



No 401 September 2023



www.crosswordclub.org



"All books are either dreams or swords; you can cut, or you can drug, with words."

Amy Lowell, 1914, *Sword Blades and Poppy Seeds*

GRIDATORIAL

We have had a good response to our invitation to join up a friend and to our free membership offer for 2023/4 on the website. Please note that the friend offer is not limited to one friend, if you have more than one who would appreciate it! A particular welcome to our new members from our shores and from Eire, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. We note that some have already been active via ACCOLADE, our online puzzle entry system, and hope that you enjoy our eclectic brand of puzzling. While most members, when questioned, seem pretty happy with the way our offerings have developed over the years, it's good to have new blood: if the new (or existing) members have any ideas to improve our monthly challenges we'll be happy to take them on board.

We have a interesting and varied mix in the present issue, from some of our most experienced amateur compilers and quizmeister and trust that you will enjoy the challenge.

Our thanks, as always, to the numerous contributors to our work and in particular to David Grainger, our duty adjudicator, whose well-chosen words appear opposite.

Happy solving

Ian

FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

Spring is here, the grass is riz ... " well, almost here in Melbourne anyway on a beautiful day to end this month's good puzzles. There were a number of comments along the lines of "difficult for Slot [2, 3, 4]" or "should have been a Slot [2]" - I recall that "back in the day" the month's puzzles were ranked from easy to (expletive deleted) difficult but I'm sure that's no longer the case. Now, perhaps, they're all just (expletive deleted) challenging !

Slot 1: No real problems here except for WEEP (PEEP, YELP) and EPISCOPACY (hard enough to get right at the best of times) so EPISTOPACY, EPISCOPATE and EPISTOLARY among other suggestions lost dots.

Slot 2: There's always one puzzle that excites more than the others, and here it is - see the comments ! And if you thought solving this puzzle was difficult, try marking it ... The major misses in this fiendish puzzle were ROLE (RULE, DOLE), LINGUINE (with LINGUINI being served up multiple times; both spellings are in Chambers, but LINGUINI doesn't fit the clue, see the Explanations) and the myriad variations on TRADE GAP - try TRADE + WAR, MAN, RAT, CAP, LAG, LAP. There were other dot-stealers too - LUNGER and LONGER (LINGER) and various typos (e.g. MOOLHH, HAREEM).

Slot 3: I agree that a "togas" as articles of clothing could be classed as "togs" but unfortunately for 15 or so solvers TOGS did not meet the required answer of TOGA. Some typos on REENTERED and FISTS, and I'm not sure what a TESTICLER is or was.

Slot 4: The "H" word trapped quite a few. HYPER was required, but interesting variations (HYPED, HYMEN, HYPES) lost lots of dots. XENOGRAFT, yet another word with the XENO suffix - see Chambers - tripped up only a couple.

continued on page 2

LEADING FIGURES

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	80	78	78	75	67	378
Correct entries	63	29	55	47	58	252
Success rate (%)	79	37	71	63	87	67
Prizewinners	Mark Woolston	Jan Wood	Lesley Carroll	Andrew Miles	Sue Pinder	from 86 members

Prizewinner: July Slots 1-5 correct: Ian McKenzie. Congratulations!

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August 2023 Slot 1

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

August 2023 Slot 2

1	M	2	O	3	L	4	A	5	H	6	I	7	E	8	D
9	O	R	D	I	N	A	R	Y	M	R	I	U			
11	W	O	D	N	C	R	A	M	P	O	N	S			
12	E	L	E	G	Y	L	I	N	S	I	S	T			
13	R	E	S	U	M	E	D	A	F	C	E	E			
15	F	E	T	I	D	M	A	L	L	A	R	D			
17	F	U	R	N	I	S	H	S	A	N	T	A			
19	E	C	E	E	O	P	A	C	K	A	G	E			
23	S	H	T	I	C	K	Z	P	I	C	O	T			
26	T	R	A	D	E	G	A	P	E	H	A	H			
27	A	E	I	I	S	A	R	A	S	O	T	A			
28	L	I	N	G	E	R	D	A	T	S	U	N			

August 2023 Slot 3

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

August 2023 Slot 4

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

August 2023 Slot 5

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

August 2023 Slot 6

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

MEMBERS' RESULTS FOR September 2023 Slots 1 to 7

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Abbott P.	•							Glissan B.								Millard A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Allen W.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Grainger D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Milton R.	•						
Anderson C.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Hagan R.	•							Moline R.	•		•	•	•		•
Audrins K.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Harper K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Parsons D.	•		•		•	•	
Axelsen U.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Hearn R.	•	•						Patterson A.	•	•	•	•		•	•
Barbour J.	•	•						Heyes N.	•							Peach S.		•		•			
Barnes J.	•		•					Hocking A.		•						Pinder S.	•	•		•		•	
Batum C.	•		•					Howat S.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Procter D.			•		•		•
Bennett D.								Ibbott B.	•							Procter M.			•		•	•	•
Blake M.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Jarman L.	•		•					Randall J.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Carroll L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jarman R.								Rosendorff D.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cockburn B.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Jones G.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Roulston S.		•	•	•	•	•	•
Cockburn M.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Kennedy L.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Ryan W.			•	•	•	•	•
Colgan L.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Kennedy M.								Shield A.	•		•				
Coote P.	•		•	•	•	•	•	Lankshear J.	•							Siegman B.			•	•			•
Cornish W.	•							Lee C.								Simons A.			•		•		•
Crowe H.	•		•					Leigh J.	•		•		•	•	•	Simpson F.	•	•	•	•	•		•
Crowe J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mackay-Sim C.			•	•	•			Skinner R.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Davis K.	•		•					Madden J.	•		•					Storey N.			•	•	•		•
Dobele T.	•							Martin A.	•		•					Symons B.	•	•	•	•	•		•
Ducker R.	•		•					Martin F.	•		•					Taylor R.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Dyer A.			•	•	•			Mason I.								Taylor S.	•		•	•	•		•
Eaton L.	•		•					McClelland C.	•							Thompson I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Evans J.	•	•	•	•	•			McKenzie I.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Veress M.	•		•	•	•	•	•
Ferguson J.								McKenzie R.	•	•						Williams K.	•		•				
Fowler J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	McLeay T.								Wimbush R.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Gamble K.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Meek A.			•					Wood J.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Garner P.					•	•	•	Miles A.	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Woolston M.	•			•	•		•

From the Adjudicator - continued from page 1

Slot 5: Another Crowsman triumph - how does he keep on being so clever ? Lots of comments about the double OO in every answer, and how enjoyable the puzzle was to solve. Errors here were probably typos (e.g. HOODS, WOODY for WOODS).

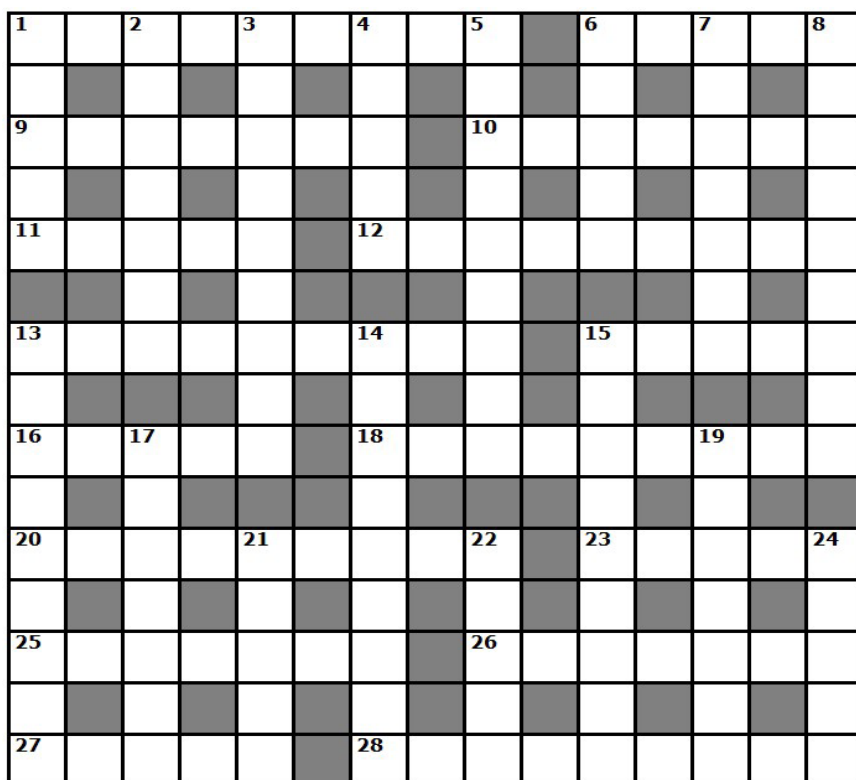
COTM: There were 6 nominations each for DIAGONAL (Slot 3) and JUKEBOX (Slot 4) from a total of 34 nominations for 16 clues from all slots. Congratulations to all our compilers , but particularly to Valkyrie and Manveru for their excellent clues!

David Grainger

Slot 1

Half and
Half
by
InGrid

Prize
\$50



Across

- 1 Fabric (9)
- 6 Managed (5)
- 9 Curl (7)
- 10 Clothing accessories (7)
- 11 Idiot (5)
- 12 Practice (9)
- 13 One who makes void (9)
- 15 Wireless (5)
- 16 Essay (5)
- 18 Science (9)
- 20 Left (9)
- 23 Lively (5)
- 25 Disgusting (7)
- 26 Fruit (7)
- 27 Bouquet (5)
- 28 Month (9)

Down

- 1 Take off small pack (5)
- 2 Essential money is really odd (7)
- 3 Plant in church property in England (9)
- 4 Regular soft note right for animal (5)
- 5 Talk about greeting animal on one's dignity (4,5)
- 6 Coach in armchair holding tableware (5)
- 7 Happy to argue over points (7)
- 8 Men missing from tremendously confused vagrant (9)
- 13 Certainly not rot over debts of the famous (9)
- 14 His insect stirred irritability (9)
- 15 Compensate for bad mulberries left out (9)
- 17 Starts to exhibit notable snooker shot in a crowd (2,5)
- 19 Charge one before first calling and booking a ride (7)
- 21 Still popular before odd regret (5)
- 22 Handle government tool (5)
- 24 Spooner says this vehicle can haul a larger load (5)

SEND
SOLUTIONS
TO:

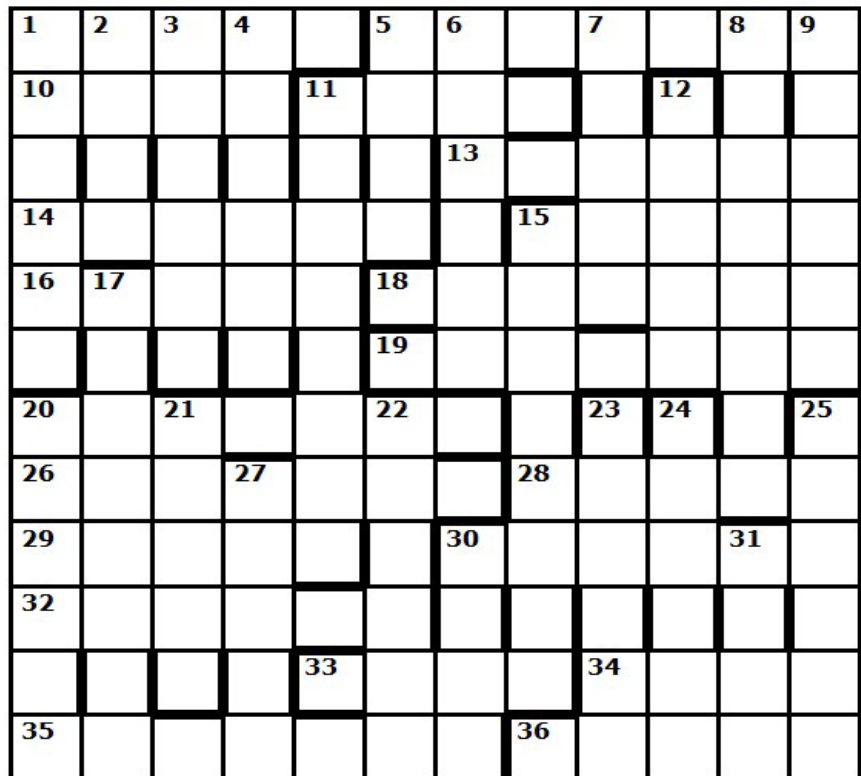
For online entry, submission and adjudication of all slots via ACCOLADE click on the ACCOLADE button on www.crosswordclub.org home page.
By mail for Slots 1 to 5: Betty Siegman 2/46 Neale Street, Long Jetty NSW 2261 or (preferably) by email to betty_siegman@hotmail.com
By mail for Slot 6: Ian McKenzie 47 Ronald Avenue Greenwich NSW 2065 or (preferably) by email to ianmalcolmmckenzie@outlook.com
By mail for Slot 7: Ian Thompson 12 Olive Street Malvern East VIC 3145 or (preferably) by email to irt_botanist@hotmail.com
Closing mail date for all puzzles is 29 September 2023.

BLANK
GRIDS
PAGE 11

Slot 2

**Cryptic
by
KA**

**Prize
\$50**



Across

- 1 Odds on Australian native returning to the track (5)
- 5 Corrupt priest has time for tout (7)
- 10 Otherwise, the girl loses independence (4)
- 11 In the majority, doctors are on time (4)
- 13 Disregarding King, anger leads to breakdown (6)
- 14 Material is returned to soprano for departure (6)
- 15 Herb for Saint (5)
- 16 Judges girl with disorder (5)
- 18 Papal man with Cardinal (7)
- 19 The French vintage is with the Sovereign on a ship (7)
- 20 For example, golf trophies could be small food containers (7)
- 26 Aloe is mixed with pruned rose for spray (7)
- 28 Federal buildings absorb returning noise (5)
- 29 Son with money for tool (5)
- 30 Young creature has day amongst enemies (6)
- 32 Bone in front of lecturer is like an ancient flute (6)
- 33 Instrument for singer (4)
- 34 Man wraps fish in leather (4)
- 35 Retrieves drunken shearer (7)
- 36 Chemicals for syringes (5)

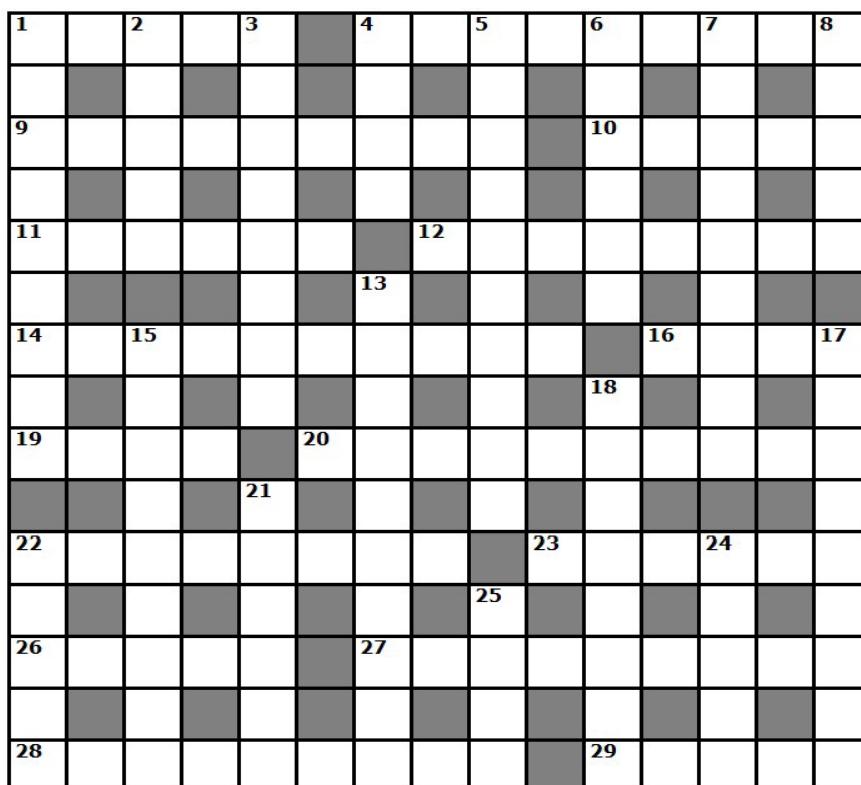
Down

- 1 Leave secretary with the English Department of Employment (6)
- 2 Promote fuel on return to Gabon (4)
- 3 Bird is a large quarry (6)
- 4 McEnroe demanded to conceal swelling (6)
- 5 Obtained returned, singular, clothes (4)
- 6 Compounds for troubled, old, misers (6)
- 7 Evil creature has day with a National (5)
- 8 Design a motor for the Monarch (8)
- 9 River fisherman, perhaps, is a folkdancer (6)
- 11 Stroke implementation by therapist (8)
- 12 Singer embraces independent fundamental principle (5)
- 15 Drinks for the Royal Family (8)
- 17 Hiding sideways in hedge - wisely (8)
- 20 Diner embraces son at festival (6)
- 21 Seizes Eastern ships (5)
- 22 Unionist leaves favourite tree (6)
- 23 Man surrounded by leaders of fit, healthy youths, is corpulent (6)
- 24 Herb for feline bite (6)
- 25 Exclusive home for repaired English dress? (3,3)
- 27 Zero movement in pointed arch (5)
- 30 Commotion of agitated Sufis losing independence (4)
- 31 Open Organisation party (4)

General Feedback for August

- I congratulate the committee for spreading the club's surplus finances across all members instead of increasing prizemoney which rewards the chosen few. Thank you, much appreciated. *Pat Garner*
- Once again; a stellar month. Thank you all. *Robyn Wimbush*
- A big thank you for last month's Slot 6 prize and to all those that contribute to the ongoing success of our Club. *Jeremy Barnes*
- What a lovely gesture - to pay everyone's membership! Thank you ACC. *Corryn Anderson*

Slot 3

Cryptic
by
Isla

Across

- 1 Musical group's entertaining verse in cover (5)
- 4 Short coat cut by informer returning folding blade (9)
- 9 Having no duties, draw fire by going inside (3-6)
- 10 Actor in western, a Yankee born in Paris (5)
- 11 Note EBITDA reduced alarmingly - more money needed? (2,4)
- 12 The West is over beheading mishap (8)
- 14 Rapid increases of pox and lesions all over the place (10)
- 16 Old Bill, say, coming back inside (4)
- 19 Heard it is commonly a flap (4)
- 20 Dearth of histrionic incidents by son outside vehicle (10)
- 22 Cocktail mix: liquid air left out (8)
- 23 Unruly mob watch unfinished, low-budget film (1-5)
- 26 Freeing arms, able to keep fighting back in punch-up (5)
- 27 Poisonous animal found in Kashmir, UK... and Jindabyne! (9)
- 28 Salty old dog caught man on board giving salute (4,5)
- 29 Mock turtle soup, perhaps (5)

Down

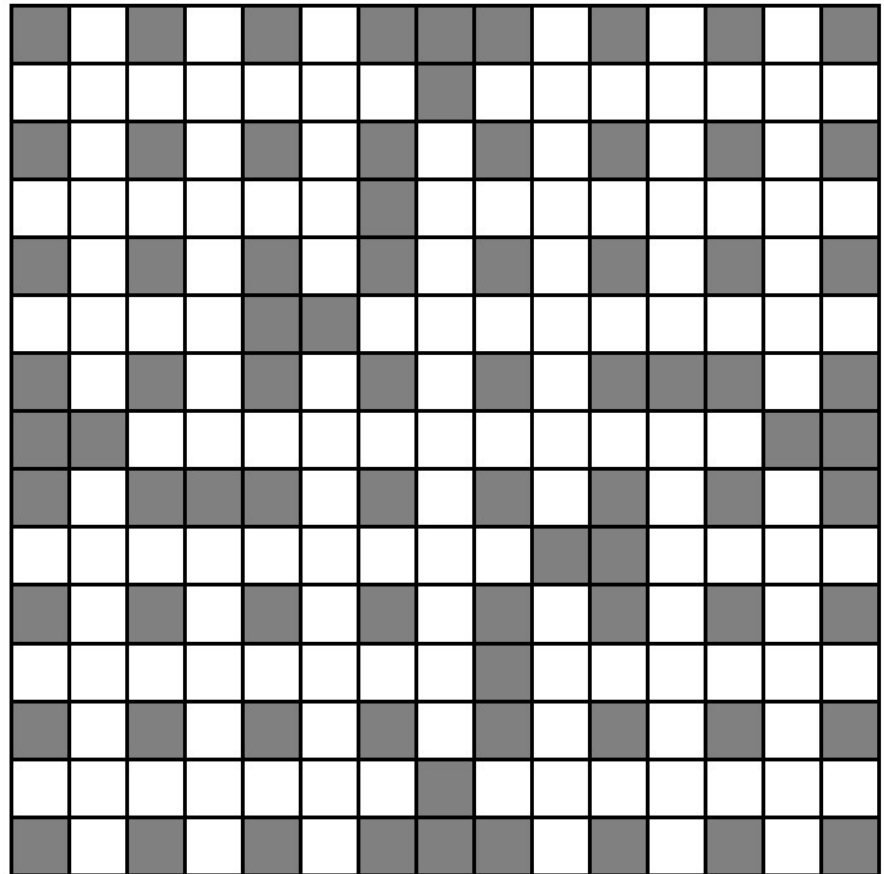
- 1 Damage edge in mechanical catch (9)
- 2 Troubled and very cursed, Henry lost (5)
- 3 Exemplary message on personal odour's acceptable (8)
- 4 Wedge book underneath doorframe (4)
- 5 Downtown is "it"! (4,6)
- 6 Country's king has delay touring university... (6)
- 7 ...that is vaguely recollected within US university group (3,6)
- 8 Do this, caught in F18 after missile in the tail? (5)
- 13 Perceiving record's deserving listening to (10)
- 15 On the fiddle, plucked fast food to check if initially cold (9)
- 17 Incredulity as chitlings finally edible if mashed (9)
- 18 Jetsam regularly flung into brooks pollutes (8)
- 21 Nothing, to sum up, is material (6)
- 22 Going over good, uniform plot to remove defects (5)
- 24 Fish in very old film-clip (5)
- 25 Leave fairly shortly (4)

Slot 4

AJ
by
Valkyrie

Prize
\$50

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



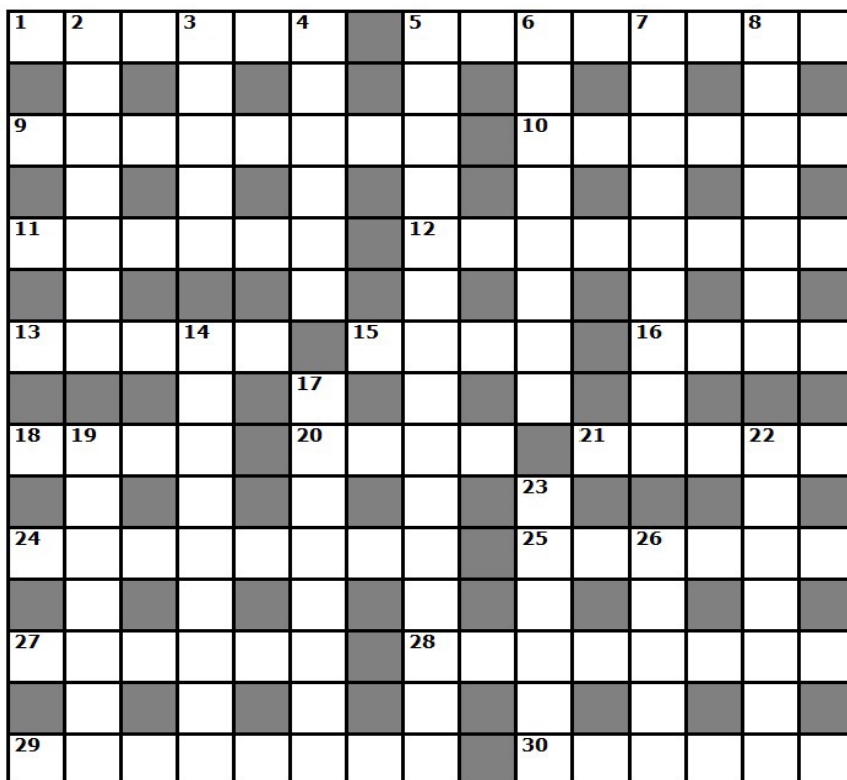
- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>A Lively autoeroticism lacking time? Cruel! (9)</p> <p>B Cheese flap in a nutshell (7)</p> <p>C Boxed head of cheat, then took to task (6)</p> <p>D Go-getter in possession of card for imposing elderly lady (7)</p> <p>E Departed day after bird reproduced (8)</p> <p>F Socialised with female informer, somewhat disheartened not hated (11)</p> <p>G Rough won over right (7)</p> <p>H Wild Bahrain deer (11)</p> <p>I Stroke is part of district username (5)</p> <p>J Music player initially just used knuckles, energetically banging old xylophone (7)</p> <p>K Potassium metal say, lacking lead container (6)</p> <p>L Two liberals keep first lady well-balanced (5)</p> <p>M Distribute meat caught away from home (4,3)</p> <p>N Films latest spin central to secret service leaders (9)</p> <p>O Requested, as an alternative, disturbing Red edition (7)</p> | <p>P Smugly moralistic elicit site, i-Phone in review (9)</p> <p>Q Question 1 is about a retired mariner from Doha (6)</p> <p>R Persistent about East Germany restricting fuel (8)</p> <p>S Frank, possibly tactless, in a traditional content (7)</p> <p>T Named the French daughter after bird (6)</p> <p>U Heartless dark individual (4)</p> <p>V Gambling for example, by Republicans, starts to outrage young sovereign's delegate (7)</p> <p>W Artificial intelligence, on the contrary, supports southern, not northern, cold season plant (8)</p> <p>X Unknown Greek goddess guarding new compound (8)</p> <p>Y Time to behead King after the end of monarchy (4)</p> <p>Z Upset extreme characters hide disheartened enthusiasm with witchcraft for fear of animal ghosts (9)</p> |
|--|---|

Slot 5

Cryptic
by
Hot and
Cold

 Prize
\$50

A common element is missing from each down solution and is to be inserted in the grid. The wordplay in each down clue also lacks the common element: thus neither the definition nor the wordplay of any down clue clues the common missing element. Across clues are normal. Our thanks to Crowsman for devising the grid.



Across

- 1 Country hit - so very overwhelming initially (6)
- 5 Rose, possibly, in America - topless - sent back mediocre sherries (8)
- 9 Swiss birds mob returning archdeacon (8)
- 10 Could be a pair for Roman football team (6)
- 11 Young lady with forged medals (6)
- 12 P-peddle sweet talk (4,4)
- 13 Steals back seat (5)
- 15 Leander's lady friend laying in bath! Erotic? (4)
- 16 Order New York Times gem (4)
- 18 Lone fish? (4)
- 20 Nothing at all in radio variety replay (4)
- 21 Moral significance of the free love on Sunday (5)
- 24 Cross-plough acre plot (8)
- 25 Girl composed "Love it!" (6)
- 27 Bob, perhaps, for musical party (6)
- 28 Rank reagent's components (8)
- 29 Female rule - not so much perfect! (8)
- 30 8's returning to restore company (6)

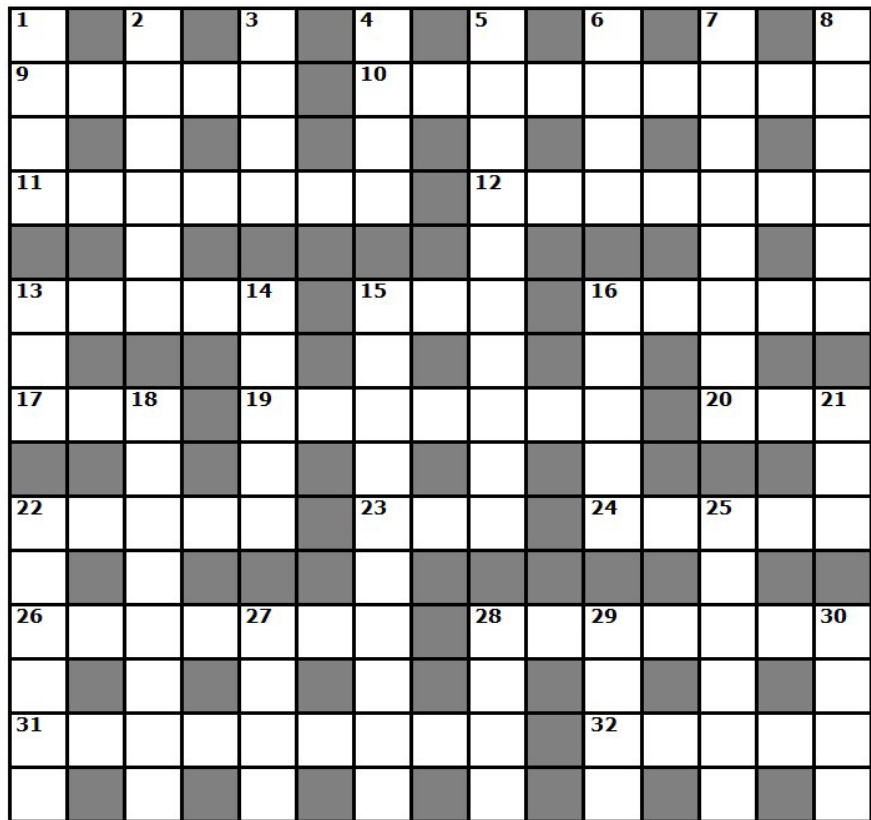
Down

- 2 Perform in Canberra (7)
- 3 Singular voiceless palatoalveolar fricative (5)
- 4 Peripheral elements of lullaby in sound of meadow (6)
- 5 Ragged sail in sort of studies (15)
- 6 Stream loud bass (8)
- 7 In scuttle, coal's beginning to become hot fire (9)
- 8 Have sex with the French Yankee (7)
- 14 Cast the short line (9)
- 17 Approach the heads of country's official media executive (8)
- 19 Entirely in the centre of tribal lands (7)
- 22 World Wide Web free of charge (7)
- 23 Party style (6)
- 26 Announced mealtime (5)

Slot 6

Cryptic by Robespierre

Prize
\$50



Across

- 9 Assess before I and Charlie go in (5)
- 10 Redheads ordered to start fixing lost cause (4, 5)
- 11 Comedian meets monarch repeatedly, I bet (7)
- 12 Force members to produce small change (7)
- 13 Ready to drop trimmed down carbs in newfangled diet (5)
- 15 They deliver a farmhouse in France (3)
- 16 Coach tyre's not about to be pneumatic (5)
- 17 Device to slow down muscles (3)
- 19 New pub is filled with extreme woke idiots (7)
- 20 Snap in both directions (3)
- 22 One sucking up a drop of drink in amusement (5)
- 23 Whinger possibly in shock reversal? (3)
- 24 Bread is a means to get Japanese dough to rise (5)
- 26 Monk briefly bared all to get body shop? (7)
- 28 Spooner's dog played with rag (7)
- 31 Screening rate of motion, doctor may see health disorder (9)
- 32 Dictator back in charge produces provocative poster (5)

Down

- 1 Heave last stragglers onto seat (4)
- 2 Pilfer stuff in German warehouses (6)

- 3 Chaser possibly seen on your tail by group of workers (4)
- 4 European banker has pronounced smell (4)
- 5 Vanity of drug agent with wife lowering head (10)
- 6 Token shot (4)
- 7 Sleazebag with drink approaches slowly (6, 2)
- 8 Spotted compiler, devious concealing answer! (6)
- 13 Type of rose leaves (3)
- 14 Throne has denunciatory erotica scrubbed off (5)
- 15 Funds get around politician's absence to achieve control of markets! (10)
- 16 Barrier cordoned off top-secret bust (5)
- 18 Spooner's legume - wet plant found on sandy shores (3,5)
- 21 You might do this with a tap (3)
- 22 Prescribed by doctor for writer's block? (6)
- 25 Right-wing firm invested in gas (6)
- 27 Informal greeting - another always uplifting (4)
- 28 Vehicle heading towards crash (4)
- 29 Second-ranked star, in private, blew up (4)
- 30 Leaders of Lower Excise Party promoted unsuccessful presidential candidate (4)

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

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

Explanations for August 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 Leprechaun. Down: 1 WEE+P, 2 dd, 3 anag, 4 anag, 5 BAN+NAY<, 6 cd, 7 heads, 14 homoph "ere", 15 ASSAD in AMBO+R, 19 dd, 20 -C-O-N-, 21 cd, 23 OR in AURA, 24 homoph "seller", 28 hidden, 29 hidden.

Slot 2 Fraz. Phrases: Bread and butter; duck and cover; part and parcel; supply and demand; wait and see. **Across:** 9 OR + D(RANI<)Y, 11 anag, 12 E(LEG)Y, 13 (SUM) in REED, 15 F + DIET*, 20 hidden, 23 SH + TICK, 25 anag, 26 (PAGED + ART)<, 27 anag, 28 DAT< + SUN. **Down:** 1

(WE) in MORgue, 2 DO< + DES + T, 3 (GU(I)N) in LINE, 4 L in HAREM, 5 (MY< + N) in HALS, 6 I + MPS, 7 E + CAIRO*, 8 T in DUDES*, 10 S in INERT, 14 FL(A + K)IES + T, 16 CUE< + HR + E, 17 anag, 18 RET(a)IN A, 19 (A + Z) in HARD, 21 NA + CHOS(e), 22 E + THAN, 24 IDI + sayinG.

Slot 3 Valkyrie. Across: 1 SCoUT, 4 (C+MICRO FUR)*, 9 DI(AGO +N)AL, 10 FI(S)TS, 12 ROCKy, 13 SP+EC(TA)CLES, 15 SA+D+NESS, 16 bRUTUS< + E, 19 O(DE)SSA, 21 CHOLER+A, 23 (HEARTSICK+O)*, 25 nOTIce, 27 Hidden, 28 IN+VA+RED<+S, 29 TEST+(SLICE)*, 30 homoph "daily". **Down:** 2 (COIN for de) in DECIDE + D, 3 TOGa+S, 4 CAN+APE+S, 5 UN(LOCK)S, 6 IN+FRACTION, 7 O(USE)L, 8 Homoph "mews" containing ..I..+...S..., 11 dd, 14 (GROWS CHILE)*, 17 R(E)ENTER+ED, 18 TAW< + CH, 20 AS+O+LAIC<, 21 C+LEAVES, 22 w(ALL)ET, 24 T+ENDS, 26 I+DOLT.

Slot 4 Manveru. A (OR+MT<) in ASSENTS, **B** BUR+pUNDIt, **C** (CARRY OUT)* +D, **D** (DOG+A+NURSE)*, **E** f(EAST)+E-R-N, **F** COME< in FRAT, **G** G+R+E+E+D+Y, **H** HYPE+R, **I** I(tOWn)AN, **J** CD, **K** Spooner "key nap", **L** (I + QU) in RULES*, **M** (O + MENU + MOSTLY)*, **N** DD, **O** O+D+I+N, **P** Hidden, **Q** QU+O+D, **R** (AN+EDITOR)*, **S** GEMSTONES*-O, **T** HIDDEN, **U** UN+ (PrOPOSED)*, **V** VEE(p)+RING, **W** dd [white horse - wave], **X** X+ORGAN* in EFT, **Y** Y + (f)IELDS, **Z** NAZARITE*-T.

Slot 5 Crowsman. Across: 1 S(TORY)BOOK, 6 A FOOT, 10 RO(O)T + CROP, 11 LO(O)SER, 12 UP + ROOTS, 13 BOO + (i)RISH, 15 OFF + SHOOTs, 17 LOOTS<, 19 SPOOL<, 21 FOR(mETOO)TH, 24 SCH + TOOK, 25 ZOO(TO)M + (final)Y, 28 MOO + RED, 29 OO replaces I in OUTFITS, 30 S + HOOK, 31 (i)S + KIDPROOF.

Down: 2 (POOR + T)<, 3 (S + LOOTER)<, 4 BARS + TOOL, 5 (I)OOPS, 7 FOO + TROT, 8 OVERS + HOOT, 9 A + FOOL<, 14 ST(O)OP, 16 (OF HOT COLT)*, 18 BOOT in DEER<, 20 TROOP* + O + O, 22 OUT DOOR, 23 dd, 26 MET + (p)OO(l), 27 dd.

Free Memberships for Schools

A member has suggested that we could donate memberships to secondary schools. It could possibly go to an English teacher to be allocated at their discretion to a student or group of students. She suggests that this may winkle out future crossworders or at least expose otherwise unaware young people to the delights of crosswording.

The internet/email memberships would be without cost to the Club and seems an excellent idea. If any member has contacts with schools that may be interested, or ideas on how we might communicate the offer to a group of schools, members could sign up appropriate teachers via our website membership area or let Ian know of any suitable contacts.

Pearls of Wisdom?

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." - Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." - Clarence Darrow

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary." -William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway)

"Poor Faulkner. Does he really think big emotions come from big words?"- Ernest Hemingway (about William Faulkner)

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it." - Moses Hadas

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." - Mark Twain

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." - Oscar Wilde

"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend, if you have one. -George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill

"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one." - Winston Churchill, in response

M	E	M	B	E	R
	N	E	W	S	

Welcome to all our new members. We look forward to your contributions.

Donations to the ACC Prize Fund: Many thanks to our members, Karl Audrins, Claire Batum, Len Colgan, Michael Finemore and Robyn McKenzie who have generously made donations to the Prize Fund this month.

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

Find us on 

Join our Facebook group and discuss anything to do with words and puzzles. (No discussion of current prize puzzles please.)
Search for [Australian Crossword Club](#) or click the hyperlink

August 1: Leprechaun (Larry Kennedy)

- Loved 30 across. *Kate Williams*
- Good slot 1. *Roy Taylor*
- Having chosen EPISCOPATE for 11ac, 5dn had me scratching my head for a while. *Ian Thompson*
- Good warm up. 27ac had me thinking. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Great start to this month's puzzles! Love clue for LAST MINUTE! *Bev Cockburn*
- An enjoyable puzzle. *Barbara Ibbott*
- I enjoyed the semi-cryptic LAST MINUTE! *Robyn McKenzie*
- This was a challenging slot 1! *Fraser Simpson*
- Particularly liked the clue for 'Last-minute'. *Hilary Cromer*
- Reasonably challenging for slot 1. *Kathleen Harper*
- A good choice of clues and answers made for a great puzzle. *Lynn Jarman*
- Always an interesting challenge, Jean Evans

August 2: Fraz (Fraser Simpson)

- Nice puzzle. Enjoyed the imaginative variant of the barred grid that added challenge. *Ian McKenzie*
- Great fun! Wasn't until I saw MALLARD that it all fell into place. I especially liked GOAT and BUTTER. *Ann Millard*
- Nice new device but I had to back-solve the given pairs! *Andrew Patterson*
- Failed dismally on the phrases so no help to finishing this one accurately. Lots of guesses! *Judy Ferguson*
- An excellent puzzle. Good clues and a clever idea. *Ian Thompson*
- Interesting idea. *Julie Leigh*
- An unusual slot 2. Took a while, hope I worked it out. Thanks, Fraz, lots of fun. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Very clever. *Stephen Peach*
- More suited to slot 5. *Roy Taylor*
- Very clever. Bread & butter, Duck & cover, Part & parcel, Supply & demand, Wait & see. These expressions then gave rise to the words (in same order) Moolah & goat, mallard & shield, role & package, furnish & insist, linger & diocese. Rather tricky for a slot 2, but very enjoyable. *Julie Crowe*
- Exceptionally clever grid construction. *Len Colgan*
- Different. Accolade struggled a bit so typed once, checked twice. *Richard Skinner*
- Wow! what a doozy. *Kate Williams*
- A refreshing twist to the usual themed puzzle. SANTA was a great clue! *Mal Cockburn*
- Great idea for a puzzle, Fraz. I liked "place for a waiter" as a clueing device. It was also lovely to see Eroica clued - I happened to be listening to the 9th when I solved that clue, so it "struck a chord"! *Andrew Miles*
- It didn't bode well when I could only think of 2 of the phrases. Good fun, but rather challenging for a slot 2. *Ulla Axelsen*
- This was a very entertaining puzzle. *Michael Veress*
- Enjoyed the extra challenge in this puzzle. SHTICK is an interesting word! SANTA, however, is my COTM *Bev Cockburn*
- This wasn't a 'bread and butter' puzzle! Will have to 'wait and see' how I went. *Hilary Cromer*
- I absolutely loved this. Very clever, thanks Fraz. *Betty Siegman*
- You could characterise this puzzle as 'shock and awe': initial shock for the solver and (eventually) awe at the setter's ingenuity. *Kathleen Harper*
- I expect to have a typo or two because completing

the grid was very tricky. *Lynn Jarman*

August 3: Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)

- 30ac, LADY, was a favourite! *Ann Millard*
- A few tricky clues - I'm not sure about 25ac. Fingers crossed. I liked 30ac. *Mal Cockburn*
- Took me a while to parse COINCIDED. I liked the economy of the Spoonerism for LADY. *Andrew Miles*
- Some great clues in this puzzle, namely clues for DIAGONAL, INFRACTION, LADY and UNLOCKS! *Bev Cockburn*
- The usual male check before going out? 13ac, 29ac, 22dn? *Alan Dyer*

August 4: Manveru (Michael Kennedy)

- Enjoyed the puzzle, including the education on Marrowsky. Especially liked JUKEBOX. *Ian McKenzie*
- Always a favourite. FEMOCRAT was a new word for me. Thanks! *Ann Millard*
- Bridge over troubled words. I voted JUKEBOX COTM. *Roy Taylor*
- Rare &lit clues are always difficult to compile, but to achieve an &lit for such a tricky word as XENOGRAFT must earn COTM. I hope other members recognise it. Other excellent clues include D, F, T. *Len Colgan*
- Lot of work but lot of fun! *Judy Ferguson*
- Hyped or hyper? I settled for the latter, so hope I am right! *Nea Storey*
- The hype and plug connection took ages but that's half the fun so thanks Michael. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Some unusual words to hunt down. The H clue needed a leap of faith for the last letter, the X clue seems to lack a definition and the W clue took a while to link wave crest with a horse. Most enjoyable nonetheless. *Mal Cockburn*
- I particularly liked DANGEROUS, JUKEBOX, XENOGRAFT and, especially, READ INTO. Thanks, Manveru. *Andrew Miles*
- A good challenging AJ, but where does the bridge lead to? *Ulla Axelsen*
- Worthy AJ Loved clue for TUNDRA! *Bev Cockburn*
- Fun! I learned that a "white horse" is a type of wave. *Fraser Simpson*
- Tossed up between 'hyped' and 'hyper' so not sure if I've chosen the right one. *Hilary Cromer*
- A clever AJ - with a BRIDGE across the top (to nowhere in particular?). *Kathleen Harper*
- Eventually answers fell into place. Great puzzle. *Lynn Jarman*

August 5: Crowsman (Len Colgan)

- Enjoyable romp. Solving speeds up when you realise Crowsman has somehow managed that every clue contains the letters OO. *Ian McKenzie*
- Very clever. Thank you. *Ann Millard*
- oo that is clever. *David Bennett*
- Oo what a good puzzle. took a while to get WOODS. *Roy Taylor*
- Too cool, too smooth, too groovy. A cookie for Len! *Robyn Wimbush*
- Unbelievably, it took me quite a while to see the "oo" theme. Lovely puzzle. *Julie Crowe*
- Just about to give up when I spotted the ooze and the mud cleared! *Toby McLeay*

Continued on page 16

Name

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A 15x15 grid with a complex black and white pattern, likely representing a binary image or a specific data set. The pattern consists of various black and white squares arranged in a non-uniform, somewhat symmetrical fashion.

1	2		3		4		5		6		7		8	
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29									30					



Quiz 9-2023 A Potpourri of Australian Flowers! by KA

Answers are in alphabetical order. Send your answers to Karlis Audrins, karlishane@optusnet.com.au or 10 Elizabeth Parade, Charlestown NSW 2290. Closing mail date Friday 25 August 2023.

- 1 Drink behind tree (9)
- 2 Exclude sound (6)
- 3 Hotel was successful(6)
- 4 Coloured tissue (4,3)
- 5 Recycled iron found in snake (7)
- 6 Cloak covers damaged maps (8)
- 7 Fool father and dig (9)
- 8 Gary's stream (7,5)
- 9 Decor really hides it (6)
- 10 Exists in time (5)
- 11 Bird with offspring (6)
- 12 Colour returned, then disappeared (7)
- 13 One male between two girls (10)
- 14 Girl keeps measurement (8)
- 15 Informer with drug (5)
- 16 Discoverers have left (8)
- 17 Good ancient framework (6,6)
- 18 Boy next to girl (7)
- 19 Old time-keeper (6)
- 20 Quarrel and eat (7)
- 21 Woman swallows metal (7)
- 22 Resin covers the Italian (5)
- 23 Luck is not working (5)
- 24 Odd about fish (6)
- 25 Kitchen appliances (5)
- 26 Drug inside musical instrument (8)
- 27 Decorate British P.M. (4,5)
- 28 Majestic, sad instrument (5,8)
- 29 Horrible – nothing in on time (6)
- 30 Struggle with a returned beaver (7)

Report on Quiz 2023-8 Race to Acre – take Care! by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen)

Entries received: 31 Correct: 25 Success Rate 81%

Winner: Julie Leigh. Congratulations!

Results: 26 P Abbott, W Allen, J Barbour, J Crowe, J Evans, J Fowler, P Garner, B Glissan, K Harper, R Jarman, J Leigh, F Martin, C McClelland, A Miles, A Millard, A Patterson, S Pinder, D Procter, W Ryan, A Simons, F Simpson, N Storey, R Taylor, M Veress, R

Wimbush. **25** B Cockburn, D Grainger, D Meek, M Procter, J Randall. **24** I Mason.

Answers: 1 Accessory 2 Bracket (Accrete) 3 Career 4 Casserole 5 Declare 6 Exacerbate 7 Fracture 8 Grievance 9 Hurricane 10 Intolerance 11 Jerrycan 12 Kitchenware 13 Lachrymose 14 Massacre 15 Necessary 16 Outreach 17 Parlance 18 Practice 19 Quackery 20 Recreation (Racketball) 21 Scramble 22 Truncate 23 Unclear 24 Variance 25 Wisecrack 26 Yeast Extract

Compiler's Observations

Thanks for all the lovely comments. I know the title was a give away but as a couple of people mentioned, it would have been tough without it. 'Racketball' was entered just as often as 'recreation' for #20 and of course it is quite acceptable as is 'accrete' for #2. There were a couple of different entries for some other clues, some I just couldn't justify and others that had the wrong word length. It is always lovely to receive some entries by snail mail, and judging by the date sent and the date received, it sure is 'snail'.

Solvers' Feedback

- You gave the 'race' away, too easily! Could have been quite tough without the big hint. Thank you! *William Ryan*
- Thank you for another great quiz. *Ann Millard*
- Thank you for the quiz, all using the letters ACER. Nice to be able to do a quiz without resorting to Google! *Nea Storey*
- An interesting difference, thanks. *Ian Mason*
- Many thanks for yet another interesting quiz. *Julie Crowe*
- Thanks for another great quiz which I very much enjoyed. *Bev Cockburn*
- This was a good brain tester. For some reason I took ages to think of 'scramble'. *Roy Taylor*
- Thank you for yet another of your ingenious quizzes! *David Grainger*
- Thank you once again for devising an interesting challenge. Believe it or not the one that gave me the most trouble was casserole, I nearly went with croustade but decided that was merely a carrier for a savoury dish. *Julie Leigh*
- Thanks so much for another enjoyable quiz. *Judy Randall*
- As usual an interesting quiz, how do you do it all? You must not have any free time. So thank you for all your hard work. *Marian Procter*
- The title was a pretty big clue but, then, it would have been well nigh impossible without the hint. Good fun. *Jim Fowler*
- It was a bit of light-hearted fun. *Pat Garner*
- As much fun as usual, thank you. Scramble was a surprise and 14 says it all. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Thanks for a very challenging quiz. *Claire McClelland*
- I enjoyed your quiz! Carefully, of course. *Fraser Simpson*
- Thank you for the August quiz - lots of fun tracking down the answers. *Ron Jarman*
- Thank you for your fun and interesting quiz. I'm not sure I have all the answers but I did enjoy trying! *Jean Barbour*
- Keep them coming. *Barbara Glissan*
- Thanks for another great quiz. I had to race (actually, scramble) to finish it. *Kath Harper*
- Thanks for this quiz. Clever clue in the quiz title and then a good workout for the grey matter in finding answers. *Frank Martin*

August 6-2023 Just (a) Jigsaw by Eclogue (Eddie Looby and Keith Williams)

**Entries received 46; Correct 34; Success rate 74%.
Prizewinner: Frank Martin. Congratulations!**

Compiler's observations

Jumping Jellybeans, a crossword with words and phrases all starting with J? Jeepers! It was pleasing to see so few errors (some of which were clearly typos) in a reasonably difficult puzzle. Eclogue puzzles tend to fall into one of two 'self-titled' categories: ones revolving around a discrete theme and others that we see as 'quirks' (e.g. letters in a certain order, words within words etc.). This particular 'quirk' puzzle, like so many, started with the question, "I wonder if it's possible to..." and as it turned out, it was – Jammy, or what? Whether other letters are similarly accommodating may be a Journey for another time.

Wordlists and electronic aids help considerably in the compilation of such puzzles these days, but they are not Judicious enough, particularly with the need to eliminate common Junction sequences. For example, initial attempts had rather a lot of JANET / JAMES / JAPED / JADED etc. combinations which would not have made for a unique solution.

The Juxtaposition of solutions is not the only problem. Clueing "J" umpteen times would be Jarring to say the least, hence the decision to eliminate from the wordplay entirely, leaving Just the remainder.

Apologies are of course due to the erroneous anagram fodder for JUS PRIMAE NOCTIS which should have been "...romanticises up...", but got mangled in the various iterations and no-one spotted this until you eagle-eyed Jurors began giving your verdicts. As a consequence, we have agreed that any errors in this entry (providing no crossing word is also affected) will not be deprived of a dot. Hopefully, Justice is served."

Explanations (in clue order) [J]AIRBUS*, [J]H in ACCUS(e), [J]A + CO + BUSES, [J]IN in AA, [J](PLANE + ARENA + SENT)*, [J](NEAP SEAS)*, [J](AC + A) in ARARS, [J]EER + ING, [J]HE< + homoph "ova", [J]E + [J]NU< + MU<, [J]ERE + Z, [J]ES + US, [J]EU + NE, [J]EWE + LED, [J]I + ME + ZEN<; ref: Jimenez 1956 Laureate, [J]OCULAR, [J]O+RUM, [J](CACTUS EXTERIOR)*, [J]U + ICIER, [J]U + [J]US, [J](UP + MAST)*, [J]UNE + ERR in BY, [J](ROMANTIC SIR'S UP)*, [J]LUSTED*.

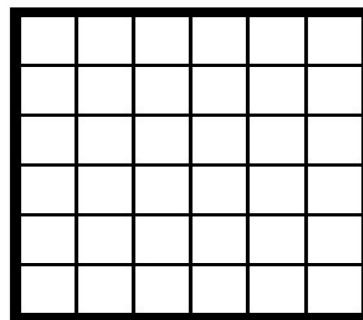
Solvers' Feedback

- An enjoyable puzzle. Impressive setting. *Ian Thompson*
- Took me ages to work out what was going on but then JAPANESE LANTERN and JABIRUS appeared. A fun challenge! *Ann Millard*
- Jee, that was hard. Is the anagram correct for jus primae noctis? *Roy Taylor*
- Goodness, what a puzzle! I do love a challenge, and this was certainly a challenge. Lots of new words for me too. *Julie Crowe*
- A very interesting and enjoyable take on a jigsaw puzzle with lots of good clues. However, for the last 15 letter clue, I've entered "jus primae noctis" even though the anagram fodder [romantic sir's up] has two Rs and no E. "Prima" is the only spelling of the word in the phrase that I have found and there is no Latin declension of Prima (first) to primar. Also, I think "Jeweled" needed a US indicator. Club references have "jewelled" *Andrew Meek*
- Not happy about JEUNE - it breaks the mould.

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

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

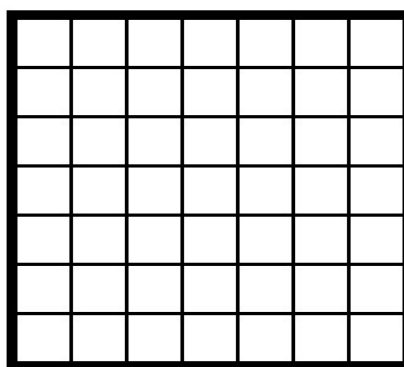
- Couch becomes tattered at the edges, we hear
- Gutless guest comes out with opinion pieces
- Identical articles about awfully rank city near the old Hittite capital
- Repeatedly visits university in county bordering Wiltshire
- Robust academic report describing resistance
- Truck usually equipped with flap



FRAZ WORD SQUARE 7-Sep (Solution on p 14)

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

- Bit of salt with organ meat's thin slices
- Dad vanished around eastern starting point (2 wds.)
- Enduring in obsolete RNA lab
- Fall behind beat-up Renault (2 wds.)
- Immunologist's concern: Ann's hugging bobtailed tiger
- Studies see how cities are populated
- Understood Germany's leader spoke with a rough voice



Learned many new words, thank you both. *Robyn Wimbush*

- How someone can compose such a puzzle beats me! This one stretched by capacity significantly and I'm sure there are mistakes - but I feel very satisfied that I've come up with a completed puzzle. *Judy Randall*
- Interesting puzzle. Despite working out the missing J early on (read the title!) it actually didn't help that much. A contrast to slot 7 where finding the theme made it a straightforward process to solve. *Richard Skinner*
- Wow! That was a challenge! *Julie Leigh*

Continued on page 16

August 7-2023: Crowsman's Corner by Crowsman (Len Colgan)

Entries 61; Correct 53; Success rate 87%.
Prizewinner: David Procter. Congratulations!

Adjudicator's Comments: Fortunately, all of the native Americans are in Chambers, except for OGLALA which is in Collins, for example (hence the comment in the rubric). This style of puzzle results in very few errors.

Explanations. The Across answers are NATIVE AMERICANS

Across: 9 CH(IN)OOK, 10 OHARA< around PA, 11 O + SAGE, 12 ALONG* + QUIN, 13 homoph of 'shy Anne', 14 GO< + LA-LA, 19 APAC(Hoon)E, 21 CO + MANCHE(ster), 25 ME + NOMINEE, 26 C(A)RIB, 27 SHAW + NEE, 28 CHO(CAT*)W. **Down:** 1 CHOICE, with E moving to top, 2 LI(GAME)NT, 3 CO(HE)RE, 4 UK + RAIN+ (IN A)*, 5 CAR + GO, 6 NANNY + GAI, 7 RAG + USA, 8 BOS(NINA*)S, 15 RED + O(LE)NCE, 16 NEAR + MISS, 17 VE(HE-MEN)T, 18 A + C(CU)RATE, 20 ANNU(A)L, 22 hidden, 23 EL + BOWS, 24 ANNE + X.

Solvers' feedback:

- A very impressive effort to create the grid. *Ian Thompson*
- I bet you couldn't have done that with the names of Aboriginal nations *David Bennett*
- Loved it! Great fun. *Judy Ferguson*
- I had not heard of some of these tribes. Very entertaining puzzle. *Roy Taylor*
- Some lovely clues here. Oglala gave me a lot of grief. It was actually quite straightforward, but I couldn't find it anywhere. *Julie Crowe*
- Fascinating. Unfortunately I know many more Native American tribe names than Native Australian ones. Good one Len. *Robyn Wimbush*
- What I like about your challenges is that once one finds the answer you are not left in doubt. They are so well clued. *Julie Leigh*
- Very hard - and I certainly didn't know all the Native Americans before! *Nea Storey*
- With enough down clues solved, some of the across clues started to appear, and soon the hidden theme was uncovered. Relatively 'easy' after that (for a CROWSMAN puzzle, that is!). I don't understand 15d but I'm sure it will be explained. *Mal Cockburn*
- Started with 16d and then 19ac and all fell into place. Clues very succinct and well crafted. *Ulla Axelsen*
- I enjoyed researching the Native American tribes, some well known, but others very new to me. Thank you Crowsman for the brain exercise *Maureen Blake*
- OGLALA was new to me. *Michael Veress*
- Wow! Another wonderful puzzle with an interesting theme. Thank you to Chambers Crossword Lists for helping me with the more obscure tribes! Another triumph from the Crowsman! *Bev Cockburn*
- I'm from Canada, so I had a distinct advantage in this one! *Fraser Simpson*
- A very interesting puzzle featuring Native Americans. *Laurence Kennedy*

Solution to August Slot 7

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

Solution WORD SQUARE 6-43

W	E	E	T	E
E	S	S	E	L
E	S	R	O	C
T	S	U	J	A
S	O	E	D	R
E	C	L	E	O

Solution WOtRD SQUARE 7-18

L	L	E	S	N	D
L	N	R	E	T	E
E	N	O	E	G	P
S	R	E	V	I	S
N	E	G	I	T	A
E	A	T	N	L	R
D	P	E	S	A	G

- Luckily I got 16ac; and then the search was on. Good one Len. *Betty Siegman*
- Challenging! I only solved OGLALA because of an American dictionary! *Anne Simons*
- Thanks Len for introducing me to some American Indian tribes I hadn't heard of before this. An interesting puzzle *Jean Evans*

Slot 7

Showdown by Flowerman

Prize
\$50

In four across clues the wordplay does not account for one of the answer's letters; in four other across clues an extra word must be removed before solving. The letters and words in clue order should lead solvers to a) letters that can be arranged to produce a name (7), and b) words which suggest another name (6). Identifying the names should enable the solver to complete the unclued 8 down.

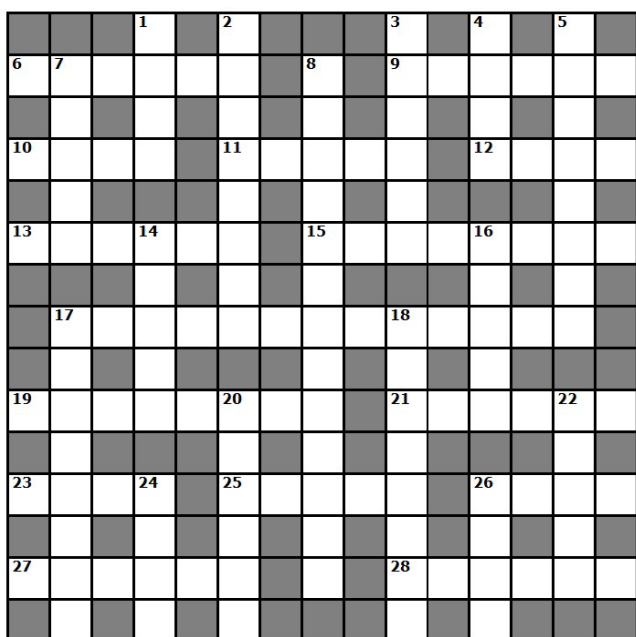
Across

- 6 Look into initial ground preparation (6)
- 9 Henry probing upper-class couple after disappearance of piano wax (6)
- 10 A bird occupied in a task (2,2)
- 11 Section of tissue lining reflected intestinal problem (5)
- 12 She finally posted off old letters (4)
- 13 Noon crowd shocked after women scratched Scandinavian (6)
- 15 Competently Oscar's letters covering point about rolling (4-2-2)
- 17 American fully converted parents with issue (7,6)
- 19 One in a canoe at sea is Polynesian, maybe (8)
- 21 Geoff, having time on vacation for golf, driving here? (3-3)
- 23 European down after losing recipe. Look! (4)
- 25 Incumbent suggesting banishing imp (5)
- 26 Person missing in town north of Eden (4)
- 27 Perhaps Buzz left clues with director in Iran somehow (6)

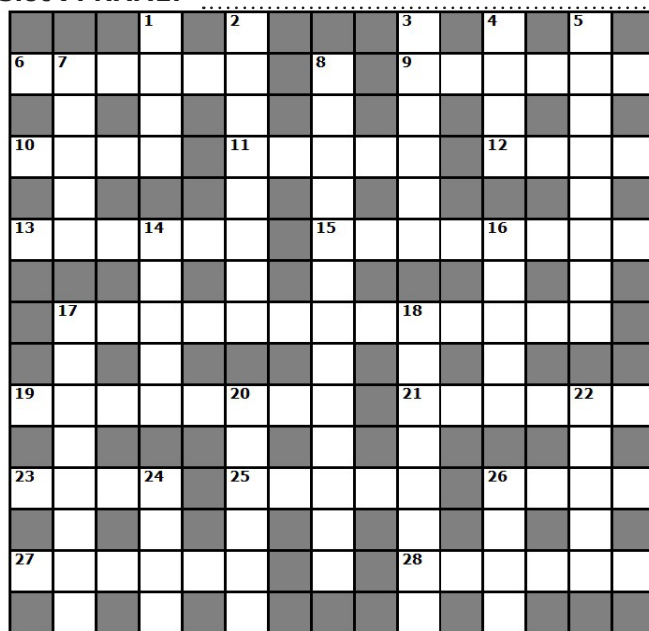
- 28 Male parting late after resolving possible location of lab (2,4)

Down

- 1 Delete final letter from composer's inventory (4)
- 2 Odd cleric sent extremely deficient girdle (8)
- 3 Girl upset after short exclamation of rebuke about a cough (6)
- 4 Sections removed from papers for you (4)
- 5 Potentially good hay diet lasting over a week (5-3)
- 7 Resolved to perform better (5)
- 8 See preamble
- 14 US lawyer put on tea in cottage (5)
- 16 Inebriated pirate losing American's moonshine (5)
- 17 Klim uncovered no clue about bodies in cells (8)
- 18 Euan wasting energy chasing giant bats (West Indian) (8)
- 20 Relaxing on Independence Day with Heather (6)
- 22 Gifu guesthouse requiring musical work (5)
- 24 Urge Drake to do without abnormally eager Syrian (4)
- 26 Negative response after husband introduced beatnik (4)



Slot 7: NAME:



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

Members Feedback Slot 5
- continued from page 10

- Oh Oh, a theme! Good job too. It stopped me making an error. *Richard Skinner*
- I love your challenges with a theme, thank you. *Julie Leigh*
- Not until I was typing my answers into Accolade did I realise that every answer contains a double O. Particularly liked the clue for ME TOO. *Nea Storey*
- Typically for me, I solve most of a puzzle before I realize what's going on, so the 'OO's hit me with only a few clues left. 28ac MOORED is a standout clue for me & COTM but 6ac AFOOT is a close second. *Mal Cockburn*
- Once 'OO' was discovered, it was more or less a case of fitting clue to word. Very clever compiling. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Ooh! I really enjoyed finding the "oo" words. I saw fairly early, after solving the top right-hand corner, that ALL words had oo. Congratulations for that alone! My favourite clue was for AFOOT! *Bev Cockburn*
- That's a lot of O's to pack into one grid! *Fraser Simpson*
- Ooh, what an interesting puzzle! *Caroline Mackay-Sim*
- Ooooo... some tricky ones there! Hope I got 'em! *Judy Ferguson*
- Clever puzzle Crowsman. It must have taken a bit of time to create. It certainly helped me to solve it once I realised all the answers had OO in them. *Hilary Cromer*
- Once the theme was discovered, this became a great puzzle with so many clues deserving to be COMs. *Lynn Jarman*
- Ooh. Good cloos. *Alan Dyer*
- Ooh; goody; another sooper-doooper Crowsman puzzle. *Kath Harper*

Slot 6 Feedback - continued from page 13

- What a feat - a crossword with every answer beginning with J! Hard enough to answer, let alone compile. *Nea Storey*
- Didn't take me long to realize something odd with the first letters, so it was the second letters that needed to be worked on. Very hard to place all the answers into the grid, and it took a lot of trial and error to get them right. Great puzzle by Eclogue! *Mal Cockburn*
- Jumping Jehosaphat! *Warren Allen*
- Sat for quite a while getting nowhere. Then I suddenly got 4 clues and bingo, I knew what to look for. A lot of dictionary trawling, lucky there's not many J words. Very clever. Lucky we don't live in 'jus primae noctis' times. *Ulla Axelsen*
- Even when I finally worked out the answers began with j this was very difficult as many of words I had never heard of before this puzzle. Glad to have completed it however. *Maureen Blake*
- Should "Former legal intervention in congress" be "Jus primae noctis"? The apparent anagram part of the clue [romantic sir's up] doesn't seem right. *Michael Veress*

Clue-writing competition.
- continued from page 17

applied to several topical issues.

Top Evangelical priest seen dancing in club to smash hit ***

This clue is an anagram of *e/priest* inside *mace* (club). *Top Evangelical* for E could be better rendered as *Evangelical's top*, as the latter literally translates as 'top of evangelical'. A novel definition that goes nicely with a dancing club.

Young son of a US president (not Republican), a consummate example of excellence ****

We finish with a perfectly parsed clue that connects *master* with *piece*. It certainly helps to know your US presidents. Franklin Pierce is the one in question, so hats off to those of you who know your US history. I do love the fact that he was indeed not a Republican. Somewhat unfortunately, the actual son of the current president does not seem to be upholding this ideal.

Clue-Writing Competition Scoring System

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

Clue-writing - September Competition: For the next competition, please write a clue for the word **ELASTIC (7)** complete with explanation. Send your entries to Andrew Patterson email to mcandap@bigpond.net.au or mail to 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046. Entries close 13 October 2023.

- Jeepers, this was difficult! *Bev Cockburn*
- Great job but I couldn't justify two answers. Not confident on a dot. *Andrew Patterson*
- This was tricky to get a start on the grid. One of my long entries doesn't match the anagram given unless an E becomes an R, and another clue I couldn't parse, but the dictionary's def looked like a match. Fingers crossed! *Fraser Simpson*
- A very challenging puzzle. Three days before I could work out any clues! Thank you for the challenge. *Sonia Roulston*
- From someone whose first name starts with J thankyou for so many wonderful and unusual words starting with that letter!! *Jean Evans*
- Jeepers! 'Just a Jigsaw' they call it. Jolly hard work, I say. *Kath Harper*

July Clue Writing Competition Adjudicated by Michael Kennedy

Write a clue for MASTERPIECE (11)

Definition from Chambers (12th edition) **n** *A piece of work worthy of a master; one's greatest achievement.* The term *masterpiece* originally applied to a work of the highest standard produced to gain membership of a craft guild. Nowadays, it is widely applied to anything from cinema to culinary creations. With over 30% of the clues related to the latter, it's clear where the interests of most cruciverbalists lie. And indeed, the winning clue does come from the crossword kitchen of Jenny Wenham. Congratulations Jenny on a most savoury clue,

Creamiest escallop extremely well cooked for chef d'oeuvre (11)

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

Break-in colt (at the 'Classic') ***^{1/2}

We start with a toughie. While the synonym parsing formula is a simple one, it's not a given to get *master* from break-in and then *piece* from colt (as in the gun), but it does work. A minor point, but the hyphenated 'break-in' appears to relate to the crime of illegally entering a building. The definition *classic* works well, particularly as its wonderfully disguised around a horse-racing theme. Not sure why the brackets were needed here.

Cooked creme pate is like Van Gogh's smoked herrings ****

The first of many culinary clues – this one a simple anagram recipe using *cream/pate/is* as the fodder. Cleverly, the compiler has connected the definition by selecting one of Van Gogh's culinary works. It's debateable as to whether this work is one of his masterpieces, as it's not as widely known as *The Starry Night* or *Irises*, say, but perhaps that is left to the eyes of the beholder.

Constable rumbled mushroom by stream with info *

This fungi course was a little difficult to digest (sorry, I couldn't resist). In essence it's an anagram, but unfortunately contains some indirect fodder (*cepe* – mushroom – SOED for this less common spelling for *cep*). It is then mixed with *stream* and *I* (Info). I couldn't find a reference for this last abbreviation. The other problem here lies in the definition. Constable (John) is a famous artist for sure, but obviously not a masterpiece in himself.

Creamiest escallop extremely well cooked for chef d'oeuvre ****

Here we have a scrummy second course served up with an anagram of *creamiest/ep*. The definition *chef d'oeuvre* is perfect as it maintains the culinary theme. Cream and scallops also go very well together, especially with garlic and a glass of white wine. Of course typically one would be cooking and serving more than one scallop, although there are giant ones apparently.

Drawing a gun on the artist ***

Here we have an economical charade clue with *piece* (gun) on *master* (artist). While a drawing can indeed

be a masterpiece, it can also anything but, so the definition, while sublimely disguised, ideally should have something more to indicate that it's not just *any* drawing.

It is a great achievement to thoroughly understand the weapon ***^{1/2}

A simple but seamless charade that again uses synonyms for both *master* and *piece*. The surface rendering reads well. Perhaps 'the' could have been omitted without upsetting the clue, but otherwise this is a fine clue.

Male star with part in work of art ***

This idea had the makings of a terrific clue as all the elements can be linked to an actor in a classic movie. What's missing is just finding the optimal wording, particularly with the definition. Perhaps 'a classic film' or something like that. Another minor issue is using obsolete definitions – 'aster' in Chambers is listed as a 'star' but is obsolete. That doesn't prohibit one from using it – it does however need to be indicated as such (e.g. old, former, once etc.)

Maestro almost modified part in somebody's greatest work ***

This clue uses an anagram of *maestr* is *maestr* joined to 'piece' (part) to come up with *masterpiece*. While *maestro* is closely related linguistically to *master*, the clue reads well. One option instead of 'somebody's greatest work', is to look for an actual musical masterpiece that would fit the definition as an example of a masterpiece.

Predominant church acquires Florentine work of art ****

Here we have *master*(predominant)/*pie/ce*. The adoption of *florentine* is masterful as it fits the clue's theme perfectly. A lovely clue.

Secret American pie is about to become someone's greatest achievement ***

Another foodie clue with an anagram of *secret/am/pie*. The indicator 'is about' would be okay for one element, but we have three, so it's not grammatically correct as it needs to be plural in this instance. It's handy to reread the clue as a recipe direction to see if it all makes sense.

Soup recipe - team's creation **^{1/2}

It wouldn't be a dinner without a soup course. This is a simple anagram of *recipe/teams*. However, the anagram indicator 'soup' is a noun and doesn't direct the 'cook' to mix. 'Soupy' would have been a preferable choice here.

The mixed meats recipe was a chef d'oeuvre **^{1/2}

This dish is a mixture of *meats* and *recipe* as indicated by *mixed*. The definition is fine of course, but 'is' would be preferable to 'was'. 'The' at the start of the clue is superfluous, even if it's padding the surface sense.

To overcome division is one's greatest achievement ****

A simple but smooth two-step charade that seamlessly slides into the definition that's straight out of the dictionary. It's probably coincidental but could easily be

continued on page 16