



No 426 October 2025


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If there is a word in the dictionary under any letter from A to Z that I abominate, it is energy. It is such a conventional superstition, such parrot gabble! Charles Dickens, 1864-5, *Our Mutual Friend*, 1, Ch. 1

GRIDATORIAL

It's that time again! How quickly it comes around! On page 16 you will find a form for renewal of your membership for 2026 and full information on renewing, which you can do online. Unfortunately this will be a two-part process as we cannot process subscriptions online and request that you pay your subscription via direct debit to our bank account. We are pleased that we have been able to keep the subscriptions to \$35, which offers remarkable value for money, as we have also been able to maintain prizes at their former level of \$50. We hope to see you back for another year of enjoyment and challenge.

We have a mix of puzzles by "old" and newer compilers for your enjoyment this month, starting with one of KA's half and half puzzles for which you should have the dictionary handy. The second puzzle by Ninian occupies slot 2 while CT presents his wares in slot 3. Another of Crowman's crafty cryptic collations provides this month's AJ challenge. T-boy's polished offering fills slot 5 and Flowerman has compiled a royal treat in his barred slot 6 puzzle, with its hidden goodies. A vintage Crossman will be found in his Corner in slot 7. To put you in the party (or the morning after) mood, Michael Vnuk has assembled an inebriated offering as this month's quiz.

The September clue-writing competition is still open and you will find a reminder in Member News on page 12, if you wish to demonstrate your skill.

We wish you happy and successful puzzling throughout October.

Ian

FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

My thanks go to ACCOLADE, which makes the adjudication so very much easier. If this is an example of AI in action, bring it on.

Slot 1: Very few errors here, SEWER caught a couple, who submitted REPEL, but the double meaning of REFUSE meant that 'refuse pipe' was the definition. Once THE start to the down clues was realized, solving became much easier.

Slot 2: Scattered errors, mostly testing our knowledge and spelling of Australian trees, or perhaps a couple of typos. The warning of words not in the standard references was necessary as the solution of the watering hole WHITE GUM WELL was a new one to me. I liked FRYER in place of LAYER for 'chook'.

Slot 3: This looked to be the most difficult crossword this month, with various answers for MOLOTOV, AMOEBIC, VICEREGAL. TYPOGRAPHICALLY caught a few.

Slot 4: Not too many errors apart from ECLOGUES, which caught several members, all offering EULOGIES. A tricky one.

Slot 5: The top right corner was the danger zone here, with a couple of those pesky 4-letter words giving trouble. TOLL produced PULL and POLL, and TROT caught a few. Apparently, a TROT is a TROTSKYIST. You can learn something new every day.

COTM: There were 29 nominations for 24 clues, over all 7 slots, fairly evenly distributed, apart from slot 5, with 10 nominations, 5 of them for ACROSTIC, a clear winner from AWAKE (Slot 2), AIRPORT and (interestingly) TULLAMARINE (Slot 3), and HOOPLA (Slot 7), with 2 votes each. Congratulations go to Jenny and Ian, for the acrostic below as the cryptic clue for ACROSTIC, gave a well-deserved win. **Betty Siegman**

This
Irritating parasite
Could sound
Kind of angry (8)

LEADING FIGURES

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	81	66	73	77	69	366
Correct entries	73	55	62	65	59	314
Success rate (%)	90.1	83.3	84.9	84.4	85.5	85.8
Prizewinners	Ken Davis	Len Colgan	William Ryan	Sam Howat	Patricia Abbott	from 86 members

Prizewinner: September Slots 1-5 correct: Roger Hearn Congratulations!

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September Slot 1

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

September Slot 2

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

September Slot 3

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

September Slot 4

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

September Slot 5

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

September Slot 6

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

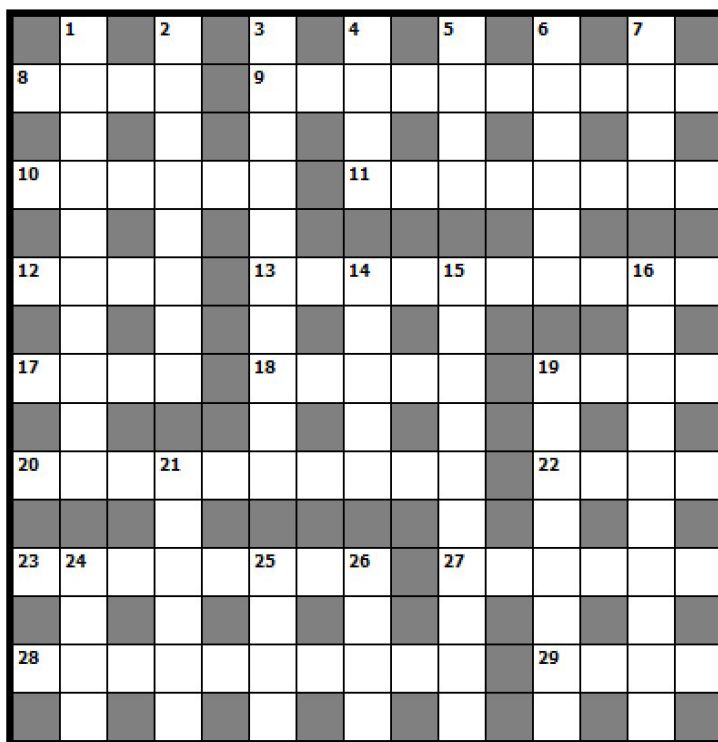
MEMBERS' RESULTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 Slots 1 to 7

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.	•			•	•			Grainger D.	•	•	•		•			Peach S.	•		•	•	•		
Allen W.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Graves C.	•		•					Pinder S.	•		•	•			•
Anderson C.			•	•			•	Hagan R.		•	•	•	•		•	Randall J.	•		•				
Audrins K.		•	•	•	•	•		Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Rosendorff D.	•	•		•	•	•	•
Axelsen U.	•	•	•	•	•	•		Hearn R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Roulston S.	•		•	•	•		•
Banks H.	•							Hocking A.	•		•	•	•			Ryan W.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Barbour J.	•		•	•	•			Horadam K.	•	•	•	•				Shapiro R.			•				
Barnes J.	•	•		•	•		•	Howat S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Shield A.	•	•	•		•		•
Batum C.		•	•	•	•			Jarman L.	•		•	•	•			Siegman B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bennett D.			•	•	•		•	Jarman R.	•	•	•	•	•			Simpson F.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bettles K.	•	•	•		•		•	Jones G.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Skinner R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Blake M.	•	•	•	•			•	Kennedy L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Smith J.				•			
Carroll L.	•		•	•			•	Kennedy M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Storti A.	•	•	•	•	•		•
Cockburn M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lankshear J.	•			•	•			Symons B.	•				•		
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Leigh J.	•	•		•	•	•	•	Taylor R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Coote P.	•		•	•			•	Lim S.	•	•						Taylor S.	•	•					
Copland F.	•							Madden J.	•			•	•			Thomas C.	•				•		
Cornish W.	•		•		•			Matthews S.	•							Thompson I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cromer H.		•	•	•				McClelland C.	•				•		•	Tickle B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Crowe J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	McKenzie I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Vnuk M.			•	•			
Dasgupta K.		•		•		•	•	McKenzie R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Void T.	•	•		•	•		•
Davis K.	•		•	•				McLeay T.		•	•	•	•			Wenham J.				•			
Dobele T.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Meek D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wilcox C.	•	•	•	•			
Dowse B.	•							Miles A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Williams K.	•	•		•			
Flinkenberg C.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Millard A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wimbush R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Forward K.	•							Milton R.	•	•		•	•		•	Wood J.	•	•	•		•		•
Gamble K.	•	•	•		•	•	•	Moline R.	•	•	•	•	•		•	Woolston M.	•	•			•	•	•
Garner P.			•	•			•	Parsons D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Young A.	•			•			
Goodman S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Patterson A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•								

Slot 1

**Half and Half
by
KA**

**Prize
\$50**



Across

- 8 Fox enclosure contains bovines (4)
 9 Fool, on occasion losing direction, needs help (10)
 10 Remember when everybody followed a short pastime? (6)
 11 Turbulent seashores harbour illnesses (8)
 12 Ruler with metric measure overlaying imperial (4)
 13 These aids help pismires (10)
 17 Grass for backward animals (4)
 18 Number, when one over it? (5)
 19 Question of power, say. (4)
 20 With theory removed from structuralism, it is still constructive (10)
 22 Assign work to process skat (4)
 23 It is conceivable for vigilantes to accept rough Liberal (8)
 27 Time for glass containing first ale (6)
 28 Exercise with intensity and length (10)
 29 Looked inside ox-eye daisy (4)

Down

- 1 Have a go (10)
 2 Magnified (8)
 3 Diet (10)
 4 Exploited (4)
 5 Customs (4)
 6 Herbaceous plant (6)
 7 Middle Eastern city (4)
 14 Term of endearment (5)
 15 Colonisation (10)
 16 Deciphered (10)
 19 Scratched (8)
 21 Invisible (6)
 24 Edible grass seeds (4)
 25 Denigrates (4)
 26 Follows delta (4)

**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.

Slots 1 to 5 and 6: Ian Thompson: email to irt_botanist@hotmail.com or post to 12 Olive Street Malvern East VIC 3145

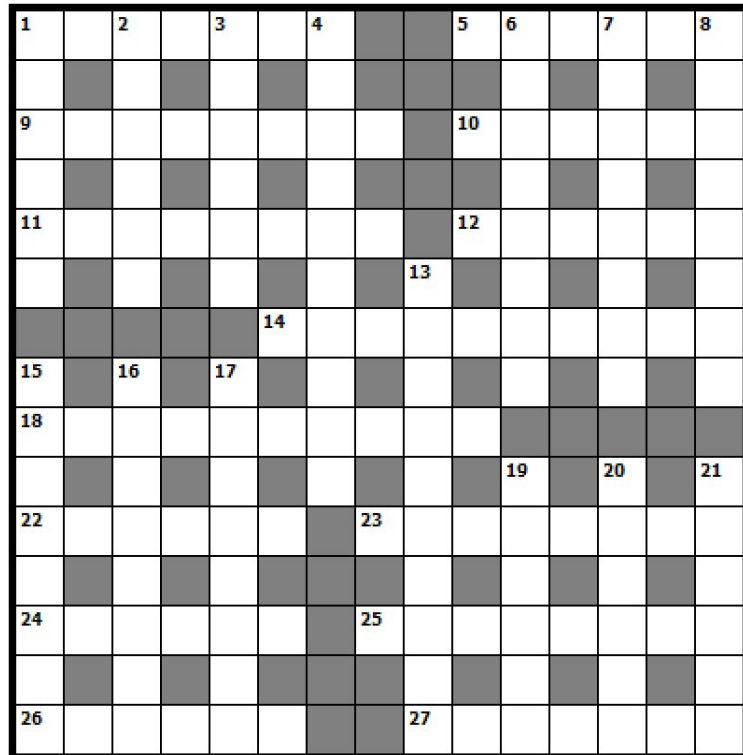
Slot 7: Len Colgan: email to Len.Colgan@unisa.edu.au or post to 1 Ailsa Avenue, Warradale, SA 5046

**BLANK
GRIDS
PAGE 16**

Closing mail date is 24 October 2025. ACCOLADE entries close at 00.01

Slot 2

Cryptic
by
Ninian

 Prize
\$50


Across

- 1 Saw favourable part of speech (7)
- 5 Crystal has two pints and an unknown chaser (6)
- 9 Cleverly remodelled statue - Liberty disheartened (8)
- 10 Remove obstacle from country club's crest! (6)
- 11 Irish city of different ilk harbouring organised crime (8)
- 12 Lie back - go without dessert (6)
- 14 Roughly left 50c on the help desk (4,6)
- 18 Drover charged - smuggling fleece (10)
- 22 Following a person of faith, Elsa trimmed precious possessions (6)
- 23 A positive indicator seen in a Swiss standard (4,4)
- 24 Settles for the night in short North Melbourne side street facing west (6)
- 25 Shred note and create mayhem (8)
- 26 *Twisted Sister* hit back (6)
- 27 Make clear to one included in plot after king was beheaded (7)

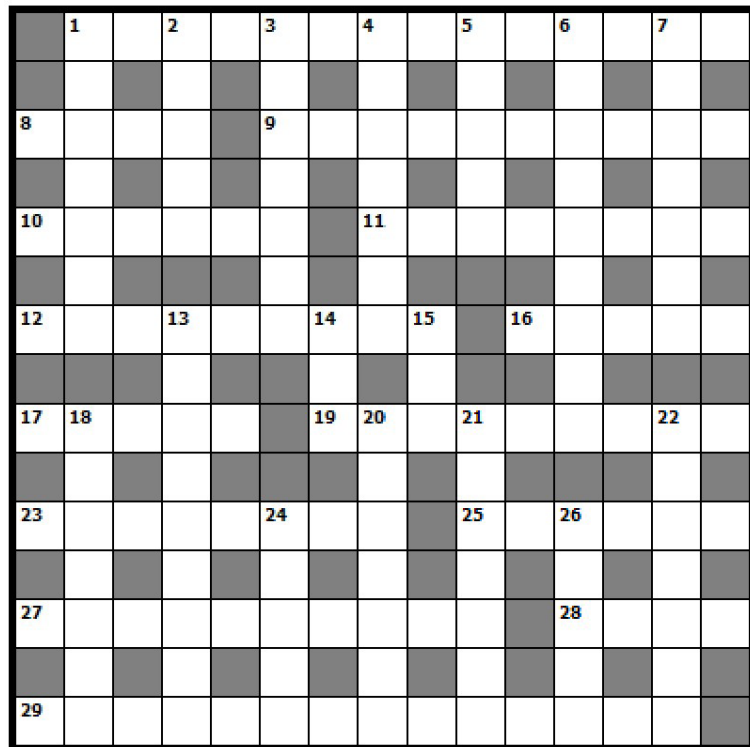
Down

- 1 Tolls across river are present for 30 years (6)
- 2 Choose one degree for high points (6)
- 3 Exact - formerly wrong (6)
- 4 Masks desserts containing 12 centre (10)
- 6 Superfluous uniform - knight born and died without one (8)
- 7 Recants note on short treatises (8)
- 8 Delivery system identifiers have, say, five eights for Santa (3,5)
- 13 Give the cat a brew of tea that is below a standard measure (10)
- 15 One of twelve is understudy for wizard (8)
- 16 Scarlet clubs giants in the forest (8)
- 17 Current and old style cocktail for those who attend (8)
- 19 Dormant viper taking shelter (6)
- 20 Those who are blind at parties hit this cocktail (6)
- 21 Tavern hosts short term resident (6)

General Feedback for September

- The Cockburn family would like to thank the Club for its thoughtful Eulogy for Beverley. I know she was very proud to be a part of such a wonderful organization. *Mal Cockburn*
- Many thanks for my surprise Slot 1 prize!. *Kathy Horadam*

Slot 3

Cryptic
by
CTPrize
\$50

Across

- 1 Bygone days showing setter's in magazine tribute (4,10)
 8 Irish clan's division begins their fall - 4/9 to be precise (4)
 9 Wind-up merchant? (10)
 10 Root or Cook, say, prepare fish with this (6)
 11 Jail arrest is revealing drug (8)
 12 Spooner's to marry well, one liable to unwelcome outcome (9)
 16 Salutation finished (5)
 17 Athleticism also held back events at 13? (5)
 19 Madly in love after date, say, so turn a blind eye (3,2,4)
 23 "They're fetching at 13", cry heard by lads (8)
 25 A summer past? (6)
 27 Apartment provided by French fellow keeping rendezvous? (4-1-5)
 28 Asian currency member! (4)
 29 Swaps, options star is holding new switches (14)

Down

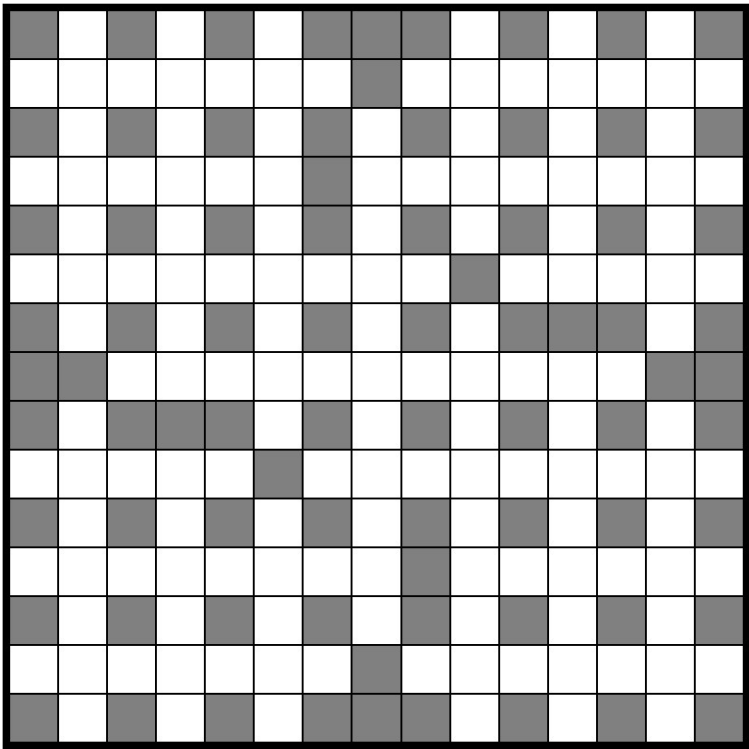
- 1 In canteen a gel for adolescent (7)
 2 For Parisian - word and musical composition (5)
 3 Assume willingly? (7)
 4 Main road Caltex, not even a sign from above (7)
 5 Fruit found under rock or water (5)
 6 Truck part securing docked MAC ... rambling endeavour (9)
 7 Launches a barrage, since SS is coming to grips with trouble (7)
 13 Flight of fancy with husband absent, boy initially tempted, facing court here? (9)
 14 Briefly state when free of frenzy (3)
 15 Eggs course evenly cooked (3)
 18 More heavily wooded area of East LA ravaged by wildfire! (7)
 20 Guards sense duress endlessly (7)
 21 Swallow in a birdhouse, most cool! (7)
 22 Serviceman turning up to fix sauna for cold-blooded types (7)
 24 Don't appreciate swallowing draught beer (2,3)
 26 \$A10 sound system (5)

Slot 4

AJ
by
Crowsman



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



- A** Dog was seated, wearing a collar backwards (8)

B Unsettled during fit, retiring (6,3)

C Small change covering American relations (7)

D Such a lot died retreating from fireballs (7)

E Claims previous exploits (6)

F Was afraid of receiving the second act of vigilante justice (9)

G Bible provider has mine turning up - long time! (6)

H Exclamation of joy without a tear (5)

I Silly how dispute and squabble end (5)

J More lively release possessed by pitcher (8)

K Countryman invariably turning up (5)

L Mexicans perhaps can cut through another country (7)

M Hoodwinked about bird being given the wrong name (9)

N Regions involved in capture, lands of the former Ottoman Empire (4,4)

O Engine room employee removing head from heating device (5)
- P** PR reps flag cutting donations (5,6)

Q Feature brought to light in dock? (7)

R Right time of year to avoid small grounds (6)

S Bent, besides coming in torn (7)

T Measures strength and speeds of bird (8)

U Swells' weddings interrupted by disorderly adult (11)

V Right cuts able to be bought during spring (6)

W English team is, in France, involved in crash (4,3)

X Solitary cross turned up synthetic resin (7)

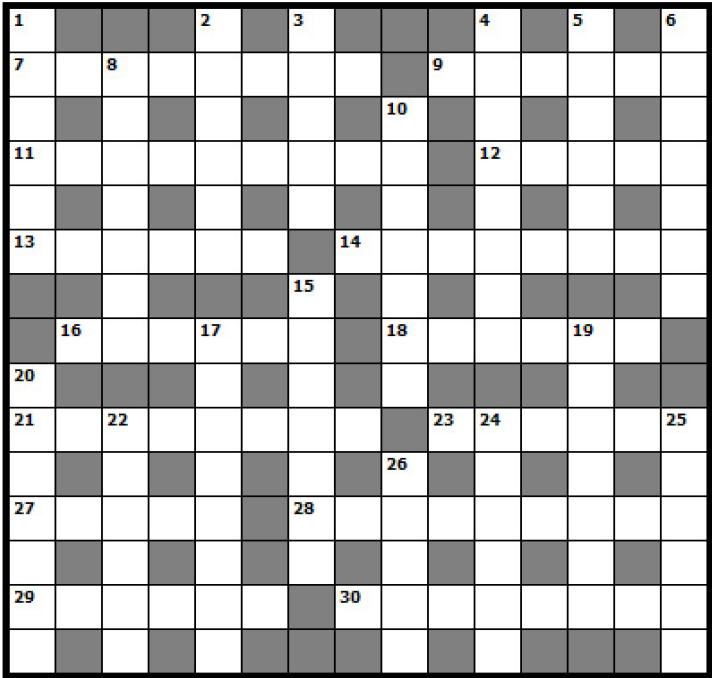
Y Fleet turned around before making capital (7)

Z Supporter of élan vital acquiring old record from life-scientist (9)

Slot 5

Ultimate Deception
by
T-boy

Prize
\$50



Across

- 7 Articulate anagrammatic quote, Len! (8)
- 9 Force a way through stars in the Great Bear (6)
- 11 Cacophonous din when intravenous drip following burn gets nearly dry (9)
- 12 Lemon - dreadful fruit (5)
- 13 Judge and joker swing back and forth (6)
- 14 Force units holding women into planned communities (3,5)
- 16 Old blackguard has contents of vial in palm (6)
- 18 Overcoat left in Margaret's luggage (6)
- 21 Complete crook said to have given hint to solution of mystery (8)
- 23 Attack dog stuck in middle of chimney (6)
- 27 Prohibited key rings (5)
- 28 Told to obtain psych. roster for one requiring balance? (9)
- 29 Not all Aussies take time out (6)
- 30 Origins of enclosed lines carrying electricity secured in charged power source (4,4)

Down

- 1 Sirenian pig eats primarily eggs and corn (3,3)
- 2 Cavities in highway entering famous park (6)
- 3 Popular amateur boule work (5)
- 4 Variable climates give traveller's joy. (8)
- 5 Criminal caught police officers! (6)
- 6 Archdean Kirsch periodically has hock wine (7)
- 8 Best drug-free ice cream eases up earache (7)
- 10 Break from xxIXA! (4,3)
- 15 Book total leads to electronic benefits transfer for defaulted loan (3,4)
- 17 Adrift half mile out of Cornish port (8)
- 19 Occasional sellouts I have are hard to remember (7)
- 20 Relaxed, taking time in Adelaide - bliss (7)
- 22 Peers overheard toreador's puzzlement at empty plaza (6)
- 24 Ms West acquires French booty spot! (6)
- 25 Provoke, catch, then let out (6)
- 26 Gutless dog caught in total melee (5)

Slot 6

Monarchs
by
Flowerman

 Prize
\$50

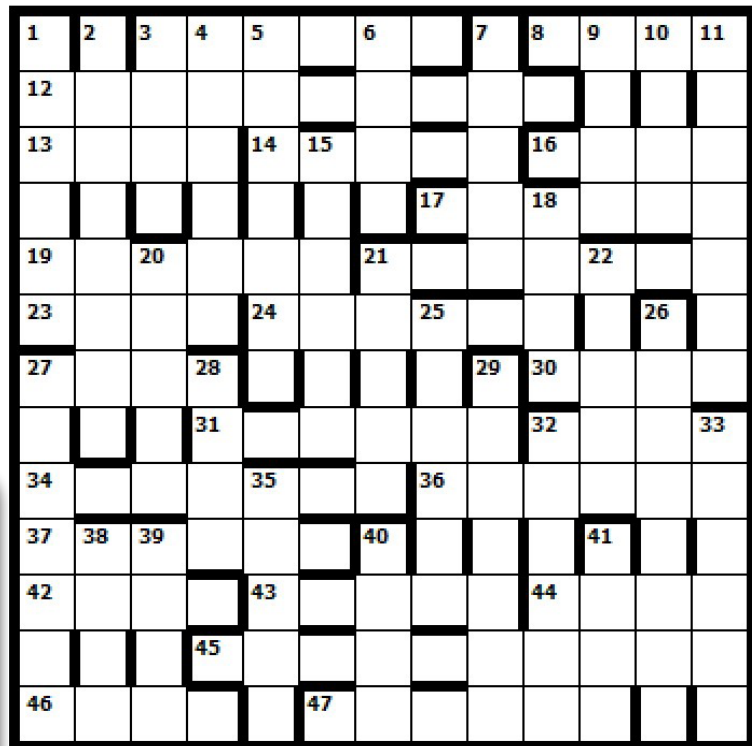
In this puzzle, solvers should identify the set of 12 different names by which British monarchs have been known since a significant event. Five of these can be identified in two-word or three-word phrases which must be removed to enable the solving of five down clues. The letters of the names are contiguous, but jumbled. (Lengths, in order of the clues in which they appear, are 4, 7, 8, 7 and 9). As an example, HAROLD (d. 1066), the name that preceded the set of 12, occurs in the phrase "feudal horror" as 'DALHOR'. While dots will be awarded for successful completion of the puzzle, solvers may indicate in their submission the seven other names in the set. These are hidden in the grid in straight lines.

Across

- 3 Grave statues bearing Asian scriptures (6)
- 8 Bound journal worthless, missing front page (4)
- 12 Saint in Armenia converted RC priest (10)
- 13 Workers on set, to get shot of Japanese dish, drew nearer (4)
- 14 Unionist interrupting Greek politician to complain (5)
- 16 Passion in sack (4)
- 17 Engineer following suit beginning to mock legal experts (6)
- 19 Respiratory problems of poor peasants not too serious initially (6)
- 21 Extremely suave citizen going to the right spots (7)
- 23 Understand baron's left money (4)
- 24 Player batting with ferocity? Not half! (6)
- 27 25 wanting last couple's streaming material, possibly (4)
- 30 Restore patients if rather dehydrated primarily with this (4)
- 31 Clubs will unite (6)
- 32 One plugging these spirits generates profits (4)
- 34 Ostentatious pals unusually reserved (7)
- 36 Alarm over fatal solvent (6)
- 37 Impress with bowling performance (6)
- 42 American eschewing unethical examination (4)
- 43 Cast are essentially nude, as one may be in theatre (5)
- 44 Part of tree that's mostly below ground (4)
- 45 Shrewd and demanding principal editor (10)
- 46 Legume, say, cultivated with love (4)
- 47 Join together with Luxembourg's countryfolk (6)

Down

- 1 Abandoned search for my ancestors in Slough (6)
- 2 Harvest fruit crop up again (8)
- 3 No darkness reported in ammonite shells perhaps (4)



- 4 Watched contest won by East Germany (6)
- 5 Deeply impress good rector in eastern part of church (7)
- 6 Constant flaw limiting Tesla on way to Pierre (4)
- 7 Kelvin's article placed out of order (5)
- 9 One not meeting required standards losing heart (4)
- 10 Club in one New England state meeting another (4)
- 11 For exercise Harry leading outdoor activity (5-2)
- 15 Abide with European beginning to swear in lift (6)
- 18 Determine if female's wearing diamonds (4)
- 20 Jack recited lecturer's central point (5)
- 21 Eldest nephew certainly not right to leave country (2,3)
- 22 Institute pursuing scoundrel with old knick-knack (5)
- 25 Medico's washing out facilities over time (6)
- 26 Lambert fearing terrible swindler (8)
- 27 The French ship carrying gold for landlords perhaps (7)
- 28 Fruit in India causing upset (4)
- 29 Judge occasionally tried liberal English dons (7)
- 32 Comprehensive blog fabricated by Gore? (6)
- 33 Mounts in south support deciduous shrubs primarily (6)
- 35 Ask US about fliers (5)
- 38 Group playing with zeal being somewhat patriotic (4)
- 39 Spirited colt kept in line (4)
- 40 Hired domestic storing tuber (4)
- 41 Sculptor's turning out stylish pieces in Washington (4)

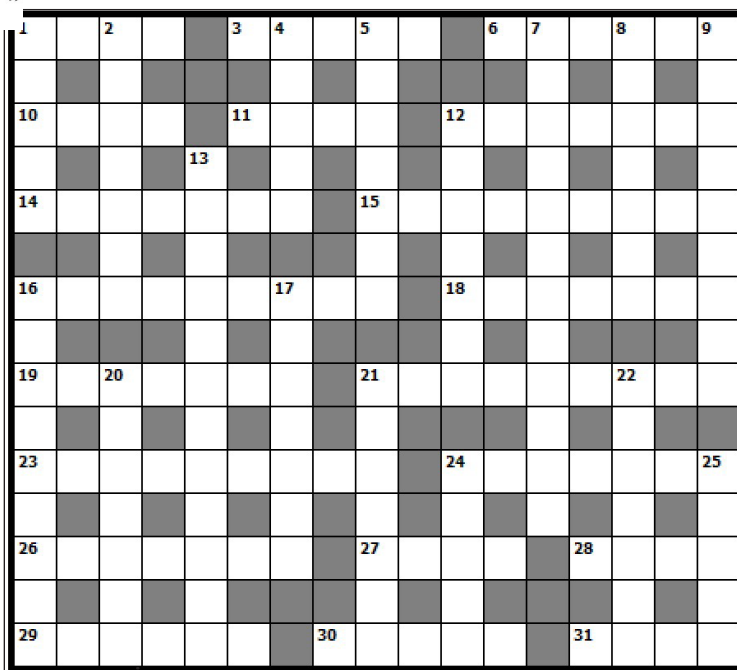
Slot 7

Cryptic
by
CrowsmanPrize
\$50

All Down answers contain the same part-word. Their clues have a definition, but the wordplay omits this part-word which must be added to match the answer. Across clues are normal.



Crowsman's Corner



Across

- 1 Cattle lacking water? (4)
 3 Chambers fell over front of sofa (5)
 6 500 call in here, simultaneously returning (6)
 10 Scottish island at Sunday service? (4)
 11 Dumps hawk on reflection (4)
 12 Old bad current supplying light source (3,4)
 14 Incident is penned into poem (7)
 15 Organ has one indicative try-out amongst several (9)
 16 Hurry back and forth way out there (4,5)
 18 Countryman is backing one mad old king (7)
 19 Polish female jazz legend making rash complaint (7)
 21 View lacking in Luxembourg amidst air pilot performance (9)
 23 Gallant very famous boxer surrounded by applause (9)
 24 How stallion serviced mares, bay and chestnut (7)
 26 Colour with a rainbow effect is involved in one merry-go-round experience (7)
 27 28 returned flower (4)
 28 Digital assistant brought 27 back (4)
 29 Mentioned little key getting little hole (6)

Male and female kiss in pictures (5)

31 Used to be showered, but not with shoes on (4)

Down

- 1 Bring up an innocent (5)
 2 Record store's vault (7)
 4 Oil abandoned by Italy? Hardly! (5)
 5 Heavy service (7)
 7 New trial involving long sample (12)
 8 Not straightforward, except when written up (7)
 9 Fair lease erases old four-letter word (9)
 12 Last longer than aggressive person, but left fallen down (7)
 13 Helping agent with shabby clothes (12)
 16 Straightforward law (9)
 17 Central character in romance possibly felt affectionate (7)
 20 Busy individual with hot hairstyle! (7)
 21 Last turning up of malware has excluded opening of internet (7)
 22 Scoundrels' handwriting (7)
 24 Type of butter from Switzerland (5)
 25 Danger ends road trip (5)

The blank grid for this puzzle is on page 11



Quiz 2025-10 Drunk with power by **Michael Vnuk**. English has many synonyms for 'drunk' or 'affected by alcohol'. (Why this is so can be left to specialists and pub philosophers.) Answer the following clues, which could have all been just 'Drunk'. Answers are in alphabetical order. Send your answers to Michael Vnuk - email michaelv@futureweb.com.au or post to 583 Greenhill Road, Burnside SA 5066. Mail entries close 24 October 2025

- 1 Unable to see (5)
- 2 Hit by heavy ordnance (6)
- 3 Baffled (7)
- 4 Cooked in hot oil (5)
- 5 Hit by a tool (8)
- 6 Watered by a flexible pipe (5)
- 7 Squeezed liquid from fruit (6)
- 8 Soaped (8)
- 9 Without lower limbs (7)
- 10 Burning (3)
- 11 Oiled (10)
- 12 Lubricated (5)
- 13 Lacking muscular control (9)
- 14 Preserved in brine (7)
- 15 Surfaced a wall (9)
- 16 Caught vermin (6)
- 17 Broken into many pieces (7)
- 18 Saturated (6)
- 19 Cooked slowly in liquid (6)
- 20 Smelly (8)
- 21 Pelted with small rocks (6)
- 22 Not loose (5)
- 23 Used carelessly (6)
- 24 Unsteady (6)
- 25 Destroyed (7)

Quiz 9-2025 by InGrid (Jean Barbour).

Results: Correct 26 W Allen, Ulla Axelsen, J Crowe, K Harper, L Jarman, R Jarman, J Leigh, R McKenzie, A Miles, A Millard, A Patterson, J Randall, D Rosendorff, W Ryan, F Simpson, R Taylor, M Vnuk, R Wimbush. **25** C Flinkenberg, R Skinner. 22 - Drew Meek **20** B Siegman. . 26 - 22 - Drew Meek

Prizewinner Michael Vnuk. Congratulations!

Answers: 1 aa - kraal, 2 ab - durable, 3 ac - bracelet, 4 ad - adhere, 5 ae - daemon, 6 af - scaffold, 7 ag - bagpipes, 8 ah - tomahawk, 9 ai - assailant, 11 aj - major, 10 ak - Quaker, 12 al - burial, 13 am - camisole, 14 an - deranged, 15 ao - kaoline, 16 ap - strap, 17 aq - plaque, 18 ar - avarice, 19 as - basset, 20 at - elation, 21 au - mauve, 22 av - aggravate, 23 aw - withdrawal, 24 ax - maxilla, 25 ay - always, 26 az - bazaar

Adjudicator's Observations

Thank you to everyone for the entries and kind comments. The nature of the quiz - answers containing AA, AB, AC etc - meant that there were a few different answers than those listed. Things like MANIACAL and PARANOID for DERANGED and HARASS for BASSET. I was as accepting as possible within the definition and letter count parameters. The only troublesome clue was 3. I had BRACELET but didn't qualify the answer as colloquial. I was flexible with plurality but wasn't accept any incorrect letter count solutions.

Solvers' Feedback

- Almost got caught out by putting manacle for 3, only spotted, at the last moment that it only had 7 letters! Thank you for a very original quiz. *Julie Leigh*
- May not have needed Google but finding the "commonality" was quite a challenge *Ann Millard*
- Thank you so much for a fun quiz. I got stuck on no. 23, thinking it would have to be something like hideaway... but eventually got it! I so enjoy our monthly puzzles but don't always get them out, so it was lovely to have something that I didn't find too hard. *Judy Randall*
- CLAY and HANDCUFF had me scratching around. *William Ryan*
- You know, I never knew that a Quaker could be a cannon, let alone a dummy one! *Richard Skinner*
- For 3 (HANDCUFF), I first thought of MANACLES and SHACKLES, but these are plural and your clue is singular. Eventually, BRACELET came to mind. For 14 (INSANE), I managed to think of DERANGED while on a walk. Later, I checked some synonyms and a weak match is also ABERRANT. For 15 (CLAY), I thought of KAOLIN, as that is the way I have always seen it. However, I needed another letter. Something made me put an E on the end and I found that KAOLINE is a less common variant. My spelling checker doesn't like it. For 21 (COLOUR), I first thought of TAUPE, which is not a colour I can define, as I never heard it while growing up in the 1960s and 1970s, but it seems to be more prominent in recent decades. However, I decided to put in MAUVE as the more likely answer. *Michael Vnuk*
- I'd have to give this quiz an A+ (A plus all the letters in the alphabet) *Kath Harper*

September 6 2025 Displaced Definitions by Betelgeuse
Entries received; 31 Correct 30; Success rate 97%.
Prizewinner:Keith Gamble. Congratulations!
Adjudicator's observations

Surprisingly, only one error in this puzzle by the late lamented Gillian. Must be a record! A good challenge, but enjoyed by all. *Kay Williams*

Explanations -The ref in [] indicates the location of the definition matching the wordplay. **Across:** **1** APRon + IL [12], **5** C + LA + REPS< [24], **11** NOEL< + I + NE [32], **12** A + homoph "niece" [25], **13** DR + AG [30], **14** OF< + homoph "lamb" in GPS [20], **15** (MEL B + ME)< [23], **18** STYLE +T + S [33], **21** (TAR+RAN)< + (h)ORS(e) [17], **22** IRON + GATE [22], **24** DEANERY* [11], **28** I DO + LONdon [15], **29** P + (I+N) in-ALAMO [2], **30** A + CAT* [10], **31** AGE + N + T [1a], **32** RAN + -COURt [18], **33** R + ADDLED [5], **34** STOMA(ch) [31]. **Down:** **1** (RED + LA)<+ NEY [14], **2** MEAT in PERE [19], **3** hidden< [34], **4** (SAFE)* in LIVER [8], **6** (Tin)TAGEL< + O [7], **7** S + NAILS [22], **8** cd (orczy) [4], **9** P in E(a)SY [26], **10** foREST = REST GO TO 30A ACTA [9], **16** NACL in BARED [21], **17** (a)RMY* + MID-ONS [8], **19** homoph "Tito" + TUM [1d], **20** SAY+ON+A RA [29], **22** ARR< in END [28], **23** NT in EIRE [6], **25** aAC (latin med) in COT [3], **26** SPARTan [27], **27** (A GAS)< [13].

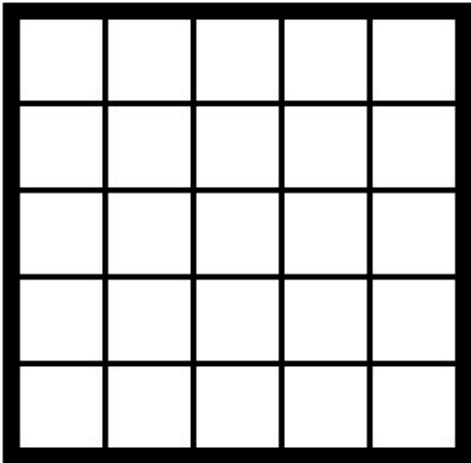
Solvers' Feedback

- This was fun. In many puzzles; starting with the shorter words is easiest; but I found working on the longer ones first was the most helpful to me. *Fraser Simpson*
- Great challenging concept; found the going really tough to start with. Things got progressively easier after the 4 letter words fell into place. All the clues have such fabulous surface readings. Only small gripe is with 29 AC; as I don't think the correct spelling is going to work.[*Chambers lists both the A and O spelling of PALAMINO – Ed*] *Krittibas Dasgupta*
- An impressive set of answers in this barred grid. I rate the (defined) clues to BARNACLED and MYRMIDIONS as exceptional. A classic puzzle from Gillian . *Len Colgan*
- Wow! This provided some challenges for a few hours! Hope it is correct as felt great satisfaction in having solved it. *Ann Millard*
- Please tell me I haven't made any typos after this tremendous challenge! *Julie Leigh*
- Gave up on this; then tried some more. Longest time I have ever taken to solve a puzzle.Clues like FOGLAMPS so tricky!GPs around lam(b) after return of. Is the def. cow;or doctors? etc etc. My head is still spinning. *Roy Taylor*
- Probably one of the hardest crosswords I have ever attempted. I had to rearrange the clues before I had a hope of beginning. I can only say brilliant Gillian. *Betty Siegman*
- Who knows? So easy to become confused. But I liked the challenge so thank you Gillian. *Robyn Wimbush*

continued on page 12

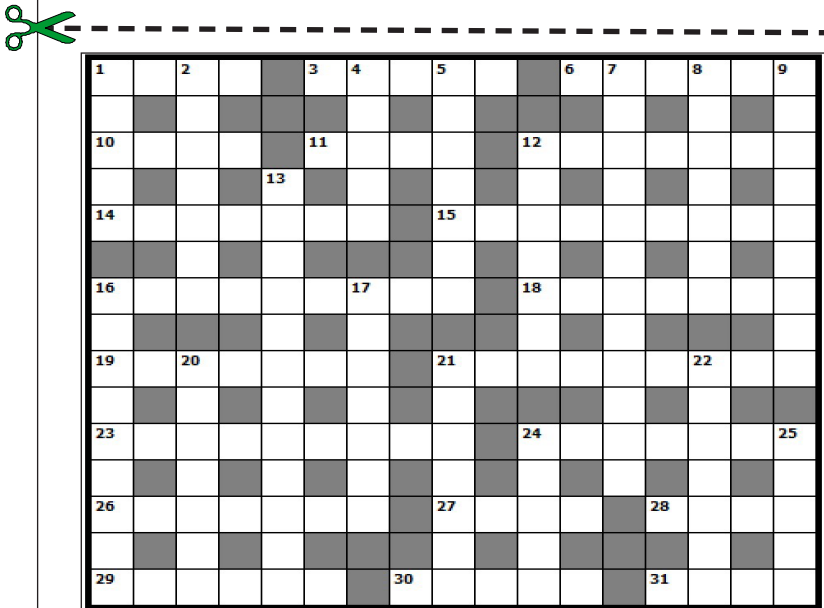
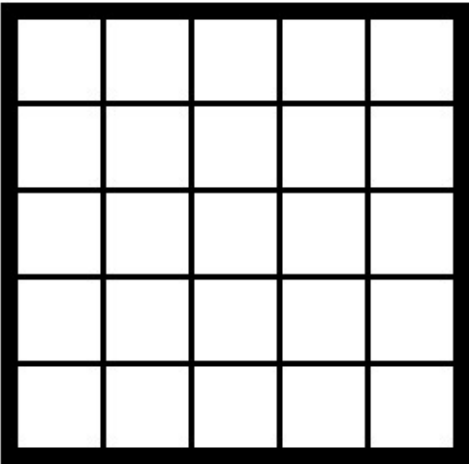
FRAZ WORD SQUARE October 1
(Solution on p 12)
Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed in order.

- I give everyone a hand model
- In limousine with muscular power
- Once again Dumbo shifted 10 places forward
- Rotate concepts privately
- Tailless fish in sink



FRAZ WORD SQUAREOctober 2
(Solution on p 12)
Identical words read across and down in this square. Clues are not listed in order.

- Hold forth ring in front of judge
- Itinerant band restricted by sinister curse
- Asian city hotel, an attention-getter?
- Listing hotel floors audibly
- Staff turned in an array



September 7 2025 September 7 2025 Book Outline by Fraz (Fraser Simpson)**Entries received 64. Correct 49. Success rate 77%.****Prizewinner: Ian Thompson. Congratulations!****Compiler's observations**

The "Book Outline" title provided a hint. After solving the puzzle, the "outline" of the grid (the 28 letters around the edges) spell out a book title: *So Long, and Thanks for All the Fish*. It's the fourth book in the popular Douglas Adams comedy sci-fi series that began with *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. A number of one-off errors. The phrase TEXAS TEA for crude oil gave problems to a few and may be better known here in North America, thanks to the theme song of a 1960s "fish-out-of-water" American sitcom about an Ozarks family striking oil and moving to ritzy Beverly Hills.

Explanations – Across: 8 A + L + POOH<, 9 MA(I + LED) IN, 10 "straighten", 11 anag., 12 E in INFR(a)RED, 14 IS in (TO A T)<, 15 anag., 19 (I)ESSENE(d), 21 VOLS< + A KIA, 24 O in EIGHT)*, 25 (BELOW)* + PEN, 26 T(EX)AS TE + A, 27 (R in VODKA)*. **Down:** 1 S + OFTENER, 2 O + P(I)ATE, 3 LATTE + R, 4 O MEN (zero men), 5 NIT + RATES, 6 G(EM + ST)ONE, 7 A + ISLE'S, 16 EVEN + T(U)ALE, 17 anag., 18 C + HIM + ERAS*, 20 SHOVE+L, 22 VERDi in OO, 23 anag., 25 "bore".

Solvers' Feedback [Feedback that only repeats the Nina has not been included]

- Took a while to reconcile TAOIST. Very clever! *Len Colgan*
- Lots of excellent tricky clues. I voted TEXASTE A COTM. Closely followed by BLEWOPEN and HOGTIE. *Roy Taylor*
- A good puzzle. and the Douglas Adams Nina certainly helped. *Betty Siegman*
- Nice challenging puzzle. If there is a theme. I missed it completely though. Liked RESOLD. OVERDO & TEXAS TEA (a new word for me). *Krittibas Dasgupta*
- Good to see Fraz in the 15x15! *Andrew Patterson*
- Nice Nina around the periphery *Allan Storti*
- Excellent Nina from Douglas Adams book. So long and thanks for all the fish. *Julie Leigh*
- Some excellent clues in this puzzle. Scratched my head over 26a until I remembered the Beverley Hillbillies. Age sometimes has its benefits. *Kathryn Forward*
- Some very tricky wordplays in this puzzle: TO A T (gosh). Liked GEMSTONE & TEXAS TEA. *Mal Cockburn*
- Douglas would be very happy. *Robyn Wimbush*
- A lovely precise puzzle. And the Nina. So Long and thanks for all the fish. *Julie Crowe*
- Loved FREEDOM OF SPEECH *Toby McLeay*
- Favourites LATTE. OPERETTA. and the perimeter. *The Void*
- I loved the clues for TAOIST and FREEDOM OF SPEECH and especially enjoyed the Douglas Adams NINA which I didn't spot until I had finished the puzzle. *Brian Tickle*
- Nowhere as difficult as slot 6. That book sounds all too prophetic. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Wouldn't have thought to look for a Nina if not for the title. *Jan Wood*

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

September Slot 7 solution**Solution WORD SQUARE October 1**

L	L	M	E	N
L	A	E	D	I
W	E	N	I	S
E	D	I	S	A
N	I	S	A	B

Solution WORD SQUARE October 2

X	E	D	N	I
E	T	A	R	O
D	A	M	O	N
N	R	O	D	A
I	O	N	A	H

Slot 6 feedback continued from page 11

- What a marathon! I spent more time on this puzzle than the other six combined. Even checking was a nightmare. Hopefully I linked all the wordplays to their definitions. Took ages to understand SPAR; REST & ESPY and others; but got there in the end. Marvellous puzzle. *Mal Cockburn*
- Took a while; this one. It would have been difficult enough without the displaced definitions. Loved it but fingers crossed. *Richard Skinner*
- Fiendishly difficult! *Scott Goodman*
- Fiendishly clever but very enjoyable from the supergiant star. *Tony Dobe*
- This was the most amazing puzzle! It is a joy to still be doing Gillian's puzzles; and this one took every ounce of concentration. Loved it! *Julie Crowe*
- That was a toughie; expect no less of a Betelgeuse puzzle. I'll be amazed if I get a dot for this one. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Enjoyably challenging. Trickier than I would have expected. *Mark Woolston*

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

Explanations for clues in September 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 NanaKat. Across: 1 dd, 4 STATU(...T)E, 8 THEATRE*, 10 EVE + REST, 12 E+VENT, 13 (EVITA COVE)<, 14 (SORT DATE)*, 16 tails, 18 T(r)OTTER, 20 WHITE + TIE, 23 CHEA(SHOP*)T, 24 T(R)EAT, 25 hidden<, 26 STIC(k) around CEP, 27 POSSES(S), 28 SE(W)ER.

Slot 2 P-brane. Across: 1 BLACK + homoph "but", 6 S + CREW, 9 R in MERIT, 10 hw, 12 HYALINE, 13 Homoph "cooler bar", 15 dd, 17 cd, 18 dd, 20 (OAK TREE - ke)*, 22 dd, 23 dd, 26 (BAG ROME)*, 27 cd, 28 dd, 29 (LIVESPORT)*. **Down:** 2 AVER + AGE, 3 Homoph "carry", 4 Homoph "up two", 5 TALLOW + WOOD, 6 SINGLE + USE, 7 Homoph "rode" + BED, 8 cdd, 11 WHITE + GUM + WELL, 14 A + DO + RATION + S, 16 ST + (h)AMMERER, 19 (IVY LIBS)*, 21 AS + Homoph "felt", 24 A + WAKE, 25 hw.

Slot 3 Lexi Conner. Across: 1 TULLe + A + MARINE, 7 sTAtE, 9 AC + CORDS, 10 TRADE + UP, 11 genEVA, 13 TEA + POT, 14 (gingham - m)*, 15 TI(BE)TAN, 18 graSP INtelligence, 19 tRAMP, 20 MADE + air*, 22 homoph "sEX SELLS", 23 (photogenic - open)*, 24 stILL, 26 SAL(U)TED, 27 (tailboard - ad)*, 28 SParkY, 29 V(A+LED)ICTORY. **Down:** 1 TOAST + MISTRESSES, 2 LACK + A + DAIS + IC + ALLY, 3 AIR + PORT, 4 IAmPs SeEm, 5 audIOTape, 6 revELATION, 7 THE WAR + (wet ash got)*, 8 TYP(O + GRAPH)ICALLY, 12 VICE + lager<, 16 brITain, 17 pAYRoll - poll, 20 MO + homoph "lot of", 21 (AErOBIC + M)*, 24 unusually DIverting<, 25 L(O)AD.

Slot 4 Bogeman. A RM in AY, **B** (I + LION)in BUS, **C** CL + O + SURE + S, **D** DeSCANT, **E** EC + LOG + USE*, **F** FOLK + SurreY, **G** GIG + sOLO, **H** homoph "Humerous"cd rib tickling, **I** SOME in Idler + S, **J** heads, **K** KIN + ET + IC, **L** LEG + volume, **M** MUSE + SMUt<, **N** NUTS + HELL, **O** (FIELD + VOLE + R)*, **P** PA + PERE + D, **Q** ddd/cd on Hg and atomic no, **R** RIGA + TON + I, **S** cd ref Treasure Is, **T** (FLEE + SITUATION -ALSo)*, **U** SHAUN* + KEN, **V** V + SERENE*, **W** WELL + MAD + E, **X** X+A+N+AD+U, **Y** CAT in YUAN, **Z** ZIP + FAST + ENE + R

Slot 5 Hot and Cold. Across: 8 CONS + U,L,A,R, 9 A + BROAD, 10 sagaCITY, 11 homoph "sue", 12 dd, 13 CON + ART< + CT, 16 wAILING, 18 (I)LAMA, 20 BR + ASS, 21 AL + SO, 22 PRO + TON, 23 SAT< + MANIA, 26 SA in TR, 28 anag, 30 IL in SK, 31 (FAVOURING - fun)*, 32 STAR + LING. **Down:** 1 IT in BONO, 2 A + SHY, 3 hidden<, 4 To + RIO, 5 XC in (TASMAN)*, 6 TORT<, 7 Spooner "lad bands", 14 dd, 15 TO + A + ST, 17 hidden<, 19 homoph "a cross tick", 20 anag, 24 homoph "sin" + TAX, 25 IN + L + AND, 27 heads, 29 dd, 30 anag.

Online stuff

Jenny writes "I have subscribed to a *Patreon for Consume this Media* (website [here](https://www.consumethismedia.com/)) [https://www.consumethismedia.com/] who do a couple of podcasts: it is a paid subscription. One of their Patreon rewards is a fairly easy cryptic from the UK that they then discuss on a podcast as they work their way through it. I'm enjoying their journey as they learn to recognise different types of clues.

We mentioned in passing in an earlier issue [Cracking the Cryptic](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieU3CTI4rOQ) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieU3CTI4rOQ]. A You Tube channel in which Simon Anthony takes the viewer through the process of solving a British quality cryptic puzzle. A fascinating perspective on how an expert tackles the puzzles - and very satisfying on the rare occasions when the light dawns before Simon identifies the answer.

For those addicts of *The Times* crossword in the *Australian* who enjoy the explanations and the interplay between other addicts, the Times for the Times blog has migrated to a new site and can now be found at <https://timesforthetimes.co.uk/> and not via the links on our website, which will be updated in due course.

As a keen Guardian solver for over 60 years I appreciate the generosity of *The Guardian*, who make their crosswords freely available and also give access to a lively discussion on each puzzle. Unlike *The Times*, which is only available on subscription and appears in the *Australian* some time after its original publication, the *Guardian* puzzle is online on the same day that it appears in the UK paper and therefore Antipodean solvers can participate in the discussion in real time. Blogs for a number of quality UK crosswords, including *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, *The Financial Times*, *Azed* and *Everyman*, with links to the latest publication) feature in Fifteen Squared [here](https://www.fifteensquared.net/) [https://www.fifteensquared.net/], an excellent source of enlightenment for those difficult to parse clues.

Ian Williams



Donations to the Prize Fund: Many thanks for their generous donations to Kathy Horadam, Robyn McKenzie, Roger Hearn and Michael Kennedy. Much appreciated by all members!

September Clue-writing Competition

Just a reminder that the competition is still open if you would like to demonstrate your skills. You are invited to write a clue for the word **TORQUE (6)** complete with explanation. One only per member, please. Send your creations to Andrew Patterson: email to mcandap@bigpond.net.au or post to 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046

Entries close Friday 10 October 2025

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.

September 1: Nanakat (Kathryn Forward)

- That suited me to a "T"! *Patricia Abbott*
- Halfway through, I noticed the theme, which helped a lot! *Fraser Simpson*
- THE best way to start a month of Croz. *Ann Millard*
- Favourite FIESTA. *The Void*
- Clever with all the down clues starting with "the". *Julie Leigh*
- Took a while to realise all down answers (and one across one) started with THE. *Allan Storti*
- TREAT gave me a giggle! *Sandy Lim*
- The 'the's helped! *Robyn Wimbush*
- Only noticed The Downs at the end! *Toby McLeay*
- Challenging and creative clues had me intrigued and determined. Thank you, NanaKat. *Helen Banks*
- Well, how smart am I? I didn't notice the "THE" theme until entering the solution! Duh. *Richard Skinner*
- Quite THE puzzle! *Scott Goodman*
- A nice Slot 1 with a clever 24dn. *Brian Tickle*
- Nice puzzle to begin the month; the down clues (starting with THE) were a big help. *Joan Smith*
- What a lovely puzzle to start with, all THE downs were most helpful. I especially liked the clues for THEREAT and TOTTER. *Kathy Horadam*
- It wasn't until I'd almost finished the slot that I saw that all the Down answers started with T. *Hilary Cromer*
- Very enjoyable. The recurring 'th' made it easier. *Ulla Axelsen*

September 2: P-brane (Roger Hearn)

- Some easy clues but, overall, this was a difficult Slot 2. I did learn a bit about Aussie trees. Thanks. *Ann Millard*
- I was all treed out after that! *Roy Taylor*
- Very clever clues! AWAKE made me laugh out loud. *Sandy Lim*
- Interesting bunch of Eucalypts. Glad WA got a mention. I enjoyed the Aussi flavour. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Creative clues sprinkled with Australian flora and fauna words - cell protein clue - difficult. Not sure about this answer... *Helen Banks*
- An interesting collection of Australian Timber. *Mal Cockburn*
- Once the theme was determined... *Richard Skinner*
- This one was all about Australia, with Australian trees being the prime focus. Many of the tree names are unfamiliar to me, so it's fair to say I had to seek help from Mr Google very regularly. It was a fun learning experience more than a crossword puzzle! *Krittibas Dasgupta*
- Well done P-brane for fitting in so many 15,17 connections. I liked AWAKE but not 11dn. *Kathy Horadam*
- Great theme! *Brian Tickle*
- Challenging and enjoyable - thanks. *Scott Goodman*
- An inspirational guess for 17ac got me going. Very challenging. *Ulla Axelsen*

September 3: Lexi Conner (Ron Shapiro)

- Liked TIBETAN but disliked only having six checked letters in fifteen-letter answers. *Len Colgan*

- ITA and AYR.! took a while to get the independent television authority. *Roy Taylor*
- Liked Tibetan and learned about the Warsaw Ghetto. Thank you. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Enjoyed the grid. Probably got 16dn wrong. Loved LACKADAISICALLY & SPY, among others. *Krittibas Dasgupta*
- Some giant clues to solve. Loved 15ac TIBETAN. *Mal Cockburn*
- Lovely puzzle, tku. *Chris Thomas*
- My favourite clue was the one for SPY. *Brian Tickle*
- 3dn took ages! I liked TIBETAN, but shouldn't 1ac be "exemplified by"? *Kathy Horadam*
- Congratulations, Lexi. I haven't sweated this hard in a long while. 1ac and 1 and 3dn all qualify for COM in my book but my vote goes to 3dn, which finally unlocked the tangle. *Con Flinkenberg*
- 1ac had me searching for a long time and yet it was so easy when found. Thanks for the challenge. *Ulla Axelsen*

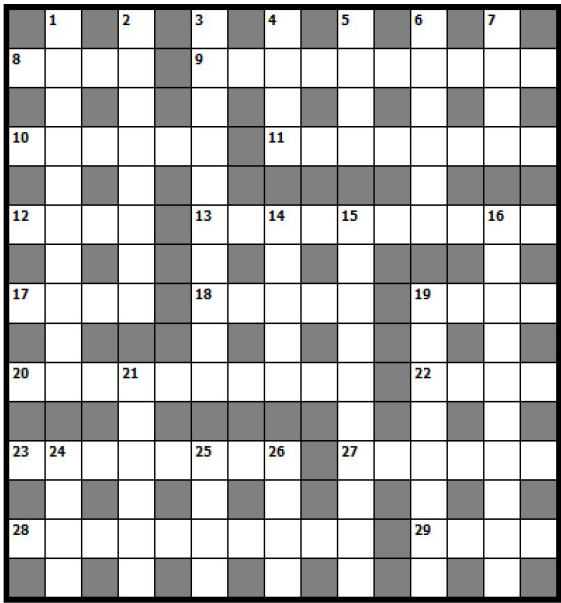
September 4: Bogeyman (Ian Williams)

- A fun solve. It was a little odd to have quicksilver and Silver in the same grid. *Fraser Simpson*
- My first attempt at solving this type of jigsaw grid. Found it a toughie, and several clues were very hard for me to parse correctly. Struggled particularly with QUICKSILVER, RIGATONI, NUTSHELL & ARMY. I am not sure if Mexicans state is a fair definition for YUCATAN, though I can understand that the setter wanted to make the surface grammatically correct. *Krittibas Dasgupta*
- Some very good clues, especially XANADU. *Roy Taylor*
- A few tricky clues here. Silver took me quite a while to nut out, and I spent way too long researching Sri Lankan bird life! *Julie Crowe*
- Really enjoyed this one. My favourite clue was the one for SILVER. *Brian Tickle*
- Favourite clues HUMERUS and SILVER. *Joan Smith*
- Always enjoyable, I liked the clues for H and P but was unsure of C and E. *Kathy Horadam*
- NUTSHELL gave us a laugh! *Sandy Lim*
- Nice, quick solve. Very enjoyable. *Ulla Axelsen*

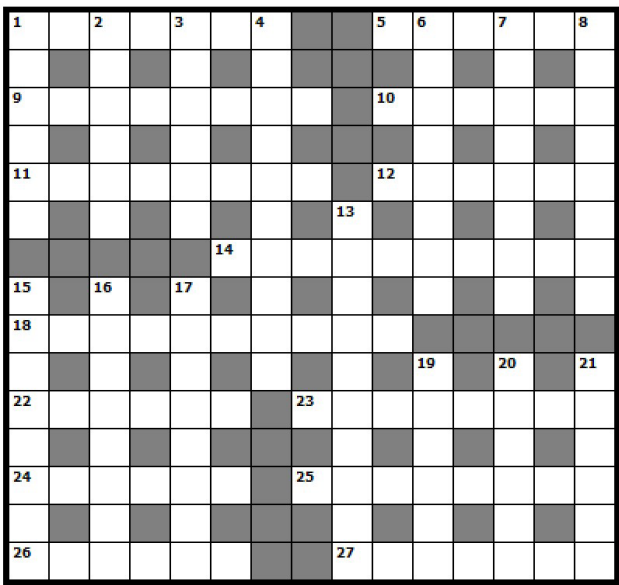
September 5: Hot and Cold (Jenny Wenham and Ian Williams)

- Apparently, the E key on the keyboard was inoperative. I did like the 6dn clue. *Len Colgan*
- Great to have good clues not requiring lot of referencing. *Roy Taylor*
- Favourites TOAST, PROTON, STARLING. *The Void*
- Fun puzzle, especially liked CITY. Really struggled with 6dn & 12ac. I am quite sure I have entered wrong answers for these two. *Krittibas Dasgupta*
- I liked ASHY and TROT. Interesting mix of clues. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Stuck for ages on TROT, which I discovered was short for Trotskyist and TORT backwards. Overall, a difficult puzzle indeed. *Mal Cockburn*
- Loved ACROSTIC and gave it C/ O/ T/ M. *Toby McLeay*
- Lots of great clues. My favourites were those for STARLING and INLAND. *Brian Tickle*
- Just one clue, 6dn, gave a bit of trouble till I worked out that TROT was short for Trotskyist; then it made sense. A good solve. *Ulla Axelsen*

October Slot 1 Name.....

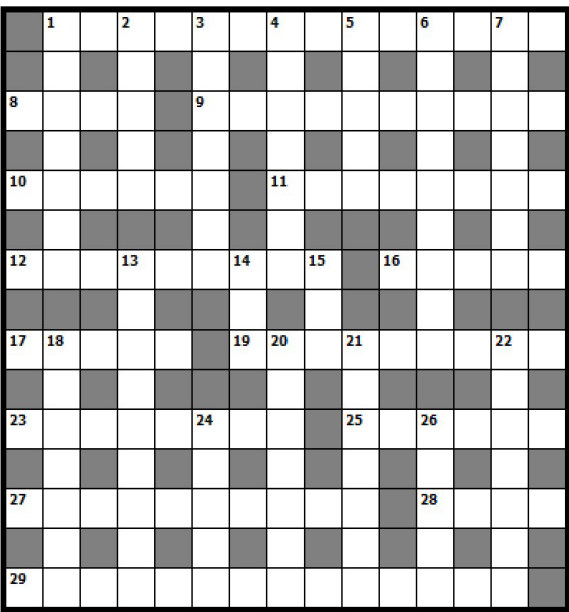


October SLOT 2

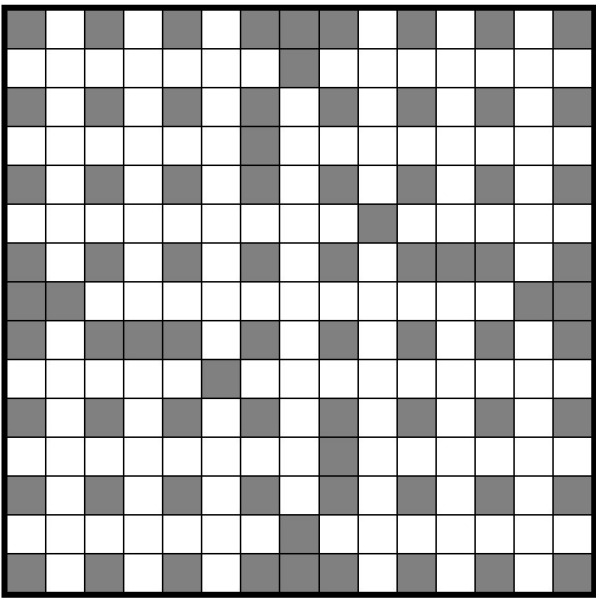


Clue of the Month

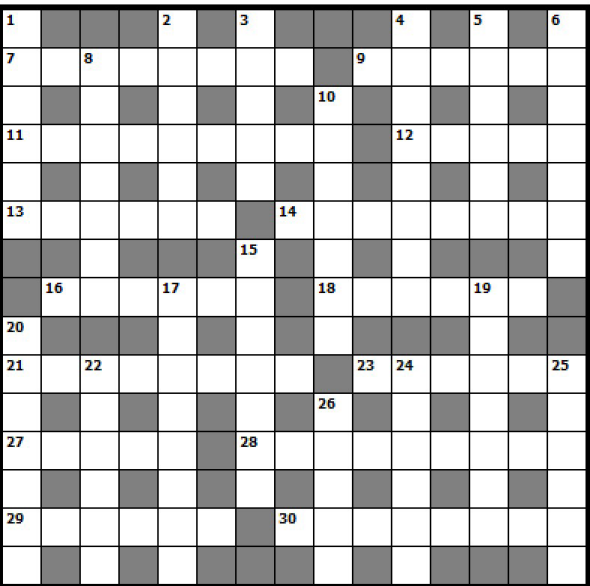
October SLOT 3



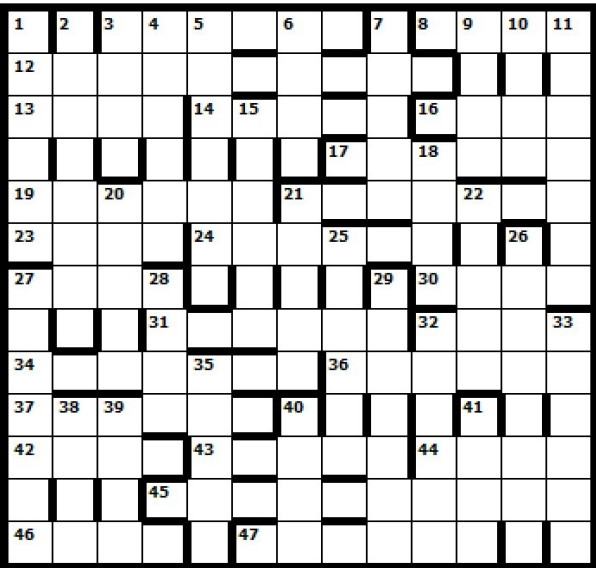
October SLOT 4



October SLOT 5



October SLOT 6



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



THE AUSTRALIAN CROSSWORD CLUB Subscription renewal for 2026

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

- Subscription to ACC for 2026 @ \$35 each (email only*) \$35
Please note that we are no longer seeking donations to the prize fund. However, any additional contribution you may wish to make will be gratefully received and acknowledged and will assist in defraying expenses and deferring any increase in subscriptions

TOTAL \$

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

Name

Address Phone:

E-mail address:

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

Information for Members renewing for 2026

- It's time to ask you again for subscriptions for 2026. We're pleased that we are able to keep the subscription down to the familiar \$35 for the year. The following information will help you to renew your membership

The ACC website

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

Mail

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

Gift memberships

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

Donations to the ACC Prize Fund

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

Payment options:

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

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

The Executive Committee