



No 399 July 2023



www.crosswordclub.org



"A Dictionary is an historical monument, the history of a nation." Richard C. Trench, 1857, *On Some Deficiencies in our English Dictionaries*

GRIDATORIAL

Once again we have some rare treats in store for our members. Valkyrie leads the way with one of her polished half and half puzzles and a new compiler makes his debut on page 2. We think you will enjoy T-boy's first puzzle and hope that it might inspire other budding compilers to have a go. Perhaps our most experienced compiler follows in slot 3, where we feature an historical masterpiece left to us by Jesso. The introduction to Jesso's out-of-print *A Ton of Cryptics*, which encapsulates some excellent advice to compilers, is available in pdf form, thanks to Claire, his daughter. Contact me for a copy.

Slot 4, the traditional Alphanumeric Jigsaw is presented by the masterly KA and P-brane will stir your grey matter with a well-constructed slot 5. Valkyrie makes another appearance in slot 6 as half of The Mythtics with a set of clues that owe much to mythology. Finally, Flowerman presents A Stylised One in an intriguing barred slot 7 puzzle that breaks new ground.

Child's Play, in the person of Brian Symons presents one of his excellent word puzzles that will require no recourse at all to the internet.

Congratulations are due to Crowsman, who almost achieved the Nirvana of setters by compiling a puzzle in which one hundred per cent of solvers submitted a correct solution. But fifty-two out of fifty-three ain't bad!

We trust that you will enjoy your solving this month.

Ian

FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

Once again I enjoyed reading all the cheerful, positive and sometimes funny comments from members regarding the oh-so-clever puzzles from our compilers. Happy EOFY to all our solvers.

Slot 1: Not many errors in this one and all were one-offs, Some obvious typos would have been picked up by the easy-to-use spellchecker, which requires users merely to click in the list that is shown immediately under the "Submit Solution" table prior to submission.

Slot 2: A surprising 10 solvers submitted "blends" for the required BLEEDS, perhaps taking their cue from "money" and "lends" rather than the homophone for "leads". Almost all other errors were one-offs with the exception being 2 instances of ONO (Oh No!?) for OHO, the expression of surprise.

Slot 3: The main pitfalls in this puzzle were 3 solvers who tried BEAVERS for BLAZERS and 4 who tried SITED for FIXED. The FIXED clue was – as one solver pointed out – a QD (quintuple definition – a rare and elusive beast).

Slot 4: Several members commented on learning new words in the always popular AJ. Two solvers tried SHANTY for SCATTY.

Slot 5: There were lots of COTM nominations in this puzzle and all errors were one-offs.

COTM: No less than 41 nominations were received for clues in all the slots. The joint winners with each scoring 5 points were Slot 3 GRANDPA and Slot 5 EPHEMERAL. Congratulations to Ron and Ian.

Brian Tickle

LEADING FIGURES

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	91	92	80	81	80	424
Correct entries	82	77	65	68	75	367
Success rate (%)	90	84	81	84	94	87
Prizewinners	Anne Young	Ron Carpenter	Ron Jarman	Con Flinkenberg	Dave Parsons	from 05 members

Prizewinner: July Slots 1-5 correct: Ron Jarman. Congratulations!

CONTACTS

President/ Editor	Ian Williams	12 Lindrum Crescent Holt ACT 2615	ph 0417 493 431	president@crosswordclub.org
Secretary	Jenny Wenham	48 Shakespeare Street Comet Qld 4702	ph 0407 643 277	secretary@crosswordclub.org

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June 1-2023

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

June 2-2023

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

June 3-2023

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

June 4-2023

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

June 5-2023

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

June 6-2023

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

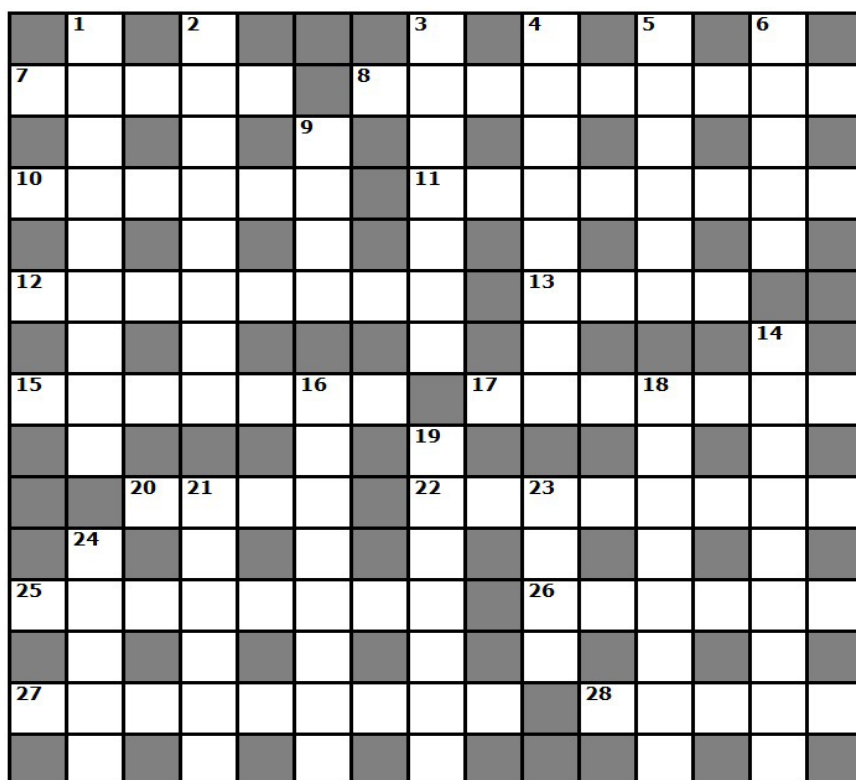
MEMBERS' RESULTS FOR JULY 2023 Slots 1 to 7

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.	•			•	•			Garner P.	•	•			•			Moline R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Allen W.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Glissan B.	•	•			•			Parsons D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Anderson C.	•	•		•	•			Grainger D.	•			•	•	•		Patterson A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Audrins K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hagan R.	•		•		•			Peach S.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Axelsen U.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pinder S.		•		•			
Barbour J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hearn R.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Procter D.			•	•	•	•	•
Barnes J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Heyes N.	•	•	•		•			Procter M.		•	•	•	•	•	•
Batum C.	•	•	•	•	•			Hocking A.	•	•	•					Randall J.		•					
Blake M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Horadam K.	•	•	•	•				Rosendorff D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carpenter R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Howat S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Roulston S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carroll L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jarman L.	•	•			•			Ryan W.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Cockburn B.	•	•	•	•	•			Jarman R.	•	•	•	•	•			Shapiro R.			•				
Cockburn M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jones G.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Shield A.		•		•	•		
Cole G.	•	•						Kennedy L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Siegmán B.	•	•	•	•	•		
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Kennedy M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Simons A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Coote P.	•	•		•	•	•	•	Lankshear J.		•	•	•	•	•	•	Simpson F.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cornish W.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Leigh J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Skinner R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Coulton L.	•							Lloyd G.	•	•						Storey N.	•	•		•	•	•	•
Cromer H.	•	•	•	•				Mackay-Sim C.	•			•	•			Symons B.	•	•	•	•	•		
Crowe J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Madden J.	•	•		•	•			Taylor R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Davis K.	•		•	•	•	•		Martin A.	•	•		•	•	•	•	Taylor S.	•	•	•	•	•		
Dennis M.		•						Martin F.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Thompson I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dobe T.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Matthews S.	•	•	•	•	•			Tickle B.	•	•	•	•	•		
Dowse B.	•	•						McClelland C.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Veress M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ducker R.	•	•	•		•	•	•	McKenzie I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wenham J.	•	•					
Dyer A.		•		•	•			McKenzie R.		•	•	•	•	•	•	Wilcox C.	•	•		•			
Evans J.	•	•		•	•	•	•	McPherson T.	•	•						Williams K.	•	•	•	•	•		
Ferguson J.	•							Meek A.	•	•	•			•	•	Wimbush R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Flinkenberg C.		•		•				Miles A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wood J.	•						
Fowler J.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Millard A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Young A.	•	•					
Gamble K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Milton R.	•		•												

Slot 1

Half and
Half
by
Valkyrie

Prize
\$50



Across

- 7 Place of worship (5)
8 Tropical tree (9)
10 Long-sleeved garment (6)
11 Level, low-vegetation area (8)
12 Strategic Defense Initiative (4,4)
13 Small grains of rock (4)
15 Groups of boats (7)
17 Retreats (7)
20 Real state of things (4)
22 Animal (8)
25 Waterfall (8)
26 Goes away (6)
27 Gymnastics manoeuvre (9)
28 Flies (5)

Down

- 1 Odd oily plant associated with smell (9)
2 Unusual aerobatics? Not so for bugs (8)
3 Book back up for musician (7)
4 Picks short, stiff undergarments (8)
5 Rule: lock up new gun (6)
6 Statewide altruistic content in the imagination only (5)
9 Inclusive Australian native people (4)
14 I am ready, you sound unrehearsed (9)
16 Naughty tart performance ultimately procures invites (8)
18 Pious always cutting fee (8)
19 Vehicles carrying one hundred containers (7)
21 Announcements about campaign medals (6)
23 File Polish front under red area after removal of Hungary (4)
24 Unavoidable grease starts to anger ladies (5)

SEND
SOLUTIONS
TO:

For online entry, submission and adjudication of all slots via ACCOLADE click on the ACCOLADE button on www.crosswordclub.org home page.

By mail for Slots 1 to 5: Ian Thompson 12 Olive Street Malvern East VIC 3145 or (preferably) by email to irt_botanist@hotmail.com

By mail for Slot 6: Ulla Axelsen, 6 Maud Street Donnybrook Qld 4510 or (preferably) by email to ullaaxelsen@hotmail.com

By mail for Slot 7: Ian Thompson 12 Olive Street Malvern East VIC 3145 or (preferably) by email to irt_botanist@hotmail.com

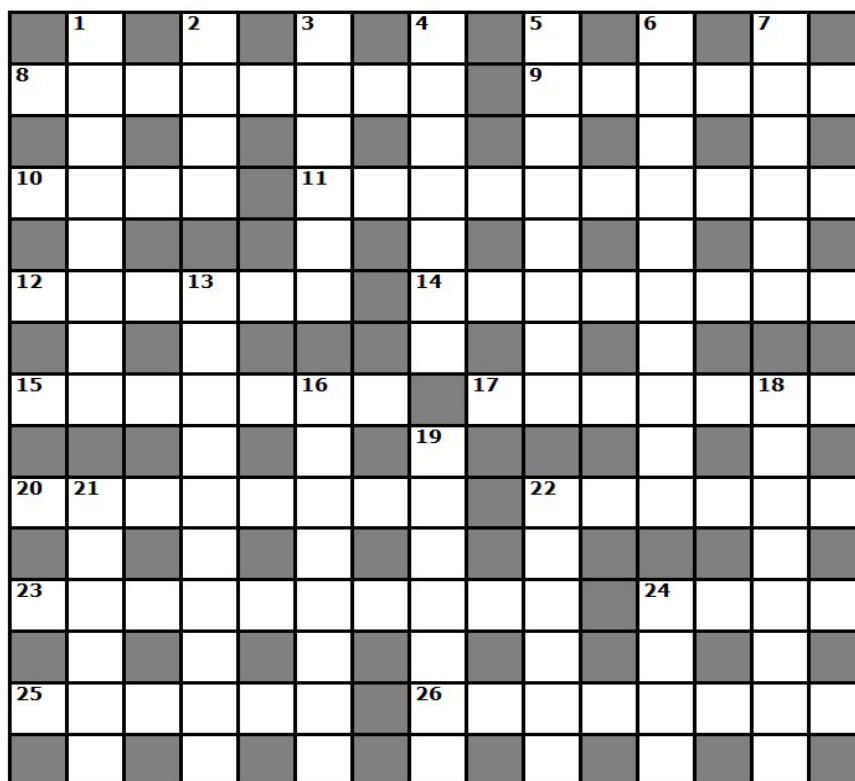
Closing mail date for all puzzles is 28 July 2023.

BLANK
GRIDS
PAGE 11

Slot 2

**Cryptic
by
T-boy**

**Prize
\$50**

**Across**

- 8 Saint Jack perhaps is paid to get his gear off (8)
 9 Smells sour regurgitation after overdose (6)
 10 Steals what belongs to Robert (4)
 11 Annual pest disturbance is not very nice (10)
 12 Agile in denim bleached shorts (6)
 14 It's found in unprocessed small raw vegetable slices (8)
 15 Incise a thousand damaged knee cartilages (7)
 17 Call me a speech unit? (7)
 20 Permits bloke romantic meetings (8)
 22 Jinping and I together making a number (6)
 23 Cup with coca nip ordered for coffee (10)
 24 Disabled by return of emotional extremes (4)
 25 Black saying about the underside (6)
 26 Rub last of fat into men at sea (8)

Down

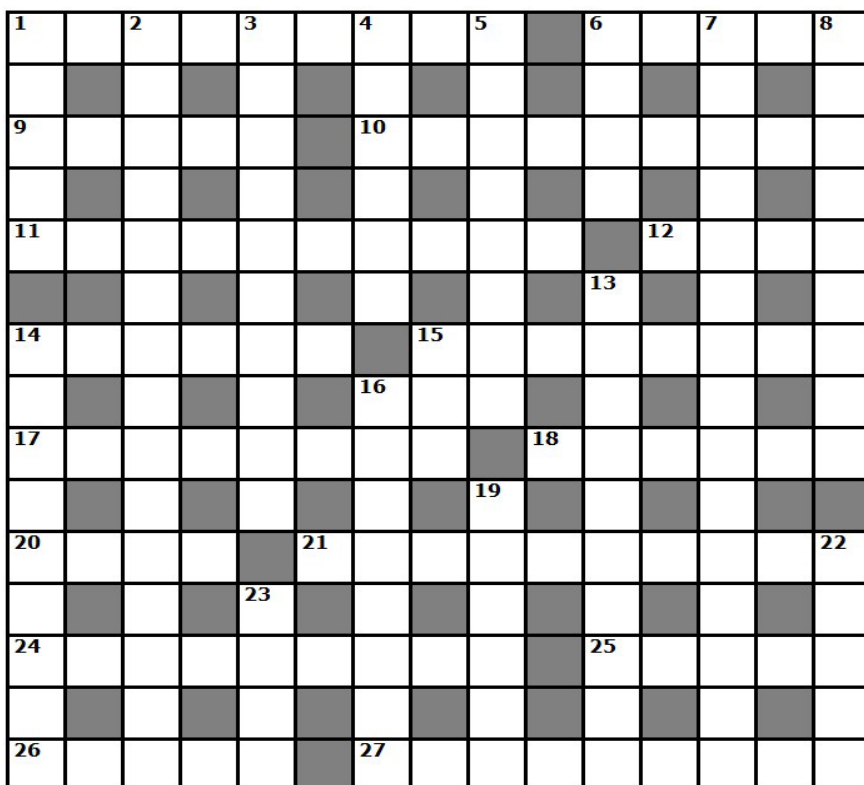
- 1 Drug atrocity halved with pinaceae (8)
 2 Lock up garbage containers (4)
 3 Bookie has zero use for a marital partner (6)
 4 Somehow creep up and remove this for initiation (7)
 5 Old English shrubs make a popular garden plant (8)
 6 Exploit discipline for means of recognizing right and wrong (10)
 7 Alternate off-road niche country (6)
 13 Drunken dogs could be traffic hazards? (5,5)
 16 A search after feline into underground tunnel system (8)
 18 Drive heart of dementia campaign (8)
 19 Smoke is disturbing for nose kissers (7)
 21 No lava rising on Arthur's burial island (6)
 22 Feeling sexy after end of night is a prickly matter (6)
 24 The French member of parliament is a luminary (4)

T-boy (Toby McLeay)

I've come lately to the world of cryptics and fallen under the spell of their creation. Thank you Crossword Compiler. I hope I'm learning to become more sneaky and arcane, and better at teasing people. In the end I may learn how to unravel other setters' work myself. I'm about to enter retirement after 45 years as a medico mostly in the bush. I see a need to keep the cerebrum active and avoid following my grandmother down the Old Timers path.



Slot 3

Cryptic
by
Jesso

Across

- 1 Traveller's black dog (3-6)
 6 Father in revolt, provided with an elevating mechanism (3-2)
 9 Call-up feedback on a miscellaneous lot? (5)
 10 In a little while, strike backed spirited mass rule (9)
 11 A religious mystery round the city (10)
 12 Eat into some sweet chocolate (4)
 14 Poor quarter got the redevelopment (6)
 15 Scholar cleans out the monies left (8)
 16 Pass round in class (3)
 17 Bad habit? None, whatsoever, going on twenty (8)
 18 Visit country's evidence of hard work (6)
 20 Heads in opposite directions around Utah (4)
 21 Staff Corps boasts are included for poorly dressed individuals (10)
 24 Lily, a woman left right opposite is ... (9)
 25 ... finding articles in crumpled *Times* (5)
 26 Toss out discard right away (5)
 27 Doctor Solinus treated the former Governor-General (9)

Down

- 1 Betrayer's unhappy return under Junkers (5)
 2 Yonder church by English radio centre and house could be a cosy place to live (8,7)
 3 Selecting from region in front of garden (10)
 4 Casual monarch's mood (6)
 5 Refutation is not imaginary about barrel (8)
 6 Robin Goodfellow: upper-class Conservative seen in park (4)
 7 Examination cards for tricksters (9,6)
 8 Thriller seen on Sunday is creating serious mental disorder (9)
 13 Academic head's feature on old liqueur (10)
 14 Granted new American-English appellation (5,4)
 15 Nothing put in by son (3)
 16 Expert advanced rustled loudly! (8)
 19 Stir or spin out (6)
 22 Sails off to get fibre (5)
 23 An Indian peasant in the ruins of Troy (4)

General Feedback for June

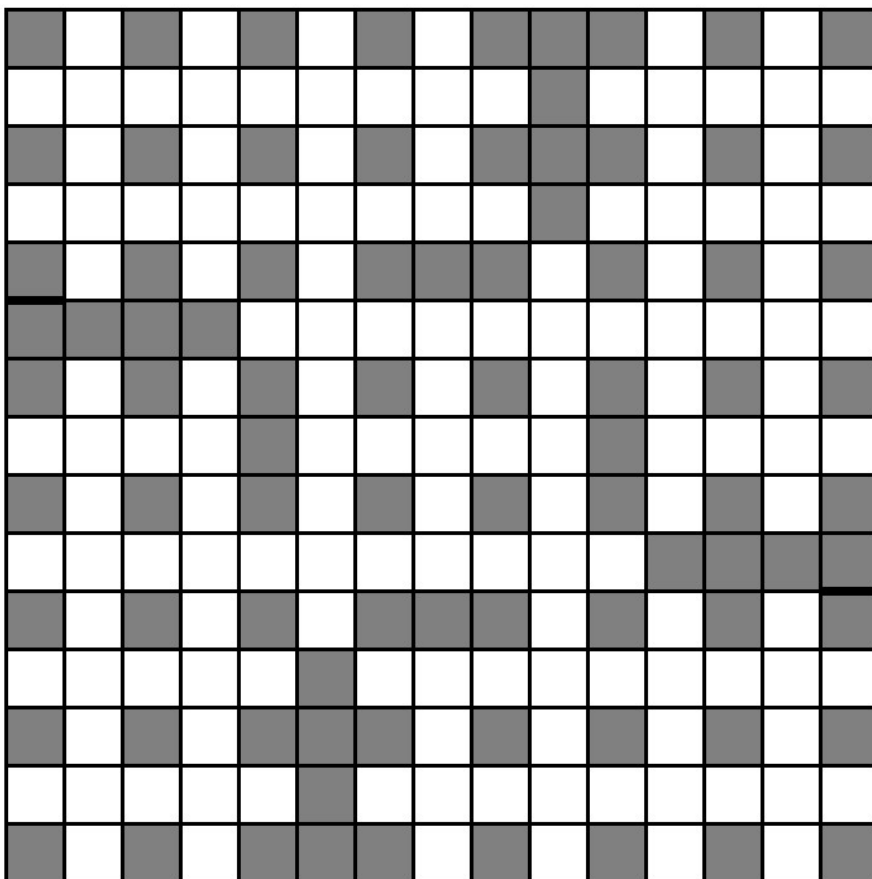
- Thank you for the prize for Slot 3 and thanks to all of the group who make this such a great Club. *Ann Millard*
- Many thanks to the Club for the May Slot 7 prize. I certainly look forward to receiving CrOZworld every month. All who contribute are to be congratulated. *Tony Dobebe*
- As ever, the ACC is a lifeline during bouts of ill health. Thank you all! *Kathleen Harper*

Slot 4

AJ
by
KA

Prize
\$50

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

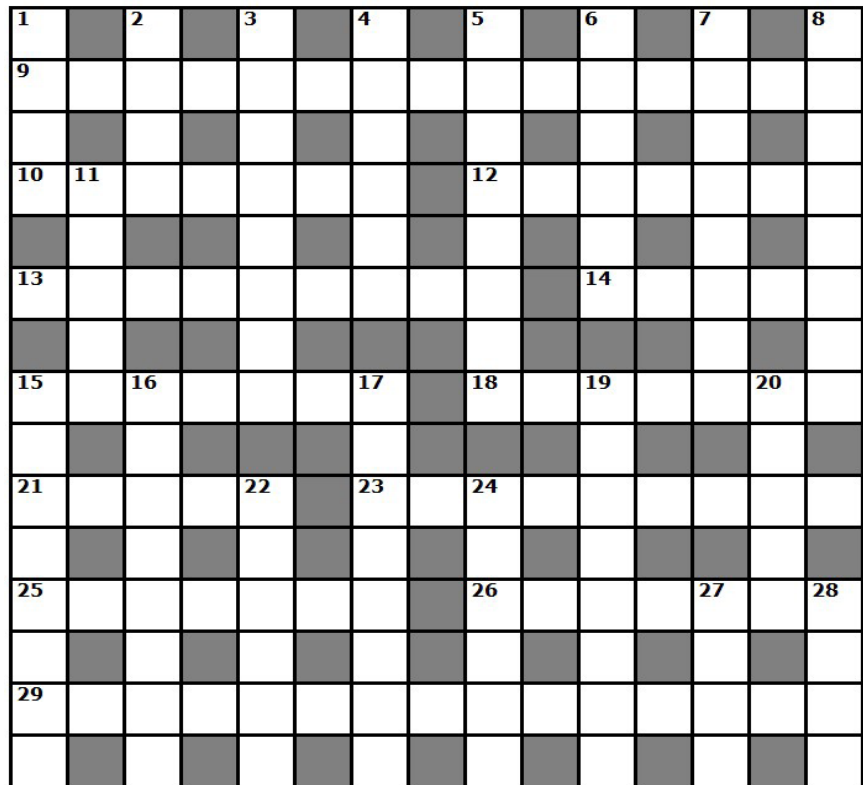


- A** Downdraught will ventilate cavity (3,6)
- B** Composer takes time for collection (5)
- C** Leader with no doctor in valley (5)
- D** Policeman holds burning garment (5)
- E** Peer with returned picture of mushroom (5)
- F** Destroy obsolete car with gas (5)
- G** Groups with agendas for primary school teachers (11)
- H** Time to trap sheep for axeman (5)
- I** Covered drug money (4)
- J** Rant at animal going North to US State? Nonsense! (11)
- K** Topless runner with island fruit (4)
- L** Perhaps deaf person can study surrounded by dreadful peril (3,6)
- M** Rambling demo about student debts is quite pleasant (9)

- N** Don't corrupt the apprentice! (9)
- O** Relative follows endless road to shelter (5)
- P** Fortune tellers support ruined heiress (11)
- Q** Stop, completely losing energy. (4)
- R** Organise rides to nieces' changed appointments (11)
- S** Spiky theatrical scenery contains top Afrikaner (9)
- T** Scottish intent behind timber kitchen utensil (3,6)
- U** Unusual Scottish bird is decapitated (4)
- V** Duck is wrapped in dreadful fabric (5)
- W** Single woman and outlaw in operatic merry life?! (9)
- X** No one returned for wrong element (5)
- Y** Rule for pens with parasite (9)
- Z** Return to satisfy unknown characters (5)

Slot 5

Cryptic
by
P-brane

 Prize
\$50


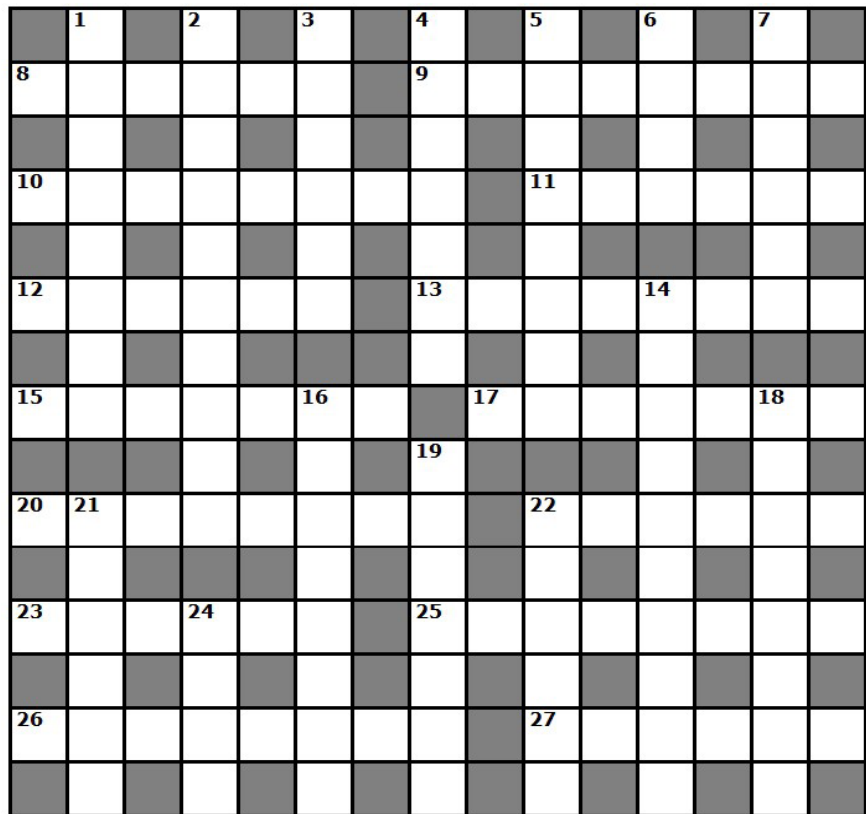
Across

- 9 Various epitomes of organised thinking relating to the theory of knowledge (15)
 10 Transcendentalist rumoured to melt gold (7)
 12 Social order that defined Capitalism? (7)
 13 A skill bagging first Oscar ahead of the French logician (9)
 14 Occupation requires zero change to area in rented farmlet (5)
 15 Lenin's men capture of deserter reversed and hinders progress (7)
 18 Marriage celebrants perhaps, join together vacuous romantics (7)
 21 Republican leaders reversed offer to arraign last President (5)
 23 Fortify a cider bar cocktail (9)
 25 Heliocentric heretic's perhaps at sea as Order's leader replaces last Pope (7)
 26 Polymath for starters lets each interval be nearly infinitesimally zero (7)
 29 Sexist lies taint absurd thinkers like Camus, Dostoyevsky and Kierkegaard (15)

Down

- 1 Corrupt grass (4)
 2 Umami soy contains this seasoning (4)
 3 Locate examinee or witness? (8)
 4 Measure a monadnock (6)
 5 Firebrand a loud young Arian on French water (8)
 6 Setter with iconic fringe typical of pileate fungi (6)
 7 Start to work on stage with four regular parties (8)
 8 Uncle Mat isn't restraining a climber (8)
 11 Mob reported a stockpile (5)
 15 Resisted agent altering gun training (8)
 16 Entry in to name plant that which is flat in form (8)
 17 Court Order for replacement poet not applicable (8)
 19 Signs in one trainee's first damaged sail (8)
 20 Bones halved diameters (5)
 22 Duck born dead: like the Earth perhaps (6)
 24 Rearranged sounds transmitted (6)
 27 Grub dished up at this point periodically (4)
 28 Zing exploits skin taken primarily from citrus (4)

Slot 6

Cryptic
by
The MythticsPrize
\$50

Across

- 8 Capital territory, hub of Narcissus frog (6)
 9 Animal classification record, with Iowa embracing rural deity (8)
 10 Head of Apollo Communications associated with the French supporters (8)
 11 Support from leaders of Clausentum's or Luguvalium's unusual Mithraic notions (6)
 12 Pan, 20, in eccentric hoax (6)
 13 Mythical sprites, reformed malingerers, are missing (8)
 15 Irritable strike by wings of Icarus to head of Helios (7)
 17 Arch over Horus's hieroglyph feature (7)
 20 Medusa, thus despatched, cast small beads over man (8)
 22 Harsh sounds from British household gods (6)
 23 About one dozen return, Gemini and Cancer being part of this group (6)
 25 Neptune or Uranus, perhaps, to kill solder and worker (3,5)
 26 From where sour centaurs become expedient (8)
 27 God recruits new German as park officer (6)

Down

- 1 Lose track of Northern diplomacies - in disarray after Odin departs (8)
 2 Devastated Mars with horse, left end of battle broken-down (10)
 3 Calypso dance party poster (6)
 4 Communication from Hermes - sagest of all gods! (7)
 5 Inverted tree provides setting for first of rituals, describing longing for sorcery (8)
 6 God left after sheep's emission (4)
 7 Another mythical sprite, lacking energy, taking on timely indicator! (6)
 14 Bookkeepers take 23 balance rule to Scots (10)
 16 Cressida mixed cocktails (8)
 18 Hero's lover, tracking love to tree (8)
 19 Revered tails of Chimera and Mermaid soiled with mud (7)
 21 Helen of Troy maybe, raised repurchasing arrangement with the French (6)
 22 Black mythical king's yen for the obscure? (6)
 24 Hero lazy? That's hearsay (4)

Submit solution via ACCOLADE button on www.crosswordclub.org home page or see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date

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

Explanations for June 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.

Explanations slots 1-5 June

Slot 1 P-brane. Down: 1 cd, 2 homophone (rumours>ROOMERS), 3 ID {Y + L[eopardi]} S, 4 Spoonerism (bold hack), 5 B[eet] + OR + S[pinac]{[pe]C[an]}H, 6 A + VERSIONS, 7 BA {SKIN} G, 8 (DU {[trus]S} TS)< stud, 15 (EVIL REIGN)* overthrown, 17 (SEA ACTS TO)* fix, 18 BEE + EATER, 20 dd, 22 TEMPER + A, 23 A + BOARD, 24 (ILEUM)* twisted (alternative spelling under MULEY in Macquarie), 25 CHARM(er).

Slot 2 Penobscot. Across: 1 dd, 9 HID in ORCS, 10 GREEN + IE, 11 palindrome, 12 hidden, 13 AWM< in TRAY, 14 TOM<, 15 RIO + JA, 17 dd, 18 dd, 20 FRIEND, 22 DATA<, 24 EN + TITLE, 25 cd/dd, 26 anag, 27 DOLL+OP+S, 28 RIM + FIRE, 29 cd/dd. **Down:** 1 dd, 2 dd, 3 homoph "ties on", 4 (NIT + GOATEE)*, 5 IC + ELAND, 6 cd, 7 cd, 8 dd, 16 cd/dd, 18 B+homoph "leads", 19 cd, 21 cd, 23 cd- DRY + DEN, 25 dd.

Slot 3 Lexi Conner. Across: 1 homoph "mussels", 5 Bushwalker + AMBLE, 9 MACHINE + WAS + (BLEACH)*, 10 (L)EARN, 11 5xD, 12 hidden, 15 SETT(L)ING, 16 ST (spORts) AGE, 17 JACK + bETSy, 19 GRAND + PA, 21 (MEA CULPA - pace)*, 22 JE + Ever + So, 23 AQUAmarine, 26 SIDE inside (CERTAINLY + NO)*, 27 GALLEY + S, 28 TOOL + KIT. **Down:** 1 M + EMBERS, 2 SECURITY + COUNCIL, 3 DIAL<, 4 SEE + DING, 5 DD, 6 rACHEL, 7 BUBBLE + AND + SQUEAK, 8 LEAVE* + TripleE, 13 Homoph "whines", 14 TOP + glAZed, 17 DD, 18 IE in SPECS, 19 (steaming - sin + r)*, 20 DD, 24 KeN kEsEy, 25 hidden.

Slot 4 Bogeyman. A BADE in USA*, **B** Spooner "hair bugs", **C** cd/dd, **D** LA in DI and TED, **E** E + P + I + TOMES, **F** F-R-I-S + SONS, **G** anag, **H** HESS + IAN, **I** IN + HER + sITING, **J** J + EN + NETS, **K** K + NIGHTS, **L** Homoph "lea" + WAY, **M** MAMMA + L, **N** NO + MAD + ISM, **O** OUT + AGE, **P** LAY in PER, **Q** QU + ARKS, **R** (ULCERATIon)*, **S** CAT in STY, **T** dd [to go], **U** (FEUDISTS IN A)*, **V** (NAVAL + EO)*, **W** W + EIGHTY, **X** X + ANT + HATE, **Y** (DELI)* in DEY<, **Z** Z + A + NY.

Slot 5 Robespierre. Across: 5 C + PARA< + A + CE, 9 FAN + (IS AT)< + A, 10 PI + RACY, 11 Spooner "belly genes", 12 (A + ELF)<, 13 (LEG IN)* + GEE, 16 homoph "I lean", 17 (A + D) in SHED, 19 TAKE + HOVER, 21 hidden, 22 (PRODUCE + POT)*, 25 CRE(OLD)E, 26 (ITS A TURN)*, 27 dd, 28 (SENTinEL)*. **Down:** 2 IN + AN E, 3 LAT(O)Te<, 4 NOSE + BAG, 5 CHAR + mADE, 6 (POST) in R + IE, 7 Spooner "fought polio", 8 (EXEC)* round ACHES, 14 pEPe + H + EMERALd, 15 (mODEST) in LONE, 18 (CODE IS)* + E, 19 TET + ANUS, 20 (RAKE)* + TIN, 23,1 (HARLOT IS IN P)*, 24 hidden.

Kangaroo Words

Regular players of Focus, Circuit Breaker, Pangram and similar word games may not have heard of kangaroo words. A kangaroo word is one that contains all of the letters of one of its synonyms in the correct order (although not necessarily consecutively). Examples of such a word include CHARISMA, which contains the letters of CHARM in the correct order, and EVACUATE, from which VACATE can be formed (with the letters EU being left over, which will please Eurosceptics everywhere). There's even a term for a word formed from a kangaroo word: it's known as a joey word, as the joey is found inside the kangaroo. Whether there is a pouch involved is open to debate. Why are these handy when tackling one of these puzzles? Well, as long as the joey word contains the central letter, then you get two words (at least) for the price of one. If you have EQUITABLE, you also have EQUAL. FACADE leads to FACE. INDOLENT pairs with IDLE. If you're lucky, you might also find a rare "grand kangaroo" word, where two or more synonyms for the longer word are joeys. For instance, if you spot FRANGIBLE, FRAGILE and FRAIL might also be valid answers. If you want to DAZZLE other players and leave them in a DAZE, and so be SATED as well as SATISFIED, kangaroo words are worth looking out for. Your ability to achieve an "Excellent" rating may just improve in leaps and bounds.

We thank the British "Telegraph" for permission to reproduce this article from their weekly newsletter.

M	E	M	B	E	R
	N	E	W	S	

New Member: A rousing welcome to Frank Harte of Carlton, Melbourne. We trust that you will enjoy your membership and look forward to your participation.

Donations to the ACC Prize Fund: Many thanks to Frank and James Groves for their donations and to our generous members who donated their prizes to the Prize Fund this month.

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. Do let Ian know if you are interested.

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 hyperlink

June 1: P-brane (Roger Hearn)

- IS 'IDYL' an accepted alternative to IDYLL [*US usage in Chambers - Ed*]? *Ian Mason*
- Bit of a stretch to say the tongue is a sense organ. It has taste receptors on it. *Roy Taylor*
- Good fun, thanks P-brane. I especially liked GREY GHOST. MULIE was new to me. *Kathy Horadam*
- A very enjoyable Slot 1. I'm not sure if I've seen MULIE before. It took me a while to get. *Jenny Wenham*
- Enjoyable entry in this month's collection with some clever clues. I particular liked 23dn ABOARD and 4dn HOLD BACK. *Mal Cockburn*
- This was my last puzzle to complete. I had FURNISH for 1ac instead of GARNISH, which led to all sorts of difficulties! And I loved your inclusion of BEE-EATER, my favourite little bird. *Julie Crowe*
- Nice starter. Liked clues for BASKING and AVERSIONS. *Bev Cockburn*
- Two unusual words for far-left column. *Ulla Axelsen*
- I enjoyed the Spooner clue in 4dn! *Robyn McKenzie*
- The clue for 1dn relies too greatly on local knowledge not easily accessible. *Lynn Jarman*

June 2: Penobscot (Maurice Cowan)

- (My favourite clues were those for TYSON and ORCHIDS. *Brian Tickle*
- Some beaut clues - ORCHIDS & SILVERY, amongst others. A bit more tricky than the usual Slot 2, perhaps?? *Ann Millard*
- Neat! I enjoyed POSSUM and BLEEDS. *Kathy Horadam*
- Great puzzle with consistently good clues. I didn't know that Orcs are also sea monsters (I can blame Tolkien for that). *Mal Cockburn*
- Some lovely clues in here. Thanks for the challenge. *Jenny Wenham*
- Particularly liked the clues for SPRINGBOARD and DRYDEN. *Nea Storey*
- Enjoyable puzzle. A new meaning for BRAVO for me and I thought OUTDOOR was neat! *Bev Cockburn*
- 25ac is not a clue for the young. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Some great clues. I liked especially TYSON, SILVERY and DRYDEN. *Robyn McKenzie*
- The alfresco exit is a good one. *Ron Jarman*

June 3: Lexi Conner (Ron Shapiro)

- Some clever clues, Ron, such as 14dn, TOPAZ. The words "was", "goes" intrude in 9ac, 19ac. Not keen on five almost identical definitions for FIXED. *Len Colgan*
- Rather clunky clue for GARMENT. *Ian Thompson*
- Long time since I had bubble and squeak for breakfast. *Roy Taylor*
- Some very mean 5 letter clues! *Ann Millard*
- This one really tested the grey matter. My only concern is 11ac, FIXED, which I decided was a 'quintuple' clue. Either that or it's gone straight over my head. *Mal Cockburn*
- Bubble and Squeak! Takes me back to the hostel where I lived for 5 years whilst attending High School. *Nea Storey*
- Some very intricate clues in this puzzle e.g. JACKETS and JEERS. Loved GRANDPA. *Bev Cockburn*
- Some neat clues in a harder than expected challenge! I'm not sure about FIXED but enjoyed STORAGE and JACKETS. *Kathy Horadam*
- 11ac very clever with every word meaning 'fixed'. Took a while to work out the word play of some of

the clues but I got there in the end. It's a pangram!
Ulla Axelsen

- I loved GRANDPA though it took me a while to get it! *Robyn McKenzie*
- I agonised over 11ac for ages before settling on a quintuple definition. Does that abbreviate to QD? *Kathleen Harper*

June 4: Bogeyman (Ian Williams)

- Thanks to Bradford's Crossword Solver's Dictionary I found VALONEA when looking up tan. *David Procter*
- BEAR HUGS was cute. *Len Colgan*
- Slot 4 is usually my favourite but this month the 7 letter words were difficult for me so hope I have them correct. Loved the T clue for TOGO. *Hilary Cromer*
- Had to rethink my answer to the Z clue after the grid starting looking a bit messy and I couldn't find a place for PLAYER. The right answer solved that issue. *Mal Cockburn*
- EPITOMES and VALONEA were new words to add to my vocabulary. Thank you! *Bev Cockburn*
- The AJ is always a firm favourite. *Jenny Wenham*
- Fun as always, thanks Bogeyman. BEAR HUGS and SCATTY were my favourites. *Kathy Horadam*
- Loved NOMADISM and BEAR HUGS. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Enjoyed that. A few tricky words to make it challenging. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Liked the Spoonerism, BEAR HUGS. *Ron Jarman*
- Well-constructed clues made even unknown words solvable - I hope! *Kathleen Harper*

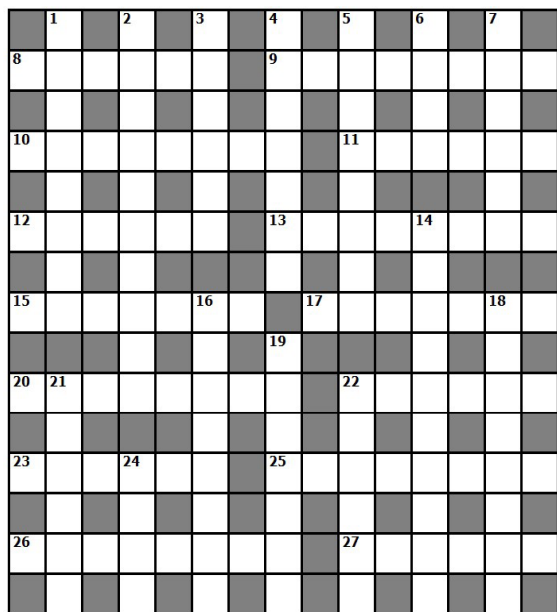
June 5: Robespierre (Ian McKenzie)

- Really liked the two Spoonerisms as well as 2dn. *Len Colgan*
- TETANUS definitely COTM this month. Misleading clues and definitions galore. I especially liked JELLY BEANS, INANE, CLUELESS. But lots of other rippers. *Roy Taylor*
- We particularly enjoyed this slot, thank you. *Julie Leigh*
- Fine puzzle. 7dn should end with "viral disease" not "virus". *Ian Thompson*
- I look forward to Robespierre's puzzles as they are always challenging, but this one took it to another level. I have 6 candidates for my COTM but it's hard to choose which one: JELLY BEANS, EMUS, CLUELESS, PORTFOLIO, EPHEMERAL & TETANUS all deserve recognition. I'll pick EMUS as it has such a clever surface reading. A marvelous puzzle all round. *Mal Cockburn*
- I loved so many clues in this crossword: JELLY BEANS, EILEEN, PORTFOLIO. I've already submitted a COTM. *Sue Pinder*
- Cache-sexe - what a lovely French description! *Nea Storey*
- Cache-sexe is definitely a new one for me! *Julie Crowe*
- Fantastic puzzle! You find a synonym that fits and then you think "How on earth does the clue lead to that?" e.g., INANE and TOTAL!!! Loved PORTFOLIO, TETANUS and NATURIST, etc., etc., etc.! *Bev Cockburn*
- PORTFOLIO was a good Spoonerism as was JELLY BEANS. I like them straightforward. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Some very clever clues with lots of aha moments; and 2 Spoonerisms! I have never come across 'bagel' used for O before. *Ulla Axelsen*
- So many great clues! I loved INANE. *Robyn McKenzie*
- Cheekily entertaining clues. *Kathleen Harper*

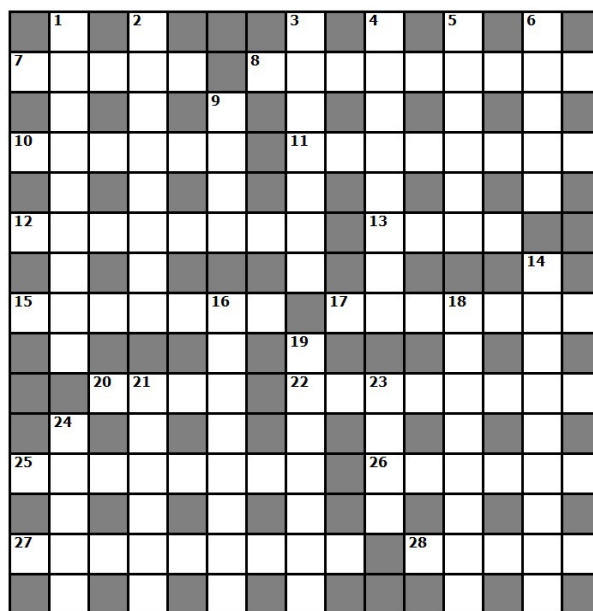
Submit solution by ACCOLADE or for mail entries see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date

Name

JULY SLOT 6 2023

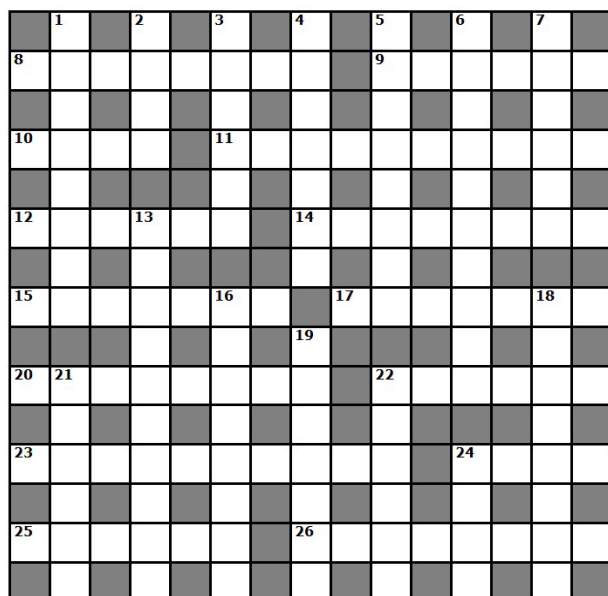


JULY SLOT 1 2023 NAME.....

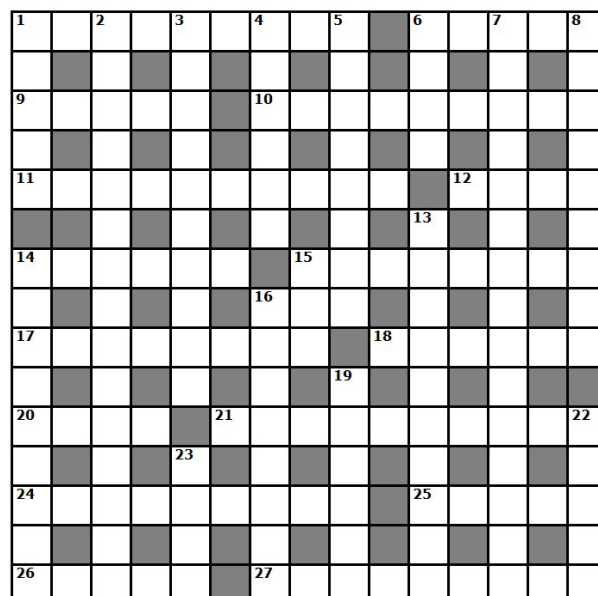


Clue of the Month

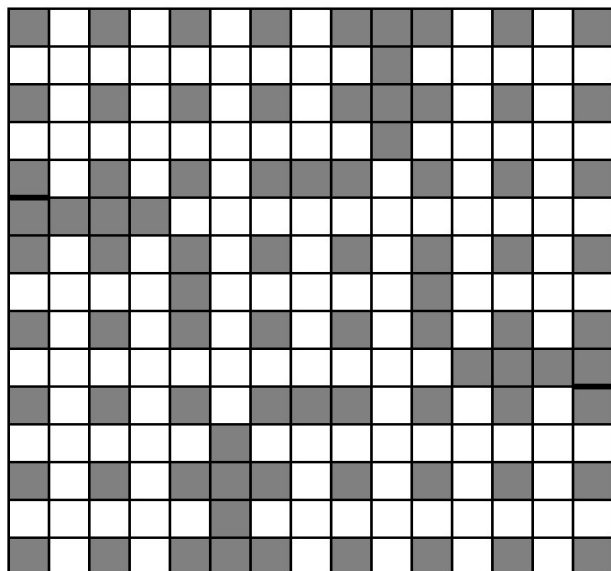
JULY SLOT 2 2023



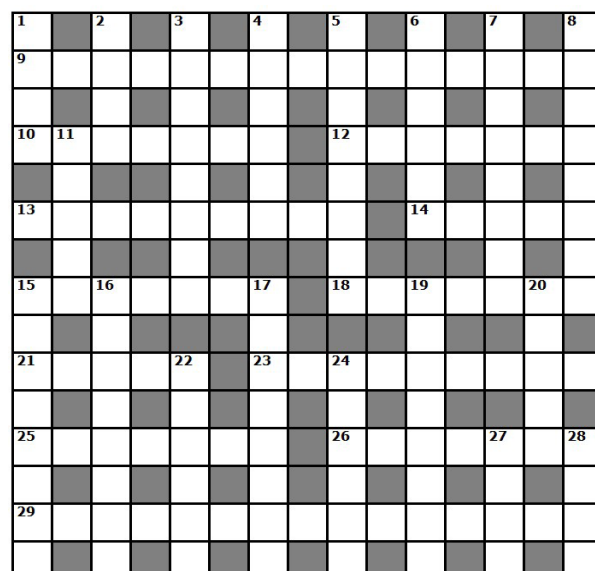
JULY SLOT 3 2023



JULY SLOT 4 2023



JULY SLOT 5 2023





Quiz 2023-7 The Human Body by Child's Play (Brian Symons)

Each answer is an anagram of a human body part or parts which

must also be shown. For example, Clue: unit of sound (4) Answer: sone - nose. Answers are in alphabetical order of the parts. Send your answers to Brian Symons 1 Kookaburra PI, Grays Point NSW 2232 or by email to bms65@bigpond.com Closing mail date 28 July 2023

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----|
| 1 | child | (5) |
| 2 | a measure | (4) |
| 3 | body part | (5) |
| 4 | eatery | (4) |
| 5 | bazaar | (4) |
| 6 | hem | (6) |
| 7 | Beatle | (5) |
| 8 | assault | (3) |
| 9 | soil | (5) |
| 10 | lament | (4) |
| 11 | harden | (3) |
| 12 | error | (4) |
| 13 | nastier | (5) |
| 14 | decent | (5) |
| 15 | window glass | (4) |
| 16 | restaurant | (6) |
| 17 | courage | (5) |
| 18 | keep | (6) |
| 19 | voids | (6) |
| 20 | worsen | (4) |
| 21 | curtain rod concealer | (6) |
| 22 | type of fly | (6) |
| 23 | joy | (7) |
| 24 | stitch | (6) |
| 25 | climbing plant | (4) |
| 26 | legal documents | (5) |

Quiz 6-2023 by Nigrum Cattus

I have enjoyed adjudicating this interesting and informative quiz of Ray's. Most people seemed to enjoy the 'walk through history' that this quiz provided. Both spellings of Balaclava/Balaklava were accepted. A few people had problems with #18 (Morats and Mostra for Mostar), and #15 (Meissen/s for Messines). In the latter case, (the Battle of) Meissen does not fit the anagram given. Other errors were mainly misspellings, which once again, did not fit the clues. A couple of quizzers mentioned the fact that #21 is usually referred to as Pearl Harbor. *Julie Crowe*

Answers 1 Acre, 2 Agincourt, 3 Anzio, 4 Balaclava, 5 Bannockburn, 6 Coral Sea, 7 Culloden, 8 Guadalcanal, 9 Hastings, 10 Khe Sanh, 11 Lone Pine, 12 Long Tan, 13 Marathon, 14 Marne, 15 Messines, 16 Midway, 17 Mobile Bay, 18 Mostar, 19 Naseby, 20 Passchendaele, 21 Pearl

Harbour, 22 Pozières, 23 Sarajevo, 24 Thermopylae, 25 Waterloo.

Results Entries received **26**. Correct **25**: W Allen, U Axelsen, B Cockburn, C Flinkenberg, J Fowler, P Garner, B Glissan, D Grainger, K Harper, R Jarman, J Leigh, R McKenzie, A Martin, F Martin, D Meek, A Miles, A Patterson, D Procter, M Procter, S Roulston, W Ryan, M Veress, R Wimbush. **24**: A Millard **23**: L Jarman, S Pinder, B Siegman, R Skinner, J Wenham. **22** C McClelland.

Prizewinner: Alison Martin. Congratulations!

Solvers feedback

- An enjoyable straightforward quiz. The current crop of leaders unfortunately demonstrate that the list of battles will continue to grow. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Solving this quiz was like a walk through history, albeit a sombre one. *Bev Cockburn*
- Thanks to Ray for this most entertaining quiz. I appreciate his cleverness for Long Tan and Waterloo. *David Grainger*
- Thanks to Ray for an excellent quiz. Enjoyed solving the clues then spent way too much time reading up on the various campaigns. *Ron Jarman*
- Well that was different. Some we knew, some required some browsing. *Julie Leigh*
- Ray must have had a lot of historical knowledge. *Robyn McKenzie*
- It was quite a battle to solve this quiz. *David Procter*
- Thanks for an interesting quiz. *Marian Procter*
- Good fun! Learned a bit too! *William Ryan*
- I really enjoyed working on your quiz. I also learned quite a bit about military history. Not so easy this one, but it has entertained me for 3 weeks and broadened my knowledge of battles. Not hard though..... *Robyn Wimbush*
- I learnt a few battle names! *Ann Millard*
- Thanks for the quiz. I had heard of many but not all. *Lynn Jarman*
- Thanks for an interesting puzzle. *Sue Pinder*
- A fair bit of checking with Google on this one. I only hope I've spelt them all correctly. My spellcheck had no hope. *Richard Skinner*
- Not a bad quiz to do battle with. *Jenny Wenham*
- I finally got #20 out, so hope the rest are correct. It was a learning curve, finding out all the battles. *Claire McClelland*
- The quiz kept me entertained while in hospital, although I was feeling embattled enough without its theme. *Kath Harper*
- Thanks for an enjoyable puzzle. *Con Flinkenberg*

June 6 -2023: Mutual Definitions 1 by Crowsman [see p 2 for solution]
Entries 53 . Correct 52 . Success rate 98%.
Prizewinner: Roy Taylor. Congratulations!

Adjudicator's Comments: My sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to making this the best-solved ever Crowsman puzzle with just one solver submitting an incorrect solution. It took a long time to construct the two grids containing twenty-two mutual definitions, and just as long to compile clues that were fair. I recall elation when the linked clue for OPERATION effectively read "Long time in elective surgery". To say I am chuffed with such an outcome is an understatement. Thank you!

Explanations : Across: 1 S + MO(O)TH, 5 DE(MAN + D)ED, 9 VE(NE)ER, 10 (de)FERMENTS, 11 reverse hidden, 12 SON< + HER, 13 homoph of 'stare', 14 DE(PRESS)ED, 17 O(RANGE)MEN, 20 (TA + ERG)<, 23 LUCK in PS, 25 rEaChEd in RIVER, 26 R(ETCH)ING, 27 ALI + BIS, 28 RE(LEASE)D, 29 GEL< + BY + (hous)E. **Down:** 2 ME(ACRE<)T, 3 OP(ERA)TION, 4 HE + REIN, 5 D(urabl)E + FENCE, 6 MARS around (I)NER, 7 S(D)EEN<, 8 EX + TRE(M)E, 15 ST(RAIN)ING, 16 CES + SPITS, 18 (uneas)E in RELIVE, 19 EN(RAGE)D, 21 (ANY TIME)*, 22 (quicken)S + CRAWL, 24 homoph of 'cache'.

Members' feedback:

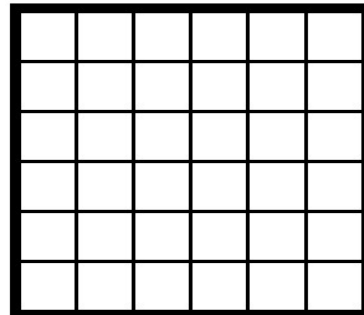
- Thanks for very challenging puzzles. Took a while to get the hang of them. *Claire McClelland*
- These were tough! *Anne Simons*
- I was able to solve slot 7's undefined clues from the wordplay; then I proceeded to solve slot 6 armed with definitions. Going back and forth between puzzles might have overtaxed my brain. *Ian Thompson*
- A very enjoyable duo of puzzles. Tricky to solve and I can't imagine how hard it would be to compile. *Roy Taylor*
- My husband announced; "Those were quite enjoyable!" Not that he expects to get them all correct. *Julie Leigh*
- What a wonderful exercise for the brain. Took a while to get into the rhythm of it. Great fun!! Thanks, Len. *Ann Millard*
- Hmm. It doesn't get any easier with Len does it. *Richard Skinner*
- What a headache Slots 6 and 7 were! Even interpreting the rubric was a puzzle. Fingers crossed; because if I get one wrong, they will probably both be wrong! *Nea Storey*
- A standard CROWSMAN puzzle is difficult enough. Two puzzles with definitions in the aether, makes for a seemingly impossible challenge. Once I had enough 'normal' clues solved I set about working through the definition-less ones. Even once I understood the process, prizing out the answers took most of a week. The only silver lining was that once you had worked out the word plays, the common synonyms confirmed themselves. Hats off to Len for a marvelous tour de force. *Mal Cockburn*
- Well, what a mental workout. Some lovely complex clues there, with Len's ever-present precision. Loved it. Many thanks. *Julie Crowe*
- Absolutely enjoyed the challenge of solving Slots 6 and 7 together, which encouraged me to return to the task. *Jeremy Barnes*
- Diabolical! *Warren Allen*
- One of my last in was actually a normal cryptic clue. Quite a challenge. *Ulla Axelsen*

- I can't believe I've made some sense out of 6 and 7. Such deviousness Len, but I had a great deal of fun wriggling through it all. Thank you. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Another amazing and intricate puzzle to keep us working the brain. Loved the clue for ALIBIS *Robyn Mckenzie*
- A very challenging (but enjoyable) double puzzle with Slot 7. *Laurence Kennedy*
- Double-headers do my head in, until I see chinks of light and they start to make sense at last. *Kathleen Harper*
- This pair of puzzles is a real tour de force! I found I could solve most of Slot 7 through context without needing the cross-reference words; but I really needed the words in Slot 7 to get anywhere in Slot 6. An exception was 24 Down in Slot 7; whose clue could reasonably give ESTER or EATER if you don't see Slot 6's word at 12. Very enjoyable. *Fraser Simpson*

FRAZ WORD SQUARE 6-42 (Solution on p 14)

Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed in order.

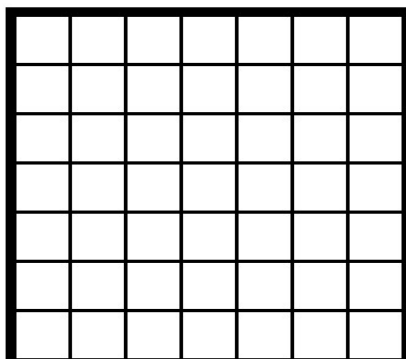
- Evelyn frolics in a fair way
- Lauren snarled, "Fantastic"
- Mention key place for lace
- Ordain fringe group from decadent soiree
- Split stick
- Turn down addressing Italian leader



FRAZ WORD SQUARE 7-17 (Solution on p 17)

Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed in order.

- Initially make opera solo about an ocean trench
- More exciting development of aid here
- One wise rogue got it (3 wds.)
- Red and green pattern finally sketched again
- Satisfy simian eating green veggies
- Saved having last of sausage put on skewers
- Wrongly mark his disputed territory



June 7 -2023: Mutual Definitions 2 by Crowsman
Entries 53. Correct 50. Success rate 94%.
Prizewinner: Robyn Wimbush. Congratulations!

Adjudicator's Comments: I knew his pair of puzzles would appear to be daunting, with twenty-two clues in each missing a precise definition. However, the extremely high success rate across the two puzzles reflects the "mutual definitions" concept. They were also mutually validating! It was then a matter of solving the normal clues, either before or afterwards, of which SEVENTEEN was most popular.

Explanations : Across: 1 SURF ACE, 5 EX + C(ourt) + USES, 9 AC(QUIT)TED, 10 I + RATE, 11 A + M + ERICA, 12 SEE(THE)S, 13 TIM< + I + GATE, 14 AN< + USE + A, 18 ODD in DEN<, 20 PRIV(y) in DEED, 23 LA(ICE)PS<, 25 I + M + MEN + S(it)E, 26 TOM< + TO, 27 SE(AFAR)ERS, 28 SURGE + R(apid)Y, 29 IN + TENSE. **Down:** 1 SEAS(A + L + M)ON, 2 RE(QUEST)ED, 3 A + R(IS)ING, 4 EXTRA + C(oo)TS, 5 hidden, 6 HIM in (C + ERA), 7 SASH around (illici)T, 8 (S + PETS)<, 15 S(EVENT)EEN, 16 DRESS in (A DEE), 17 TIRE* + YAK + I, 19 EP + I(SOD)E, 21 RAM + PART, 22 GuY around LOSS, 23 S(I)UMPS, 24 EA(s)TER.

Members' Feedback:

- Another astounding feat of grid construction by Crowsman in somehow managing to squeeze in 22 "mutual definitions". I can't imagine how much effort that would take. "fencing" as a containment indicator in 15d was a brilliant touch. *Ian McKenzie*
- I had ESTER instead of EATER at first which caused much anguish working out slot 6 12 ac. *Roy Taylor*
- 15D SEVENTEEN was a great clue which had me tricked initially. *Ann Millard*
- As I said about slot 6... *Richard Skinner*
- That was amazing, Len! Well done. What a creative effort. *Andrew Miles*
- Such a difficult (and rewarding) challenge to work through Slots 6 & 7. CROWSMAN delivers a vast array of clever and cunning clues with brilliant wordplay. Well done, Len for crafting them. *Mal Cockburn*
- These puzzles became a little easier when I grasped that the definitions were similes. Thank you Crowsman for a challenging pair of puzzles! *Maureen Blake*
- Nightmare! *Warren Allen*
- Working blind until you figure out one of the words. Good fun though. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Loved SEVENTEEN. Should have been my COTM. Great pair of puzzles Len. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Hard work but satisfying to finish. *Robyn McKenzie*
- Thank goodness for clear Crowsman clueing! *Kathleen Harper*

For the **July Clue-writing Competition**, please write a clue for the word **MASTERPIECE (11)** complete with explanation. Note: only one clue per person. Send your clue **and explanation** to the adjudicator Michael Kennedy preferably by email to manveru@bigpond.com or mail to 27 Hennessy Lane, Figtree NSW 2525 **Closing mail date: Friday 11 August 2023 Prize \$50.**

Solution to June Slot 7

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

Solution WORD SQUARE 6-42

T	E	L	E	E	
E	A	V	E	C	
L	A	R	E	N	
E	R	E	C	D	
Y	N	E	N	E	
E	C	U	D	R	

Solution WORD SQUARE 7-17

N	A	W	R	S	R	E	S	R
W	O	N	E	S	I	S	E	I
A	N	A	I	A	M	A	R	M
R	E	I	D	A	H	E	A	H
D	E	R	A	E	S	P	E	S
E	S	E	A	P	A	P	P	A
R	I	M	H	S	A	S	K	A

Slot 7

A Stylised
One
by
FlowermanPrize
\$50

Wordplay in all but one across clue yields the solution along with an extra letter; these letters in clue order specify the theme. The theme's seven elements are indicated by the unclued entries, both positionally and descriptively. To indicate two of the elements, consecutive unclued entries are used. The remaining five unclued entries each provide one element. Colloquial terms are used in two of these.

Across

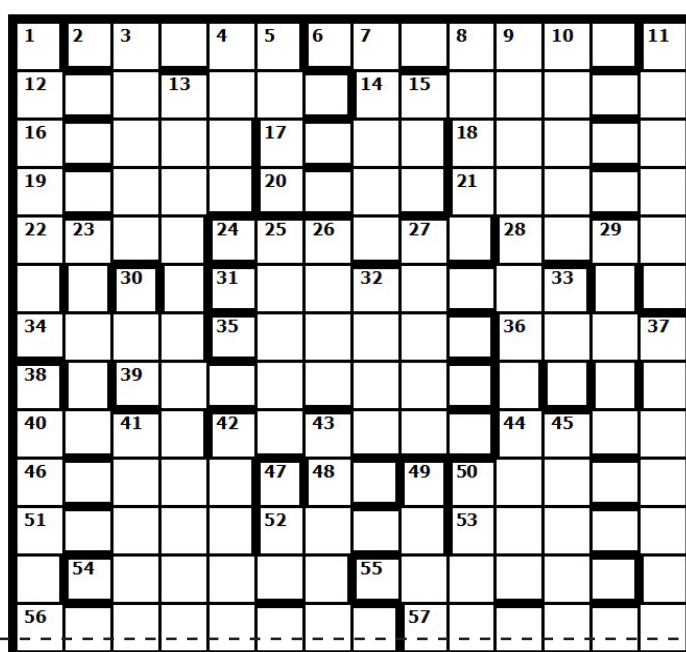
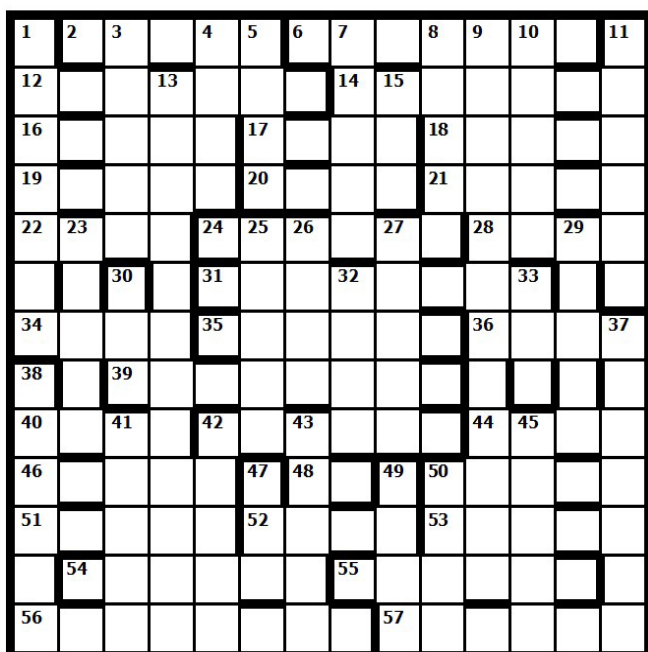
- 2 *Unclued* (5)
 6 *Unclued* (7)
 12 Cobalt and calcium ruined protective clothing (3,4)
 14 Place to fasten boat in mangroves regularly taken by Heath (7)
 16 Roman criminal pinching Charlie's fruit (5)
 17 *Unclued* (4)
 18 Storms uncovered American flower's receptacle (5)
 19 Some days you obsess over water marks (5)
 20 Entertainer just lacking energy (4)
 21 John with bizarre lust for unorthodox religions (5)
 22 Fools incompletely absorbing king's requests (4)
 24 *Unclued* (6)
 28 Administrative trainee entering extra group of binary digits (4)
 31 Very bad teller about to cop ridicule (8)
 34 Wild ox brown and roan except for the flanks (4)
 35 *Unclued* (6)
 36 Throw out recluse without resistance (4)
 39 Learn code for processing plant (8)
 40 Foot of male sloth brought back by American man (4)
 42 Take in sailors, or just one of them (6)
 44 In Scotland, handle robbery (4)
 46 Ask one to order knife from Clare (5)
 48 *Unclued* (2)
 50 Initially, one of my friends pooh-poohed his sex-appeal (5)
 51 Brilliant lecturer replicated old musical instrument (5)
 52 Wake up in English river (4)
 53 Nearly all money is lost in racket (5)
 54 *Unclued* (6)
 55 *Unclued* (6)
 56 Offence by son to block Yorkshire city's sources of oil (8)
 57 Henry loves to renovate small dwellings (6)

Down

- 1 A priest housing graduate in US state (7)
 3 Japanese city from the south acquiring old publication (1-4)
 4 Long periods with runny nose (4)
 5 American poet in a shoe store (4)
 7 Extremely deficient samosas churning stomachs (5)
 8 Mark turning to new chapter (5)
 9 Solve problem with loose tooth after inserting Muscovite brass (12)
 10 Soon greatly missing daughter (5)
 11 Perhaps junk shelves not hard to break (6)
 13 Suspect calls by league star - they're looked into (7,5)
 15 Scrap oral rehydration therapy (3)
 23 British queen's raised a tropical shrub (5)
 25 Some celeb, a heroin addict, turning up here? (5)
 26 Sheep losing coat in the Emerald Isle, once (4)
 27 Bank bringing in London's top tradesman (5)
 29 Fellow after article about international diver, perhaps (5)
 30 *Unclued* (3)
 32 In US city make new date to revisit (4)
 33 *Unclued* (3)
 37 Rest the cast leads (7)
 38 Monetary fund's head is still losing money (6)
 41 Mixing this fruit with sugar could make Senora glum (5)
 42 Switched-on aficionado welcoming rising conductor (5)
 43 Pronounce inlet in good condition (5)
 45 Frenchman's record company once extremely lucrative (5)
 47 Female priest lacking in information (3)
 49 Right length of time, nearly a quarter of an hour (4)
 50 Aware of pair leaving quickly (2,2)



Slot 7: NAME:



Submit solution via ACCOLADE button on www.crosswordclub.org home page or for mail entries see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date.

Write a clue for WAGONER (7)**Adjudicated by Len Colgan**Definition from Chambers (12th edition)**wagon**

n a four-wheeled vehicle, *esp* one for carrying heavy goods; an open railway truck or a closed railway van; a car, *esp* an estate car (*inf*); a movable piece of furniture with shelves (see *dinner-wagon* under *dinner*): *vt* to transport by wagon: *vi* to travel in a wagon.

wagoner *n* someone who drives a wagon; a charioteer (obs).

In addition, "**the Wagoner**" is an alternative name for the constellation Auriga.

There are five reasonable ways to subdivide WAGONER, plus anagrams. Which will appear?

1. W + A + GONER or W + A + GONE + R
2. WAG + ONER or WAG + ONE + R
3. WA(GONE)R
4. WAG(ON)ER
5. WAG(O)NER

With plenty of wordplay options available (deliberately!), the main issue was just how specific or vague would the definitions be? Although it was always going to be the most popular, merely using the single word "**driver**" is a bit vague. Is "**carter**" fairer, or "**teamster**"? Should we use an obsolete charioteer meaning or an obscure constellation? Very fair would be "**horse-drawn driver**" or "**driver on the Oregon Trail**", but is that too informative? Personally, I would use the latter or similar in an actual puzzle. Perhaps something like #1:

Person on the Oregon Trail, driving west, a doomed individual

The winner was Sam Howat with **Wearing nothing for one excited teamster**

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

Age worn type of job ***

An anagram of "age worn", with "type" as the indicator. If I considered "driver" to be a bit vague, then "job" is even more so. The whole clue is better as a definition, but this does not qualify as an @lit clue. Very innovative.

A group of stars left, right after wild antics started ***

This is #1, using the constellation as the definition, with "left = GONE" and "right = R". I would prefer "start of wild antics". Excellent surface.

Ben Hur say disappeared, imprisoned by Westerners, and Romans principally *1/2**

This is #3, with "Ben Hur say" being the old charioteer definition, together with "disappeared = gone" inside (**Westerns And Romans**). With an innovative beginning, perhaps it would be better to use something clever from the movie for "war" rather than somewhat obvious first letters.

Bet held up no old charioteer *1/2**

This is almost #4, being WAG(NO<)ER, with "old charioteer" as the definition. I suspect the Romans did bet, while the inclusion of "old" at least alludes to the obsolete meaning.

Carter died in battle ****

Being #3, this is the epitome of an uncomplicated, succinct inclusion clue.

Charioteer disappeared during conflict *1/2**

Same concept as the previous clue, but with charioteer as the definition. I prefer the previous "carter" as a definition, which also could be the name of a person.

Dreadful wear on golf driver *1/2**

This is the anagram (WEAR ON G)*, where "golf" is the code word for "g". Excellent surface with the misleading definition of "driver".

Driver, change gear now! ****

The best of the direct anagram clues, using (GEAR NOW)*. Is it possible to find a less vague definition than "driver" and still maintain the perfect surface?

Driver dead in drama *1/2**

This is another neat, succinct #3 with "dead = gone". Perhaps something with an x-factor instead of "drama = war" would win the chocolates?

Driver rage now uncontrolled *1/2**

Another near anagram with "uncontrolled" as the indicator and "driver" as the definition.

Famous composer rings old group of stars ****

This is an example of #5, with a fine surface. The containment indicator is "rings", with "old = O". Not easy, with a less known definition.

Gamble on being included, Carter! *1/2**

This is #4, with a concise surface incorporating an appropriate inclusion. Eminently publishable!

Heads of world acclaimed golfing organisations notionally endorse revolutionary driver *1/2**

Another use of the misleading golf "driver". The accurate wordplay involves all the first letters.

Ring Cycle composer circles ring to Get Carter! ***

Another version of #5 with a play on words. Here, the containment indicator is "circles" and "ring = O". I am not sure that "Get Carter" quite works.

Wearing nothing for one excited teamster ****

This is an anagram of "wearing" after replacing the I with O, cleverly disguised within the humour. The anagram indicator is "excited". I regard teamster as slightly fairer than either driver or carter. The surface is superb.

Clue-Writing Competition Scoring System			
	Poor	Proper	Perfect
Definition	0	1	2
Secondaries	0	1	2
Fairness	0	1	2
Surface	0	1	2
x-factor	0	1	2
Total score	Star Rating		
1 or 2	*		
3 or 4	**		
5 - 7	***		
8 - 9	****		
10	*****		

See page 14 for information on the July Clue-Writing Competition

Vale Rufus

When solvers saw that Paul's Guardian Prize crossword ([here](#), if you fancy a challenge) was a tribute to a departed friend, it came as a shock to see that it was Roger Squires. Roger was a prolific crossword setter and was famous for his mentions in the Guinness Book of Records, with more than 75,000 published in all, using almost 2.5 million individual clues. His puzzles appeared in almost 600 outlets in more than 30 countries as Rufus, Dante, Hodge, Bower, Icarus and others, he delighted solvers with his economical but always amusing clues.. Roger's compiled the Monday Telegraph Crossword from 1986 to 2017. He was a magician and member of The Magic Circle, an FA coach and referee, flew for the RAF (surviving a ditching off Sri Lanka in which he surfaced from a depth of 60 feet), and made over 250 television appearances, including in Crossroads and Doctor Who. Hugh Stephenson wrote the obituary in the Guardian [here](#).

One of Roger's clues which never saw the light of day in a printed puzzle was:

Giggling troll follows Clancy, Larry, Billy and Peggy who howl, wrongly disturbing a place in Wales (58)

This is an anagram clue for the longest place name in the British Isles,
Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch!

Vale "Big Dave" Morton

It was also sad to hear of the recent death of Big Dave, an influential crossword blogger and a huge personality. He set up Big Dave's Crossword Blog in 2009 and it became a popular spot for solvers seeking hints in *Telegraph* crosswords. He encouraged new setters and many published their first attempts on his Rookie Corner. He will be sadly missed.
There is a full tribute with many comments on the Big Dave site. [here](#)