



No 410 June 2024



www.crosswordclub.org



As sheer casual reading matter, I still find the English dictionary the most interesting book in the language.

Albert Jay Nock, *Memoirs of a Superfluous Man* 1943, .

## GRIDATORIAL

Cool days are with us again, particularly in the nation's capital, with frost appearing on the fairways. Our indefatigable compilers have served up a number of treats for you this month, starting with the welcome return of a Virgo Half and Half in slot 1. Slot 2 sees an uncharacteristically straightforward cryptic from St Jude (is he mellowing in retirement? - probably not!).

We are delighted to welcome a new compiler to our ranks in the form of NanaKat, whose bio appears on page 5. Welcome Kathryn! Isla's polished clueing style provides us with a well-crafted AJ and Crowsman appears for our solving pleasure in slot 5 and with one of his vintage puzzles in Crowsman's Corner. Flowerman dons a more-conventional-than-usual hat in slot 6 which nevertheless contains a number of challenges.

You will note that we have, in response to a member's suggestion, adopted a slightly different format for the AJ page, which is designed to give more space for your jottings against the specific clues. We'll be interested in your thoughts as to whether such a presentation is useful and if it could be of merit in other slots, where space allows.

Once again, in "Thanks to Volunteers Week", our profound thanks to all who contribute to our solving pleasure each month.

Ian

## FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

**GENERAL :** As the days get shorter, solvers spend more time inside. So those slots should have plenty of care and attention. While we have one well-solved Slot, we also have a couple of problematic answers that cost many of you a dot.

**Slot 1:** Just one error in this Slot not attributable to proof-reading carelessness. That's unheard of! It would have been nice to see a nice fat 100%. DEFECTOR was allowed for DESERTER and NON-MOTILE for the quick clue to NON-MOBILE, neither word actually appearing in Chambers.

**Slot 2:** Slot 2 contained one of this month's big dot-killers (31 dots taken down) by 3dn BILL. 'Parisian addition' implied the account at a restaurant e.g. 'Garçon, l'addition, s'il vous plait!' And 'little Guillaume' was the French equivalent of William. Together, the answer has to be BILL. A tough one. Other errors were predominantly typos.

**Slot 3:** The other dot-killer (22) was BURROWING. The substitution of 'U for O' takes place after 'using a loan/'borrowing', so the definition must be the 'undertaking . . . renovation possibly' at the start of the clue. If the substitution was between the other elements, I'd accept both possibilities. No other systematic errors.

**Slot 4:** Some grey area found with KANDIES (10 errors). Kandy appears in Chambers but 'kandies' is not specifically listed. Wiktionary has 'kandies' but is that good enough? I'm not sure where Kandeas was found.

**Slot 5:** Twenty different errors suggested carelessness in parsing the clues or transcription or lack of motivation.

**COTM :** Nearly fifty nominations were received with fourteen of them giving a clear winner of MASTITIS (Tits amiss) in Slot 2. Well done, T-boy. Honourable mentions to BIRDWATCHING in Slot 3 and PALINDROME in Slot 6

Andrew Patterson

## LEADING FIGURES

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	86	87	81	83	79	416
Correct entries	85	51	53	63	59	310
Success rate (%)	99	59	65	76	75	75
Prizewinners	Wendy Cornish	Allan Storti	Drew Meek	Trish McPherson	Fraser Simpson	from 93 members

Prizewinner: May Slots 1-5 correct: Robert Hagan. Congratulations!

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May 2024 Slot 1

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

May 2024 Slot 2

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

May 2024 Slot 3

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

May 2024 Slot 4

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

May 2024 Slot 5

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

May 2024 Slot 6

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

MEMBERS' RESULTS FOR MAY 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.	•		•	•	•			Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Peach S.	•						•
Allen W.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Harrison S.	•	•	•					Pikler M.	•	•		•	•	•	
Anderson C.	•			•			•	Hearn R.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Procter D.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Audrins K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Holmick P.				•				Randall J.	•						
Axelsen U.	•	•		•		•	•	Horadam K.	•	•		•	•			Rosendorff D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Barbour J.	•		•	•		•		Howat S.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Roulston S.	•			•	•		•
Barnes J.	•					•		Ibbott B.	•							Ryan W.	•	•	•			•	•
Batum C.	•	•		•	•			Jarman L.	•		•	•	•			Shield A.	•	•		•	•	•	
Bennett D.	•			•		•		Jarman R.	•		•	•		•		Shipway S.					•		
Bennett Moses L.	•							Jones G.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Siegmán B.	•	•		•	•	•	
Bettles K.	•	•			•	•		Kennedy L.	•	•	•	•		•		Simons A.				•			•
Blake M.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Kennedy M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Simpson F.	•	•	•		•	•	•
Carroll L.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Lee C.	•		•		•			Skinner R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cockburn B.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Leigh J.	•	•	•	•	•	•		Storey N.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Cockburn M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mackay-Sim C.	•	•		•				Storti A.	•	•	•	•		•	
Cole G.	•							Madden J.	•							Symons B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Martin A.	•	•		•	•			Taylor R.	•	•		•	•	•	
Coote P.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Matthews S.	•		•		•			Taylor S.	•	•	•	•			
Cornish W.	•			•				McClelland C.	•	•					•	Thompson I.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Cromer H.	•	•	•		•			McKenzie I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Tickle B.	•		•	•	•	•	
Crowe J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	McKenzie R.	•		•			•	•	Veress M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Davis K.	•	•	•	•	•			McLeay T.	•	•	•	•	•			Wenham J.			•	•			
Dobele T.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	McLelland C.						•		Wilcox C.	•		•	•	•		
Dowse B.	•	•						McPherson T.				•				Williams K.	•	•		•		•	
Ducker R.	•		•	•	•	•		Meek A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wimbush R.	•			•	•	•	
Evans J.	•				•	•	•	Miles A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wonson J.	•						
Forward K.	•			•		•		Millard A.	•			•	•	•		Wood J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Garner P.	•			•	•	•		Milton R.	•	•		•	•	•		Woolston M.						•	•
Glissan B.	•	•			•	•		Moline R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Young A.	•		•				
Grainger D.	•	•		•	•	•	•	Parsons D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•								
Hagan R.	•	•	•	•	•			Patterson A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•								

Slot 1

Half and Half  
by  
Virgo

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				

Across

- 1 Spills (6)
- 4 Begin (5,3)
- 9 Sky divers (11)
- 10 Lubricate (3)
- 11 Vegetable case (3)
- 12 Shooting out (11)
- 13 Christmas (4)
- 15 Lustfully (10)
- 17 Container for childrens’ books (6,4)
- 18 Probability (4)
- 21 Famous geyser (3,8)
- 22 Revolutionary (3)
- 23 Two Scots (3)
- 24 Stuffed (11)
- 25 Sort of circular (8)
- 26 Deviation (6)

Down

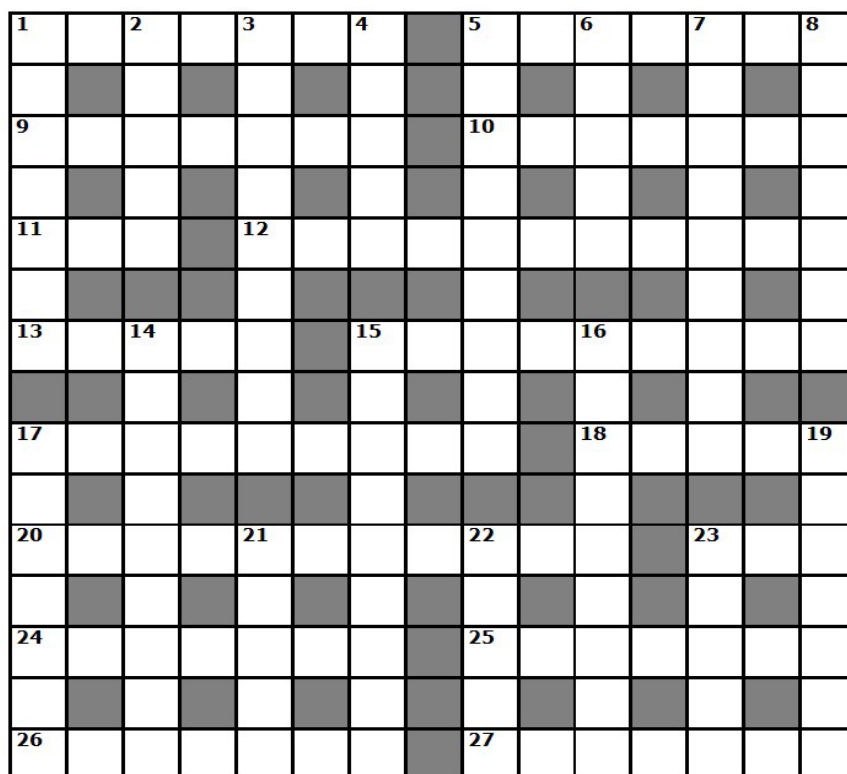
- 1 Spooner pawns metal for delivery (7)
- 2 Cut drape carelessly (5)
- 3 Heard to shake a bed-time drink with style (6)
- 5 Mysterious fleet and rich spies in classic novel and movie (3,7,4)
- 6 Determined to have cracked clue (twice?) (8)
- 7 Drop a fellow victim (4,3)
- 8 Spread drinks and sweets (14)
- 10 Nothing with gloves on is left out (7)
- 14 Creature chained to rock (7)
- 16 Working groundsman loses both sides to a girl (8)
- 17 One who runs off from a light form of transport (7)
- 19 Slim southern bank manager for example? (7)
- 20 Dress with reluctance in church (6)
- 22 Plea to stalled motor could be pants! (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: Jill Lankshear email to [lankshearjill@gmail.com](mailto:lankshearjill@gmail.com) or mail to 1/30 Grantham Street, Brunswick West, VIC 3055  
Slot 6: Ian Thompson: email to [irt\\_botanist@hotmail.com](mailto:irt_botanist@hotmail.com) or mail to 12 Olive Street, Malvern East Vic 3145  
Slot 7: Len Colgan : email to [Len.Colgan@unisa.edu.au](mailto:Len.Colgan@unisa.edu.au) or mail to 1 Ailsa Avenue, Warradale, SA 5046  
Closing mail date for all puzzles is 28 June 2024.

BLANK  
GRIDS  
PAGE 16

## Slot 2

Cryptic  
by  
St JudePrize  
\$50

## Across

- 1 Immobilise by cold little wave (7)
- 5 Subtlety of excellent concealment of letter (7)
- 9 Fitting to redistribute by atonement without meceding territory (7)
- 10 Riot erupted after invoice presented in glass (2,5)
- 11 Unwell in core of armpits (3)
- 12 Someone not suited could play so cruelly? (11)
- 13 Close fitting, like this grand ardour (5)
- 15 Pushes forward Protestant's offensive introductory sermon... (9)
- 17 ...resulting in very rapid disengagement before caress (9)
- 18 Social class moulded by proclamation (5)
- 20 Excitedly chafe on porn from Belgium perhaps? (11)
- 23 Pouch contains nitrous acid? Just the opposite! (3)
- 24 To gripe about self inflating encounter (3,4)
- 25 Watches hearts (7)
- 26 Crazy as sires and more impudent (7)
- 27 Forms packages with energy included (7)

## Down

- 1 Messaging taxi to go to Heather (7)
- 2 Trifling lecture on American bucolic painting (5)
- 3 Purloin stream of faux gold (9)
- 4 Old art returned as well (5)
- 5 Weapon made with stone bolt (9)
- 6 Short story initially examined measureless stars (5)
- 7 Places outside a boundary of lands held out of production (3-6)
- 8 Crudely opens my knickerbockers and leotards, for example (7)
- 14 Crooks' instructions for calculation (9)
- 15 Multicoloured smoker's exterminator (4,5)
- 16 Record her revolutionary becoming tenuous (9)
- 17 Strikes sideboards (7)
- 19 Overlooks pleas (7)
- 21 Vicar pictures bound wrists (5)
- 22 Visual removal of leader of Egyptian Christian sect (5)
- 23 Newspaper sale reported (5)

## General Feedback for May

- Thank you for my prize last month. *Claire Batum*
- Having made all the basic mistakes that the adjudicator lists and receiving no dots for my submissions I was delighted with my prize for Slot 7. Thank you. *Cheryl Wilcox*
- Thank you so much for the prize last month, a lovely birthday gift. *Betty Siegman*
- Many thanks for my Slot 6 prize. Much appreciated after the effort involved in solving it. *Kath Harper*
- Many thanks for the Prize last month. *Tony Dobe*
- Some excellent clues across all the puzzles this month! *Sonia Roulston*
- I would like to thank the club for my prize for Slots 1-5 last month. Very much appreciated. It's great to get rewarded for getting all those dots. *Mal Cockburn*
- I was doing well with the puzzles until I got to slot 6...I just couldn't get my head around it. I'm hanging out for the solutions. *Sally Shipway*



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									

Across

- 8 Matter of the heart? (10)
- 9 Riot toppled triumvirate (4)
- 11 Prepared le torte, a fancy tart from Paris (7)
- 12 Talk proudly about a headless trollop (7)
- 13 Being unctuous, Fay accepts sobriety (5)
- 14 Stew orris? O! Messy! A bit vexing (9)
- 16 On-screen mood enhancer from event audio/lighting initiated on air (10,5)
- 19 US suspense novelist's twisted terse grin (9)
- 21 Winner to show impatience at delay (5)
- 22 Quarter bottle of sparkling could hit a high note (7)
- 23 Identify wheat stem blemish (7)
- 24 Hear that actor Goldie makes brass (4)
- 25 They're all 'E' trips spiritually! (10)

Down

- 1 Explaining increasing size (10)
- 2 Acrostic? Construction method could be argued (8)

- 3 Short spaghetti line for patisserie (6)
- 4 Short hedge for a border (4)
- 5 Haggard adventurer on the briny goes after US coin right away (10)
- 6 Vault over opening of digital asset (6)
- 7 At the outset, symptoms of 'flu tend to be mild (4)
- 10 This lifestyle is barely practised (6)
- 14 Dawn throws bats at HM Prison, London (10)
- 15 Get away from Florida islands on boards? These may help you quit the program! (6,4)
- 17 New version of Nokia 'D' is hot (6)
- 18 Fish feature encircling research facility can be resized (8)
- 20 Share cord of wood, in part a log (6)
- 21 Commencing, could orchestra retain normal, even tempo with this instrument? (6)
- 22 Pash violently with expressions of outrage (4)
- 23 Derek lost, right? Failed but scraped by (4)



My interest in cryptic crosswords began when I was quite young. I remember both mum and dad pondering over the Times (before we migrated to Australia when I was nine) and then the Melbourne Age cryptics, on a daily basis. Their subdued whoops of delight when they solved a particularly clever entry intrigued me. I wanted to whoop too.

My family considers me to be the resident wordologist; a high honour indeed. I think it's their way of saying that I'm a bit boring and read a lot. I love the fact that our crazy, twisted, borrowed language allows for so many rich and fascinating clues in the world of cryptic puzzles. My pseudonym comes from my grandchildren. Having two Nanas can be confusing when you're just learning to talk, and the word 'Kath' is just a bit hard for little mouths to form. "NanaKat", on the other hand, slides off the least experienced tongue with ease. It's loving nod to my special connection with them. I'm in my 70s, and my dream date is taking David Astle for a long lunch.

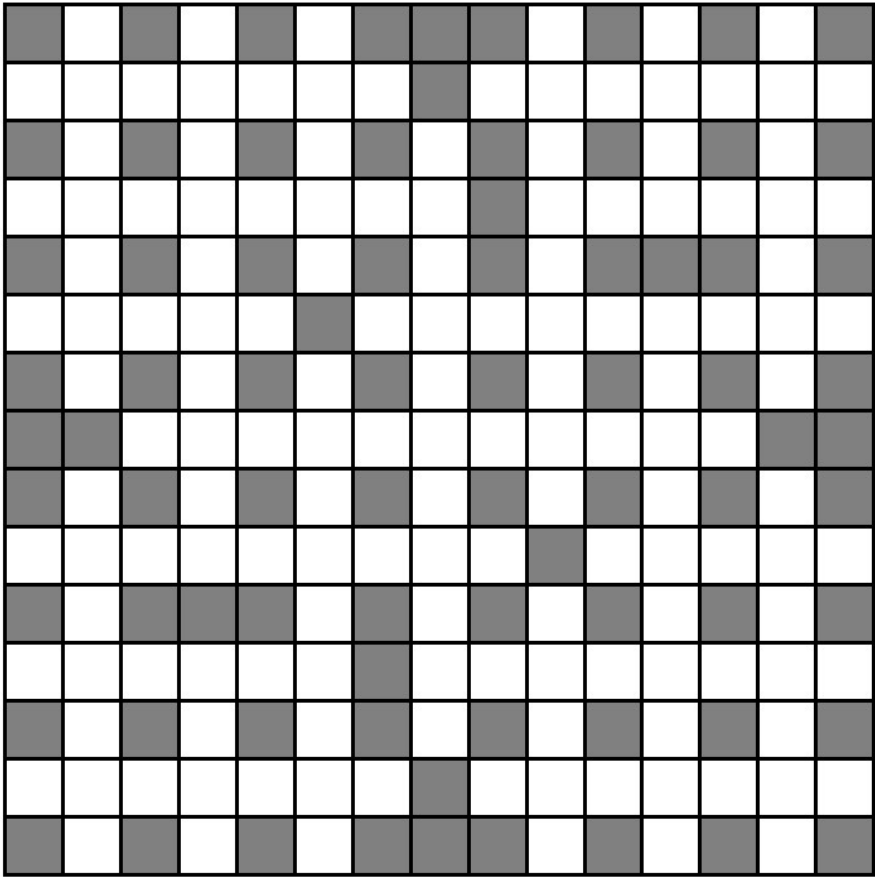
**NanaKat (Kathryn Forward)**

Slot 4

AJ  
by  
Isla



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



- A** On the main line, a cricket team’s supporter (7)

**B** Akubra’s on if travelling in the country (7,4)

**C** A small amount of money’s occasionally really essential (7)

**D** Cheat returned provisions pilfered in error (2,3,2)

**E** Epitomise agile flexy imp full of energy (9)

**F** Caught browner animals (5)

**G** Greedyguts bloke tucking into hard-rinded fruits (9)

**H** Though we float around... (7)

**I** It is ingested by Alice, to make her character lean (9)

**J** Fighting it’s charm is overwhelming, consuming one (3-5)

**K** Sounding serene, in charge of one’s fate (6)
- L** In field, King who was abandoned by duplicitous daughters? (4)

**M** Brand new flavour (4)

**N** Flower, nut, rum and Asti cocktail (10)

**O** Lose head in icy loch of great antiquity (7)

**P** Pompous potentate to slate judge with spirit (10)

**Q** A chessman? Yes and no (5)

**R** I tarry recollecting proverbial hen’s tooth? (6)

**S** Wrestles exuberantly; gets hot and sweaty (8)

**T** Try one method to find aircraft path (7)

**U** European boy following British cats and dogs (9)

**V** Empty caveat unsettled daughter (7)

**W** Model wed striking secretary (7,4)

**X** Element 10, a gas emitting light when its energy’s raised (5)

**Y** Ready to set out at the earliest possible time (4,3)

**Z** Like lemon peel with gusto (5)

Slot 5

Cryptic  
by  
Crowsman

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							

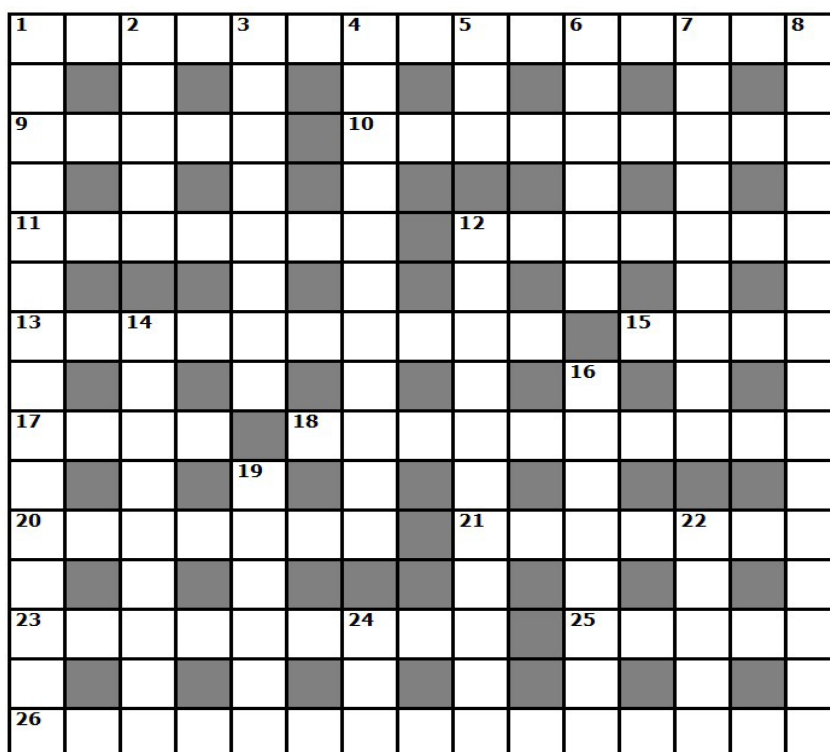
Across

- 8 Burn inside of Hades for absurd behaviour! (7)
- 9 Muslim cleric's money (6)
- 10 Ex-president of Pakistan carries local flower (6)
- 11 Lovers held back by bitter Omani (8)
- 12 Yen grossing yen (8)
- 13 Self-government was mistakenly bringing back clash (6)
- 14 Noted compiler's back-to-front hotchpotch, seen out of order (7)
- 17 Drunk blokes circle one monument on Thames embankment (7)
- 20 Drench that girl's sheep! (6)
- 22 Get bigger present during second jolly good time (8)
- 25 Bewitched by sorcery, rings party involved in butchery of dove (8)
- 26 New scout master's routine (6)
- 27 Messy one in France consuming nuts (6)
- 28 Jumbo sized, but right for start of nude dip (7)

Down

- 1 Spirited start of play versus English (6)
- 2 Prohibitionist headline (6)
- 3 Resin turned up derivative of ammonia and zinc carbonate (8)
- 4 Dodgy gardener loses right to send nuts (7)
- 5 Crowsman turned up with manager to do relief work (6)
- 6 Warning cries precede trouble for ship's jib (8)
- 7 Components inside sink, set up as environmental devices for drain (3,5)
- 15 Drug quantity carried round at zero degrees (3,5)
- 16 European (Greek character) raised desert surface animals (8)
- 18 Wellington affected military training centre (4,4)
- 19 Jewish leader quits in mayhem, abandoning university, over annex (7)
- 21 26 included nothing right for fracas perpetrator (6)
- 23 Pub is troubled somewhat by its restaurant (6)
- 24 Can Japanese money ease restrictions? (6)

## Slot 6

Cryptic  
by  
FlowermanPrize  
\$50

## Across

- 1 Substantial judge blunders, overlooking the West End's built-up areas (8,7)
- 9 Nothing working for Republican president (5)
- 10 Noted traveller left in doo-doo after old squeeze returned (5,4)
- 11 Prophet reflected about Nordic girl's experiences again (7)
- 12 What might huntsman cry when friend is in trouble? Hang on, initially (5-2)
- 13 Maybe, Ferrell leaving with lousy traders destined to fail (3-7)
- 15 Actor backing series set in remote region (4)
- 17 Stage director panics regularly (4)
- 18 Condition of French duke after dry heat, possibly? (10)
- 20 Head of Cambridge University ponders making Latin uniform in The Cloud (7)
- 21 In old Baltic port, I'm returning craft (7)
- 23 Instruction from purist to Henry complicated (9)
- 25 A selection of sculptor's oeuvre? (5)
- 26 Dairy product splashed over merchandise (10,5)

## Down

- 1 Coach in accident swimming with Oscar on day that's advised against (15)
- 2 Slack on rising? It's relating to wrongful injury (5)
- 3 Do up in old tavern organised by Earl (8)
- 4 Those changing opinions to suit circumstances of prisoners, perhaps (11)
- 5 Prince nearly overturned container (3)
- 6 Goose an ingredient in some soups (6)
- 7 John felt abused by US city's political extremists (5,4)
- 8 Cloned species from Rio moving like a centipede (15)
- 12 Silly tone by English paper putting off a trend follower (5-6)
- 14 Liberal couple put up pointless reasons for recurring theme (9)
- 16 Creative chart is ticking boxes (8)
- 19 Endless affair to acquire gold coin once (6)
- 22 A politician perhaps discarding navy suit (5)
- 24 His Holiness welcoming Australian's expression of exultation (3)

Submit your solution via the ACCOLADE button on [www.crosswordclub.org](http://www.crosswordclub.org) home page, or for mail entries see page 3 for adjudicator and closing mail date.



## Slot 7

Cryptic  
by  
CrowsmanPrize  
\$50

## Crowsman's Corner

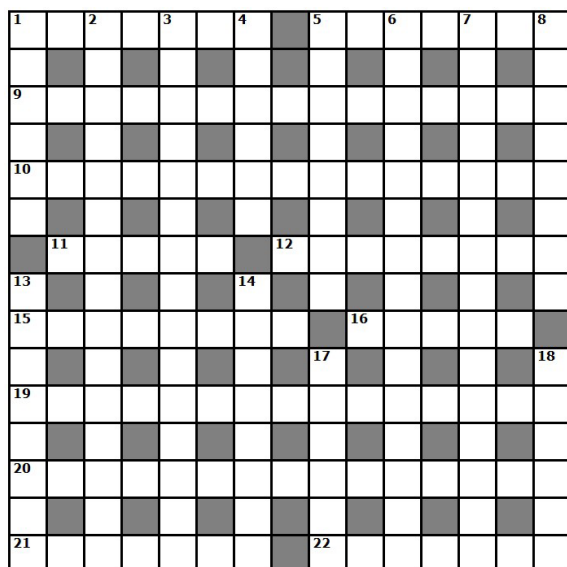
## Across

- 1 A tension reversal for states (7)  
 5 Brownish-yellow sludge accommodates rodents coming around (7)  
 9 I left terminus, harbouring idea for graft (15)  
 10 Short team aide squeezing before countering wrinkles in clothes (6-9)  
 11 Send watch back! (5)  
 12 Asian born outside fades (8)  
 15 Groups of players have called for English knick-knacks (8)  
 16 Pronouncement: prognosis eliminating prion! (5)  
 19 Virgin timber, for example, a learner cut haphazardly, inwardly bitter (7,8)  
 20 Plaudits going around tires me out, but such assessments are too high! (15)  
 21 European countries' large cars (7)

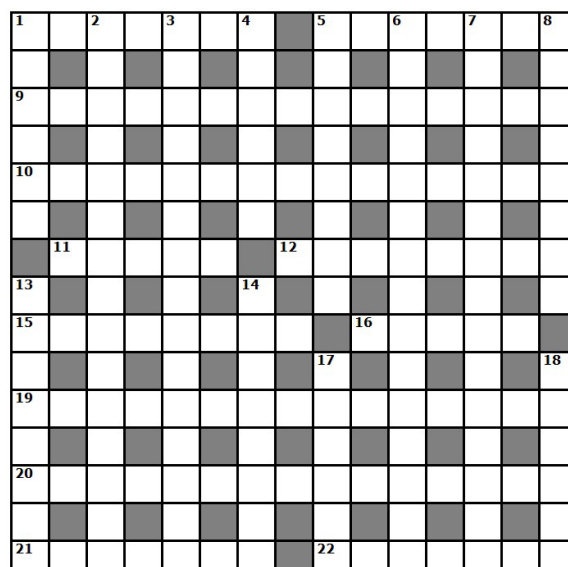
- 22 A number in the colony are not homeowners! (7)

## Down

- 1 Charge towards course (6)  
 2 US foreign affairs division leave, interrupting report (5,10)  
 3 Lazing about is a right, with others an offence (9,6)  
 4 Oppressive biblical king avoiding a shot (6)  
 5 One has gone into the church (8)  
 6 Close housing is together with a place to rest, not set up for South Carolina industry! (3-6,6)  
 7 No actor! (8,7)  
 8 Passes away swallowing take-home from small eating places (8)  
 13 Laurel perhaps placed on long horse-drawn carriage (8)  
 14 Follows birds, circling behind (8)  
 17 Authorisation for hairdresser? (6)  
 18 Believers in God avoid first time for robberies (6)



June Slot 7 Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Submit solution via ACCOLADE button on [www.crosswordclub.org](http://www.crosswordclub.org) home page or for mail entries 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 clues in May 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 Crowsman [cryptic clues] Across:** 10 PROP + AGATE, 11 Spoonerism of 'sane male', 13 HE(DON)IST, 25 (DENIM + AXE)<, 28 dd, 29 DEE + PLAID, 31 RED E(n)SIGN. **Down:** 2 (A + LAME + TUG)< around A, 4 (IF I) in SCARED, 5 dd, 7 BAR(NACL)E where NaCl = salt, 17 homoph of 'I slander', 18 STAI(RHEA)D, 21 Spoonerism of 'bean leaf', 23 RE(MAIN)ED, 24 I + DEN(TIT)Y.

**Slot 2 T-boy. Across:** 9 TOME< + IVE, 10 HOST + ILE, 11 IM + PALED, 12 (STRAGANOFF - got)\*, 13 F + homoph "lecher", 15 EX + STI, 16 MON + ARCH, 19 dd, 20 reSERVOir, 21 NECTAR + IN + E, 25 I + C + SPACE<, 26 dd, 28 hidden, 29 anag. **Down:** 1 LI in BEEF, 2 R in COPSE, 3 dd ("I'll addition" is Fr. for the bill), 4 (MIDDLE EAR-air)\*, 5 cd, 6 anag, 7 AIR + R + AIDS, 8 (NY + SONNET)\*, 14 COR + MORANT + S, 16 &lit, 17 RON< + SEMEN, 18 dd, 22 CAN + VAS, 23 ID + LING, 24 BEATERS\*, 27 agEndA moStIY.

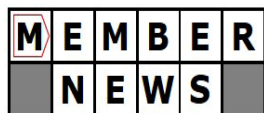
**Slot 3 P-brane. Across:** 1 BABY + E + L, 3 ddd, 8 homoph "nun", 9 PAR + {AS IT IS} + M, 11 IN[ve]STIGATE, 12 PEEK< + S, 13 cd, 17 LOG + I[con]C, 21 STORE + ROOM, 23 BRAZIL + NUTS, 24 (sUrE wILL)<, 25 dd, 26 BO (r<>GA) N. **Down:** 1 BUN[g] + YIP, 2 BANDS + honoph "bawl", 3 (MADRA[s])\* , 4 O+N + AVERAGE, 5 BRICK + FIELDER, 6 A + L + IVE, 7 (SEEM)\* + (REST)\*, 10 Spooner "word botching", 14 (DANES + SEEM)\*, 15 B(o<>U)RROWING, 16 LAB in SCALE, 18 IMP + (GUN)\*, 20 dd, 22 hw (boat ENGaged).

**Slot 4 Both Sides. A** Cryptic definition, **B** BY(R)ES, **C** Anag, **D** D+one>+UNCE, **E** E(CHE)LON, **F** FORCE+MEAT, **G** G(LAMOUr)uISE, **H** (rOUNDHEaD)\*, **I** I(AI)Nn, **J** z + J + EALOUSNESS, **K** Homoph "candies", **L** LE+GAL, **M** MA(LUPIN>)ATED, **N** NU+ME+RAL, **O** OuNCE, **P** PIMP=kERNEL, **Q** Anag, **R** Homoph "re-laps", **S** ST+OP+OVER, **T** Anag, **U** UNI+VERSE, **V** VE(NE)ER, **W** WALLcOPING, **X** Homoph "zero" + MA, **Y** YE+OMEN, **Z** Anag..

**Slot 5 Katydid (Kathy Horadam). Across:** 1 PETA+RD, 4 DD, 9 RE+ALLY, 10 SU(VILLA)\*N, 12 TRANCE (homo)+PT, 13 anag, 15 DD, 16 DAWN+CHORUS, 19 (ba->GO)NDOLIERS, 20 DADA<, 23 (ERROR)\*Y, 25 OVER+KILL, 27 [RERE(d->CR)OS]<, 28 A+NY+ONE, 29 (FIN(e)OPERA)\*, 30 SEA RENT. **Down:** 1 P(IRATE)S, 3 hidden, 6 IO + miLAN THEme, 7 Hidden, 8 SHUNCUE\*, 11 AP(HAG)IA, 14 EN+GRAVE, 17 DRUGORDIE\*, 18 YOURS+ELF, 19 G+ROW+SUP, 21 (G->D)ilbert, 22 DD, 24 RE+RUN, 26 homoph (h)ERR.

The following are said to be the outcome of a competition held by the New York Times some years ago to see who can create the best original "lexophile". Most have stood the test of time! No apologies for the others.

- You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish
- To write with a broken pencil is pointless
- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
- If you don't pay your exorcist you can get repossessed.
- I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.
- I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.
- Did you hear about the crossed-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?
- When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.
- When chemists die, they barium
- I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.
- I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.
- England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool .
- Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.
- This girl today said she recognized me from the Vegetarians Club, but I'd swear I've never met herbivore



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

**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.

A reminder that the May clue-writing competition is open until 14 June. Aspiring compilers should write a clue for the word **SUSPENSION (10) complete with explanation**, and send it to the adjudicator Drew Meek at email drewski1@hotmail.com

**Closing mail date: Friday 14 June 2024 Prize \$50.**

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.

**May 1: Crowsman (Len Colgan)**

- Another enjoyable Crowsman slot! *Patricia Abbott*
- Some very clever cryptic clues and some challenging non-cryptics, a great mix of the two. BADMINTON was both clever and funny - something that is always sure to please! A great warm up for the tougher puzzles. *Kathryn Forward*
- Nice grid with some clues auto-solving. *Toby McLeay*
- Enjoyable and a bit different. *Lyria Bennett Moses*
- SCARIFIED had me scared. *Sioux Harrison*
- I loved the LEAN BEEF Spoonerism! *Fraser Simpson*
- A very interesting grid pattern with some great reversals. I loved GUATEMALA and EXAMINED. *Kathy Horadam*
- A high-quality slot 1. *Ian Thompson*
- I don't understand why BADMINTON is the answer to 28ac. [A double definition of a marque of china and the racquets game - Ed] *Judith Wonson*
- Many great clues especially those for EXAMINED, REDESIGN, BARNACLE and STAIRHEAD. *Brian Tickle*
- An enjoyable Slot 1 *Nea Storey*
- I guess 5dn, SPLIT ENDS explains the grid layout? There's always something with Crowsman. *Richard Skinner*
- I always find 8 and 9 letter words the hardest to solve, so this was a bit of a nightmare. Made it though, thanks for the challenge. *Ulla Axelsen*
- I'm a little confused with the wordplay for 13ac, HEDONIST, unless the Don does double duty perhaps. 28ac, BADMINTON, also has me baffled. Overall, a challenging slot 1. *Mal Cockburn*
- A good start to my favourite pastime. Thank you all. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Lots of longish words which took a bit of solving. Still don't understand STAIRHEAD. *Barbara Ibbott*
- What a lovely lot of 8 and 9 letter words. I particularly liked how every letter of the four central radiating words was checked. Not an easy feat, I would imagine. *Julie Crowe*
- Thanks, Len for an interesting and somewhat challenging puzzle. *Jean Evans*
- Amazing grid. Loved clue for SCARIFIED. *Bev Cockburn*
- I liked the clue for BARNACLE. *Robyn McKenzie*
- Elegant clues for EXAMINED; REDESIGN and BARNACLE. *Ron Jarman*
- Enjoyable. *Lynn Jarman*

**May 2: T-boy (Toby McLeay)**

- Particularly liked EXITS & MASTITIS. (Very minor comment: 19ac TRIES ON is an attempt to hoodwink, not necessarily successful). *Ian McKenzie*
- Some great clueing but 16dn, MASTITIS, gets my vote for brevity and wit! *Kathryn Forward*
- Great clue for MONARCH! *Fraser Simpson*
- SERVO, CANVAS and EASTER are great clues and MASTITIS is a gem. *Kathy Horadam*
- 3dn had me going for some time. WILL, BILL, GILL or even PILL? After much digging around I was finally happy with my answer. *Sioux Harrison*
- Tits amiss would have to be COTY. *Greg Jones*
- Some fun clues in this one. My absolute favourite was CHESS SET. *Jenny Wenham*

- Loved MASTITIS, how true. *Betty Siegman*
- I can't justify 20ac, SERVO. Clever clue for MASTITIS, but gave my COTM to CORMORANTS. *Nea Storey*
- The clue for MASTITIS was a cheeky deviation from the rules but oh so clever. *Brian Tickle*
- BILL (3dn) had us thinking for a while. *Richard Skinner*
- A somewhat challenging slot 2. Took a while to work out the word play for some clues. Perhaps it's my age, but I didn't particularly like 16dn. *Ulla Axelsen*
- 3dn took me a while to justify until I remembered a little colloquial restaurant French. 14dn uses a brilliant type of Breaker, and 16dn is a very clever anagram. Great job. *Mal Cockburn*
- Loved MASTITIS. Says it all! *Robyn Wimbush*
- Some interesting clues. *Jean Evans*
- Plenty of really clever clues, e.g. BELIEF, NEEDLES, EXITS and my favourite, MASTITIS! *Bev Cockburn*
- Loved 16dn Tit Amiss. *Trish McPherson*
- Enjoyable. Thank you. *Sally Shipway*
- Enjoyable. *Lynn Jarman*

**May 3: P-brane (Roger Hearn)**

- Especially liked B AND S BALL. *Ian McKenzie*
- Bird watching - that hot flue cooled me - until the end. *Toby McLeay*
- Some enjoyable Aussies here, and a great Spoonerism, my runner-up for COTM. *Kathy Horadam*
- This had me scratching like a bewildered wombat. *Kate Williams*
- I found that quite tricky. *Roy Taylor*
- Wow! Had a real struggle with this one...some 'new-to-me' words and some challenging clues. Very entertaining! *Kathryn Forward*
- A lovely Aussie field to this grid. I had never heard of BRICKFIELDER. I guess I come from the wrong part of the country. BIRD WATCHING was far and away my favourite clue in this one. *Jenny Wenham*
- I struggled with B AND S BALL for a while and thought the word length indication must be wrong but then I finally twigged! *Hilary Cromer*
- The clue for BIRD WATCHING is one of the cleverest and funniest Spoonerism clues I have ever seen. *Brian Tickle*
- What a delightfully Aussie puzzle! B AND S BALL was my runner-up for COTM. *Nea Storey*
- Appreciated all the Australian references in this. *Tony Dobebe*
- Even wombats need home loans? No wonder there's a housing crisis! *Kath Harper*
- A minor theme here. *Richard Skinner*
- Good fun, 'cellar dwellers' was a new expression for me. Much as I liked BIRD WATCHING, I have come across it before, but a good Spooner is always fun. *Ulla Axelsen*
- A very good puzzle indeed. BIRD WATCHING, gets my COTM. *Mal Cockburn*
- I liked BIRD WATCHING, but lots of good clues. And I think there's almost a case for 15dn using both the u and the o. *Julie Crowe*
- Some nice material, but "was" in ON AVERAGE is inactive and intrudes. *Len Colgan*

Continued on page 15



**Quiz 6-2024. Just a Letter by Child's Play (Brian Symons)** Each answer is a single letter. Answers are in random order and **no letter is repeated**. Some answers need to be in upper case, some in lower case and some can be either. Each letter is either a direct solution to the clue or a homophone of the solution or a pun or other allusion. Send your answers to Brian Symons, 1 Kookaburra Place, Grays Point NSW 2232 e-mail bms65@bigpond.com . Closing Date 28 June 2024. Prize \$50.

- 1 London gardens
- 2 Common breakfast fare
- 3 As a prefix it indicates without
- 4 Its spelling remains controversial
- 5 Main
- 6 Churchillian gesture
- 7 Imaginary number
- 8 Stands for two distinct measures of length
- 9 Cleverly missing from a Georges Perec novel
- 10 An academy award winning movie
- 11 An economic curve
- 12 Whimsically associated with bonnet
- 13 Part of a pool table
- 14 Half a horse
- 15 Can be a relief
- 16 A chess piece
- 17 Burmese title of respect
- 18 A right angle
- 19 Its name bears no relation to its sound
- 20 A well-bowled over
- 21 The vertical axis
- 22 One of the educational basics
- 23 Can stand for time or old money
- 24 Expression of surprise
- 25 The first (and last) letter of a palindrome of a daily event
- 26 Accompanies sympathy

**Quiz 5-2024: What's in a name? by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)**

**Entries received: 15 Correct: 10 Success Rate 67% Winner: Richard Skinner. Congratulations!**

**Results 26 W Allen, M Blake, J Crowe, L Jarman, R Jarman, R Mckenzie, A Millard, W Ryan, F Simpson, R Skinner 25 K Harper, J Leigh, D Meek, D Procter, R Wimbush 24 K Forward 22 B Siegman**

**Answers** 1 [Rose] appreciated / accelerated / aggrandized, 2 [Pip] blackball, 3 [Dot] bullet point, 4 [Mark] characterize, 5 [Harry] disturb, 6 [Ray] elasmobranch, 7 [Hew] fashion, 8 [Sandy] gingery/grained, 9 [Nina] hidden message, 10 [Hector] intimidate, 11 [Ally] kinsman / kindred, 12 [Matt] lustreless, 13 [Dan] master / marker, 14 [Bill] notice / outlay, 15 [Sally] outrush, 16 [Frank] plain-spoken, 17 [Nick] police station, 18 [Barney] quarrel, 19 [Pierce] run through, 20 [Patsy] scapegoat, 21 [Eve] threshold, 22 [Billy] truncheon, 23 [Dicky] unsteady / unstable, 24 [Eddy] vortex, 25 [Peg] wooden leg / pin, 26 [Jock] yokel / yahoo.

**Compiler's Observations:** Thanks for all the kind comments although I am a little disheartened at the number of entries. Perhaps there were too many alternatives, I won't go through them all, although NINA

was interesting: hidden message, hidden feature, hidden pattern and hidden letters, all were accepted, I had the first one in mind. I did have a good laugh at one entry for EVE, temptress (certainly not wrong), I was looking for a more prosaic meaning: threshold. A few worried that ELASMOBRANCH was not really an 'everyday English word' and perhaps in hindsight I could have used something like 'twinkle' for 'ray'. Thanks to those who did give this a go.

**Solvers' Feedback:**

- Thank you for this quiz. *David Procter*
- This was a fun romp through the dictionary! *Fraser Simpson*
- Great fun! *William Ryan*
- Another interesting quiz, thank you. Not sure about some of our answers! *Julie Leigh*
- Here we go! I have no idea if I am on the right track with your quiz but at least I have answers for each clue. #6 was a worry. *Warren Allen*.
- Here is my submission for your quiz, which I thoroughly enjoyed completing! *Kath Forward*
- Thanks for an interesting quiz. So many names with other meanings. I'm not sure about a few of my answers, look forward to seeing the results. *Betty Siegman*
- I'm not sure that all my answers fit the description of 'everyday English', but they're in alphabetical order so I'm at least half right. *Kath Harper*
- Even though this seemed somewhat looser than some quizzes, I found it difficult to pin down a few answers! I don't think my answer for 6 could be called an everyday English word, but was the best I could come up with, and it's a lovely word. *Julie Crowe*
- Thanks for your enjoyable quiz, even if it didn't include my name ☐ *Drew Meek*
- Another imaginative quiz, thank you Ulla! *Robyn Mckenzie*
- Yet another great quiz from your pen. 3 was not easy! I'm surprised more people don't do the quiz as well. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Ah, what's in a name etc. Thanks Ulla, challenging fun as always. *Richard Skinner*
- Thank you for this. I suspect my 'elasmobranch' answer for Ray is not correct as it is not A common English word. *Maureen Blake*
- Thanks for the May quiz - lots of fun and I suspect a couple may have suitable alternatives. *Ron Jarman*
- Another great quiz and not as easy as it might have appeared. *Ann Millard*
- My quiz solutions are attached - hopefully. Congratulations on developing such a novel idea. *Lynn Jarman*



**May 6-2024 Cryptic by Robespierre (Ian McKenzie)**  
See page 2 for solution.  
**Entries received 66, Correct 57, Success rate 86%.**  
**Prizewinner: Martin Pickler. Congratulations!**

**Adjudicator's observations** [*Robespierre is travelling*]  
A well-received puzzle, clearly enjoyed, with an excellent blend of humour and ingenious compiling tricks. No clue gave consistent problems, most lost dots being due to poor proof-reading. It really is easy to click in the relevant pane in ACCOLADE and would avoid things like YOM PIPPUR, YOM KIPPER, BECHH, SAFAI and REFUGEC! A fresh submission after correction will overwrite the faulty one on the database without any other action on the solver's part.

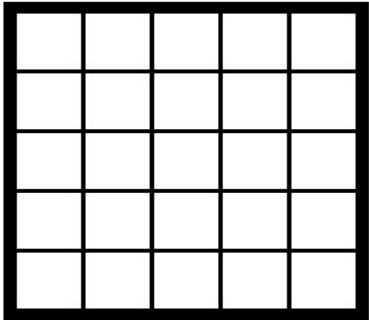
**Explanations – Across:** 1 MIG rev, CRACKS, 6 C + A + ROB, 9 DRAG, GIN rev, 10 R(esent), E, FUG, EE, 11 E(conomi)C, HOES, 12 BE(H)E, MOTH, 14 dd, 15 WILLY, NIL, L, pointY, 18 PAL IN D(enmark's) ROME, 23 DI, AT(RIB) E, 24 SA(FA)RI, 26 L(AS)AG, N(ibble) A(t), 27 dd, 28 TEN, S(choolmat)E, 29 DOWDiER around NUN. **Down:** 1 cd, 2 MUG'S HOT, 3 P(ron)E inside REAR, 4 CO(mputer), DA(ting), 5 STREEP around MALT rev, 6 IE FF rev inside CANE, 7 RAG, L around (OLD)\*, 8 BESEECH - S(had)E, 13 FIB, RE, BOARD, 16 M(KIP)P inside YOUR, 17 (UNITE)\* around RIG, 19 mAn IS inside LION, 21 P, RAISE, D, 22 X, (AU AND)\*, 23 FLED rev, T, 25 hidden.

**Solvers' Feedback**

- My favourite wordplay here was STREET LAMP, but YOM KIPPUR was a close second! *Fraser Simpson*
- Great puzzle, very impressive. I think anyone who didn't vote PALINDROME COTM probably didn't understand the clue. *Roy Taylor*
- A real toughie! *Kathryn Forward*
- Took me days to figure out. Had to chuckle at SAFARI and LIAISON. *Toby Mcleay*
- Very amusing clues, loved this!. *Tony Dobebe*
- So many potentials for clue of the month. *Warren Allen*
- I loved WILLY-NILLY. Great clue. *Betty Siegman*
- So many clever clues! Loved the palindrome; took me ages to recognise it. *Maureen Blake*
- Brilliant palindrome in 18-across. *Nea Storey*
- It took a while to work out just what Dennis and Edna were up to. *Kath Harper*
- High-quality puzzle. *Ian Thompson*
- My favourite clue was the one for MUGSHOT. I also liked those for STREETLAMP and HEADS-UP. *Brian Tickle*
- Has us worried about slot 7 after starting this. Rightly so it turned out! *Richard Skinner*
- A true master of misdirection. *Ulla Axelsen*
- A very tough puzzle to break into, and I spent over an hour to get two answers out. Getting GIMCRACKS opened up a few more opportunities, and finally I got onto the wavelength and finished it off. The palindrome was one I hadn't heard off, but luckily I looked it up and got the result needed. XANADU pushed the boundary a little. A fun challenge to get this one finished. *Mal Cockburn*
- Really appreciated PALINDROME DOWN UNDER, STREET LAMP (back?). *Len Colgan*
- Always clues to make you laugh! *Robyn Mckenzie*
- Reverse cryptic? First get the answer then work out how the clue fits! *Lynn Jarman*
- Some great clues. Loved MUGSHOT!! *Jean Evans*

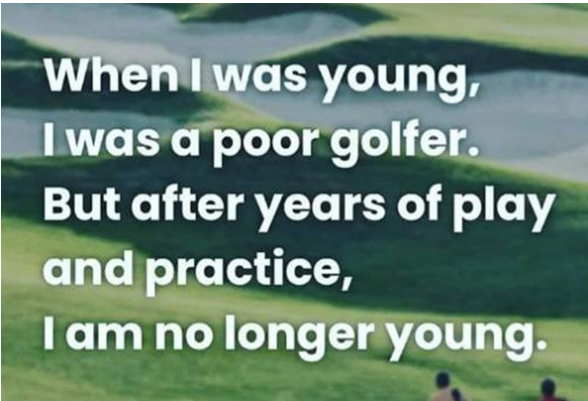
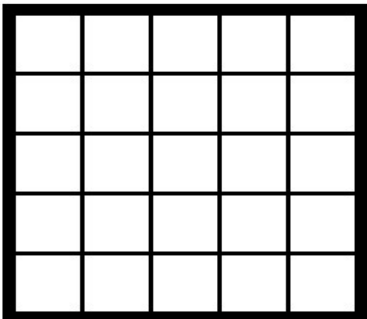
**FRAZ WORD SQUARE 5-June 1** (Solution on p 14)  
Identical words read across and down in this square.  
Clues are not listed in order.

- Amphibians run into visibility-reducing mists
- Delay yield
- Exiting revamped topless bar, Pablo relaxes
- Number of quarterfinalists took lunch in the auditorium
- Spooky eastern lake along an international border



**FRAZ WORD SQUARE 5-June 2** (Solution on p 14)  
Identical words read across and down in this square.  
Clues are not listed in order.

- Danger by way of Italian article
- Decides to inform female beside kissing couple?
- Finally includes normal dry cell battery with craft
- Flat in both directions
- White shade as an option in plant





**May 7-2024 Double Cryptic by Zinzan (Andrew Patterson)**  
**Entries received 49, Correct 38, Success rate 78%.**  
**Prizewinner: Wiliam Ryan. Congratulations!**

### Compiler's observations

I compiled a similar puzzle some years ago and it took some doing! Only now did I think I could torture myself again to do another. I understand that the solver would also find it challenging (as many commented). About a dozen errors came and only one was repeated, TATTOO for CASTRO. Well done to those who pushed through! And well done to the Accolade team for enabling this type of puzzle to operate online!

**Explanations –Across:** **1** a,c-ne//ddef, **3** s(ch)ticks//(used,cars)\*, **9** O,rating//pro,te(I)n, **10** A,gain//ddef, **11** (get,monitor)\*,Ry//pro,(leads,mind)\*, **13** thi(rd)s//r-a-,n-,c-i-d, **15** cast,OR</(danger)\*, **17** (inca,ancestor)\*//LA,tin,a,(a,crime)\*, **20** homoph "billed"//(in a mo)<, **21** Dr,ummer//(medical)\*, **22** el,em,en,T----s//bu(sines)s, **23** B,old//---ty po-----. **Down:** **1** a,m(put)ate//(corpse,p-----h)\*, **2** brav(ad)o//I,moan <, **4** homoph "conned,ore"//homoph "rigour", **5** (a,cygnat)\*<>ravel//(an,emu,is,lost)\*<>U, **6** ch,aired//(granted)\*, **7** SOS,O//-----s in k-----, **8** (no,diving,is)\*<>I.S.//second,fiddle, **12** un(h----)armed//co,n,CE(-rt-)O, **14** ---im a gin e-----//no(R)man's, **16** band,IT//(-)ho(r)des, **18** (my,bin)\*//(-o had i-><, **19** (bla-e)\*//BOM,b-----.

### Solvers' Feedback

- Tough workout with some cunning wordplay. Tour de force to consistently link the two component clues so fluently. *Ian Mckenzie*
- This was lots of fun! *Fraser Simpson*
- I thought I would never get this done; but now my only worry is SHTICKS. *Roy Taylor*
- Wow; what an ordeal. I am not sure that I solved all the clues correctly but at least I completed the grids.. *Warren Allen*
- Well that was a challenge! *Julie Leigh*
- Enjoyable puzzle. SHTICKS had me scratching my head for a while. I don't think I'd heard of tired and emotional for drunk before. *Ian Thompson*
- Quite tricky; but lots of fun. *Christina Lee*
- I think I snapped a synapse doing this mental workout. Diabolically clever. *Kath Harper*
- Oh; a tough one! On first glance it looked undoable. But a little perseverance eventually got both grids filled in and we now await to see how we did. *Richard Skinner*
- Wow; that was a real challenge. Felt a bit 'tired and emotional' on completion. Very enjoyable. *Ulla Axelsen*
- An extremely challenging puzzle that took a while to work out the method. Luckily a high number of anagrams opened the door. I liked 21a DRUMMER; a masterful wordplay. *Mal Cockburn*
- Brilliantly done with no unusual words. The clueing was so precise that I found it easier than a couple of other Slots. *Len Colgan*
- A very cleverly constructed puzzle with lots of great clues. 3a(A) was a guess based on the definition ; so interested to see if that's correct and how the clue works. *Andrew Meek*
- I liked the concept but the clues were very obscure though annoyingly fair! Solving it took days! 19 was my favourite couplet! *Bev Cockburn*
- Absolutely no clue about 3a or 4d. Complete guesses but I filled in the gaps. Thank you for such a great workout. *Robyn Wimbush*
- What a challenge this proved to be. Chances of being correct are less than 10% but hate not submitting a solution. *Ann Millard*
- Very clever and very tricky. *Robyn Mckenzie*
- Thankyou ZinZan for an interesting and challenging pair of puzzles!! They certainly gave the brain cells plenty of exercise!! *Jean Evans*

1	A	C	N	E		3	S	C	H	5	T	I	6	C	K	7	S
	M		A		8	S		O		R		H					I
9	P	R	O	T	E	I	N			10	A	G	A	I	N		
	U		M		C		D		V		I						K
11	T	R	I	G	O	N	O	M	E	T	R	Y					
	A				N		R		L		E					12	U
13	T	H	I	R	D	S			15	G	A	R	D	E	N		
	E		M		F		16	B		G							H
		17	L	A	T	I	N	A	M	E	R	18	I	C	A		
19	A		G		D		N		N		D						R
20	B	U	I	L	D			21	D	E	C	L	A	I	M		
	L		N		L		I		Y		H						E
22	E	L	E	M	E	N	T	S			23	B	O	L	D		

1	C	U	2	B	E		3	C	4	R	U	5	S	A	6	D	E	7	S
	H		R		8	D		I		I		R		O					
9	O	R	A	T	I	N	G		10	M	E	A	N	S					
	P		V		V		G		U		G		O						
11	P	R	O	M	I	S	E	D	L	A	N	D							
	E				S		R		T		E		12	C					
13	R	A	14	N	C	I	D		15	C	A	S	T	R	O				
	S		O		O		16	H		N									
		17	T	R	A	N	S	O	C	E	A	18	N	I	C				
19	B		M		S		R		O		I			E					
20	O	M	A	N	I			21	D	R	U	M	M	E	R				
	M		N		G		E		S		B			T					
22	B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S		23	T	Y	P	O					

Solution WORD SQUARE 5-June 1

S	T	S	E	R
T	H	G	I	E
S	G	O	R	F
E	I	R	E	E
R	E	F	E	D

Solution WORD SQUARE 5-June 2

Y	L	Y	L	S
L	I	R	E	P
Y	R	O	V	I
L	E	V	E	L
S	P	I	L	F

**Slot 3 Feedback continued from page 8**

- Lots of great answers but especially liked BIRDWATCHING. *Robyn Wimbush*
- B AND S BALL was a blast from the past. Then there was the mythology of bunyip and drop bears. What fun!! *Jean Evans*
- A very satisfying and well-clued puzzle. Loved B AND S BALL and BUNYIP! *Bev Cockburn*
- Not too sure about fanaticism...but overall, a great puzzle. *Sally Shipway*
- A challenge, *Lynn Jarman*

**May 4: Both Sides (Anne Simons and Nea Storey)** [Some (very) early birds may have found an unedited Z clue on ACCOLADE which was quickly amended online and appeared correctly in the pdf magazine – Ed]

- Always fun, thanks Both Sides. Not too keen on ALL SEEDS but ECHELON is a good one. I couldn't find KANDIES in my refs so hope it is correct ['Kandy' is in *Chambers as the Indian weight measure and the plural form "-ies" is common for words ending in "y"* – Ed]. *Kathy Horadam*
- Very uncertain about both 'K' and 'Z'...Z looks as if it should be 'zerebas' but I can't make it fit! This is the first time I've attempted this kind of puzzle, and found it a real challenge, I've probably misplaced some of the answers! *Kathryn Forward*
- Several new words for me: FORCEMEAT, KANDIES, TEREDOS, XEROMAS and, ZAREBAS. *Peter Holmick*
- I feel there's an error in the Z clue. If not, I can't justify it and may have it wrong. *Jenny Wenham*
- My favourite clues were those for DENOUNCE and ONCE. *Brian Tickle*
- It's a brave setter who brings together a tech billionaire and a communist rebel. *Kath Harper*
- A good challenge. Not sure about the A answer though, and 'musk' in E should really be capitalised, shouldn't it? *Ulla Axelsen*
- I didn't have too much trouble with this one. Getting the two 11 letter words early made it a little easier. The F clue was the only troublesome answer. *Mal Cockburn*
- I thought FORCEMEAT was a terrific clue. *Julie Crowe*
- Thanks for another interesting Slot 4. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Is there a problem with the Z clue? *Ian Thompson*
- Some nice clues, Both Sides. The A clue took a while to justify! *Bev Cockburn*
- Great puzzle, but not sure about KANDEES, but what made me laugh was all seeds. *Robyn McKenzie*

**May 5: Katydid (Kathy Horadam)**

- Twigg'd a bit late to the G & S theme. SORCERER & EUNUCHS are excellent clues. *Ian McKenzie*
- I enjoyed the G&S theme in this puzzle. *Fraser Simpson*
- I found EUNUCHS a tough...ahem...nut to crack! Nicely balanced puzzle! *Kathryn Forward*

- Many clever clues. I liked the G and S theme. *Roy Taylor*
- I did see the theme! *Tony Dobe*
- Once the G and S theme hit home, I saw the light and enjoyed the puzzle! *Cheryl Wilcox*
- I really enjoyed the theme and the clues for PETARD and AGUE. *Brian Tickle*
- Loved the G&S theme! *Nea Storey*
- Well done on working Gilbert (albeit headless) and Sullivan, as well as several of their comic masterpieces, into the grid. *Kath Harper*
- I enjoyed the Gilbert & Sullivan theme. No longer fashionable, but lots of fun. *Christina Lee*
- A Gilbert and Sullivan fan methinks. An honourable mention for 15ac, SODA. *Richard Skinner*
- A fun romp through Gilbert and Sullivan musicals. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Took a little while to realize the G&S theme. With that knowledge, I was able to confirm some questionable answers. Great puzzle, Katydid. *Mal Cockburn*
- I found EUNUCHS and DILBERT a bit clunky, but more so SORCERER. Having to start with 'screen = REREDOS', remove D, insert CR and then reverse everything to get SORCERER seemed excessive. *Len Colgan*
- Lovely puzzle. Some beautifully succinct clues. I particularly loved YOURSELF and EUNUCHS; fun and clever. Many thanks. *Julie Crowe*
- A lovely homage to G & S. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Enjoyed the Gilbert and Sullivan content. Loved clue for AGUE! *Bev Cockburn*
- Liked the clues for ORRERY and YOURSELF. *Ron Jarman*
- I enjoyed the theme, the clues and the words - 23a is a tongue twister! *Lynn Jarman*
- An enjoyable lot of clues; thank you. *Sally Shipway*
- Some fascinating clues. Loved the emphasis on the G&S operas. Great fun. *Jean Evans*



**Name .....**

Name.....

[illegible]

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				

## Clue of the Month .....

**JUNE 2024 SLOT 5**

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						

[illegible]

A 15x15 grid with a black and white checkerboard pattern. The grid is composed of 225 squares. The squares are colored in a repeating pattern of black and white, starting with a black square in the top-left corner (row 1, column 1). The pattern alternates every square both horizontally and vertically.

[illegible]