



CroZworld

|N|o.|1|7|7| |J|A|N|U|A|R|Y| |2|0|0|5|



www.crosswordclub.org



I live on good soup, not on fine language.
Molière, 1672, Les Femmes savantes (trans.) II, vii.

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



The year 2004 has been another successful one for the Australian Crossword Club. We have maintained our level of membership, continued to host our website and furnished you with Australia's best crossword puzzles and quizzes. Thanks to the healthy renewal of subs and the generosity of member donations we will ensure that the ACC is the best place for challenging crosswords & quizzes in 2005.

We sincerely thank those who have adjudicated in the past six months: Brian Symons, Pat Garner, Catherine Hambling, Audrey Ryan, Audrey Austin and David Grainger. Thanks also to the Slot 6 adjudicators: Doug Butler, Jim Colles, Patrick Street, Doreen Jones, Audrey Austin and Col Archibald and to our Quizmasters: Kev Layton, Brian Symons and Ted O'Brien. A special thank you to the wonderful compilers and quizsetters who strive so hard to meet the high standards set by the Club.

We specially mention our hard-working Secretary Bev Cockburn who has made a huge contribution to the success of the Club. Our sincere thanks to Steve Workman for his sterling work as the Club's Treasurer and to Patrick Street for his assistance in formatting the puzzles and quizzes and editing and publishing *CroZworld* each month.

We hope you enjoy the puzzles we have selected for you this month. All of your favourites are there and more including a new feature – a Clue Writing competition and a Brain Teaser Corner from *Raoul*. We especially welcome back Brian Tickle and Bruce Austin. It's a bumper issue to the start off the New Year in a grand style. Finally, the Executive Committee of the ACC extends to all members and their families the Peace and Joy of Christmas and prosperity and success in the New year. Happy CroZworlding!

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

What a pleasure being the adjudicator for December. My mantelpiece looks a treat, bedecked with cards and greetings from members. Those who sneakily submitted entries with a "card only" sticker and a \$0.45 Christmas stamp have had their names noted.

Slot 1: The clue which tripped up a number of solvers was DOPE (seven solvers tried HONE, another 10 tried TOLE and 2 tried COTE). Apart from that, there were a number of interesting and entertaining variations on some of the other answers including SOMAC, BLIAR, LURCH, INVITOR, INVOKER and KOA (for TEA). A couple of blank squares too.

Slot 2: Oh dear. The problem clue of the month was MALFORM for which 22 brave souls submitted MALCOLM. DEBUGGING was unpopular too, with 11 people opting for DEBAGGING. Other errors – HOISTED (2), AFOWL, INGRACIATED, STACKYARD, INANE (IMAGE), PROPYLENE and a wonderful DIEANCHOR for ICEANCHOR. I could almost feel the desperation.

Slot 3: Nothing in particular here except some variants on the spelling of KOSCIUSKO answer – KOSZIUSKO, KOSCIUSCO, KOCIOSKO, KOEIOSKO. INNISFAIL became INNISFALL and INNESFAIL(2). Two solvers went for STICKJAWS when a STOCKYARD was called for.

Slot 4: *Timid Terrier* has apologised for the problem with QUEREDO elsewhere in this issue but even with that and the adjudicatory Christmas cheer I couldn't let QUERODE, QUERDEO or QUEREOD go through. The big problem here was ZORILLOS, which caught 4 ZORILLES, and 17 ZIORILLAS. ORGAN BIRDS became ORGAN PIPES in one entry and ORGAN DONOR in another, which nearly got the adjudicator's vote for lateral thinking.

Slot 5: Only one real problem here – SUCCUBAE tripped up 6 folk who submitted SUCCUBAS and another 2 who tried SUCCABI. The other errors were minor.

COTM: Slot 5 7ac. Congratulations to Roy Wilson.

Compliments of the season to all in the ACC and thanks again for the pleasure this adjudication brought me. —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	89	97	92	92	75	445
Correct entries	58	60	78	60	61	293
Success rate (%)	65.2	61.9	84.8	65.2	81.3	65.8
Prizewinners	I McKenzie	R Wilson M Dennis	E Holford P Garner	D Coates H Cromer	B Wallace	from 97 members

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

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|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
Treasurer	Steve Workman	PO Box 660, Wentworthville NSW 2145	☎(02) 9893 9080	ACC@famill.com.au



Dec 1-2004

S	T	E	E	P	L	E	C	O	M	M	A	M						
U	L	O	L	E	A	I	S	I										
M	E	M	O	P	A	D	B	E	L	C	H	E	S					
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A						R	E	T	I	E		R	E	T	E	A	C	H

Dec 4-2004

V	A	B		K	D	Q												
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N	D																	

Dec 2-2004

I	N	G	R	A	T	I	A	T	E	D		P	E	A		
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B	A	A	U	B	K	U	B	R	T							
S	E	P	A	L		I	L	L	E	G	A	L	L	Y		
						A	C	E	G		L					
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Dec 5-2004

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Dec 3-2004

B	R	E	A	K		I	N	T	E	R	C	O	M					
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O										P								
N	A	S	S	A						G	E	R	M	A	N	I	C	
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O	E	I	E	Z	T	W												
S	P	A	I	N	G	S												

Nov 6-2004

1. DORIEMUS
2. ARWON
3. DELTA
4. MALUA
5. JEUNE
6. SAINTLY
7. LANTERN
8. TOPAROA
9. WODALLA
10. SKIPTON
11. RIMFIRE
12. PIASTRE
13. CHESTER
14. ARSENAL
15. GLENCOE
16. LORD NOLAN
17. BANKER
18. POLO PRINCE
19. POITREL
20. TORY BOY
21. WINDBAG
22. WARRIOR
23. PHAR LAP
24. RED HANDED
25. DUNLOP
26. CLEAN SWEEP
27. COLONUS
28. HYPERNO
29. CARBINE



MEMBERS RESULTS FOR DECEMBER 2004



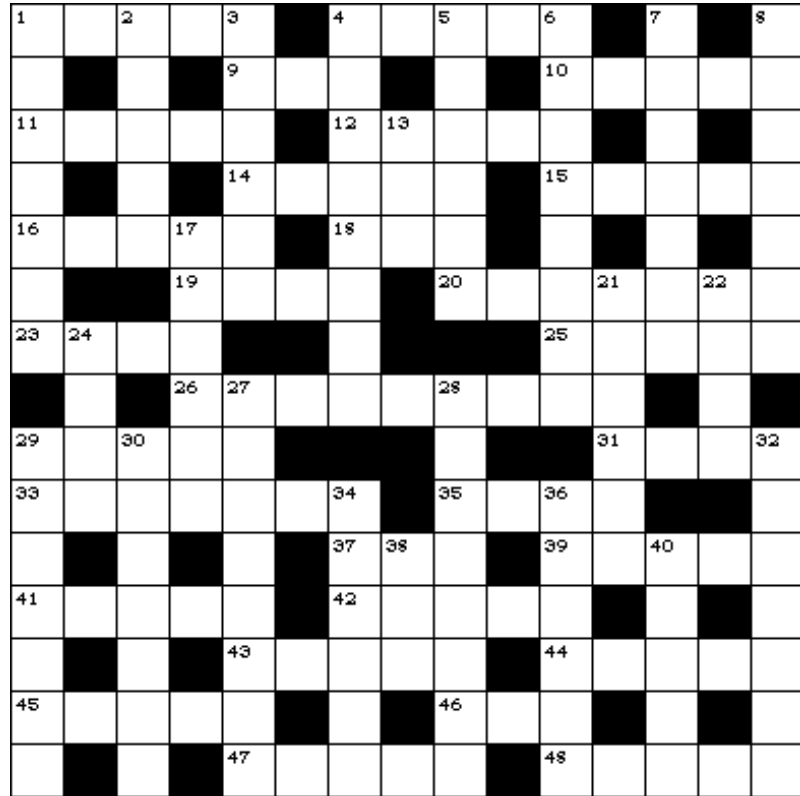
MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	MEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
AINSWORTH Y	GLISSAN B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	REEVES V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ANDERSON C	GOULD E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	RENDELL A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ANDERSON JB	GRAINGER D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	RODDICK M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ARCHIBALD C	GREENING D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	ROUCH D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ATKINSON S	HAGAN B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	RYAN A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
AUSTIN A	HAMBLING C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	RYAN W	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BARBOUR J	HOCKING A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SAVANAH T	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BARNES J	HOLFORD E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SEALE E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BATUM C	HOWARD L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SHIPWAY S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BENNETT B	HOWARD V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SIEGMAN B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BENNETT D	IBBOTT B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SKILLICORN A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BRYANT R	JERMY A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SMITH J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
BUTLER D	JESSOP N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SOLOMON B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CALLAN A	JONES D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	STANDARD J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CAMPBELL G	KENNEDY D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	STOREY N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CHANCE C	KITTO J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	SYMONS B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
COATES D	LEE C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	TAYLOR R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
COCKBURN B	LEE K	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	THOMAS E	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
COLE G	LOBSEY V	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	TICKLE B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
COLLES J	McCLELLAND C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	TITUS-REES D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
COLLINS M	McCUSKER C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	TOFONI B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
COWAN M	MACDOUGALL I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	TROLLOPE S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CROMER H	McGRATH J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	VERESS M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DAVEY J	McKENZIE I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	VILLIERS J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DAVIS K	McKINDLAY Y	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	VILLIERS W	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DAVIS M	MANNING R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	VNUK M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DAY R	MERCER P	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WAITES L	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DEARIE P	MITCHELL J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WALLACE B	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DENNIS M	NOBLE C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WALTER A	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DINHAM V	O'BRIEN S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WATTS I	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DODD M	O'ROURKE R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WATZINGER M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
EDWARD J	OTRUPCEK R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WHITEHEAD R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
EISENTRAGER D	PARKER J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WILCOX C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
FOSTER C	POTTS M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WILLIAMS K	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
FOX I	PREWETT G	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WILSON N	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
FREELAND J	PROCTER D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WILSON R	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
FULLER D	PROCTER M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WINDOW D	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GALBREATH M	PYC M	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WOOD J	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GARNER P	REARDON C	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	WORKMAN S	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GLEESON C																

J	A	N			
2	0	0	5		
S	L	O	T		1

Half & Half
by
Noel Jessop



[rrp: \$36.95]



Across

- 1 Australian shrub (5)
- 4 River in Africa (5)
- 9 Collection of anecdotes (3)
- 10 Revile (5)
- 11 Pert. to borax (5)
- 12 Muslim magistrates (5)
- 14 Observes (5)
- 15 Literary drudges (5)
- 16 Sample (5)
- 18 Card game (3)
- 19 Indigo (4)
- 20 South West Africa (7)
- 23 Grave (4)
- 25 Pungent bulb (5)
- 26 Humiliation (9)
- 29 Surplus (5)
- 31 Church recess (4)
- 33 Hanging ornament (7)
- 35 Stylish (4)
- 37 Ocean (3)
- 39 Knives (5)
- 41 Whinny (5)
- 42 Noblemen (5)
- 43 First bars (5)
- 44 Forearm bones (5)
- 45 Vladimir Ulyanov (5)
- 46 Poem (3)
- 47 Gather laboriously (5)
- 48 Tin-glazed earthenware (5)

Down

- 1 Back to fetch a piece at home (7)
- 2 Little racers in stark crash (5)
- 3 Suffer pain in Anglo-Norman city (6)
- 4 Balloon cars need all scene revision (8)
- 5 Child sponsored junk goods on north side (6)
- 6 Film moon shot following eruption (8)
- 7 Evil demons starting to savage top-class reporter in Channel Islands (7)
- 8 She is an awful mercenary (7)
- 13 A party in trouble (3)
- 17 Lounge in a little herald's coat (6)
- 21 Undiminished in diplomacy (6)
- 22 So in confusion for small things charged (4)
- 24 Old vessel from pole (4)
- 27 Last painful stranding (8)
- 28 Fugitive slave eating a cold biscuit (8)
- 29 Betting corner - a bright spot (7)
- 30 Old Austrian sides with French company, not disheartened? (7)
- 32 Most tranquil part of after-tea siesta (7)
- 34 Cause of sleeping sickness set off twice (6)
- 36 Sent out from sad disuse (6)
- 38 No time to tear spike (3)
- 40 You, say, leaving yearly (5)

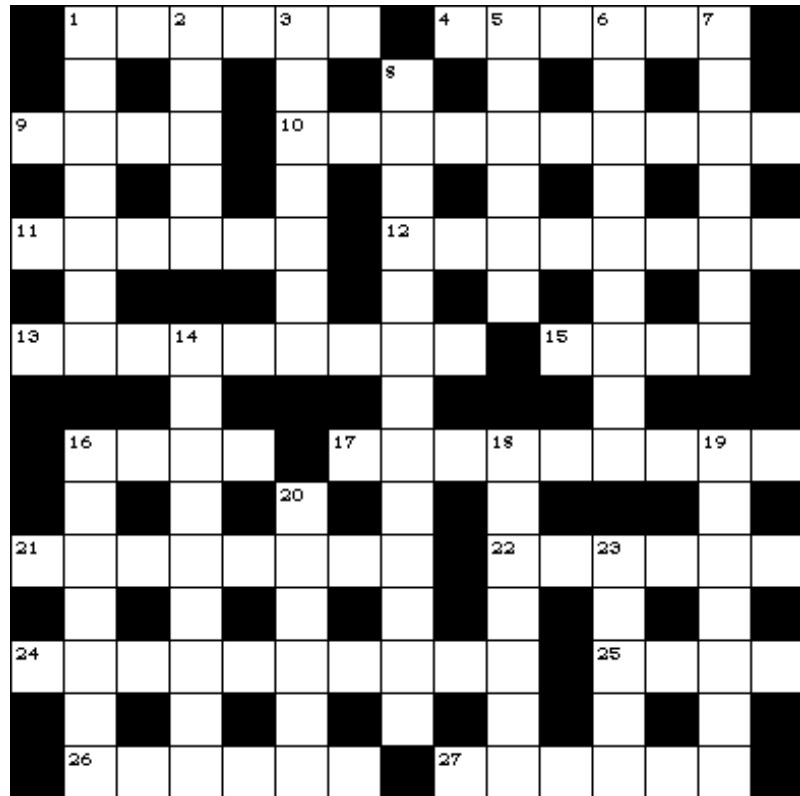
|S|E|N|D|
|S|O|L|U|T|I|O|N|S|
|T|O|:

Slots 1-5: Jim Colles, PO Box 600, Rye Vic 3941.
e-mail: jimcol@pac.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 28 January 2005.
Slot 6: Roy Wilson, 2 Dell St, Blacktown NSW 2148.
Closing mail date: Friday 11 February 2005.

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

J	A	N			
2	0	0	5		
S	L	O	T		2

**Cryptic
by
Southern
Cross**



Across

- 1 Clothing regarded as precious by detectives (6)
- 4 Long-dead churchman, they say, raps at the door (6)
- 9 Man with a limp stayed, detaining the little devils (4)
- 10 This could be attached to 11, and oddly, must age twice (5-5)
- 11 As said, an old, foul vessel (6)
- 12 Strain shown by 10 (8)
- 13 Listeners to tale-teller's "Desert Bloomers" (4'1,4)
- 15 Vehicle moves back to fenced area (4)
- 16 The RAAF reunion is a long way off (4)
- 17 A crisis for Nancy without an issue to start with (9)
- 21 Look to coach for pre- and post-flight transport (3-5)
- 22 A downfall after 5 could be half of 10 (6)
- 24 France, USA and Germany's first combined fuelled combustion chamber (3-7)
- 25 Coin's not counterfeit (4)
- 26 Sent all over the place, in '51, to join up (6)
- 27 Suggestions about student principles (6)


Down

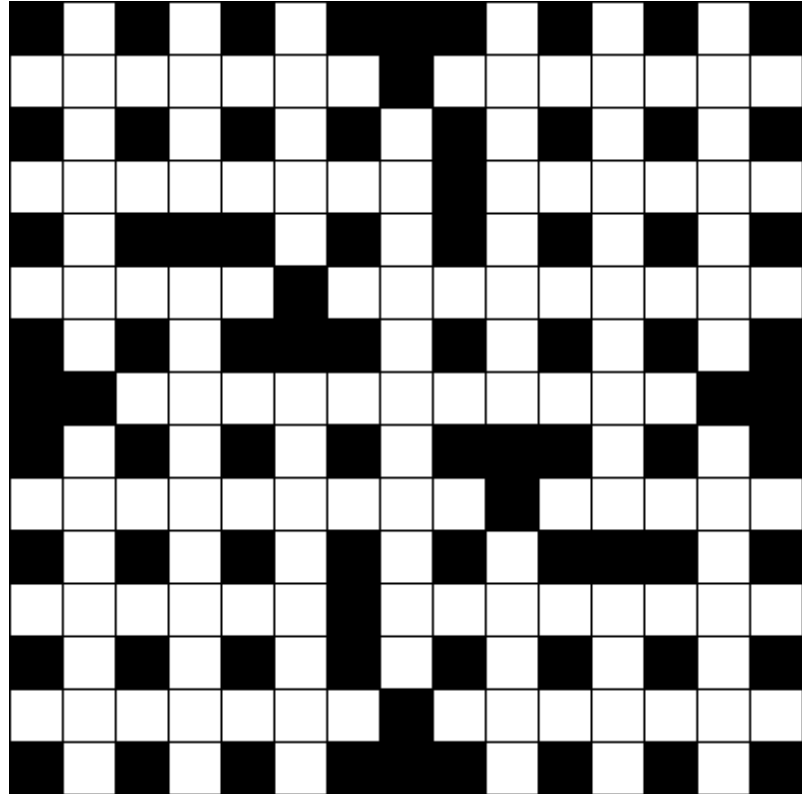
- 1 A high ball sent up gives Muster the game (7)
- 2 Lease negotiated – a frame-up? (5)
- 3 Ask for the editor to return free verse (7)
- 5 14, for example, is a stunner! (6)
- 6 Inform a friend? (9)
- 7 Sweetened nut kernel in assorted grades (7)
- 8 Paint people – somewhat talented but moody (13)
- 14 Bonny boyfriend gets it wrong – then gets almost drunk (9)
- 16 Alarm is silver on top (it corroded underneath) (7)
- 18 A car enthusiast, redhead daughter divided by 100 (7)
- 19 One needs endless courage and strength initially to relocate pumas (7)
- 20 Piles of stones in holiday resort (6)
- 23 Leave the car, taking a warm jacket (5)

SOME CHRISTMAS FUN JOKES from Alan Walter

- Q: What did Adam say to his mate the night before Christmas?
A: "It's Christmas, Eve!"
- Q: Why do fights always break out the day after Christmas?
A: Because it's Boxing Day!
- Q: What did Santa say to the ducks that scurried across the road in front of his speeding sleigh?
A: You must be Quackers!
- Q: What did Santa's elves call the reindeer toy with no eyes?
A: No-eye deer!



|J|A|N| |2|0|0|5| |S|L|O|T| |3|
Crossing and Dotting by Sue Donim




Clues are in random order. Fit the answers where you can.

Clues:

- Tabled a kiss indeed! (7)
- Effects rate change in the break (4)
- Sails about north Dakota initially in masses of land (7)
- The objective is art – get creative (6)
- Top executives elect to have initialised choppers (5)
- Being the French male couch potato (4,3)
- Doctor tends to it in painful spasms (10)
- Moving south and finding a cube (8)
- The acme of International Correspondence School subjects (6)
- Begins installing data environs and software to create thoughts (5)
- Red-yellow colours provided by bird and me. (abbreviated answer) (7)
- It turns and sleeps. Why ? A state of agitation, of course! (5)
- First Tom, then Raz stumbled, and received zero movement of mosaic (8)
- Mintier concoction will do in the meantime (7)
- Temperature lines on map deceived (It's Homer) (8)
- Feds run around after the first chopper for cash repayments (3,7)
- A flickering flame is on the island (4,2,3)
- Contraction follows being X. So stupid! (7)
- Outlet is upset about use (5)
- Into ills? Sit developing a sore throat! (11)
- All men stint off payment plan (11)
- Dig coolie out of your thoughts (9)
- A South African golfer follows you French to Northern Nebraska initially in the burrows (7)
- Dining out after a fashion, it also being creative of old (8)
- The way to test the odds inside the TAB (4)
- Touching the latticework! (7)

GENERAL COMMENTS (continued):

• I have been a member of the ACC for eleven years and have nothing but admiration for the efforts of fellow members, as far as the creation of crosswords is concerned. I have attempted to create a crossword or two myself, and know that it is not easy. So, I am reluctant to criticize the puzzles, as regards the accuracy of the clues. However the latest set of puzzles have a dozen or more clues which I found less than satisfactory.

Peter Dearie

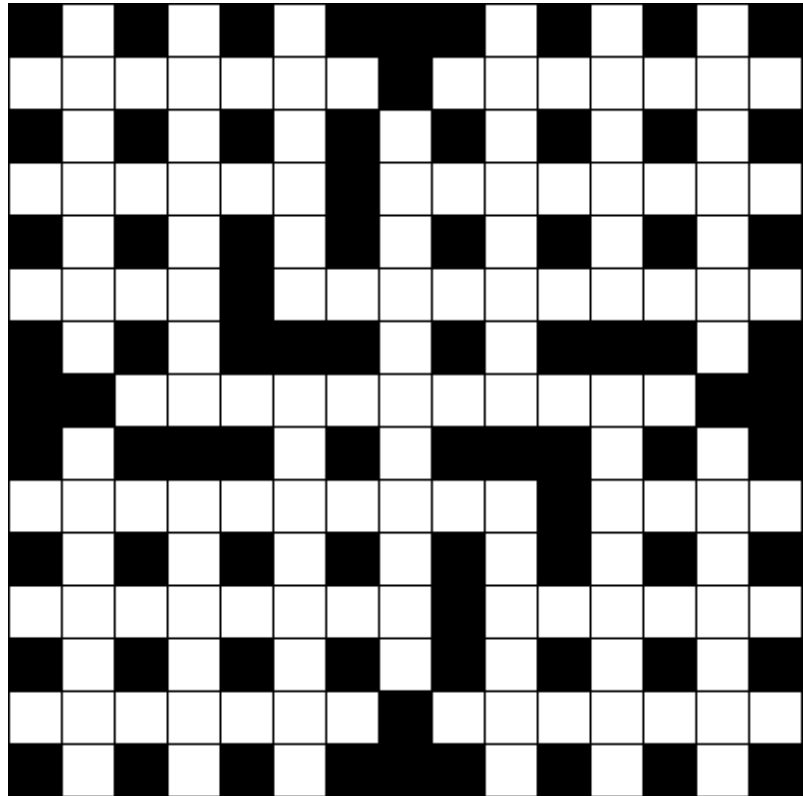
[Editor's note: Peter, when you state that you found several of the clues in the last set of puzzles "unsatisfactory", such a general statement leaves the compilers, the solvers and the members none the wiser. In deference to the compilers, you should specify which clues in your opinion were unsatisfactory and why. In that way, we can all see whether your criticisms are justified and, if so, the compilers may take your comments into account in devising future puzzles.]

• Such an abundance of good things this month – puzzles from all our most prolific compilers. We are so lucky to have Audrey, Noel, Shirley, Joan and Roy in the Club. A big thank-you to all of them for their huge contribution to our enjoyment.

Margaret Davis

J	A	N			
2	0	0	5		
S	L	O	T		4

AJ
by
*Brain
Tickler*



The letter before each clue is the initial of the answer.

- A** Old helper finds a story teller after Aust. Cricket side? No way! (8)
- B** Confused and initially even more unrestrained in the sack (10)
- C** Cute kid is smart without a problem (6)
- D** Frank, imprisoned by accident, fell backwards into a private compartment (7, 4)
- E** Resented rival in the extreme (6)
- F** Intense love for a bird (8)
- G** A bad-tempered person in this sense makes grunts (7)
- H** Disgusting lair changes shirt for safety first (7)
- I** Impressionist displays misplaced patriotism without afterthought (8)
- J** Panel member from makeshift crew (7)
- K** Time to start separating flesh and blood from nitrogenous compound (7)
- L** Order relayed in tears reportedly (7)
- M** Direct order for food (4, 6)
- N** More insensitive crowd (6)
- O** What fabric can be made of we are told (7)
- P** Can take a holiday escape (6, 5)
- Q** Nit-picker has complaint put before Russian leader (8)
- R** Waffled on, being crazy about food (8)
- S** Court not quite satisfied with a small amount (8)
- T** Settle up, harbouring bitter grief (7)
- U** A whole piece (4)
- V** Never-ending love you say? It may be woven into fabric (6)
- W** Plan set down is held up (7)
- X** Ten-nil to South Africa – and one of its languages (4)
- Y** The old rest in order to last (6)
- Z** The last two crazy characters come at a bad time for the priest (6)

J	A	N			
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S	L	O	T		6

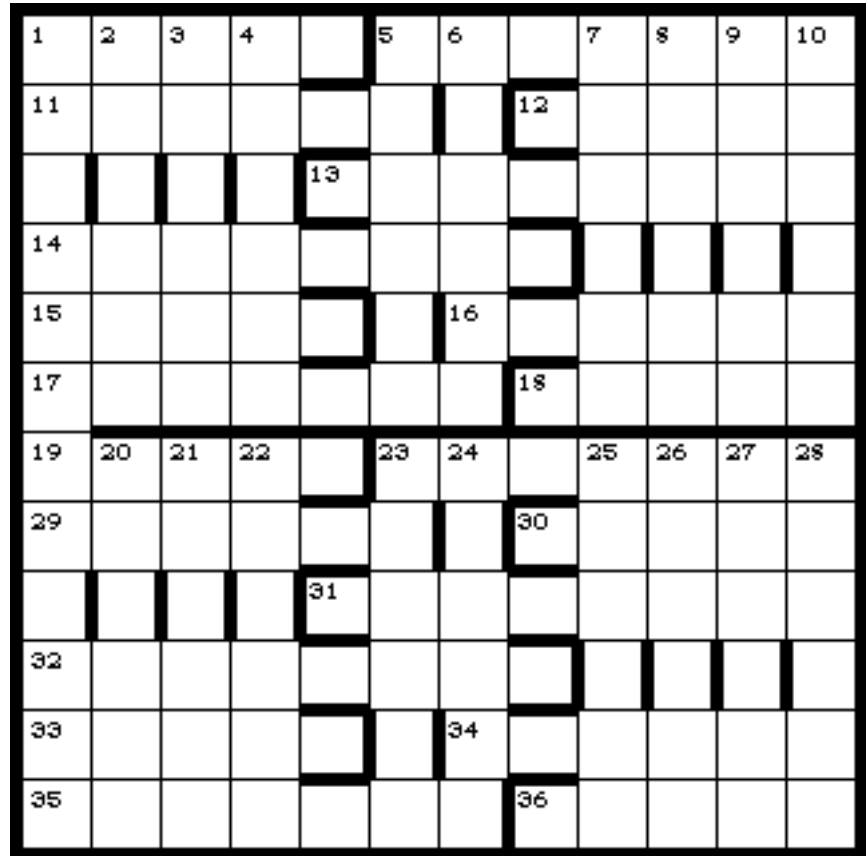
Double-Decker by Praxis



Apart from 1 down, which is normal, each clue is really two clues side by side but not overlapping, leading to two answers, one for the numbered space on the top of the central line and one for that on the bottom — the clue for either side may come first. The division between the clues is not necessarily marked by punctuation. One of the two answers for 7 down is two words. Geographical references from Macquarie Dictionary or Atlas.

Across

- 1 Fires out — finish off letter with this: ‘State rejected jail in Coloradan resort’ (5, 5)
- 5 One accountant’s admitted spies, plants one who cares about state of transporter (7, 7)
- 11 Car initially slows down, stops, entrance for a rendezvous (6, 6)
- 12 Trounced, denied due in shared tips, Kelly grabbed one, that’s the spirit (5, 5)
- 13 Doctors rave, hospital plant subdued radical, one’s holding court making forecasts (8, 8)
- 14 Police turned following home ten involved in event, dine out on the money! Outrageous! (8, 8)
- 15 Main canoe smashed, situation’s observed, I’m told (5, 5)
- 16 I guess new fashions, cars, moulded ‘is temperament (6, 6)
- 17 Rich tiler’s involved in iron ore behind Gwyn’s Indian town (7, 7)
- 18 Ern’s angry cutting into it, still plonk spoils meats (5, 5)

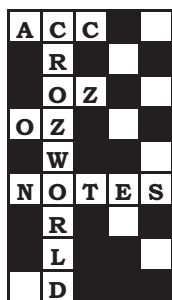


Down

- 1 Group sporting Hindu customs getting restitution (12)
- 2 Meeting’s in Irishman’s church, chap is under direction to confess (6, 6)
- 3 Deliver plaster parts bound to be set up around church (6, 6)
- 4 Spotting seal’s broken around Greek’s letter, committed when camping? (6, 6)
- 5 Turned up recipe for ale brewed with grain coated once, so must start with corn (6, 6)
- 6 Right, be well and happy, no good bearing uncertainty, chaplain can redirect course (6, 6)
- 7 Ah! I heard one in nine arranged to limit credit on a tax for neckwear (6, 6)
- 8 Charge one with noise pollution — incorporated is a direction to cut it (6, 6)
- 9 One or the other will be number one inside insect’s proboscis, insect’s about to suffer (6, 6)
- 10 Oppose resolution first, southern church is meeting first sect (6, 6)

**Post
Solution
to:**

**Roy Wilson,
2 Dell Street, Blacktown NSW 2148.
Closing mail date: Friday 11 February 2005.**



CALLING ALL COMPILERS: Our stocks of crosswords and quizzes for 2005 need replenishing. Any cryptic, AJ, innovative, Ximenean etc will be gratefully accepted. Also, we could do with a few new Quizzes. We particularly encourage any new compiler to 'have a go'. The ACC provides a scarce forum where you can have your crossword published and scrutinised by Australia's best solvers. Why not become a compiler for 2005? It can be a rewarding experience! We could do with a few plain cryptic crosswords too. They might look easy to compile but it is surprising how difficult it can be to devise inspired clues. This is your big opportunity to 'make it' in the world of crosswords. "Come alive in 2005". Please send all compositions to Patrick at pstreet@bigpond.net.au

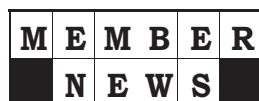
CLUE OF THE MONTH: This has been a successful innovation and we intend to continue it in 2005. During 2004, the results were as follows: Sincere congratulations to Shirl O'Brien with 5 COTMs, Roy Wilson 3, Audrey Austin 2, Doug Butler, Bob Hagan, Noel Jessop, Drew Meek and Max Roddick one each. Jack Stocks gained a Special Mention. Well done!

COMPENDIUM: *The Crozworld Compendium* Vol 5 which has been distributed with this month's copy of *Crozworld* features a large number of challenging puzzles and quizzes compiled by members of the ACC. There are also generous prizes to be won. In addition, the solutions to all of the puzzles published in volume 4 of the *Compendium* and the names of the prizewinners are included. If you would like to order extra copies of this exciting publication please send the Treasurer of the ACC \$5 per copy (inc p&p).

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER! If you sign up a new member for 2005, the cost is only \$30 including the *Compendium*. Unbeatable value! A wonderful present for your friends! We have a number of new members already for 2005! Let's make a lot of people happy by signing up your cruciverbal friends. It only costs \$30 for the whole year. Great value!

Donations to the ACC Prize Fund 2005 are gratefully received from: Doug Butler, Chester Chance, John Davey, June Edward, Dell Eisentrager, Cheryl Gleeson, David Procter, Marian Procter, Deirdre Rouch, Sally Shipway, John and Wendy Villiers and Robyn Whitehead. Many thanks for your kindness and generosity.

E-LODGMET: Ian Williams has now taken over the management of e-lodgment entries. It can be seen that delivery of postal items has become quite unreliable. It's time to consider e-lodgment. Quick, reliable and inexpensive. Ian has written a full explanation for those interested in e-lodgment. Once you read Ian's explanation, 'snail mail' will be a thing of the past for you! Visit the following link for this useful information: <http://www.crosswordclub.org/e-lodgment1.html> Many thanks to Ian for his valuable assistance to the ACC. Kindly send your e-lodgment entries to Ian whose e-mail address is: ianw@webone.com.au



New Members: A warm welcome to **Margaret Macpherson** from Bathurst, NSW (a membership gift from Christine Erratt), **Rosemary Ducker** from Woronora, NSW (a gift from Yvonne Riches), **Keith**

Lemon from Roadvale, Qld (a gift from Patricia Lemon), **Peter Cook** from Blackburn, Vic (a gift from Jane Cook), **Christopher and Sue Thomas** from Torrens, SA (membership gifts from Max Roddick), **Andrew Patterson** from Abbotsford, NSW, (three membership gifts from Ken Davis) - **Peter Holmick** from Monash, ACT, **Amanda Davis** from Yarrawarra, NSW, **Fiona Nicholls** from Weston, ACT) and **Will West** from Wurtulla, Qld. Welcome to the wonderful world of Crozworlding!

Acknowledgement: Many thanks to *The Courier-Mail* for kind permission to publish Cryptic by *Southern Cross* (Jan 2-2005).

Puzzle Adjustments: *Crozworld Compendium* vol 5. In puzzle no 19, for the 4th Across clue substitute the word 'but' for 'bit'. For the 8th Across clue substitute (3,4) for (7). For the 10th Down clue, substitute (5,4) for (9). Bev Solomon gained a dot for November Slot 5. Hilary Cromer gained dots for Nov Slots 2, 3 and 5 and Ross Bryant gained dots for Nov Slots 1, 2, 3 and 4.

OZWORDS

A note from Margaret Davis

"I wonder how many of our members are familiar with a publication called *Ozwords*? It comes from the Australian National Dictionary Centre at the ANU twice a year. I have been receiving it for a few years now and find it very interesting and entertaining. I have even entered one of the competitions and had a couple of my entries published. It comes out in May and November. Subscription is free. All you have to do is send your postal details to: *Ozwords* Subscription Manager, GPO Box 2784Y, Melbourne, Vic 3001."

CLOSING MAIL DATE in 2005:

We have decided to change the day for the last receipt of entries in 2005 from Tuesday to Friday. This change will suit those hard-working adjudicators who are busy working during the week and will give all adjudicators an opportunity to finalise the details on the weekend. *Crozworld* will be published on that weekend and should be received by members on the following Monday or Tuesday.

BURY ODD...

Q: How do they bury dead crossworders nowadays?

A: 6 down, 2 across.

Solution to Brian Symons' Conundrums:

Each person shakes 26 hands giving 27x26. But this counts each handshake twice so the number of handshakes is 27x26 divided by two = 351. Amazingly, even though there are 365 days in a year (366 this year) the critical number is 23. Once there are 23 or more people present it becomes more likely than not two will share a birthday and the chances rise quickly as the number of people increase. I am happy to send proof to anyone interested.

—Brian Symons

• "'Zest' is a favorite word of mine. I treasure people who keenly enjoy living, those vital souls with a zest for life. Like a lemon peel in a drink, they conquer dullness and add zip."
Jerome T Murphy

• "My favorite word is 'chthonic' (pronounced 'thonic') which means 'pertaining to the gods and spirits of the underworld.' I've never seen it used except once in a very obscure English short story. No one has the foggiest notion what it means, and whoever saw a word start with *chth*? I'll admit it has been somewhat difficult to work it into a conversation."
Fred Mustard Stewart

—from *The Logophile's Orgy* by Lewis Burke Frumkes

PRIZE SCHEDULE for 2005

Monthly prizes for Slots 2, 3, 4 and 6: \$50 x 2 each.
Puzzle No 1: The Macquarie Concise Thesaurus (paperback \$36.95rrp) or other book as selected.
Puzzle No 5: The Oxford Crossword Dictionary (\$69.95rrp) and Chambers Dictionary 1998ed (\$100rrp) or other book as selected.
Slots 1-5 correct winner each month: \$75.
Quizzes: \$50 each or a book prize.

NOTES: (1) "Closing mail date" means that entries must be received by the Adjudicator at or before the time of the postal mail delivery on the date specified each month in *Crozworld*. This includes any entries which may be sent electronically via e-mail. Any entries received after that time and date will not be eligible to gain a 'dot' or to qualify for a prize.

(2) Only current financial members of the Australian Crossword Club are eligible to win prizes in 2005.

December 1-2004: Thematic by *Virgo* (Audrey Austin)

- 2dn Very slippery, *Virgo!* *William Ryan and Rachel Day*
- A nice collection of trees, shrubs, bushes and woods. Good "service" thanks *Virgo*. *Alan Walter*
- This is a difficult No. 1. 3dn – I think (illegible – ed) the clue should be LOMBARDY. *Brian Symons*
- "Overscrub" is the sort of word that causes arguments in games of Scrabble. The clue "Yma" [1dn] for Sumac ... was not in any of my dictionaries. As *Virgo* was using half of a two-word phrase in the down clues, the clue "poison" would have been better ("poison sumac" is listed in *Chambers*). I don't know what would have been an appropriate clue for 27dn "larch" but "tall" wasn't very helpful. *Peter Dearie*
- Quite a difficult No. 1, though the theme was not too hard to solve and that helped general progress. I thought that 22ac was rather too vague; I only came across the answer in *Chambers* by accident. *Irene Watts*
- Yma Sumac, good one, it takes me a long way back! Actress or singer? *Thérèse Savanah*
- Quite tough for an opener. *Catherine Foster*
- This was a very straightforward lot of puzzles, I thought, but I was sorely tested by No. 1 and 6. *Aileen Skillicorn*
- 22ac – I was going to put "tole" = lacquer ware, but decided "dope" = aeroplane varnish was the better answer. Hope I guessed correctly! *Nea Storey*

December 2-2004: Cryptic by Noel Jessop

- 28ac. Carpetlayer fits the clue but is not in my opinion a "construction worker". A "corbel layer" is a construction worker and I was tempted ... doesn't fit the clue quite! *John Standard*
- 12ac If "against the law" = ILLEGALLY, then it looks as if State = ILL (Illinois) + starts to expel government = +EG, but how is ALLY referred to? Liked 6dn Fleeing, say = DEB + UG + G(O)ING where G(O)ING is running without oxygen (O). 9ac had to be careful not to put answer as MALCOLM. The clue requires MAL + FOR + M. Thanks Noel for another gem cryptic puzzle. *Alan Walter*
- Apropos 8dn, did you hear that the welder's skinny cat had acetylene kittens? *Merv Collins*
- Some lovely clues – esp DEBUGGING, CARPETLAYER. ILLEGALLY – if correct – seems incompletely clued? *Brian Symons*
- It took ages to solve 28ac in Slot 2 because a "carpetlayer" is not a construction worker. *Peter Dearie*
- Liked AFOUL and DEBUGGING. *Max Roddick*
- Noel's puzzles are never easy, but they are fair and reasonably straightforward. I notice that he selected a CABBAGE from CABBAGE TREE in No. 1 and his MATADOR (at 19dn) had a bullfighting mate (PICADOR) in *Timid Terrier's* No. 4. Such coincidences (?) often seem to happen. *Irene Watts*
- Noel made his puzzle a bit harder this time – but his clues are always spot on. *Catherine Foster*
- Re 6dn – "Fleeing" – if the answer is "debugging", then perhaps it should be "de-fleeing"? *Nea Storey*

December 3-2004: Cryptic by *Southern Cross* (Shirl O'Brien)

- Thanks for another mind-bender Shirl. 24ac: *The Macquarie* says that KOSCIUSKO formerly was the spelling of the correctly used KOSCIUSZKO. Liked 4dn INN + NIS < + FAIL clue, and 14dn DI + SPENSE(R) + S where (R) is omitted. *Alan Walter*
- Thanks Shirl for quite a different cryptic. *Brian Symons*
- It took me a while to get going on this slot. For some reason the clues in general didn't seem to be Shirl style, though still very clever and enjoyable. *Irene Watts*
- Whew! Very deep cluing but I loved 5dn. *Catherine Foster*

December 4-2004: AJ by *Timid Terrier* (Joan Smith)

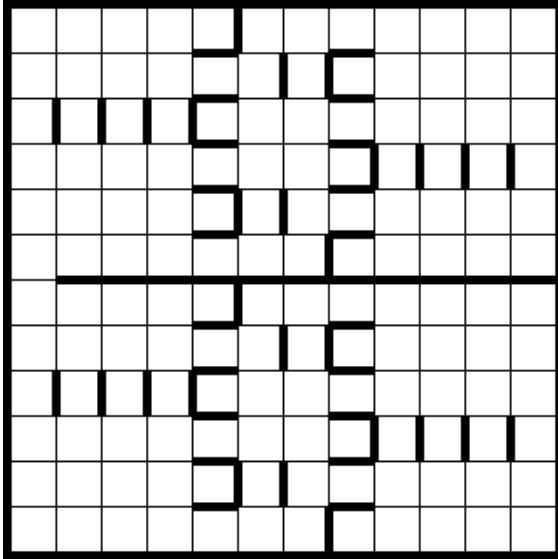
- My apologies for "Queredo". It was brought to my attention that the novelist's name was "Quevedo". *The Macquarie Dictionary* 2nd ed has "Queredo" which now appears to be incorrect. It looks like I will have to visit the bookshop and purchase the latest edition. *Joan Smith (Timid Terrier)*
- K clue if "equipment" = KIT how does TEN = final return? [*Chambers* NET + final return gives TEN]. ZORIL + LOS = S. American skinks LOS = old reputation. Q clue has answer 'Quevedo' for Spanish novelist. This word has to intersect with 'Ruth Park' so R/V has to go in the common square! Apart from this dilemma Joan, your AJ was good. Interesting that Australian magpies = ORGAN BIRDS in *Chambers*, not mentioned in *The Macquarie*. *Alan Walter*
- Harder than the usual AJ and very satisfying. I am unsure of the Q clue. Queredo seems to be implied – but the Spanish writer is Quevedo. [Similar comment from a number of other solvers - DG] *Brian Symons*
- Thanks *Timid Terrier* for an absorbing AJ. Took some time how to end ZORILL (AS/OS) – should have read the clue carefully in the first place! *Max Roddick*
- I've said it before and I'll say it again, I think Joan (*Timid Terrier*) has become our Alphabeticals expert. *Irene Watts*

December 5-2004: Cryptic by Praxis (Roy Wilson)

- 28dn. Nice touch the colon in the clue. However colon is usually associated with the Panama Canal whereas Port Said is at the end of the Suez Canal. I enjoyed the puzzles but find the transcribing to the answer sheet difficult – my eyes aren't what they used to be. Have a Happy Christmas! *John Standard*
- Thank you for your mind-wracking cryptic Roy. Very much liked 18ac Legless bishop's game B + LOTTO, 32ac (T)ENDS = first off nurses, 32ac P + RE + (SID) + ED required some thought. 23dn PAR + AD + E – how does PARE = float? *Chambers* gives under "float" = pare up (turf). 26dn – a brilliant clue: show embarrassment when injured GO + RED! *Alan Walter*
- Fantastic clues as usual – esp BLOTTO, SAID, PRESIDES – but FISH gets my COTM. *Brian Symons*
- I enjoyed all the puzzles this month with the exception of Slot 5 which I thought had far too many very obscure words – ABDERITES, ATTAINTS, DIATOM, APORIA and IGAPPOS. Couldn't have found any of those without a computer and that's not what crossword solving is all about. The clueing was a bit forced too: 1dn (is "sp" an abbreviation for spelling?) and 7ac (where does the "h" at the end of "fish" come from? Some of "what" presumably) amongst others. *Merv Collins*
- [Roy Wilson – *Praxis* – provided a list of explanations for his clues, and these may assist: 1dn = s(OA)p; 7ac = f – ish. DG]
- 31ac ("turtledove") is only shown as a noun in my *Chambers*. I know the "?" on the end of the clue alerts us to something tricky, but it would have been just as easy to have the clue read "Old lover enters the water for a bird", and also gives the solver the illusion that the clue somehow refers to some elderly chap chasing young girls by the sea, "turtle" being archaic for "lover". *Peter Dearie*
- 22dn. How nice to be on first-name terms with Spenser! *Max Roddick*
- No can do. *Irene Watts*
- Now here was a challenge! Loved it once I squeezed everything in. *Catherine Foster*

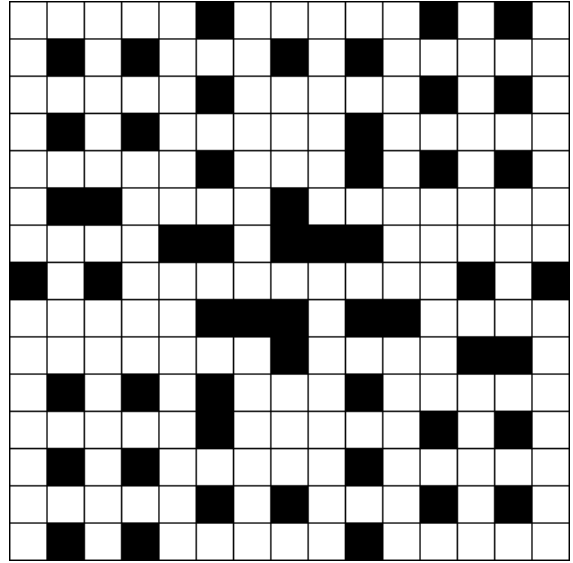


Send solution to: Roy Wilson,
2 Dell Street, Blacktown NSW 2148.
Closing mail date: Friday 11 February 2005
NAME:

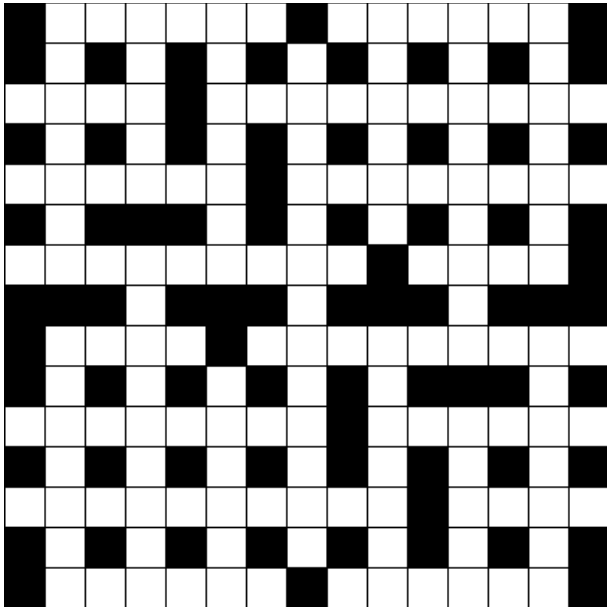


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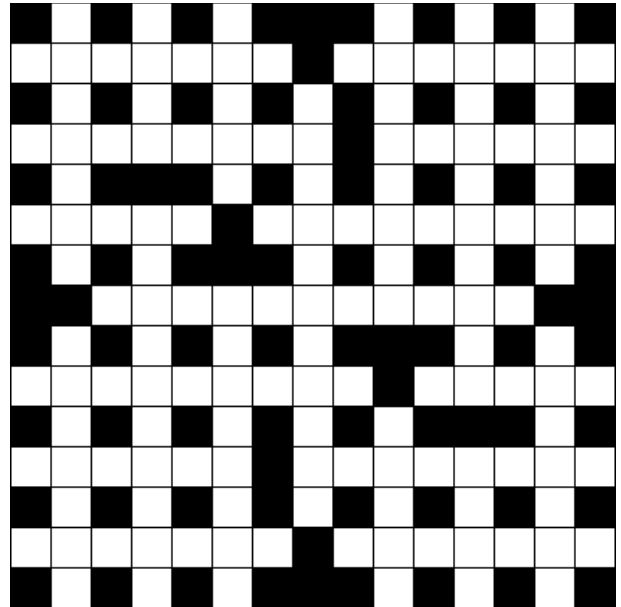
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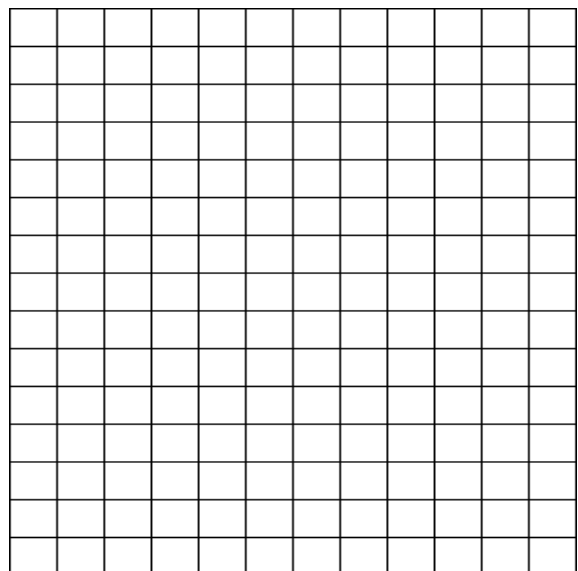
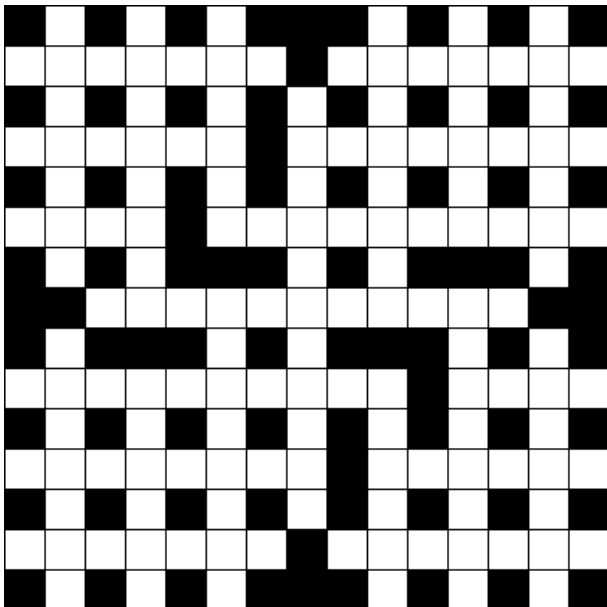
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|J|A|N| |5| |2|0|0|5|



Book title
Author's name

Clue of the Month

November 6-2004 - In November by Virgo (Audrey Austin).

Entries: 69. Correct 65. Success rate: 94.2%. Prizewinner: David Procter. Congratulations!

Members' Comments:

- After not quite finishing the rest of the puzzles (never enough time) I enjoyed having an easy one to fill the gap before next month's arrive. I hope there are no transcription errors after going around in circles. *Mary Dodd*
- Your No. 6 is the best ever; it must have been very hard to set. *Aileen Skillicorn*
- I must congratulate you on your slot 6. Not only was it cleverly conceived and brilliantly clued but the grid was amazing – even the bars were in symmetry. Well done! *Bev Cockburn*
- Your puzzle was a beauty! The hidden anagram format creates difficult but intriguing clues and although I knew what it was about pretty quickly but didn't twig the hidden clues about the 29 Cup winners until it was all done. *Jim Colles*
- A very enjoyable and very brilliant Melbourne Cup puzzle. *Brian Tickle*
- Fitting them all together, getting the right initials, making the whole thing rhyme and scan – unbelievable! I was disappointed though that you didn't manage to fit Macdougall (1959) in. *Iain MacDougall*
- Great fun to solve but the compiling must be a chore – a labour of love I expect. When I noticed you took on the adjudicating of the 6 puzzles, I thought of all those wonderful Melbourne Cup starters – all great stayers like you. *Catherine Foster*
- Jack and I thought we did very well to get Slot 6 out but how you put it all together I'll never understand – it's brilliant! The anagrammed clues are clever in the rhyming lines which begin with the hidden message, but the arrangement of horses in the radically symmetrical grid is mind-boggling! Even to get the five letter one in position with three of those letters in common to adjoining polygons is remarkable; it must have driven you crazy – but to have found the horses' names to fit the spaces is totally remarkable. I salute you! *Shirl O'Brien*
- Move over Bill Wordsworth! *Yvonne Ainsworth*
- I didn't realise at first that the clues in your polygonal puzzle were all making up poetic lines. It must have taken a lot of time to work out the grid, the 29 Cup winners and the clues. A very entertaining puzzle, Audrey. Well done! *David Procter*
- Slot 6 took me many enjoyable hours to solve. I reckon these types of puzzles would take many hours to set. Plus we also got the rhyming words. Thanks again. *Bev Solomon*
- Many congratulations! It is without doubt the best you have produced. I really enjoyed solving it, and then the challenge of fitting the answers into the grid. And your versifying was brilliant. I do think compiling is clever all the time but one like this definitely deserves a medal. *Margaret Pyc*
- My admiration knows no bounds; such an intricate grid. I hope though that the double bar between 6 and 14 is only for symmetry and not to separate different letters. It was a relief to find that the 1951 winner was DELTA and not DELAT as listed in the first Web page I visited. *Dell Eisentrager*
- How serene is our Audrey, producing mellifluous verse with 29 horses loose in the garden?!! *Max Roddick*
- Many thanks, Audrey, for your very appropriate Melbourne Cup winners puzzle, neatly woven together with verse, acronym, and narrative. This perplexing polygonal puzzle posed plenty of pressing problems, probing one's perspicacity for patience and perseverance. This puzzle was a winner. *Alan Walter*
- My only complaint is the size of the good grid. I have tried to keep it neat but don't envy you the job of marking them all. *Valerie Howard*
- This is a lovely innovative puzzle for this time of the year and I love anagrams! *Catherine Hambling*
- A brilliantly arranged puzzle with 29 cup winners. Looks like hell to adjudicate too. Well done! *Tom Phelan*
- This was tons of fun, Audrey, but you didn't have this year's winner in it! *Roy Taylor*
- Nice one, Audrey. I hope you backed MAKYBE DIVA!? (No, but see my next comment. A.) *Ken Watt*
- A very ingenious puzzle. Fortunately I had a list of Cup winners to hand. As a non-gambler, I use word association to pick horses on Cup day, and as my car number plate is ZAZ 910, I had a couple of dollars on ZAZZMAN. This decision helped me recoup my losses on MEDIA PUZZLE. (E/w! Me too! A.) *Peter Dearie*
- This was a great puzzle. *Barbara Ibbott*
- Brilliant! The setting of this was a real triumph. *Jill Freeland*
- I enjoyed your verse hiding the clues. There were some lovely word pictures in some of the lines. *Irene Watts*

Winning Ways
Round and round the polygons
The Cup Day horses run
This way or that way
And winning every one.

Virgo's In November puzzle
Is a wonderful creation
It's topical, enjoyable
I'm full of admiration.
Irene Watts

Adjudicator's Comments:

Most errors were caused by missing letters. Thank you for all the cards, letters and positive comments. Getting the grid to look neat and professional was harder than constructing the puzzle. Fortunately, I have a draughtsman friend who comes to our fortnightly poker games. He doesn't do crosswords, but he did help me get it into better shape and wouldn't take a cent for his efforts, so I gave him a copy of the finished puzzle for his folder. (He's not trying to solve it.) —**Audrey Austin (Virgo)**

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- Many thanks for my prize *The Macquarie Concise Thesaurus* which comes at a good time to supplement my ageing and somewhat dilapidated and grubby *Harrington*. The prize was doubly welcome, as it coincides with a seven dot – all correct result – for November. Once again thanks and Best Wishes for the coming festive season. *John Standard*
- To Patrick, Bev, Steve, the compilers and all other hard workers at the ACC. More power to you all! *Catherine Foster*
- "'Tis the season to be merry" — and what could be better than a prize cheque among the Christmas cards? Thank you! *Max Roddick*
- I've just completed my first 12 months with the club and gladly paid for another 12. I think you all do a marvellous job and receiving my copy of *Crozworld* is something I look forward to every month. A big "thank-you" to all of you. *Yvonne Ainsworth*
- Wishing all at ACC a happy and safe Christmas. I cannot thank you enough for the pleasure your crosswords bring me each month. Keep up the great work. *Jean Barbour*

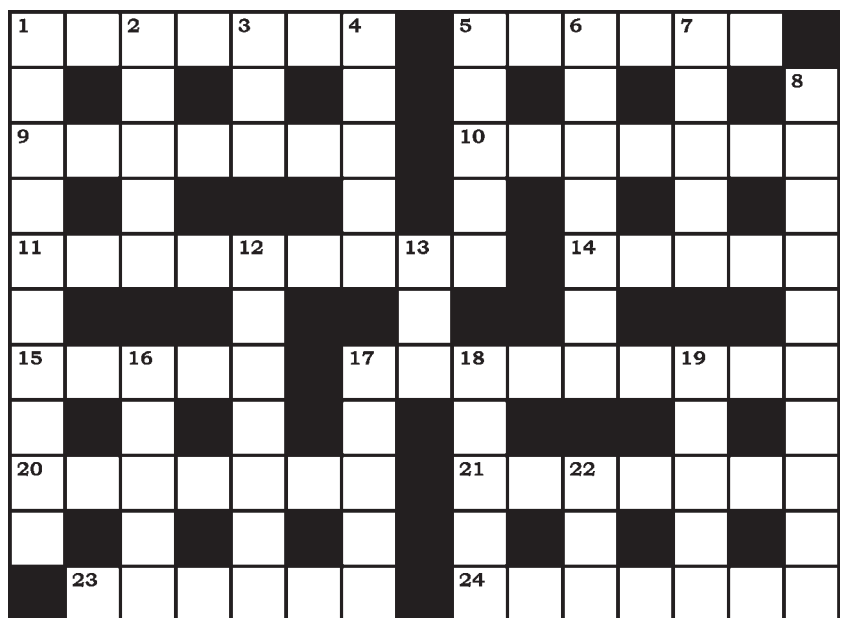
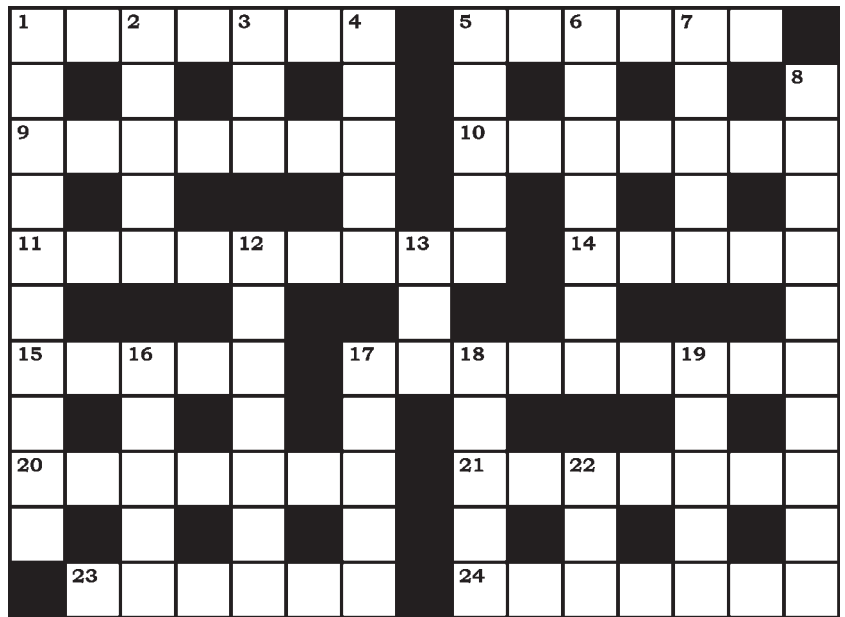
S|L|O|T| |7|

**Two – Up by *The Beast*
Prize \$50**

There are two clues in each line. The first, preceded by an asterisk is a "Connections For example" clue — ie, find a word that goes before both, after both or between the two clue words that will give you separate words, phrases or names. The second clue is a straight cryptic. The answers to each set of clues may go into either grid. Your task is to sort them out!

Across

- 1 *Split out (7)
 - 1 Some French descendants about in the supermarket (7)
 - 5 *Car bath (6)
 - 5 Small returns seen in deposit, but room to move (6)
 - 9 *Tissue band (7)
 - 9 Bells rang as a lackey returned with some tucker (7)
 - 10 *Banana away (7)
 - 10 Call for a sausage! (7)
 - 11 *Pink Indian (9)
 - 11 Put your trust in Esso oil. It has the answer to corrosion (9)
 - 14 *Flying gang (5)
 - 14 Dragged along to get hitched, perhaps (5)
 - 15 *Left hand (5)
 - 15 There's a charge about right way to catch fish (5)
 - 17 *Native ship (9)
 - 17 Forest gang makes timber fastener (4-5)
 - 20 *Medicine hours (7)
 - 20 The late take off at a fast clip (4,3)
 - 21 *Dismissal recall (7)
 - 21 Don't be seen around Sandhurst group. It's asleep (7)
 - 23 *Half rates (6)
 - 23 A plain bit on the side will spoil the spirits (6)
 - 24 *Chain screw (7)
 - 24 This twister will rubbish a hill (7)
- Down**
- 1 *Butterfly box (10)
 - 1 Erosion in weapons causes much imprecation (10)
 - 2 *Tourist act (5)
 - 2 Measure, entreat and follow (5)
 - 3 *Silly dog (3)
 - 3 Turn can up to find the egg (3)
 - 4 *Blood remover (5)
 - 4 Close eruption at the base (5)
 - 5 *Dead head (5)
 - 5 Rubs up some fans (5)
 - 6 *Lloyd Bailey (7)
 - 6 Orestes sister to choose a God (7)
 - 7 *Fire head (5)
 - 7 Speak this language? The French can! (5)
 - 8 *Lake fish (10)
 - 8 Redmen follow chook around old vehicle (6,4)
 - 12 *Second hand (7)



- 12 One who guarantees in most definite way (7)
- 13 *Step up (3)
- 13 Ruptures aorta with a cracker (3)
- 16 *Horse hat (5)
- 16 Time to find a goddess (5)
- 17 *Sugar stripe (5)
- 17 A bit of a character on a vehicle (5)
- 18 *Direct form (5)
- 18 I hear it's the chief state (5)
- 19 *Dinner duck (5)
- 19 I consider it's mad! (5)
- 22 *James Barnes (3)
- 22 Uphill? Hogwash! (3)

Post solution to:

Kev Layton

40 Alfred St, Aitkenvale Qld 4814.

Closing mail date: 11 February 2005.

Quiz No 1/2005

CATALOGUES AND COWARDS



by Brian Symons

Can you provide the word satisfying each of the following definitions? All definitions are from *Chambers* 1998 ed. Word length of answers is indicated. All answers have something manifestly in common. Send your answers on this or a separate sheet to:

Brian Symons, 1 Kookaburra Place, Grays Point NSW 2232, or by email to: brian_symons@bigpond.com.au

Closing mail date: 11 February 2005. Prize: \$50.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A gas (6) _ _ _ _ _ 2 A fruit (5) _ _ _ _ _ 3 Hard work (5) _ _ _ _ _ 4 Opening (8) _ _ _ _ _ 5 An evergreen shrub (8) _ _ _ _ _ 6 Large cask (8) _ _ _ _ _ 7 Murder of a public figure (13) _ _ _ _ _ 8 Wily (6) _ _ _ _ _ 9 Official progress report (8) _ _ _ _ _ 10 Coarse, stiff, openweave fabric (7) _ _ _ _ _ 11 Still, inert (8) _ _ _ _ _ 12 A waterproofing cement-like substance (7) _ _ _ _ _ | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13 In preference (6) _ _ _ _ _ 14 Sexually interfere with (6) _ _ _ _ _ 15 A rare earth metal (8) _ _ _ _ _ 16 Ypres for one (12) _ _ _ _ _ 17 Units of weight (6) _ _ _ _ _ 18 Reprimand severely (7) _ _ _ _ _ 19 Muslim women's quarters (5) _ _ _ _ _ 20 A sauce (9) _ _ _ _ _ 21 A Japanese martial art (6) _ _ _ _ _ 22 Colouring (7) _ _ _ _ _ 23 Trivial verse (8) _ _ _ _ _ 24 The screw-pine (8) _ _ _ _ _ 25 To storm (7) _ _ _ _ _ |
|---|--|

Reply by Alan Walter to comments on Nov. 3 Aussie Thematic by *The Jolly Swagman* (Alan Walter).

12ac ISOTOPE clue: 'Is love at highest point' = IS + O + TOP + E where TOP = highest, E = point (of the compass). The clueing of E was not omitted. 1ac 'Done' is not appropriate at the front of this clue as KEN comes at the end of DUYFKEN. The exclamation mark is there purely to indicate trickery - ie 'done' to be taken as Done = KEN. 8dn Australian architectural style of the 1920s = Relating to Australia, an architectural style of the 1920s. The comma was omitted in the clue, as is quite the practice with cryptic clues that allow misleading punctuation.

4dn Sydney park = Nielsen park. There is no doubt whatsoever about this spelling. Use any Sydney road directory to check this if in doubt. 'Sounds like Nielsen park locates missing Australian heiress'. Implied by this clue the heiress would need a different spelling to Nielsen, so NIELSON was the obvious answer to check. This answer is easily verified in *The Macquarie Dictionary*, which is a valid ACC reference source for checking spelling. Putting NIELSEN as the answer should have been marked inappropriate as this spelling of the heiress then does not differ from the park. The fact that different spellings are given on the Net is irrelevant as the Internet sometimes gives incorrect spelling (as with Juanita's

surname). The answer NIELSEN definitely does not fit what is implied by the clue. All possible answers obtained from the Internet should be checked from our reputable club dictionaries.

[Editor's note: It was quite open to the adjudicator to accept both spellings of the answer. The internet cannot be ignored as a source of answers to a crossword. The search engine Google found 23,100 references to "Juanita Nielsen" (including the ABC, geocities.com and the cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au websites) and 4,350 references for "Juanita Nielson". Therefore, the correct spelling of the surname is open to question. There were other problems with the clue. For a start, who has ever heard of Nielsen park? Apparently it's in Vaucluse, Sydney. Did any members outside NSW know that? It's a remote reference if ever there was one. Another problem with the clue is its surface reading. In the Chambers Crossword Manual, 3rd ed, Don Manley states that "clues must make sense, or even semi-sense, but not nonsense." The clue under consideration does not make sense. How can a park locate a person? It's meaningless and according to Manley, "unsatisfactory". By the way, other clues in the same grid which suffered from this defect were 1ac, 10ac, 13ac, 19ac, 28ac, 5dn, 6dn, 7dn, 14dn, 17dn, 22dn and 26dn — all nonsensical. In the circumstances, the adjudicator was more than justified in accepting the alternative spellings of Nielson.]

SOME CHRISTMAS COGITATIONS by CACTUS ...

I'm reminded of a couple of articles read in recent years illustrating permutations. One article about the game of chess stated that if everyone on earth was to make a different move every minute it would still take millions of years to perform every move possible on a chess board. Sounds far-fetched and I don't know if it was based on any science, but a lot of chess seems to have been played without duplication. The other article was about the work being done to develop Quantum computers, and comparing the potential speed of these with present day computers. The example was given of a salesman wanting to find every possible route to a number of towns. For 14 towns, existing computers could provide the answers in a matter of minutes. For 22 towns it would take years, and if 29 towns were involved it would take longer than human life has existed on earth. Whereas a Quantum computer could do any of these permutations instantly. Who knows if it's true or false, but some permutations can

be mind-boggling.

Still on the subject of numbers, while I was working in accountancy a client once asked me to tell him how much he would need to invest today at 10% compound interest in order to provide a fund of \$100,000 in 80 years time. I knew it would be only a small amount but, not knowing how to do actuarial calculations, I did some arithmetic and came up with an answer of \$16. When I told the client he looked at me as though I was mad, left the office, and never came back. I'd be interested to know if any of our mathematically minded members could work out an answer, to prove me totally stupid or only a bit.

Finally I might tell the tale of an accountant sole practitioner I was acquainted with (no longer with us) who was always very creative with clients tax returns. For his businesswomen clients he described their new fur coats as 'portable air-conditioning units', and obtained appropriate tax deductions as such. Perhaps we have some working lady members who find the idea appealing? — *Jim Colles*

SOMETIMES, I DON'T HAVE A CLUE!

by Steve Trollope

"Singularity is almost invariably a clue. The more featureless and commonplace a crime is, the more difficult is it to bring it home." Sir Arthur Conan Doyle – *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes – The Boscombe Valley Mystery*

As Sir Arthur suggests a commonplace crime is hard to solve. Likewise, in crosswording, a straight, single-word definition clue gives little help to the solver, and is also no challenge to the setter. This is why cryptic clues have been developed, to create a challenge to the setter and a 'fair' challenge to the solver.

The pertinent word is fair, and this is what Afrit and Ximenes attempted to bring to cryptic clues. Afrit stated to setters that "You need not mean what you say, but you must say what you mean". Thus the setter can attempt to mislead the solver via the wording of the clue, but at the same time the clue must be able to be read logically to reach the solution.

The cause was taken up by Ximenes, who started a clue writing competition in *The Observer*. He judged the entries and gave detailed reasons for his decisions, thereby educating cryptic crossword fans (both setters and solvers) in the art of Fairplay.

The principles of Fairplay are of course relative, which is what gives cryptic crosswords their wide following. Crosswords which appear in the provincial newspapers are relatively easy, with those in the national papers being somewhat harder, viz *The Times* crossword. The ultimate appears in the *Listener* format, now consigned to *The Times* website and available on subscription only. (I have attempted the *Listener* crossword on many occasions and only reached a solution a couple of times after many hours and days of effort.)

An example of a well crafted clue is 10 across from December 2004 Slot 5: "Hand in a ball at reception" which evokes pictures of a tennis ball being returned to a hotel reception

desk having been hit out of court by a wayward backhand. The answer is ADMITTANCE, (MITT in A DANCE), straightforward but interesting.

An example of a clue which is less fair comes from an earlier edition of *Crozworld*: "All roads lead to teeming cities" requires the solver to uncover an indirect anagram from 'all roads' (being North East West and South) and to come up with WENS, meaning teeming cities. Wen is in both *Chambers* and *Macquarie* dictionaries, but neither includes this definition. The letters which could be derived from other clues were _E_S (after the solution was published I found the definition on the Infoplease website, but it was impractical to search through the many possible solutions). One basic principle must be that the more obscure the word, the more helpful should be the clue and/or the crossing letters. Similarly, any words not in the common crossword dictionaries should be identified as such.

There are many different types of clues available to the setter. All must include a definition of the solution and an indication of the solution. The indication can be a second definition, an anagram of the solution, a reversal of the solution, a pun of the solution, a charade of the solution, the solution hidden in the indication, and many others. The indication must also include a guide to which type of clue it is, eg 'mixed' (anagram), 'backwards' (reversal), 'sounds like' (pun), etc. A guide for a solver who is stuck with a clue is that the definition will almost invariably be at the start of the clue or at the very end.

A well prepared crossword will include a full selection from these clue types, without any one type monopolising the clues – unless it is a specialist type of crossword, eg where all solutions are hidden in the clue in anagram form, in which case the introduction will state this.

For reference, members could not do better than to obtain *Chambers Crossword Guide* by Don Manley, which covers all aspects of cryptic crosswords and includes numerous examples.

ANAGRAMMANIA = AN ARM, I AM A NAG

Are you keen on anagrams? There is now a website wholly devoted to anagrams (or 'snag a ram'). You can visit this fascinating website at: <http://www.anagramgenius.com/gem.html>

Also you can become a founder member of the Anagram Gems mailing list.

Here are a few Gems from the list (plus a few more ...):

- The Best Things in Life are Free = Nail-biting refreshes the feet
- The End of the World is Nigh = Down this hole frightened
- The Meaning of Life = The fine game of nil
- Male chauvinism = I'm such a vile man
- Soccer Player = Score, leap, cry!
- Clint Eastwood = Old West action!
- Performance-related pay = Mere end-of-year claptrap
- Lower Back Pain = Work incapable!
- President Saddam Hussein = Human disaster dispensed
- Weapons of mass destruction = US team swoops. Finds no trace
- Eleven plus Two = Twelve plus One
- Elvis Aaron Presley = Seen alive? Sorry, pal!
- The Artist Formerly Known as 'Prince' = No first-rate workmanship recently!
- The late John Lennon, Sir Paul McCartney, the late George Harrison and Ringo Starr = In long careers, they all once sang major hits in a rather talented Northern group.
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart = A famous German waltz god
- Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi = I'm a poetic star on violin and viola!
- Giovanni Pergolesi = I love opera singing
- The Queen's Birthday Honours List = Tony Blair sends this queue to HRH
- Gin and Vermouth = Hung over, damn it!
- The Miss World Beauty Contest = Brunettes mostly, so I watched
- Swimmer Ian Thorpe = Is more mph in water
- Career politicians = No special criteria
- President Patrick Street = Trickster despite parent
- Secretary Bev Cockburn = Crack very best bouncer
- Treasurer Steve Workman = Amateur's reverent works
- Have a nice day! = Have a cyanide!

Raoul's Brain Teaser Corner

Entries to Raoul, 304/30 Buckland Street, Chippendale NSW 2008. Deadline 11 February 2005. Prize: "A bottle of something interesting!"

1. A bottle of wine costs \$10.00. The wine costs \$9.00 more than the bottle it comes in. How much does the bottle cost?
2. If all the days of the year are written out, like such: "January First", "January Second" etc, which day comes first alphabetically, and which one comes last?
3. If a clock takes two seconds to strike two o'clock, how long will it take to strike three o'clock?
4. An archaeologist discovers a coin with a woman's head on the obverse and the date 22BC on the reverse. He immediately dismisses it as a fake. Why?

5. The same digger comes across two bodies frozen solid and preserved in a glacial wall. Through the ice he can make out the forms very clearly. He announces he has discovered Adam and Eve! How?
6. How many PMs did Australia have during WWII?
7. Who married Elizabeth Batt?
8. If you particularly liked this place, you would rather spend a day there than a year. Conversely, if you loathed this place, you would much prefer to endure a year, than a day! Where is it?
9. I possess an above average number of toes. Anyone who has seen my feet can attest I have 10 and am not lying. Please explain.
10. Why are 1972 20 cent coins worth more than 1971 20 cent coins?

CLUE WRITING COMPETITION — No 1/2005

We have decided to introduce a clue writing competition. All members are encouraged to submit a clue to the adjudicator (Steve Trollope) who will decide the best clue. The concepts of Ximenes will be upheld and the winner will be the most interesting clue. Entries should include a breakdown of how the clue is formatted, ie which part is the definition, which part is the indicator and how the indicator is formed. For example: 'Hand in a ball at reception' would be analysed as (HAND = content) (IN = container indicator) (A BALL = container) (AT = link word) (RECEPTION = definition), solution is ADMITTANCE. 'Kitty's up in the boat' would be analysed as (KITTY'S 'pools' = reversal) (UP = reversal indicator) (IN = link word) (BOAT = definition), solution is SLOOP. Note that this would only be suitable for a down clue. This explanation will help especially if the clue is complex and the judge cannot identify the analysis of the clue. For those who want to enter but are unsure of the terminology, hopefully they will soon learn. This should have the benefit of making the setters think more about the breakdown of their clues and also help solvers understand the clueing process.

The first phrase for the clue writing competition is **CHRISTMAS CAROL (9,5)**. Note: only one clue per person. Good Luck!

Send your clue and the explanation to the adjudicator Steve Trollope at 28 Pannosa Court, Capalaba, Qld 4157 or by e-mail to stevejt@dodo.com.au (preferred). Closing mail date: 11 February 2005. Book prize.

SOME USELESS TRIVIA by Doug Butler

Hindu Cosmogony: (The Grand Design in a 200 words or less)

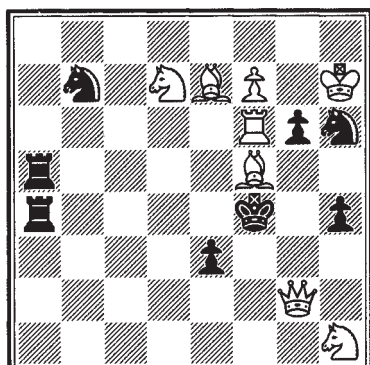
A kalpa is the period 'Day of Brahma' from Creation to Destruction. Consists of 14 manvantaras of 308,448,000 years plus another 1,728,000 totalling 4,320,000,000 years.

It's traditionally divided into 4 yugas defined by their characteristics rather than mathematically, sometimes called the ages of Gold, Silver, Bronze and Clay and Iron. We are in the 4th (the decline) which, according to one source, is expected to last 432,000 years and commenced in what we'd call 3102 BC.

A Day of Brahma is followed by a 'Night of Brahma' (when time has no meaning) then the cycle repeats, endlessly. Like what a lot cosmologists theorise — a closed loop system. I haven't tried to reconcile these numbers with those postulated by Science, but they are clearly closer than those of Bishop Ussher, who put the origin of the Universe at 2004BC.

UNCHECKED ...

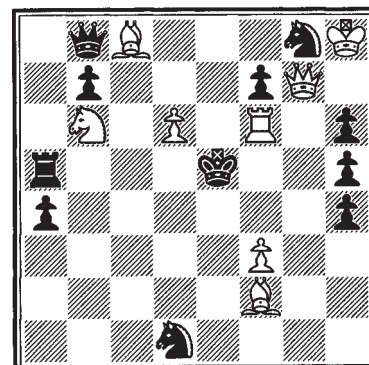
Chess Game Problems No 1 and 2/2005



White to play and mate in two moves.

Name White's first move in each problem.

Send solution(s) to: pstreet@bigpond.net.au



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Last updated 7 months ago.