

02 September 2025

Puzzle it out

The Witness

Print
out and
engage
brain



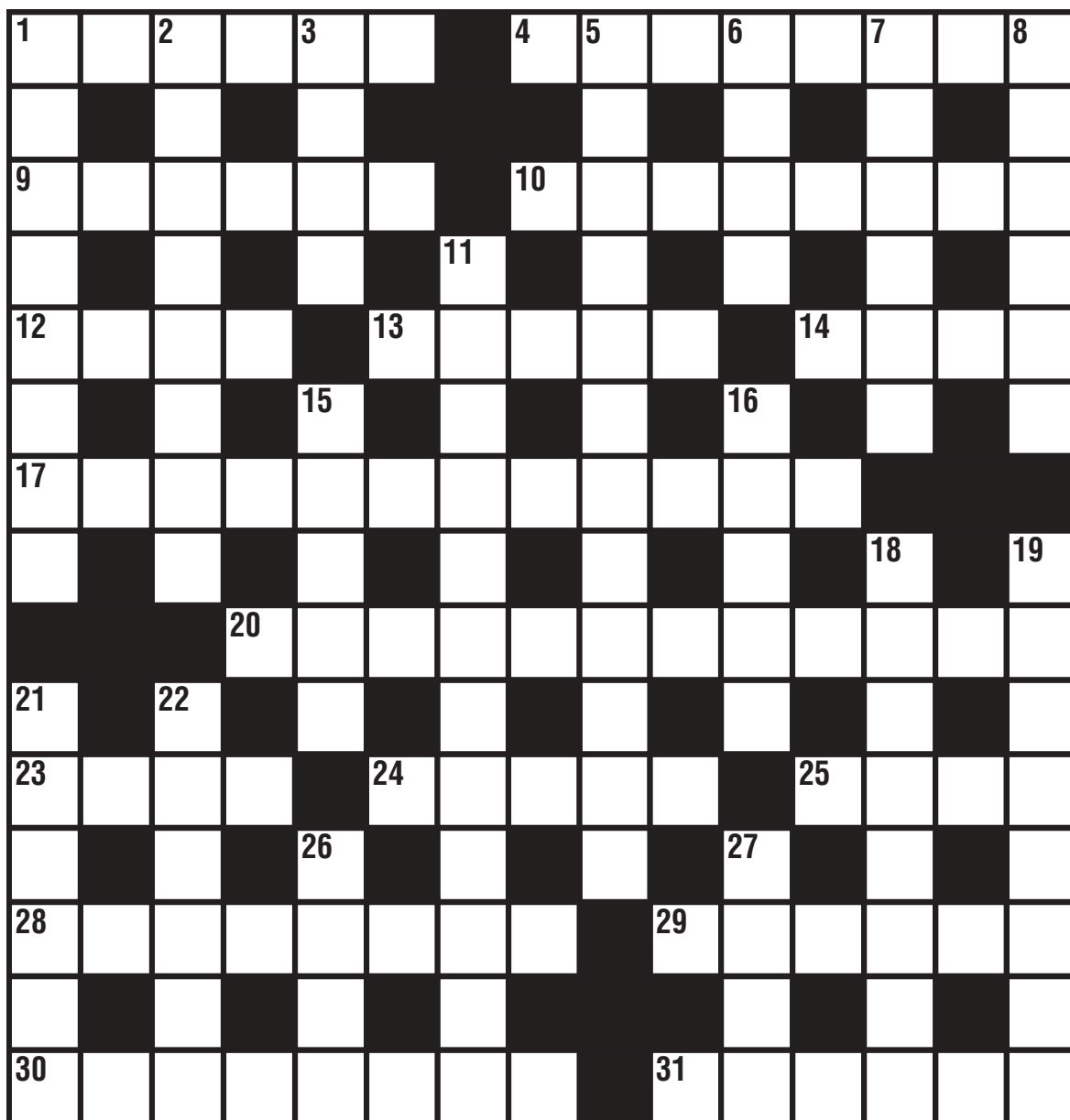
Across

- 1 Bit of a bloomer letting it slip out (6)
 4 One speculates about its other forms (8)
 9 Usual pattern followed by an Anglo-Saxon conqueror (6)
 10 It can let actors down on stage (4,4)
 12 A melody recalled in opera (4)
 13 Guardian article wins back support (5)
 14 A rent or rate adjustment (4)
 17 A spell that isn't working (7,5)
 20 They're put to work by turns (12)
 23 Help comes from Elizabeth (4)
 24 They urge the public to buy the named product (5)
 25 Swell to fortissimo (4)
 28 Highly moral folk converted by Rasputin (8)
 29 Man takes lead in play (6)
 30 Defeated by the democratic process? (8)
 31 The unobservant use the wrong runway (6)

Down

- 1 Pub in new place on top of a mountain (8)
 2 Island in Asia perhaps in which a doctor turns up (8)
 3 Country rain storm (4)
 5 Fighting man audibly the worse for shouting? (5,7)
 6 Go up, up, up in the old Russian secret police (4)
 7 Pressed on amid dire trouble (6)
 8 Ring fighter (6)
 11 Missouri town gained by America in 1783 (12)
 15 Sap the spirit (5)
 16 Smallest possible quantity of cereal (5)
 18 Reason it out with a foreign girl (8)
 19 Employ completely and beneficially (8)
 21 Father's got up in posh style to see a poetess (6)
 22 Nobody else will know if we keep it (6)
 26 A man to turn to (4)
 27 Story with a twist? (4)

Cryptic Crossword 17943



Cryptic Solution 17942

Across: 1 Toddy, 4 Topping, 8 Nor, 9 Telephone, 10 Accused, 11 Lobed, 13 Drogue, 15 Ground, 18 Tryst, 19 Freedom, 21 Deferment, 23 Eat, 24 Sub-edit, 25 Roses.

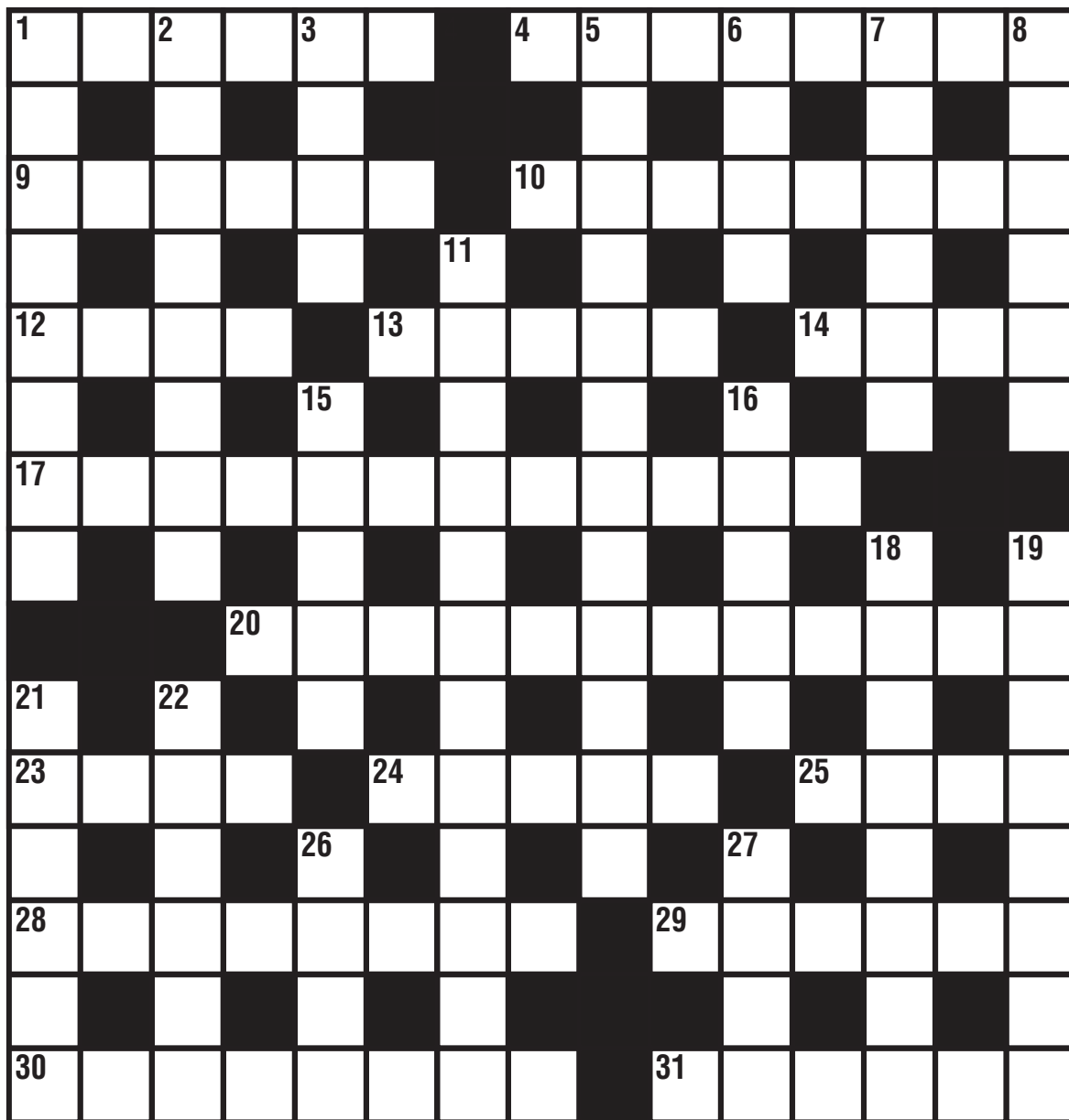
Down: 1 Tankard, 2 Directory, 3 Yetis, 4 Toledo, 5 Popular, 6 Ibo, 7 Greed, 12 Boundless, 14 Uttered, 16 Demotes, 17 Affect, 18 Tides, 20 Enter, 22 Fib.

Across

- 1 Intention (6)
 4 Sudden rush in panic (8)
 9 Taking most hopeful view (2,4)
 10 Frisky (8)
 12 Summit of hill (4)
 13 Shabby-looking (5)
 14 Mole (4)
 17 On the other hand (12)
 20 In case of some future need (3,1,5,3)
 23 Narrow road (4)
 24 Layabout (5)
 25 Affectedly playful (4)
 28 Rigid (4-4)
 29 Uproar (6)
 30 Substantial (8)
 31 For each one (6)

Down

- 1 Disadvantage (8)
 2 Writ ordering appearance at court (8)
 3 Essence of a matter (4)
 5 Deflate self-importance of (4,4,1,3)
 6 Silent (4)
 7 Supposed cure for all ills (6)
 8 Urge strongly (6)
 11 With complete sincerity (5,3,4)
 15 Tolerate (5)
 16 All without exception (2,3)
 18 Delightful (8)
 19 Incidentally (2,3,3)
 21 Draw forth (6)
 22 Concord (6)
 26 Prefix implying small (4)
 27 A jolt (4)



10-Minute Solution 17942

Across: 1 Dwarf, 4 Bewitch, 8 Ebb, 9 Conger eel, 10 Artiste, 11 Toady, 13 Drop in, 15 Zealot, 18 Haste, 19 Swagger, 21 Barracuda, 23 Too, 24 Trestle, 25 Merit.

Down: 1 Die-hard, 2 Albatross, 3 Focus, 4 Bunker, 5 Wrestle, 6 Tie, 7 Holly, 12 Alligator, 14 Inexact, 16 Turn out, 17 Assume, 18 Habit, 20 Alarm, 22 Roe.

SUDOKU

2			5	8			4	
								6
8				4	3	5		1
		4		2	6			
1	9						6	3
			1	3		4		
4		1	3	9				7
6								
	3			6	8			5

No.SS7271 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

For online tips go to sudoku.com

This is the world's most addictive numbers game. The aim is to fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. You need to reason out where to place the missing numbers by using the numbers given in the grid and a process of elimination. This is a game of logic not mathematical ability.

Yesterday's solution:

3	7	4	9	8	5	2	6	1
1	9	2	6	3	7	5	4	8
6	8	5	4	2	1	7	3	9
2	4	7	5	1	6	8	9	3
9	1	8	3	7	4	6	5	2
5	6	3	8	9	2	4	1	7
7	2	6	1	5	9	3	8	4
4	3	1	7	6	8	9	2	5
8	5	9	2	4	3	1	7	6

No.SS7270 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Using the letter B somewhere in every word, can you make at least 9 words of four letters or more out of these letters? At least one word will have all the letters.

No proper names.

B	J	E	T	I
	Y	C	O	F

Yesterday's answer: Bucketful, Clef, Cleft, Felt, Fleck, Flub, Flue, Fluke, Flute, Fuel, Left

SIMON SHUKER'S CODE-CRACKER

5237

Each number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 6 represents P so fill in P every time the figure 6 appears. You have two letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid and solve the starter word. Fill in other squares in the main and control grids with the found letters and look for the next word. Follow the word trail through the puzzle to its completion.

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

© Simon Shuker www.codecracker.co.nz

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

 Solution to
the previous
Code-Cracker:

1	M	2	U	3	S	4	K	5	R	6	A	7	T	8	E	9	N	10	W	11	Q	12	O	13	J
14	P	15	D	16	Y	17	G	18	B	19	L	20	Z	21	F	22	H	23	V	24	X	25	I	26	C