



|N|o.|3|3|6| |A|P|R|I|L| |2|0|1|8|



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Of two possible words, always choose the lesser.
Paul Valery, early 20C, 'Advice to the Writer' in *Odds and Ends*.

|G|R|I|D|A|T|O|R|I|A|L|

|F|R|O|M| |T|H|E|
|A|D|J|U|D|I|C|A|T|O|R|

On 8 April 2018, the ACC celebrates its 28th Anniversary. It's been 28 years of brilliant and inspired crosswords, quizzes and puzzles of all sorts. And the ACC is thriving 28 years on! We are sincerely grateful to our Founders for their history-making contributions to the Cruciverbal Art in Australia. We also thank our valued contributors: David Stickleby (Puzzle set-up person No 2), Bev Cockburn (Second Secretary), Ian Williams (our current Puzzle Editor) and Patrick Street who has been our President since 1992 and has published our exciting monthly magazine *Crozworld* for almost 18 years. Well done to you all! Here's to another 28 years of success and puzzling perplexity! Many Happy Returns!

Our outstanding Puzzle Editor **Ian Williams** has selected a Special set of puzzles for this Anniversary month starting with a Half 'n Half by *InGrid*. In Slots 2 & 3 we feature puzzles by our famed compilers *Murphyslore* and *Barney Naga* and *Crowsman* has contributed another challenging cryptic AJ in Slot 4. Our brilliant *Zplig* has given us another perfect Cryptic puzzle and *Zinzan* has furnished us with an excellent Slot 6 Double Cryptic puzzle. Brian Symons has provided another wonderful Quiz called *A Quiz for you?*

We sincerely thank all of our Compilers, Adjudicators and Members for making the ACC such a Special Club over the past 28 years. Happy Anniversary and our Best Easter wishes to you all! —Patrick

Rumours that *Crozworld* has gone to the dogs are greatly exaggerated, but there was no doubt some of our setters adopted a canine theme for March like a dog with two tails! At first I assumed it was referencing the Year of the Dog in the Chinese calendar which began on 16 February but, with two references to BLUE HEELERS, I wondered whether it might equally be referencing the National Sheep Dog Trials which were also on in March in Hall, ACT!

Slot 1: *Flowerman* was the mystery compiler of the rare barred grid in Slot 1, revealed by a Nina starting near the NW corner. A well-solved puzzle with a number of missed dots resulting from nothing more than submitting an incomplete puzzle with blank unchecked letters – eg, ?ERAL, SK?M & U?FAIR. PROMISE would have been accepted for PREMISE but would have made ESKY wrong.

Slot 2: A homage to mediocrity (meant in the nicest possible way!), *Katydid's* well-received Slot 2 was also generally well-solved, with a misspelling of ABSEIL accounting for several misses. GRAND MUFTI eluded some solvers, who opted for GRAND SUITS, which might have been impressive street clothes but had no connection to a "Muslim VIP". IDEM was accepted for the intended ITEM. While DEFEATISM is, indeed, a negative outlook, it did not meet the required anagram of FETA DIETS.

Slot 3: *St Jude's* puzzle had a few tricky clues. By far the trickiest was JISM ("energy") required for 4dn – JINGOISM minus IN+GO. SCURRY was also offered for the required SQUIRT, which involved the unusual word for a whip – QUIRT. UNCOUPLED probably would have been accepted for the clued DECOUPLED, but it made DOOM unsolvable.

Slot 4: JUROR and HURON were, of course, interchangeable in their location in *KA's* innovative and challenging grid. *KA's* puzzle elicited the most errors for a single word – KEATS for the required KELTS. An ELT is a young sow. Even if John Keats had been Irish, it would not have been enough to save a dot. It was surprising to get DEPUTISES for the required DEPUTISED, when the clue had past tense all over it. The quaint word for a nozzle (TWEER) was T(WEE)R.

Slot 5: *Valkyrie's* thematic had dogs everywhere, including a clever SETTER reference in 8dn. At least nine of the clues/solutions had canine references. 12ac (Darling dog is a mutt) was crying out for NONG and I was actually pleasantly surprised there wasn't more of them. The clue was a reference to NANA, the Newfoundland nurse of the 3 Darling children in *Peter Pan*. 29ac HUNDREDS ("listen to CCCCcs ...") was well-solved.

COTM: On the whole, it was an enjoyable and challenging month's puzzles with lots of great clues. *Valkyrie's* SETTER was COTM, pipping her own HUNDREDS by one vote. *Katydid's* INCA and *St Jude's* CASTRATI also had support. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to see a man about a dog.....A happy and safe Easter to all! —Andrew Miles

|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |F|I|G|U|R|E|S|

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	98	103	96	91	91	479
Correct entries	87	84	68	58	76	373
Success rate (%)	82.8	81.6	70.8	63.7	83.5	77.9
Prizewinners	Barbara Glissan	Ann Millard	Julie Crowe	Robyn Caine	Warren Allen	from 105 members

Prizewinner: March 2018 Slots 1-5: Michael Kennedy. Congratulations!

|L|E|A|D|I|N|G| |L|I|G|H|T|S|

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|H|I|G|H|L|I|G|H|T|S|

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March 1-2018

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

March 2-2018

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

March 3-2018

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

March 4-2018

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

March 5-2018

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

Feb 6-2018

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

ACC MEMBERS RESULTS FOR March 2018 Slots 1-5 & February Slot 6

MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6
Abbott P.		*					Greenberger O.	*	*			*		Milton R.	*					
Allen W.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Hagan B.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Moline R.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Anderson C.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Hagan R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	O'Brien E.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Audrins K.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Hambling C.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Parsons D.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Axelsen U.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Harper K.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Patterson A.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Barbour J.	*						Hearn R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Pearce J.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Barnes J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Hemsley D.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Perrow H.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Baylis J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Heyes N.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Pinder S.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bennett D.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Hocking A.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Potts M.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Blake M.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Horadam K.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Procter D.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Caine R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Howat S.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Procter M.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Carpenter R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Howells S.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Pyc M.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Carroll L.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Ibbott B.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Randall J.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Coates D.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Jarman L.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Roddick M.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cockburn B.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Jones D.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Rolfe G.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cole G.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Kennedy L.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Roulston S.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Colgan L.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Kennedy M.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Ryan W.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Collins M.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Lankshear J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Schulz J.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Coote P.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Lee C.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Shield A.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Copland F.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Leeds G.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Siegman B.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Coulton L.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Leigh J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Simons A.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cowan M.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Lemon G.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Skinner R.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cromer H.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Lobson V.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Smith J.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Crowe J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Lord P.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Storey N.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dearie P.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Mackay-Sim C.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Symons B.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dennis M.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Madden J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Taylor R.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dobele T.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Martin A.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Taylor S.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Douglas R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Martin F.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Thompson I.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ducker R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Mason I.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Tickle B.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Evans J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Mathews S.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Tofoni B.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fisher K.	*	*	*	*	*	*	McClelland C.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Wenham J.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fowler J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	McKenzie I.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Wilcox C.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Garner P.	*	*	*	*	*	*	McKenzie R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Williams K.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gillett-Ferguson J.	*	*	*	*	*	*	McPherson T.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Wimbush R.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Glissan B.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Meek D.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Wood J.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gooderick R.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Miles A.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Young A.	*	*	*	*	*	*
Grainger D.	*	*	*	*	*	*	Millard A.	*	*	*	*	*	*							

A P R I L 2 0 1 8 S L O T 1
Half 'n Half by InGrid


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

Across

- 1 Worthless (4-3-7)
- 10 Alas (5)
- 11 Get back at (9)
- 12 Case (7)
- 13 Reap (7)
- 14 Pattern (5)
- 16 Tramps (9)
- 19 Serious offence (6,3)
- 20 Monotony (5)
- 22 Small people (7)
- 25 Element (7)
- 27 Plant collection (9)
- 28 Contaminate (5)
- 29 Rascal (14)

Down

- 2 Smolder at abstract painter (3,6)
- 3 Finish the dishes, before the water will disappear (3,2)
- 4 Baffled lovers use us (9)
- 5 We cannot change part of this score (5)
- 6 Acceptable role lost in picture (9)
- 7 Representation of alter ego? (5)
- 8 Ghost goes astray with alien in slums (7)
- 9 Bridge players abound with honour (6)
- 15 Expose large current to illumination (9)
- 17 Affable host of civilised people (9)
- 18 Interminable when not in fine shape (3-6)
- 19 Book cut after finish (7)
- 21 Occupant is popular friend (6)
- 23 Captor silently holding trunks (5)
- 24 Braggart has no time for athlete (5)
- 26 Add raise to tally (3,2)

Slots 1-5: Veniece Lobsey, "Inala" MS 7, Dubbo NSW 2830.
 e-mail: veniecejl@hotmail.com
 Closing mail date: Friday 27 April 2018.

Slot 6: Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046
 e-mail: mcandap@bigpond.net.au
 Closing mail date: Friday 11 May 2018.

For Online entry, submission and adjudication of all puzzles
 via ACCOLADE click on www.crosswordclub.org/accolade/

S E N D S O L U T I O N S T O :

G O O D G R I D S P A G E 11
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A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		2

Cryptic by Murphyslore



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

Across


- 1 In the morning Father French discovered a unit (6)
- 4 Each pick in error could lead to a legume (8)
- 10 Clumsy mad tailor in review (9)
- 11 The content of "Dover Times" is open to scrutiny (5)
- 12 This impetuous person may have a high temperature (7)
- 13 Misguidedly, I leer at the artist's workshop (7)
- 14 Popular record, with time, becomes inappropriate (5)
- 15 Biased, impossible figure (3-5)
- 18 Arrange bond, OK? Or find an opening device (8)
- 20 Dance in a state of being disregarded or forgotten (5)
- 23 A mother worker could be inflexible (7)
- 25 Intellectual strength ought to contain a concept (7)
- 26 No time to loiter haphazardly by the river (5)
- 27 Awkward sick soldierly pose (3,2,4)
- 28 Come together with Spanish border (8)
- 29 Unties knots? The opposite! (6)

Down

- 1 Prepare church display – may be easy! (8)
- 2 Friend and French alien returning artist's equipment (7)
- 3 Communist, me? It's a dog (3,6)
- 5 Row to the battle vigorously as a means of warming up, perhaps (3,5,6)
- 6 Work to be done in ranch or estate (5)
- 7 Assumption before me is included (7)
- 8 Anger after reduced attention to clothes (6)
- 9 Idle, worthless person is not bad at no cost (4,3,7)
- 16 Sick! Got half a score illegally (3-6)
- 17 Defensive structure for lock (8)
- 19 Speech relating to circular allotment (7)
- 21 Admit I'm rising above a traveller (7)
- 22 Fish left in charge of a herb (6)
- 24 Earthed components, without High Definition, found on ridge (5)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Many thanks to the club for my quiz prize. It arrived two days after my birthday so softened that blow. Also thank you for the wonderful accompanying certificate. Brian Symons
- Many thanks for the prize for February's Slot 4. The hand that wrote the cheque never wavers. Denis Coates
- Thank you very much for my Slot 3 prize in March. I've been a member of the ACC for about 20 years but still get a thrill from winning a prize! Alison Shield
- Many thanks to the Club for my prize last month. It was most welcome. Bev Cockburn
- Re Jan slot 7, CUMBUNGI, I went and bought a new *Concise Macquarie* (big book \$60) and cumbungi is not in it. Bit tough. [Nor in the Big Mac, Roy. Just as well you didn't spend the extra! – Ed] Roy Taylor
- Thank you for my prize for slots 1-5 last month. What a lovely surprise. That's going straight into the holiday fund. Jenny Wenham
- Thank you for my very surprising prize (dynamic quizzer) last year. Strangely, I had a lot of trouble with this month's!! Pat Lord
- Thanks for my wonderful prize for 2017. Ulla Axelsen
- Thanks for my prize for Slot 5 last month. Much appreciated. Stephen Matthews

A P R I L 2 0 1 8 S L O T 3
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">by <i>Barney Naga</i></p>


	1	2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9														
10							11							
12				13						14				
	15					16					17	18		
19										20				
21					22									
				23										
24		25				26		27				28		29
30								31						
32						33								

Across

- 1 Roosters reportedly played opener before delayed big sporting event (3,5)
- 6 Originally this indicates bones in animals (5)
- 10 One providing Tom with core energy again (7)
- 11 From ten to the nine can be a great number (7)
- 12 Encourage Elizabeth 1 and the royal rep (3)
- 13 To do better sounds fitting (5)
- 14 Propose to finish off the culprit (5)
- 15 Chilly spot for soldier with bow training in camp openings (9)
- 17 Turn back greedy demanding woman (4)
- 21 The part the hero learnt by heart (4)
- 22 Have coins to waste on small fish (9)
- 24 Full strength nest egg (5)
- 26 The French leader has no resistance to a heavy red (5)
- 28 Salad ingredient just a little, because ... (3)
- 30 ... it's easily prepared this month (7)
- 31 Can be tacit or expressed inwardly about steamy subject (7)
- 32 Visitor made an estimate, we hear (5)
- 33 Spooner's genuine tricks with bread cubes (8)

Down

- 2 Shapely winner of 1 across (9)
- 3 Spare man was replaced – hard cheese (8)
- 4 Old city I found in a current of gold (5)
- 5 Add to ugly blemish surrounding the railroad (9)
- 6 Great amount of elbow grease (6)
- 7 Short instructions (5)
- 8 Eccentric is neither scab nor malcontent! (8)
- 9 Holding sacred heart (4)
- 16 Picture perfect reproduction of enigmatic cliff-top defying gravity (9)
- 18 Glacial effect of the drug war (3-6)
- 19 Sauce used to treat wound (8)
- 20 L_v_l _l_y_n_ f_e_d! (5,3)
- 23 Report that the real worker is the one missing (6)
- 25 Insert text in a little artwork (5)
- 27 Belief about merlot, perhaps, ends in zilch (5)
- 29 *The Sound of Music* score (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS (contd):

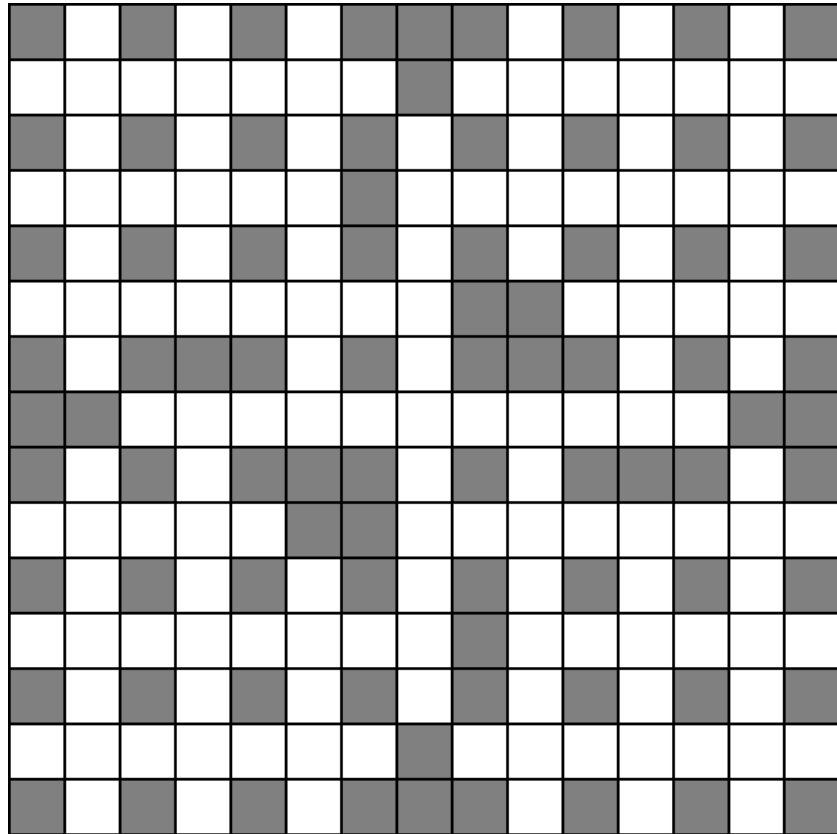
- Are you finding them harder because we're all older? No!! They are harder – the compilers are getting smarter!
Max Roddick
Nea Storey
Kath Harper
Judy Gillett-Ferguson
- Ah! The Year of the Dog!
- A dog lover's delight this month.
- Excellent. Harder but still great fun.
- Many thanks to ACC for my Slot 2 prize last month, and the lovely certificate. Both greatly appreciated. Betty Siegman
Laurence Kennedy
- Thanks to all compilers for excellent puzzles.
- As always, a testing lot but also an enjoyable exercise for the grey cells! A few new words added to the vocab. Thanks also to the Club for the Slots 1-6 prize. The \$100 was quite a surprise. Bob Hagan
Robert Hagan
- Last month's prize was much appreciated.

A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		4

Geo-AJ by Crowsman



Solutions begin with the given letter. Place them in the grid jigsaw-wise, where they fit. Two alternative layouts are equally correct.



- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>A National abandoned a Latin countryman (8)
 B Africans embrace good French people (11)
 C Country chocolate producer admits endless fury (7)
 D This treat has oneself paying countrymen! (5)
 E Cheat wears outlandish tie, an inhabitant of ancient nation (8)
 F Reportedly making deceptive movement for passing out (8)
 G Good Africans drop leader for other countrymen (8)
 H Cheer Ben and Martin, perhaps (6)
 I Flower people support hot nationals (8)
 J Pressure replaced five within Indonesian countrymen (8)
 K Nation removes brown people living there (7)
 L Rising trouble restricted by nation (5)
 M Setback splits fellow countrymen (7)
 N Sea creature sped up on top of short relative (7)</p> | <p>O Bad air infiltrates over province (7)
 P One making representations for each boy providing that is right (11)
 Q Other countrymen attending inside backward small nation (7)
 R Actual side! (5)
 S Namibia previously introduced British rule for self-government (6)
 T Country fool (6)
 U Immoral, but reportedly not pursued (8)
 V Five different Incas keep united for their animals (7)
 W Defraud countrymen (5)
 X Nothing held up dance around an autonomous Uyghur homeland (8)
 Y Group of countrymen is after enemy blowing up (7)
 Z Capital city, South Africa, detailed bird (6)</p> |
|---|--|

Members Comments March Slot 5 Cryptic by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen) cont'd from p10:

- Excellent puzzle with several clever misleads. Homophones as part of secondary indicators can be tricky. Changing "profit" to "prophet" in the 8dn clue took a while, but earned it COTM. Will we have pig puzzles next year?
Len Colgan
 - A good, testing puzzle. Last one in was NANA – needed a couple of references for that one.
Ian Thompson
 - I liked the clues for 8dn SETTER and 9dn SPOUSE. 12ac has me beat. Nice canine theme.
Tony Dobebe
 - 8dn: CERE is in *Bradford's* to mean profit. Sounds like SEER, cut by double time gives SETTER. Definition "I". Only trouble I can't find CERE with this meaning in any dictionary. 21dn: PINCHO fits clue, Poncho fits definition. [Please see explanations on page 12 - Ed]
Roy Taylor
 - As it happens so often with *Valkyrie*, I enjoyed every clue in the puzzle after I finally parsed the trickiest ones.
Brian Tickle
 - I really enjoyed this puzzle. So many wonderful clues and 2dn made me laugh. So clever! The month of the DOG!
Ann Millard
 - Clues for 16ac MUESLI and 8dn SETTER very neat.
Catherine Hambling
 - Very enjoyable, especially 23ac, 29ac and 8dn.
Kathy Horadam
 - Not too excited about my answer for 29ac 'hundreds'. Looking forward to explanation.
Eileen O'Brien
 - I counted ten references to Man's Best Friend in this puzzle, including the guardian of Hell and the awful illness distemper so I can happily say the puzzle has gone to the dogs!
Maureen Blake
 - In 5dn, shouldn't "negative outlook" be defeatism rather than defeatist? [Yes – incorrect definition – Adj]
Caroline Mackay-Sim
 - I've put needle for 30ac as I can't think what else would fit, but can't justify it. [A needle is also defined as a "sharp" Adj]
Barbara Ibbott
- (Comments continued on p7)

A P R I L 2 0 1 8 S L O T 5
Cryptic by Zplig


	1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
8							9				10			
11											12			
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17								18	19				20	
							21							
22	23				24				25					
26					27						28		29	
30					31				32					

Across

- 8 Bits of lemon and grape swirl in smooth Italian dessert (6)
- 9 Hail from a small part of town (3)
- 10 Old drunk turns around for hard work (4)
- 11 Politics treat facts recklessly (10)
- 12 Drops rule in hearing (4)
- 13 Took in cases cold European judge repealed? They've been thrown out (6)
- 16 Include IT in résumé after patch of being retired (8)
- 17 Server had big role in reshuffle (7)
- 18 Obsessions put on display? (4-3)
- 22 Plain clothes lieutenant's beginning to burn good books (8)
- 25 Former model seen in revealing item (6)
- 26 Class binder (4)
- 27 One may put forward ideas verified in scientific tests, for starters! (10)
- 30 Some potato fungus used in vegetarian cuisine (4)
- 31 Inauspicious debt? (3)
- 32 Brief kiss with a sailor – how sweet! (6)

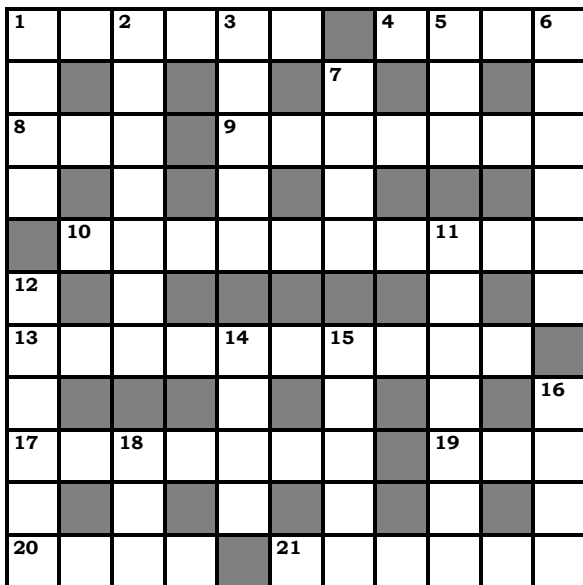
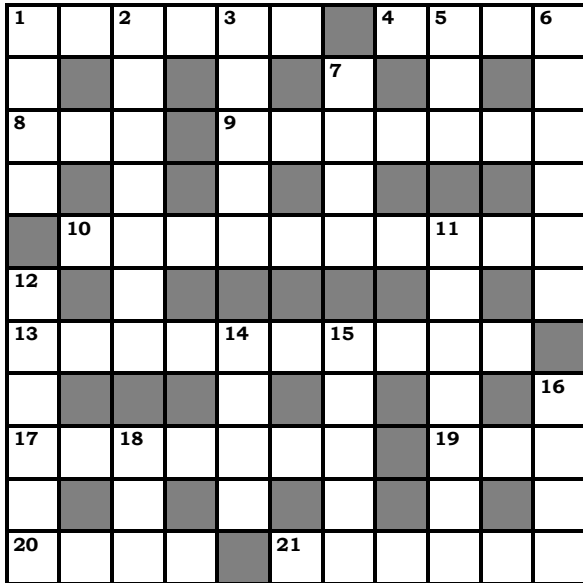
Down

- 1 County known in Scotland (4)
- 2 What thieves may say to get jail-time (4)
- 3 Meeting third in pole vault running around (8)
- 4 For starters there's echo in some headphones (7)
- 5 Watch the stew (6)
- 6 Exciting part of cooking at school? (8,2)
- 7 I tell a story in classical letter medium (6)
- 14 A patient man's role in society (3)
- 15 Bold valour is corrupted by the Church (10)
- 19 Making sharp triangle shapes (8)
- 20 Father's step (3)
- 21 Discussing the 'sneeze' in question (2,5)
- 23 Softly got out of state jail! (6)
- 24 Priest's wild wit (6)
- 28 Habit that's hard to escape (4)
- 29 Cancer element returned – Darn it! (4)

Members Comments March Slot 5 Cryptic by Valkyrie (Ulla Axelsen) cont'd from p6:

- Good clueing with a number of contenders for COTM in my eyes. It took a minute or two to realise 23ac was not a spoonerism. How conditioned we are!
- More dog references.
- Loved ON SUNDAYS and the dog theme. Thank you *Valkyrie*.
- Those Blue Heelers get around!
- Tossed up between NANA and HUNDREDS for my COTM: chose HUNDREDS!
- Learned a couple of new words – peduncle and curd cheese!
- Trying PEDICULE for PEDUNCLE set me back somewhat, and the HUNDREDS penny didn't drop for a long time. Quite a challenge!
- I'm not sure about some of my answers, but I thoroughly enjoyed this puzzle. Clue of the month for me was a toss up between SCHNAUZER and SETTER!
- Loved the dog theme. My favourite clue was 29ac (HUNDREDS) and I have given it my COTM.
- This slot dogged me with the most problems. Some of my solutions are not based on understanding but on "what else could it be"?

Richard Skinner
Alison Hocking
Joan Smith
Mike Potts
Bev Cockburn
Judy Gillett-Ferguson
Max Roddick
Judy Randall
Robyn Caine
Denis Coates



Solvers' Instructions: Each clue comprises two separate clues seamlessly joined together, one for the upper grid and one for the lower grid. Split each printed clue at a suitable place, solve the two shorter resultant clues, and put the two different words in the two grids. The order is random, sometimes the first part of the clue gives the solution for the upper grid, sometimes it gives the lower grid's solution. The two formats, in brackets, give the word lengths for the two solutions. The formats are ordered randomly, sometimes the first format applies to the first part of the clue, sometimes to the second part of the clue; and sometimes to the upper grid, sometimes to the lower grid.

Across

- 1 Devise a revolutionary plan holding approval indicated by special two-page display (4,2)(6)
- 4 Pretty model No.1 and No.2 annoy flippin' endlessly! (4)(4)
- 8 Starts to tire and decline, a little bit unwell, medicine cap removed (3)(3)
- 9 School leaver really wants *Shapes* flavour in a teriyaki sandwich to go (7)(7)
- 10 Canny value represented by Chekhov's man, a young foreigner got to rig up a rail (2,4,4)(5,5)
- 13 Harry had shiners for both sexes' frizzy days, maybe?! (3-3-4)(10)
- 17 Where unusual visitors in New Mexico return or blow up UK city flats modified by Basque extremists (7)(7)
- 19 A number of sins having been uncovered, The First Lady is one in the habit of saying nothing (3)(3)
- 20 Book is supplemental to theorem maligning fundamentals central to way Rabbi teaches classes (4)(4)
- 21 Former church members cut out a host of inexperienced drivers heading off confused (6)(6)

Down

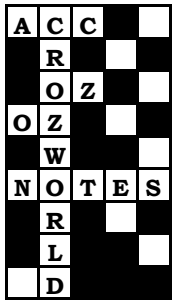
- 1 Prepare hotel for really old brothers, third key lost in basic accommodation? (4)(4)
- 2 Woody plants supply me with drugs, nandrolone mostly, centrally manufactured in Florida city (3,4)(7)
- 3 In luaus all over the place, normal greeting call you hear regularly (5)(5)
- 5 Greek character worried about currency rising, as we speak (3)(3)
- 6 Head of Financial Products dropped supporters' positive bonus mostly, before any conflict erupts (6)(6)
- 7 Heads of State, looking upon Russia, cast aspersions on world capital that is against following Kremlin's lead (4)(4)
- 11 Close poorly earning savings deposit in writing, get sent returns (2,5)(4,3)
- 12 A big country regularly belies practical universal law? The top lawyer admits damage (6)(6)
- 14 Want to hear how to work dough? Bread's necessary around about noon for starters (4)(4)
- 15 Give credit to Lambert's honey badger, the male reportedly uses his tongue as a spring (5)(5)
- 16 Men on the Board, working later than usual, secure keen student's response to cultural heirloom (4)(4)
- 18 Twinkling to begin with, Santa excitedly climbs topless down the chimney (3)(3)

A	P	R	I	L	
2	0	1	8		
S	L	O	T		6

Double Cryptic
by
Zinzan

Post
Solution
to:

Andrew Patterson, 372 Great North Rd,
Abbotsford NSW 2046
Closing mail date: Friday 11 May 2018.
e-mail: mcandap@bigpond.net.au
[or submit via www.crosswordclub.org/accolade/]



Results of Quiz No 2/2018
A Quartette of Vowels
by Crowsman (Len Colgan)
Entries: 40

Winner: Patricia Abbott. Congratulations!

20: P Abbott, W Allen, K Audrins, U Axelsen, M Blake, J Crowe, J Fowler, B Glissan, B Hagan, K Harper, S Howells, D Jones, J Leigh, G Lemon, P Lord, A Miles, A Millard, M Potts, M Procter, B Siegman, R Skinner, B Symons, B Tofoni, J Wenham and C Wilcox. **19:** R Caine, B Cockburn, G Cole, P Garner, R Gooderick, G Leeds, I Mason,

C McClelland, R McKenzie, E O'Brien, J Pearce, I Thompson and R Wimbush. **18:** H Perrow and K Williams.

Solutions: 1 aqueous; 2 banlieue; 3 beauish; 4 cooe; 5 epopoeia; 6 gooier; 7 Hawaiian; 8 Iroquoian; 9 miaou; 10 obsequious; 11 onomatopoeia; 12 palaeoethnology; 13 pharmacopoeia; 14 plateaued; 15 queue; 16 radioautograph; 17 reliquia; 18 scarabaeoid; 19 Sequoia; 20 Siouan.

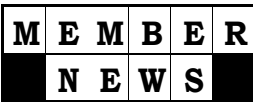
Setter's Comments: Entering the four vowels within each quartette in the right order twenty times was, not surprisingly, the main issue. Also, there were versions of words submitted that I could not find in *Chambers* or *Macquarie*, or even elsewhere. For #12, *Chambers* defines:

palaeoethnology *n* the science of early man.

There are some other very similar words, but this is the one with the quartette of vowels, the precise definition and the stipulated word-length. It is also in *SOED*, but surprisingly not in *Macquarie*. Perhaps I should have chosen a different longer closely related option listed in all three references?

Other Solvers' Comments:

- That was fun! *Patricia Abbott*
- Hereunder my answers to your brilliant quiz. So enjoyable – even though no. 12 drove me and everybody in my vicinity crazy! *Eileen O'Brien*
- Thanks for the challenging quiz. My spell-check hated most of these answers! Hope you like them! *Pat Lord*
- This was a satisfying mix of ones I knew, ones I thought I knew and ones I'd never heard of. *Kath Harper*
- It didn't give me too much trouble, but your clues contained generous hints. I didn't check thoroughly but it looks like all the quartettes were different except for three OEIAs. Aren't words fascinating? *Ian Thompson*
- Putting four vowels together produces some odd results on occasion, doesn't it? *Richard Skinner*
- It was a challenge as always and needed some research! *Maureen Blake*
- Another clever and unusual quiz. After tearing my hair out doing your Slot 6, I then came across this!! Quite a bit of research needed. *Marian Procter*
- Thanks for an interesting and tricky quiz. Some known, some look-upable, some hard to find. Last one in for some reason was PLATEAUED. One of the trickiest aspects was transcribing from the paper to the computer table and making sure that the vowels were in the right order. A bit like me trying to spell diarea! *Jim Fowler*
- The Microsoft Word dictionary didn't like a number of these and if you want to check the pronunciation of some of them (e.g. *epopoeia* or *reliquiae*), Google will provide you with an amazing number of variants. As always, an interesting and brain-stretching quiz. *Susan Howells*



New Member: We extend a warm welcome to **Judy Gillett-Ferguson** from Evanston Park, SA. Thank you Judy for your kind donation to the ACC Prize Fund 2018. Judy you are totally Welcome to the wonderful world of *Crozworliding!*

Vale Keith Potten:

Our friend and fellow member of the ACC Keith Potten passed away on 19 March 2018, aged 89. We met Keith while on a tour of New England in the US in 2012. He was Sydney based but we stayed in touch after returning to Melbourne. Incredibly active and knowledgeable, in the past few years he was a volunteer guide at the NSW Art Gallery, was involved in theatre productions and with U3A. Above all, he was a skilled cryptic crossword solver, having grown up with *The Times* crossword. Keith joined the ACC in February 2014 and was the winner of the Slots 1-5 puzzles in January 2015. We will miss his interesting conversations and informative tours of the Sydney gallery.

—**Alison Shield and Alison Martin**

Andrew Miles received a dot for Slot 1 in February 2018.

Daffinitions

1. ARBITRATOR – A cook that leaves Arby's to work at McDonald's.
2. BERNADETTE – The act of torching a mortgage.
3. BURGLARIZE – What a crook sees through.
4. AVOIDABLE – What a bullfighter tries to do.
5. COUNTERFEITER – Workers who put together kitchen cabinets.
6. LEFT BANK – What the bank robbers did when their bag was full of money.
7. HEROES – What a man in a boat does.
8. PARASITES – What you see from the Eiffel Tower.
9. PARADOX – Two physicians.
10. PHARMACIST – A helper on a farm.
11. RELIEF – What trees do in the spring.
12. RUBBERNECK – What you do to relax your wife.
13. SELFISH – What the owner of a fish market does.
14. SUDAFED – Brought litigation against a government official.

Quiz No 4/2018. A quiz for you? By Brian Symons.

All answers have something in common. Send your answers to Brian Symons, 1 Kookaburra Place, Grays Point NSW 2232
 e-mail: bms65@bigpond.com .
 Closing Date 11 May 2018. Prize \$75.

- 1 A Bird
- 2 Indeed
- 3 A famous garden
- 4 An insect
- 5 A vegetable
- 6 A common girl's name
- 7 A type of railroad
- 8 A support
- 9 The solver
- 10 A measurement
- 11 A sheep
- 12 Exist
- 13 Common breakfast fare!
- 14 A line
- 15 A beverage
- 16 Wee
- 17 Be in debt
- 18 An expression of surprise
- 19 For what reason
- 20 Another measurement unit
- 21 Main
- 22 Behold
- 23 An expression of pain?
- 24 A body organ

March 1-2018: Half 'n Half by Flowerman (Ian Thompson)

- Flowerman, cleverly hidden in the diagonal is the compiler.
Maureen Blake
- Thank you, Flowerman, for your puzzle.
Doreen Jones
- Had to look up HYPHAE. Is citrine dark? I liked LIMP and NIAMH.
Kathy Horadam
- A goody from Flowerman. 22dn reminds me of Spike Milligan's "He walked with a pronounced limp - L I M P pronounced limp."
Jim Fowler
- I'm guessing the compiler is 4dn EMCEE (Merv Collins) but whether I'm right or wrong, I thoroughly enjoyed this puzzle.
Catherine Hambling
- Sorry if I offend but can't guess the compiler. Closest is "EmCee" which appears but I think Merv's correct title is "The EmCee". Whatever, enjoyed working out the answers.
Eileen O'Brien
- Thanks Flowerman.
Lynn Jarman
- Knew Flowerman had to have at least one botanical clue. Good fun.
Ulla Axelsen
- I'm a bit slow sometimes. Took me a while to confirm 4dn then finally working out inspiration as breathing (gasping). Some good definitions overall.
Richard Skinner
- Loved this one with another dog reference.
Alison Hocking
- Thank you Flowerman.
Robyn Wimbush
- Flowerman!
Rob Moline
- Challenging puzzle with good clues.
Joan Smith
- Nice one, Flowerman. Did the Blue Heeler stray in from Slot 5?
Mike Potts
- Liked UNFAIR, LIMP, TOKAY, TRASH, ESKY and more. Thanks Flowerman!
Max Roddick
- Thank you, Flowerman. Have we ever had an Ximenean Half and Half before?
Bev Cockburn
- Many a flower(man) was born to blush unseen, it seems.
Kath Harper
- Found this rather difficult for Slot 1!
Anne Simons
- Many thanks Flowerman, cleverly hiding in there. A very enjoyable Slot 1.
Betty Siegman
- Thank you, Flowerman!
Robyn McKenzie
- Good job, Flowerman.
Laurence Kennedy
- A very clever Nina, giving us "Flowerman" as the compiler.
Robyn Caine
- I submitted on Accolade but forgot to add a thank you to "?" or FLOWERMAN.
Ann Millard

March 2-2018: An Ordinary Puzzle by Katydid (Kathy Horadam)

- No ordinary effort to fit all those ordinary words in the grid.
Ian Thompson
- A pleasure to solve.
Tony Dobebe
- Nearly put BEADIE for 30ac, until realised the eye of the needle is the reference. Would be beady eyes anyway.
Roy Taylor
- INCA is my clue of the month and possibly of the year. Perfect.
Jenny Wenham
- Some great clues. 18ac SESAME (SAME) had me tricked for a long time.
Ann Millard
- Nice gentle puzzle I thought till I came upon "restituted"! Sounds like something I'd make up!
Eileen O'Brien
- Life Be in it - Norm, brought back a few memories. Some good subtraction clues.
Ulla Axelsen
- Enjoyed the clueing on this one.
Richard Skinner
- NEEDLE and ITEM were neat clues, but ITEM won out as COTM. Not ordinary at all, despite the theme.
Mike Potts
- Not too terrifying and some neat clues, eg PYJAMA and GRAND MUFTI.
Nea Storey
- Excellent puzzle because of its excellent clues.
Bev Cockburn
- What a lot of uncomplimentary terms here - none of which apply to this puzzle!
Kath Harper
- A challenge!
Judy Gillett-Ferguson
- DOUBLE was an easy - but very good - clue. Too many other good ones to list. Thanks Katydid!
Max Roddick
- Quite humdrum, dreary, anodyne, plain, routine, innocuous, double repeats of the same norm, on average. Extra-ordinary!
Rob Moline
- Katydid done good!!
Lynn Jarman
- I liked "needle".
Robyn Caine

March 3-2018: Cryptic by St Jude (Drew Meek)

- 4dn: JISM was new.
Tony Dobebe
- Lot of excellent clues.
Roy Taylor

- Great puzzle - lots of candidates for COTM.
Jean Barbour
- Very unsure of 19dn. WADDLED and CASTRATI were fun.
Kathy Horadam
- 4dn: JISM was the last clue to solve. Always new words coming up! Thank you, St. Jude.
Ann Millard
- A good slot 3. Jism is a new word to me.
Ulla Axelsen
- 4dn: JISM was "easy" to arrive at but took a while to parse. Finally thought of jingoism!
Richard Skinner
- I had to do a bit of guessing!
Nea Storey
- Loved clues for DOOM and NUMBERING.
Bev Cockburn
- Loved it!
Judy Gillett-Ferguson
- 26: 'who' is not necessary.
George Rolfe
- Liked DISCOMMODE and CASTRATI. DOOM and JISM were the best clues, last solved.
Max Roddick
- "JISM" is a new word for me, but it was well clued, so eminently solvable.
Robyn Caine
- Putting "uncoupled" for 24ac held me up for a while, until I solved 24dn.
Peter Dearie

March 4-2018: AJ by KA (Karl Audrins)

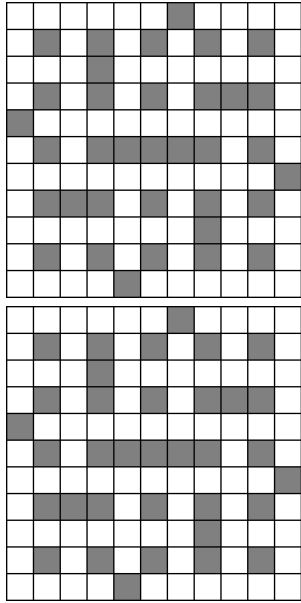
- Refreshing to see an innovative grid. Personally, I would not use "aa" or "Is.", and predictably I do not agree that "first Kent" is the letter K. But a good puzzle.
Len Colgan
- What a diabolically designed grid! This took a very large part of a wet afternoon. The rain and the puzzle were very welcome. Thanks KA.
Brian Tickle
- A rather unfriendly grid with 5 sections. Solutions only 11, 9, 5 or 4 letters in length. Not a happy AJ, KA.
Tony Dobebe
- Well, I learned that a worm can be a condensation pipe!
Roy Taylor
- That was a bit of a workout. Last one in WORMCASTS. Considering I have had a worm farm for the last 30 years, I should have been a lot quicker to solve it.
Trish McPherson
- Intermediate level of difficulty for me. Some difficult clues but all were fair.
Ian Thompson
- I think this was the hardest AJ I've done for a long time. I had to solve almost all the clues before I could start putting answers in the grid. TWEER took me way too long to get. I kept coming up with TWYER which, of course, doesn't fit the clue. And I had DETRACTED for DEPUTISED for quite a while. A good work out.
Jenny Wenham
- Some really challenging words here! I've met TWEER and ELT for the first time. JUROR and HURON are interchangeable. GIANT and KELTS were great clues.
Kathy Horadam
- Always a favourite and I started off well and then came to a halt!! KELTS was not only a clever clue, but a new word for me, as was TWEER. Thank you Mr. Chambers for the much needed help.
Ann Millard
- Learn something every month - "Twee" - only word I could come up with (or 'up with which I could come') and was pleasantly surprised to find it is a word.
Eileen O'Brien
- 'Breadstuffs' led me astray. Methinks I would not be the only one thinking 'Breadsticks' at first.
Maureen Blake
- Clues fairly straightforward: it was the placement of answers that was the most difficult. A few new words as to be expected in a good AJ.
Ulla Axelsen
- As a word, tuyere isn't at all twee. So how did it become TWEER?
Max Roddick
- I swear these are getting harder which, I have to say, is not a complaint.
Richard Skinner
- Took some time to fit the answers into the grid. Loved the G clue which at first sight thought it was GIGI only to realise it was 5 letters. Thank you for an enjoyable, challenging AJ.
Joan Smith
- What a workout! Very difficult grid to fill in. All those five-letter words! The T word was hardest to find.
Bev Cockburn
- BREADSTUFFS & TWEER were new to me.
Anne Simons
- If Keats is correct (or not), I am not sure about pigs! [Chambers defines "elt" as a young sow - Ed]
Laurence Kennedy
- A good mix of common, not so common and new words.
Lynn Jarman
- A very challenging AJ. Quite a few unusual words. An unusual grid for an AJ, also. Four eleven-letter words, and no interlocking initial letters. "Juror" and "Huron" were interchangeable.
Robyn Caine



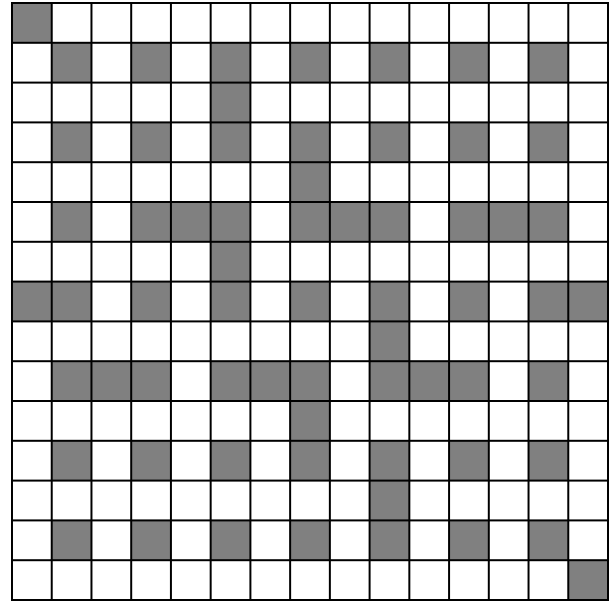
Send mail solution to: Andrew Patterson,
372 Great North Rd, Abbotsford NSW 2046.
Closing mail date: Friday 11 May 2018.
NAME:



|A|P|R|I|L| |6| |2|0|1|8|

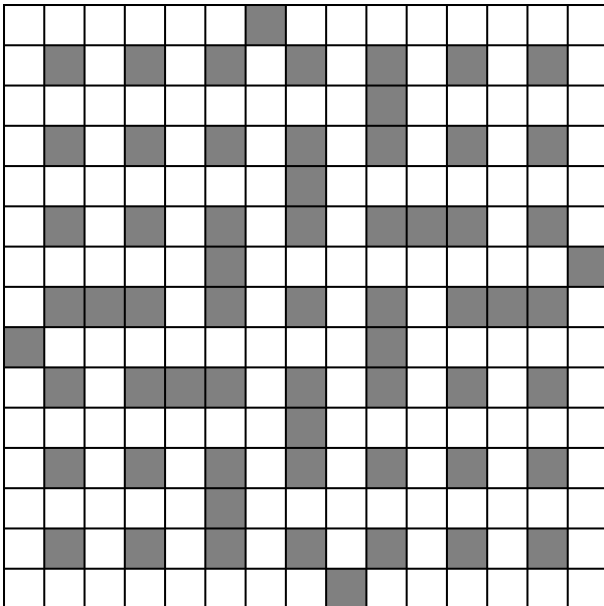


|A|P|R|I| |1| |2|0|1|8| NAME.....

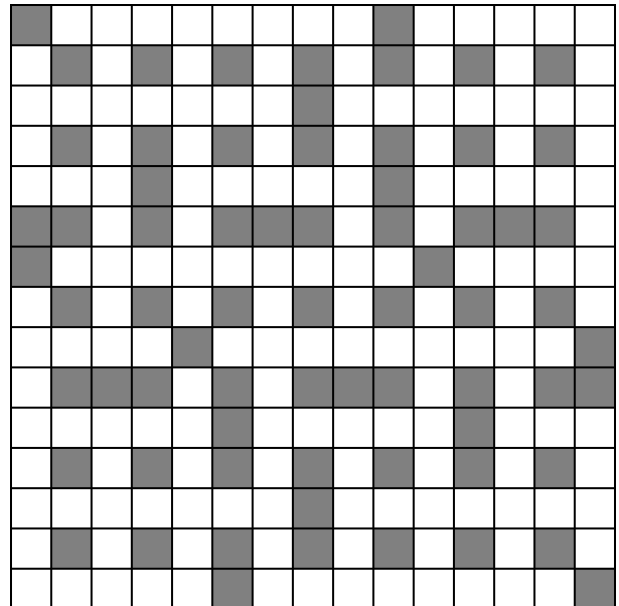


Clue of the Month

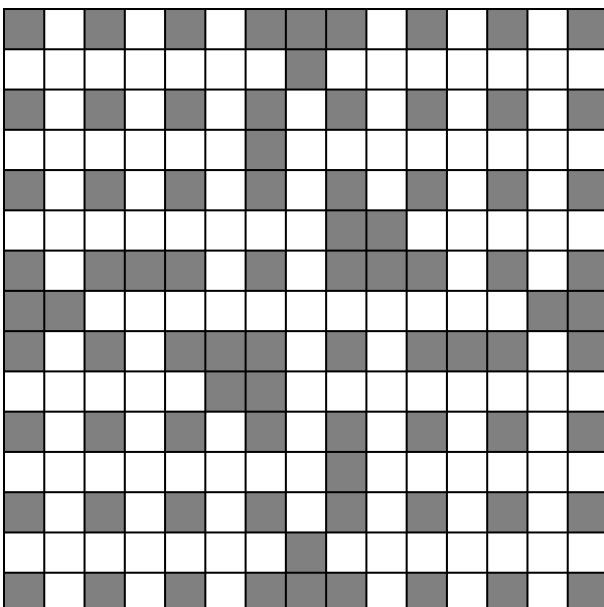
|A|P|R|I|L| |2| |2|0|1|8|



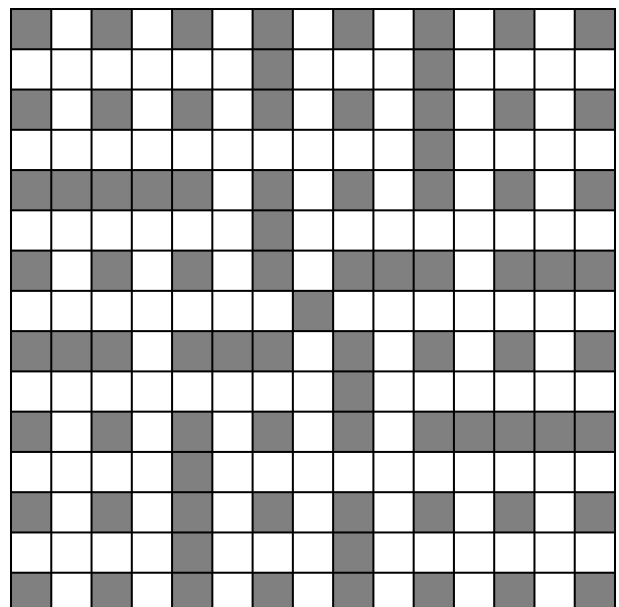
|A|P|R|I|L| |3| |2|0|1|8|



|A|P|R|I|L| |4| |2|0|1|8|



|A|P|R|I|L| |5| |2|0|1|8|



February 6-2018: *Cryptic by Crowsman (Len Colgan)*

Entries 76. Correct 67. Success rate 88%.

Prizewinner: **William Ryan. Congratulations!**

Adjudicator's Comments:

Thank you to all those members who tackled this puzzle, which must have looked somewhat daunting initially – certainly different!

Explanations:

Across: 9 KEELS<, 10 RI(FLESH)OT, 11 UNDERLI(N)E, 12 OF + TEN, 13 DENIER<, 15 dd, 17 EGGS [OVA] + ON, 18 S(A) CARF<, 22 OVERT + URN, 24 GuY, with LOSS replacing u, 26 LO(I)RE, 27 CAPRI + CORN, 29 DETER< outside NOVA, 30 K + EELS.

Down: 1 anag, 2 (DELHI)*, 3 SKIR(RE)TS, 4 GRA(I)N, 5 FATE* + RIFLE*, 6 TRO(o)PER<, 7 WH(ITEM)EATS, 8 A + TONERS, 14 I + TENDERING*, 16 ENTRE(COT)E, 19 ALL RIS(e) + K + (enter)S, 20 P(LOUT*)RY, 21 anag, 23 (TWO + ELEVEN - ONE)*, 25 homoph, 28 dd.

Other members' comments:

• Thank you for your puzzle, which was very satisfying as usual. It's difficult to select a favourite clue because they were so interlinked. I'll select 10ac, which was the last to fall.
Denis Coates

• Lots of nice clues in this cleverly constructed puzzle.
Ian Thompson

• Nice challenge. I think any number of chickens etc would be called white meat, not white meats.
Tony Dobe

• Stellar workout! 23dn TWELVE is a standout.
Michael Kennedy

• Hate it when solving one clue is contingent on getting others correct – but great sense of achievement when I can work it out – having said that, hope I don't have to "eat crow". Terrific puzzle (what else is new!!!).
Eileen O'Brien

• Very enjoyable.
Julie Leigh

• Another great puzzle Len; many thanks. The top right corner had me beaten, but jumped out at me today when I had yet another look! I hope I have 7dn correct, as there seems to be a spare "e".
Julie Crowe

• Some fantastic clues and, for me, was the challenge of the month. POULTRY 20dn, ALL RISKS 19dn and SPADE 25dn are very special clues!! Thanks, *Crowsman*.
Ann Millard

• I loved 9 and 10ac. A big thank you from this 15.
Betty Siegman

• What an annoying (clever) puzzle and compiler! An extra COTM would have been 12ac.
Rosemary Ducker

• I never took Len for a numbers man! A bit worried though. There's usually a catch and I can't find it.
Richard Skinner

• Another clever puzzle from *Crowsman*. After a lot of piecing together, some guesswork, and a little help from my friends, I think I've solved it!
Nea Storey

• A fun challenging slot 6.
Ulla Axelsen

• Really enjoyed this; some great clues.
Rob Moline

• Normally I dislike cross-references to other clues, but these were so clever I relished the fun of deciphering them.
Kath Harper

• Such an intricate puzzle, one that gives pleasure when you complete it. So many great clues but my favourite was 25dn SPADE.
Bev Cockburn

• Lot of clever clues with lots of backwards and forwarding in the grid.
Roy Taylor

• Wonderful clues. I loved the poultry and often! I wonder why no. 6 doesn't qualify for COTM.
Robyn McKenzie

• Almost admitted defeat several times, but with lots of help, it's completed. (finished up with brain-ache!).
Anne Simons

• The links between clues were very clever. I also liked the clues for REPORT, REINED and TWELVE.
Brian Tickle

• As usual, plenty of good clues including 15ac (old timer), 27ac (Capricorn) & 25dn (spade).
Catherine Hambling

• 23dn – brilliant. *Jim Fowler*

• UNDERLINE is ingenious, but OVERTURN made my solving day!
Max Roddick

• Again a real challenge, but thoroughly enjoyable.
Cheryl Wilcox

• Thank you, *Crowsman*, for a very clever puzzle.
Laurence Kennedy

• Rather daunting to start with, but gradually worked it out and felt a great sense of achievement. Thanks for creating a challenging puzzle – and there were no obscure medical terms or Scottish dialect!
Ron Carpenter

• #12 is either wrong or possibly cynical?
Ian Mason

• After all my hard work I almost forgot to send it; oh well as a 15ac I suppose it is to be expected. Great puzzle thank you Len.
Joan Smith

• Very enjoyable – thanks!
Alison Martin

• A nice puzzle – just right for slot 6. I had RESTARTED for 29ac at first; much easier to complete once I RENOVATED my answer.
Mike Potts

• Absolutely delightful, especially 4dn. Len is "just too clever for his own good", as my mother used to say.
Susan Howells

• Len, you are brilliant. So many very clever clues.
Gabrielle Leeds

Explanations for clues in March slots 1-5 inc.

Slot 1 Flowerman. Down: 1 Spooner "tot hubs", 2 hw, 3 GA(S)P, 4 "eM + Cee" of MusiC, 5 PI = ERRED, 6 pOLEs + ATE, 7 BE(S)TS, 8 "earn", 9 F + (EARL)*, 13 cLOSE, 18 ESSEN + CE, 20 fUNFAIR, 21 HIP + POS, 22 LIMo + P, 23 RESiGn, 24 T + OKAY, 26 Treating + RASH, 27 MAIN< + H, 28 disSECT, 30 pESKY.

Slot 2 Katydid. Across: 5 Di (REAR) Y, 8 acQUIESCENCE, 9 FOE + T + US, 10 AD + homoph "you" + LiTERATE, 11 AB + homoph "sail", 12 heads, 14 hidden, 16 dd/cd, 17 VE (NAILS)* IN, 18 seSAME, 20 dd, 22 V + END, 23 dd, 26 anag, 28 dd, 29 GRAND + MUFTI, 30 dd/cd. **Down:** 1 anag, 2 BELL + CURVE, 3 homoph "screa(m)", 4 IN + CA, 5 anag, 6 common letters, 7 ROUT (IN) E, 13 dd, 15 ON + AVER + AGE, 16 IN + NO + CU + O + US, 19 anag, 21 anag, 24 B (L) AND, 25 hidden, 27 YAWS<.

Slot 3 St Jude. Across: 9 NUMB(ER)ING, 10 US+AGE, 11 rENTER, 12 anag, 13 WA(DD)LED, 15 ST+E+WARD, 17 anag, 20 (S + SEAMEN)*, 22 ELECT+RO, 24 cd, 26 TOT+ ME<, 27 brOWNER, 28 ROI+STE(R)ED. **Down:** 1 UND+ER+WRI+E, 2 rEMOTE Device, 3 REF< + RULE+S, 4 JingoISM, 5 anag, 6 QUI+N+CE, 7 CAST+RAT+I (cd), 8 WEE+D, 14 DRIV(ELL)ERS, 16 DISCO+MM+ODE, 18 PUMa+ICING, 19 ID+ENTITY, 21 S+QUIRT, 23 TUT(OR)S, 24 D+MOO<, 25 DR + IP.

Slot 4 KA. A a(rec)a, **B** b(readst)uffs, **C** circe holds u+rials anag, **D** de(put+is=book of Isaiah)ed, **E** ex+it, **F** anag+paper, **G** gi+ant, **H** hu(r)on, **I** it+ems, **J** (con)juror, **K** k+elts, **L** reel<, **M** m(edit)ates, **N** anag+ally, **O** ob+s(-e)curity, **P** p+airs, **Q** qu(tara)*ins, **R** anag+ally, **S** sa(antic anag)lly, **T** t(wee)r, **U** dd, **V** rev hidden, **W** worm +casts, **X** rev+es, **Y** y+acht, **Z** hidden.

Slot 5 Valkyrie. Across: 1 POO(D)L+E, 4 C+ anag of BEER+R+US, 10 Double, 11 Double, 12 Double ref to Peter Pan, 13 (CRUSHED EEC)*, 15 LE+ADO+RE, 16 comMUnal+matEShip+decLined, 19 T+SETS+E, 21 PI+anag od CREED, 23 (SPOONER + CEDRIC - ice)*, 25 Hidden, 27 LA(V)IR<, 28 (CRAZE SHUNS)*, 29 Homophone Cs = hundreds, 30 B(L)AD+ES. **Down:** 1 PE+D+UNCLE, 2 Homophone of SUNDAES after ON, 3 L+SEE<, 5 A+R inside(MODEL)*, 6 BLUE+H+EELER, 7 tRIFLE, 8 SE(TT)ER (homophone = prophet), 9 SPO+USE, 14 ROT+anag of WE RETAIL - A, 17 L+vOCALIZED, 18 AD(JOUR+N)S, 20 EX+POSE+D, 21 Replace O for I in PINCH + O, 22 SCORE+CH, 24 RAVE+N, 26 TAILor.