We have been delighted with the excellent response to the renewal of subscriptions and the generous donations to the ACC Prize Fund 2013. It looks like the New Year will be richly rewarding for all solvers! Details of renewals and the names of those who have kindly donated to the 2013 Prize Fund can be found on p5. Further renewals and donations will be acknowledged in the next Crozworld. Many thanks for your generous sponsorship of the ACC in 2013.

Don’t forget about the special offer where you can sign up a new member for 2013 for only $30. Some of the members have already taken up this great offer. It will make a wonderful gift to your friends and a great Christmas present not to mention a year-round intellectual challenge for your friends!

Phenomenal Puzzleman Ian Williams has selected another excellent range of puzzles for you this month. Many of your favourites are featured: Jesso, Virgo and Pindar with excellent cryptics. The Busybodies have compiled another of their challenging and popular AJ’s in the Slot 4 position and Praxis gives us another brilliant cryptic composition for Slot 5. Betelgeuse has devised a fascinating Slot 6 puzzle titled Missprints. And our Quizmeisters The Busybodies have challenged us with another one of their fascinating quizzes called Movie Links 2 (see p9).

Kindly note the early closing date – Friday 14 December. This will enable us to get the January Crozworld out in good time for Christmas. Finally, a special note of thanks to the Williams team – Kay and Ian – for adjudicating the slots this month plus the e-lodgment ones to the Williams team – Kay and Ian – for adjudicating the slots this month plus the e-lodgment ones.

Puzzle No. 1: A number of members suggested that this could be the hardest Half and Half ever and the number of errors was rather surprising in this richly-checked puzzle. Others expressed concern over the number of abbreviations used and clued as (4). The cause of many of the lost dots, ASBO (Anti-Social Behaviour Order) [1-3] first appeared in Chambers in the 11th Edition but is not found in our other normal references.

Puzzle No. 2: Jesso always has a sting in the tail for the unwary. Hands up those who can spell MURKUROAI SCRUMMAGE for the required SCRUMMAGE was another clue that caused some problems, comprising S [Back to taws] + CRIM [crook] + MAGE [magician].

Puzzle No. 3: Two problem solutions in Manveru’s brilliant puzzle. BURNS was the favourite alternative to the required BARKS (see explanations p12) which at least had the merit of containing a vessel, but the logical derivation of others (BIGGS, BIRDS, BAAMS, BRASS et al) is somewhat obscure. SONNY was substituted for SUNNY by some members but, as we would expect from our Clue Competition master, the homophone indicator is correctly placed as “boy, so to speak” to give the solution meeting the definition “Bright”.

Puzzle No. 4: The delightful AJ by Wurutah demonstrates that one doesn’t need hard words to provide an entertaining puzzle, even in an AJ. Few errors here. An intriguing grid where it was possible to substitute two pairs of words in the top left hand corner. One unfortunate was so carried away that they offered MINERVA and EVERY twice in the grid!

Puzzle No. 5: Ian told me that it’s rare to receive a crossword from Betelgeuse that is not a natural Slot 6 or 7 but the grid selected for this month appeared to be an exception and was thus offered in this slot. However, it was attempted by only 55 members. Most solvers who did attempt it said that they found it a significant (but enjoyable) challenge and in fact made very few errors. This fact would have been shown by an excellent success rate had 9 otherwise correct solvers not overlooked the clear instruction to identify the quote running clockwise round the perimeter.

COTM: Half of the total nominations covered four of the grids, each getting a guernsey for 3 or 4 clues. A tribute to our compilers’ skills. Manveru collected the other half for no less than seven of his clues, with most votes going to the wonderful and unexpected discovery that one can ANAGRAM “schoolmaster” from “the classroom”, the clue having the apt definition “letter bomb” to round it out beautifully. It was a little disappointing that less than half of the submissions contained a vote for the COTM. Please take the trouble to cast your vote, as all our compilers appreciate the feedback on what you, the members, appreciate in a clue. Thank you to many members for the nice sentiments accompanying your entries that make it such a pleasure to belong to this vibrant Club. —Kay Williams

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Prizewinner: November 2012 Slots 1-5: Warren Allen. Congrats!

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

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All words are pegs to hang ideas on.
Henry Ward Beecher, 1887, Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit.
Art made tongue-tied by authority

MEMBERS RESULTS FOR OCT Slot 6 & NOV 2012 Slots 1-5

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Art made tongue-tied by authority

MEMBERS RESULTS FOR OCT Slot 6 & NOV 2012 Slots 1-5

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</tbody>
</table>
Across
1 Smiths' blocks (6)
5 Accomplished (8)
9 Austen novel (4)
10 Declared (6)
12 Horse (sl.) (4)
13 Misery (3)
15 Sesame (3)
16 Money-changing (4)
17 Escargot (5)
19 Bewail (6)
20 Taverns (4)
21 Letter (7)
25 Look for (4)
27 Scottish expression (3)
28 Permit (5)
30 Ratifies (5)
32 Stroll (5)
33 Melts together (5)
34 Old age (3)
36 S-shaped moulding (4)
37 Fakes (coll.) (7)
39 Third son of Jacob (4)
42 Excite (6)
45 Mendacious (5)
47 Sour (4)
48 Type (3)
49 Sharp bark (3)
50 Cry of pain (4)
51 Lump (6)
52 Goddess of youth (4)

Down
2 Girl rising at ten (5)
3 Fibre is let out (5)
4 Sober seated arrangement (6)
5 Quack measure by Greek character, almost wealthy (7)
6 Gambling in distant ring (4)
7 Send out terminals (4)
8 Nothing in Nile returning to convey to a distance (5)
11 Strange smile as unambitious appears (7)
13 Pale state at the end of autumn (3)
14 E. Wheeler's off in another place (9)
18 Daniel Logan incorporates a method of engraving (6)
19 Sensually virile around drunk (9)
22 Opens new city (5)
23 Questionable notice in short (5)
24 Left a bachelor in a research establishment (3)
26 Conceal Ironsides behind central tower (4,2)
29 The French and German influence a good-humoured prank (3-4)
31 Large growth in fashion (3)
35 Meadow by church credit centre is drained away (7)
38 Unhappier time in rise of radicals (6)
40 Looking on some money ingratiatingly (5)
41 Eminent personage opposed to island parking (3)
43 Anointed antique that is interpolated (5)
44 Crazy alkos drinking hail (5)
46 Pass Asian desert? Sounds like it (4)
47 Each adjustment brings suffering (4)

53 Suffered (8)
54 Conundrum (6)
Across
1 President strolls along Australian countryside paths (9)
6 Common saint leaves trouble (4)
9 The furnishings are in a side corner (5)
10 Life’s loud explosive – coal perhaps? (5,4)
11 Tango in a symphony? Now that’s sensual! (7)
12 Nasty shock from a bedside clock (5)
13 Du Maurier novel lost that French instrument (5)
14 Container from iron carrier (5)
15 One might stab Ken if irritated (5)
18 A touch of flounder (3)
19 An ideology for those in distress (5)
21 Near a residential street (5)
23 Inspire remarkable time – but without tiny tots initially (5)
26 Carry out, for example, an almond cake (5)
28 Guy has unorthodox deal with Nelson (7)
29 Spouse reformed Fox in Kent (4,2,3)
30 Daisy rates poorly (5)
31 We’ll pay – it’s our responsibility (4)
32 Person using vehicle to steal sheep – criminal (3-6)

Down
1 Bother the creature! (6)
2 Order CIA to shop the antisocial person (9)
3 The word about ire: angry and stressed (7)
4 Sailor was rascal at sea (6)
5 Sweet bulbs lay about (8)
6 Der spider! (7)
7 Flora’s lifelong partner sent note to Miss Stubbs (5)
8 Slope on the road gets learner to climb up (7)
16 Eyed critically, unorthodox sect pined (9)
17 Know complete name of artist (3,4)
18 Critic bunkered off course (8)
20 Cheers! Friends are those on TV (7)
22 Covertly plant a native flower! (7)
24 A rapper appears in Make Mine Music (6)
25 Gas in French iron makes it lighter (6)
27 A former president exposed! (5)

GENERAL COMMENTS:
• Thank you to the club for my interesting book prize for quiz No 9 (and Audrey too). I will add it to my reference books for future use.
  Bev Cockburn
• What a delightful surprise on my doorstep – the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations for September Slot 7 – a very welcome replacement for my much older and overused version. For this relief, much thanks! Margaret Steinberger
• Many thanks to the club for the Slot 5 prize in October. My old edition of Chambers Dictionary had seen better days. The cover loose (from falling out of bed) and scorched (not from frantic searches but from tanning under a halogen lamp), and the pages well thumbed. The latest edition will take its esteemed place on the book shelf.
  Jack Stocks
• A very testing collection this month. Thank you for the book prize for last month’s Slot 6. I hadn’t noticed the results until the parcel arrived with Patrick’s wonderful endorsement.
  Bob Hagan
• Thank you so much for my Slot 4 prize from October. I needed an up-to-date atlas so it was most welcome.
  Barb Ibbott
• Many thanks for the early Christmas present – a cheque for Slot 3. Lovely surprise.
  Verna Dinham
• A testing set of puzzles.
  Len Colgan
• I did find this month’s puzzles difficult, but enjoyed the challenge.
  Cheryl Wilcox
• A very absorbing set of puzzles, which I have enjoyed working on.
  John Baylis
• Another tough month but we got there (well, somewhere, time will tell where) eventually. I’m not sure if you’re picking harder puzzles or we are getting older and more dense. Either way it’s still fun though!
  Richard Skinner
A Couple of Clerihews

MEMBERSHIPS and RENEWALS FOR 2013:

DONATIONS TO THE 2013 PRIZE FUND ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED FROM:

A Couple of Clerihews

- The Art of Biography/Is different from Geography. Geography is about Maps, /But Biography is about Chaps.
- 'Steady the Greeks!' shouted Aeschylus/'We won’t let such dogs as these kill us!'/Nothing, he thought could be bizarrer/Than/The Persians winning at Marathon.

ACOZworld

Cryptic
by
Pindar

Prize
$75
x2

ACCPAGE|5|
**Word of the Year by Oxford American Dictionary**

- "To GIF": GIFs (meaning graphic interchange format) are animated computer files and have been around for 25 years. But the Oxford lexicographers say that like many relics of the 1980s, GIFs have never been trendier. They tell us that the GIF has evolved from a medium for pop-cultural memes into a tool with serious applications including research and journalism and its lexical identity is transforming to keep pace. The files can be used to create looping animations and reached a landmark in October 2012 when the British newspaper *The Guardian* joined blog site *Tumblr* to “live-GIF” the USA presidential debates. Other contenders for the Word of the Year were *superstorm* and *nomophobia* which means the fear of being away from the mobile phone.

The winner of the UK Oxford Dictionary’s title was *omnishambles*, a word popularised from the British TV comedy *The Thick of It*, and has a similar meaning to existing words like “snafu”. “Omnishambles” is defined as “a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged, and is characterised by a string of blunders and miscalculations”. It spawned takeoffs such as “Romneyshambles” which the Brits used to describe US presidential candidate Mitt Romney’s doubts that London could host a successful Olympiad. To win, “Omnishambles” defeated *Eurogeddon* referring to the European financial woes, and *grexit* [a mash of Greek and exit referring to the scenario of Greece dropping the Euro as its currency].

Last year’s winner was *squeezed middle*, which meant “the section of society regarded as particularly affected by inflation, wage freezes and cuts in public spending during a time of economic difficulty, consisting of those people on low to middle incomes.” It won both countries’ awards.

—*The Age*, 14 November 2012
In his puzzling new book due for release soon, David Astle has created more than 170 new puzzles and 200 word stories. DA tells us that in his new book “lurk mooers and splogs, fuds and fids, Parwill and vishing: strange words you have probably never met before. Then there are familiar words with peculiar stories like dugong and Google, manure and peculiar.” He mentions among other things the BLANAGRAM which he says is a “great game to sharpen the mind.” Imagine a word spelt out in Scrabble tiles, with one letter replaced with a blank tile—say the G in DIAGRAM (literally an ‘across-drawing’). Can you replace the blank with a different letter to spell out the new word? Replacing the G with an L, for example, we can make ADMIRAL, while a B will give you BARMAID. Still treating G as your blank, can you make two more blanagrams of diagram? Another puzzle is to treat any letter in MEADOW as a blank square and see how many six-letter words you can list. All up, DA found 14 blanagrams, with ten of these a little more familiar. Solutions next month.

This is a book that should be in every Wordlover’s Library. As a bonus, every dip into the dictionary comes with a set of puzzles related to the topic. So the Full Monty story is followed by a movie riddle and a striptease anagram. Or after a page of sailor slang, you get to splice words like old-time rigging. So don’t delay: order it now!
Across clues have a misprint of one letter in their definition. Down clues are normal cryptic clues but their solutions have a misprint of one (checked) letter to make a new word that is to be entered in the grid. Each down clue comprises the definition of a word, plus subsidiary clues to the misprinted word to be entered. The entered word is not defined. For example: Across clue “Cower perhaps from unruly orchestra” –’tower perhaps’ defines CARThORSE. Down clue “A green colour is evident”。 Definition ‘evident’ gives OVERT: secondary indication is A + VERT, which would be inserted in the grid.

**Across**

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<td>8</td>
<td>One who runs to carry the post back to emergency room (6)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Branch of learning is to judge skull (8)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Joke with a lad (4)</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Can following sea cover a keel? (8)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bolder one led astray after short credit (6)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Needles, second-hand, chip (7)</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Set food detective after swindle (6)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Cuter way back around Times Square bearing right (8)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Given same diet? Find that’s revolting! (10)</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>After logic not working, certain to conform again (8)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Blunder involving a note with cash out (6)</td>
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**Down**

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<td>1</td>
<td>Countryman keeps lake bird (8)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Race run in the country (6)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mouths start to lose shape. (4)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>With know-how working, boards ship after Victoria, say (10)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Snake with energy and speed could be, for example, han hadder (8)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cruel sport in rearing young one (6)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Dubious notes below Australian photograph (10)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Being behind hand can mean less trouble (8)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Old DIY sunhat modified for swimmer (8)</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Translated hero into action (7)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Make fun of German fish (6)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Crazy fellow is missing in dangerous sport (6)</td>
<td>25</td>
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**Post Solution to:**

Gillian Champion, c/o Post Office, Metung Vic 3904.
email: gchampion@westnet.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 18 January 2013.
Results of Quiz No 10/2012:
Opposite Ways by Brian Symons

Entries: 41. Winner: Hazel Freeman Congrats!


Solutions: 1 Anticlimax 2 Aphonic 3 Contraindicative 4 Counteract 5 Demystify 6 Disinfect 7 Extraordinary 8 Illiberal 9 Immodest 10 Inarticulate 11 Irrelevant 12 Nonconformity 13 Unambiguous.

Adjudicator’s comments:
Although this quiz proved popular it was difficult to adjudicate as members came up with several alternatives fulfilling the criteria of word length, alphabetical order, no hyphens, no repetition of prefixes and actual existence in Chambers. Meaning of both the word and word plus prefix was the final arbiter. The most common accepted alternative was asonant. Others included inconclusive and inexplicable. However the vast majority of completely correct solutions had the intended set of 13.

—Brian Symons

New Book from 'Mr Dictionary' David Astle

Puzzles and Words is a medley of puzzles and surprising word stories in one pocket-sized volume from Australia’s best-known wordsmith, David Astle.

There are over 170 original brain teasers from anagrams to word pyramids to keep all levels and ages challenged and amused. Accompanying these are some 200 of David’s entertaining word stories that unlock the secrets and origins of everything from what a charrie is, to where Google’s name came from and how Spanish roosters crow. Puzzles and Words is sure to keep every brain tickled for hours. The book is due to be published in December 2012.

David Astle was the Dictionary Man on SBS’s Letters and Numbers, and ‘DA’ in the world of crossword. He is described as a full-time word nerd. His mania shines in his weekly Wordplay column in The Sydney Morning Herald, and in his cultish blog at www.davidastle.com. His latest book, Puzzled: Secrets and Clues from a Life Lost in Words, is a combination of memoir and clue-cracking manual. The publishers Allen & Unwin have kindly donated two copies of this valuable book and they will be given to two lucky ACC solvers in 2013. We thank Allen & Unwin for their generosity. For further information visit: http://www.allenandunwin.com/

A Selection of Solvers’ Comments:
• Your quizzes are always a bit different and most enjoyable.
  Jim Fowler

• A quiz with a difference. Mr Google didn’t get a look in.
  Mike Potts

• An innovative (as opposed to novative) quiz.
  Doreen Jones

• Harder than I first thought.
  Pat Garner

• Pleased you kept this short as I found it quite hard.
  Carole Noble

• I enjoyed this quiz. Asonant certainly didn’t announce itself.
  (not to me either: Adj.)
  Andrew Miles

• Had to concentrate to find a synonym while thinking antonym.
  Cheryl Wilcox

• Most imaginative.
  Trish McPherson

‘Charles’ Fictional

• Butler. The Last of Mrs Cheyney (play), F Lonsdale, 1925.

• Wrestler. As You Like It, W Shakespeare.

• Character. The Skin Game (play), J Galsworthy, 1920.


• Nick. Private investigator, central character and narrator, The Thin Man, 1932, D Hammett.

• VI. King of France (hist). Henry the Fifth (play), W Shakespeare.

• Dauphin, later Charles VII (hist.). Henry the Sixth (play), W Shakespeare, and Saint Joan (play) GB Shaw, 1924.

• Charley. Marine store dealer. David Copperfield, C Dickens, 1850.

Quiz No 12/2012

Movie Links 2 by The Busybodies

Provide a word for each link. Each solution is a two word movie. Solutions are listed alphabetically.

Send your entries to Bev Cockburn 12 Norman Street, Merrylands West NSW 2160.

Closing date 18 January 2013. Book prize

1 orphan _______ mark (5,4)
2 dog’s _______ soda (9,4)
3 gooseberry _______ tree (4,9)
4 like _______ peel (9,6)
5 Peking _______ kitchen (4,4)
6 speak- _______ haggard (4,5)
7 about _______ colour (4,3)
8 safety _______ thirsty (5,5)
9 American _______ lily (12,3)
10 concrete _______ ends (6,4)
11 grease _______ card (6,8)
12 Mickey _______ ball (5,4)
13 litmus _______ river (5,4)
14 pretty- _______ driver (6,5)
15 acid _______ eater (4,3)
16 run _______ breaker (5,7)
17 deep _______ ocean (5,7)
18 boiled _______ bazaar (5,7)
19 cuddly _______ teller (3,5)
20 Dutch _______ teeth (5,4)
Nov 1-2012: Half’n Half by Buzzer (Bhavan Kasivajjula)

- This one was a real struggle; the last one finished. I had to trow my World Book Dictionary for 8ac so hope it is right. — Anne Simons
- 30ac is assumed to be hi- although none of my references define it. If HEIFER is the answer to 30dn it is incorrect. Kids are the offspring of goats or antelopes or people but never cattle. ROTC, ICAO and ASBO should not have been clued as

Chambers

- I’m sorry, but I really don’t like abbreviations as solutions – 3 times in this puzzle and unnecessary in one case. However, some very clever cluing, especially for APPAL and INANE. I don’t know why a WASP is a social creature – the ones I have met are decidedly anti-social. — Doreen Jones
- Not an easy puzzle, using answers like ROTC, ICAO, AMBO [whoops: Adj] and SAKTI.

- This must be the hardest Slot 1 ever. HEIFER, APPAL and INANE are terrific clues. — Brian Symons
- A very good slot 1 with, I opine, just about the right balance between easy and obscure. “pened” in 17ac was a clever disguise and 23ac was INANE enough to be brilliant. — Jim Fowler
- Found this hard for a Slot 1. Liked the clues for 16 and 23dn.

- Testing puzzle with some obscure words and acronyms. I disagree that “first theory” yields “t”, and I suspect the logic in 22dn involving “futile” is awry. — Len Colgan
- Liked INANE — a very clever clue. — Max Roddick

November 2-2012: Cryptic by Jesso (Noel Jessop)

- Enjoyable. — Peter Dearie
- 16ac COCKS – a very clever clue – nearly COTM. — Graeme Cole
- I loved ARSY VERSY in 4dn. — Margaret Davis
- Jesso’s work is forever fresh. — Max Roddick

November 3-2012: Cryptic by Manveru (Michael Kennedy)

- The anagram clue in 9ac was quite brilliant. — Bob Hagan
- 1ac: Gotham is a fictional city (in Batman) and a genuine village in the UK (traditionally the home of simpletons!). GOTHAMITE is a slang term for New Yorkers — see Chambers – Adj. 20ac: WRISTWATCH took a long time to discover, making 16ac and 18dn equally puzzling. — Peter Dearie
- 9dn: ANAGRAM is my COTM. In 22dn, I’m not sure how B URN S fits the “reports of a gun” [sorry, Graeme, wrong vessel – see Explanations – Adj]. — Graeme Cole
- Took a while to see why TIER is correct for 16ac – TIMER – M. — Roy Taylor
- This puzzle was well and truly up to expectations engendered by first notice of the setter. Don’t really understand 20ac. I get the reference to Blondie but it must be me what’s dumb as I can’t turn it into wristwatch. [The compiler describes it as a “cryptic definition” – a bit quirky but a [wrist]band giving time (after time) goes well with the excellent surface reading – but wasn’t it Cyndi Lauper? – Adj]. ANAGRAM was very clever and gets my COTM. — Jim Fowler
- Challenging puzzle. Favourite clues were 22ac and 8dn. — Joan Smith
- Fine illustration that everyday answers can still have tricky clues. Best is 22ac, BATH CHAIR. — Len Colgan
- I pondered over one of the many excellent clues in Slot 3 COTM but could not decide between them. — Margaret Davis
- 9ac: What a clever ANAGRAM in every way! — Max Roddick

November 4-2012: Aj by Waratah (Carole Noble)

- [A number of solvers identified the ability to substitute the W and M and E and Y clues: Adj]
- “Writer dies messily” would have been a more appropriate clue for A, rather than allowing the solver to insert the given “Author”. A well-clued puzzle. — Peter Dearie
- Q: GRANNY KNOTS could have been a COTM in less distinguished company. — Graeme Cole
- An enjoyable AJ, thanks Waratah. In J, INCA + P + P does not seem to equate to INCAPABLE. Clue O seems non-cryptic [a simple cryptic, perhaps, but “Form” gives the definition: Adj]. — Alan Walter
- Enjoyable AJ: especially liked the clues for G and Y. Y gets my COTM. — Joan Smith
- Great set of answers you’ve fitted into the grid, Carole. — Anne Simons
- Liked GRANNY KNOTS. Not a hard clue, but fun! — Max Roddick

Nov 5-2012: Cryptic by Betelgeuse (Gillian Champion)

- Quite a few clues stretched the mind — Bob Hagan
- A lot of blanks for a long time. TRIM TAB and ACID SALT gave lots of trouble. — Anne Simons
- I nearly gave up on this one – 25ac: NUMBER NINE almost defeated me and TRIM TAB took some finding. A tough slot. — Peter Dearie
- My COTM goes to Slot 5 7dn ERECTION for its excellent surface reading. — Bev Cockburn
- Very hard TRIM TAB and NUMBER NINE took some finding. LL seems doubtful for “leaves” in 6dn. ENID was an excellent clue. — Brian Symons
- Classic Slot 5. Difficult. I nearly gave NUMBER NINE COTM. — Roy Taylor
- Yet another stellar performance from Betelgeuse. The perimeter letters give Art made tongue tied by authority – Shakespeare Sonnet 66 – says he, showing off. — Jim Fowler
- In 3dn a “trill” is a run of birdsong, not runs, and in 10ac the indication should be (5-5). — Alan Walter
- Challenging puzzle. Liked the clues for TOOART and BIG BANG. — Joan Smith
- The thank goodness this was not an unannounced Nina. Being able to detect the required saying early made the rest of the solving less onerous. Gillian, knowing you would need two answers ending in U must have caused you some prior unease. — Len Colgan
- I always find Betelgeuse challenging so I was delighted to fill the grid quickly. Finding the quotation was another matter! — Margaret Davis
- I am awed by the cleverness of people who can create a grid with a hidden message like this. — Kath Harper
- Spent more time on Slot 5 than on all the others combined. Liked YOSEMITE as the slickest clue, and found RACEMES the hardest. — Max Roddick
- Slot 5 was a challenge, with TOOART, NUMBERNINE, AORIST, and ENID all straining the synapses. — Mike Potts

A Selection of Latin Legalsimis

Actus non facit reum nisi mens sit rea: An act does not make a person guilty unless his or her mind is guilty.

Argumentum ad hominem: An argument directed not to the merits of an opponent’s argument but to the personality or character of the opponent.

Advocatus diaboli: Devil’s advocate.

Casus omissus: A circumstance omitted or not provided for, as by a statute.

Corpus delicti: The body of a crime such as the nature of the transgression.

Crimen falsi: The crime of falsifying including crimes such as perjury and forgery and includes any crime involving dishonesty, fraud or corruption.

Lex talionis: The law of retaliation — the retributive theory of punishment — based on the Mosiac principle of ‘an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth’.

Nulla poene sine lege: No punishment except in accordance with law.

Sic utere tuo, ut alienum non laedas: One should use one’s own property in a manner that does not injure that of another.
October 6-2012: Cryptic by Pindar (John Brotherton)

Entries: 82. Correct: 64. Success rate 90%.

Prizeewinner: Brian Eggleton. Congratulations!

From the Setter: All but two entries had solved the puzzle, but, unfortunately, as inevitably happens, a few of the submissions contained minor errors: CLIMACTIC, ANICE and DISAPPROVAL appeared; two solvers gave P.Y for PAY; and PUBLICIZE when the cryptic construction indicates ‘IS’. PLOAT was suggested for PROST (which seems to be the standard spelling for ‘Cheers’ in German, although one entrant questioned this) and FEISTY for MEASLY.

—(Pindar) John Brotherton

Solvers’ Comments:

- A clever cryptic crammed full of delightful clues. I especially liked DECREASE, ANISE, PRESUPPOSITIONS and PUBLICISE.
- A challenging puzzle. Especially enjoyed DECREASE and IMPRESSIONISTIC.
- Excellent workout. Loved RICKETY!
- A good 12dn [BRAINTEASER] puzzle.
- Challenging and entertaining, as always. BLESSED would be good for COTM.
- Another great puzzle. My favourite clue was Lower iron = DECREASE.
- Great, honest crossword. Thanks!
- A well put together, fair and honest puzzle.
- A nice little brainteaser. Always good to complete a puzzle that takes more than one session!
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- Great clue – 8dn! [DECREASE]
- Excellent clues. A pleasure to solve.
- Excellent clues. A pleasure to solve.
- A most excellent crossword. ANDOUILLE was an addition to my vocabulary, which is something I aim for each month in CrOZworld. ANISE was my favourite. What a pity it isn’t eligible for COTM.
- Excellent clues. A pleasure to solve.
- Great clue – 8dn! [DECREASE]
- A nice little brainteaser. Always good to complete a puzzle that takes more than one session!
- A well put together, fair and honest puzzle.
- Great cryptic and had us puzzled more than once. But I guess that’s the idea!
- A delightful challenge.
- Fair and very enjoyable clues. My favourite was DISAPPROVAL.
- Excellent clues. A pleasure to solve.
- Great puzzle = 8dn! [DECREASE]
- A nice little brainteaser. Always good to complete a puzzle that takes more than one session!
- A well put together, fair and honest puzzle.
- Great puzzle with good clues. Keep them coming please.
- Fine surface readings complement excellent clues, such as 5ac, 13ac, 14dn, 19dn. Thanks Pindar.

The Centenary of Crosswords is approaching.

John Halpern, also known as Paul, setter of The Guardian’s cryptic crossword is inviting all crossword enthusiasts to join him in celebrating 2013, as THE YEAR OF THE CROSSWORD! He writes “Do you sometimes wish the world would really see how amazing and fun crosswords are? Ever been met by blank faces as you eulogise on the beauty of a clue, or of a puzzle? Do people consider your favourite pastime slightly outdated or ‘not their cup of tea’? I for one have had this experience one time too many – and have had enough! It’s going to stop – NOW! With the crossword centenary just around the corner, it’s the perfect opportunity for crossword lovers to stand up and be counted. 2012 will be seen as the last year when crosswords were considered a minority sport. I’ve set up www.crosswordcentenary.com as the place to come together and create wonderful crossword puzzle events that the world can enjoy, so we can all share this beautiful game together, and share it with others in an atmosphere of fun and relaxation.” More information at http://www.crosswordcentenary.com/

Apocryphal Headlines

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says

Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over

Miners Refuse to Work after Death

Court to Try Shooting Defendant

War Dims Hope for Peace

If Strike Isn’t Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

Enfeld Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges

Man Struck By Lightning; Faces Battery Charge

New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group

Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft

Kids Make Nutritious Snacks

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half

Explanations for November grids where provided by compilers. Thanks to Bhavan and Michael.

November Slot 1 Buzzer: Down: 1 COW + (h.)-ER[-d], 2 HIDDEN, 3 PAY>, 4 Anag, 5 RE + D-DEN, 6 EnLiStEd, 7 SO + Anag, 8 Double definition (DD), 9 Anag, 15 [r-]AFTER, 16 NO MAD, 17 SAK (T) I, 18 FI[-r]ST + I + CUFFS, 20 A P(?) AL, 22 [f-)UTILE, 23 IN AN E, 27 O + Anag of TRIBAL, 29 CAT + SANIE>, 30 Cryptic definition, 31 Homophone, 32 Anag, 34 O (CH) RE, 36 VI + NE, 38 E + BB.

November Slot 3 Across: 1 GO+T+HAM, 4 A+FF+L+IC+TS, 9 Anag, 11 Anag N+SEAL+ + m(ON)k, 12 scraPES TTogether, 13 Anag, 14 Anag COSMICBOSON - C, 16 TI(m)ER, 19 Rev hidden, 20 Cryptic definition, 22 BAT+H+AIR, 23 DD, 25 RA(VIOL)l(d), 26 Anag BUSINESSMEN - SNUB, 27 Anag, 28 OR + DEAL, Down: 1 Anag SLOTS+GAP+O(ball), 2 TRAMP - P, 3 h(AIR) + FOR+CE, 5 Anag of FULLTIMESIREN. &lit, 6 (p)LIABLE, 7 Anagram of COINSAT+HP &lit, 8 homophone, 10 Anag MIMICSORGAN+O+R, 15 Anag VEGANDIET, 17 Hidden, 18 TWO + TIMER, 21 DD, 22 b(ARK)s, 24 EN+SUE.