



|N|O.|2|6|6| |J|U|N|E| |2|0|1|2|



www.crosswordclub.org



'I couldn't azactly' – that was always the substitute for exactly,  
in Peggotty's militia of words.  
Charles Dickens, 1849-50, *David Copperfield*, Ch 3.

|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|

**T**hanks to the generous donations from our members, we have some spectacular book prizes to give away for the second half of 2012. Just this month we are giving away another copy of the prestigious Oxford *Thesaurus of English*, third edition, 2009. This superb prize will be awarded for the ever-popular AJ which has been compiled by the 'award-winning' duo *Difficult Women*. In Slot 5 by *St Jude* we have another prized copy of the thumb-indexed *Chambers Dictionary* 12th edn and there are other prizes to be won by some lucky winners. It's going to be a rewarding time for our members in the second half of 2012. Hope you are amongst the winners!

We sincerely thank all of our Adjudicators for their invaluable assistance during 2012. The skill and competence of the Adjudicators is a major reason why the ACC is so successful. We could not operate without their valued assistance.

This month we have another challenging set of puzzles and a Quiz for you expertly chosen by our skilful Puzzle Set-up person **Ian Williams**. Favourites include *The Eager Beaver*, *Virgo* and *Jesso*. We welcome *Difficult Women* with another of our favourite AJs in the Slot 4 and *St Jude* has provided us with one of his masterly cryptics in Slot 5 which is titled *Tea Time Puzzle*. *Hot and Cold* have supplied us with an interesting Slot 6 puzzle titled *Being Alive?* And the Quiz titled *Oh, oh, oh!* by *Crowsman* will keep you occupied for quite some time. Best of Luck with your solving this month!

And there are details on p9 about the forthcoming *Christmas in July Get-Together* in Melbourne. We have an easy xwd, a sparkling Quiz and some wonderful prizes to give away. We are hoping that all of the Victorian members will make the trip and make the day a memorable one indeed. Interstate members are more than welcome too! Happy Crozworlding!  
—Patrick

**G**reetings to our members, and many thanks for all the cards and kind words – it really makes it an enjoyable task. There were NO blank spaces this month: so heartening. Keep up the good work.

**Slot 1:** Many comments that this was more difficult than the usual Slot 1. Surprisingly, CROSSWORD was the undoing of 14 members, who all opted for CROSSROAD. The recent spell of cold weather is probably to blame for 11 who reached for the QUILT in 9dn. Others, TACKSHOPS, 4dn, and HOPED, HOSED, 24dn.

**Slot 2:** Not many errors here: DISINGENIOUS, SANGRAAL, variations on GEMINATIVE; some classicists opted for HYADES in 26ac.

**Slot 3:** A range of errors: MAISE, GARABALDI, CASSA, COSMO, ISSUE (with BALDI), HARES UP, TARTS UP, CONFIT.

**Slot 4:** HEATHS from 8 members: H=hot, EA(R)THY=soil-like. ILLUSTRATED: watch the tense. ZEALFUL, duty= O(N)US. MOUSES, MOUSER for MOUSEY, which is a new spelling to me (but verified in my *Chambers*).

**Slot 5:** Not too many problems with this one. LEVER for REVEL; PONY, 18ac, BACLAVAS in 17dn forcing BRECON HILL in 19ac.

**COTM:** As a lover of mathematics, I was alarmed at the way *Crowsman* has stood it on its head, but BROKEN HILL, 19ac in Slot 5, is a highly original and clever clue, and was the runaway winner for the COTM this month with 10 votes. Slot 2, 18ac, ARVO, was a worthy runner-up for *Penobscot* with 6 votes.

—Betty Siegman

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	101	99	95	99	85	479
Correct entries	66	80	75	76	75	372
Success rate (%)	65.4	80.8	78.9	76.8	88.2	77.7
Prizewinners	S Young G Leeds	A&D Callan N Wilson	B Cockburn R Wilson	B Morris N Storey	R Skinner	from 103 members

**Prizewinner: May 2012 Slots 1-5: Corryn Anderson**

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

<b>President</b>	Patrick Street	395 Canning St, North Carlton Vic 3054	Ph (03) 9347 1216	pstreet@bigpond.net.au
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<b>Puzzle/Quiz submission</b>	Ian Williams	12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615	Ph (02) 6254 6860	ianw@webone.com.au

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

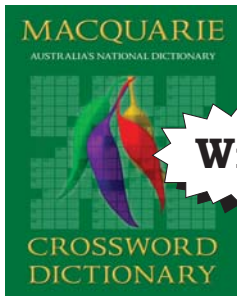
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J	U	N	E		
2	0	1	2		
S	L	O	T		1

**Half 'n Half**  
by  
*The Eager Beaver*

Prizes: \$75



**Win!**

[2007 edn]

1	2		3		4		5		6			7		8
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									19					
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										25				
26														
									27					

**Across**

- 1 An old swagman's bundle (8)
- 9 Candied leaf for decorating cakes (8)
- 10 Concludes (6)
- 11 Cogent (10)
- 12 Hebrew measure (4)
- 13 Truths (10)
- 16 Tooth (7)
- 17 Infringe (7)
- 20 Pollex sheath (10)
- 22 Amphibian (4)
- 23 Ignorant of the letter order (10)
- 25 Desperate (2,4)
- 26 Hypersensitive (8)
- 27 Precious stone (8)

**Down**

- 2 Measure using assistance to arch across (4-4)
- 3 Former ill-humour at doctrine responsible for condition (10)
- 4 Exchange a letter for you reportedly in luscious characters and take in four for being lustful (10)
- 5 An auricle blemish could be a distinctive one (7)
- 6 Eye greedily lost fine silk handkerchief (4)
- 7 Brief two piece suit found on an atoll (6)
- 8 Substantial directions lead to bounty (8)
- 14 Finished with internal intravenous drip. Perfect! (10)
- 15 Phobia could be associated with unlucky Friday's date (10)
- 16 Preludes to radiants' shower (8)
- 18 Cheerful character of good fellow on headland (8)
- 19 Uncle has half bucket to take a drink (7)
- 21 Universal fur is at one's disposal (6)
- 24 An embrace with energy is great (4)

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

Slots 1-5: Doug Butler, PO Box 303, Oaklands SA 5046.  
e-mail: [d.butler@internode.on.net](mailto:d.butler@internode.on.net)  
Closing mail date: Friday 29 June 2012.  
e-lodgment: [ianw@webone.com.au](mailto:ianw@webone.com.au)  
Slot 6: Jenny Wenham, c/o Post Office Comet, Qld 4702.  
e-mail: [sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au)  
Closing mail date: 13 July 2012.

G	O	O	D		
G	R	I	D	S	
P	A	G	E		11

J	U	N	E		
2	0	1	2		
S	L	O	T		2

## Cryptic by Virgo



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31										32				
33								34						

### Across


- 1 Tops off live rulers (7)
- 5 Singing DIY long gone! (7)
- 9 Royal rock group (5)
- 10 Riffle thin album to find sketch (9)
- 11 Cleaner drops pretence (7)
- 12 Ringo is rocking with Genesis! (7)
- 13 Rejoin jumpers for a period (3)
- 15 State the Maori experience (5)
- 16 Juicy barfly? (4)
- 17 Holds back a bargain (4)
- 20 Capital rays in Southern Asia (4)
- 22 Help Lincoln with model (4)
- 25 Even in total ignorance (5)
- 28 Cycle in the rain (3)
- 29 Delinquent locates the milk with the sugar (7)
- 30 French wine and not much money for the artist (7)
- 31 In huge art, Turner can become more risqué (9)
- 32 One city has moved into another! (5)
- 33 See a former student compose verse (7)
- 34 Waddles away to wrap things up (7)

### Down

- 1 Leaves estate to the Basque, strangely (9)
- 2 Blue dogs? (7)
- 3 Good tempered princess gets a better deal (8)
- 4 It could be a case of overnight research! (7)
- 5 Source of native American "black drink" say, upon brewing (7)
- 6 Grassin' on Punch perhaps (6)
- 7 The language of information technology: a lot begins with Scot (7)
- 8 Feeds a line to the birds? (5)
- 14 Another route to the surface (5)
- 18 Put Canute at sea – perhaps to make a stop (9)
- 19 To get a tree you need a long aim off-beam (8)
- 21 Empty spaces – they suck! (7)
- 23 It goes straight to a buzzer connection (7)
- 24 Endlessly nervy on Sunday at wild watering holes (7)
- 26 I go to church and set down somewhere in the North Atlantic (7)
- 27 Mummy hunts with a net? (6)
- 29 There's money in floor covering, so to speak (5)

### GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Many thanks for my cheque for Feb Slot 3. I am off for a week's respite with my daughter in NZ so it is very welcome. *Margaret Davis*
- What a lovely surprise: am thrilled with my April Slot 1 Crossword Dictionary Prize. Thanks very much. *Robyn Whitehead*
- Yet again a most excellent selection of puzzles for which "I tips me lid, thank-e guvner" [But don't forget that all the puzzles we publish are produced and made available to the Club – free – by our indefatigable compilers – IW] *Jim Fowler*
- A close tie, with difficulty choosing between Slot 5 1dn – Paintstrippers or Slot 5 19ac – Broken Hill for COTM. After much discussion with Hubby and a coin toss my vote goes to Slot 5 19ac – Broken Hill. *Lynne Spicer*
- A difficult bunch this month – not one easy one amongst them! *Nea Storey*
- My COTM is Slot 5 1dn, although it was a close thing with Slot 1 24dn – MOPED. *Catherine Hambling*
- Thanks for another month of great entertainment. *Jeremy Barnes*
- Herewith the lot for May. Quite a few challenges this month. Even Slot 1 wasn't a pushover. MOPED came last. DUFFLEBAG slowed me down in slot 3. As always the A.J. was an enjoyable exercise with some good clues. In retrospect 19ac in Slot 5 (BROKEN HILL) gets my COTM, but 1 dn (PAINT STRIPPERS) wasn't far behind. *Bob Hagan*
- I had to put four in a hat to decide COTM. I had a few chuckles and groans – how about PLATITUDINARIAN!! But settled for 7ac in Slot 5, AFLICKER. *Eileen O'Brien*
- Really enjoyed this month's selection. I think the setters are geniuses? (geniie?) *Pat Lord*
- A good challenging set of puzzles. Couldn't make my mind up between MOPED and ARVO, but settled for the latter. *Bill Bennett*
- A difficult lot this month – even Slot 1 had some 'curly' clues. My COTM, because it took me ages to 'decode' and because it was so beautiful and honest in the end, was Len's 19ac in Slot 5, BROKEN HILL. *Bev Cockburn*

J U N E   2 0 1 2   S L O T   3
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Cryptic</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">by</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Jesso</h2>


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25										26				
27										28				

**Across**

- 1 Old-fashioned daughter put right (7)
- 5 Crowds around private groups (7)
- 9 Latin dictionary section of Asian origin (5)
- 10 Mainsail changed by man showing sensuality (9)
- 11 Pioneers dogs following wind (12)
- 14 Evaluator's a blockhead, always hesitating (7)
- 15 Weld one of seven? (7)
- 16 Language of some returning Cambodian (3)
- 17 A nut, until account is settled (7)
- 19 White book half-open (7)
- 21 Chapter one, volume one; travels off around north with state employee (5,7)
- 25 I am a droll, strange creature (9)
- 26 Behaves apathetically and wipes the floor without energy (5)
- 27 A little facial hair and copper's in dark (7)
- 28 Ruled without second Eastern source of oil (7)

**Down**

- 1 This funny king follows the low pieces at the back (5,5)
- 2 Sings under shower, stripping (10)
- 3 Rector served excellently, always a fixture (4,3)
- 4 Opposite, woman 'A' confronted king in command (9)
- 5 Broke cover before time (5)
- 6 Plain bird without right aura (7)
- 7 Mischievous English opposed to the Italian (4)
- 8 Southeast agents in a truck (4)
- 12 A mother beginning to savour delicious forbidden fruit? (5,5)
- 13 Deity, bound around his tail, put under (10)
- 15 To notice seat and growth (9)
- 18 Triple note about right notice on integrated circuit (7)
- 20 Ornithologist's time away on island (7)
- 22 Religion I close violently (5)
- 23 Male with intent to injure (4)
- 24 In with a stupid comeback (4)

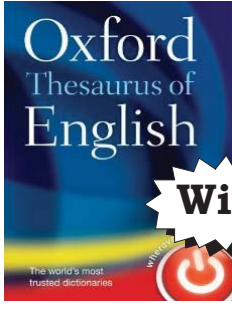
**ACC's 22nd Anniversary Quiz by Bev Cockburn and Bill Bennett. [Solvers' Comments continued from p9]**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you for your always interesting quizzes.</li> <li>• Happy 22nd Anniversary of our ACC which occurs on 8th April.</li> <li>• I'm sure Ted would have enjoyed the challenge. He was in the same session of Wagga T.C. as my brother Jim who lives in Canada.</li> <li>• This was worthy of Ted's memory. Thank you.</li> <li>• Great quiz! I really liked the way you had to think about what you were thinking about, so to speak! Keep them coming, please.</li> </ul>   | <p><i>Pat Lord</i><br/> <i>Alan Walter</i><br/> <i>Bob Hagan</i><br/> <i>Pat Garner</i></p>             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks for the Anniversary Quiz. Ted would have been proud of your challenge.</li> <li>• What an interesting and wide-ranging quiz – many thanks yet again. 19 had me baffled until someone said an arab is a horse, and Lily would be proud of my lightning fast guess at No. 3.</li> <li>• Thank you Bev and Bill for coming up with such an interesting quiz but it did require some "googolling".</li> <li>• Excellent quiz! I thought 22 would be a difficult number to make a quiz from but you did it. Bravo! Happy Anniversary ACC.</li> </ul> | <p><i>Alison Martin</i><br/> <i>Jack Stocks</i><br/> <i>Robyn Wimbush</i><br/> <i>Graeme Cole</i></p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you Bev and Bill – great to see you keeping the anniversary quiz going!</li> <li>• Thanks you for a most interesting and challenging quiz which touched on many topics.</li> <li>• I found it entertaining and twisted. Some answers were easy to research and then there were those that required lateral thinking.</li> </ul>  | <p><i>Carole Noble</i><br/> <i>Andrew Miles</i><br/> <i>Claire McClelland</i><br/> <i>Alan Dyer</i></p> |

J	U	N	E		
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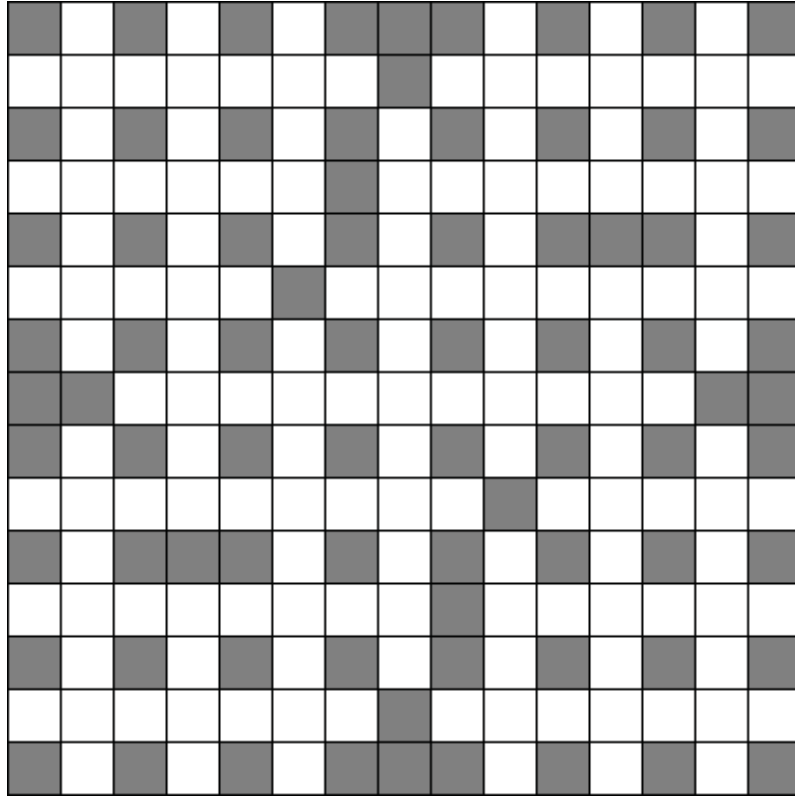
**AJ**  
by  
*Difficult Women*

**Prize**



3rd ed: 2009 rrp \$99

**Win!**



Solutions begin with the given letter. Solve the clues and place the solutions in the grid, jigsaw-wise, where they fit.

- A** One portion to each individually (6)
- B** Prohibiting pub syndicate (7)
- C** Appeal raised after a cut badly seared (10)
- D** Discovers sleuths I've missed (7)
- E** Train Tooheys, say to include old coin (7)
- F** Average light show (4)
- G** *Thrive* - adequate to develop plant potential (8)
- H** Board blackguards' domestic animals (5,4)
- I** Childhood popular dream (7)
- J** Some jet tyres at wharf (5)
- K** Shrimplike creatures in King's brook (5)
- L** Bella's strange badge (5)
- M** Beggar woman follows workers run without hesitation (9)
- N** Ron lists damaged body parts (8)
- O** Gold trade trial (6)
- P** Medicine to diminish blood without ecstasy for Independent Corps (9)
- Q** Game not unknown with railway row (7)
- R** Prepared to study at the beginning of year (5)
- S** Wily road sense (10)
- T** Refuse cast support (5,4)
- U** Ripened curd mixture below cost (11)
- V** Bird heads off viable, unaware little teals under reeds enclosure (7)
- W** Absorb music sound (4)
- X** Team at start of performing dance preceding a move to America of Siamese twins (11)
- Y** Shouting on Island in front of grandstand (7)
- Z** Belted little Greek leaving State with man (7)

## Word Matters

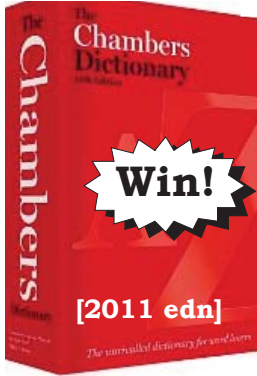
### The 'Internet' - to capitalise or not to capitalise

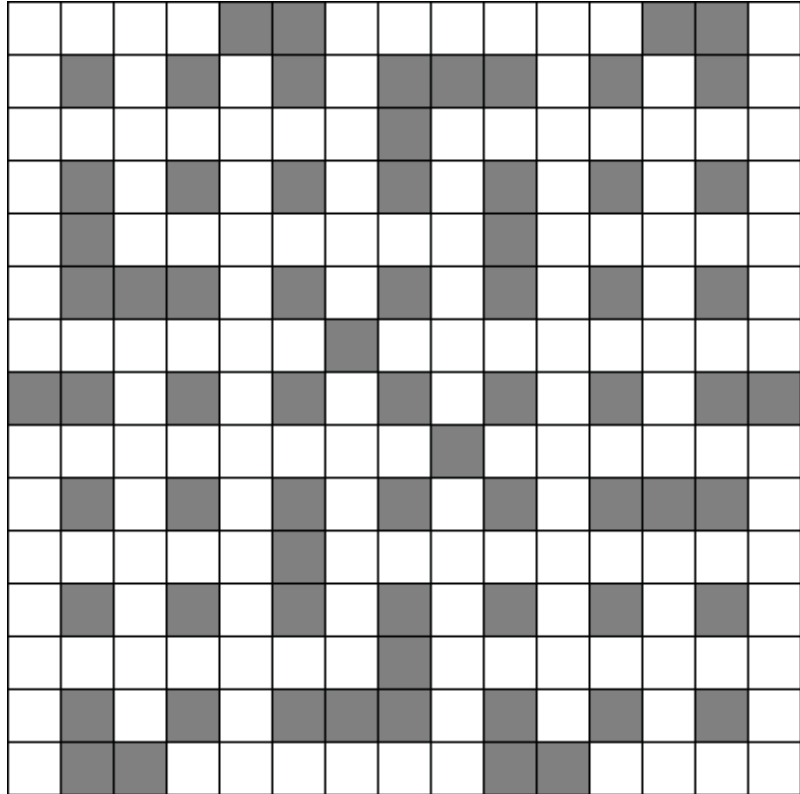
Should 'the internet' be used with a lower case i or should it be capitalised like Facebook and Twitter are capitalised? Firstly we should point out that the dictionary still allows the capitalised form of the word. It gives the lower case form as headword and the upper case form as variant because that is how it is at the moment, and the function of the dictionary is to record how it is, not to instruct or lead the way. Facebook and Twitter are capitalised because they are trademarks. They are words that are owned by companies. The basic function of the capital is to mark out a proper noun from the generic or common nouns. The use of the 'the' in front of the word makes a non-count noun either by turning an adjective into a noun (the poor) or by turning a noun with a possible plural form into one that does not allow of a plural (the universe). Internet was originally used adjectivally and then turned into a noun. OED records a use of 'the': Before the name of a unique object or one so considered, or of which there is only one at a time; e.g. the sun, the earth, the sea, the sky, the air, the world, the universe, the Almighty, the Lord, the Messiah, the Saviour, the Gospel, the Bible, the abyss, the pit, the Devil, the Emperor, the Pope, the Kaiser, the Sultan, the Shah, etc. The capitalisation is following a different line. Religion demands capitals but perhaps we would not want to put the internet on the same pedestal as God?

—Susan Butler, the editor, *Macquarie Dictionary*

### From Brian Symons: LETTERS AND NUMBERS

Pick any number and count the number of letters in its English name. Take this new number and repeat the process and keep doing this. eg 15 leads to seven leads to five leads to four leads to four. Amazingly no matter what number you choose, no matter how big or how complex (eg 75062399714) they all quickly end as 4. The reason is four is the only number with the same number of letters as its name implies and for any number greater than 4 the number of letters in that number is less than the number itself (usually way way less).

<p> J U N E   2 0 1 2   S L O T   5 </p>
<p><b>Tea Time Puzzle</b> by <b>St Jude</b></p>
<p><b>Prize:</b></p>  <p><b>Win!</b> [2011 edn] rrp: \$116.95</p>



Solve the clues and place the solutions in the grid jigsaw-wise, where they fit. All solutions have something in common.

**Clues:**

- Caring teen into dismantling a machine – called Trevor perhaps (8,6)
- Regard fungus the sloth digested (14)
- He is too close behind the last reptile heard (9)
- Privates' assemblage of chopped livers and... (8)
- ...of raw gut scattered in laborious contest (3-2-3)
- Overcome germs of the best performers (3,5)
- The miser is tense before packing (8)
- Moves brushes (7)
- Withdraw from fuss after dinner (4,3)
- Perhaps I am nuts to be a destroyer (7)
- Swing carriage? Sounds almost easy! (7)
- Inverse tithe (7)
- Empty time-space is four rayed (7)
- Holds 160 Roman numbers (7)
- To teach baby to note the alternative (2,5)

- Hothead held in chains for making vehement speeches (7)
- Tenor out of practice but reliable (6)
- Annoyed by offensive chapter of vacuous hooey (6)
- Card junction service (3,3)
- Set out twice to fly (6)
- The familiar ditch navigator (6)
- Sets off without horse for essayists (6)
- Tell story of overwhelmed race (6)
- From top to bottom, act cautiously (6)
- Sample elegance (5)
- All chocolat otherwise barred (5)
- Poke fun at knight in good condition (5)
- Hidden treasure found when beginning to restart old vault excavation (5)
- Thanks, but take note – it's only a small portion (4)
- Supports regular timepieces (4)

**Explanations for May Grids** where provided by compilers. Thanks to Daphne, John, Michael and Len

**Slot 1 Daintree Lady: Down:** 1 bra + in + wave, 2 anag, 4 tuck +s + hops, 5 anag – neurologists minus loonier, 6 band + I + try, 7 cross + row reversed + d, 8 anag, 9 quilt replace 't' (last night) with 'l' (top layer), 15 DD, 17 Moon allusion!, 19 deter + gent, 20 anag seen containing ran (rev) + s, 24 mopped - p, 25 DD, 26 Homophone, 28 HW.

**Slot 3 Pindar: ACROSS:** 1. DUFF + ANAG.; 9. A+CO+”LIGHT”; 10. T..Y+RAN+NY; 11. FUN + GI; 12. “GAG”; 13. ATTACHE[D]; 15. XL; 17; THE ANAG + OS; 18. ANAG; 19. MA(l)ZE; 20. TURN+SUP; 23. OUT+NUMBER; 25. RE[E]FER; 27. TROLLOP[E]; 28. A+L+LOVER; 29. R[ ]EGRESSION. **DOWN:** 1. DOT+LL; 2. F(OR+EG)ATHER; 3. UNSETTLE UNSETTLE (ANAG); 4. BAY+OU; 5. G(A+RIBALD)I; 6. COM+FIT; 7. EMBEDDED; 8. “GAG”; 14. CA+S+ANAG; 16. COMPO+SURE; 17. E(X)TERNAL; 19. N(EBUL)OUS; 21. ANAG; 22. ANAG (PAR+TEN); 24. TUT+OR; 26. ANAG.

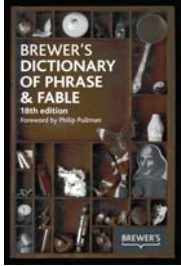
**Slot 4 Manveru: A**+NSW+ERE+D, **B** Anag RUBLES around A, **COU**(p)(RAGE)O+US, **D** Anag, **E** Anag, **F**+LORE+T, **G** Anag, **H**+EA(r)THY, **I** Anag, **JUST** + ICE, **K** Anag of PEACENIK - I,L + vOCATION, **MOUSE**+Y, **N** Anag, **O** DD, **PUR**(CHAS)E, **QUIT**(e), **R** rev HW, **STATU**(t) E, **TEXT**+BOOK, **UP**+BEAT, **V** HW, **WAR**+A+HAT, **X** DD, **Y** CAY(rev)+THE(anag)+D, **Z** Anag.

**Slot 5 Crowsman Across:** 7 a + f + licker; 8 leg end; 11 nut(but)ter; 12 anag; 13 DD; 14 to go; 16 re(d/is)tributions; 18 DD; 19 Broke + Nhill (all post codes); 22 heart, move h to the end; 23 – stand + fast; 24 s + handy; 25 DD. **Down:** 1 pa(l)nts/trippers; 2 P + latitudinarian; 3 ACTU + A-list; 4 test + a/rum(rev); 5 lever(rev); 6 HW; 9 disco + son(anag) + lately, 10 I ran; 15 S + tone deaf; 17 Ba(la)klava/S; 20 kris, move k to bottom; 21 C(hid)E.

J	U	N	E		
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S	L	O	T		6

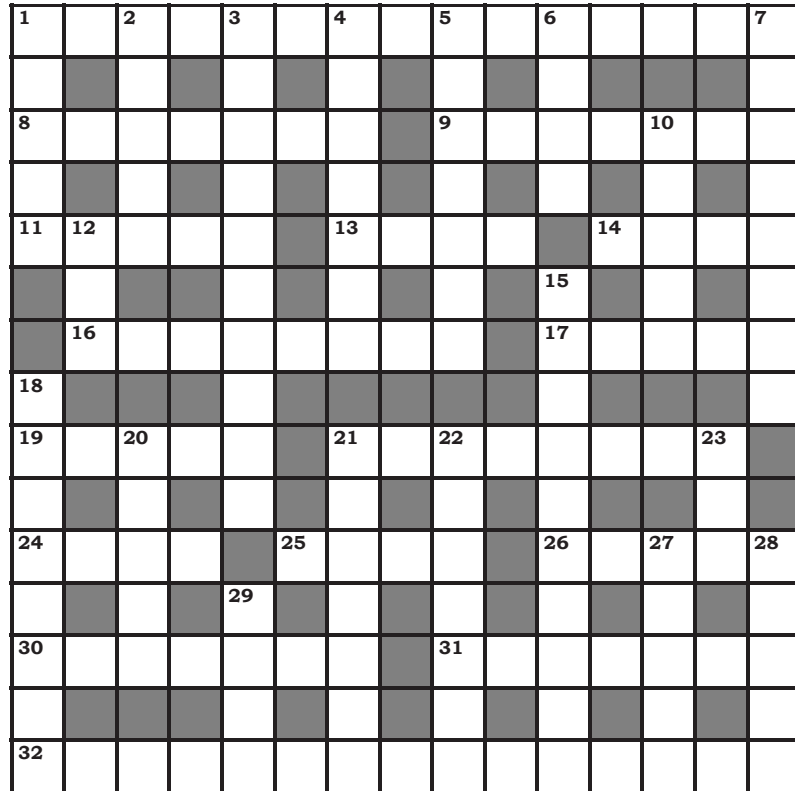
**Being Alive?**  
by  
*Hot and Cold*

**Prize:**



[rrp \$61.95]

[18th edn 2009]



A has the same meaning wherever it is found and these clues are not otherwise defined.

**Across**

- 1 A hoon who's rather a wreck (6,5,1,3)
- 8 Pantomime writer creates a safe place for children (7)
- 9 A boy in a row (7)
- 11 "Hello, Hello" Bob said. "Real toys" (2-3)
- 13 Silica extract from coco-palms (4)
- 14 Stand over the toilet, Mike (4)
- 16 A supporter sat back with one article (8)
- 17 The father of prose drama is Ben Mangle (5)
- 19 Clubhouse leader records birdie (5)
- 21 Element to offer the writer you quoted in spirit (8)
- 24 Classify status of religious text "In the beginning..." (4)
- 25 See 1 Down
- 26 In the beginning born human – like machine (5)
- 30 Carving eastern teak or beech, say (3,4)
- 31 Ring fellow tax collector (7)
- 32 A cry: "No Drink?" Drive vehicle back in (6,9)

- 3 Paradoxically, loopy pet is composed (10)
- 4 Christian Anderson takes orders for cabs (7)
- 5 State, in the manner of President short of oxygen (7)
- 6 Influence of regressive disease (4)
- 7 Embellish reputation, admitting torn plastic – or the converse (8)
- 10 Falls for pendants (5)
- 12 In Tokyo, after lout (3)
- 15 A strong stimulant put in tea for Fitzgerald perhaps (10)
- 18 A flirt with Southern politician (3,5)
- 20 A scream! One not involved (5)
- 21 Makes mention of drug contained in joints ... (7)
- 22 ...but heroin tab taken back to where one might end up in hot water (7)
- 23 Animal sound in back room (3)
- 27 A Latin graduate boxes medico (5)
- 28 Strained camping equipment reportedly (5)
- 29 Group performing Torrigiano thirds from his Introduction (4)

**Down**

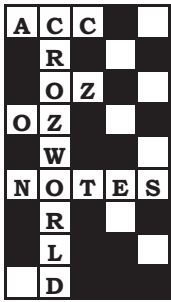
- 1 and 25 A fortunate vocal accomplishment (5,4)
- 2 Prepared drink topless, without a twist (5)

Please allow at least 3 days prior to the closing date.

Post Solution to:

Jenny Wenham  
c/o Post Office, Comet Qld 4702.  
e-mail: sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au  
Closing mail date: 13 July 2012.





**CROSSMAS CRUCIVERBAL 2012:** Our Annual Victorian Get-together this year will be **Christmas in July** and will be held at noon on Sunday 29 July at the Royal Oak Hotel, 442 Nicholson Street, North Fitzroy. The Dining Room does not usually open on Sundays, but we persuaded them to open specially for us if we can guarantee at least 30 persons. So we need your support for this function otherwise... We already have a few attending: we need many more. Help! Please. We have organised an excellent lunch: tasty savouries on arrival, a choice of three delectable main courses and a selection of three desserts followed by coffee/tea. Some wine – Red and White – will be provided by the ACC. And you can purchase all sorts of drinks from the bar at very reasonable prices. Pay on the day. Bookings and enquiries to Patrick Street, ph (03) 9347 1216 or email: [pstreet@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pstreet@bigpond.net.au) by 20th July please. There will be an exciting Crossword, a Quiz and plenty of prizes! Not to mention a lovely warming atmosphere. Come along and join in the merriment! We look forward to renewing acquaintances!

**ACC's 22nd Anniversary Quiz by Bev Cockburn and Bill Bennett.**

**Entries: 27; Correct: 10. Prizewinner: Jenny Wenham. Congratulations!**

**Solutions:** 1. XXII. 2. Grover Cleveland. 3. Squared. 4. My Glass Shall Not Persuade Me I Am Old. 5. Assassination. 6. Penshurst. 7. Jeroboam. 8. Cricket Pitch. 9. Pi. 10. Chain. 11. Chi. 12. Copper. 13. Titanium. 14. Fivepence Halfpenny. 15. Catch. 16. Song Of Solomon. 17. French. 18. Malcolm Fraser. 19. The Assyrian. 20. Tutu. 21. Victor. 22. Two Little Ducks.

**Entries: 22:** G. Cole, K. Harper, A. Jermy, C. McClelland, A. Miles, C. Noble, A. Simons, N. Storey, J. Wenham and R. Wimbush. **21½:** W. Ryan and B. Symons. **21:** P. Garner, B. Hagan, P. Lord, A. Martin, M. Steinberger, J. Stocks and A. Walter. **20:** W. Allen, A. Dyer, D. Jones and G. Leeds. **19:** M. Carbines, V. Dinham, C. Jones and J. McGrath.

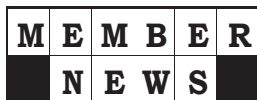
**Adjudicators' comments:** Clues 14 and 21 seem to have caused the most problems. "Farthings into pence" meant 22 farthings into pence = fivepence halfpenny. The NATO English phonetic alphabet's 22nd letter is V = VICTOR. Other errors included Polish and German for 17, 'Two sleepy swans' and 'two racing ducks' for 22, Book of Numbers x 3, Sons of Solomon and Book of Solomon for 16, William Hughes x 2 for 18. In 19, the 22nd Melbourne Cup (1882) was won by The Assyrian and the words "(The Assyrian) came down like a wolf on the fold" are from the first line of the poem by Byron *The Destruction of Sennacherib*. Finally, thank you for your words of encouragement.

**Members' comments:**

- No. 8 was my favourite clue and I did enjoy the quiz.
- Very clever! I enjoyed the quirky little clues.
- This was worthy of Ted's memory. Thank you.

Joan McGrath  
Catherine Jones  
Pat Garner

[Comments Continued on p5]



**Membership Renewals for 2012: Mary Dodd and Caroline Mackay-Sim. Many thanks to Bhavan Kasivajjula (Buzzer) for his generous donation to the ACC 2012 Prize Fund.**

**GENERAL COMMENTS (continued on p4):**

- A big thank you to all the members who sent letters and cards or phoned with words of sympathy. Len was a great supporter of ACC even though he had no interest in crosswords. We've made some wonderful friendships through this club. *Carole Noble*
- Thanks so much for my copy of *The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* that arrived on my doorstep today. My first attempt at Slot 6 and I'm very pleased with my effort. I'm so glad that my neighbour, Max Roddick, was good enough to introduce me to the Club. I had to rush next door to show him my win when I got home! Looking forward to getting into this month's challenges! *David Hatchuel*
- I have just returned from a few days up in Mildura with my Probus Club to find in my mailbox on my return, not only the May *Crozworld*, but a cheque for \$75. I am naturally thrilled and it will in some way help me recover from the effects of the deadly QUINONE disease. *John Baylis*
- Thank you so very much for my prize for Slot 2 last month together with the beautifully written certificate. Sometimes I get to manage more than the first one, but not very often. Occasionally I get stuck on just a couple of answers but before I realise it, the closing time has beaten me! However, at my age it hopefully keeps my brain in gear a little, and it is a wonderful bonus if I win a prize. My best wishes to you Patrick and all *CrozWorld* members. *Heather Zucal*
- Thanks very much for the April Slots 1-5 prize. I think it's the biggest prize I've ever won, ever, anywhere. So off to Glen Fiddich for a little celebration (Enjoy, BS) *Iain MacDougall*
- Many thanks to the club for my April Slot 5 book prize. *Peter Dearie*
- This month's crosswords seemed quite difficult – one or two answers in each slot took some solving. Fingers crossed. *Marian Procter*
- I was thrilled to receive a prize book for my entry in the quiz. Thank you to all concerned. *Barb Ibbott*
- I was delighted with my prize for Feb. Slot 6. I'd been a little apprehensive about the promised (threatened?) lobotomy, but with *Raoul's* La Goya Spanish anaesthetic I awoke singing "What a great Club this is!" *Max Roddick*

**Quiz 6/2012 Oh, oh, oh, oh! by Crowsman**

Each answer contains the letter O at least four times, but no other vowel. For example "Folk etymology and anglicisation of foreign words via sound (6-6)" would be Hobson-Jobson. Where answers have the same length (e.g. the nine 10-letter answers), they are in alphabetical order. Solutions to Len Colgan, 1 Ailsa Avenue, Warradale, SA 5046 or by email to [len.colgan@unisa.edu.au](mailto:len.colgan@unisa.edu.au)  
Closing mail Date: 13 July 2011. Book prize.

- 1 Blunder (6)
- 2 Person or thing that brings bad luck (6)
- 3 Black magic (6)
- 4 Sherry (7)
- 5 SA town on Goyder's Line (7)
- 6 Marsupial (7)
- 7 Train (4-4)
- 8 Reference for recipes (8)
- 9 In a soft and sorrowful manner (8)
- 10 English horse-racing track (8)
- 11 Make little of and dismiss (4-4)
- 12 Place for playing billiards (4-4)
- 13 Humorous name for a remote Australian place (4,4)
- 14 Never-failing (9)
- 15 Place to rest one's feet (9)
- 16 Attractive appearance (4,5)
- 17 Capital of an African country (5-4)
- 18 Unicellular organism multiplying by fission (9)
- 19 Red Cross supporter (5,5)
- 20 Area shared by school staff (6,4)
- 21 Type of US poplar (10)
- 22 A state of pampered comfort and protection (6,4)
- 23 Calling at every house in an area (4-2-4)
- 24 A person who is insipidly benevolent (5-5)
- 25 Crateriform conservation area in Tanzania, UNESCO listed (10)
- 26 Science of the teeth (10)
- 27 Place of learning (10)
- 28 Examination of the inside of the large intestine (11)
- 29 Part of attire worn by Roy Rogers (6,5)
- 30 Sensible, shrewd person (6'1,4)
- 31 Sydney suburb (13)
- 32 Using any means, whether legal or not (2,4,2,2,5)

## May 1-2012: Half 'n Half by Daintree Lady (Daphne Titus-Rees)

• Usually a breeze but this one gave me a bit of a shock. My first attempt at 3ac – male deer – was Buck. Didn't fit with 4, 5dn. But much surprise when it popped up in 6ac. I liked 2dn. Simple, accurate and clever.

*Jim Fowler*

• Good to see a contribution from Daphne again.  
• A very good Half 'n Half. CROSSWORD got my COTM. Brian Symons  
• Enjoyable Half 'n Half puzzle. 17dn: Very clever clue "Ideal roads for mooning around?' (9)" giving CRESCENTS! Thanks Daintree Lady for 2 good halves.

*Roy Wilson*

*Brian Symons*

*Alan Walter*

• NOT the comparatively simple one this time. It was the last one I finished... being misled by 'back' for 'bra' supporter among others! Have to consider MOPED for COTM... brilliant, even tho' by the time I'd 'moped' about it for days, I was quite exasperated, and grateful for my helpful friend.

*Dale McManus*

• 7dn CROSSWORD, took ages to solve – very clever. Peter Dearie  
• I found 24dn MOPED the hardest clue of all this month. It held up the despatch when all else was ready to go. Very well clued!

*Max Roddick*

• Found this a bit of a shock, but plodded on.  
• This was a very difficult Half 'n Half; much harder than the usual Slot 1.

*Robyn Wimbush*

*Margaret Davis*

## May 2-2012: Cryptic by Penobscot (Maurice Cowan)

• An excellent puzzle and I liked the theme.  
• I have never been so unsure of so many answers, however hopefully some may be right!

*Jim Fowler*

*Lynne Spicer*

• A long time (50+ years!) since I'd read Raymond Chandler, so I had a lot of trouble with this one. "Two cats" = "whip" and "lash" a clever definition.

*Nea Storey*

• Challenging puzzle solving 5dn was a big help. Favourite clues 13 and 18ac.

*Joan Smith*

• Most enjoyable, with 5ac, 17ac, 6dn being the nicest clues.

*Len Colgan*

• Very enjoyable. I can't quite understand 9ac.

*Brian Symons*

• A chuckle in almost every clue. Loved ARVO.

*Max Roddick*

• Guessed at the answers to 6dn DEDICANT, 8dn GEMINATIVE, 23ac EDITHA (old English saint), and 26ac HYADES so hope they are correct (Almost all Alan). 3dn appears to be BOOT+T+S+TRAP, a means of elevation via a BOOTSTRAP.

*Alan Walter*

• Not my favourite puzzle this month but I gave COTM to BOOTSTRAP.

*Roy Taylor*

• I enjoyed the theme and several of the clues – especially 18ac PM in OZ (4) (=ARVO)

*Brian Tickle*

• I thought combining 'whip' and 'lash' as 'cats' was a great idea, but the definition 'to be avoided in a collision' seems rather vague. All told, an enjoyable thematic puzzle. 'Tweedler' is a lovely word!

*Peter Dearie*

• I enjoyed this puzzle but do think there were rather too many anagrams.

*Margaret Davis*

## May 3-2012: Cryptic by Pindar (John Brotherton)

• Very Good with some quite hard bits. I was amazed how long I took to get Maize (19ac).

*Jim Fowler*

• What angst 1ac gave me – Duffle or Duffel? My last answer for the month of May was Lunettes so problem solved, with a sigh.

*Lynne Spicer*

• Some very clever clues here! Particularly 6dn (comfit=sweet, comprising com=red and fit=suit) and 4dn, which had me thinking "dedicated car space" was the definition, until I realised that Nice (the city) was cleverly disguised as an adjective! Hope "maize" is correct for 19ac – the clue suggests an "s" rather than a "z" but maize seems to fit the definition.

*Nea Storey*

• Great puzzle, so many good clues. Especially liked 23, 27 and 28ac and 24dn.

*Joan Smith*

• I assume that "foreign" in 17ac is "o.s." for overseas (not in Chambers or SOED, but in Macquarie). In 4dn, I prefer "Where in France?". LUNETTES is my COTM, cleverly using the "anagram of anagind" concept.

*Len Colgan*

• 29ac: Delete R from (R)EGRESSION. 4dn: BAY+OU, a clever clue: car space=BAY and "Where? In Nice" (ie in France) =OU. "Swampy area"=BAY+OU. 6dn COMFIT=a sweet, presumably "red"=COM and "suit"=FIT. 9ac: very clever clue. A+CO+LYTE (glow say=LIGHT). 10ac T+Y+RAN+NY. 13ac: All but fixed=ATTACHE(D) delete D. 17ac: ETH+OS (foreign)=character. 16dn: COMPO+SURE. 20ac: TURN+SUP (appears). 27ac: TROLLOP(E) delete (E) (energy) from novelist. 14dn: CA+S+(USBELLI)=BULLIES (rampaging). 3dn: Twice unsettle=unsettle "unsettle"=LUNETTES. 2dn: OR= Other ranks (in Aust. Defence Forces)=troops, say=EG giving F+OR+EG+ATHER. So much thought in these clues!

*Alan Walter*

• Enjoyable with a lot of good clues. "TWICE UNSETTLE" in 3dn is a tricky way of saying that UNSETTLE is both anagind and anagram.

*Roy Taylor*

• Plenty of imaginative and witty clues.

*Max Roddick*

• Excellent slot Pindar! A few COTM nominations, I chose DELIVERY!

*William Ryan*

• My favourite clue was 13ac: all but fixed case (7) =ATTACHE. A very clever subtractive clue.

*Brian Tickle*

• 8dn, DELIVERY was the last clue solved. A well clued puzzle.

*Peter Dearie*

• I'm not sure the clue at 6dn would satisfy our clue-writing judge, but it was cute!

*Margaret Davis*

## May 4-2012 A-J by Manveru (Michael Kennedy)

• I thought when first I gazed upon the puzzle "Oh Oh – this will be hard" but the clues were nowhere near as devious as I had supposed. Good, fair clues and a kind grid that gave some initial letters to readily give the locations of the 11 letter answers. Belarus, Octopus and Zealous were tricky with all having the U as penultimate letter and could have gone in any of 3 locations pending a few more answers. Top stuff.

*Jim Fowler*

• Enjoyable AJ with great clues. Trying to put Wallaby for the 'W' clue threw a spanner in the works until I checked the cryptic part of the clue.

*Joan Smith*

• The clue for GARROTTE has clever subtleties which only became apparent upon a second reading. Typical Manveru!

*Len Colgan*

• An enjoyable slot.

*Peter Dearie*

• Thank goodness for the substituted grid! Thanks Manveru for a very pleasing AJ.

*Alan Walter*

• Liked MOUSEY with its variable tail.

*Max Roddick*

• With fear and trembling, I can't NOT ask for an explanation for JUSTICE (=penalty?).

*Eileen O'Brien*

• I had to relocate Belarus three times before I found its place in the grid. Should have used a map!

*Brian Tickle*

• A nice AJ. It is hard to believe but the A clue took me longest to solve – did I feel an idiot when I finally saw the light! Margaret Davis

*Margaret Davis*

## May 5-2012 Cryptic by Crowsman (Len Colgan)

• Len never fails to please and surprise. How many 15 letter words are there? A most enjoyable puzzle.

*Jim Fowler*

• My COTM vote this month goes to Crowsman's slot 5 19ac – BROKEN HILL. Right up until I filled in the entry grids it was in the category of "I know that's the answer but I have no idea why", then the penny hit the floor with a clang and I did a quick postcode check online to confirm it. Very clever!

*Kath Harper*

• Crowsman has given us the C list and now the A list. I wonder what he will come up with for the B list? Blister, perhaps? Len gets my vote for COTM for BAYOU.

*Nea Storey*

• I always find Crowsman a challenge and this was no different. I always feel smug when I have finished. Favourite clues among many were 13 and 22ac and 5, 10 and 15dn.

*Joan Smith*

• I marvel at Crowsman's BROKEN HILL, although I don't feel it needs "is decoded".

*Jeremy Barnes*

• Wonderful clueing of long words.

*Brian Symons*

• 7ac: A+F+LICKER. 16ac: RE+D+IS+TRIBUTIONS. D+IS=penny is included. 19ac: Compilers should avoid postcodes in clues. Very unlikely to recall over 8000 Aussie postcodes! 2330 = BROKE, 3418 = NHILL, 2880 = BROKEN HILL. 2dn: Presumably P+LATITUDINARIAN.

*Alan Walter*

22ac: HEART goes to EARTH.

• I enjoyed a lot of this but found the long words a bit tedious.

*Roy Taylor*

• Finding "limmer" as an ill-natured woman (bitch) thrilled me until it just would NOT crosscheck with ACTUALIST. After 3 days I was so relieved to find...and hope... a lick for a dog!! But what a magic puzzle.

*Dale McManus*

• ACTUALIST works very smoothly. My choice for COTM.

*Max Roddick*

• 19ac Broke (in NSW) and Nhill (in Victoria) = BROKEN HILL. That is so clever.

*Brian Tickle*

• Loved 'Broke' and 'Nhill'.

*Peter Dearie*

• Another splendid puzzle from Crowsman. I know BROKEN HILL is correct at 19ac, but where and what are the other two postcodes?

*Margaret Davis*

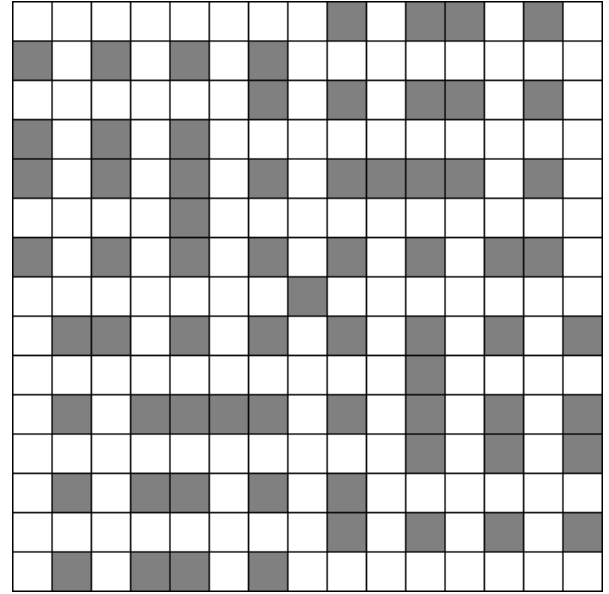
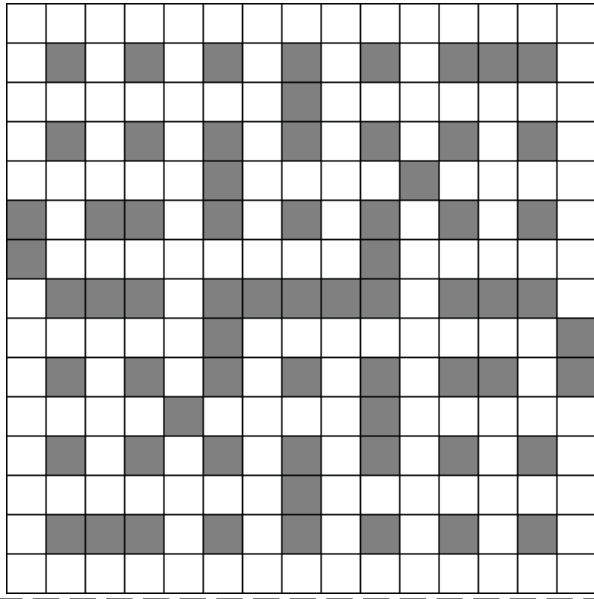
• Once again Crowsman has defeated me! However I take comfort in the fact that this time I almost made it!!

*Cheryl Wilcox*

• My COTM is 19ac, BROKEN HILL, although I hope this does not set a precedent for very diabolical clues.

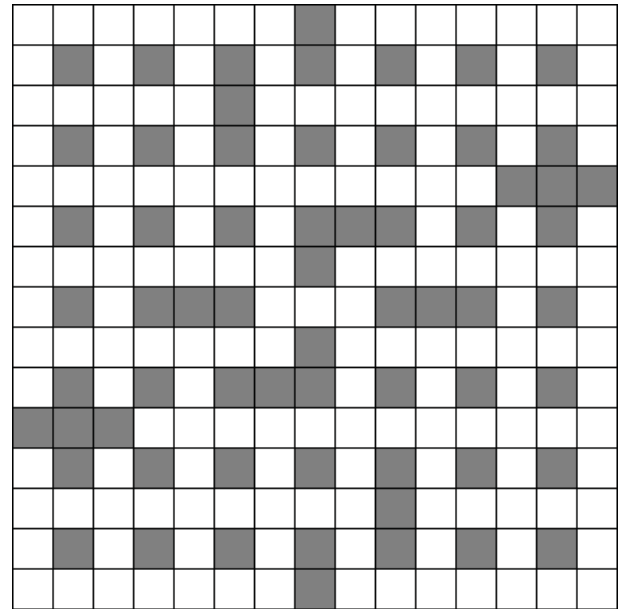
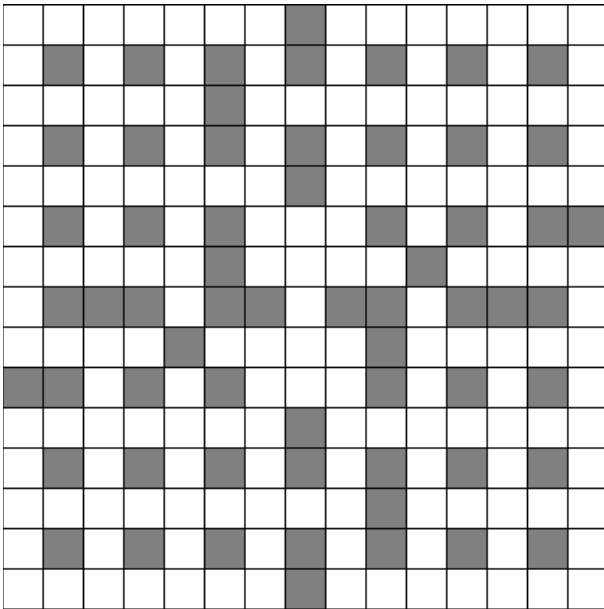
*Lynne Coulton*

Send solution to: Jenny Wenham  
c/o Post Office, Comet Qld 4702.  
Closing mail date: 13 July 2012.  
NAME: .....



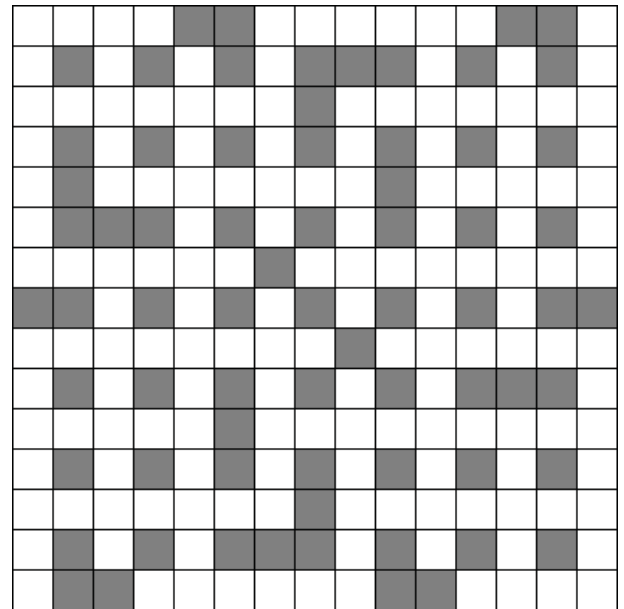
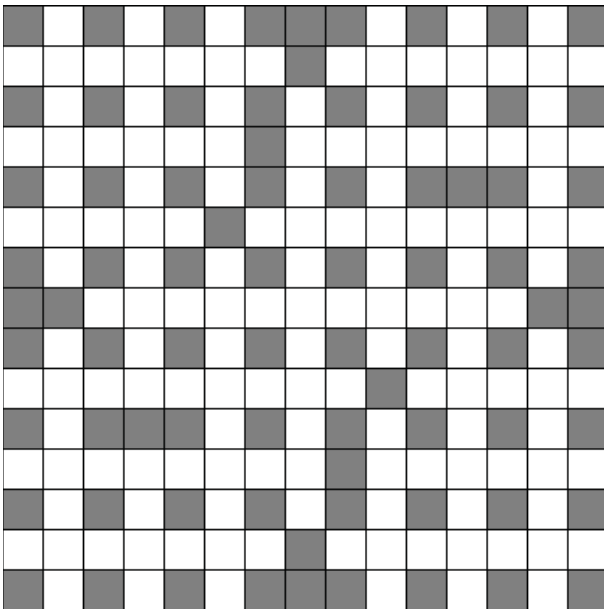
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|J|U|N|E| |3| |2|0|1|2|



|J|U|N|E| |4| |2|0|1|2|

|J|U|N|E| |5| |2|0|1|2|



Clue of the Month .....

**April 6-2012: Somebody by Beletgeuse (Gillian Champion)**

**75 entries, 44 correct. Success rate 77%**

**Winner: Ian McKenzie. Congratulations!**

Thank you all for your welcome cards, letters and comments (not to mention the dreadful puns). Much appreciated. Although my puzzle was original, the format was not mine, but was "borrowed" from other compilers (with apologies). Most of the errors were for 23dn, some members choosing AMISS instead of SMASH. Other than that, there were a few isolated errors and a couple of blanks. It was made perhaps a little more difficult by the fact that some of the missing bits were in sets and others were individual items. However everyone earned their detective's shields by unearthing all the body parts with no problems at all.  
—*Beletgeuse (Gillian Champion)*

**Solvers' Comments:**

- Once started, I couldn't put this down. A couple of minor queries, but they didn't detract from my enjoyment. I kept waiting for "hip" to appear within an across clue, but it never turned up. Keep them coming Gillian!  
*Len Colgan*
- I nearly gave up this many times as I found it extremely difficult. I hope my perseverance pays off.  
*Barbara Glissan*
- This was a very skilful corporeal construction! It took me a little while to work out the trick. I was thrown out initially by RIBS, as I was only playing with RIB. SNORER also vexed me but I now suspect it's related to Norah. Not sure though.  
*Michael Kennedy*
- Stupendously challenging as always!  
*Andrew Miles*
- Solved this at a SNAILS PACE. Each clue sent me GREYER and GREYER. What WAGGERY with SNORER (It'S NORAH!) and your topless DRESSES in USU + RESSES! Would I like another of this difficulty? Not on your NELLY!  
*Alan Walter*
- Wow! First half went in, no problem – walk in the park – I say. Ha! Last half-dozen took two weeks! Love your work!  
*Raoul*
- Thanks, Gillian, for another of your excellent puzzles.  
*Doreen Jones*
- Loved the puzzle, Gillian. At first I had no idea what the instructions meant, but guessed 'slipstream' from the down words, saw lips and got the body part connection.  
*Roy Taylor*
- Innovative format with nice clues. Well done!  
*Ian McKenzie*
- Fantastic – better than DA.  
*Brian Symons*
- I went toe to toe with your puzzle, bit my nails, tore out some hair but now I think we're seeing eye to eye. Bruising but very satisfying – thank you.  
*Kath Harper*
- Fiendishly difficult, as always! A very clever theme, and very difficult because it was unclued. I thought of 'usurers' from the start – and the last one I got out was 'usurers'!  
*Nea Storey*
- Some body parts were hard to find but I hope I've dug them all up. One could say "Look, Mum. No Hands!"  
*Carole Noble*
- I found the across clues more easily than the down set – once I got started. You have a very devious mind!! As always – the more difficult – the more rewarding!  
*Bob Hagan*
- Once again you have devised an incredibly intricate puzzle with a clever twist – body parts – and you were able to include all the across clues. Well done! There were several new words for me to learn – arabinose, chinampa and the phrase 'hail by name' was unusual. My favourite clue was 'drops dead'.  
*Bev Cockburn*
- This was a doozie – I wasn't at all sure that I could start it, let alone finish. However I persevered and after getting three across answers, managed to suss out the theme. At first I led myself astray by taking the instructions literally and looking for the words in common in the clues rather than the solutions. I feel it probably was almost as hard to set this as it was to solve – and all done without a Scottish or Spenserian word – my two bugbears! Keep up the good work – I'm hoping to fend off Dementia!  
*Pat Garner*
- Many thanks for a most absorbing puzzle. I'm not sure if by absorbing I mean that the bit of paper soaked up a load of sweat. Beads of perspiration roll off my bow when I sweat – what happens when Ladies glow? Do you get glowdrops? I am certain that the puzzle would have been easier if you had used "Brains" – I needed some, went looking, but came up short.  
*Jim Fowler*
- It took me a little while to understand how to make them work, but then I really enjoyed your cheekily ingenious clues.  
*Susan Howells*
- I had problems getting my head around the instructions – it must have been quite a task to set! – but I did enjoy it once under way.  
*Jeremy Barnes*
- My only complaint is that I was looking for a theme word, but I should have been looking for theme words. Many great clues but 11ac (GULLIVER) – when I eventually got it – keeps coming back to me. Well done.  
*Graeme Cole*
- What a great puzzle. It took quite a while to get the common clue but then armed with a list of body parts it all fell into place. The last word to get was 'Chinampa' as I was trying to fit 'hand' into the clue but for some reason I could find no reference to 'ahandmpa'. On a whim I googled 'chinampa' and there it was. It never ceases to amaze me by

what you can learn from doing a crossword. Thank you. *Lynne Spicer*

• A great puzzle, Gillian, thank you. *Bill Bennett*

• As usual a very challenging puzzle. A new word for me – Chinampa. *Robyn Caine*

• Tearing my hair out, scratching my head and racking my brain while cupping my chin and pursing my lips (assuming that I was an octopus) provided no help in working out the theme. A heart-starter was obviously needed, or a meal – spare ribs or steak and kidney pie? Now that all has been made clear I can relax, arms folded and legs stretched out, with fingers crossed that no errors were made. I'm eagerly keeping an eye out for the postie for the next *Crozworld*. My first inclination when commencing your puzzle was to e-mail you for instructions on how to work out the instructions! The penny finally dropped however. The last clues solved were 14ac. "stoep", 18ac "rankled" and 6dn "unmistaken". This was a great puzzle. I hope that the omission of "NAME" in the good grid does not result in too many anonymous entries!  
*Peter Dearie*

• I had given up on this until I got GULLIVER, then it all fell into place. CHINAMPA and ARABINOSE were new words for me. *Jan Wood*

• Thank you for your puzzle; finally fleshed it out: it embodied a great theme with clever clues for the themed items. Hope I didn't put my foot in it with too many mistakes. *John Gillis*

• Great puzzle. Really quite challenging with nothing outrageous. *Andrew Patterson*

• Doctor *Beletgeuse* has given us plenty of features to build up a body – Somebody – and hints of its inner persona also. Borrow the tip of the NOSE (in 21), tear apart the CHEST (in 12) and you'll find a scrambled BRAIN and a broken HEART. Alas, no body is perfect!  
*Max Roddick*

• 'Somebody'. What a corker! Cleverly done. *Ann Jermy*

• It took quite a while to achieve that "Eureka" moment and the instructions became crystal clear. A very good puzzle. *Jill Freeland*

• Great work Gillian – all those body parts! And some unusual words (to me anyway) ARABINOSE, CHINAMPA, SATRAP. Can't wait to work them into my conversation. *Betty Siegman*

• With all the body parts in her puzzle was it significant that Gillian did not have a HEART?  
*Margaret Davis*

• Thanks for another challenging but thoroughly enjoyable puzzle. CHINAMPA was a totally new word for me, and I have never seen STOEP spelt that way. *Mike Potts*

• Clever theme – 'somebody' = 'some body parts' – I'm glad you kept the body parts simple; eyes, chins, ribs etc or it might have got out of hand. *Tony Dobe*

• Thanks for your challenging body-parts puzzle. Could not confirm HAIL BY NAME in any of my references, but assuming HAIL is a deposit, seems logical. Fingers crossed. As usual a bunch of clever clues. Favourites were CABBALIST and NELLY. *Jack Stocks*

• The theme was body parts – not easily found. Some parts representing pairs (lips) or multiples (ribs, nails) were duly in the plural, but not all (eye, ear, toe, ankle, arm). Key was to start with the four-letter words 9ac and 27ac with the easier to find three-letter body parts. Paradoxically, across solutions were easier with something "meaty" inside, so to speak. Three down clues I am still not sure about, being more obscure and having more uncrossed than crossed letters, for verification of which, as one solver last month said, "I shall soon know the worst". For "unmistaken" I had to resort to my 1967 *Funk and Wagnall*, so one could say about this puzzle that you can be more safely unmistaken with the across clues than with the down ones. *Tony de Gry*

**SOLUTION:**

**ACROSS:** 8. Second(S-) + step (-PACE)=(sNAILSpace) 9. Almost (nEAR)=new(N) 10. Growl (GR-R)=more indistinct areas(grEYER) 11. Character who travelled (GulLIVER)=tailless bird(GUL-) 12. Group of players (OrCHESTra)=OR+painters(-RA) 14. Spelling (S-P)=verandah(stOE) 16. Held the meeting (chAIReD)=back last month(D-EC) rev 18. Road(R-D)=caused endless vexation(rANKLEd) 20.Drops (dRIBS)=dead(D-) 21. Horse (ARAB)+one after(-I-)=sugar(arabiNOSE) 24. Sampan(not tin) –AMPA=floating garden (CHINampa) 25. First (-A-)+TO=smooth(LEGato) 27. Work(W-)=to increase heat (wARM) 28. Air current behind (sLIPStream)=fly(S-TREAM) **DOWN:** 1.'s Norah= SNORER 2. WILY=way(W-Y)around Israel(-IL-) 3. USURESSES =usually(USU-)+removing top of women's garments(-RESSES) 4. Merriment (WAGGERY)=breakfast dish(-EGG-rev) held up by fighting (WAR-)+youth(-Y) 5. NELLY(not on your) 6. Almost miss(-MIS-)inside+what's left (UN-TAKEN)=right(UNMISTAKEN) 7. Barely (NAKED-)+I hear(EYE)=organ unassisted 13. Call personally (HAIL BY NAME)=a lot back(-YNAM-)+in notes(-B-E)+after deposit (HAIL-)-15. Class of insignificant celebrities(C-LIST)+pop group (-ABBA-)=CABBALIST 17. Weed(HARDHEAD)anag of Had heard 19. Wandering (ERRATIC)=returning sailor(-RAT-) in highly glazed state(CI-RE)rev 22. Breaks up(PART-S) without -A- =tyrant(S-A-TRAP) 23. Singular(S-)+bungle(-MASH)=ruin(SMASH) 26. Instructor(GURU)=first of untimatums(-U)+raising hairpiece(GUR-)-rug (revd).