



No 415 December 2024



www.crosswordclub.org



*If one word is useless so will a thousand be. Chinese Proverb*

## GRIDATORIAL

Another year nearly done! A short month for your solving so that we can publish the January issue in time to give you something to occupy any spare moments over Christmas. Please note the early closing date.

You will see on page 13 a request for volunteers for slot 1 to 5 adjudication and a renewed plea for quizzes. The club can only function with your assistance, so please consider whether you can afford a little time to contribute to our work for members.

We have an interesting set of challenges for you this month, starting with one of Valkyrie's well-crafted half and half puzzles, the solution to which will repay study. One of our newer compilers, CT, has devised slot 2 for your enjoyment while another of our newer compilers, NanaKat, features in slot 3. One of our stalwarts, St Jude, provides the ever-popular slot 4 alphabetical jigsaw. Crowsman's compiling skill is demonstrated this month in slot 5, with an unclued solution providing the theme, and slot 7, in the form of an impressively crafted puzzle. Valkyrie makes another appearance with this month's quiz.

Thanks again to those who have renewed early for 2025 and to those who have made a contribution to the prize fund, whose names appear on page n.

Enjoy your solving this month. Ian

## FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

Wild weather up and down the east coast as I write - hot, windy, rain, thunderstorms, all very exciting. Just like this month's puzzles.

**Slot 1:** Well received, with lots of comments about this being an enjoyable opener. Couple of variations of TESTED THE WATERS ("TASTES", "TASTED"), perhaps from the same folk who chose CHAMPAGNE PLATES rather than FLUTES ... Typos elsewhere, e.g. CARR (CART) HORSE, LA PLAZA (LA PLATA) but I admired the one occurrence of PROTEUS for ELOPERS. I guess the letters filled the blanks.

**Slot 2:** Oh boy. The more than 20 of you who stumbled over WEIRD (16a) may find comfort in the setters' explanation elsewhere. For those who enjoy the mechanics of cryptics, it's an example of a cryptic definition, whereby the whole clue is one single definition, worded in a misleading way (Dr Google explains it better). The other stumbling block was the homophone AIR, with a number hearing it the wrong way and inserting AYR. ALSO also caused some grief (ALTO, PLUS, GLEE (!) and ELLO) being proffered. Lots of solvers enjoyed the Nina.

**Slot 3:** Many clever clues, and obviously not too many scared off by the 15-letter answers. Some of our senior setters (experience, not age) have pointed out that once a few letters in a 15'er are available, the solving becomes easier ... hmmm. CANNIBALISATION became CRIMINALISATION a few times - there's a link there I guess, and CHIANGMAI was typo'd into CHAINGMAI more times than it should.

**Slot 4:** Two major errors here; VASELINE slipped (sorry) into VASOLINE (on its way to Valvoline perhaps, another well known lubricant) and EUXENITE morphed into a number of variations. Did you know that the word is derived from the Greek euxenos, "hospitable", a reference to the mineral itself being composed of 4 rare elements ? No, neither did I.

continued on page 2

## LEADING FIGURES

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	86	77	83	79	80	405
Correct entries	76	37	72	58	75	318
Success rate (%)	88	48	87	73	94	79
Prizewinners	Fay Copland	Philip Coote	Cheryl Wilcox	Rob Moline	Anastasia Webster-Hawes	from 88 members

**Prizewinner: November Slots 1-5 correct: Anne Simons. Congratulations!**

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November Slot 1

1	C	H	A	M	P	A	G	N	E	F	L	U	T	E	S
2	A	L	L	R	E	A	H	T							
3	P	R	I	V	A	T	E	P	R	O	P	E	R	T	Y
4	S	A	T	A	I	L	E	E							
5	T	E	S	T	E	D	T	H	E	W	A	T	E	R	S
6	O			A	B			T	M						
7	N	O	C	A	U	S	E	F	O	R	A	L	A	R	M
8	E	A			A	U					G	I			
9	S	U	R	G	E	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	N
10		T	L			S	H				S				
11	S	C	H	O	O	L	O	F	T	H	O	U	G	H	T
12	W	O	P	D	R	R	O	R							
13	A	G	R	E	E	T	O	D	I	S	A	G	R	E	E
14	M	S	R	U	P	L	S	L							
15	P	L	E	A	S	U	R	E	S	E	E	K	E	R	S

November Slot 2

1	?	N	E	X	T	P	R	E							
2	H	A	R	R	U	M	P	H	O	X	A	L	I	S	
3	I	R	A	E	L	L	T	T							
4	A	L	S	O	S	O	B	L	I	T	C	H	I		
5	D	O				U	S	L	E						
6	L	O	B	S	C	O	U	S	E	W	E	I	R	D	
7	W			A	H	L	R								
8	A	N	A	R	C	H	Y	G	U	M	S	H	O	E	
9			I	U	S	S					R				
10	M	Y	R	O	N	S	E	C	T	A	R	I	A	N	
11	A	B	B	V			E	T							
12	A	M	O	R	A	L	E	N	D	T	R	O	T		
13	M	A	A	I	R	A	U	R							
14	K	E	L	V	I	N	A	S	T	E	R	O	I	D	
15	R	O	D	L	A	N	O								

November Slot 3

1	C	O	M	M	E	R	C	I	A	L	I	S	T	I	C
2	O	I	N	A	U	N	R	O							
3	N	I	N	J	A	N	S	C	R	E	A	M			
4	F	C	M	N	T	O	A	M							
5	I	C	E	P	I	G	R	A	M	T	O	O			
6	D	M	L	B	A	E									
7	E	E	S	T	A	B	L	E	S	C	K				
8	N	O	A	H	L	I			T	H	E	N			
9	C	T	A	N	I	M	A	L	S	I	O				
10	E	C	T	N	S	N	C	A	O	W					
11	T	I	C	A	V	A	R	I	C	E	N	I	L		
12	R	A	L	T	D	P	G	E							
13	I	T	C	H	Y	I	I	T	A	M	E	D			
14	C	T	S	O	O	I	A	G							
15	K	N	I	T	T	I	N	G	M	A	C	H	I	N	E

November Slot 4

1	K	G	O			C	W	Q							
2	D	I	S	O	M	I	C		J	A	C	O	B	U	S
3	M	A	D	E	L	A	P	O	A						
4	R	O	S	A	C	E	V	A	S	E	L	I	N	E	
5	N	V	D	O	I	E	T								
6	I	O	T	A		Z	I	R	C	O	N	I	U	M	
7	S	R	B	R	U										
8		L	I	Q	U	I	D	A	M	B	E	R			
9	T		S	U	S	U	Y								
10	S	H	I	P	S	H	A	P	E	X	M	A	S		
11	I	R	P	O	U	E	T								
12	F	E	D	E	L	I	N	I	N	I	N	E	T	Y	
13	V	A	L	S	F	I	E								
14	H	E	N	C	O	O	P		M	I	D	T	E	R	M
15	D	H	T						T	E	S				

November Slot 5

1	D	O	W	N	P	O	U	R		S	M	O	O	T	H
2	O	E	O	N					A	U	E				
3	S	U	B	D	U	E			M	I	N	S	T	E	R
4	A	P	N	E	I	A	R	I							
5	G	R	A	N	D	P	R	I	X	G	I	A	N	T	
6	E	G	A	C	E	E	G	A							
7		L	E	G	G	U	A	R	D	S	B	E	R	G	
8	L		E	R	M	R									
9	A	P	S	E	B	R	E	A	K	O	U	T	S		
10	N	T	E	I	R	U	O	S							
11	G	R	O	A	N	A	R	R	O	G	A	N	C	E	
12	U	R	R	G	I	H	N	W							
13	A	N	A	T	A	S	E	A	L	A	B	A	M	A	
14	G	G	G						G	G	G	G			
15	E	L	E	V	E	N			G	E	N	E	S	E	

November Slot 6

1	A	S	H	L	A	R	G	I	D	D	I	E	S	T	
2	T	I	A	E	I	N	T								
3	E	Y	E	C	A	N	D	Y	S	A	S	H	A	Y	
4	L	H	C	S	T	I	L								
5	C	O	M	I	C	O	P	E	R	A	D	I	E	T	
6								U	R	F	E	M			
7	I	C	E	B	E	R	G	S	F	I	J	I	A	N	
8	R	A													
9	C	A	R	N	A	L	D	U	R	A	B	L	E	S	
10	C	D	A	U	O										
11	S	K	E	W											
12	D	I	N	T	D	L	I								
13	S	O	R	D	I	D	B	E	E	L	I	N	E	S	
14	W	T	E	I	A	B	G								
15	O	N	T	H	E	R	U	N		U	N	I	S	E	X

MEMBERS' RESULTS FOR NOVEMBER 2024 Slots 1 to 7

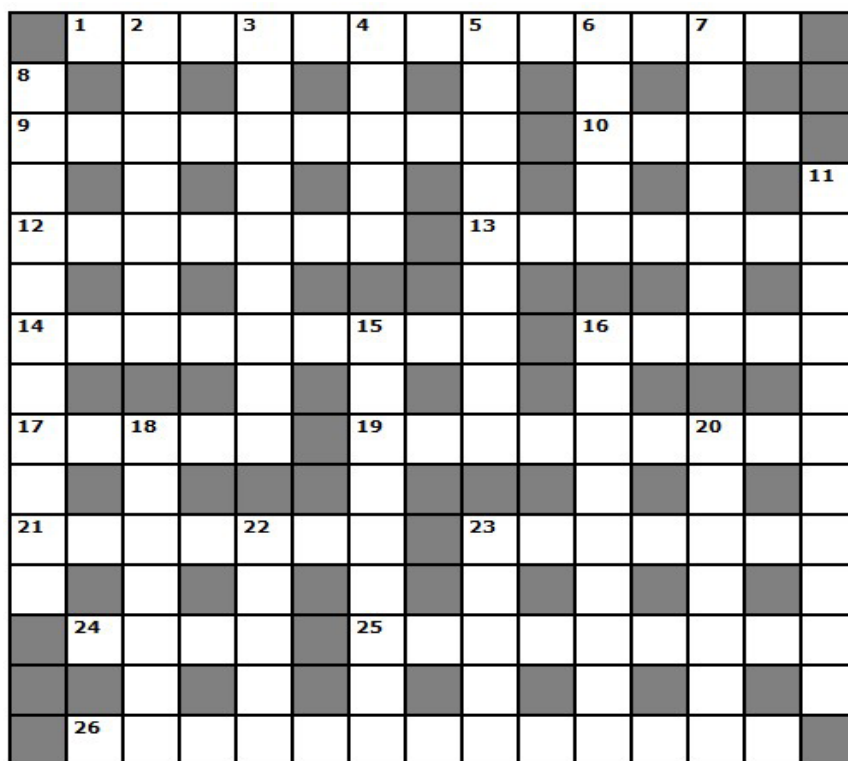
MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Abbott P.	•		•		•		•	Graves C.	•		•		•	•		Randall J.	•		•				
Allen W.	•		•		•		•	Hagan R.	•		•		•	•		Rosendorff D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Audrins K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Roulston S.			•				
Axelsen U.	•	•			•	•	•	Hearn R.	•	•	•	•		•		Ryan W.	•		•	•	•		•
Barbour J.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Horadam K.	•	•	•	•	•			Shapiro R.			•				
Barnes J.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Howat S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Shield A.	•				•	•	•
Batum C.	•	•	•	•	•	•		Jones G.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Shipway S.	•						
Bennett D.			•	•	•		•	Kennedy L.	•	•		•	•			Siegmán B.	•			•	•	•	•
Bennett Moses L.	•							Lankshear J.			•		•	•		Simons A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bettles K.	•		•		•		•	Leigh J.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Simpson F.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Blake M.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Lloyd G.	•							Skinner R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carroll L.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Mackay-Sim C.	•		•		•			Smith J.	•	•	•	•	•		•
Cockburn B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Madden J.			•		•			Storey N.				•	•	•	•
Cockburn M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Martin A.	•		•		•			Storti A.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Matthews S.	•		•	•	•			Symons B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Coote P.	•	•	•		•	•	•	McClelland C.		•	•	•	•	•	•	Taylor R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Copland F.	•			•	•			McKenzie I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Taylor S.	•	•	•	•	•		
Cornish W.	•		•		•	•	•	McKenzie R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Thomas C.			•		•		
Cromer H.	•	•	•		•			McLeay T.	•	•	•		•	•		Thompson I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Crowe J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Meek A.			•	•	•	•	•	Tickle B.	•	•	•	•			
Davis K.	•	•		•	•	•	•	Miles A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Veress M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dobele T.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Millard A.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Void T.	•		•		•	•	•
Ducker R.			•	•	•	•	•	Milton R.	•							Webster-Hawes A	•		•		•		
Evans J.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Moline R.	•	•		•	•	•		Wenham J.	•						
Forward K.	•		•		•			Parsons D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wilcox C.	•		•	•	•	•	
Francis K.			•	•				Patterson A.	•	•	•		•	•		Williams K.	•	•	•	•	•		
Gamble K.	•		•	•	•		•	Peach S.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Wimbush R.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Gamer P.	•		•	•	•			Pinder S.			•	•	•	•	•	Wood J.	•		•		•		•
Grainger D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Procter D.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Young A.	•		•	•	•	•	

From the Adjudicator - continued from p 1

**Slot 5:** Really well liked, especially once it was realised that the common ending to the down clues matched the theme. Very clever setting. LEG GUARDS didn't protect a couple of solvers who thought SLUGGARDS worked better.

**COTM:** 36 nominations this month. It's not often that the COTM throws up such a clear winner, but LIQUID AMBER in Slot 4 gained 11 nominations, three times more than its nearest rival. Congratulations Both Sides. **David Grainger**

## Slot 1

Half and Half  
by  
ValkyriePrize  
\$50

## Across

- 1 Newspaper rituals hate an anomaly (3,10)  
 9 Angry queue returns to start of developing grid problem (9)  
 10 Striker for Manchester United perhaps (4)  
 12 Old wine initially started foreign trade (7)  
 13 Formidable, unrestrained women follow American tweets regularly (7)  
 14 Magistrate disregards date over consideration relating to sentencing? (9)  
 16 First settlers coming back, concealing challenges (5)  
 17 Note black American puzzle (5)  
 19 Students arrange slides around rejected photo (9)  
 21 Obsessed with small glove (7)  
 23 Entranced European chases trendy Australian Diploma of Art jazz finale (2,1,4)  
 24 A directionless finish on the summit (4)  
 25 Foreign? Native? Former not fashionable (9)  
 26 Support in keeping about a thousand for intensive group discussion (13)

## Down

- 2 Fastener (4-3)  
 3 Europeans (9)  
 4 Pigeonholes (5)  
 5 Clearances (9)  
 6 Sordid gain (5)  
 7 Watery (7)  
 8 Add a scarf perhaps (11)  
 11 Doggedness (11)  
 15 Fast food (1,1,7)  
 16 Loyalty to clan (9)  
 18 Transparent bulge (7)  
 20 Union (7)  
 22 Themes (5)  
 23 Opening passage (5)

SEND  
SOLUTIONS  
TO:

For online entry, submission and adjudication of all slots via ACCOLADE click on the ACCOLADE button on [www.crosswordclub.org](http://www.crosswordclub.org) home page.

Slots 1 to 5: Tony Dobeles: email to [tandcdobeles@gmail.com](mailto:tandcdobeles@gmail.com) or mail to 10 Sharpe Street, Norman Gardens Qld 4701

Slot 6: Kay Williams: email to [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au) or mail to 12 Lindrum Crescent Holt ACT 2615

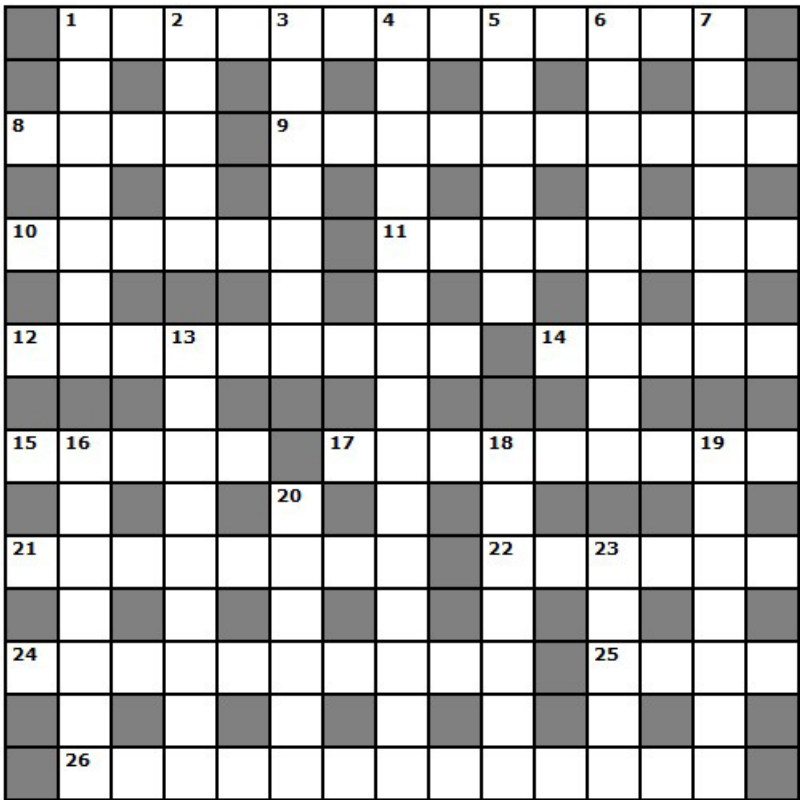
Slot 7: Kay Williams: email to [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au) or mail to 12 Lindrum Crescent Holt ACT 2615

Closing mail date for all puzzles is 20 December 2024.

BLANK  
GRIDS  
PAGE 16

Slot 2

Cryptic  
by  
CT



Across

- 1 Only just survive: capitally punish via a "rightful" death, mutilated (4,2,1,6)
- 8 Odd-ball hit but not hard (4)
- 9 Best economic system, according to adaM sMith, but not karl Marx! (10)
- 10 LED TV's line-up shows wildlife locations (6)
- 11 Exceed boundaries, zero dispute about unfinished edge (8)
- 12 Blew it up, to get masterpiece, say (4,5)
- 14 Dead unlucky? (5)
- 15 Frighten spy (5)
- 17 Leave behind revolutionary Green, someone who's work-shy (9)
- 21 No charge, nothing, for hippy relations? (4,4)
- 22 Rattle in a car - a Mini - when reversing (6)
- 24 Striking, say, uranium instead of silver is bountiful (10)
- 25 An old tale that should be wound up (4)
- 26 Natural inclinations to assume estate is Queen's repeated flattery (13)

Down

- 1 Unending bliss and fiery dismissal (5-2)
- 2 Rising clergyman, transfixed by King without a stitch on (5)
- 3 Help to eat seconds (5,2)
- 4 Suitability of inners occasionally lining trousers (15)
- 5 The Killers, a male vocal group? (6)
- 6 Give better quality to English thing Len edited (9)
- 7 Remove hat, holding bodily remains and flee (4,3)
- 13 Heather grips the odd shorties for stuff that's hard to get (9)
- 16 Concern for each dry-riser (7)
- 18 Trait in lousy MP - to mislead (7)
- 19 Last numbers of composed performances - PM far gone (7)
- 20 Ratio in school, say, was emulated (6)
- 23 Capless marker of artificial fabric (5)

General Feedback for November

- Many thanks for my slot 1 prize. And many more to the hard-working ACC Committee. Season's Greetings to all! *Jan Wood*
- Thank you so much for my Slots 1-5 prize. *Alison Shield*



Slot 3

Cryptic  
by  
NanaKat

Prize  
\$50

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

Across

- 8 April chaotic and unquiet for Lebanese capital! (4)
- 9 Colourful Aussie women’s basketball player earns, on vacation, the smallest amount of money (10)
- 10 A bit for each? (6)
- 11 Panoramic view of red-hot chilli (5-3)
- 12 Famous hedgehog swallows a rind, disheartened, confused and scornful (8)
- 14 Small program may be found on computer brand, given time (6)
- 16 Flourish, but scowl when there’s no seafood (4)
- 17 Bubbles forth (5)
- 18 Vermin contributed to pandemic event (4)
- 19 Publisher exists to bring legal complaint, right? (6)
- 21 Reflect on the neat rum I distilled (8)
- 23 Replace this when you find Bin Laden! (3,5)
- 26 Lee eats eucalyptus pea (6)
- 27 Not on, horsing around as a way to avoid tax (10)
- 28 Spots about-face in Borden, Canada (4)

Down

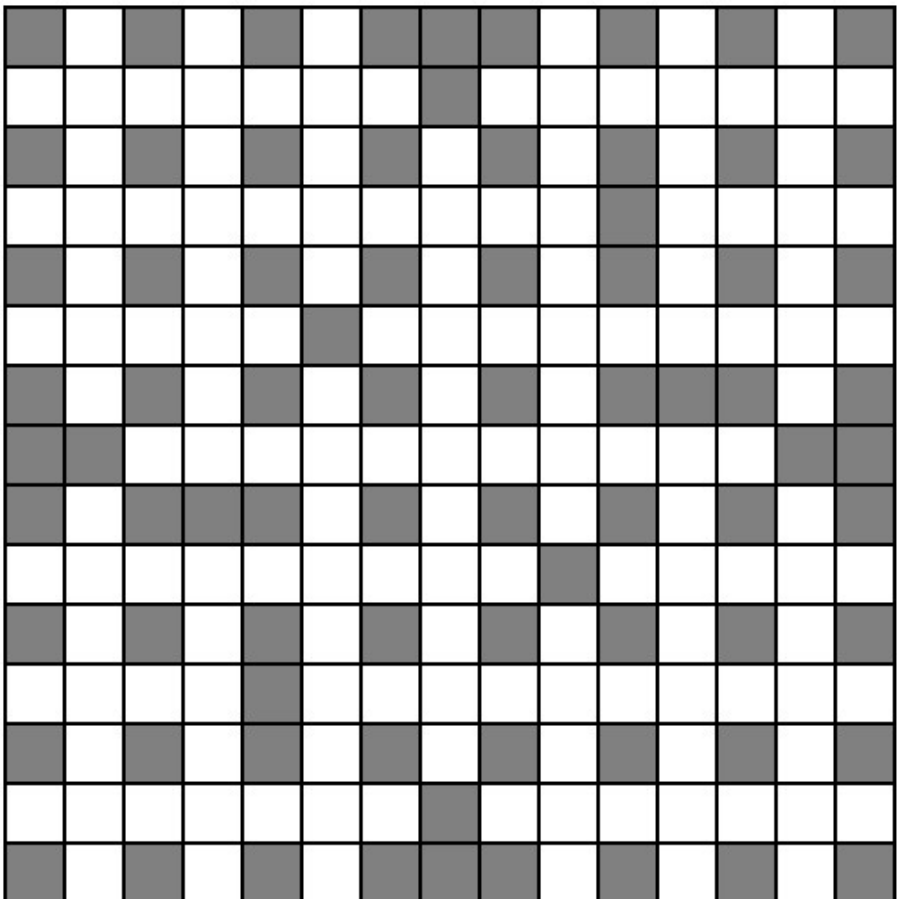
- 1 I had soup, an absurdly insubstantial stuff! (10)
- 2 Reported the French purveyor of scented shrub (8)
- 3 Humourless Mr Gibson back in the embrace of his boy (6)
- 4 On the side of opening in B major, contrarily (4)
- 5 Short agent with reefer earns rebuke (8)
- 6 Eccentric cast, in a positive mood, misbehaves (4,2)
- 7 Dark, smelly street cleared (4)
- 13 Author invested in endless task for a group of singers (5)
- 15 Passion for topless sex? Set it in concrete (10)
- 17 Links warning: no one detailed in the morning (8)
- 18 One metric unit used as a motif? (8)
- 20 Unconventional US lens for a specific condition (6)
- 22 From within, small signs of evil (6)
- 24 Dubious about spiffy bookmaker’s odds being withdrawn (4)
- 25 Endlessly regretting bankruptcy (4)

Slot 4

AJ  
by  
St Jude



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



- A Rearranged a sarong for cats, perhaps (7)
- B Ban traitor for old deceit (6)
- C Hamper working of grappling iron (7)
- D Swing dead fish (6)
- E A little German music by Mozart is incomplete (4,6)
- F Struggling pioneer takes in last foal to central farthinglands (11)
- G Start to obtain continuously (7)
- H Greek soldier's limp kindled empathy initially (7)
- I Madly losing son futilely (7)
- J Fool detectives when taken in (7)
- K Said to construct wrapping paper (5)
- L Disposing of endless fluid that is getting old (11)
- M 'Sends to outspoken men (5)
- N Din at Tourist Trophy's last race is sweet (8)
- O Women don't begin to get the sign (4)
- P Assert before command loses initial toughness (9)
- Q Correction at inquest is most whimsical (9)
- R Smooth debauchee (4)
- S Hide energy within web (5)

- T Wrong cocktail not British but Italian fare (10)
- U Sounder, lively old seducers (7)
- V Checkers call for old true sacks (9)
- W Cleverly, idiot puts head back to dead-head flower (7)
- X Christian going to start becoming type of Chinese (5)
- Y Immature but vigorous (8)
- Z By arrangement, tout Czech priest's hat (9)

Slot 5

Cryptic  
by  
Crowsman

Prize  
\$50

Each across clue contains only the wordplay (secondary indicator). Their common definition is the unclued middle row. Down clues are normal.

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

Across

- 9 Higher than average public house (7)
- 10 One "very naughty boy" holding nothing back (7)
- 11 Pole returned, visiting (5)
- 12 Pet rodent avoiding hot source of water (9)
- 13 Heartlessly stab inside beast (6)
- 14 Seamen going around before returning (7)
- 17 See rubric (8,7)
- 20 Means of travel when getting over a cold (7)
- 22 Meat-based pasta sauce put into penne before reaching 22.5 degrees (6)
- 26 Priest inside is ill (9)
- 27 Left nothing! (5)
- 28 German agreement restricting a child's home-made vehicle (7)
- 29 Infant nearly covered with hair (7)

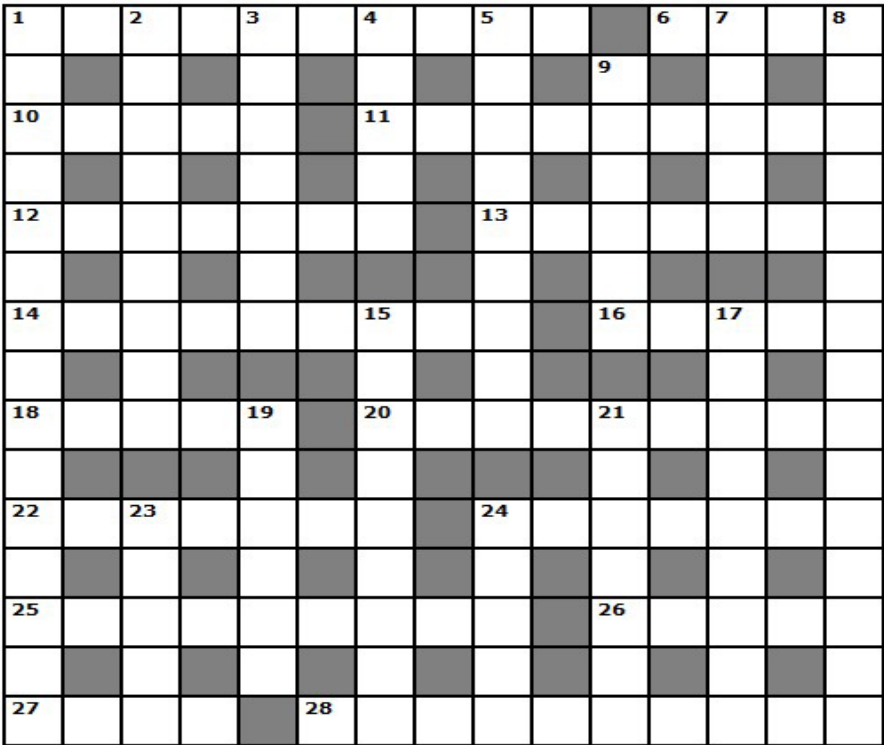
Down

- 1 Shocking loose woman in cast (9)
- 2 Excuses boxer twice! (6)

- 3 Finest player's six tours abandoned, with nothing gained (8)
- 4 Part of Indo-China raised divine food (5)
- 5 Illicit drug engulfing north German city, at bottom (2,7)
- 6 Simple hiding is not a trick! (6)
- 7 Anchor hull of ship quickly! (8)
- 8 I interrupt Muslim leader looking up US city (5)
- 15 Barge pet possessing bum smell (5,4)
- 16 Arctic dwellers have fuel dispersed in containers (4,5)
- 18 Enjoy after rise in percentage, similar to a gin (8)
- 19 Ingredient restricting turquoise-coloured weedkiller (8)
- 21 Like a Derby leader giving ground (6)
- 23 One picked to support a band? (6)
- 24 Assassin in Japan, camouflaged (5)
- 25 Barrage within while president (5)

Slot 6

Cryptic  
by  
Betelgeuse



Across

- 1 Those who scratch perhaps, following a party with birds (10)
- 6 Defect heard to astonish (4)
- 10 Sounds like lots of honours (5)
- 11 Regeneration of botanical gardens not costing a star (9)
- 12 Sure runs amok in city race (7)
- 13 Source of chocolate found about ancient city island (7)
- 14 Offended by Maquis - he's wild! (9)
- 16 Turn around, but not long, when the old have sex (5)
- 18 Prompt praise in Canberra - with documentation (5)
- 20 Professional (and capital old fellow) embraced composer (9)
- 22 Bar on disabled gave pain (7)
- 24 Turkey and Spain use aluminium sheeting to make three-lobed ornament (7)
- 25 Subtle meaning of public jokes (9)
- 26 Astern, one finds exhaust (5)
- 27 Fixes squares of tartan (4)
- 28 Men's theory about Polish polish, for example (10)

Down

- 1 Using mixed feed for home provisions, resulting in sudden discharges (15)
- 2 Humorously eye wet shoe (5,4)
- 3 Sets out time for a password (7)
- 4 Intoxicating dance conceals puff (5)
- 5 Dubious chic in medium type vegetable (9)
- 7 Goodness gracious! One cold case! (5)
- 8 Possibly French wrap's a cover for correspondence (6,9)
- 9 Stops early and smelly complaint in a university faculty (6)
- 15 Member that's about to take steps on the blockage (9)
- 17 Diagnostic tool for one to remove old impediment on second eye (9)
- 19 Poked the thing, first expecting a snake (6)
- 21 Daughter in play ducks around plant (7)
- 23 Ham-fisted write-up in Italian (5)
- 24 Saints give thanks before the last small drink (5)



Slot 7

Cryptic  
by  
Crowsman

Prize  
\$50



Crowsman's Corner

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

Some answers are related.

Across

- 1 Remunerated help giving response (8)
- 5 Sucker brought back watch, no longer fashionable (6)
- 10 Asian coin for cooked 26 (5)
- 11 Payment possibly covers roll for gourmand (4-5)
- 12 Witness messenger providing leak (7)
- 13 Adult female cat that's getting scallop (7)
- 14 Rate from first of equestrian events regressed (6)
- 16 Measures at the back of deer's pair of hooves (8)
- 18 Yacht club receives nothing after knocking back Welsh emblem (8)
- 20 Professional mourner is more passionate? (6)
- 24 Recognise spiritual leader backing poems (7)
- 25 English pair collecting flower-stalk from runner (7)
- 27 A rich source is admitted by former partners, those answering questions (9)
- 28 European lake is chilling (5)
- 29 One of the 27 fixed back support (6)
- 30 Cover vegetables outside damaged shed (3-5)

Down

- 1 Predict charge involving minerals (7)
- 2 Foil enclosed Liberace's first record (5)
- 3 Work group anger with the brewing industry (7)
- 4 Cold chewy candy, but no time for hot drink (6)
- 6 En masse, observe dead flax-related weed (7)
- 7 A number spotted around contest (9)
- 8 Affected by drink to the highest degree, apart from bachelor. Most strange! (7)
- 9 Who in France interrupts fellow coming up to provide new supplies? (7)
- 15 Supports imbibing overall, but abstains from alcohol (9)
- 17 Curse involves that female death-portending spirit (7)
- 18 Superlatively 20, but important breeding-ground, it is said (7)
- 19 Drone perhaps circles rising river, providing direct route (7)
- 21 Former highly rated group reportedly is outstanding (7)
- 22 Recreate treatment, but without a raise again! (2-5)
- 23 Shorten finally changed direction for person with a letter (6)
- 26 Wangled 10 for pulped foodstuff (5)

The blank grid for this puzzle is on page 12

**Quiz All at Sea by Valkyrie**

All answers contain something in common and are in alphabetical order of the complete solution that contains the common element. The contained word is not at the beginning nor at the end. Word length indicators relate to the complete solution, followed by that of the common element. The common element must be highlighted or underlined. Answers to ullaaxelsen@hotmail.com or 6 Maud Street Donnybrook Qld 4510.

**Closing mail date 20 December 2024.**

- 1 Representative of a specified thing (10)[4]
- 2 Vehicle with bad suspension (10)[4]
- 3 Blood vessel in neck (7, 6)[4]
- 4 Losing one's nerve when facing a challenge (7)[4]
- 5 Indian thief (6)[3]
- 6 Diggers (7)[5]
- 7 Flotilla (10)[4]
- 8 Tentacles (7)[3]
- 9 To have some indication of in advance (10)[4]
- 10 Wanderer (8)[3]
- 11 Overload (11)[5]
- 12 Cheek (9)[4]
- 13 School for the young (12)[3]
- 14 Off balance (8)[3]
- 15 Pamper (11)[3]
- 16 Family of monocotyledons (11)[4]
- 17 An official notice given to the public (12)[4]
- 18 Disapproving (11)[5]
- 19 A board game (8)[4]
- 20 Arguing (8)[4]
- 21 A sport (5, 6)[5]
- 22 Bare floored (10)[4]
- 23 Of ill omen (11)[4]
- 24 A capital (10)[4]
- 25 Taking internal photographs (1-6)[3]

**2025 3D Crossword**

Since 2008 cryptic crossword lovers have had the opportunity to tackle top-class puzzles in three dimensions by subscribing to the *3D Crossword Calendar*. Each month's page features the work of famous setters and designers based in the UK, Ireland, France and the USA, and with desktop publishing and graphic design carried out in Australia. All those involved give their time and expertise free of charge, and all proceeds go to two very worthwhile British charities, which aim to enrich and facilitate the lives of disadvantaged children and blind people respectively.

**Results of Quiz No. 11 Two to One by KA**

**No. of Entries: 34**

**Winner: Maureen Blake - Congratulations!**

**Results: 30** Abbott P. Allen W. Axelsen U. Barbour J. Bettles K. Blake M. Cole G. Cromer H. Crowe J. Evans, J. Francis K. Grainger D. Jarman R. Leigh J. McClelland C. McKenzie I. McKenzie R. Meek D. Miles A. Millard A. Procter D. Ryan W. Shield A. Siegman B. Skinner R. Symons B. Veress M. Wilcox C. Williams K. Wimbush R. 29 Garner P. Pinder S. Taylor R. Webster-Hawes A.

**Answers:** 1 AIRLINE 2 ARMCHAIR 3 BARNSTORM 4 BASEBALL 5 CHECKMATE 6 COTTONMOUTH 7 DOUGHNUT 8 DOWNCAST 9 FOGHORN 10 GREENGROCER 11 HOOKWORM 12 JAWBREAKER 13 KNAPSACK 14 LINEBACKER 15 MARKSMAN 16 MILKSHAKE 17 OUTCAST 18 OVERBITE 19 PASSWORD 20 PILLBOX 21 RINGSIDE 22 ROCKHOPPER 23 SLIPSHOD 24 STOPWATCH 25 TAILBACK 26 TOPKNOT 27 TOUCHDOWN 28 UNDERDONE 29 WATERSHED 30 WIRETAP

**Adjudicator's Comments**

Once again, thanks to all those who participated, and thank you for all your kind comments. Going by the number of entries and the results, the quiz seems to have provided some pleasure and entertainment for members. That was the object of the exercise. Congratulations to the winner. So, without any further logorrhoea, I hope that you all have a happy, merry, Christmas, and that we can do it all again in 2025.

**Members' Feedback**

- Thanks Karl, that was a lot of fun. 'Tailback' is not a familiar word, but it makes a lot of sense.
- In Queensland a 'topknot' is a type of pigeon. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Thanks for this quiz – I thought it would be a quick one but it was a ripper. Plenty of dictionary hunting and a couple of new words. Great entertainment. *Jean Barbour*
- Great and thought-provoking quiz. *Keith Bettles*
- I enjoyed doing this quiz... some tricky ones there. I liked 'stop' for 'period', and the topknot
- truly is a previously unknown fish; also took a while to decide between 'greenbottle' and
- 'grasshopper' before I discovered the Australian greengrocer cicada. *Maureen Blake*
- I was so intrigued by your Quiz that I had to give it a go – before attempting the slots. *Graeme Cole*
- Hope you have plenty of entries for this enjoyable quiz. *Hilary Cromer*
- Another enjoyable quiz. *Ken Francis*
- Thank you for this entertaining quiz. *David Grainger*
- Another interesting idea to make our brain cells work. *Julie Leigh*
- Thank you for the quiz. It was fun to do. *Robyn Mckenzie*
- Thanks for another great quiz. *Ann Millard*
- Thanks again for another of your interesting quizzes. *Betty Siegman*

The Calendar is available as a paper version shipped from England or as a virtual downloadable copy. Solvers can win a small prize each month, but by solving twelve puzzles in the year and tackling an additional challenge, they can even become a World Champion! A newsletter is published every month with a review, comments and explanations; the Calendar itself contains full information on how the puzzles work - it is much less complicated than it sounds! - and there are even monthly Hints and Tips to help you if you are struggling. We also send out electronically at least two extra puzzles a year, free to subscribers. You can find out about the 3D Crossword Calendar from the website below, from which you can also order your own paper or virtual copy. Go to [3dcalendarpuzzles.co.uk](http://3dcalendarpuzzles.co.uk) for all the information.

November 6-2023 Cryptic by Robespierre  
Entries received 6, Correct 51, Success rate 79%.  
Prizewinner: Cam Graves. Congratulations!

Compiler’s observations

Thank you for the appreciative comments. The only repeated solving error was 3 occurrences of BEEHIVES (for BEELINES), which doesn’t seem to fit either the definition or wordplay. I smiled at the substitution of GUYERS (for GEYSERS) – could this become a neologism for a fellow who is always spouting?!

**Explanations – Across:** 1 ASH + wAy + L, R, 5 (GETS)\* around (ID+ID<), 9 (YE + CAN) in DYE\*), 10 SAY around ASH, 11 (I+COPER) inside COMA, 12 DIE, differenT, 13 (BEER + CIGS)\*, 16 (IN A JIffy)\*, 17 CA + RN + hAlf, 19 D + (RULES)\* around AB, 21 SEW around K, 22 dd, 25 SO+I’D around RD, 26 BE, SENILE rev., 27 mONTH, ER, UN, 28 UNI + SEX.**Down:** 2 STY + L + O, 3 L + II around CH, 4 RAN + COURT, 5 homoph. “geezers”, 6 hidden rev., 7 (IS JOINED)\* + Burglar, 8 Spooner “male state”, 14 CRACK + DOWN, 15 B + AND (D, WHITE)\*, 18 LA + UN + DER, 19 Spooner “bust din”, 20 R + ON + homoph. “dough”, 23 (BAIL)\* + I, 24 LIE + G + ludditE.

Solvers’ Feedback

- A few candidates for COTM. Finally tossed up between BEELINES and CRACKDOWN. *Len Colgan*
- Marvelous puns! I loved DIET with ‘spare trunk’ meaning thin torso. Gets my COTM. *Mal Cockburn*
- Very inventive, clever clues. *Ulla Axelsen*
- one of the best Slot 6s I’ve seen. *David Bennett*
- BEELINES? Senility and old age do not compute with me ... *[I’m sure they don’t for you, but one of Chambers’ two definitions for senile is “characteristic of or accompanying old age” Robesp.] Robyn Wimbush*
- Some excellent clues. toss up between STALEMATE and CRACKDOWN for COTM. 27 ac clever but i think “possibly” should be before MAY rather than Topless. *[Such reordering would, of course, muck up the clue’s surface. To be a grammar pedant, “possibly” is used here as an adverbial, not to premodify the adjective “topless”! Robesp.]. Roy Taylor*
- Clever clues with great surfaces. *Tony Dobe*
- SKEW, LIEGE & RONDEAU all v good, I thought. *The Void*
- Clues to make you laugh! *Robyn Mckenzie*
- UNISEX - what a fun clue! *Nea Storey*
- So many possible COTMs here! Eventually, I decided on BEELINERS! *Beverley Cockburn*
- Plenty of interesting clues in this puzzle.-*Ian Thompson*
- Interesting use of language - words such as EYE CANDY and SASHAY. ASHLAR was a new word to add to my vocabulary. *Jean Evans*

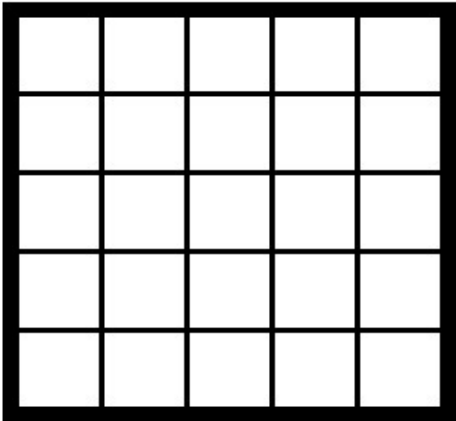
Prize Calendars

Last month we announced that 2025 calendars, created by Rebel Warren, would be presented as additional prizes for the November puzzles. The lucky winners were:  
Slot 1 Robyn Wimbush  
Slot 2 Karl Audrins  
Slot 3 Ann Young  
Slot 4 Jeremy Barnes  
Slot 5 Pat Garner  
Slot 6 Andrew Miles  
Slot 7 Sue Pinder  
Quiz Brian Symons

Many thanks to Rebel for her generosity.

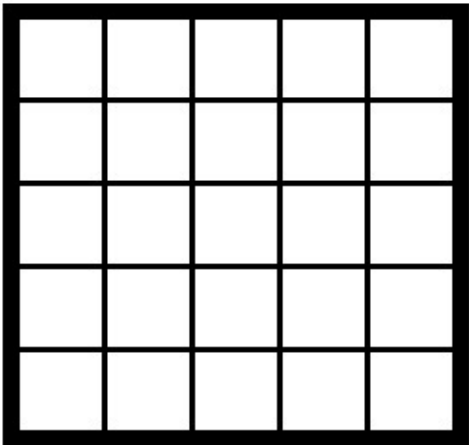
FRAZ WORD SQUARE 5-Nov1  
(Solution on p 16)  
Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed in order.

- Angered shiftY idler
- Apathetic bishop cut with a surgical beam
- E.g., amber trees ultimately kept in check
- Scales left by one supporter
- Team building recalled an important time



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

- Entire voice
- Herb said “midnight, maybe”
- One little woman with me flipped text image
- Rinse off pine secretion
- Twenty posters containing errors



November 7-2024 Threefold by Eclogue  
Entries received 62, Correct 54, Success rate 87%.  
Prizewinner: Greg Jones. Congratulations!

Compiler's observations

Eclogue are gratified for the "three cheers" that this puzzle appears to have raised. It is always difficult for us northern hemisphere lot to gauge how well a theme will travel, but we needn't have feared on that front. MAD appears to have been universally recognised (or at least findable on the internet) by most, if not all of you - Albert E. Neuman will be pleased! There were few dot-depriving errors, one clearly a typo and another, probably a bit of a punt, but incorrect solutions for TORCHER created related errors in TROG in 17-across (where the GOT came from "made it"). Overall a high success rate - always nice to see. For those who missed the 'hidden hint', you may wish to consider the initial letters of the down clues.

**Explanations - Across:** 6 TR + I + CIA, 8 MAN + C + PILE\*, 10 HERO in TID, 11 O + X + BIRD, 12 YC in TRIC(k) + LIST, 13 N in DUE, 14 TRIP + OD, 15 VIB(e) + RIO, 17 R in GOT<, 18 (A + GIANT + YANK)\*, 20 (d)RON(e) in THE, 22 THER(a)PIE(s)\*, 23 AUSTERER\*, 24 GARB(o) + LE.  
**Down:** 1 TRACER\*, 2 SCREE + CHIN + G, 3 DIMS + GIN, 4 (CONTAINING + DIRT)\*, 5 hidden, 7 (CU(b)AN + OF + THE + SOUTH)\*, 9 LOR(d) + ENZO, ref. Lorenzo de Medici (the Magnificent) & Enzo Ferrari, 13 DERBY + (HIRES > SHIRE), 14 TOR + CHER, 16 DEP< after SNAP (old slang), 19 E for L in KNE(l)LS, 21 (h)O(t) + PAL .

Solvers' Feedback

- The Mad Fold-in. The seven thematic words ; Triple; Third; Triune; Trio; Troika; Three and Treble. *Joan Smith*
- Needless to say, excellent setting and a nice bit of nostalgia from MAD magazine. (Thought all those T-words weren't a coincidence). *Andrew Patterson*
- I still have a few of those inspiring publications kicking around and I'm happy to send them your way. [Contact tacc@kg.id.au] *Keith Gamble*
- I have to say that was really clever...it took us a long time to actually fold it. Doh! *Julie Leigh*
- Cleverly themed puzzle. (I'm still looking for the hidden hint). *Mal Cockburn*
- Took me ages to figure out how to get these words, all meaning three. Lot of clever clues. THRONE a COTM contender. *Roy Taylor*

continued on page 15

	1	C		2	S				3	S		4	I		5	L			
6	T	R	I	C	I	A		7	M	A	N	C	I	P	L	E			
	A		R		T			I		D		M			O				
	10	T	H	E	R	O	I	D		11	O	X	B	I	R	D			
	E		E		U		G		C						E				
12	T	R	I	C	Y	C	L	I	S	T			13	D	U	N	E		
				H		H		N		R		E			Z				
	14	T	R	I	P	O	D		15	V	I	B	R	I	O				
	O		N		F		16	S		N		B							
17	T	R	O	G			18	T	A	N	G	A	N	Y	I	K	A		
	C					H		A		T		S			N				
20	T	H	R	O	N	E		21	P	R	I	T	H	E	E				
	E		P		S		P		N		I				E				
23	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E		24	G	A	R	B	L	E			
				L		N		D					E		S				

November Slot 7 solution

Solution WORD SQUARE 5-Dec 1

A	N	E	R	A
N	I	S	R	E
E	S	A	B	L
R	E	L	I	D
A	R	B	I	L

Solution WORD SQUARE 5-Dec 2

N	I	S	R	E
I	J	O	M	E
S	O	P	Y	T
E	M	Y	H	T
R	E	T	T	U



Blank grid for December slot 7

Name:.....

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



A	C	C		
	R			
	O	Z		
O	Z			
	W			
N	O	T	E	S
	R			
	L			
	D			

**Explanations for clues in November 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 Fraz.** Down: 1 (ON + ASPECTS)\*, 2 A + LIAS<, 3 P(LATE)AU(I), 4 homoph "grate + bare", 5 homoph "Erie", 6 (AT + A + L + PAL)<, 7 HERMITAGE\*, 8 ST + YES, 12 (SHORT + RACE)\*, 13 (I) OUTS + TRIPS, 14 (ENLIST + MRS)\*, 16 hidden, 17 (ORAL) in CHE, 18 SWA(M)P, 19 O + DOUR, 20 GOR(S)E.

**Slot 2 The Mythtics.** Across: 8 (A + RR + U + MP) in HH, 9 OX + SAIL\*, 10 bELLY, 11 A + LSO, 12 heads, 13 ITCH in LI, 14 LOBS + CO + US + E, 16 cd, 18 RAN> in ACHY, 20 SMUG< + HOE, 23 hidden, 25 anag, 28 A + MORAL, 29 legEND, 31 dd, 32 homoph "Ayr", 33 ELVIs in KN, 34 SEAT\* + DIOR<. Down: 1 (LOW DNA IN)\*, 2 tERRORS, 3 X+SAM<, 4 Hidden, 5 P + rOLLS, 6 Double, 7 (gReEk HoT cIdEr) <, 15 pun with key being an island, 17 L(US)T, 19 RIO + BRAVO (NATO phonetic alphabet), 21 OR+A+TOR+IO, 22 SEVER+A+L, 24 MM in (YEAR)\*, 26 RET+URN, 27 B+LAND, 30 D+A+T+A.

**Slot 3 Lexi Conner.** Across: 1 COMMERCIAL + IS + TIC, 9 NIN + JA, 11/10 homoph "I scream", 12 E + PIG + RAM, 13 TOOk, 14 STABLE + S, 16 (harpoon - pro)\*, 17 aTHENs, 18 (an Islam)\*, 20 heads, 22 (video camera - demo)\*, 23 penNILEss, 24 tITCHY, 25 TA + MED, 26 cd - knitting. Down: 1 CONFIDENCE + TRICK, 2 (committeeman - tom)\*, 3 NAME in LES\*, 4 Play on meaning of cannibal, 5 AUSTRAL + IAN + IDIOM, 6 I + NCO + MESSage, 7 (Respectable) in TAT, 8 COMMON + KNOWLEDGE, 15 aching\* + aim\*, 18 homoph "annalist", 19 (tragiC) in SEPTIC, 21 T in ICAC<.

**Slot 4 Both Sides.** A (RAVIOI+SPUD+O)\*, B BUSH+PI+LOT, C (PSI+CUM) in CASe, D DIet+SOMe+ICe, E EugXEN(IT)E, F Anag., G (IR(AVA)DOG)<, H Spooner, I I(OT)A, J JACOB+US, K <MIK+(O) +<SON, L cd, M dd, N (I+NET)in NY, O I OI s+LED, P PR+EACH, Q QUANT+UM, R ROS(AC)E, S SHIP+SHAPE, T Anag., U UN+FIT, V cd, W WOO+LEN, X (SAM + X)<, Y Y + mATTERS, Z (Z+I+MICRO+U+N)\*.

**Slot 5 T-boy.** Across: 1 DOWN + P +hOUR, 5 MOOT in SH, 9 BUS< + DUDE\*, 10 MIN(I)STER, 11 Gear (and implied) Power + I + X, 12 GI + ANT, 13 LEG + GUAR + DentistS, 14 hw, 17 hw<, 19 RAKE\* in BOUTS, 23 G + ROAN (Mervyn Peake - author), 24 (CAR ORANGE)\*, 25 A + SATAN< + E, 26 A + LA + oBAMA, 27 EL + EVEN, 28 SEVEN< in GEE. Down: 1 DO + SAGE, 2 WEB + PAGE, 3 fOUND in PAGE, 4 (NICE REARGUARD)\*, 6 A in MANGE, 7 OUT + RAGE, 8 HERmITAGE, 10 MIXED + MARRI + AGE, 15 (A + LUNG)\* + AGE, 16 HAG in ROUGE, 18 OR in STAGE, 20 NOT< + NAGE, 21 GENERA\*, 22 SEW + AGE.

M	E	M	B	E	R
	N	E	W	S	

**Subscriptions:** Many thanks to those who have subscribed promptly for 2025.

**Quiz compilers are still needed: We've received no response at all to recent pleas to new compilers - if you enjoy the quizzes, do please volunteer to share the load!** We have some three regular quiz compilers and need to ease their workload. If you have some fresh ideas for a quiz we'd love to hear from you to help us provide a varied selection of challenges for our members. Completed quizzes or ideas on which you might like some advice to Ian. please.

**Adjudicators:** We have a small core of slot 1 to 5 adjudicators that is slowly dwindling due to age and ill health. Fresh blood would be welcomed to help to spread the workload. The work is not onerous, thanks to ACCOLADE, the main effort being in the monthly report. If you would wish to exercise your analytical and critical skills about once a year in this role Ian would love to hear from you.

**Email address:** emails from Ian may appear to come from a different address, although the ianw@webone is still active. The address as sender on emails of ianw1@iinet.net.au may result in my emails ending up in your junk folder, so it's worth checking it.

**Donations to the ACC Prize Fund:** Many thanks for their generous donations to the Prize Fund this month to Warren Allen, Jean Barbour, Fay Copland, William Cromer, Ken Davis, Cheryl Gleeson, David Granger, Roger Hearn, Sam Howat, Julie Leigh, Alison Martin, Claire McClelland, Robyn McKenzie, Barbara Morris, Sonia Roulston, Alison Shield, Fraser Simpson, Joan Smith, Margaret Steinberger, Roy Taylor, Ian Thompson, Michael Veress, Robyn Wimbush and Anne Young


**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. Email Ian for more detail and some helpful information.

**Grids to clue:** For those who feel more comfortable clueing an existing grid, Crowsman has devised a number of novel grids for members that will be interesting to clue. Contact Ian for details.

We have a number of mystery payments into our bank account, as shown below, which do not allow us to identify the member concerned:

10/10 AGENT DEPOSIT 484714924,  
24/10 Amanda Kerry Warren Smith,  
28/10 TRANSFER FROM REG AUS BANK FORWARD SUBS2025

If this is your deposit, please advise Jenny so that we can credit you for the payment and update our records.

Find us on 

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

Search for [Australian Crossword Club](#) or click the above hyperlink.



**November 1: Fraz (Fraser Simpson)**

- Loved 1ac particularly. *Kate Williams*
- A nice take on the 'Half and Half' concept. My favourite clue was the one for CAPSTONES. *Brian Tickle*
- So hard to get started, especially for Slot 1. Top marks to the setter. *Glenda Lloyd*
- Most enjoyable with so many multiple word answers. Thanks Fraz. *Robyn Wimbush*
- That was most enjoyable. *Ian Thompson*
- What a great half those across phrases made. Loved it. *Betty Siegman*
- A fun puzzle to solve. *Mal Cockburn*
- Needed to work out cryptic clues in order to get straight clues :). Liked it. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Favourite Private Property for the dole queue misdirection. *The Void*
- Excellent puzzle. *Roy Taylor*
- I enjoyed your long clues. *Robyn McKenzie*
- Neat to get all the 15 letter acrosses. *Kathy Horadam*
- Very enjoyable. Thank you. *Stephen Matthews*
- A "tour de force" with your across clues, Fraz! *Beverley Cockburn*
- A good puzzle. The across clues were an interesting lot. *Jean Evan*

**November 2 The Mythtics (Ulla Axelsen and Ian Williams)**

*The Mythtics apologise for the clueing of WEIRD, which resulted in too many lost dots. At the time of compiling it appeared as though the term would be adopted by the Democrats throughout the election process and become something of a catchword, but it was fairly quickly dropped, so should have been clued conventionally with a definition.*

- Nina "Next President Donald or Kamala H". *Claire Batum*
- I really hope it's the latter! *Keith Gamble*
- It's Trump. *Michael Veress*
- A very clever Nina Next President etc... but at the moment I am completely stumped on 16ac, Weird, Beard, Heard, Reird? *Julie Leigh*
- No idea 16ac and 28ac, could only guess, helped by wordfinder. *Rob Moline*
- Hard. *Fay Copland*
- I tried to work out the fragmented Nina until I had enough letters, then the contenders, etc references made sense. Nice and cryptic. 11ac is a good one. *Mal Cockburn*
- Lovely Nina - Well done! 19dn took a little working out. I could see what I assumed was the answer, but couldn't work out why. Finally connected Spanish and R, and there we were. Clever misdirection. *Julie Crowe*
- Great puzzle. Great theme. I took far too long to spot the 'short king' in the clue for KELVIN. *Brian Tickle*
- Favourite: ANARCHY. 16ac had to be a guess, 'cos I haven't paid attention to the whole appalling situation in question. *The Void*
- Enthralling election Nina. *Roy Taylor*
- Getting the Nina helped with a few. Enjoyable and topical puzzle. *Tony Dobe*
- The hard copy didn't have the subtitle - 'The Race' - which meant that 16ac and 28ac across seemed a bit, dare I say it, weird and amoral? At the least the Nina put it (reasonably) beyond doubt. I see the puzzle had other links to the theme too - 'The Bush'.

*Andrew Miles*

- Well. Now we know the answer. It should be an interesting ride! *Richard Skinner*
- I found this one very tricky so I have my fingers crossed about my answers. *Robyn McKenzie*
- And now we all know the answer to the question posed in the Nina is Donald Trump. *Nea Storey*
- I thought LEG was clever. This slot caused me more head-scratching than the others until I saw the Nina. Well done The Mythtics! *Kathy Horadam*
- Jerry is a total guess based on WW2 slang for the German enemy. *Stephen Matthews*
- A very timely puzzle with two clues worth mentioning - ALSO and KELVIN. *Beverley Cockburn*
- A difficult Slot 2. 16ac is a mystery. *Robyn Wimbush*
- We now know who the "next president" will be. I have no idea of a Slot 2 clue - 16ac. HELP! *Ann Millard*
- Well, we have our answer now to the Nina! Only saw the Nina about three quarters of the way through solving but it did help to solve the last few clues and confirm some of the answers. *Hilary Cromer*
- A very clever puzzle, especially the Nina. *Laurence Kennedy*
- Nina posed the question; and now we have the answer - for better or worse. *Kath Harper*
- Some great words. LOBSCOUSE was new and I enjoyed HARRUMPH and GUMDHOE. *Jean Evans*

**November 3: Lexi Conner (Ron Shapiro)**

- My favourite clue was the one for EPIGRAM. *Brian Tickle*
- I liked 14ac, STABLES and 19dn, SCEPTIC. But a few clues are barely acceptable in the spirit of cryptic clueing. I would not use 'characters' as an anagram indicator, nor use 'setback' in a Down clue. *Len Colgan*
- A puzzle with a variety of easy and difficult clues which provided great entertainment. *Kathryn Forward*
- Lots of lovely long words. Thank you. *Robyn Wimbush*
- ITCHY has me scratching my head. *Mal Cockburn*
- Once you get a few of the letters for the 15 letter words they are generally easy to work out as there are not so many choices. A most unusual grid. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Favourite TREAT. *The Void*
- Noah stables animals then...what? *Richard Skinner*
- Lots of clever clues! *Robyn McKenzie*
- TOO and INCOMES were clever. *Kathy Horadam*
- Lots of fun. Thanks. *Stephen Matthews*
- Interesting grid. Liked your 3 letter clues! *Beverley Cockburn*
- TREAT has an interesting clue, Jean Evans Treat has an interesting clue. *Jean Evans*

**November 4: Both Sides (Ann Simons and Nea Storey)**

- Liked VASELINE. I don't agree that 'in the van' = LED. *Len Colgan*
- Some interesting clues. Always a favourite. Yammers and Yatters in 2 slots - unusual words, and XMAS appears twice! *Ann Millard*

continued on page 15

**Feedback on November slot 4 continued from page 15**

- I learnt some more words here but was partial to the 4X one. *Toby McLeay*
- Why is it when you have a few missing words they are all in the same corner? A lot of unusual words but very enjoyable. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Yammer and yatter in the same month. Who'd've thought? *Robyn Wimbush*
- Great Slot 4. Loved VASELINE. *David Bennett*
- Some tricky new words to learn, and I thought the L word was wonderfully clued! *Robyn McKenzie*
- FEDELINI was new to me, and I tried Dimorph and Diploid for D for some time. An entertaining AJ, thanks Both Sides. *Kathy Horadam*
- Another XMAS! Thanks for the reminder! *Beverley Cockburn*
- I enjoy this style of crossword; and particularly liked the clues for CAPSICUMS and LIQUIDAMBER. *Ken Francis*
- The L clue doesn't work. The tree liquidambar is one word and ends in bar. The beer is amber liquid. *Ian Thompson*
- My favourite puzzle. So many fascinating words such as ROSACE DISOMIC; FEDELINI and GODAVARI to name a few!! *Jean Evan*

**November 5: T-Boy (Toby McLeay)**

- Thanks to Len for the grid! *Toby McLeay*
- Down the AGES. *David Procter*
- Fun with the AGES which picked up an error. Thanks, T-boy! *Ann Millard*
- This took me an age to complete!! Nice work. *Kathryn Forward*
- Truly a puzzle for the ages (14 of them in fact). Very clever! My favourite clues were those for SMOOTH, ROUGHAGE and SEWAGE. *Brian Tickle*
- Managed to spot the theme before I got too far, which confirmed a few iffies. *Mal Cockburn*
- Took me an AGE to see the pattern. Good fun. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Some terrific clues here, lovely and precise. I could have made my life easier, I suspect, had I noticed the -age ending on all the down clues earlier. I was musing on the oddness of all the g's in the second bottom line, and all the checked a's and e's. *Julie Crowe*
- One for the 'ages!' Thanks Toby. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Took an age to realize that all the down answers end in age! *Allan Storti*
- Happy once I found the Down clues' commonality! Shouldn't 13ac Have been clued as two words (assuming I had it right)? *Anastasia Webster-Hawes*
- Took a while to compile I suspect. An age? *Richard Skinner*
- Very clever to end all the down words in age. And very useful when I finally got it! *Robyn McKenzie*
- It took me an AGE to realise what should have been obvious. *Betty Siegman*
- Shows the importance of AGE! *Nea Storey*
- Leg guards should have been clued as 3,6 not 9. Otherwise challenging but enjoyable :- ) *Stephen Matthews*
- Why does it take so long to see the obvious? I was more than half way through before I "aged"! And there is yet another Len's Grid, but great clueing, T-boy! *Beverley Cockburn*
- Very good clues. *Ian Thompson*

- A challenging puzzle, with some good clues. Thank you T-boy! *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Clever to manAGE all the downs; T-Boy! Took me a while to get it! Some clues don't seem quite right... in 11ac there should have been an "and" somewhere and LEG GUARDS is two words. ANATASE was new to me and I really liked UNDERCARRIAGE. *Kathy Horadam*
- It's the age- old problem of not noticing things straight away. Obviously old timers' disease. *Ken Francis*
- Sorry I didn't pick up on the ending of the down clues sooner! *Cheryl Wilcox*
- Truly a crossword for the ages! *Kath Harper*
- Loved the fact that all the down clues ended in AGE. *Jean Evans*

**Feedback on November slot 7 continued from page 12**

- The folding page in the Mad magazine, that brings back a few memories. But instead of getting a satirical outcome we got seven words instead, all to do with three, TRIPLE and THIRD being the first two. Thanks for a great workout.- *Ulla Axelsen*
- Very clever. And all those variants of threefold - the first two being triple and third.-*Julie Crowe*
- Absolutely brilliant, it had me going for quite a while until I located the inspiration. I was a big fan back in the day.-*Warren Allen*
- That was TRIPLE the fun! Many good clues too. I especially liked KNEELS.-*Robyn Wimbush*
- Cleverly themed puzzle. Finally found the hidden hint after much searching - I used to enjoy folding them in my youth.-*Mal Cockburn*
- Threefold indeed. The top two are "TRIPLE" and "THIRD" closely followed by "Triune", "Trio", "Troika", "Three" and "Treble".-*Richard Skinner*
- Good fun, though I would have struggled with the theme quite a while longer, had I not seen another (THE) MAD FOLD-IN cryptic once.-*The Void*
- A very cleverly written puzzle-*Robyn Mckenzie*
- I've tried and tried, folded thrice, but it's too tricky for me. Perhaps Tricia the tricyclist can help me.-*Betty Siegman*
- Not sure if I am on the right track, but I make the first two theme words TRICIA and THREE. And on that theme, I note that 22 across is an anagram of THREE and PI. Also, I note that THEROID contains the word TID which means three times a day, and 22 across, PRITHEE-*Nea Storey*
- A challenging puzzle with a unique twist..... or should I say fold! I particularly liked "tripod". *Jeremy Barnes*
- Very; very clever! It would have helped if you were a lover of the infamous MAD MAGAZINE of old! However; the title and the down clue initial letters saved the day! The first two words are TRIPLE and THIRD-*Beverley Cockburn*
- I loved the Mad Magazine fold-in when I was a kid. Like many others I expect; it was the first thing I did when I got my hands on a copy. Closely followed by Spy vs Spy! Thanks; Eclogue; for the acrostic clue and the "threes" theme in a cleverly constructed grid - triple; third; triune etc. *Andrew Miles*

## NOVEMBER SLOT 2

[illegible][illegible]

## Clue of the Month .....

**NOVEMBER SLOT 4**[illegible]

NOVEMBER SLOT 6

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

[illegible]

Submit solution by ACCOLADE or for mail entries see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date

Name .....

## THE AUSTRALIAN CROSSWORD CLUB

### Subscription renewal for 2025

To: The Secretary/Treasurer, ACC, 48 Shakespeare Street, Comet Qld 4702

- Subscription to ACC for 2025 @ \$35ea (email only\*) \$35  
*Please note that we are no longer seeking donations to the prize fund. However, any additional contribution you may wish to make will be gratefully received and acknowledged and will assist in defraying expenses and deferring any increase in subscriptions*

**TOTAL** \$

Herewith my cheque/money order (payable to ACC) for \$ .

Name .....

Address ..... Phone:

E-mail address: .....

*\*Note that special arrangements can be made for existing members who are unable to print copies: Please contact the Secretary/Treasurer.*

### Information for Members renewing for 2025

Friends,

- As advised last month, following our free year we need to ask you again for subscriptions for 2025. We're pleased that we are able to keep the subscription down to the familiar \$35 for the year. The following information will help you to renew your membership

#### **The ACC website**

- The website design enables you to renew online and provide information for our records. We regret that you will need to make your payment separately - direct transfer to our bank account is our preferred option, please.

#### **Mail**

- If you use the form above, please include your address, email and contact details so that we can keep our records up-to-date.

#### **Gift memberships**

- You may make a gift of membership to any person at the normal price of \$35, perhaps to give the perfect Christmas present that will be remembered and treasured for the rest of the year!

#### **Donations to the ACC Prize Fund**

- The Executive Committee has set the membership fee and prizes at a level that should ensure that we remain solvent throughout 2025 without the need to seek donations. However, if you do wish to donate to the Club your generosity will be much appreciated and acknowledged.

#### **Payment options:**

- *By direct transfer to our bank account or by cheque or money order payable to the ACC.*
- *Please send cheques/money orders to Jenny Wenham, 48 Shakespeare Street, Comet Qld 4702 with the form above. With many banks phasing out cheques, if you are having difficulty paying by any of the available methods, please contact the Secretary at [jenny@wenham.net.au](mailto:jenny@wenham.net.au) to arrange payment by an alternative method.*
- *If making a direct transfer, please ensure the "notes" field on your transfer includes your name. Also, if you are paying more than just membership, please add a simple code to indicate how we should allocate the money. For example, a renewal plus a \$50 donation, may read "J. Citizen + \$50D" or a renewal plus gift "J Citizen and gift J Smith \$70".*
- *Amount payable to: ANZ Bank; BSB: 013259\**
- *A/c name: The Australian Crossword Club A/c No: 490917945*
- *We regret that renewal online via PayPal is **no longer available**.*
- *Overseas members who do not have an Australian bank account should please contact the Secretary at [jenny@wenham.net.au](mailto:jenny@wenham.net.au) to arrange payment by an alternative method.*

\* please note that the BSB of our bank account has changed but the account number remains the same

**Here's looking forward to a great new year of CrOZworld!**

**The Executive Committee**