The ABC’s TV show Can We Help? held a Crossword Competition recently. At our suggestion they ran this competition where solvers had to take on a well-constructed puzzle by the Distinguished Artist David Astle. The ABC said in their Newsletter: “What a response it has been and although there were many entrants there can be only one winner. Drum roll please! The winner of the Can We Help? Crossword competition 2011 drawn from the entries and the proud new owner of the book Puzzled! written and signed by David Astle is...” see p9.

Our masterly Puzzle set-up person, Ian Williams, has selected another variety of excellent and challenging puzzles and quizzes for you this month. Favourites like Jesso and The Eager Beaver are there for your ongoing relish plus skilful offerings from the talented Praxis and The EmCee. We welcome back Difficult Women with a popular AJ and the challenging Raoul has devised another cracker which he has titled ‘Well since my baby left me’. In addition we have quizes from The Busybodies and a welcome return of Quizmaster Margaret Steinberger. Plus another brilliant offering from Betelgeuse in the Slot 7 spot. Michael Kennedy has provided the results of the Clue Writing Competition No 2/2011 and challenged clue-writers to devise a clue for the word TRIANGLE (8). See p16.

The Victorian Christmas in July Get-Together will be held in the comfortable Dining Room at the Royal Oak Hotel, North Fitzroy on Sunday 31 July commencing at noon. Last year’s Get-Together was a stunning success and we would like to match it this year. 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.

Best of Luck with your solving this month. —Patrick

Hello to all club members. I found too many transcription errors – E_CH, OU_E, P_G_E_, T_C_O_F, talent SHHW, SCHEMINGLL, TTIPUP, tom THUBB. This is a sad way to miss a dot. Transcribing the downs clues first would have eliminated the last four errors.

Slot 1: No particular problems here. While everyone put in ADEN, it seems that SANAA is actually the capital of Yemen.

Slot 2: I was surprised to find YEILDED misspelt twice. Apart from a couple of ‘EYE DROP/ELOTS’, ‘STATILE’ and ‘SISTINE’ there was an assortment of other answers. Welcome Grottesco. While everyone put in BESPELL, it did not sit well with solvers generally.

Slot 3: Members came up with 14 incorrect answers for this one and the only double was LONDON TUBE.

Slot 4: Members came up with 15 incorrect answers. GENESIS stumped 8 solvers who put in GENERIC – a simple anagram of geniuses without the U (universal) – and DELIVER stumped 4 solvers who put in DERIDES.

Slot 5: While this puzzle had 87% success, there were only 99 entries which attests to its difficulty. ADULLERS for UDALLERS was the only double up with 4 members missing a dot on account of it.

COTM: 33 words vied for COTM with most coming from the ever-popular Southern Cross. However, STAIN in Slot 2 by newcomer Grottesco (Iain McCulloch), won the month with 5 votes. When voting would you please write the slot number and the WORD in the space provided.

Thank you for all the greetings with your entries – they lighten the load. Thank you also, to all the members who take time to write neatly. Happy Crosswording for the remainder of 2011.

—Veniece Lobsey

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

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© 2011 The Australian Crossword Club
Across
1 Catchy verses (7)
5 Diaphragm (7)
9 Finger (5)
10 Strategist (9)
11 Try (7)
12 Soothing (6)
15 Violent criminal (4)
16 Wood from India (10)
19 Inflammation of brain membranes (10)
20 Image (4)
22 Envelop (6)
24 Fat (7)
27 Rising again (9)
28 Blunder (5)
29 Strangely (7)
30 Skull cap (7)

Down
1 Worn out horse is a gem (4)
2 Bedtime apparel for a formal evening occasion? (9)
3 Fever came afterwards, around an hour (6)
4 Sophia and Tobi developed fear of food (10)
5 Push amateur off the suspended bed and scoff (4)
6 Plan of ambition for house entrance (8)
7 Idi to return to stupid fellow (5)
8 Pa, say, will identify fish (10)
13 Instrument of torture may twist pollex first (10)
14 Mainly reforming mild Antony (10)
17 Futile action after last month is deceptive (9)
18 Task intercepted and fastened (8)
21 Meg Dod demolished fairground amusement vehicle (6)
23 Very musical first class idiot takes the lead (5)
25 Apotheosise without ego to outdare (4)
26 Unorthodox Dave became a god (4)

Half 'n Half
by The Eager Beaver

Prizes: $50

Win!

[2007 edn]
CrOZworld

|M|A|Y| |2|0|1|1|

GENERAL COMMENTS:

• Not only a dot, but a prize as well! Thank you very much for my cheque – I feel like framing it, but I will pass the proceeds on to our local flood relief appeal. I am enjoying quality time with CroZworld and pencil. My certificate is in pride of place on the fridge! And my thanks to you Patrick and all who give time to the Club: your efforts are much appreciated.

Judy Mitchell

• The Chambers Book of Lists book arrived safe and sound, thank you and I’m delighted with the choice. I can see several themed crosswords emanating from it!

Bev Cockburn

• Thank you so much for the very much appreciated book which arrived safely yesterday – I don’t have many reference books, but will have to make room on my table for it in my kitchen where I pore over the puzzles when I can during the day.

Heather Zucal

• Many thanks to the leading lights for my March slot 1 prize. I love doing your puzzles, even more so when I can actually solve them.

• Once again another great set of puzzles to exercise the grey matter.

• Thank you (ACC) for my recent prize.

ACC

[Cryptic by The EmCee]

Prize $50 x2

|  
|  |
|  |

Across
1 Skill of broadcasting on the planes (8)
2 Get better and get your money back (10)
3 Go berserk and manage disorganised trio (3,4)
4 Paid an allowance to nourish (4)
5 It’s in the newsprint in the short run (6)
6 Hard to get on with – like a hedgehog (7)
10 Boat for troubled ocean (5)
11 Firstly, Oliver Reed is good at making ingenious Japanese bird forms (7)
12 Overdue and not remunerated (6)
13 Roasts lettuce, all right inside (5)
14 Rocky hill featured in story (3)
15 Is entitled to get timers overhauled (6)
17 The little finger, quietly removed, became quite black (4)
19 Reserve a car space (4)
20 Diddley followed a Novak with hands on hips (6)
22 Rodents lost a thousand and insects fifty in very cold water (3)
23 A board member reportedly did a sketch (5)
25 Sounds anti poetry (6)
28 Dessert a Civil Aviation pilot, no learner, created (7)
29 Tenant was that woman with Inland Revenue (5)
31 Like Mr Quayle from Scandinavia? (6)
32 Pulled ahead and continued to sketch (4,4)

Down
1 Artificial insemination by donor could help (3)
2 Get better and get your money back (10)
3 Go berserk and manage disorganised trio (3,4)
4 Paid an allowance to nourish (4)
5 It’s in the newsprint in the short run (6)
6 Hard to get on with – like a hedgehog (7)
10 Boat for troubled ocean (5)
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29 Tenant was that woman with Inland Revenue (5)
31 Like Mr Quayle from Scandinavia? (6)
32 Pulled ahead and continued to sketch (4,4)

Heather Zucal

Charlie Quinn

Lynne Spicer

Hazel Freeman
Across
1  Played cricket, had a victory about a month back, partner maintained (4,5)
6  Purchase unfinished rate paperwork (5)
9  A lot of birds distributed rosin (5)
10 Running around with a bird companion by name (9)
11 Dicky likes drink in barrels (10)
12 Mendacious fellow taking transport back (4)
14 Ushers out a monkey (6)
15 Empresses strain as freshly ordered (8)
16 Blockhead taken back a step (3)
17 Seamen giving officer plenty (8)
18 Corn that’s cooked for a man (6)
20 Wagging tongue sets animals back (4)
21 Cleaner gets money for livelihood (5,5)
24 Had English pence unwisely devalued (9)
26 Steer around compound (5)
27 Hurried, as the dame snarled (4,5)

Down
1  Okay, ski off into the pavilion (5)
2  Australia was to ring about new payment (5,10)
3  Too lavishly cut up the Maori completely (10)
4  A leptospermum in Canberra (6)
5  Insensitivity of new union doctor on headland (8)
6  Baron and crew (4)
7  Birds rolling a number with affectation about actual existence (15)
8  The man at Flanders battlefield raised a book at the conjuror’s command (3-6)
13 Van judges the leadership (5,5)
14 German on edge with English verse characteristic (4,5)
15 Posed rise in state (3)
16 Empty protest to hobo about a service showman (1,1,6)
19 Cut off the Spanish fish, tail to head (6)
22 Lament of Shaggy Ridge? (5)
23 No quarrel for sparrow and rail (4)

GENERAL COMMENTS:
• Many thanks for cheque for co-winner of March Slot 2. It’s great to be paid for something I enjoy doing. Thank you.
  Val Knight
• I would like to thank the club for my slot 5 prize and Patrick for his calligraphy.
  Bev Solomon
• Thanks to everyone who makes CrOZworld work. Good brain exercise, great fun.
  Rosemary Dorrell

NEW REFERENCE BOOK:
The Compend Guide to Australian Localities: This guide contains locality names (suburbs) categorised by the length of each word in the name, so “BENTLEY” appears under the “7” letter heading, and “ST MARYS” appears under the heading “2, 5” (which follows the 7 letter locations). Hyphens and apostrophes are also considered as word spaces, as per standard crossword practice. For example, “BRIGHTON-LE-SANDS” appears under the “8, 2, 5” heading. About 80 pages, the book is printed on A5 paper and is punched and bound with a card stock cover using IBIClick spines to make it easy to open flat. Copies are available at a special introductory price of $12, plus $5.50pph. Contact Chris Carolan at ccarolan@compend.com.au or write to him at PO Box 1767, Hobart Tas 7001.
Solutions begin with the given letter. Solve the clues and place the solutions in the grid, jigsaw-wise, where they fit.

A On a spell (5)
B Top nobs in charge of Arsenic plants (9)
C Rogue fencer without French rhythm (7)
D Entrance borders on portal casings (10)
E Worker ants hesitate at turnstiles (7)
F Warning call predicting apprehension of coming evil (10)
G Ill-tempered German nearly ditched drug (6)
H Some dough on our son for credits (7)
I Gaolers start off identifying male inmates (11)
J Talking rapidly, strike with short punch – straight say (9)
K Source reported boat over (7)
L City creek deficiency (4)
M Dutch moles organised parades (6)
N No UN mobile construction (8)
O Game in Newcomb recently (5)
P Reformed surfei pal full of admiration (9)
Q Bedcover for Queen by machinist? (7)
R Bird brain at railway terminal (8)
S Polished scout had no tea, I heard – finished with wine (7)
T Superb editor (not conservative) panic-stricken (9)
U Digs below docks (11)
V Food contained in native almonds (4)
W Machine for woman shearer (7)
X Ten fish photos (1-4)
Y Immature King, not the elder (7)
Z Zero Eastern support for animal (5)

WORDS TO SLIP INTO CONVERSATION OCCASIONALLY ...

Aspectabund (adj.) Having an expressive face. Aspectabund appears to be a word whose time has come and gone, its only citation in the OED being from the year 1708. As a word it is almost entirely forgotten; and perhaps soon, as cosmetic procedures continue to work their magic, the very notion of having an expressive face will be forgotten as well.

Chrestomathic (adj.) Devoted to the learning of useful matters. Although at first glance I thought this would be a terribly useful word, I soon discovered I couldn’t find anyone who agreed on the definition of “useful matters”. To some it’s how to start a fire in the wilderness and to others it’s how to get a bloodstain out of corduroy.

Engouement (n.) Irrational fondness. It is not at all clear why a French word meaning “obstruction in the throat” would come to be used in either French or English to mean unreasoning fondness. Nonetheless, engouement has the potential to be a remarkably useful word, covering everything from someone who enjoys eating snails to someone who enjoys Jerry Lewis.

Finifugal (adj.) Shunning the end of anything. Many things in life deserve being finifugal about: the last twenty pages of a good book, a special meal that someone has just spent hours preparing for you, a slow walk in light rain.

Inspirado (n.) A person who thinks himself inspired. A simple rule of thumb: if someone is describing you with a noun that ends in -o, chances are, they are not paying you a compliment.

Peristeronic (adj.) Suggestive of pigeons. Although I did spend the better part of a year of my life reading the OED, and in doing so lost some of my eyesight and much of my mind, it was certainly not in vain. After all, one cannot put a value on such things as knowing a word that is defined as “suggestive of pigeons”.

—Cheerfully appropriated from Reading the OED by Ammon Shea, Viking an imprint of Penguin Book, 2008, kindly supplied by Merv Collins.
Across
1 Bill dined after four to get going (8)
7 Arab girl returned and baked (4)
10 Pet’s put outside home when working (5)
11 Nine blended, about to chant (6)
13 A maxim provided the theme (5)
14 Paint with ease; it’s said, in this garment (6)
16 Tom’s back disheartened; ten injured by a hot spot (6; two words) (6)
18 Dearest; there’s ways around 28’s withdrawal (8)
19 PR incorporated cathedral city; quite grand (8)
25 Strong wind’s given one back the lead (6)
26 She’s out riding (6)
27 Heard animal’s feet break (5)
29 Subsidiary set of atoms drives cycles? (9; 2 words)
30 Somewhat dentate new hot toy (6)
31 Sly forfeits everything for gem (5)
32 Ms Knowles dismissed the Turk at one point (4)
33 Repetition put one Oriental in ecstasy (8)

Down
1 He’ll get a promotion in the morning (4)
2 Wolf’s skittish; toe’s broken (6)
3 Italian set up race; Eastern syndicate’s laughing (9)
4 Egg is clearly visible I’m told (6)
5 Started union alliance on revised date (8)
6 Repeat before corporal comes inside? (6)
7 A sailor brought up charts (5)
8 Popular television panel (5)
9 Bureau lost part with first class set up for mental condition (8)
15 Three changed over after that (9)
16 Devil put a Greek character in new tomes (8)
17 Capital’s noise level? (8)
20 Stylish Eurasian (6; hyphenated)
21 Growth on a part of the foot (6)
22 Tavern about Sydney’s outskirts and clubs agree time-wise (6; 2 words)
23 World body’s one working for harmony (5)
24 Each climbed over steep, sharp ridge (5)
28 Blade’s found over in sheep enclosure (4)

From the Macquarie Australian Slang Dictionary.

Anzac: a soldier from Australia or New Zealand. Originally referred only to Gallipoli campaigners (the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps), then to all World War I soldiers, and later extended to any Aussie or Kiwi soldiers. It is interesting to note that at the time the word first came about (1915) acronyms were very scarce things. It just wasn’t common practice to make words out of the initial letters of a phrase. It was the telegraphers who first started to use the shorthand ANZAC – saving themselves many dots and dashes, and no doubt valuable time. The troops quickly picked the term up and started using it to refer to themselves and to coin names for things in their immediate surrounds, as the **Anzac button**, a bent nail used as a button substitute, **Anzac soup**, a shell hole polluted by a corpse, **Anzac stew**, boiled water with a single bacon rind, and **Anzac wafer**, a hard biscuit issued instead of bread – one of the most durable items used in the war. A sadly telling collection of slang phrases if ever there was one. On a more positive note, we have the term **Anzac spirit** or the **spirit of Anzac**, in other words, courage, tenacity and sacrifice.
"Well since my baby left me"

by

Raoul

Prize:

Oxford Thesaurus of English

3rd ed: 2009 rrp $99

Bonus Prize: a magnum of 1962 Rene Pogel from the cellar of the Heartbreak – sorry, Harold Park – Hotel (HPH)

Across
9 Found at Harold Park – both on the track and menu (7)
10 Stroke, or bow to, these athletes (7)
11 Cost of sending father to crew (7)
12 The bearded one? Our hubbub (7)
13 Fourteen pound potato bird (9)
15 For my sore eyes, and to my ears, they are welcome (5)
16 Guillotine lanky blackman – Quickly! (7)
19 Three cake jumpers? (7)
20 Do in Curie plants (5)
21 Nut found in this dessert (9)
25 This dude, all 29 and no cattle? (7)
26 Prior, no, more aristocratic! (7)
28 Present in can? Into it! (7)
29 'Leave it, boy' – That makes it tit-for-tat (7)

Down
1 Doesn't tip the dead (6)
2 One who takes the bull by the horns? (6)
3 This party not for the birds! (4)
4 Saved by Grace? (6)
5 Sends to Coventry this old fourteen opener and son? (8)
6 For example, the Age of Women, Man – and in French (10)
7 I'm of this world – or not? (8)
8 Speciality rots and confides (8)
14 Mad Dog’s midday mates? (10)
16 Spot on a cold churchman (8)
17 Republican: not about Raoul @ HPH (8)
18 Two buttons if pressed in this order won't achieve the desired copy (8)
22 It used to be hard in June, as you can see (6)
23 Among the crazy diplomats – not including Arafat’s mob (6)
24 Boob+job (6)
27 Actor Oliver notorious for drinking Tooheys, say, in the street (4)

William Ryan,
304/30 Buckland Street, Chippendale NSW 2008
email: william@haroldparkhotel.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 10 June 2011.
**CROSSMAS CRUCIVERBAL 2011**

Our Annual Victorian Get-together this year will be **Christmas in July** and will be held at noon on Sunday 31 July at the Royal Oak Hotel, 442 Nicholson Street, North Fitzroy. The Dining Room does not usually open on Sundays, but last year we persuaded them to open specially for us if we could guarantee at least 30 persons. We did and it turned out to be a most successful occasion. So let’s do it again. Make a note in your Cruciverbal Diary now!

---

**Macquarie Dictionary News April 2011**

**Acronyms, initialisms and abbreviations**

**acronym**: a word formed from the initial letters of other words, as *radar* (radio detection and ranging) or *ANZAC*.

**initialism**: an abbreviation formed from the initial letters of a sequence of words, as *ACTU* (Australian Council of Trade Unions) or *LPG*.

**abbreviation**: a shortened or contracted form of a word or phrase, used as a symbol for the whole.

Strictly speaking, there is a distinction that linguists make between an acronym and initialism but most people aren’t familiar with the latter term and so general use is usually to refer to both as acronyms. Looking for a list of common abbreviations (including acronyms and initialisms)? Then check out the Additional Resources section at [http://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/anonymous@919F765902350/-/p/dict/5ed_resources.html](http://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/anonymous@919F765902350/-/p/dict/5ed_resources.html)?

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**Brilliant Prize Puzzler!**

The prizewinner of the David Astle crossword on the recent ABC’s *Can we Help?* Program is none other than our illustrious secretary **Bev Cockburn**! Well done Bev. The recent Newsletter of the ABC’s *Can we Help?* program said: “Bev Cockburn was shocked and delighted when we rang her last week with the news that she was the lucky winner of the *Can we Help?* Cryptic Crossword Competition. Bev won a signed copy of *Puzzled* by crossword master David Astle after her 100% correct entry was drawn. Bev told us she became interested in cryptic crosswords about ten years ago and is an avid crossword fan. “Once you have done cryptics the regular are sort of passe! It is a fantastic world and it keeps your brain active. I think that for anyone interested in learning cryptics, they should find someone prepared to give the time you need to have someone peering over your shoulder helping. You’ve got to watch for the tricks. It is lateral thinking, and also there are special tricks and almost ‘recipes’ on how to solve clues, such as looking out for anagrams or some sort of hidden meaning.”

---

**The Australian Oxford Dictionary**

**WORD OF THE MONTH**

**kurrajong**

1. any Australian tree of the genus *Brachychiton*, esp. *B. populneus*, having colourful flowers and producing a useful fibre.

2. any Australian tree of the genus *Sterculia*, grown for ornamental value and producing a fibre similar to the brachychitons. [ORIGIN: Dharuk *garrajung* referring to ‘fishing line’, since Aborigines used kurrajong fibre for such lines, as well as for nets and bags.]


**The OUP Australian National Dictionary**

is now available free online. In honour of OUP’s 100th anniversary of publishing in Australia, OUP have launched this wonderful national language resource readily available to all Australians – 10,000 words and idioms that make up the Australian contribution to the English language. Visit: [http://www.oup.com.au/](http://www.oup.com.au/) and click on Our Gift to the Nation.

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.

**MEMBER NEWS**

New Members: We extend a warm welcome to Shirley Wills from Greenethorpe NSW (a Membership Gift from Deb Wills) and Bhavan Kumar Kasivajjula from Surfers Paradise, Qld. Welcome to the wonderful world of Crozworlding.

Membership Renewal: Many thanks to Sam Howat for his membership renewal and his kind donation to the ACC Prize Fund 2011.

---

**Bonus Quiz: A Mixed Bunch by The Busybodies**

All clues are anagrams of flowers in alphabetical order: note that some are plural and not all appear in *Chambers*. Send your entries to Bev Cockburn 12 Norman Street, Merrylands West NSW 2160. e-mail to bevco4@bigpond.com

Closing date: 10 June 2011. Book prize.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A pagan’s hut (10)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>A big nose (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dean, call us (10)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Hal said (7)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>A steady rise (6,5)</td>
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<td>Sufi cha (7)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>LA aids a girl (11)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>The polo sire (11)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Pipped on clay (7,5)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Is Jan a cop? (9)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Pick gun (7)</td>
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<td>Red navel (8)</td>
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<td>Not meeting (10)</td>
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<td>Tsunami rust (11)</td>
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<td>Earn dole (8)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Tuna pie (7)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Sequin comb loss (6,8)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Dork peer shot (3,3,6)</td>
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<td>Ritzi tessal (11)</td>
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<td>Shun a biotic (11)</td>
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<td>Iris susan (9)</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>I can rove (8)</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Snow fable (4’1,4)</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Six-man hut (9)</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Accusy (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>In a sniz (7)</td>
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</table>
April 1-2011: Half ‘n Half by Timid Terrier (Joan Smith)

- After a few months of not applying myself to a puzzle, this was a gentle way to ease back in. I can’t find reference to Aden as the capital of Yemen. It seems to be Sanaa.  
  Jenny Wenham  

- Very sad to realise that the plot was designed for the inexperienced members but this is a bit underwhelming. Jim Fowler  

- 44ac: Capital of Yemen, I think you will find the going a bit hard (as I always do with new compilers). IMW].  
  John Gillis  

- Be afraid Timid Terrier! Be veery afraid; I’m coming after you with a rottie again! Col Archibald  

- I thought SANA was Yemen capital.  
  Jenny Wenham  

- A nice Half ’n Half from Joan. I think of Terriers as busy little dogs and this was quite a busy puzzle. Margaret Davis  

- Thanks Joan for a good Slot 1 warm up. TAENIA was a new word for my vocabulary. Alan Walter  

- No problems here (I hope). TT must be feeling kind. Peter Dearie  

- I understand SANA’s is the capital of Yemen? Jill McCulloch

April 2-2011: Cryptic by Grottesco (Lain McCulloch)

- Welcome Grottesco! This was a tricky puzzle, and I’m not at all sure that I am on the right wave length with a couple of my answers. Nea Storey  

- Welcome to the compilers’ group, lain. Many exceptional clues with good surface reading. Worthy of special mention are 8 & 19ac; 1, April 2-2011: Cryptic by Grottesco  

- No problems here (I hope). TT must be feeling kind. Peter Dearie  

- I understand SANA’s is the capital of Yemen? Jill McCulloch

April 4-2011: AJ by Manveru (Michael Kennedy)

- Exemplary surface readings to which all compilers should aspire. While solving, one might not appreciate just how well each clue is assembled with logical connections, but a re-reading makes it clear. I hope Merlin is OK after swallowing a quartz. Len Colgan  

- Nice clues from Michael: particularly liked the E and L clue. Jenny Wenham  

- Thanks for another good cryptic. 14ac: Please explain GETSIDEAS – great about a movie team. I only see GETA+AS about SIDE. 20ac: learnt PEGLEG is a phosphorus deficiency in cattle. Alan Walter  

- The usual well-crafted puzzle from Southern Cross. Thought I ac was a ne plus ultra clue. John Gillis

April 5-2011: That’s Entertainment by InGrid (Jean Barbour)

- FELOTA & FANTAN were new to me, and I had trouble confirming MICHIGAN as an entertainment. [A US card game similar to Newmarket – in Collins and SOED: IMW] A good puzzle. Nea Storey  

- Enjoyed this theme puzzle: favourite clue was NOMADIC. Joan Smith  

- It’s all fun and games until someone gets hurt – and someone very nearly did when I had trouble finding a few of the themed answers. The bottom right corner almost defeated me. But it’s all good now. Jenny Wenham  

- I really enjoyed Slot 5. It was very hard to get the connection of entertainment when the first two clues I got were ‘Michigan’ and ‘darts’. Once I discovered that Michigan was a gambling game the rest fell into place. A very enjoyable challenge, thanks InGrid. Lynne Spicer

April 3-2011: Cryptic by Southern Cross (Shirl O’Brien)

- I always love Southern Cross! 11ac (DAHOMEY) and 4dn (PITY) were close-runners-up for my COTM vote. Nea Storey  

- A classy puzzle and a pleasure to solve, Shirl. Len Colgan  

- A nice puzzle from Shirl. Esp liked 25ac and 15 and 18dn. Joan Smith

- Shirl’s puzzles are always a favourite. Loved 11ac (even though I’d never heard of the country) and 22dn. Jenny Wenham  

- 20dn: I have put in Peg Leg but could not fathom how this clue works [peg leg is identified in Macquarie as a disease of cattle, with a peculiar reference to Rolf Harris’s ‘Jake the Peg’ (with my extra leg, diddle diddle diddle dum)]. John Gillis  

- The mistress of the cryptic shines once again: a well-crafted and fair puzzle. Brian Symons  

- Once again our Southern Cross has given us a good, fair puzzle. Col Archibald  

- Thanks Shirl for another good cryptic. 14ac: Please explain GETSIDEAS – great about a movie team. I only see GETA+AS about SIDE. 20ac: learnt PEGLEG is a phosphorus deficiency in cattle. Alan Walter  

- The usual well-crafted puzzle from Southern Cross. Thought I ac was a ne plus ultra clue. John Gillis

3:00-11: Cryptic by Southern Cross (Shirl O’Brien)

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- The usual well-crafted puzzle from Southern Cross. Thought I ac was a ne plus ultra clue. John Gillis

| CrOZworld | MEMBERS | COMMENTS | May 2011 |
March 6-2011: Cryptic by Crowsman (Len Colgan)

Entries 73. Correct 70. Success rate 96%.

Prize Winners: Congratulate the following:

Adjudicator's Comments: There is little doubt that zinzan’s devousness with the Batman camouflage assisted here with the discovery of the four hidden words AUSTRIA, ERITREA, GEORGIA and UKRAINE. Quite a timely coincidence! Crowsman (Len Colgan)

Explanations: Across: 1 add le(e)ad; 6 a/bat/e; 10 host(tiler)/action; 11 double def; 12 overbeat; 13 (a lame tugger around a’); 15 (S)kopje; 18 (m)using; 19 gaunt/lets; 22 O/anag; 24 (fire) (an)id (jc); 26 re/GI/onisation; 27 organises; 28 tender/is/e

Down: 2 duo/den/anag; 3 lot/to; 4 half/emit(rev); 5 air/foil; 7 bu(tter)oil; 8 t(ou)t; 9 p(ia)ArYhErE; 14 t(Anne)ries; 16 jett(is)on/S; 17 anag; 20 ab/solve; 21 E/mend; 23 ste(p) in; 25 (h)earer.

Solvers’ Comments:

• Loved your 1ac ADD+HEAD and 10ac HOS+TILER+E+ACTION. 13ac was very neat (A=LAME+T(A)UGJ) ← 14dn was challenging where ‘hears’=TRIES which is entered by Princess Anne, giving ‘hide plants’ or TANNERIES. 23dn took quite some interpretation where ‘hears’=TRIES which is entered by Princess ANNE, giving

• Many thanks for a great puzzle. It took a while to

• TANNERIES was a pearler. Funny to get IRENIC in consecutive

• A most enjoyable puzzle, although the four words took a bit of

• A very enjoyable, challenging puzzle with great clues. Especially

• Your clue for 14dn TANNERIES is very good.

• Great crossword. You and Praxis both used

• What a diabolically clever mind you have, concealing ... in your

• A very enjoyable puzzle. Great clues. Especially

• A very enjoyable puzzle. The last word I found was

• I enjoyed the cryptic challenge – some great clues. The ‘wordsearch’ however was a bit more daunting. I’ve probably missed the obvious, as I did with BATMAN.

• Only a Crowsman supporter could be so tricky! Some challenging

• Really enjoyed your puzzle. Thank you so much for making it

• I made the mistake of assuming that 28 clues gave 28 initial

• I loved LOTTO, TANNERIES and GUATEMALA – the latter purely

• Great crossword – lots of fun and very challenging.

• Had a chuckle when I finally justified TANNERIES.

• I loved LOTTO, TANNERIES and GUATEMALA – the latter purely

• What a diabolically clever mind you have, concealing ... in your

• A dif

• No. 7 could also be CHAWING. I just love to BACK CHAT. This

• What a delightful quiz alphabetically arranged by the last letter of each answer. According to

• Clever to have the alphabet in the word endings. But if WONGI is right, what is it? (Wongi – Aust. Informal noun = conversation, talk, chat. In Chambers. – Adj)

• That’s quite enough BLURB for the moment. Thanks for a
delightful quiz alphabetically arranged by the last letter of each answer.

• I enjoyed doing it; hope I have got it right.

• Thanks for a really good Talk Back Quiz. I didn’t know there were

• Clever and unorthodox alphabetical quiz which I enjoyed doing very

• What a lot of talking going on here! There were a few words that

• I enjoyed this very much. Took some work.

• Quite a brain teaser – especially before a couple of penneys dropped

• A dif

• What an interesting bonus quiz. It must have taken a lot of

• Thanks – not at all a CON, FAB all round.

• Have been worrying over No. 3 for weeks.

• A difficult one with some very uncommon words. The theme: final

• A different one with some very uncommon words. The theme: final

• A delightful one with some very uncommon words. The theme: final

• A different one with some very uncommon words. The theme: final
Across
8 Short way behind introduction of climbing ware! (4)
9 Female moths and bats round early grave sites (5,5)
10 Provoke finish (4,2)
11 20 oddly easy following short delivery (8)
12 Perhaps race relations surround midterm link between 27 and 25 (9)
13 Cold meat including small type of 17 (5)
16 Shafts lack oxygen after slash marks on some 28s (7)
17 Following, go out right into the opening (7)
20 Speed of 11 perhaps (5)
22 Hot work in pushing occupation of 27 (9)
24 Recalled new skill to cover timeless quiet (8)
26 For example, taps into legal process for growth on 28 (6)
27 Sinless Nelssen with prusik knots for those found 22 in 8 (10)
28 Music foundation (4)

Down
1 One to nearly give up in race-course orientation (10)
2 Pot captivates a wayward lad, but is necessary for 1 in 15 8 (8)
3 Clairvoyance, on the rise, soundly conflicts with types of 28 (9)
4 Streaked out in front after first managing to get back support (7)
5 Anxieties arise but not about hot baths (5)
6 Making hole with one-time implement (6)
7 Can abseil – is lost, right? (4)
14 Tightness of small enclosure in tough surroundings (10)
15 Characteristic of ostrich, missing fine description of dark 8 without the use of 2 (9)
18 Those who join 25, workers caught inside beyond the bend (8)
19 Turn into more daring 28 (7)
21 25,20 perhaps in elegant, pointless mess (6)
23 Evidence of small mammals – note number around middle of quad (5)
25 Aid used by 27 for 22 or back exercise (4)
The days of disillusion were over, for time passed and the day came when my brilliant career was sacrificed for an outback marriage. For I met my dreamboat, a man of letters whose visit to my place convinced me that intimate strangers could live for love alone, not counting the cost. I was the shantykeeper's daughter, past the age of consent, so Father arranged the permit. For the ceremony—would you believe, at daybreak—he gave me a horse of an old dusty colour to ride on. Stranger still, the golden dress I was married in was enhanced by a fringe of leaves. At the wedding feast we ate chicken (without a wishbone!) and drank rum and coca-cola. 'Here's luck!' was the toast.

Truth to tell, we were the battlers—living in the big smoke, we must have seemed like a bunch of ratbags. Outlaw and lawmaker were gathered together in strange company in the area down by the dockside. But in summer we went to the islands, where the scent of eucalyptus was strong and the way past the silent sea brought us to the well.

for a while, I looked at it anew (as from a solver's viewpoint) and that's what I found too! So well done to all who attempted it, and especial Kudos to those Magnificent Seven who managed to get 100% correct. Thank you for the positive comment.

—Virgo (Audrey Austin)

Explanations for April grids, where provided by compilers.

Thanks to Joan, Iain, Michael and Jean.

|

Results of Quiz No 3/2011. Linkwords by Virgo (Audrey Austin)


Prizewinner: Alan Walter. Congratulations!

Members’ Comments:

• It certainly took some time to reason out all the connections. An alternative for Kitchen could be Counter, and an alternative for Pork could be Meat. (So noted. A.) Alan Walter

• I enjoyed this quiz so much. Some took a long time to solve and I do hope they’re correct. Gabrielle Leeds

• I very much enjoy these Linkwords quizzes, as I have probably told you before. And I enjoyed this one except for a couple of doozies, which I have considered long and hard – Nos 2 & 18.

Andrew Stocks

• Choice quiz! And I hope some of my choices are correct!

Carole Noble

• Thanks for a mind-stimulating quiz. Always have trouble getting my head around these but eventually the penny dropped (hopefully).

Jack Stocks

• I am in England visiting friends and family. This was a fun quiz, and by no means as easy as I thought it would be. Peter Dearie

• Thanks for a great and challenging quiz. I really do enjoy doing the Quizzes; they keep the brain going.

Claire McClelland

• Unusual and fun to do. Quite a nostalgic trip. Catherine Jones

• I always enjoy your Linkwords and this was no exception.

Susan Howells

• Thank you, Audrey, for a very frustrating but enjoyable puzzle. I really need all the time at my disposal to get anywhere near the answers. A few horses in there one way or another too – or am I wrong?

Robyn Wimbush

• Thank you for providing this challenging quiz, Linkwords. It took me a long time. I guess it’s possible to have alternatives.

Graeme Cole

• Two or three possible ‘roughies’ here but I’ve done my best. Your hard work for our ever-toughening club is appreciated.

Vernon Dinham

Setter’s Comments: Yes, this was a toughie. I compiled it some months ago and when Ian suggested we hadn’t a Linkwords for a while, I looked at it anew (as from a solver’s viewpoint) and that’s what I found too! So well done to all who attempted it, and especial Kudos to those Magnificent Seven who managed to get 100% correct. Thank you for the positive comment.

—Virgo (Audrey Austin)

Explanations for April grids, where provided by compilers.

Thanks to Joan, Iain, Michael and Jean.

Slot 1 by Timid Terrier: Down: 1 Tom + thumb, 2 Green + tea, 3 Set + t, 4 An o + a, 5 Land + au, 6 hidden, 7 Aid + e, 8 Came + [region], 9 Est at + e, 12 anagram (barley) + sugar, 17 Numbers + game, 20 O + u + s + e, 22 Tan + te, 23 Initials, 26 Et + ch, 28 anagram, 29 Way + far + er, 30 A + ward + s, 31 Rot (for) + ate (anag tea), 33 Me + dial, 36 Hidden, 37 Ep + i + e, 38 T + haw, 39 Ideal - i.


Slot 5 by InGrid: Across: 1. mono+poly, 5. net+sin both rev, 9 anag, 10 fan+tan, 12 urchin-in between e and e, 13 boot+fall with first letters swapped, 15 pej(lo)ta, 16 chest(t)s, 19 d+arts, 21 b+ridge, 25 la+cross+Egg head, 26 hoop+la, 28 eSCARRTeR, 29 do(m)o, es, 30 socc[ounds like sock]+er, 31 double meaning. Down: 1. double meaning, 2. nuaj+i+ce, 3. pr+a+ir+e, 4. people LKING, 6. anag, 7. nut (slang for head)+cases, 8 anag, 11 on bkwds+mad+ic, 14 bomb+ra+st ([awa+yst]), 17 anag, 18 +roc+ha+i+e, 20 star trek?, 22 anag hogs+min, 23 s+prong, 24 par+son, 27 hop+i.
March 7-2011: Around the World in 29 Cities
by Virgo (Audrey Austin)


Winner: Ian McKenzie. Congratulations!


Explanations:
Across: 1 wh(biff, no bj); 4 sup/plied; 10 Russell/spa/ Radox; 11 ambulance/chaser; 12 dd (double definition); 13 dawn(patrollable); 16 anag/right; 17 sway(rev); 20 deaf/ forestation; 22 s/hilly/sh(all)lying; 23 sam/(st) 19; 24 Ben/lag(rev). Down: 1 war/rant; 2 in/sub/ordination; 3 f(bee(rev)); 5 anag; 6 part-H(lan); 7 Indus/trial(is)ing; 8 d(extra); 9 pla(lin); 14 aspi(d)istra anag; 15 swift/let; 16 sad/(lj)ists; 18 genes(rev)/a/L; 19 mall/(w)ee(k); 21 yaws(rev).

Setter's comments: I received a total of 24 entries for this (allegedly) tough puzzle, 19 of which were correct. There were no particular areas where errors occurred. Some had the words around the wrong way which made the adjoining word wrong — e.g. Astana had a few Asanta’s etc. Apart from such small errors solvers got the rest of the puzzle right. Re. the grid. It was my design, but I asked a draughtsman that revealed rather cryptically and reluctantly, the itinerary in rhyming verse form, and very amusing, that I had Athens twice, but 15 yielded Astana, Borat’s new capital city. Overlooking the hint of Norway in 12, I found Alesund last. 

Solvers’ Comments:
• Thank you for the very challenging tour around the world’s capital cities. The south-eastern hemisphere proved to be a real tough spot. I hope your eyes don’t fall out assessing all these! 

Tony De Grys

• What an amazingly clever puzzle you set for us – and a poem to give the anagrams. Truly superb! Strangely enough, the last two cities I found were Tamworth and Cooktown.

Andrew Miles

• I was having lots of problems till I realised that the numbers matched the numbers in the grid! I’m thinking this was every bit as hard to compose as it was to solve.

Pat Garner

• We got a story in verse as well as an anagrammatical world trip. Brilliant!

Bev Cockburn

• Your Around the World puzzle was a gem taking us all on a fabulous tour.

Alan Walter

• How on earth did you draw the grid with cells of different numbers of sides? It reminded me of an old computer game ‘Hunt the Wumpus’ with a squashed dodecahedron, although we only had 5-sided cells. Do you have a name for your figure? (I just call it a polygon puzzle. A) Tony Dobele

• This really tested my ability to see the anagrams hidden within some of the clues and my knowledge of cities. It took me quite a while to realise that you had given a clue in number 12 to help us find Alesund. I seem to be able to insert Rimini either clockwise or anti-clockwise.

Susan Howells

• Many thanks for a fascinating puzzle. I imagine they are very difficult to compile – and not dead easy to solve either!

Betty Siegman

• Boy, what a tough one! Very challenging! Sonia Roulston

Replacement grid for April 2011 Slot 6
Cryptic by Crowsman

[Our apologies for publishing the incorrect grid on p8 of the April 2011 CroZworld]

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Roy Taylor

Len Colgan

Betty Siegman

Tony Dobele
Results of the Clue Writing Competition No 2/2011. Write a clue for PANACHE (7)
Adjudicated by Michael Kennedy

Definition of PANACHE from Chambers (11th Edition) n swagman; grand manner, theatricality, sense of style; knightly splendour; a plume (hist). [Fr, from Ital pennacchino, from penna feather] This word is a compiler’s dream. It has all the elements one needs to come up with a better than average clue. Whether it’s an anagram, double definition, or a charade-type clue using the many definitions of both PAN and ACHE, there are plenty of attractive options. For that reason the standard of clues was very high but one clue in particular just shaded the rest.

All up there was a healthy total of 21 clues. It was great to see a few first-timers trying their hand. A special mention to Alan Dyer, who along with his excellent entry, also added another ten alternative clues he couldn’t submit. However, the undisputed winner is Michael Vnuk’s perfect clue, which fittingly is the first clue listed below. The clues are listed in alphabetical order and the definitions are italicised.

A cheap ‘n’ nasty style **** A simple anagram of ACHEAPN as indicated by the word ‘nasty’. Lovely! The anagram indicator fits seamlessly into the clue, and the anagram itself is one of the better ones. A deserved winner!

An apache may get upset if he loses a feather ****½ An anagram of ANAPACHE, minus an A. This is a special clue too and came in a close second. The surface reading is adequate. I had visions of a visit from a door-to-door salesman after he had a nasty encounter with the neighbour’s chihuahua.

Potassium-free hot pancake cooked in style *** An anagram of H+PANCAKE minus K (potassium). Foodstuffs can be free of salt, fat, gluten, etc., but potassium is a new one. The surface reading makes complete sense though. I think this clue could be better served by an alternative for ‘K’.

Quiet rebel has many stories of serve **** P (Quiet) CHE (rebel) has ANA (many stories). I always have a go at seeing how the clue works before reading the creator’s reasoning – I mean I already have the answer so I’m halfway there. However, this clue tripped me up because I was not familiar with ANA, which is a collection of someone’s table talk or of gossip, literary anecdotes or possessions ( Chambers). Usefull Anyway, the clue reads and works well, and would fit seamlessly into any quality crossword.

Show anguish when rest disturbed ** ‘Anguish’ ACHE after (when) ‘rest’ NAP is ‘disturbed’. Great surface reading with a well disguised definition. However, to derive PAN from ‘rest (nap) disturbed’ would assume an indirect anagram, which is generally not allowed, even, in this instance, if it’s a gettable one.

Singular, assorted aches and pains? Not ! That’s flair for you ** The explanation revolves around an anagram of the singular versions of ‘aches’ and ‘pains’, followed by the removal of I leaving ‘PANACHE’. This is a difficult clue and I think the first instruction could be more accurately represented. In the compiler’s defence, the question mark does highlight an extra level of difficulty. Even so, the clue’s surface is not as silky-smooth as it could be.

Sounds like the pot boiled dry, but with style ** The only attempt at a homophone – ‘pot’ PAN ‘boiled dry’ (ash – sounds like ..ACHE) . However, ‘boiled dry’ does not equate to ‘ash’. ‘Ash’ is a noun and is defined as the dust or remains of anything burnt ( Chambers).

Tenderness after hollow flamboyance *** Tenderness’ ACHE after ‘hollow’ PAN. A satisfactory clue that works well. I’m not sure how hollow flamboyance would manifest itself, but it does have a Dickensian feel to it.

Track chest put out after time is disallowed for dash **** Track (PAN – as with a camera) + anagram of CHEAT minus T. This is a great clue and all the ingredients work well together. As one would normally say ‘disqualified’ rather than ‘put out’, the surface reading is slightly strained. One is left wondering how the runner cheated.

Window-dresses a church in style **** PAN(A+CHE)E. This is a well-structured clue. The use of the hyphenated word cleverly disguises the indicator, and a solver could easily think that the definition is in fact ‘window-dresses’ with an anagram of ‘A CHURCH’ as indicated by ‘style’. The surface reading is also excellent.

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Clue Writing Competition No 3/2011
For the next competition, please write a clue for the word TRIANGLE (8), that would be suitable for either an across or down clue, complete with explanation. Note: only one clue per person. Send your clue and explanation to the adjudicator Michael Kennedy, 27 Hennessy Lane, Figtree NSW 2525 or by email to: milj@actworld.net.au
Closing mail date: Friday 10 June 2011. Book prize.