



|N|o.|2|2|9| |M|A|Y| |2|0|0|9|



www.crosswordclub.org



Colours speak all Languages, but Words are understood only by such a People or Nation. Joseph Addison, 27 June 1712, 'Secondary Pleasures of the Imagination', *The Spectator*, no 416

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

Contributions have been received from members on the subject of standards generally, and a number of points were made on puzzle standards in general in a recent Letter to the Editor [CrOZworld April 2009 p9]. It is unlikely that these contributions represent the last, or the only, words on the subject: your views are essential to ensuring that the puzzles that we present meet the wishes of the members in all respects. If it is your wish we could make such discussions a continuing feature in CrOZworld, as space permits. Ian Williams is, as ever, happy to co-ordinate the more general exchanges on clues, grids or any other features of our magazine. You are invited to send any views on these subjects to him, identifying clearly those comments that you would wish to be published. See p15 for some contributions.

Our masterly Puzzle set-up person, Ian Williams, has selected a brace of excellent and challenging puzzles and quizzes for you this month. Perennial favourites like *Virgo*, *Jesso*, *Praxis* and *Southern Cross* are there for your ongoing enjoyment plus another skilful offering from the talented *zinzan*. We welcome back *St Jude* with an excellent AJ and the dynamic duo *Hot and Cold* have devised another thematic beauty which they have titled *What the ...*. In addition we have two quizzes from *The Busybodies* and *Virgo* and Steve Trollope has challenged clue-writers to devise a clue for the word PROCEDURE. Best of Luck with your solving this month.

The Victorian *Christmas in July* Get-Together will be held in the comfortable Dining Room at the Royal Oak Hotel, North Fitzroy on Sunday 26 July commencing at noon. We hope to welcome all crossworders especially those who might like to visit us from interstate. See p9 for further details. Make a note in your Social Diary now! It's an event not to be missed.

—Patrick

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

Puzzles well received this month, with quite a few solvers suggesting they were much more manageable than some recent challenges! There are always some coffee stained submissions, but this month I had the pleasure of noting a red wine stain (a cheeky little merlot from the south side of the hill, I think) and, seasonally, chocolate Easter egg.

Slot 1: GRID (for GRAD) led the slip field here, closely followed by DOZIEST (for DOPIEST) and a variety of spellings for DEIFIES.

Slot 2: This puzzle was very well received and a significant number nominated various answers for COTM. OPEN (for UPON) and SNORTS (for SNORES) tripped a few. Others were typos (FINESTRAL, BORROWS, DISPHAGIC) or creative spellings (COBIC, TENDENIMION) to fill an aching void.

Slot 3: Bo Peep may have lost her sheep, but a good number of solvers missed the hint in 11ac to "Bo" and lost a dot with PEERED OUT rather than PEEPED. 17dn showed creativity too with LEAF CURS, LEAF CULL, LEAD LINE and LAAF CURL testing the adjudicatory eye.

Slot 4: It seems that every month's ACC has one clue that provides more problems than all the others combined. WISTARIA, not WISTERIA sank the boats of nearly 20 solvers. NEBRIS provided some entertainment with NUBBIN, NEBLIM and NEBKID (among others) being proffered.

Slot 5: Not quite as bad as "W" in Slot 4 (see above) but 20dn (PELTED) saw a dozen BELTED. INFLORESCENCES is not only a big word, but hard to spell ... other errors were typos or creative constructions. One solver missed a probable dot because the submitted photocopy cut off the last line.

COTM: While all Slots received a COTM nomination, Slot 2 was outstanding in having 2 clues in particular receiving multiple ticks. By a slim margin, 11dn (FRENCH POLISH) pipped 14ac to take out the COTM this month – congratulations *Virgo!*

Thank you for all the entries, cards, good wishes and comments. I particularly liked the simple "Hi!" that accompanied one entry.

—David Grainger

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

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	111	100	108	102	107	528
Correct entries	84	79	89	75	79	406
Success rate (%)	75.7	79	82.4	73.5	73.8	76.9
Prizewinners	G Campbell D Hemsley	L Waites J Standard	B Eggleton C Chance	D Procter	M Dennis J Fowler	from 112 members

Prizewinner: April 2009 Slots 1-5: Mike Potts

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

President	Patrick Street	395 Canning St, North Carlton Vic 3054	☎ (03) 9347 1216	pstreet@bigpond.net.au
Secretary	Bev Cockburn	12 Norman St, Merrylands West NSW 2160	☎ (02) 9635 7802	bevco4@bigpond.com
Puzzle/Quiz submission	Ian Williams	12 Lindrum Cres, Holt ACT 2615	☎ (02) 6254 6860	ianw@webone.com.au

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

	page
Cryptic by Jesso	3
Cryptic by Virgo	4
Cryptic by Southern Cross	5
AJ by St Jude	6
Double Acrostic by zinzan	7
Cryptic by Praxis	8
Happy Birthday Shirli!	9
Oxford Word of the Month	9
What the ... by Hot & Cold	13
Quiz No 4/2009	14
Clue Writing Comp	16

M	A	Y			
2	0	0	9		
S	L	O	T		1

Cryptic
by
Jesso

Prizes: \$50



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

Across

- 1 Assuming new name in execution (7)
- 5 Encyclopaedist cleaned up English rubbish (7)
- 9 Wood's destination ... a sand-hill around wrong side of Argyll North (9)
- 10 Endow strange deity (5)
- 11 Munchhausen takes transport back (4)
- 12 Profligacy of French composer around the second of June on English railway (10)
- 14 Salt is classified initially rich in silicon and aluminium (5)
- 16 To covet so unconscionably in an undertone (5,4)
- 18 Hard man to evacuate ... half full! (4,5)
- 21 Rude mixture with nothing for rust-fungus (5)
- 23 Playing colourfully, the writer goes on with a little money (10)
- 24 Decline a new brew (4)
- 27 Indian took back U.S. state (5)
- 28 Placing it returned with gold returned in swindle (9)
- 29 New hotels round African state (7)
- 30 Avoidance so naive in a way (7)

Down

- 1 Distributes around dead-ends. Easy tasks (7)
- 2 Trained assassin, not entirely unknown in Japan (5)
- 3 The writer to deliver a plant (4)
- 4 Bigger sound square kitchen utensils (7)
- 5 It's made in a matrix to stop working with the players (7)
- 6 Begin with church or country birdsong (4,6)
- 7 Travel on around midnight with European member of the house? (9)
- 8 A photograph in petty scandal (7)
- 13 A fiery stimulant left a long time without stress? (10)
- 15 Sweets found in lounge at one father's (9)
- 17 Fragment of pianoforte piece (3)
- 18 Colour in rotten fellow's plane (7)
- 19 Painter caught playing in island in river (7)
- 20 Chinese flower has to get zany arrangement (7)
- 22 Be obligated to northern shearer for a weapon (4,3)
- 25 Nearly all in the same place with one excuse (5)
- 26 Mother married a lot of doctors (4)

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

Slots 1-5: Betty Siegman, 3 Burrawong St, Bateau Bay NSW 2261.
e-mail: betty_siegman@hotmail.com
Closing mail date: Friday 29 May 2009.
e-lodgment: ianw@webone.com.au
Slot 6: Roy Wilson, 2 Dell Street, Blacktown NSW 2148.
email: rbw4133@tadaust.org.au
Closing mail date: Friday 12 June 2009.

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

M	A	Y			
2	0	0	9		
S	L	O	T		2

Cryptic by Virgo



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								

Across


- Riders beheaded and smashed piggie banks (5,5)
- Layman turns into a Socialist (4)
- Tally the French to go off (5)
- The art of discovering all about batter on diet, etc. (9)
- Dodgem cars are taken to the metropolis – not many left now! (8)
- Never mind cuddling these creatures (6)
- Just beat the seed (3)
- Scream when you see the first person eaten by the fat green cartoon character (6)
- Off in the safari (4)
- Chances leaping into word odes (4)
- Grass from a place to scratch after the first two quadrupeds (6)
- Grandmother's cat has turned its back (3)
- Stone backs up rodents (6)
- So that coins hum when spun (8)
- Singer (not Carol) in a medley with lead trumpet (9)
- We leave serious objective anagrams to Willow (5)
- White falls in Kansas nowadays (4)
- She rewards the loss of a chopper (5,5)

Down

- Ladies support ship with money (5)
- Adventure story penned while little Robert slept? (9)
- The jerks at the gym (8)
- An accountant – one hearing hesitation in the theatre (10)
- Take in a furlong at Epsom (4)
- Chopper saw ten thousand in principle (5)
- Study a French cylinder riddle (9)
- Cheat the prison officer (5)
- Planning testing! (7,3)
- Outlooks for gold diggers? (9)
- Pasta: cut it fine for placing in a jar (9)
- Appalling how fort got loud in shed (5,3)
- Glaswegian expressed sorrow regarding pigment (5)
- The guy to follow with some fruit (5)
- A robust author (5)
- This singer is a lot different (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- What a lovely surprise was my *Macquarie* dictionary for Slot 1 February. Many thanks. It was a great introduction to the Club. *Robyn Wimbush*
- Many thanks for the book prize for winning Quiz No 2. Getting 100% was pleasing enough but having my name pulled out of the hat really put the icing on the cake! Cheers to our wonderful club, to you Patrick and your band of helpers. *Valerie Howard*
- I would like to thank the club for my slot 1-5 prize last month. A very pleasant surprise. *Brian Symons*
- Thank you for the terrific Tornado Crossword Pencil. I can now make as many mistakes as I like! *Michael Kennedy*
- All the 6 puzzles this month were challenging and enjoyable. It would be very satisfactory if this April 2009 set of puzzles is kept as a benchmark as the fair level for puzzles in future issues. *Alan Walter*
- On the 8th April 2009 this issue celebrated our ACC's 19th anniversary. Many Happy Returns! *Alan Walter*
- A good selection of puzzles this issue, a great balance and some very clever clues, most enjoyable. *Ron O'Rourke*
- I thought this month's lot was an excellent selection with some very clever clues. *Bev Cockburn*

M A Y 2 0 0 9 S L O T 3
Cryptic by Southern Cross


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							

Across

- 1 A New York query regarding position in an unspecified location (8)
- 5 I understand Gordon's old partner has one (6)
- 9 Put up with exercises at school – this could lead to big payouts (4,4)
- 10 Jerk takes in girl involved in treating leather (6)
- 12 Digit used in earliest humble counting system (5)
- 13 Shakespearean tale-teller getting dates mixed is severely reprimanded (9)
- 14 Died, and their own involvement, paradoxically up the spout ... (4,3,5)
- 18 ... included in time, getting into trouble for cremation (12)
- 21 Pain-killer makes one with a broken leg almost ill (9)
- 23 Discloses changes made to lakes (5)
- 24 Decrease spirit on display (6)
- 25 Everyone understood signal to relax (3,5)
- 26 Off-peak calls? (6)
- 27 Styes can be ugly sights (8)

Down

- 1 Sets aside everything to put back before Sunday (6)
- 2 Oo-h! I'd like to eat that G&S character! (3,3)
- 3 Patty puts narcotic in front of Tasmanian greenie (4,5)
- 4 Flower producer is incoherent and possibly sore (8,4)
- 6 Nebraskan city heads off onslaught – military authorities hastily assemble (5)
- 7 Troublesome S. American import whipped around to front of airport (4,4)
- 8 I'd stress out in Casualty (8)
- 11 Striking colleague forcefully (12)
- 15 Do golden clasps have security measures? (4,5)
- 16 Clinton's wife almost accepts it with boisterous gaiety (8)
- 17 Had Barney cancelled? (8)
- 19 Profession for one tending to retain energy (6)
- 20 Large flag depicting Egyptian god (6)
- 22 Interrogate after the poor girl left (5)

GENERAL COMMENTS:

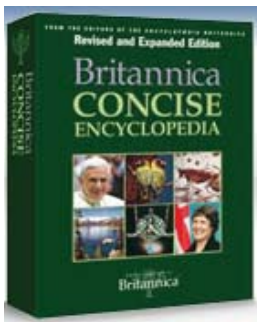
- Lots of fun clues this month. Very enjoyable.
- A good batch again this month – always one or two clues which keep churning over until the penny drops, but hopefully not too many mistakes.
- A goodly bunch of clues this month – no “all-too-clever” ones.
- It was a pleasant surprise to see I'd won a prize for last month's No. 5 ... The certificate is beautiful and I'll treasure that, thanks Patrick.
- Thank you for my prize in Slot 3. Always a thrill.
- Thank you for the March Slot 3 prize. The credit union teller commented on Patrick's calligraphy ... the puzzles seemed, if not easy, a bit less of a struggle.
- Thank you APRIL! I was so demoralized by my miserable one star (I only submitted 2 of the 6) it was heartening that MARCH'S tragedy was compensated for by APRIL.
- A challenging group of puzzles, enjoyable though.
- I am recuperating from recent spinal surgery, and have been unable to send in many crossword entries. So it was a great thrill to receive a co-winners cheque for Feb Slot 2. A real pick-me-up. Thank you.

Sandra May
 Del Kennedy
 Ted O'Brien
 Carole Noble
 Shirl O'Brien
 Peter Dearie
 Dale McManus
 Margaret Galbreath
 Val Knight

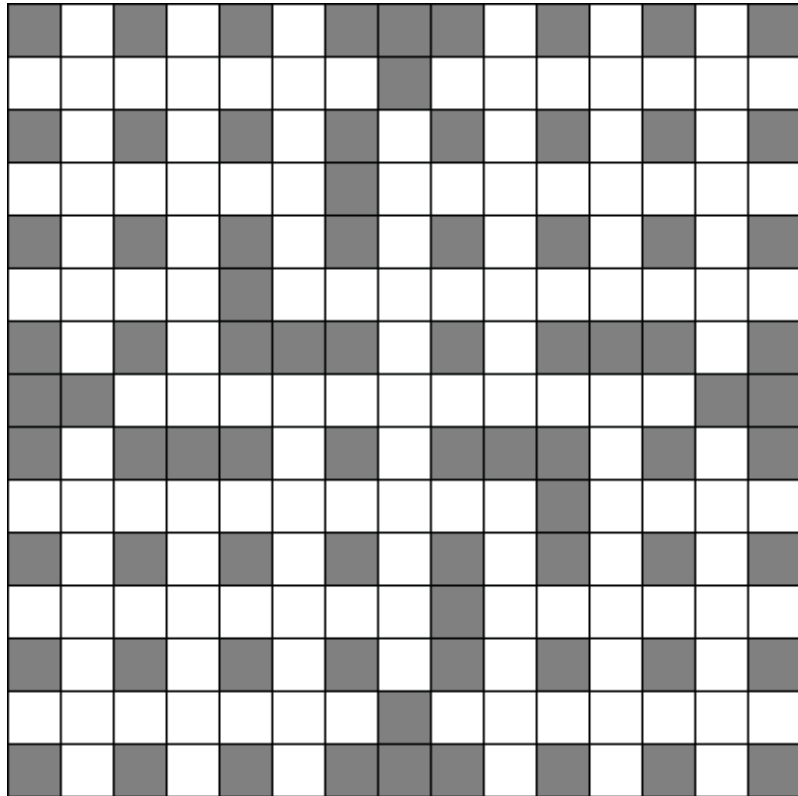
M	A	Y			
2	0	0	9		
S	L	O	T		4

AJ
by
St Jude

Prize:



[rrp \$89.95]



Solve the clues and insert the answers, jig-saw wise, where they fit.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>A Contraction of muscle band men have commenced toning (11)</p> <p>B A drone installed when French royal family replaced baron with daughter, (7)</p> <p>C Most secretive about a soldier having therapy (7)</p> <p>D Remained dead, I declare but healthy inside (7)</p> <p>E Measure weight of hammer cover (6)</p> <p>F One time an agent held some types of eyes? (7)</p> <p>G Graduates set off to fabricate a demigod (6)</p> <p>H Befuddled? Call the witch! (7)</p> <p>I Nail gun I used in crotch area (8)</p> <p>J Exhausted but without hesitation danced (6)</p> <p>K Credit given to a sailor after some baking of seafood (4,4)</p> <p>L Sweet choked me and I did nothing (11)</p> <p>M The spiritual initiator said to be excited after mist formed (10)</p> <p>N In point of fact, announce the queen is an opponent (8)</p> | <p>O Apart from a defence I was unprepared (3-5)</p> <p>P Loin portal excited fertiliser (10)</p> <p>Q Poems with questions and answers about French aids (7)</p> <p>R Declare again that after disturbing fear we are resolute (8)</p> <p>S Expression of surprise from pirate made to serve in Scotland (4)</p> <p>T Lift model bird (6)</p> <p>U Finished? Then employ duplicate! (4,2)</p> <p>V Sing as I look at old container of no calibre (8)</p> <p>W Wrestle with empty water shaft (6)</p> <p>X Woody tissue's oxygen tolerance disturbed following removal of carotene (7)</p> <p>Y Cry regularly at dry stone wall (4)</p> <p>Z Watching nun use excited zeal to start rapture (7)</p> |
|--|---|

Solvers' comments on Bonus Quiz March 2009 by Ann Ass (Jenny Wenham):

- When I read of that beautiful lass, who lives out the back side of Yass, I was sure all the time, that the very last rhyme Would refer to the size of her 2773!
Merv Collins
- How pleasant it was to have some comic relief after getting nowhere fast with the cryptics.
Glenda Lloyd
- It's a shame you didn't post your mobile number – I could have sent it via SMS.
Michael Kennedy
- Great fun in front of the cricket!
William Ryan
- Been searching for the subject of this limerick for most of my life. Does she have a boat? If so please send photo **of the boat.**
Jack Stocks
- I don't do many puzzles but like this sort. I started it and my wife Pam completed it – an enjoyable exercise. It pays to advertise!
Bob Hagan
- This made me laugh. I don't usually enter the quizzes, and I'm not familiar with text messaging, but the 'pressing' message gave me a hint. Not sure about Yass, I found it in the postcode book and presume it's a long way from Comet? [Quite right, Jan!] *Jan Wood*
- I don't understand the purpose of the figure '1' at the ends of lines 2 and 5. On my mobile phone, this is a space; if the lines had ended with a zero, it could have indicated a punctuation mark. So I am not sure what you wanted.
Susan Howells
- Here is my entry for your incredibly modest autobiographical quiz. I do not have a mobile phone but I guessed it was a text message. However, when I looked at a friend's mobile there was nothing on the 1 key. Is it punctuation?
Gabrielle Leeds

M	A	Y			
2	0	0	9		
S	L	O	T		5

Double Acrostic
by
zinzan

Prizes: \$50



[2006 edn]

1	P	2	V	3	P	4	I	5	E	6	X	7	B	8	D	9	U	10	S	11	I	12	W	13	V	14	I	15	N
16	X	17	L	18	K	19	P	20	D	?	21	Q	22	G	23	C	24	Q	25	B	26	J	27	M	28	P	29	T	
30	F	31	R	32	F	33	A	34	W	35	H	36	G	37	V	38	C	39	N	40	V	41	K	42	H	43	M	44	J
45	G	46	D	47	K	48	D	49	O	50	U	51	P	52	A	53	D	54	A	55	M	56	N	57	I	58	L	59	F
60	T	61	K	62	P	?	63	A	64	W	65	R	66	E	67	C	68	S	69	J	70	K	71	T	72	K	73	F	
74	B	75	N	76	H	77	L	78	T	?	79	W	80	V	81	G	82	X	83	Q	84	E	85	G	86	D	87	M	
88	M	89	P	90	H	91	T	92	E	93	X	94	A	95	A	96	P	97	C	98	O	?	99	M	100	V	101	E	
102	G	103	P	104	C	105	E	106	H	107	I	108	A	109	S	110	F	111	W	112	E	113	K	114	R	115	X	116	D
117	O	118	I	?	119	U	120	R	121	H	122	V	123	R	124	X	125	E	126	H	127	U	128	D	129	M	130	B	
131	L	132	S	133	N	134	K	135	C	136	J	137	H	138	E	139	D	140	X	141	G	142	Q	143	P	144	X	145	J
146	F	147	P	148	D	149	B	150	A	151	A	152	H	153	F	154	W	155	G	156	D	157	U	158	G	159	B	160	O
161	F	162	F	163	I	164	A	165	Q	166	C	167	L	168	D	169	E	170	D	171	N	?							

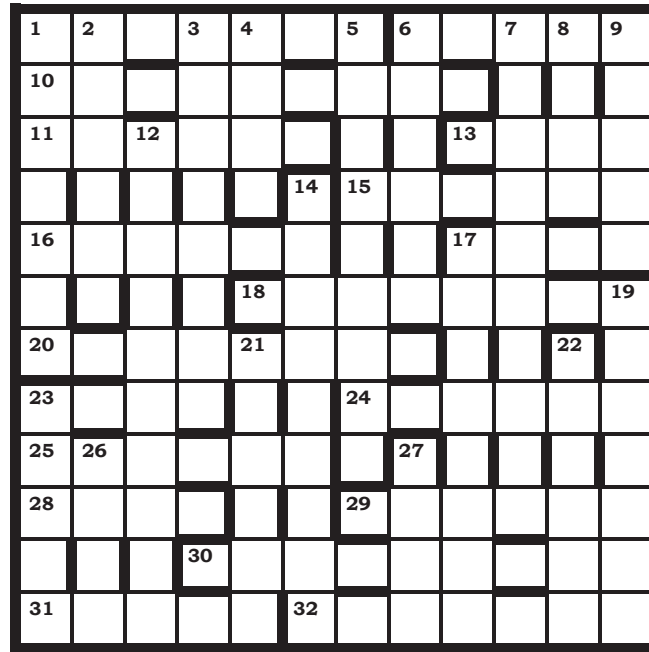
A	150	63	52	94	164	151	54	33	95	108			
B	25	74	7	159	130	149							
C	67	166	104	38	97	135	23						
D	48	156	139	20	46	168	8	148	86	170	128	116	53
E	125	66	84	112	138	92	5	105	101	169			
F	162	110	153	32	73	146	59	161	30				
G	36	22	102	158	155	85	45	141	81				
H	137	126	35	42	106	90	152	121	76				
I	118	14	107	163	4	57	11						
J	145	69	136	26	44								
K	18	70	113	41	47	134	72	61					
L	58	77	167	17	131								
M	43	129	88	99	27	55	87						
N	56	15	133	39	171	75							
O	98	160	117	49									
P	143	62	3	103	28	51	1	96	19	147	89		
Q	83	142	24	165	21								
R	120	123	31	114	65								
S	10	132	109	68									
T	71	91	78	60	29								
U	157	127	9	119	50								
V	100	13	37	122	2	80	40						
W	34	111	64	79	12	154							
X	124	115	6	144	93	82	16	140					

Solve the clues and write the answers in the spaces provided on the left, then transfer each letter to the corresponding numbers in the grid above. When completed this will reveal part of a lyric. The first letters in the answers column, reading downwards, spell out the name of the source and the band that performed it. For a bonus, not contributing to the "dot", which three answers could give a clue to the band's most successful album?

- A Then subsequent to widow's end, life beyond death (10)
- B Odysseus' homeland invading with a callousness (6)
- C A cards team exude determination to start, having rested (7)
- D Doctor house-calling has no injection of drugs (13)
- E Mull about a Victorian river before Canberra suburb (10)
- F Mass procession of transport has to go inside (9)
- G Rotund foe thrown on the ground (9)
- H Deal for ABC's followers of 6-time Wimbledon champion (9)
- I Study of European Community's bionomics ? (7)
- J Oddly cut tree - hardly prepared (5)
- K Established storage for consignment of French food (8)
- L Scorch the middle of the wasteland (5)
- M Demanding one deed by old men (7)
- N Loud speaker of errant nonsense (6)
- O Having too much speed, gets the upper hand (4)
- P Mind-blowing cliches and dopy transposition (11)
- Q Country immersed by Mandarin dialect (5)
- R Crew changes direction day to day (5)
- S Took a thought-provoking part as Kim's parent on a TV show (4)
- T Enemy captured ship in moat (5)
- U Both sides maintain university not aware initially of a satellite (5)
- V Open air better for taking top off (7)
- W A greeting you heard on water? (3-3)
- X Information kept in a betting shop in moist surroundings (4,4)

M	A	Y			
2	0	0	9		
S	L	O	T		6

Cryptic by Praxis



Across

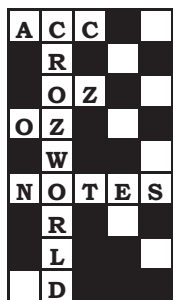
- 1 and 1dn Price transport; take pig back over gulf to painter (14; 3 words)
- 6 Emcee circled way about sacred site (5)
- 10 A craft's returning governor to city (9)
- 11 Space agency has a way to make organ stop (6)
- 13 Money's withdrawn; it covers seeds (4)
- 15 Laurel adopts church policy (6)
- 16 Old drunk grunted (6)
- 17 America embraced return of more than one alien craft? (4)
- 18 Poor Miss Hall's somewhat petite (8)
- 20 Hot, a priest left the landing site (8)
- 23 Now on out west this time ... (4)
- 24 ... film on retired rocker (6)
- 25 Patient's whereabouts was once secret? (6)
- 28 Moves dogs, getting rid of the noise (4)
- 29 Gets up after one for 1's work (6)
- 30 Flash Colin's one with enamel inlay (9)
- 31 Sunday in the art gallery seeking culture (5)
- 32 Next, 4 turned and set off (7)

Down

- 1 See 1ac
- 2 I protested for chemical substance (6)
- 3 Nut to fix mechanical link (8; 2 words)
- 4 Make 1's severed appendage new (4)
- 5 and 23dn 1's work for the Oscars? (14; 3 words)
- 6 Chap's permitted to climb ledge (6)
- 7 Grain on W.C.; 1's work? (10)
- 8 Sophisticated star of *A Night at the Opera* is denied nothing (4)
- 9 Prince lost companion in a town associated with 1 (5)
- 12 Star's bloomers by 1 (10)
- 14 Odd men developed boy tennis player (9)
- 17 Covert corrupt rule, over time, destroyed Rio ... (8)
- 19 ... obstinate hatreds developed (7; hyphenated)
- 21 Even the Spanish cheer release (6)
- 22 Eve's turned on the news; we'll leave for the game (6)
- 23 See 5dn
- 26 She's originally from New Orleans, Louisiana (4)
- 27 Latin's bear old city state (4)

Post
Solution
to:

Roy Wilson,
2 Dell Street, Blacktown NSW 2148
email: rbw4133@tadaust.org.au
Closing mail date: Friday 12 June 2009.



SHIRL O'BRIEN CELEBRATES A SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAY!

Our distinguished and popular Member **Shirl O'Brien** celebrated her 80th Birthday recently. We recall what the noted American writer Henry Miller said 'On Turning Eighty' in *Sextet*, 1977:

"At 80 I believe I am a far more cheerful person than I was at 20 or 30. I most definitely would not want to be a teenager again."

We sincerely congratulate you on this wonderful milestone, Shirl, our 'cheerful and legendary cruciverbal compiler'. And we wish you a very happy Birthday, many Happy Returns and Good Health in the future.

CROSSMAS CRUCIVERBAL 2009

Our Annual Victorian Get-together this year will be **Christmas in July** and will be held at noon on Sunday 26 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 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. The cooking is good country style and will suit all palates. The main courses cost about \$18 and you can buy 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 by 20th July please. Come along and join in the merriment! We look forward to renewing acquaintances!

March 09 Bonus Quiz "Autobiography" by Ann Ass

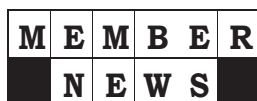
Results: Entries: 13; Correct: 12. Success Rate: 92%. Winner: Peter Dearie. Congratulations!

Successful Solvers: Graeme Cole, Merv Collins, Peter Dearie, Bob Hagan, Susan Howells, Gabrielle Leeds, Glenda Lloyd, Claire McClelland, William Ryan, Jack Stocks, Dallas Window and Jan Wood.

Answer: There once was a beautiful lass/who resided a long way from Yass./No one could compare/With her brains and her flair/And yet everyone called her Ann Ass.

Adjudicator's comments: A small number of entries but almost all correct. Thanks for comments, including a poem that was a little too long to reproduce here, and cards. For those who were completely baffled, the 'pressing message' was an SMS message as sent on a mobile phone. But for those who don't text, or who don't have a mobile phone, all the letters would usually be on any phone handset. The only problem for those who were using normal handsets would have been the 1s at the ends of lines 2 & 5. These represented punctuation marks, and any were accepted. I've applied the same principle to the use of capitals, as the same key would be used for both upper and lower case. Unfortunately I've now found out that not all mobile phones use the '1' for punctuation, so my apologies to anyone this confused. When I was writing the limerick I found out that not all phones use '0' for a space, and deleted the 0s from my original version. See p6 for Solvers' Comments.

—Jenny Wenham



New members: We extend a warm welcome to new member **Rosemary Gardiner** from Frankston North, Vic (a Membership Gift from Phyl Heath) and **Judith Haste** from Avondale, Qld. Welcome to the wonderful

world of Crozworlding.

Membership Renewals: Mark McGree and Gwen Owens. Many thanks Gwen for your kind donation to the ACC Prize Pool.

Puzzle Adjustments: Gabrielle Leeds gained a dot for her entry to 'Beyond Belief' Slot 6 puzzle in February's *Crozworld*.

In Doug Butler's Quiz No 4/2009 Letter Opener, Doug offers two alternative clues: For clue 12: Layer. For clue 22: Curve.

Good Book:

Maurice Cowan informs us that he recently bought a copy of the *Chambers Crossword Manual*, 4th ed 2006 by Don Manley from Dymocks ACT. Maurice says: "While it is, shall we say, preaching to the converted it is still a good read and has 97 puzzles." Derek Harrison from the Crossword Centre (UK) calls it "the crossword enthusiast's DIY manual." And Francis Wheen: "the crossword oracle – wise, witty and indispensable". Here's a clue from the inside flap: Bloke to be seen by all – a learner with a how-to book (6).

The Australian Oxford Dictionary

WORD OF THE MONTH

struthious *adj.* of or like an ostrich [ORIGIN: Latin *struthio* 'ostrich'.]

The Australian Oxford Dictionary, Second Edition, 2004
Edited by Dr Bruce Moore. \$110.00 ISBN 978019557965

The Australian National Dictionary Centre was established in 1988 with the twin purposes of conducting research into Australian English and providing Oxford University Press with editorial expertise for its range of Australian dictionaries. It is jointly funded by the Australian National University and Oxford University Press Australia. WS Ramson was director of the Centre from 1988 to 1994. Bruce Moore became director in 1994. The Centre takes its name from *The Australian National Dictionary: A Dictionary of Australianisms on Historical Principles*, ed. WS Ramson, which was published by Oxford University Press in 1988.

Bonus Quiz: Construction Site by Virgo

Solutions all contain types of buildings. Answers are in alphabetical order. Send your entry to Audrey Austin, 24 Hempstalk Cres, Kariong. NSW 2250. fax: (02) 43402823. e-mail: ccryptic@bigpond.net.au
Closing mail date: 12 June 2009. Book prize.

- 1 1978 John Belushi movie (6,5)
- 2 Slim Dusty hit song (1,3,4,2,4)
- 3 Head of the household in TV's *All in the Family* (6,6)
- 4 NZ strip cartoon (7,5)
- 5 1941 Robert Newton movie (6'1, 6)
- 6 1942 Bing Crosby movie (7,3)
- 7 The 'H' in M.A.S.H. (8)
- 8 1966 Alec Guinness movie (5,8)
- 9 Elvis Presley song (9,4)
- 10 A Sydney railway station (6)
- 11 TV drama series starring Wentworth Miller (6,5)
- 12 Actress star of Little Miss Marker, 1934 (7,6)
- 13 1973 Vincent Price movie (7,2,5)
- 14 Poem by Oscar Wilde (3,6,2,7,4)
- 15 1957 Stewart Granger Movie (3,6,3)
- 16 George Eliot novel (3,4,2,3,5)
- 17 It came tumbling down in the Bible (3,5,2,5)
- 18 TV series starring Penelope Keith (2,3,5,4)
- 19 Novel by Harriet Beecher Stowe (5,3'1, 5)
- 20 New Vaudeville Band hit (10,9)

April 1-2009: Half 'n Half by jesso (Noel Jessop)

- Much liked 7dn ICE + PACK for “a swell application” and 29dn “Black woman’s country” = B + OLIVIA. 42dn caused a problem until I realised “reading” = R being one of the 3 R’s. GAD = wander around R gives GRAD = one passed. Thanks Noel for a very satisfying Slot 1 puzzle. *Alan Walter*
- 10dn: is the second “out of shape” required? 21dn – a clever clue. *Graeme Cole*
- Noel never fails to delight. *Margaret Davis*
- 19dn – OKIE not in *Chambers*. 21dn – clever use of START for “startle”. 33dn – SAINTS = “S”? 42dn – clever use of PASSED and WANDER. *Tony deGryns*
- Another fine entrée from *Jesso*. *Mal Cockburn*
- Good, fair clues but solvable with a bit of head-scratching. *Nea Storey*
- 23dn: TOE – have no idea if this is right: I assume it’s a golf driver, and knowing nothing about clubs, hope they have a toe! *Barbara Morris*

April 2-2009: Cryptic by Virgo (Audrey Austin)

- 14ac: “I must get used to stick insects” = FLYPAPER was a cleverly worded clue. 11dn: “A bilingual finish” = FRENCH + POLISH was another lovely clue. Thanks *Virgo* for a nice puzzle. *Alan Walter*
- What is a “Maori jeans particle box”? I don’t understand 5dn and 7dn and 10ac worries me a lot. *Andrew Patterson*
- Lots of great clues – especially FLYPAPER (my COTM) and IN THING. Can you please explain 7dn? *Brian Symons*
- I didn’t understand clue for what I presume is BIPOLAR. *Roy Taylor* and similar *Tony deGryns*
- 1ac: use of “I’m”? Maybe “enthused” could have gone at the front of the clue. 10ac: should “ticketless” be just “ticket”? 14ac: could this clue be explained please? 18dn: a great clue. *Graeme Cole*
- 10ac: I have my doubts. A company left the ticket, surely! *Margaret Davis* and similar *Tony deGryns*
- 23ac: “wouldn’t be so cold” without “head dropped” (or chopped?) 4dn: ERIN is poetic for Ireland, so why LASS – unaccounted for. 14dn: clever pun about a song from the 20’s. *Tony deGryns*
- Couldn’t make 10ac and 7dn come out convincingly. Settled for OPEN and BIPOLAR, but where’s that news centre? *Max Roddick*
- An enjoyable puzzle. Flypaper (14ac) is my COTM. *Mal Cockburn*
- Many clues had a clever twist! (Not sure if I got them all right.) *Flypaper* and *television* are strong candidates for COTM. *Virgo* and *Southern Cross* both had such clever clues, it is difficult to decide. After all the time I wasted trying to think of a word for *particle box*, I will give my vote to *Virgo* for 26ac – *television*. *Nea Storey*
- I don’t often vote for a COTM, but this time there were a number in *Virgo*’s Slot 2 that were really great, and I’m giving my vote to 11dn: “a bilingual finish?” *Alison Martin*
- 7dn and 10ac had me stumped. I have thrown in BIPOLAR and OPEN in desperation to finish the puzzle in time for the deadline. Fingers crossed, but am not holding out too much hope! *Barbara Morris*

April 3-2009: Cryptic by Southern Cross (Shirl O'Brien)

- Many thanks Shirl for your very enjoyable cryptic. 3 very cleverly worded clues were 5dn “The heir-apparent not up to side-kicking dance?” = CHARLES + TON, 15dn “The first ‘Whirlpool’ holds stuffed toys = T + EDDY + BEARS and 20dn “A sometime grim character about to get copy-right” = RE + APE + R. *Alan Walter*
- Excellent cryptic. My favourites – REAPER and MIDDLE OF THE ROAD. *Brian Symons*
- Several contenders for COTM – I chose 7dn (SPEEDO). *Roy Taylor*
- 10ac: something not right with the wording? 3dn: a nice neat clue. *Graeme Cole* similar comment from *Tony deGryns*
- I loved Shirl’s clue for BABY TOOTH. Her puzzles are always a pleasure to do. *Margaret Davis*
- 13ac: clever use of “declined”. 16ac: is MIDDLE OF THE ROAD a description of “here”? *Tony deGryns*
- Liked REAPER – very well clued. *Max Roddick*
- Most enjoyable. Prances (22ac) took me a while to understand. *Mal Cockburn*
- *Southern Cross* has a delightful way of putting things! Particularly liked *Charleston* and (*Grim*) *Reaper* – both candidates for my COTM. *Nea Storey*
- Didn’t give me too much trouble, but usually when I get cocky about them, I’ve put in something wrong! *Barbara Morris*

April 4-2009: AJ by InGrid (Jean Barbour)

- Your AJ was quite a learning experience with answers like DURAMEN, ZIFFIUS, XYLORIMBAS, SOMA, KNAP, OUTROOP, NEBRIS and RUDERAL. The T clue was quite cleverly puzzling: “Bird, bird, bird” = TIT + LARK. Found the Y clue difficult to resolve as Time, drink and sun didn’t seem to relate to the answer till you realised the definition was the very vague “this” = YARDARM = “Time for a drink when the sun is over this” and “Space weapon” = YARDARM. Phew! Thanks for a very challenging AJ InGrid. *Alan Walter*
- I made this much more difficult for myself by deciding that the A clue “A s-secure state” was ASSURE. I did much better when I tried AFFIRM. *Brian Tickle* similar *Tony deGryns*
- F: “in” is doing double duty, effectively no definition. G: anagind sits between components? Could’ve been better if “Anagind unite old soldier with learner ...” K: “first idiot deigning” = ID is pretty loose. M: what does “to talk to” mean? *Andrew Patterson*
- I didn’t quite get where the definition was for FASHIONABLE. Or does “in the old story” double up? *Roy Taylor*
- G: clever use of “unite”; “decapitated” (murdered?) spells it out. N took me a long time [and] a trip to the library [before] *Chambers* confirmed NEBRIS. O: unfortunately OUTROOP is now obsolete. Z looks very obscure. *Tony deGryns*
- F: “in” appears to have two purposes! H: should “indicates” be “indicate”? M: not certain how the answers were derived. *Graeme Cole*
- The X and Z words here are an interesting change. What does a “xylorimba” sound like, I wonder? *Margaret Davis*
- Loved JUBILATION but TITLARK was elusive. *Max Roddick*
- Loved 4F – such a BIG WORD (11) for such a tiny clue! *Dale McManus*
- Some sandtraps in this puzzle! A few wrong guesses and wrong spellings had me barking up the wrong tree for quite a while. I didn’t know WISTARIA is the correct spelling for the vine. (Named after Caspar Wistar). Thanks for the challenge, *InGrid*. *Mal Cockburn*
- An enjoyable AJ. *Nea Storey*
- Wow, what a collection of words! Love the AJ’s, and this one was quite a challenge. The A clue threw me for a long while; I was trying to put an S in it! Clue of the month, for me, was the Z clue in the AJ – ZIFFIUS Loved it! *Barbara Morris*

April 5-2009: Cryptic by Difficult Women (Carole Noble and Joan Smith)

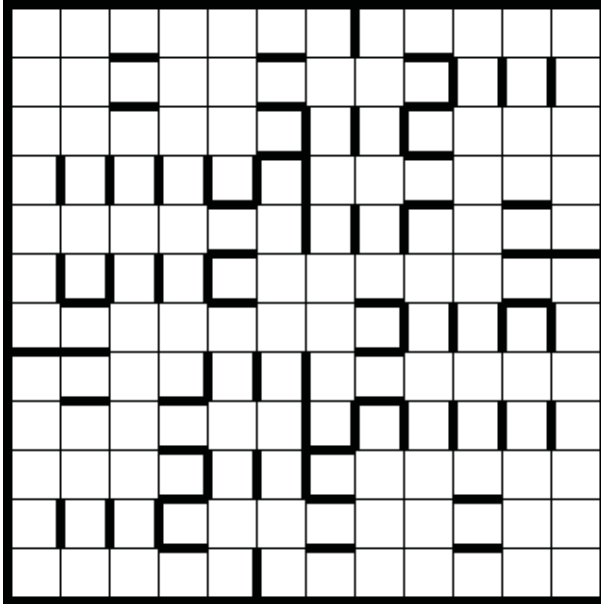
- 24ac: IDOLA = images according to *Chambers* is OBSOLETE and this should be indicated in the clue. 20ac: PELT + ED; “hit” is not “in” the heart of Sweden, it is “at” the heart of Sweden. 13dn seems non-cryptic (similar comment *Tony deGryns*). Much liked 22dn Rod: “Be quiet at the rear” = SH + AFT. Thanks for an engaging cryptic puzzle. *Alan Walter*
- 1ac: what does “in” do? 4dn hardly cryptic, same definition twice. 13dn: a straight clue – “to put on bread rolls” is neither different from the sec-inds nor a precise definition. 18dn: “hole” doing double duty. 20dn: what does “in” do? 1ac, 5ac, 17ac, 26ac, 20dn – definition and sec-ind are too closely related. *Andrew Patterson*
- Nice easy breezy Slot 5. Too simplistic? *Roy Taylor*
- Re 5dn – spelling? *Graeme Cole*
- The *Difficult Women* were in a benign mood this time. *Margaret Davis*
- 1ac: subtle. 5ac: double meaning of WOUND (twisted also scar) was not used. 10ac: SWARM = “throng” rather than “army”. 24ac: I had never heard of ALDI, apparently a household name in NSW. 5dn: all politicians exist in swamps, ha ha! 19dn: I don’t understand “unwanted” here. 20dn: “hide” [would be] better than “hit”. *Tony deGryns*
- HESITATED was a good anagram. *Max Roddick*
- 20dn: Belted or Pelted? Pelted I think. Idola (24ac) – this is a guess as I cannot find any references but seems fitting. X fingers. *Mal Cockburn*
- *Difficult Women* not too difficult. *Nea Storey*
- 24ac: I have no confidence in the answer IDOLA, but fits the clue (ALDI supermarket, back with O) though I can’t find the answer I arrived at in any dictionary or on the web. 9ac is also a mystery to me if I have it right ... I am embarrassed to say. I cannot make sense of the clue, but that’s probably just me! *Barbara Morris*



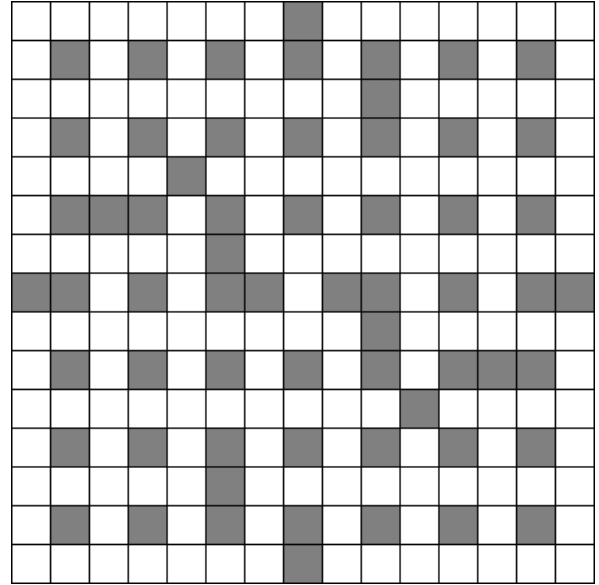
Send solution to: Roy Wilson,
2 Dell Street, Blacktown NSW 2148
Closing mail date: Friday 12 June 2009
NAME:



|M|A|Y| 6| 2|0|0|9|

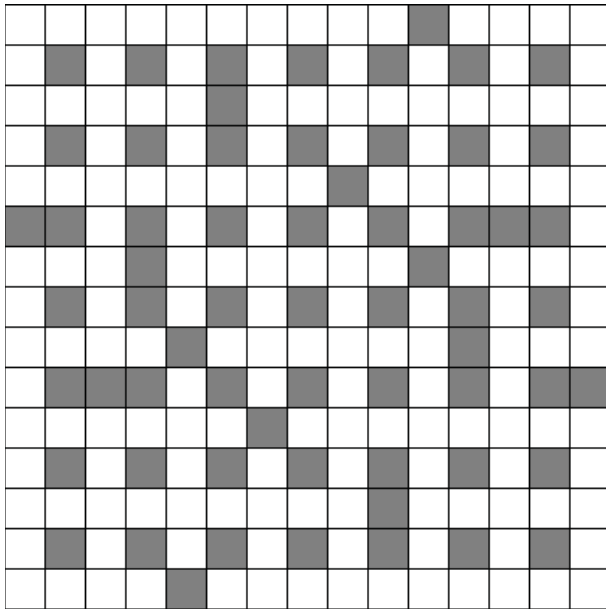


|M|A|Y| 1| 2|0|0|9| NAME.....

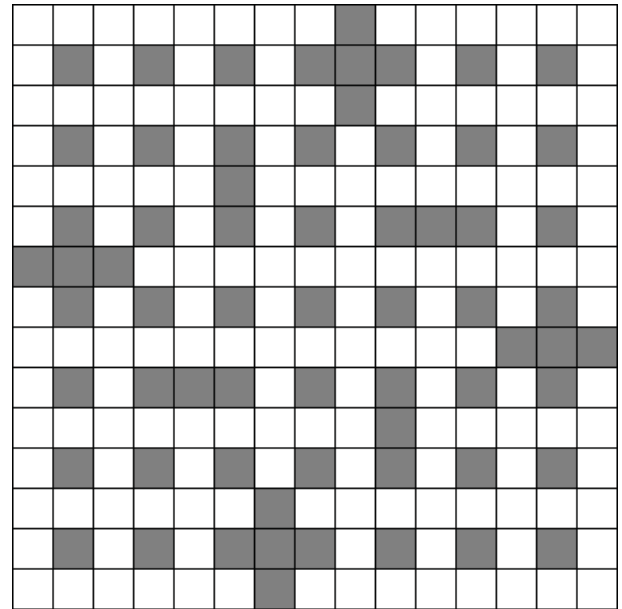


Clue of the Month

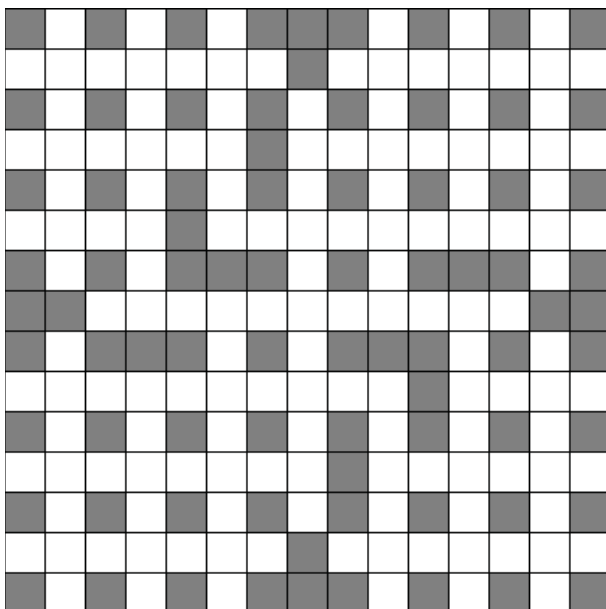
|M|A|Y| 2| 2|0|0|9|



|M|A|Y| 3| 2|0|0|9|



|M|A|Y| 4| 2|0|0|9|



|M|A|Y| 5| 2|0|0|9|

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	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59
60	61	62	?	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73
74	75	76	77	78	?	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	?	99	100	101
102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116
117	118	?	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130
131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145
146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	?			

M	A	Y			
2	0	0	9		
S	L	O	T		7

What the ...
by
Hot and Cold

Post solution to:
Jenny Wenham
c/o Post Office
Comet Qld 4702
email:

sandjwenham@optusnet.com.au

Allow at least 3 days prior to closing date to ensure posted solutions arrive in time.

Closing mail date:
12 June 2009.

Eleven solutions are not defined and are clued with reference to closely associated entities, the word length indicators for which are given first in such clues. Most are linked with one other of the eleven to yield the familiar outcome to be inserted in the grid and to which the second word length indicator applies. The solution to two additional, undefined, linked clues will be equally recognisable.

Across

- 1 Fast food delivery for townspeople (8)
- 5 Money! Thanks, it brought back cattle (8,3) (6)
- 10 and 26 Boy will make his way to back door (5,5)
- 11 Tailored feathered serge (9,7) (3,6)
- 12 Directed the first boy to shower (8) (3,6)
- 14 British soccer spirit (5) (5)
- 15 Gerard fled hut to revolt (3,6,6) (6)
- 17 Capital case (6,6) (1,4,2)
- 21 Toy limited variety at vice location (5,6) (7)
- 23 Style of dancing master spoils measure? (9,10) (6)
- 25 Raced around the timber (5)
- 28 Loose connection (11) (4,5)
- 30 The most violent streets, or male that's found in them (9)
- 31 Apostle rumoured to dance with a bird (5,9) (5)
- 33 Drum perhaps carried by ship (8) (3,3)
- 34 Calculate roughly what is carried inside snail (8)

Down

- 1 Hint concerning British city surrounds (6)
- 2 Rank litter far away (3)
- 3 Shiva's follower engaged in growth industry (5)
- 4 Recondition or turn a tiny swimmer (7)
- 6 Poet limited by two districts (5)
- 7 Flash a thousand away on one pancake (5)
- 8 NSW college says Fate worked (4,4)
- 9 Look at Bryce returning the best to the arcade (6)
- 13 Mathematician delivered tanker (5)
- 16 Way through (3)
- 18 A record party (3)
- 19 Finally arrange deep fryer to warm chip (5)
- 20 Intercept idiot in charge, climbing after sailors (8)
- 22 Cut straw up for God (6)
- 23 Poaches rodent-filled flans (7)
- 24 A ghost! Note missing feature (6)
- 26 See 10ac
- 27 City has nothing for lover (5)
- 29 Earth turtle loses a leg (5)
- 32 Generally a man gives up nothing for a comic entertainer (3)

ROUGH COPY

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							34						

GOOD COPY - Name

Quiz No 5/2009

Quiz 5/09. Cryptic Cakes Part 2 by *The Busybodies*



by *The Busybodies*

Send your entries to Bev Cockburn 12 Norman Street, Merrylands West NSW 2160. e-mail to bevco4@bigpond.com Closing date 12 June 2009. Book prize.

(If you enjoyed these delicacies, there are more to be found on p34 of the 2008 *Compendium*.)

- 1 Delicious roll provides Granny Smith's business takings (5,8)
- 2 Senile dame re-ordered small shell-shaped cakes (10)
- 3 Junior girl guide earned special points (7)
- 4 Chase nubile around without setter for a sweet roll (7,3)
- 5 Pinup girl poses for a dairy treat (10)
- 6 Circular cakes made by car hoons! (9) or (6)
- 7 Beat the weight in old money (5)
- 8 Enliven dough (11)
- 9 Carmel puts on a soft Jersey (7)
- 10 Refreshment Bar? (3-4)
- 11 An imp's nourishment (5'1,4)
- 12 Frump faces make-over to become choice confections (5,5)

- 13 Could be igneous? (4)
- 14 Take Sc.1 for an excellent result (5)
- 15 A soft sweetmeat! Stuff and nonsense (5)
- 16 Beverage to replace cost of sound hack (6)
- 17 King's mistress favours small seedless raisin (7)
- 18 Watchmakers' countrymen turn over (5,4)
- 19 Traffic congestion beside the strumpet (3,4)
- 20 A special godmother bakes elves' party fare (5,5)
- 21 Block in complete confusion (10)
- 22 Looks as if it wouldn't melt in one's mouth (6)
- 23 Is it a dim sim Nelson consumed? (6)
- 24 A muddled Rita mixed in some units initially (8)
- 25 Miss Chart prepared for the special occasion (9)
- 26 The flavours concealed in aspic excited the palate (5)

Results of Quiz No 3/2006.

Celebrity Linkwords Quiz by *Virgo*

Entries: 23. Scores: 21: Warren Allen, Bev Cockburn, Barbara Glissan, Catherine Hambling, Kath Harper, Ann Jermy, Doreen Jones, Gabrielle Leeds, Alison Martin, Andrew Miles, Carole Noble, Alison Shield and Jack Stocks. **20.5:** Pat Garner, Susan Howells, David Procter, Jenny Wenham and Robyn Wimbush. **20:** Barb Ibbott, Trish McPherson and Alan Walter. **19.5:** Peter Dearie. **17:** Roy Taylor.

Prizewinner: Alison Shield. Congratulations!

Solutions: 1. Blair **Athol Guy** Leach, 2. Gene **Barry White** Elephant, 3. Buffalo **Bill Hunter** Gatherer, 4. Electricity **Bill Murray** Darling, 5. Apple **Charlotte Church** Warden, 6. Robert **Clive James** Hardy, 7. Alan **Dale Carnegie** Hall, 8. Desperate **Dan Brown** Bomber, 9. Hal **David Jason** Donovan, 10. Rural **Dean Martin** Short, 11. Spotted **Dick Francis** Bacon, 12. Steady **Eddie Murphy** Brown, 13. Boy **George Michael** Kitchen, 14. Henry **Irving Berlin** Wall, 15. Gamma **Ray Charles** Dance, 16. Cliff **Richard Bach** Cantatas, 17. Lightning **Rod Stewart** Granger, 18. Ariel **Sharon Tate** Gallery, 19. Father **Ted Heath** Ledger, 20. Danny **Thomas Cook** Book, 21. Ginger **Tom Cruise** Liner.

Members' comments:

- Thanks for your challenging Quiz. I notice that it is Quiz No. 4 despite this only being for the third month. Was this a part of the test? *Jack Stocks*
- I like this sort of Quiz which for the most part can be solved without recourse to the internet. *Peter Dearie*
- This was fascinating work, *Virgo*. Unfortunately, at least a couple stumped me. *Roy Taylor*
- At least your Quiz is not a bonus Quiz. Just as well, I don't like the number coded one this month, so I won't bother with it. *Carole Noble*
- Thank you for this bit of fun – not as easy to solve as it first appeared. I guess you may find some alternative answers too – all depends on your definition of Celebrity! *Pat Garner*
- Many thanks, Audrey, for your entertaining Celebrities Linkwords Quiz. Hope you get a good number of entries. *Alan Walter*
- I think this is my favourite kind of Quiz, requiring imagination

as well as a bit of general knowledge. I especially liked the final clue for its Tom/Kat connection. *Kath Harper*

• You're very kind to allow another of your clever puzzles to go in this month's magazine. It was fun to do. *Bev Cockburn*

• Thanks for this Quiz – I really enjoyed attempting it, and some of the clues involved thinking through a lot of alternative combinations. For no. 14, I really wanted to have Graham Garden of the Goodies fame but ultimately settled for the more sensible Irving Berlin. *Alison Martin*

• Thank you for this which took me considerable research to solve. (Hopefully) It gets harder and harder to remember but I am always bucked up when I find the solution and realize the memory is there after all. *Catherine Hambling*

• I finished the last item in the Quiz this morning – what a relief! Number 13 has had me guessing for weeks, even though the rest of the Quiz fell into place quite early. I doubted at first if my answer to 13 was correct, but on checking the internet it is ok. *Barb Ibbott*

• This was a great Quiz, Audrey. Some of the answers just leapt into my mind, but others took a great deal of time and thought. More please. *Gabrielle Leeds*

• I always enjoy your Linkwords puzzles and this was no exception. *Susan Howells*

• Thanks for a really enjoyable Quiz. *Alison Shield*

• I had a lot of fun doing it and I bet my friends are glad it's gone in! *Robyn Wimbush*

Adjudicator's Comments

A pleasing number of entries for a moderately hard Quiz. Several alternative answers resulting in names I had never heard of – the people next door perhaps? Certainly not celebrities. Kelly White, David Clyde, Dan Smart, Burns Frank, Richard Long, Bill Cotton, Kelly Brown, George Foreman (clever, and a celebrity too – phrased with Grill, certainly, but not quite right with Kitchen in my view), Eddie Arnold (certainly a celebrity, but not with Brown) and. In addition, there was a misspelling of Charlotte. Ariel Sharon (Q. 18) as a solution unfortunately involved the first word of the clue and the first word of the solution together, and belied the number indicators. Half marks were given where only half the Celebrity name was correct – usually the first half. I got my daughter, Amanda, who was visiting today, to draw the name of the prizewinner. *—Virgo*

March 7-2009: Poetry for Poets (The Grasshopper & The Cricket) by Brother Naga (Bob Hagan)

Entries: 44. Correct 30. Success Rate 68%.

Prizewinner: Jim Fowler. Congratulations!

Solvers' Comments:

- Thank you so much for a really challenging puzzle. Now I just hope I got it all correct. *Margaret Davis*
- A really good challenge – I enjoy solving and compiling these ones. *Jean Barbour*
- Thanks for the puzzle. I've never heard the verse before but isn't it a lovely one. *Jenny Wenham*
- I seem to recall some comments in an earlier CrOZworld disparaging this type of puzzle (no grid to help) but I find a great deal of satisfaction in completing them – more fun than hunting the internet. *Peter Dearie*
- I do enjoy these particular puzzles – I might even have a crack at compiling one. *Michael Kennedy*
- A great puzzle, as usual. *Bev Cockburn*
- I did enjoy this puzzle. What a delightful little poem this is. Do you think the modern poets ever read and appreciate Leigh Hunt? *Gabrielle Leeds*
- Nice to see one of your puzzles again – not so easy either. *Ron O'Rourke*
- Most confusing clue (N). Most enjoyable clue (E). *Jack Stocks*
- Thanks for your poetic construction about the Grasshopper & The Cricket. Overall your puzzle was extremely challenging and took some time to complete. *Alan Walter*
- As always, a challenge, but good clear clues helped no end. The verse was new to me and quite enjoyable. *Roy Wilson*
- Thanks Bob. Not sure if it's correct but I'm starting to like these. *Margaret Steinberger*
- Loved it Bob! Hope I'm correct. *Del Kennedy*
- Greatly enjoyed your puzzle and hope I am error free. [You were BN] *Jim Fowler*
- This type of puzzle I find is very challenging, therefore, quite satisfying when you finally work it out. *Claire McClelland*
- Love it. Wonderful clueing. *Brian Symons*
- You've a very devious mind. I enjoyed this immensely. *Ted O'Brien*
- Challenging and hard-going but very enjoyable. *Maurice Cowan*
- This was a good challenge. Never heard of Toetoe grass or Hyaline, so I've added to my vocabulary. *Carole Noble*

Setter's Comments:

My apologies to the solvers for the mix-up with the letters. I failed to check them carefully. It was a case of some help being no help at all. I assure you that the next puzzle will have helpful letters. Thanks for all the words of encouragement. Even those who were confused by the letters still expressed enjoyment. Teal for vert and miniscule for minuscule were the main errors. *—Bob Hagan*

**Solution to March 2009 Slot 7 Poetry for Poets
For results see column 7 on page 2**

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

Member views on clue standards

I have great respect for Noel Jessop. From the club's inception he has maintained the original committee's intention of having the first two puzzles lead the less-seasoned solvers to the harder puzzles, with Slot 1 an orthodox or half-and-half, and Slot 2 a not-too-difficult cryptic, both checkable. I can't agree with Doug Butler [CrOZworld April 2009 p5, commenting on Michael Kennedy's views on February's Slot 5 (CrOZworld March 2009 p10)] however, on Noel's use of "heads and tails" clues. "Land's End" can certainly denote the letter D, but "West End" is not the same as the end of West. "Evans Head" is fair for E, but "knucklehead" isn't for K. It would have to be "knuckleshead". I agree with Michael Kennedy completely. In Noel's *Crossword Puzzles without Tears* he lists many things like "girlfriends" being GI, but unless there is a hyphen, I couldn't accept this. I could accept "dead-ends" for DD as the hyphen would make all the difference. Sorry Jesso! Alec Robins is very definite about this in his *Crosswords for the Discerning*, and I like to think that describes us. *—Shirl O'Brien*

Members' views on standards

It seems obvious, but perhaps easily overlooked, that the aim of compiling a cryptic crossword is to entertain the solver. That's not to say testing themed puzzles don't have a place – they most certainly do. However, the challenge should come principally from clever solvable clues and themes, rather than trawling through the Internet looking for the right fit.

In addition, anyone who is a frequent solver of *The Stickler* (also known as *The Boxer*), Jessop or *The Times*, will know the pleasure one garners from clues that work cryptically, but also make some 'literal' or surface sense. Many recent clues lack this and border on being just nonsensical code. Even for us amateur compilers, I believe the complete cryptic clue should be the ultimate goal.

Perhaps as a way of determining the standard of crossword that appeals most to the members, a vote for the 'Puzzle of the Month (PotM)' could be introduced.

This club is a unique one. Not only can it offer a source of entertainment for many, but it also provides an outlet for the budding compiler. Long may it continue! *Michael Kennedy*

Thanks to Ian Williams for encouraging novice compilers. Only those who submit puzzles know how generous he is in making the time to offer suggestions and edit attempts. I feel sure our overworked and underpaid editor would be pleased to receive offerings of a magic formula for predicting how a puzzle will be received by members **before it is published**.

We all bring varied backgrounds and experiences to our personal solving attempts and although completion is sometimes easy, sometimes hard, and sometimes impossible, I think the balance is as right as humanly possible. Well done. *Jack Stocks*

Explanations to April Slot 3 Grid

provided by the compiler (Thank you, Jean)

A (a) (f) firm, **B** brand+y, **C** c-r-e-t-o + nne, **D** anag, **E** er+rant, **F** in (def) f-able + a + sh + ion (lion - l), **G** unite + old gi+1, (anag), **H** source (head) + note, **J** anag, **K** kidnap, **L** like + able (can), **M** mata x 2 (to sounds like two), **N** ben (franklin) + sir backwards, **O** ou+troop, **P** anag, **Q** DM, **R** simple (rude) + ra + l, **S** s+o+m+a, **T** tit+ lark, **U** anag, **V** HW, **W** w (h)ist + aria, **X** indicating wooden (xylo) + rim + BAS, **Z** z + iff + i + US.

Results of the Clue Writing Competition No 2/2009.

Write a clue for FRUIT (5)

Adjudicated by Steve Trollope

Definition of **Fruit** from *Chambers On-line Dictionary*:

noun 1 the fully ripened ovary of a flowering plant, containing one or more seeds that have developed from fertilized ovules, and sometimes including associated structures such as the receptacle.

2 an edible part of a plant that is generally sweet and juicy, especially the ovary containing one or more seeds, but sometimes extended to include other parts, eg the leaf stalk in rhubarb. See also berry, soft fruit.

3 plant products generally • the fruits of the land.

4 (also fruits) whatever is gained as a result of hard work, etc • the fruit of his labour.

5 colloq a gay man.

6 old use, colloq a person • old fruit.

7 rare offspring; young • the fruit of her womb.

Verb 1 to produce fruit.

2 to produce good results in fruit, said of a tree bearing fruit.

Fourteen clues were submitted this month, as shown below, and mostly they are fine examples of Ximenean crosswording. Several entries commented that this was the hardest word they had tried to clue but despite that the entries were of a very high standard. The winning clue is

Healthy food is, first of all, fresh – really unacceptable in tins!

by John Brotherton. Again an excellent clue by John (who also won last time) with a definition and an indication and no extra words. The message is for a healthy lifestyle which is very topical at present.

For the guidelines which I have used to determine the winner see the March 2006 *Crozworld*. I have written each clue to identify the **definition (in bold)** and the *indication (in italics)*, then underneath I have added some comments.

Pleasure curtailed **can cause sour grapes perhaps**

Pleasure is 'fruition' which reduces to FRUIT but hopefully leads to sweet grapes rather than sour ones.

'You,' he said, 'was also there when we first found rats in the produce.'

'U' in the first letters of 'Found Rats In The' giving FR U IT with a definition of produce.

Keats' mellow fullness lacks an outcome

"Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness..." is the opening of Keats' well known poem *Ode to Autumn*. The indication is missing FRUIT which is identified by the definition. I was considering that the extra 'l' in fullness could be overlooked because of poetic licence, but when I looked up 'fullness' in *Chambers* I found that 'fulness' was an acceptable option.

Watermelon, eg, big enough to fit a football in

Watermelon is the definition and the indication consists of FIT with RU (a football code) inserted. However 'eg big enough to' is superfluous to a good Ximenean clue.

Girl escapes endless thrift on **date, perhaps**

Thrift is a definition of 'frugality'. Remove GAL and Y (endless frugality) and you have FRUIT, perhaps a date.

Force one into tedious monotony and **they will go to seed!**

F (force) plus I (one) in RUT (endless monotony) and you have FRUIT. I would have preferred "... and one will go to seed!" as better English grammar (important in good clueing) which would still be a correct definition. This inconsistency between singular and plural is one of my pet hates, and is especially prevalent in sports' reporting. A quick look at on-line articles

from *The Australian* immediately uncovered the two following excerpts – "The Western Force **has** completed the Australian derby slam." And "The Force kept **their** own slim playoff hopes alive". Is a team singular or plural ?

Healthy food is, *first of all, fresh – really unacceptable in tins!*

FRUIT is healthy and is also the first letters of the last five words of the clue. An excellent clue – no superfluous words and a very topical message.

I turf out date

Good clues don't come much shorter than this! FRUIT is an anagram of ITURF, indicated by 'out'.

First, dessert; *Effie growing hungry will stay for seconds.....*

'Dessert' is the definition and the indicator leads to the second letters of 'Effie growing hungry will stay'.

Father you heard it on the grapevine

FR (father) plus U (a homonym of you) plus IT. This clue is possibly better when placed in quotation marks (see the second clue) with an exclamation mark at the end and a comma or semi-colon after father. This suggests it is a statement to a parent who hasn't been concentrating.

Produce *father to have Dutch out*

The indicator is FR (father) plus UIT (Dutch for out). Some very common foreign words are acceptable ('the' French for 'le' or 'la' or 'les'), but I don't think that this one is common enough.

We hear you are fit to make merry

U (we hear you) plus R (we hear are) plus FIT makes FRUIT. The author suggested that 'merry' was a kind of fruit, but it took me a lot of searching to eventually identify it as a kind of wild red cherry, I believe a US term. One reason for solving crosswords is to extend one's vocabulary, and providing there is only one or two obscure words in a crossword, that is OK.

Say, are you healthy eating an apple?

Leads to R and U in FIT with 'eating' being an anagram. Another clue delivering a healthy message.

Clue Writing Competition No 3/2009

Write a clue for the word **PROCEDURE** (9).

Note: only one clue per person.

Send your clue and explanation to the adjudicator

Steve Trollope, 28 Pannosa Ct, Capalaba Qld 4157

or by email to: steve.jt@bigpond.net.au

Closing mail date: Friday 12 June 2009.

Book prize.

Quotes from *The Cynic's Lexicon* by Jonathon Green

• In California they don't throw their garbage away – they make it into television shows. *Woody Allen*

• When should a man marry? A young man, not yet; an elder man, not at all. *Sir Francis Bacon*

• It's the good girls who keep the diaries; the bad girls never have the time. *Tallulah Bankhead*

• Buy old masters. They fetch a better price than old mistresses. *Lord Beaverbrook*

• Young men think old men are fools; but old men know young men are fools. *George Chapman*

• The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents, and the second half by our children. *Clarence Darrow*

• We prefer to believe that the absence of inverted commas guarantees the originality of thought, whereas it may be merely that the utterer has forgotten its source. *Clifton Fadiman*

• Probably the only place where a man can feel really secure is in a maximum security prison, except for the imminent threat of release. *Germaine Greer*