

#### No 408 April 2024



#### www.crosswordclub.org



A man of words and not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds. Anonymous, Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes.

#### **GRIDATORIAL**

In these days of phone and internet scams it is wise to reply only to known individuals. Correspondence from some of our less familiar Committee members has led to some requests for confirmation of their bona fides, so we have identified the Committee and their functions on page 14 so that you know who is whom if they need to contact you for any reason (hopefully about prizes!).

We have some treats in store for you this month. Zinzan opens the batting with one of his inimitable miscellany puzzles in slot 1 that we know you will enjoy. CT provides the second of his puzzles in slot 2 and Lexi Conner beguiles us with one of his well-crafted puzzles in slot 3. The master of the AJ, Manveru, challenges you with another of his fine alphabetical jigsaws in the traditional slot 4 and we have the welcome return of The Co-op in an eminently solvable slot 5. A relatively conventional puzzle from the unpublished archive of the prolific Betelgeuse is sure to cause some head-scratching in slot 6 and a typically polished offering from Crowsman brings up the rear. A quiz from the bequest of Nigrum Cattus will provide a challenge that should not require recourse to the internet.

Once again, profound thanks are due to the many people who give freely of their time to provide your monthly challenge.

#### FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

What a great selection of puzzles this month. As always, our members expressed their appreciation and enthusiasm for our volunteer setters and the effort everyone puts in to keep the puzzles coming.

A heartening degree of success this month, with all puzzles attracting a score of over 80 per cent. Does this mean that more solvers are taking advantage of the built-in spell checker before submitting their results? Despite a few howlers like HEPODERMIC and HYPODREMIC, perhaps the urging of successive adjudicators is having some effect?

**Slot 1:** Thank you for all your kind comments. I apologise for any errors. We accepted both SCHMOOZE and SCHMOOSE for 8d. Not too many issues with this one. A few entries had SOMEONE for SCHMOOZE, PULLTOP for PALMTOP and SPYING for SAYING. A couple of spelling issues and typos accounted for other lost dots.

**Slot 2:** We have accepted both BACKWASH and BACKLASH for 25d and BERTH and BIRTH for 17a. This was a trouble free puzzle overall with only TRIP for TRAP causing multiple issues.

**Slot 3:** This was another puzzle that caused little trouble for our members. There were a few interesting variations for UIST and HOMBURG caused a few spelling mistakes – HAMBURG and HOMBERG in particular. ADOLESCING appeared instead of the expected ADOLESCENT. Again, other dots lost for spelling and transcription

**Slot 4:** As always, the Slot 4 proved very popular. Two members put YEARTH for YEASTY and other errors were one offs including WRITERS for CRATERS, CREASES for WREAKED and GIRT for GERM.

**Slot 5:** Despite a few queries regarding ORCHIONCUS, this was a very popular puzzle, challenging both setter and solver with all those O words. OARHOOK for OARLOCK and OSCHEAS for OSCHEAL appeared in grids with other dots lost for spelling errors.

continued on page 2

#### **LEADING FIGURES**

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	93	89	89	83	74	428
Correct entries	76	72	76	71	66	361
Success rate (%)	82	81	85	86	85	84
Prizewinners	Ken Callan	Ro Ducker	Sally Shipway	Brian Symons	Warren Allen	from 96 members

# Prizewinner: March Slots 1-5 correct: Shelia Taylor. Congratulations! CONTACTS

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March 2024 Slot 1	March 2024 Slot 2	March 2024 Slot 3
PSYCHOANALYSIS	M B A T B D A	HABITUE ALABAMA
R H L R O I T H	JAVAVARIATIONS	O A A S N D T D
ECOLICOURTROOM	L N E A C E N	MOBILISEDOUTED
V R M H N E I O	G E N D E R P A K I S T A N	B E K A R L E U
EATABLE SIROCCO	V A S L E	UISTHYPODERMIC
R S S A Z	POINTERS AGLETS	R F E I S P E
BETEL TITILLATE	L A C S A	GIVER DEDICATED
O I R E L R	NEWS BIRTH AGRA	E A M E E
REPUGNANT YETIS	N A E P P	MONSTROUS NUDGE
E H E I A	STARED WORDPLAY	A E E D T T N
PALMTOPALOOFLY	A B E E U	CARTRIDGES CLEF
R A S L T M I I	AURICLES EMAILS	R A N J L H O O
OASTHOUSE EXCON	G S O E K R I	ALTAIOILFILTER
O S I T T N E G	FLUIDOUNCE EDNA	M E S B A S T C
	<del></del>	
F O O D P R O C E S S O R S	Y N D D D D S	E N D L E S S R I S S O L E
March 2024 Slot 4	March 2024 Slot 5	March 2024 Slot 6
March 2024 Slot 4		
March 2024 Slot 4	March 2024 Slot 5	March 2024 Slot 6
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F QUARTER WREAKED S E N B E C S	March 2024 Slot 5	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O TAKEOUT TICKOFF M A G H I C N F
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R W R E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R W R E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S R S Y T C N O	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S S E N E S W H
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March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R W R E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S R S Y T C N O Z U L U I T E R A T I O N M R D O I N N H E R R I N G B O N E O A H E I C	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S S E N E S W H T E R M A G A N T A L A M O P R O W E S S O D O R A N T E V R C R
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R W R E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S R S Y T C N O Z U L U I T E R A T I O N M R D O I N N H E R R I N G B O N E O A F T E R G L O W G E R M	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S S E N E S W H T E R M A G A N T A L A M O B T T T N O P R O W E S S O D O R A N T E V R C R
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R WR E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S R S Y T C N O Z U L U I T E R A T I O N M R D O I N N H E R R I N G B O N E O A H E I C A	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S S E N E S W H T E R M A G A N T A L A M O B T T T N O P R O W E S S O D O R A N T E V R C R E M E E R H O N E Y M O O N R R A O O P E
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R WR E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S R S Y T C N O Z U L U I T E R A T I O N M R D O I N N H E R R I N G B O N E O A H E I C A F T E R G L O W G E R M F P O L X G A R E N O U N C E Y E A S T Y	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S S E N E S W H T E R M A G A N T A L A M O P R O W E S S O D O R A N T E V R C R E M E E R H O N E Y M O O N R R A O O R I C O T T A
March 2024 Slot 4  L T J P V F Q U A R T E R WR E A K E D S E N B E C S S T R A I N U P S T A R T S R S Y T C N O Z U L U I T E R A T I O N M R D O I N N H E R R I N G B O N E O A H E I C A	March 2024 Slot 5  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	March 2024 Slot 6  U S T A S A G O T A K E O U T T I C K O F F M A G H I C N F O U T V O T E L O U R D E S S E N E S W H T E R M A G A N T A L A M O B T T T N O P R O W E S S O D O R A N T E V R C R E M E E R H O N E Y M O O N R R A O O P E

<b>MEMBERS'</b>	DECIII TC	FOR	MADCH	2024	Slote	1 to 7
MEMBERS	REJULIA		MARLI	<i></i>	31013	

N S R D T S

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Abbott P.		•	•		•	•	•	Glissan B.	•	•	•	•	•			Moline R.	•			•	•		
Allen W.	•		•	•	•		•	Grainger D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Parsons D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Anderson C.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hagan R.	•	•	•	•		•		Patterson A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Audrins K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Peach S.	•		•		•		•
Axelsen U.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hearn R.		•	•	•	•	•	•	Pikler M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Barbour J.	•	•	•	•	•			Heyes N.		•					2	Pinder S.	•				•		•
Barnes J.		•	•	•	•			Hocking A.	•	•						Procter D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Batum C.	•	•		•	•	•	•	Holmick P.	•		•					Rosendorff D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bennett D.	8	•	•			•		Horadam K.	•	•	•					Roulston S.	•	•		•	•	•	
Bennett Moses L.	•							Howat S.	•	•	•	٠	•	•	•	Ryan W.	•			•	•	•	
Bettles K.					•			Jarman L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Shield A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Blake M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jarman R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Shipway S.			•	•	3.5		
Callan K.	•	•						Jones G.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Siegman B.	•	•	•	•		•	
Carpenter R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Kennedy L.	•	•	•	•		•	•	Simons A.			•		•	•	•
Carroll L.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Kennedy M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Simpson F.	•	•		•	•	•	•
Cockburn B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lankshear J.		•	•	•		•		Skinner R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cockburn M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lee C.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Smith J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cole G.	•	•	•					Leigh J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Steinberger M.		•		•			•
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lloyd G.	•	•					20	Storey N.	•		•		•	•	
Coote P.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mackay-Sim C.		•	•	•	•		7	Storti A.	•	•	•	•		•	
Cornish W.				•	•			Madden J.	•		•	•		•	7	Symons B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Coulton L.			•					Martin A.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Taylor R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cromer H.	•	•	•	•	•			Martin F.			•					Taylor S.	•	•	•	•	•		
Crowe J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Matthews S.	•	•	•					Thompson I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Davis K.		•	•	•	•	•	•	McClelland C.	•		•	•		•		Veress M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dobele T.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	McKenzie I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wilcox C.		•	•	•		•	
Dowse B.	•							McKenzie R.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Williams K.	•	•	•	•	•		
Ducker R.	•	•	•			•	•	McLeay T.			•	•	•		•	Wimbush R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Evans J.	•	•	•			•	•	Meek A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wood J.	•	•	•	•			
Ferguson J.		•		•	•	•	•	Miles A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Woolston M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Forward K.	•	•				•		Millard A.	•	•		•	•	•	•								
Garner P.	•		•	•	•			Milton R.	•	•	•			•									

#### From the Adjudicator - continued from page 1

**COTM:** Nominations for COTM were received for all puzzles, with an honourable mention to Slot 6 ATHENA in Slot 6. Once again there was a tie for COTM with the award this month being 'taken out' by Slot 6 TAKE OUT [Kill Kate?] and Slot 2 AGRA [City six out of hard drug?]. Congratulations to Robespierre and T-boy.

Jean Barbour



A Bigger
Bit of Most
Things
by
Zinzan



Cryptic clues are shown in italics

1	2			3	4		5		6		7	8
				9		Г						Г
10			11				12	13			14	Г
			15			16						Г
17	18		Т							19		T
			20		21	Т	22	Т	Г			
23		24			25	1				26	27	28
	29	1					30					r
31		1			32	33				34		H
		35	П	36	Т	1		37	38			
39	40			H		H		41				42
				43	44		45	Н				H
46			47	Т			48		$\vdash$		49	H
			Н		50							Н
51					-		52	$\vdash$				H

#### Across

1 See 51

**5ac,52** Sketch 39ac, 22dn or 44dn 38dn 40dn (7,7)

- **9** Airline (2,2)
- 10 Lower back pain (7)
- **12** Man at home? (3)
- **14** Tattoos popular with Kelvin (3)
- 15 Buddhist shrine (6)
- **17** Limb ornamentation (6)
- **19** Working parties (4)
- 20 Plane crash 112.5 degrees from Kathmandu (8)
- **23** George's 5ac 52ac (4)
- 25 17th Greek letter (3)
- 26 Thailand embrace a hooligan (4)
- 29 Donald's 5ac 52ac (5)
- **30** 9 before 25 (5)
- **31** Prepare the salad (4)
- 32 Dromaius novaehollandiae (3)
- **34** Golfer's nightmare (4)
- **35** Strong coffee (8)
- **39** President Johnson's first to leave Norwegian feature (4)
- **41** Sudden flow from outside (6)
- **43** Web newsgroups seen hacked in unruliest fringes (6)
- 46 Tolkein warrior (3)
- **47** Anger Queen Elizabeth I in retirement (3)
- 48 Great excitement is found in Metro network? (7)
- **50** Not quite to (4)
- **51,1ac** 5dn and 13dn and 33dn? (7,7)
- **52** See 5

#### Down

- **1** Fred's 5ac 52ac (5)
- **2** I'm prepared to try (3)
- **3** Nullify (6)
- **4** Small book is hard work (4)
- **5** Sports organisation (4)
- 6 Blame modern music! (3)
- **7** Popeye's 5ac 52ac (5)
- **8** Puts in the microwave (5)
- **11** Port made nice shelter (4)
- **13** Pepper spray (4)
- **16** Moonfish (4)
- **18** Rehabilitates soldiers and field marshals finally (5)
- **19** Barney's 5ac 52ac (5)
- **21** Petition to exclude a nosey person (5)
- 22 National flower of Vietnam (5)
- 23 A380 or 747 (3)
- **24** Stopped clubs leaving, so relieved! (5)
- 27 27dn / is a clue needing to be / written as three lines (5)
- 28 Physical state (3)
- **33** Nothing more than (4)
- **36** Heard awful rain (4)
- **37** Word preceding Madre or Leone (6)
- 38 Aware of a set of books not nearly returned (4)
- 39 Shrek's 5ac 52ac (5)
- 40 Schist and gneiss (5)
- **42** Marge's 5ac 52ac (5)
- **44** Electorate in Tassie is lacking representation (4)
- 45 One of two smaller tides a day (4)
- **47** Difficult case for hospital department (3)
- **49** It's charged with sedition, 45dns turned out (3)

SEND SOLUTIONS TO: For online entry, submission and adjudication of all slots via ACCOLADE click on the ACCOLADE button on <a href="https://www.crosswordclub.org">www.crosswordclub.org</a> home page.

Slots 1 to 5: Brian Tickle: email to brijoy@tpg.com.au

or mail to PO Box 955 Taree NSW 2430 Slot 6: Kay Williams: email to ianw@webone.com.au

or mail to 12 Lindrum Crescent Holt ACT 2615 Slot 7: Len Colgan: email to len.colgan@unisa.edu.au or mail to 1 Ailsa Avenue, Warradale, SA 5046

Closing mail date for all puzzles is 26 April 2024.

BLANK GRIDS PAGE 12





## Cryptic by CT



	1	2	3		4	5		6	7	
8			9							
10					11					
10					11					
12	_	13					14			
	15			16		 17		-	18	
			19							
20	Н				H	21		22	$\vdash$	
	H									
23	H							24		
	25									

#### **Across**

- **1** Maui, for example, still is alight (7,6)
- 8 Hit or miss (4)
- **9** Refused this bed arrangement (6,4)
- 10 Talk of in ill-temper, mostly (6)
- 11 Nude cavorts around backroom without restraint (8)
- **12** Former partner caring could make one long like this? (9)
- 14 Small platforms for hackers, perhaps (4)
- 15 Shocks cleaners (4)
- **16** Made a quantitative assessment, replacing 50 with 100 and left (9)
- 20 Stingray lingered, digesting fish (8)
- 21 Watches payback against son (6)
- 23 With many different key positions, this make has a more correct sound? Or not! (10)
- 24 Boast about being involved in a murder (4)
- 25 Key rail measure: changing guard and blocking platform (8-5)

#### Down

- 1 US city for Spooner's joint repair (7)
- **2** Biblical measure said to raise to a third power (5)
- **3** Got celebrated outside Switzerland (7)
- **4** Craving court, aim to become someone like Sir Francis Drake (15)
- **5** Erotic stay with me after break-up (6)
- **6** Grand Rome dacha houses fabled princess (9)
- Using these may cause one to leap from Bridge
   N, S, E or W were played following Five
   Hundred (7)
- **13** Speed injected to ease my fluid lung disease (9)
- **15** Stones, perhaps mark tyre, so losing finish (7)
- **17** Copper thanks runner for fancy foot work (3,1,3)
- 18 Sound hollow? (7)
- 19 Embarrassed after match was levelled (6)
- **22** Many affluent Cantonese ante-up their respective capital here (5)

#### **General Feedback for March**

- Tough but entertaining! Kathryn Forward
- Three jig-saw type puzzles in one issue? Just too much. Nea Storey
- Thanks for my February Slot 3 prize; out of the blue. Kathy Horadam
- Thanks again to all concerned. However; TOO MANY UNNUMBERED GRIDS! Anne Simons

## Cryptic by Lexi Conner



1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8
9									
10			11				12		
		13	11			14	12		
15		15		_	16				
					10				
17	<u> </u>			18	19	_		L	20
					10000	_			100
21			22				23		
		24				25			
26									
27					28				

#### **Across**

- **1** Examination claimed to be misleading (7)
- **5** A workshop takes a graduate from Birmingham's neighbourhood (7)
- **9** How astronauts get realistic? (4,4,2,5)
- **10** Jacob ashamed to hold party (4)
- 11 Ovens made by large families outside (5)
- 12 Have a nap at twelve if truncated (4)
- **15** Typical example is the last of the ratio by volume (7)
- **16** Shorten a part of the nose (7)
- 17 Removes fathers displaying cravings? (7)
- **19** Citizen soldiers limit destruction on India's borders (7)
- **21** What 19-across engages in with doctor in hospital area (4)
- **22** Sweet female judge is not introduced (5)
- 23 Mostly stop unknown person showing trick (4)
- **26** Drink riesling with, say, lemon extract (10,5)
- **27** Moved round decomposed buried article (7)
- **28** Gaunt horse in scary collapse (7)

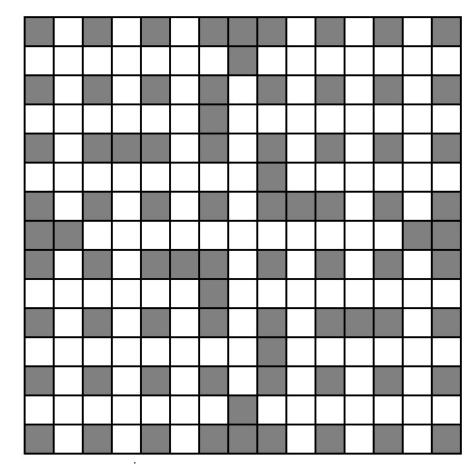
#### **Down**

- Outspoken mayor admits driver's compartment is frightful (7)
- **2** Cook could be one having an argument on dissolute taverns (8,7)
- 3 Yield stored by Agriscience Department (4)
- 4 Moo sound bound to be twice-daily event (3,4)
- **5** Receiver finds Kournikova covering net on return (7)
- **6** Injured mother fell off while getting on (4)
- 7 Look at learning process for purifying environment (3,12)
- 8 Realise pain engulfs a grieved heart (7)
- **13** Uninterested call for food (5)
- 14 Pierce to train coach (5)
- **17** Satisfy bet for grand old dame (7)
- **18** Corresponded with straight deputy head (7)
- 19 Birds chatter over pastries (7)
- 20 Distress caused by any acceptance of damage to exit (7)
- 24 Kebab eaters need time (4)
- **25** Somewhat open Asian ruler overthrown (4)

## AJ by Manveru



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



- A Furious after parking police act criminally (10)
- **B** They've taken the plunge with restraints, but there's no lake! (6)
- C Hawking, say, sees one looking to the heavens? (11)
- **D** The beginning is starting to make sense (7)
- **E** Fatally ill, initially at hospital with nausea release thus, perhaps (10)
- **F** Wren's speciality buttresses? (6)
- **G** Swimmer attains Olympic medal following his medley (8)
- **H** 60 Minutes with correction for viewers will take time to gauge? (11)
- I Done in by a pack of police dogs (4)
- **J** Monthly, from the beginning of July? (7)
- **K** Knitwear designed to hide weight will make one horny (7)
- **L** Liberal Government adopting popular Nationalist following Independent backing (6)
- **M** He was terrible to chase maiden in passenger vehicle (7)
- N 'Some Republican Won!' Broadcast from here? (8)

- Old trumpeter needing oil blend with heroin to stop a gasping breath (8)
- P Lover starting to put on chain mail to cover abdomen, initially (8)
- **Q** Queen Anne statement finally on file? (7)
- **R** Soldier is left out of guerrillas following redeployment (7)
- **S** Plan: U-boat to join forces with squadron's vanguard in retreat
- **T** Island, reportedly Asian with Australian and American backing (6)
- **U** Took possession of upper-class purse, fashioned with diamonds (7)
- **V** Universal hospital cover reassessing the free ticket (7)
- **W** Ill-treatment of POWs, say, after air crew forced to carry munitions from the front (3,5)
- **X** Goodfella in extortion over some letters relating to 'hospitality' (6)
- Y Unknown animal reportedly discovered with three heads and three feet? (4)
- **Z** Breeze a lotion imbued with a radical (6)

Cryptic by The Co-op



1		2		3	4		5			6	7	8
			9						10			
11			12						13			
					3							-
14							15					
											40000	
16							111100	17			18	
							19					20
	21		22			23			24			
25					26							
27		28					29					22
30					31						32	
										100		
33				34						35		

#### Across

- 1 Driver in court died (4)
- 3 Standard flower (5)
- 6 Smart spider close to bug (4)
- **11** Member of Parliament not initially keen (3)
- **12** No disagreement with put down (5)
- **13** Apartment with room at front is a big hit (5)
- 14 Nietsche mesmerising obscures plans (7)
- **15** One following wild sheep in front of a compound (7)
- **16** Marianne agitated former Soviet citizen (8)
- 17 Paramilitary force captures horse to make sausages (5)
- **21** Heavy bombardment returned at a speed (5)
- 23 Tax again confused promisee (8)
- 27 Adjust inside of warm stove (7)
- **29** Medicine lacking iodine injured native (7)
- **30** Snake's two degrees of separation (5)
- 31 Tailless creature's mother? (5)
- 32 Keep it and don't tell anyone (3)
- **33** Baseball team from New England hosting first couple of innings (4)
- **34** Mad scientist's head missing. That's absurd ... (5)
- **35** ... and yet, cleric will lose his shortly (4)

#### **Down**

- 1 Sloppy sod intercepted by female forester (8)
- 2 Statesman: "Ring up, embracing king and country!" (9)
- 4 Amazing man is tall but lacking Latin charm (8)
- **5** Reptile from two isles (6)
- **7** Part of Vietnam may be raising capital (5)
- 8 Bug an inhabitant of Europe (6)
- 9 Outlaw hiding weapon in drink dispenser (6)
- 10 Geisha managed to accommodate priest (6)
- **18** Fellow at union offices welcomed by agent (9)
- **19** Grey ghost is careful around spell (5,3)
- **20** Supporter of church embraced by retired English tennis player (8)
- 22 Oz character upset halfwit bloke (6)
- **24** Admiral tucking into servant's fruitcake (6)
- **25** Devil was in charge of holding yearly gettogether (6)
- 26 Calls up, getting hold of a mariner (6)
- 28 Italian citizen spotted bay hiding Mafia leader (5)

# Slot 6 Cryptic by Betelgeuse



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

#### Across

- 1 Ain't terribly smart about support. (10)
- **6** Golf equipment association (4)
- 10 Old container vessel takes time off, gathering speed (7)
- 11 Artist to leave after advantage of good hospital (3,4)
- **12** Fall about at turn when king takes turn (8)
- 13 Voices need to be heard but not again (5)
- **16** Caught one lot said "Returning with dilatation!" (9)
- **17** Old god, fearsome beast, runs off (5)
- 18 Department's financiers spoken of (5)
- 20 Notes right off, a letter for Williams perhaps (9)
- 22 Gravity in added advertisements (5)
- **24** Material holding a soulful promise (8)
- 27 Intended mainly to get the mink back first, the brute! (7)
- 28 Pompous, 'orrible dog eats rubbish (7)
- 29 Finger movement on small flower. (4)
- **30** New Providence colliers rioting may end up here? (6,4)

#### **Down**

1 Cyprus lake once had malleable mineral (10)

- **2** Sleep-time inside: very hard with active illuminant (7)
- **3** I call for help about *The Case of the Greek Orator* (9)
- **4** Cause metal fatigue and take away effectiveness (10)
- **5** Expressed new version of resentment (4)
- **7** John Menzies, larger than life (7)
- **8** Elevation of Luxembourg, centre of marquetry (4)
- **9** One king hard to cross. (4)
- **14** Disgraceful cat, perhaps, with endless vermin retains DA (10)
- **15** Confine load shifting between fixed points (10)
- **17** Reprimand indulgence in sloppy habit (5,4)
- **19** Am back shortly, left in charge and intent on mischief-making (7)
- **21** Sun photo, you'll hear, of a solar spike (7)
- 23 Fool one in pattern of movements (4)
- **25** Dull brown bread cooked without direction (4)
- **26** Uniquely individual lie (4)

Submit your solution via the ACCOLADE button on <a href="https://www.crosswordclub.org">www.crosswordclub.org</a> home page, or for mail entries see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date.

# Slot 7

## Cryptic by Crowsman





#### Across

- Where you might find a cultist scarab, for example (6)
- Takes heart with bonus drink (5,2)
- Couple's short time in cathedral (5)
- Chief supports Spooner's dirty crop (9)
- Metal pin for fish (7)
- Add more interest for small youngster catching cold (5,2)
- Greenpeace issue closes with glee (4,9)
- Anti-Nazi coalition makes old lady delay (5,8)
- University succeeds wholly through deposits made within banks (7)
- Maligned Rovers, perhaps, cheat disheartened teams (7)
- 21 "Tiller, cough up!" Spooner's call during one-day cricket match (5,4)
- Mucous membrane in recluse's back (5)

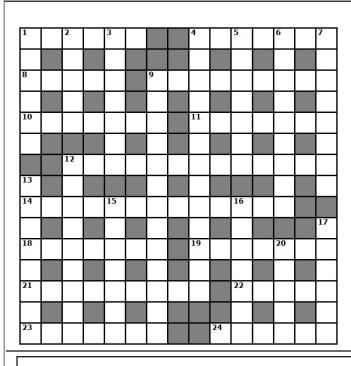
# Crowsman's Corner 23 Left out of apprentices are those

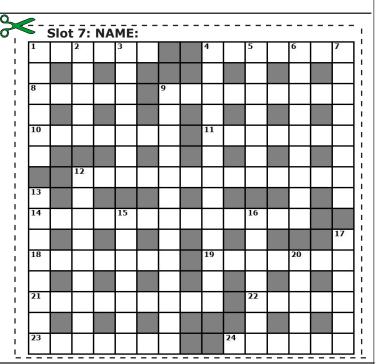
receiving payments (7)

More or less northern advance (6)

#### Down

- A blue inside tunnel over nothing (6)
- **2,12** Sideshow performer has small tiff with a pig, perhaps (5,9)
- Bend over, admitting fissure has severe infection (7)
- Dish carried in to sovereign with utmost care (13)
- Harsh cartel captures killer (7)
- Jellyfish from north-east, in US port (3,6)
- Fool is brought up to wear an ID (8)
- Shabby male-only slobs! They include Len, but not Ian! (13)
- See 2
- People gag in distress, ejecting old aubergine (3-5)
- Loons are ultimately "different" (7)
- Write up notes for *The Planet* (7)
- Off-course residue collector missed last of rubbish (6)
- Become liable for popular dog (5)





Submit your solution via the ACCOLADE button on <a href="https://www.crosswordclub.org">www.crosswordclub.org</a> home page, or for mail entries see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date.

_					
	A	С	C		
		R			
		0	Z		
	0	Z			
		W			
		vv			
	N	0	Т	Ε	S
	N	O R	T	E	S
	N	0	T	E	S
	N	0	Т	E	S

**Explanations for March slots 1 to 5** Note: cd = cryptic definition; dd = double definition; rev or < = reversal; homophones are noted as "homoph" and words from which they are derived may be shown in quotes; anagrams as anag. if straightforward, or (NNNN)\*. "Heads" or "Tails" are first or last letters of part of a clue; letters forming solutions are normally written as capitals and removals as lower case; hw or hidden = hidden word. Explanations provided by individual compilers may vary from this format.

**Slot 1 InGrid. Across: 1** anag, **10** causE+COLIc, **11** court+room, **12** anag operating+tables-sporting, **13** sir+oc+co, **14** betel(geuse), **16** ti+ti+l+late, **19** rep+anag gun+ant, **20** yet+i(n)+S(weden), **22** palm+top, **25** a+loo+fly, **27** anag, **28** ex+con, **29** food+processors.

**Slot 2 T-boy. Across: 8** dd, **9** VA + I in RATIONS, **10** END in GER, **11** PA + homoph "kissed anne", **12** Two stars called the POINTERS (also hunting dogs) dd, **14** (AT + LEGS)\*, **16** N+E+W+S are all

the directions, 17 homoph "berth", 18 (vi)AGRA, 19 DAUGHTERS\* - HUG, 21 WORD + PLAY, 23 homoph "oracles" (auricles =ears), 26 E + homoph "males", 27 (INDUCE + FOUL)\*, 28 hw. Down: 1 (VOTE + ALL + MEN)\*, 2 BAN(D)ANAS, 3 A + VERSE, 4 dd, 5 dd, 6 DIES + EL, 7 hw, 13 S + CREW, 15 (PARTIAL + SUN)\*, 17 dd, 18 A + P + PEA + RED, 20 RA + IS + IN, 22 RE(EKE)D, 24 gUm GuLlY, 25 S + END.

Slot 3 Jesso. Across: 1 HABIT+U+E, 5 A+LAB+AMA, 9 MOB(I)LI(S)ED, 10 O(UTE)D, 11 Anag, 12 HYPO/D/CRIME\*, 14 R(VE)IG (rev), 16 ADDICTED\*(E), 18 STORM\*(O/N/US), 21 NUD(G)E, 23 CART(RIDGE)S, 24 HIDDEN, 27 TAILA\*, 28 OIL+FILTER, 29 DD, 30 R(IS/S)OLE. Down: 1 HO/MB/URG, 2 B(ABE)S, 3 TA/L/K, 4 ESSAY/ED, 5 AND/ROI/D, 6 A(DOLE)SCENT, 7 A/T/TEMP/TED, 8 AD(DUCE)D, 13 NEARSTRIFE\*, 15 ED/VETERAN\*, 17 E/MU., 18 ARMCAME\*, 19 O/DD JOBS, 20 ST(ELL)AR, 22 EN/FOR/CE, 25 L/OT/TO, 26 SIBILATE - sounds like.

**Slot 4 Valkyrie.** A (GREAT WOLF)\*, B Double (frogs are buttons), C C(RAFTER)S, D FLAGON DRY <> DRAGON FLY, E Reverse hidden, F FESTive + O+O+N, G G + tERM, H HER+RING+B+ON+E, I Hidden, J J+EN+NY, K KEY+wHOLE, L LUST+RUM, M M(END)ER + S, N (S+DRAG+GIN)<, O OFF+E+RED, P (CRISP BEER)\*, Q QU(ART)eER, R RENt + OUNCE, S S+TRAIN, T T+REAS(s)URE, U UP+ST+ARTS, V V+A+CANT, W W(R)EAK+ED, X XY+LEMons, Y Y(EA+ST) Y, Z Homophone of ZOO LOO.

Slot 5 St Jude [In order of clues in the grid] Across: 7 O+PINIONS, 9 tOFF ONly, 10 anag, 11 O+VOID+S, 12 soONER, 13 OR+ANGER+I(E)S, 14 s(OAKS), 15 bOOZE, 20 (CHRONICHUMOURS)\*, 22 OK+RA, 23 mOTHERS, 24 ONE/DEBT/I\*, 25 O+V+U+L+E, 26 O+LEANDER. Down: 1 pOmPoUsLiEsNoT, 2 anag, 3 (OLdACHES)\*, 4 OO+LONG, 5 dd, 6 anag, 8 O+WARLOCK, 14 CHOSE/OUR\*, 16 OB+SCENE, 17 perfORATION, 18 OCT+OP+OD, 19 ORANG(E)S, 21 bOYS TERrified, 22 dd.

**From Derek Harrison of the Crossword Centre** comes news of some new and reconstructed websites of interest to crossword aficionados. Dave Hennings, has developed two websites, Listen With Others <a href="here">here</a>, and The Crossword Database <a href="here">here</a>. The former, as its name implies, is concerned with <a href="here">Listener</a> puzzles and includes commentaries on Flowerman's recent puzzle, noted below. The other deals with a wider range of UK-originated puzzles.

William Snow has announced the recreation of Neil Shepherd's website <a href="here">here</a> The site, which in its original form contained much interesting advice on all manner of crossword matters, brings together the crossword-related writings of Neil (AKA Alberich/Klingsor) originally published on his own website. You can contact William via the website and he would welcome comments and donations to help maintain the site.



**Lost Dots:** Andrew Miles achieved a 100% correct solution for guiz 1-2024.

**Donations to the ACC Prize Fund:** Many thanks to our members, who have generously made donations to the Prize Fund this month, directly or by declining a prize.

**Congratulations:** Many congratulations to our own Flowerman, who had a puzzle published as a Listener puzzle in February. An achievement indeed!

The puzzle was entitled 'Bucking Convention' and required solvers to draw a map of Texas on the completed grid, rotated 90 degrees, using the letters of "Lone Star State" as plotting points.

The Listener Crossword is a thematic cryptic crossword puzzle which first appeared in the British magazine of that name in 1930. It is currently published weekly in *The Times* newspaper and is available online to subscribers.

**New compilers welcome!** We welcome puzzles from new compilers. The easiest way to start is with a slot 1 Half and Half puzzle, which only involves cryptic clues for half of the solutions. If you're hesitant, some of our more experienced compilers will be delighted to pair with you and provide advice and assistance.



Join our Facebook group and discuss anything to do with words and puzzles. (No discussion of current prize puzzles please.)

Search for <u>Australian</u> <u>Crossword Club</u> or click the above hyperlink.

ACC

#### March 1: InGrid (Jean Barbour)

- Liked ALOOFLY. However, TITILLATE is a verb, whereas the clue lacks a verb definition. *Len Colgan*
- I'm pretty sure that my answer to 9dn, REVERB, is incorrect but couldn't come up with anything else that would fit! Kathryn Forward
- A good start thank you Jean. Robyn Wimbush
- Good puzzle, not easy. 16ac is a verb, Clue seems to be for a noun. Roy Taylor
- 8dn could be SHMOOZE [Agreed Adj]. Brian Symons
- An enjoyable start to the month. Ulla Axelsen
- I got confused by 16ac, where titillate a verb stands in for excitement - a noun. Caroline Mackay-Sim
- Enjoyable Slot 1, liked the clue for E Coli. Joan Smith
- As always, a steady start to the month's set of puzzles. I liked 27ac, OAST HOUSE, for its surface reading. Mal Cockburn
- Can't really justify EATABLE nor TITILLATE other than my answers fit the pattern. *Peter Holmick*
- Some cryptic clues got a tick from me. *Tony Dobele*
- Always fun, thanks Ingrid. I liked BETEL, and REVERB was new to me. Kathy Horadam
- Not sure about 16ac, as clue seems to indicate a noun, not a verb. Kath Harper
- Half and half puzzles are always interesting. Jean Fyans

#### March 2: T-boy (Toby McLeay)

- Liked the clues for BANDANAS and BACKLASH. Len Colgan
- Loved GENDER and BANDANAS (which was the last to fall). Kathryn Forward
- Very good clues. I voted AGRA COTM. Viagra a HARD drug! Roy Taylor
- Very enjoyable. Some great 'fun' definitions. Ulla Axelsen
- Several great clues were found in T-boy's entry.
   GENDER, AGRA (COTM) & BACKLASH are among the highlights. Mal Cockburn
- I spent quite a while trying to fit YURT into GENDER before it dawned that GER was the required tent. With the homophone indicator in the middle of the clue, 17ac clues both BIRTH and BERTH and, as there is no checked letter to indicate which is sought, both answers should be accepted [Have been Adj]. I have AGRA as an early contender for COTM! Andrew Miles
- Loved the clues for AGRA and BACKLASH. Nea Storey
- An enjoyable mix of clues thanks. Lynn Jarman
- Thanks T-boy for an enjoyable grid. Especially liked the clue for BANDANAS. Ron Jarman
- Nice one, T-boy. BACKLASH and AGRA are my favourites here, GER in 10ac was new to me... Kathy Horadam
- I had a chuckle over the 'hard drug' in [vi]AGRA. Kath Harper
- I loved the clue for PAKISTAN; I couldn't decide which BIRTH/BERTH to put in. I guess they both work. *Robyn McKenzie*
- Some great clues. Particularly enjoyed PAKISTAN, JAVA and VIAGRA. Jean Evans

#### March 3: Jesso (Noel Jessop)

• Some irritating clues here. Len Colgan

- Not confident with 11ac, UIST, if this is an island it's not one that I've heard of, so I'll be interested to see the annotated clue. [An interesting point: there is a North Uist and a South Uist, often referred to as Uist, but strictly the term Uist refers to a group of six islands that are part of the Outer Hebridean Archipelago Ed ] Kathryn Forward
- Bottom right corner was a bit tricky, but otherwise straightforward. *Ulla Axelsen*
- I always enjoy a Jesso puzzle. But I'm not quite sure about HISS. Sally Shipway
- Some unusual words in this one, and overall, an enjoyable crossword. Mal Cockburn
- I learnt how to do cryptic crosswords solving Jesso's puzzles in The Bulletin, so I enjoyed doing this! Nea Storey
- Some unusual words in this one, and overall, an enjoyable crossword. Mal Cockburn
- Spellcheck was not happy with quite a few of these answers. I found the Slot difficult to find answers. Lynn Jarman
- HISS was fun! I had to guess ADDUCED, and my Mongolian geography is improved, thanks Jesso. Kathy Horadam
- Some interesting clues such as HOMBURG and HISS. Jean Evans

#### March 4: Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)

- Impeccable AJ. Took an embarrassing number of minutes to reconcile QUARTER. Duh! Len Colgan
- Always a favourite and great to get 3 jigsaw puzzles this month! Ann Millard
- Enjoyable puzzle, but I'm not sure if I'm right with a couple of answers... Sally Shipway
- Buttonholes, herringbone, menders .... reminds of being expelled from sewing class at Primary School! Nea Storey
- BUTTONHOLES had me stumped for quite a while until I learned a new meaning for a frog. The ZULU wordplay was staring me in the face (or was that yelling in my ear) until I said it out loud. Good one! Mal Cockburn
- The G word had me stumped for ages. Lynn Jarman
- AJ is always a pleasure. BUTTONHOLES and DRAGONFLY were great clues, but I had trouble with MENDERS and YEASTY. Kathy Horadam
- I do enjoy the AJ puzzles. Always lots of interesting clues and words such as XYLEM. Jean Evans
- Was Valkyrie's mind on alcohol; medicine or mending when composing this puzzle? Maybe all three. Kath Harper

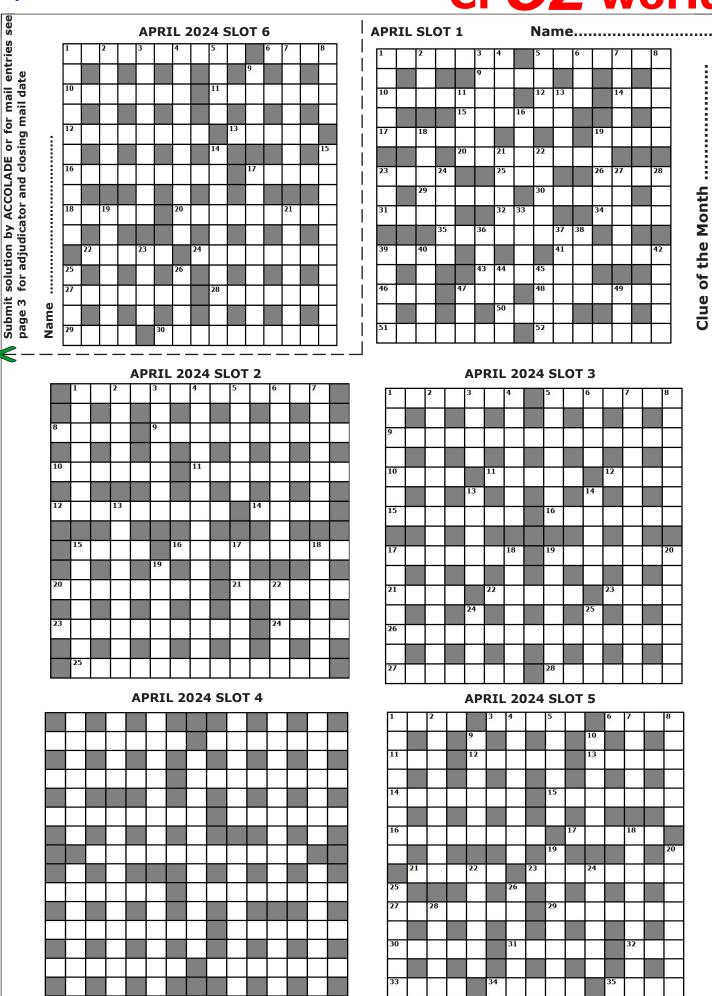
#### March 5: St Jude (Drew Meek)

- Hats off to the achievement of filling the grid entirely with words beginning with O. A pity that the anagram fodder for the obscure ORCHIONCUS is faulty, having an H too many. *Ian McKenzie*
- Great imagination, Drew. Two quibbles though.
   H is 'hearts', never 'heart'. And the 'a' in the
   ORATION clue must be omitted as it intrudes. Len
   Colgan
- ORCHIONCUS not in the dictionaries I have. I would have it finishing in OS, but US fits the clue. Oh dear. Roy Taylor

Continued on page 13

#### **BLANK GRIDS**







# Quiz 4-2024 Oddly counterproductive! By Nigrum Cattus (Ray Gooderick)

Answers have something in common and are in alphabetical order. Send your answers to Julie Crowe jmcbonjour@gmail.com or mail to PO Box 124 North Bendigo

VIC 3350 Closing mail date 26 April 2024

- 1 vegetable (7)
- **2** Sydney suburb (10)
- 3 sound unit (7)
- 4 aid to crossing wet ground (4-5)
- 5 of Norse poetry (5)
- **6** descriptive of glands (9)
- **7** area (5)
- 8 liberty (7)
- **9** master glass blower (6)
- **10** clever (6)
- **11** greeting (4,4)
- **12** happy (2,4,7)
- **13** prison (9)
- **14** peach (11)
- **15** head of an Indian village (5)
- **16** spry (6)
- 17 science of law (8)
- **18** sweet alcoholic drink (7)
- 19 decoration (8)
- 20 mythical bird (7)
- 21 inquisitive person (8)
- **22** stunning weapon (5)
- 23 trial journey (4,3)
- 24 not yet tried (8)
- **25** sportsperson (7)
- **26** boasted (7)

# Results of Quiz 3-2024 Reverse Inclusions by KA (Karl Audrins) Entries Received: 20

Winner: Danuta Rosendorff. Congratulations! Results: 30 Axelsen U, Crowe J, Garner P, Glissan B, Jarman I, Jarman R, Leigh J, McClelland C, Mckenzie R, Miles A, Millard A, Procter D, Rosendorff D, Ryan W, Simpson F, Skinner R, Taylor R, Veress M, Williams K, Wimbush R. 29 Meek D.

**Compiler's Comments:** Thank you for all your entries and kind comments. Congratulations to the winner. Not much one can say about a 97% strike rate, except "Well done, you lot". You made the adjudication easy and controversy free.

#### Solvers' Feedback:

- Thanks for a challenging and fun quiz. Ulla Axelsen
- Many thanks for composing this brainteaser. Pat Garner
- Thanks for the quiz. Quite challenging. Ron Jarman
- Here's hoping I got them right. A very enjoyable quiz,thank you. Julie Leigh
- Thanks for a very challenging and unusual quiz.
   Had a great time. Claire McClelland
- It was an interesting quiz. Thank you. *Robyn Mckenzie*
- An enjoyable guiz! Dashed through it thinking it

- was not too hard, and then hit a few stumbling blocks. *Ann Millard*
- Tough day at the office! Was forced to use the Thesaurus app on many. William Ryan
- I enjoyed your quiz. Thanks for the fun. Fraser Simpson
- Thanks for the quiz. A couple took a bit of tracking down. I thought "Taroc" was a card game, rather than a card. Richard Skinner
- Good quiz. You threw in a few hard ones. Roy Taylor
- It was a great brain workout. Thank you. Kate Williams
- Thank you. This kept me happily busy for a while. Robyn Wimbush

# Feedback on January slot 5 - continued from page 11

- O what fun! The 2 linked words were a bit hard to find despite being anagrams. Ulla Axelsen
- Whilst a bit tricky, a very enjoyable slot. Patricia Abbott
- What a beauty!! ORCHIONCUS nearly had me beat!!! Judy Ferguson
- For a change, I got the theme only after 3 clues were solved. Still, ORCHIONCUS was a very hard word to locate despite suspecting its meaning and was the last entered. Mal Cockburn
- I can see that it would be a challenge starting every answer with "O" but ORCHIONCUS was a little unfair in my view. Assuming that is the answer, of course. Richard Skinner
- OOH! What a feat of compilation. Nea Storey
- O! What a headache. Warren Allen
- O what a great puzzle. I really enjoyed it. Betty Siegman
- What genius to compile this extraORDINARY puzzle. Lynn Jarman
- Very clever to be able to fit all these O words together. Hilary Cromer
- I found this quite tough as I couldn't get the 10 letter words early. H is abbreviation for hearts (not heart) according to Chambers. Ian Thompson
- I found this the hardest puzzle this month, especially with the medical terms. Robyn McKenzie
- "Scrotum" is my word for the week after researching ORCHIONCUS and OSCHEAL! I'll reward myself each time I can slip it into a conversation. Should prove interesting. Kate Williams
- I'm hoping the anatomical terms are correct not my area of expertise! *Kath Harper*

March 6-2024 Cryptic by Robespierre (Ian McKenzie) [see page 2 for the solutions] Entries received 68, Correct 62, Success rate 91%.

Prizewinner: Joan Smith. Congratulations!

#### Compiler's observations

Robespierre dit que les commentaires élogieux sont très appréciés. Evidently, the clues for TAKE OUT, ATHENA, LET IT GO and CROW were particularly well received. A modest number of errors – [all] one-offs.

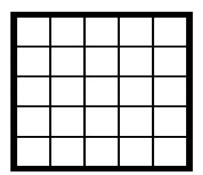
Explanations - Across: 9 rev anag. KATE, 10 dd, 11 OUT, (VETO)\*, 12 LODES <> cURe, 13 TENT <> R(MAG)A, 15 A LA MODE - (D, stEel), 16 PRESS <> OW, 19 (COIN-OPERATED - PIECE)\*, 20 EM, E'ER, 21 HONEY, M, O, ON, 25 LEGO <> TIT, 26 RITA <> COT, 28 (SCORE)\* <> OG, 29 (OpPOSITE)\*. Down: 1 (SCOUTMASTER- RACES)\*, 2 SKATE, Riot, 3 bOGOTa rev., 4 A THEN A, 5 STILE, OTT rev., 6 ACC, (OUTS RAY)\*, 7 GOA <> (N DAWN)\*, 8 OFF, SHOOT, 14 (BEAR)\*, RATION, 16 PEER LESS, 17 OVERT, URN, 18 SOONER <> C,H, 22 spoonerism (DOOR NICK), 23 OP, (INTO)\*, 24 hidden, 27 C ROW.

#### Solvers' Feedback

- Great clues. I picked LET IT GO for COTM. Also liked TAKE OUT and Crowsman (Len Colgan). Claire McClelland
- A few candidates for COTM. I gave it to ATHENA. Len Colgan
- Lot of clever clues. I liked ATHENA, and was tempted to vote HONEYMOON COTM. Roy Taylor
- An enjoyable challenge. Ulla Axelsen
- Many lovely clues here. I liked ATHENA, but loved the precision of TAKE OUT, so give it my COTM. Julie Crowe
- A great mix of easy and challenging clues, this took me ages to complete but I enjoyed it immensely! Kathryn Forward
- Great puzzle loved clues LOURDES, PROWESS, SKATER and CROW. Joan Smith
- I spend most of my time on a Robespierre puzzle trying to understand the wordplay (e.g. ALAMO) and, as always, they're scrupulously honest. Mal Cockburn
- Still can't quite work out Togo from "Bogota". Richard Skinner
- Very fair well-written clues, no technical, archaic or unfamiliar expression - a pleasure to solve. Nea Storey
- Loved ATHENA and CROW! Bev Cockburn
- Spellcheck not into Australian history. It rejected Gondwana. *Lynn Jarman*
- Lots of great clues to enjoy. I liked ATHENA and LET IT GO especially. Robyn Mckenzie
- Some very clever clues here; enjoyable puzzle. Tony Dobele
- I liked the clue for SCHOONER, albeit the beer was watered down! Ron Jarman
- As usual a challenging puzzle with some interesting clues Jean Evans
- A lovely range of clever clues. Kath Harper

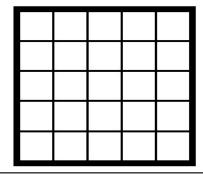
**FRAZ WORD SQUARE 5-Apr 1** (Solution on p 16) Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed itn order.

- Ahead of time on an annual basis, but starting late
- Among mob, a masked former president
- Insignificant southern shopping centre
- · Speak of raspy cowboy's mount
- Two-way Doppler device



**FRAZ WORD SQUARE 5-Apr 2** (Solution on p 16) Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed in order.

- Smooth tree
- "Gee, snakes" [quick breaths]
- Recalled Italian sauce's sweetener
- No minor article of the French lieutenant
- Scatter last of cheddar into ragout



## **Australian Crossword Club The Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee was formed following Patrick's sudden death to ensure that the Club could continue to operate in the event that we lost key individuals. A number of interested and able members agreed to establish the Committee and ensure that the Club's main functions could be carried out by more than one person. The Committee, its members being located throughout the Continent, carries out its business by means of email, operates on the basis of consultation on Club matters, and comprises:

Ian Williams - President and Crossword and CroZworld Editor

Jenny Wenham - Secretary/Treasurer Michael Kennedy - Deputy Crossword Editor Rob Moline - ACCOLADE Guru and Information Technology Ace

**Andrew Patterson** Prize Manager and Statistics **Sam Howat** - Deputy Treasurer

**David Grainger** - Printed Copy Manager we are also pleased that we have back-up for the production of CrOZworld in the person of **Rebel Warren** and **Kay Williams** and **James Groves** proof-read the finished magazine.

March 7-2024 AJ by Flowerman (Ian Thompson) Entries received 61, Correct 53, Success rate 87%.

**Prizewinner: Corryn Anderson. Congratulations!** 

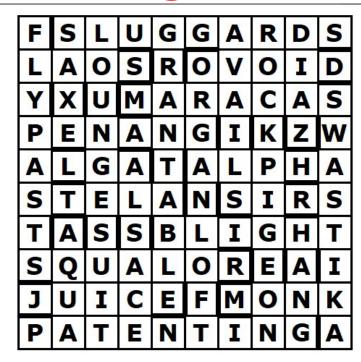
#### Compiler's observations

Thank you, members for your positive comments about the puzzle. I was fairly confident it was going to be doable, even though it might have looked daunting initially. No clue appeared to cause major problems, but there were three errors each for HANG and MARACAS.

**Explanations** -A (GLUG\* in SARD) + S, B B + LIGHT(weight), C AL(I) + 'S + ACE, D OVID around O, E SLATE\*, F (ARROGANT FOOLS)\* - ROSA\*, G (AGENT IN P(huke)T)\*. H hw, I S(tudent)S around IR, J JU(mbos) + ICE,K (E CRO(w) POKING)\*, L AGA around L, M M + ON + K, N HANG(i). O SO(ci)AL<, P EN in PANG, Q SQUAL(I) + O + R, R CARACAS with M replacing C, S L + (GENIUS OUT)\*, T GRAN + TABLE, U A QUOKKA - (OK + (sin) K(ing)), V SALIVA\*, W (WAS in ST) + I + (an)KA(ra), X "sacks", Y FLY + PAST + S, Z (in)DIA + Z,

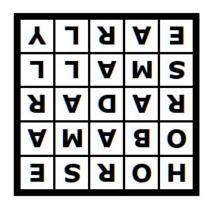
#### Solvers' Feedback

- Clever variant of the A-J [shouldn't we call it A-Z?] format. Ian Mckenzie
- More straightforward than expected. But congratulations are deserved by Ian for his ingenuity, needing exactly 26 answers with each letter occurring at least once. Also, praise for the editorial team. Most enjoyable! Len Colgan
- Another wonderful variation of a jigsaw puzzle! Ann Millard
- It was satisfying to finish this complex construction. Roy Taylor
- Great fun. After getting it all together, there were 7 clues I had to work out the wordplay for. Ulla Axelsen
- Very interesting slant on the AJ. Thanks. Andrew Patterson
- A very cleverly constructed variation on the AJ format. Very enjoyable! Andrew Meek
- What a wonderful puzzle. I cannot imagine how you can actually conceive the idea for this, let alone follow it through. I loved it, even though it was quite a challenge getting started. Julie Crowe
- What a wonderful new puzzle version. Right or wrong it was so enjoyable. Many thanks Brian Symons
- Looked far too hard at first, but eventually gave it a go and found that it all came together quite well in the end. Ron Carpenter
- Loved it!!!! Judy Ferguson
- Really enjoyed this puzzle, though I kept trying to find the clue with the starting letter at first.
   Favourite clues were ORGAN LOFT and BLIGHT. Joan Smith
- What an unusual puzzle! I enjoy these unique and challenging puzzles, not the least, working out where to place the words in the grid. Well done, Flowerman. Mal Cockburn
- Un-numbered AND barred! Nea Storey
- Loved this new concept! Bev Cockburn
- Something different, and very enjoyable. Thanks Flowerman. Betty Siegman
- What a challenge. Brain neurons didn't know which way to fire. Lynn Jarman



- Enjoyed the complexity of this one. *Rob Milton*
- I really enjoyed this puzzle, somewhat different. Thanks. Claire McClelland
- That was devious but I enjoyed winkling it out. Tony Dobele
- Quite tricky but very satisfying! Robyn Mckenzie
- Thank you for a fascinating challenging and very interesting puzzle. *Jean Evans*
- Thank goodness for the spare grid for trying out options for this puzzle! Kath Harper

Solution WORD SQUARE 5-Apr 1



Solution WORD SQUARE 5-Apr 2

