U)TE(U)R V=RE(V)EL W=BRO(W)N/CO(W) X=E(X) TERNALLY Y=HILAR(Y) Z=LIS(Z)T.

Solvers' Comments:

- What a puzzle, or more accurately what three puzzles – an AJ, a subtractive solve, and many new words to boot! It made the solve all the more challenging by having d(IREFUL) and WIS(h)ER as potential answers early on. Argh! Anyway, I worked through that and discovered a few flashy first-timers such as THIBLE, SUINT, GROWLER and HILAR. *Michael Kennedy*
- A brilliant concept that would have taken considerable time and effort to compile. Quite a few new words are involved, but that merely made it an extra challenge. Thanks, Gillian. *Len Colgan*
- It's nice to know that someone else shares my problem with cream eclairs! *Ray Gooderick*
- A Masterpiece! Much more difficult than "standard" AJ due to the large number of clues that need to be solved on a stand-alone basis before the constraints of grid placement can be exploited. Query VENUS as "a star". *Ian McKenzie*
- Thanks for the puzzle. I had to work pretty hard to get it done. I haven't had so many list books out for a long time. Keep at it. *Andrew Patterson*
- Wonderfully entertaining jigsaw puzzle. SURTOUT took a while. *Roy Taylor*
- This was enjoyably challenging and lasted quite some days on the breakfast table, reducing conversation to grunts and nods! We had to solve it all, list out the solutions by length and alphabetical order before being able to fit them into the grid. Unlike our normal attempts at Slot 4, where usually we can get some fitted in thus helping with further solutions. Many thanks. *Julie Leigh*
- Thanks for your super challenging One-off puzzle. Your originally printed puzzle had ONE-OFF the total number of clues with the 4 letter clue for H-R being omitted, and ONE-OFF the total number of correct indicators, the A clue needed (7) not (6) being indicated, so your title to this mind-stunning puzzle was unexpectedly appropriate! The B clue was my favourite clue. Also much liked BROwN Cow and SpURTOUT. *Alan Walter*
- Thank you for setting this most difficult but most satisfying (here's hoping!) puzzle for us to do. We have been experiencing a very cold winter this year – something Queenslanders are not used to, so it was good to keep warm indoors and nut out your puzzle. I needed lots of help from my husband but he enjoyed it as much I did – when we weren't tearing our hair out! *Catherine Hambling*
- Challenging and enjoyable as ever! *Andrew Miles*
- Frustrating fun! *Margaret Steinberger*
- Definitely a challenge, and with several words I hadn't come across before. I enjoy the complexity of your puzzles. *Ian Thompson*
- I'm sure if Milton had known about cryptic crosswords, he would have reserved a special circle in hell for fiendish compilers like you!

- Absolutely brilliant to come up with 26 words to fit the concept and devise a grid to accommodate them. I dips me lid! *Nea Storey*
- Thanks Gillian for another superb challenge. *Brian Symons*
- Most unusual slot 6. There was a lot of head scratching to say the least. It became a very enjoyable challenge. *Bob Hagan*
- Slot 6. What a great effort in compilation! I shuddered every time I came across the descriptive 'new' wondering what was to come. Learnt quite a few new words in completing this puzzle. Thanks for the mind stretching, keeps the brain young (or so they say). *Ulla Axelsen*
- Another great puzzle! How fitting that it appeared after slot 5 where a letter had to be added. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Many thanks. *Robyn Caine*
- Challenges upon challenges here! Working out what to do, then solving the clues, then finding the correct spot in the grid for each word – you really had this weary brain working overtime. Thank you for the terrific puzzle. *Kath Harper*
- Fraught with difficulties, not the least of which was where to place the answers in the many (eight 4-letter, eight 5-letter and ten 4-letter, and twenty more spaces in the grid) compounded by the usual quadrilateral symmetry of the grid. Another problem was whether to add or deduct the given letter among possible answers to each clue. A clever "variation on the AJ theme" and must have taken ages to construct with all "one off" 26 letters of the alphabet used at least once. I liked the "How Now complement's" solution after the double double-u deduction producing "Bronco". *Tony de Gry*
- One of the benefits of cryptic crosswords is the increase in vocabulary. There were many new words for me in this puzzle e.g surtout, suint, takin, thible. *Maureen Blake*
- Enjoyably devious clues and then some little-known words – THIBLE, SUINT, TALLIS, SURTOUT, TAKIN etc. gave the brain (and the dictionary) a good workout. My favourite was BROWN COW/ BRONCO. *Tony Doble*
- A tough one that had me searching high and low! And a few words that I did not know before. Nearly tripped up with WISER/WISHER versus POSER/POSHER – fortunately the farmer (GROWER/ GROWLER) came to my rescue. *Alan Dyer*
- Thank you for your excellent crossword and your continued input to the club. *Doreen Jones*
- What a fun puzzle! Looking at the instructions, I thought "No way!" But getting the L answer and then the K answer, I was on my way! So clever! Some very unusual words too e.g SUINT, TALLIS and SURTOUT. *Bev Cockburn*
- After some huffing and puffing and crossed eyes, hope I haven't made too many gaffes. How brilliant are our compilers! *Eileen O'Brien*
- Took a while to sort out the directions but eventually was able to make a stab at it. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Quite a challenge; all the clues were tough but fair, however, I do hope that my cream éclairs cannot be compared in any way to an old overcoat. *Odetta Greenberger*
- Don't know how you compile a crossword like this: not quite sure how I solved it! *Marian Procter*
- I really enjoyed this puzzle which surprised me a lot. I normally struggle with your puzzles – unable to 'get into your head'. And as for puzzles with complicated instructions – forget it! However this was a gem – once I got a start on it. Anyway, thank you for the effort you must have put into composing it – at least double that it took to solve it, I am sure. So now I anticipate keenly your next offering! *Pat Garner*
- It took some time to decipher the directions! All the same it was a fun puzzle to solve despite so many obscure answers. *Veniece Lobsey*
- Another new puzzle style! Finding new formats must be at least as challenging as setting the puzzles: but you do both so well. My favourite clue was BRONCO. *Mike Potts*
- Thank you for a very challenging puzzle. It was also very enjoyable! *Sonia Roulston*
- Thank you for another challenging and fun puzzle. *Lesley Carroll*
- A wonderful One-Off AJ. I hope you had as much fun devising it as I have had in solving it! *Alison Martin*
- A most enjoyable puzzle with, as ever, your star quality and a bit of dark matter thrown in. Certainly not a puzzle for WIMPs. *Jim Fowler*
- It was different and it was a challenge but one well worth the effort. In fact, it was fun! Looking forward to your next one with great anticipation. *Richard Skinner*

S	E	P	T		
2	0	1	4		
S	L	O	T		7

**Missing
Person
by
Crowsman**



Ten clues each contain a definition, but the secondary indicators are incomplete in an identical way. All other clues are normal. One word is not in *Chambers* or *Macquarie*.

Across

- 1 Cook candy (5)
- 4 Weightlifting motion includes jerky rise – levels the contest (7,2)
- 9 Classic Collins novel reveals end of illicit cut ivory (3,5,2,5)
- 10 Countryman carried on (8)
- 12 Statistic has small amount of information reviewed with hesitation (5)
- 14 Unrestricted rich diet – new motto for Prince Charles (3,4)
- 16 Become hot in the hay – miss captures cowboy’s heart (7)
- 18 Left-oriented churches lead one to a small nation (2,5)
- 19 With top cut off, thyme gets mixed in a quantity of mushroom layers (7)
- 20 Subdued 12 returned with European replacing Australian (5)
- 22 Associated with regional control, boy is returned (8)
- 25 Donne saw Newton unsteady in sandals (2,3,2,2,6)
- 27 Obsession to live alone and isolated in Indian city (9)
- 28 Live and thrive without love (5)

Down

- 1 Turns right, heading south (4)
- 2 See 26
- 3 Coop up extreme braggart (9)
- 4 Jackaroo is to remain around in a hot compound (7,4)
- 5 Module cut short at college (3)
- 6 Stroked but fell out (5)
- 7 Auntie and son meandered around Paris’s flea market (5,4)
- 8 Teach, under duress, person with godly self delusions (10)
- 11 Speed interrupts any abnormal female sexual compunction (11)
- 13 Is inclined to have a craving for alcohol (10)
- 15 Partly send up worker sharing a position (4-5)
- 17 Behaved like Casanova – weds unpredictably (9)
- 21 Material dug up (5)
- 23 A ban withdrawn from dressing 25, for example (5)
- 24 Superstar left after marital vow (4)
- 26 **and 2** Strand oneself in US city (3,5)

Post solution to:

Len Colgan
1 Ailsa Avenue
Warradale SA 5046

or by email:
len.colgan@unisa.edu.au

Closing mail date:
10 October 2014.

ROUGH COPY

GOOD COPY – Name

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

ACC Cruciverbalimerick Competition 2014

Winners: First: No 20 by David Grainger

Second: No 23 by Arthur Barrett

Third: No 7 by Kath Harper.

Commended: No 22 by Arthur Barrett

1. Zinzan, Buzzer and Bogyman,
Jesso, Ingrid and Flowerman,
each month they vex us, test and perplex us,
as do Raoul, Stroz and Crowsman.

2. Your cryptic crossword's a mess
And to failure, you sadly confess,
So smash a few cars – Go! Trash a few bars...
In a session to lessen the stress!

3. The word whizz from ACC
Used swear words infrequently.
When his neighbour's dog, "Rover" Knocked his coffee pot over,
He said, "Oh dear! Goodness me!"

4. When oft at the end of my tether
I really do not know whether
I'm just confused Or been 'Betelgeused'
Or just left for dead altogether.

5. Now pur/suant to/previous grumbling
I can/say many/crash after/stumbling
Over/weird, arcane/slots Alas!/lost precious/dots!
All their/fumbling gains/feelings quite/humbling

6. There once was a setter called Stroz
Who made puzzles for solvers in Oz.
When asked why his clues Were so darned abstruse
He smiled and said simply, "Because".

7. 'What on earth is a crossword?' you ask.
It's a mental gymnastical task:
You must fill a grid With words that are hid
In a cunning disguise, like a mask.

8. Compiling a crossword Ximenean
Is a task that is just Herculean.
You may make your clues Without any blues
But you still have to get it past Ian.

9. There's a wonderful place called Phrontistery
Where words living there are a mystery
There's vacive and vafrous and quidder and atrous
And who's ever heard of baptistery?

10. In the NRL Crossword square
Do we dare, for a moment, declare:
Clues like 'gouges' and 'bites' And 'punches' and 'fights'
Shall Advance Australia, Fair?

11. Be angry, ye Solvers....defiant!
Upon dictionaries, we are reliant.
Let us, henceforth, boycott In Slot after Slot,
Solutions not Chambers compliant!

12. Some clues set by ACC folk
Are tough for an ordinary bloke.
An idea flashes (Or crashes to ashes!)
But *hashes to helms?* That's a joke!

13. It's the 4-letter words that get me.
I don't mind if they start with a V
Or a J or a Q Then the choices are few,
But I'm lost with an S, R or T

14. Indignation! Frustration! BecOZ
surely such an odd word never wOZ
I shake my clenched fist.... yet another dot missed!
But how did I live before CrOZ???

15. The legendary Miss Muffett
Working crosswords on her tuffet
Thought, "This is absurd... So far as I've heard,
There ain't no such word. So stuff it!"

16. Said the hairy, scary spider
(The one that sat down, beside her)
"There's nothing to fear! I'm harmless, it's clear.
I just came down here to guide her!"

17. With Number 4 came the crunch.
So, a bottle of red after lunch.
No way, today To allay my dismay
Sho I shay, "They're a tough bunth, this munch."

18. The year was 3015
At the archaeological scene.
They scrounged all around In the ground and they found
An ACC Magazine!

19. The advantage of living in Oz
Is being able – each month – to do Croz
Words with our pals All smart guys and gals
Overseen by our President Stroz!

20. Remember the crosswords I sentia?
And that dictionary, too, that I lentia?
Used carefully each day In a meaningful way
Is a guaranteed cure for dementia!

21. One across – 'of words' – must be ____ (6)
Two guys making tea – ah, that's ____ (6)
There's just one to go, But I'm damned if I know
Of a beast with two bones – that's a hard one! (6)

22. Neil rushed into NASA at noon.
He pleaded, "I must go back, soon.
I'm feeling bereft, I think that I left
My Crozworld Mag. on the moon!

23. The bride at The Woolloomooloo
Was waiting for new husband, who...
...said, "Darling, don't fret. I can't come in, yet.
I still have one clue to do!"

24. Arise, noble Solvers! Unite!
Put fiendish Compilers to flight.
We'll send Setters screaming, Suspend cryptic scheming ...
(Pretend I'm not dreaming!) G'night!

25. Crosswords are always such fun,
And not very often I've won.
To solve them I strive, Two, three, four and five,
But I always go wrong on Slot 1.

26. I don't know what I did before Croz
Perhaps I spent time reading Boz.
Did I do the odd chore? Well... one thing's for sure
It's the best magazine out in Oz.

27. My friends all think that I'm loopy
They call me a cryptic groupie
They get rather confused By the parlance that is used
Like a god from the East being Snoopy.

28. Limericks never come easy
Word puzzles make me all cheesy
Put them together I'm at the end of my tether!
Cruciverbalist? Oh, I've gone queasy.

29. Anagram reversal alternation
Container? I sense manipulation
It can't be a hidden Rebus? Forbidden!
Bugger, a rubber, Deletion.

30. Every month I renew the vendetta
That I have with my favourite setter.
Will he bamboozle me? No, I'm smarter than he—
But sometimes he's just a bit better!

31. Now at cryptics Joe's not all that hot,
And attempt every one he can not.
But he managed Slot One, Mailed it off when he'd done;
But a dot for the slot was not got!

32. Raoul as a budding clue writer
Was also a well-known all-nighter
But when Mike's thoughts came out There was never a doubt
He also had to be brighter

33. Raoul as the star of this ditty
Has a wonderful place in the city
He's mine host of a pub Which serves up great grub
And as MC he's always so witty

July 7-2014: Cryptic by Flowerman (Ian Thompson)

Results: Entries 24. Correct 1. Success rate 4.2%

Winner: Andrew Miles. Congratulations!

To reward the fine efforts of 11 further members who came very close, dots are awarded to: Karl Audrins, Ulla Axelsen, Robyn Caine, Jim Fowler, Bob Hagan, Michael Kennedy, Pat Lord, Rob Moline, William Ryan, Brian Symons, and Roy Taylor.

Adjudicator's comments

Thank-you members for your entries and comments. The theme was "Amounts of anything starting with the letter S." It turned out to be a tough puzzle to completely solve, largely I think because of two clues, 1ac and 29ac, but hopefully quite a few members who didn't submit entries got close to beating it. Critically, only three members chose SWIG for 1ac. I wonder whether some members didn't think of this solution because they had determined that the theme was **small** amounts. While this is certainly true for five solutions relating to the theme: smidgen, skerrick, soupcon, suspicion and snippet, four others, smattering, splodge, strip and swig, are amounts of an indefinite size which can be modified to mean large amounts through the addition of an adjective. For example: "a decent smattering", "a whacking great splodge", "a massive strip", and "a generous swig". However, I now appreciate that swig was the most difficult to perceive; it differs from the rest in being such a very short-lived amount, and one which is much more closely tied to the action that created it (swigging). SNIP, SLIP and several other words were offered instead, but as far as I can see there is no convincing wordplay solution to support these solutions. 29ac WYND was the other clue that caused a lot of trouble. Both the definition and its homophone, I concede, are relatively obscure.

Explanations:

Slot 7 Flowerman. ACROSS: 1 SWI(pin)G, 3 S(MATTER)ING(ular), 10 (u)S + P + LODGE, 11 SOU +P + CO(i)N, 12 (cl)INCHED, 13 Anag. + ...S, 14 Anag. incl. K, 16 Rev. ST(R)IP, 18 N + (y)ACHT, 20 Anag. incl. IS, 22 S(KERR)ICK, 24 T.. + (h)ORRID, 26 S + MIDGE + N, 27 SNIP(e) + PET, 28 Y(ESTER)Y + EAR, 29 Homoph. DOWN: 1 SU[S(PIC)I + O]N, 2 (w)ILL I CIT(y), 4 M(anag. IE)N, 5 TO S(CREW)UP, 6 E(rev. XUD)E, 7 (t)ITCHIER, 8 GANG(e)S, 9 Double def., 15 NOVA + CAN + C... + Y..., 16 Anag. without edge couples hi & an, 17 POST + DATED, 19 C(e)LERI(a)C + S..., 21 S(CR)AP + P...Y, 22 SA(SS)Y, 23 (pr) ROGUE, 25 Double def.

Errors: SNIP, SKIM, SLIP, SPIT, CHIP, SOIL, DYED, DYAD, SYND, YELD, BYOD, EYED, STROPHE, SCRAP, MEET

Solvers' Comments

- Excellent surface readings, but some of the clues exhibited convolution ahead of elegance. My favourite happens to be the shortest and most elegant clue, for POSTDATED. Would be COTM in an eligible slot. I have guessed two answers without conviction. *Len Colgan*
- Consistently good surface. ITCHIER is an excellent clue, requiring scratching of head to fully understand! Unsure of 29ac. *Ian McKenzie*
- Tough day at the office, here. Good cerebral workout that required a few schooners of thinking juice to get over the line. Many thanks. *Raoul*
- I'd like to say I spotted the theme early, but alas no. However, once I did, the grid opened up nicely. I'm not 100% sure on 1ac SNIP. I've based that on SNIPPING minus PING, which is a brand name for a putter used in golf (a green item?). A shot from the rough? My favourite clue was VAPORISES, and it would have been my COTM had it been eligible. Thanks for your efforts Ian. *Michael Kennedy*
- Needed aids to finish this off, turned out quite difficult. Like MIEN – needed both checkers before it leapt out at me, though not sure the "the eye" in the clue is acceptable. Great surface reading on STRIP and WYND. In fact great surfaces on most of them, too many to list; top quality effort. Reasonably confident

about all except 1ac. SKIM is a bit of a guess, defined in the dictionaries as a thin covering on a liquid; and as an act of skimming, which (e.g. skimming the takings) can be nicking off with green stuff. Albeit most Australian money isn't green.

Rob Moline

• Thank you for an enjoyable and very challenging puzzle. There were some very clever clues. I particularly liked SKERRICK, ITCHIER, IN THE KNOW and SOUPCON. The surface reading for SMIDGEN was just perfect. The real doozy was 1ac.

Andrew Miles

Brian Symons

• Fantastic – but very hard.
• Extremely challenging. Difficulty rating of 9½. I don't quite understand 1ac, 4dn, 29ac. [1ac, Remove pin (golf green item) from swiping (nicking); 4dn, The eye of "me in", which is e i, is transformed to ie; 29ac, Wynd, which is a way, has a homophone (shouted) wined (treated to drinks): Flowerman] *Bob Hagan*

• I was a little bit perplexed by some of these. SARDONIC very devious with "edge couples" indicating two letters at start and finish of a group of words. *Roy Taylor*

• What torture! *Robyn Wimbush*

• Thanks for a cleverly crafted and challenging puzzle. Your crosswords nearly always leave me with one impenetrable clue and this time it's 1ac. *Ulla Axelsen*

• A couple of 4-letter words had me really scratching my head, MIEN and WYND. I thought they were excellently clued. Many thanks for a real brain-teaser. *Robyn Caine*

• Very hard, but enjoyable. *Ro Ducker*

• This was a lot of fun. *Sonia Roulston*

Solution to Slot 7 Cryptic by Flowerman

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

Scoring System

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

Star Rating: No star; 1-2 *, 3-4 **, 5-7 ***, 8-9 ****, 10 *****

Clue Writing Competition No 5/2014

For the next competition, please write a clue for the word CALIBRE (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 10 October 2014. Book prize.

Results of the Clue Writing Competition No 4/2014.

Write a clue for MORSEL (6).

Adjudicated by Michael Kennedy

Definition of MORSEL from *Chambers* (12th edition)

n a bite or mouthful; a small piece of food; a choice piece of food; a dainty; a small piece of anything; a small person **vt** to divide into morsels; to apportion in small amounts. [OFr, *morsel* (Fr *morceau*, Ital *morsello*), dimin from L *morsus*, from *mordere*, *morsum* to bite]

It's always a bit of a mystery as to what direction this bimonthly competition will take me. For *morsel*, I had to take a crash course in Morse code as several compilers saw the attractive option of using this code for the letter L. However, the winning clue, a well-constructed charade, extracted from 18 entries comes from the pen of **Roy Taylor**. (At least I think so! I threw the envelope out and there was no name attached to the clue).

Increase cut short by brief reduction, returning a pittance (6)

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

A bit of code not right ***

Take *code* for MORSE with L (i.e. not right!), and you are left with the definition of *a bit*. It's a very simple clue that is fairly parsed. It's just lacking a bit of flair.

A bite from both sides with some chewing ***½

This is an anagram of L and R (both sides), and SOME, as indicated by *chewing*. While L and R from *both sides* – then anagrammatized, is strictly speaking indirect, the single letter abbreviations are acceptable and contribute to a compound anagram. I would like to know more about what's chewing what.

A fraction of tellurium or selenium? ***

Morsel is defined by *a fraction*, the latter of which is also serving as a containment indicator. I like the elemental theme, particularly as these two elements are chemically related. The double duty dilemma is obviated somewhat by the use of the question mark.

A little bit of an earth tremor seldom develops into a quake **

This is an interesting clue as the definition, like the entry above, is doing double duty as a secondary indicator – in this instance, containment. While *morsel* is to be found nestled nicely in *tremor seldom*, the words *earth*, *develops*, *into*, *a*, and *quake* are superfluous. The aim of a fair containment is to ensure *all* the words serve a purpose (i.e. making up the definition, the indication and the word fodder).

A small person needing a moment with leaders of Remote Sensing and Ecology Lab ***

This is a perfectly parsed charade with MO moment joining R.S.E.L. While I was impressed that the acronym is a genuine one (well at least it can be found on the web), the surface reading is somewhat peculiar.

A tiny bit – dit dah dit dit ***½

This is one of several clues thinking outside the square and using Morse Code, specifically for the letter L. According to convention, the *dit* is represented as a *di* when found at the beginning or internally within the character (Given my rudimentary grasp of 'morsing', I've accepted both formats). I think this is a very clever idea that, importantly, is decipherable to most solvers.

Dexter's Detective Chief Inspector comes upon sinister snippet ***½

Any fan of Colin Dexter's *Inspector Morse* will see how this clue works quite quickly. The L is derived from sinister (i.e. left). While seasoned solvers would know *sinister* is *left*, to go from sinister to the letter L is another step (you won't find sinister under L in *Chambers*). Otherwise I love this clue, and I do note the compiler's neat juxtaposition of *dexter* and *sinister*.

Di dah di dit for a tiny bit! ***½

I could turn this competition into a matchmaking service, as this

clue is remarkably similar to the one above. The main difference is that the definition is at the end of the clue. It's also worth noting the more conventional way of representing the dahs and dits. Like the above clue, there is a cute little rhyme (or ditty perhaps?) thing happening too.

Gonzales' romance includes the return of an Irish child ***½

This is a reversal containment clue that has no superfluous words. The *Irish child* definition is not in *Chambers* but does exist elsewhere. While the clue works well, it would be so much better if an author by the name of Gonzales actually did pen a romance about a returning child. Alas, no. To add some credence I would have used *Doyle's* (his Irish name fits well)...., or *Melville's romance*.

Increase cut short by brief reduction, returning a pittance ****

This is a well-engineered clue. It uses MOR(e) and (s)SEL (brief reduction returning). Despite the relative complexity of the charade, the compiler has managed to mesh the components together well, producing a smooth and credible surface reading.

Married or singular English lady, originally a dainty ****

This is a lovely little charade with M, OR, S, E and L. It's accurately parsed and has a consistent theme. Ideally, one would want to say *single* rather than *singular*, but the former is not abbreviated to the letter S.

Mrs. Leo Turner is dainty ***½

This is an anagram of MRS LEO as indicated by *turner*. However, the indicator serves as a noun and therefore doesn't actually work as an indicator. It would need to be *turning*, which would obviously not be as convincing a surname.

Scrap and fight, in the ring, remorselessly **

This is a containment clue, and if you look closely you will find the answer located in *remorselessly*. While I was impressed with the compiler noticing this fact, the excellent surface reading, and the well-disguised definition, the problem is the superfluous padding to make up the rest of the clue.

Scrap.dash.dot? ***

This is a cute coded clue using the Morse code idea. However, instead of using any dahs or dits, the compiler has used a combination of dots and words. I do like it, but it borders on being more like a rebus clue than a standard cryptic one.

Some diametrically opposed points of view constitute a sloppy mouthful **

This clue is based around an anagram of SOME and LR. The latter is derived from *diametrically opposed points of view* (i.e. left and right). While one could argue the validity of this, I think it's a little too wordy and would be difficult to solve. In any case, the word *constitute* muddies the waters, as it doesn't appear to be serving a purpose. The surface reading could do with some tweaking.

Some spread on both sides leaving only a mouthful ***½

This is not dissimilar to another entry using an anagram of SOME with L and R (both sides). However, the parsing here needs some work. While *spread* serves well as the anagram indicator for *some*, it doesn't include both sides (L&R). The clue suggests the anagram of SOME should literally be placed *on* both sides (L&R).

Spooner's timberyard produces a bit ***½

This is a valiant attempt at constructing a clue around a spoonerism. The premise is based around the sound of *saw mill* (i.e. SOR MEL). I can buy the first half, but the second half is a sound-stretch as you wouldn't pronounce *morsel* as *moresill*.

Tuck into some ham or sell a choice piece ****

This is a textbook example of how a containment clue should be constructed. There is a literal containment indicator, the necessary containment fodder, and an accurate definition. There are no superfluous words. The surface sense is also credible, even if one has to try and imagine a delicatessen with a questionable business model.

[Continued on p15]