

09 July 2026

# Puzzle it out



Print  
out and  
engage  
brain

**The Witness**



**Across**

- 1 Appear late for public honour (3,2,5)
- 6 Beat severely in return game (4)
- 10 A papal order to cause dismay (5)
- 11 Actor involved in the drama is aiming to please (9)
- 12 Animal feed held in tumbledown barn and pound (4,4)
- 13 Burdened the boy with directions (5)
- 15 Left to resign in chaos, hangs around in hope (7)
- 17 No answer (7)
- 19 He mingles with the crowd to get food (7)
- 21 A word of praise (7)
- 22 Image to carry on the first of March (5)
- 24 Reasonably intelligent (8)
- 27 Pretty tight though in good running order (4-5)
- 28 Stray around in woods perhaps (5)
- 29 A step up the ladder is called for (4)
- 30 Looked happier when the light improved? (10)

**Down**

- 1 Best part of the metal (4)
- 2 Artificial language provides neat prose (9)
- 3 Material from New York not put on in London (5)
- 4 They're associated with heads and tails (3,4)
- 5 A paid informer (7)
- 7 Round hole egg-shaped (5)
- 8 As taken by a parachutist? (6,4)
- 9 Factors in debt-collection (8)
- 14 Time will be on its side (5,5)
- 16 Poem done in my break (8)
- 18 Jack possibly is one who carries weight (9)
- 20 His depredations affect the stockholder (7)
- 21 Meaning to follow, being sheepish (7)
- 23 It is in fact a long claw (5)
- 25 Inlay having three points in it (5)
- 26 Push piano against the bar (4)

Cryptic Crossword 18200

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

**Cryptic Solution 18199**

**Across:** 1 Fetched, 5 Sofas, 8 Underline, 9 Roc, 10 Trip, 12 Definite, 14 Canard, 15 Minded, 17 Forecast, 18 Inch, 21 Inn, 22 Animation, 24 Steam, 25 Tail end.

**Down:** 1 Fruit, 2 Ted, 3 Herb, 4 Drivel, 5 Specific, 6 Forbidden, 7 Succeed, 11 Ignorance, 13 Proclaim, 14 Coffins, 16 Assist, 19 Honed, 20 Taxi, 23 Ice.

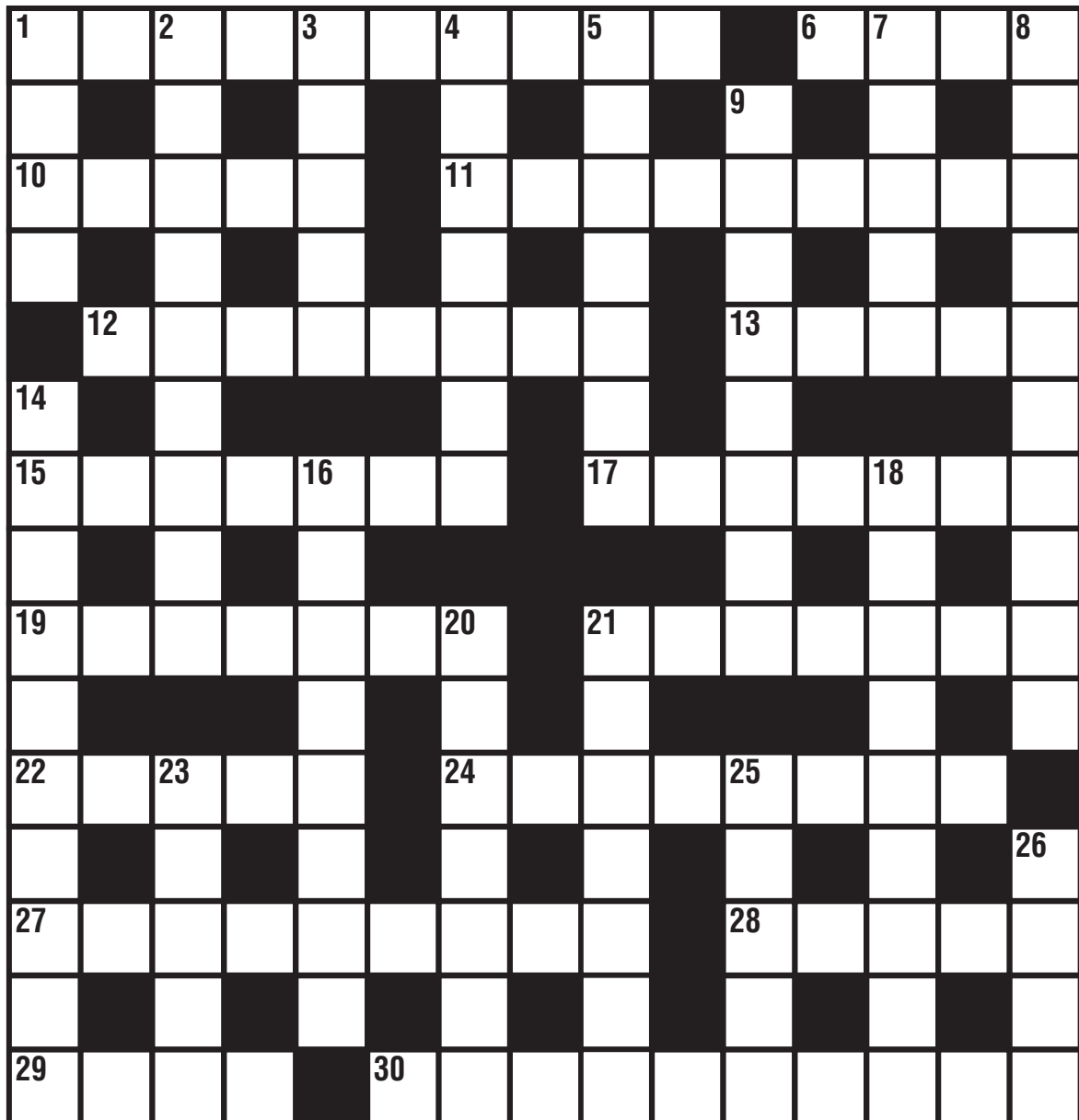
**Across**

- 1 World's fourth largest island (10)  
 6 A national emblem (4)  
 10 To separate (5)  
 11 Harm to reputation (9)  
 12 Unassisted vision (5,3)  
 13 Sloping sharply (5)  
 15 Utterly wicked (7)  
 17 Without wide variations (7)  
 19 Admit to be true (7)  
 21 To utter (7)  
 22 A heavy very dark wood (5)  
 24 A legislative body (8)  
 27 Military campaign of attack (9)  
 28 Physically weak (5)  
 29 To hinge (4)  
 30 Watchful against danger (2,3,5)

**Down**

- 1 Regret absence of (4)  
 2 Departure from planned course (9)  
 3 Rocky ravine (5)  
 4 Grief (7)  
 5 Morally strict (7)  
 7 Put in a bank (5)  
 8 Collapse emotionally (2,2,6)  
 9 Forceful persuasion (8)  
 14 Quit through loss of nerve (7,3)  
 16 Singly (3,2,3)  
 18 Formidable older woman (9)  
 20 Prevarication (7)  
 21 Implore (7)  
 23 Propose (5)  
 25 A secret criminal society (5)  
 26 Surfeit (4)

10-Minute Crossword 18200

**10-Minute Solution 18199**

**Across:** 1 Burning, 5 Hoist, 8 Demeanour, 9 Con, 10 East, 12 Ballyhoo, 14 Plague, 15 Unroll, 17 All right, 18 Tsar, 21 Tie, 22 Assuredly, 24 Mercy, 25 Sharpen.

**Down:** 1 Budge, 2 Rum, 3 Imam, 4 Global, 5 Hard line, 6 In cahoots, 7 Tinfoil, 11 Small beer, 13 Luminary, 14 Phantom, 16 Thesis, 19 Rayon, 20 Area, 23 Dip.

# SUDOKU

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

No.SS7528 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

For online tips go to [sudoku.com](http://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:

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

Using the letter W somewhere in every word, can you make at least 41 words of four letters or more out of these letters? At least one word will have all the letters.  
No proper names.

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | H | A | K | O |
|   | E | R | T | R |

**Yesterday's answer:** Alert, Alertly, Alter, Armlet, Artel, Arty, Earth, Earthly, Earthy, Ethyl, Halt, Halter, Hamlet, Hart, Hate, Hater, Heart, Hearty, Heat, Late, Lately, Lath, Lathe, Lather, Lathery, Leat, Lethal, Lyrate, Lythe, Mallet, Malt, Mart, Mate, Mater, Matey, Maty, Meat, Meaty, Melt, Metal, Methyl, Myrtle, Myth, Rate, Ratel, Rath, Rathe, Tahr, Tall, Tally, Tame, Tamey, Tamer, Tare, Teal, Team, Tear, Tell, Term, Termly, Thaler, Thar, Them, Therm, Thermal, Thermally, They, Thrall, Thyme, Tram, Tray, Trey, Tyre

# SIMON SHUKER'S CODE-CRACKER

5457

Each number in our Code-Cracker grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. For example, today 6 represents S so fill in S every time the figure 6 appears. You have one letter in the control grid to start you off. Enter it 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  |    | 5  |    | 6  |    | 7  | 1        | 14 |
| 8  | 4  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 2  | 7  |    | 12 | 13 | 9  | 14 | 2  | 2        | 15 |
| 2  |    | 14 |    | 15 |    | 16 |    | 17 |    | 13 |    | 16 | 3        | 16 |
| 4  | 8  | 17 | 12 | 18 |    | 13 | 12 | 9  | 13 | 6  | 17 | 7  | 4        | 17 |
|    | 13 |    |    | 13 |    | 19 |    | 5  |    | 6  |    | 13 | 5        | 18 |
| 15 | 2  | 20 | 2  | 12 | 16 | 13 | 4  |    | 12 | 17 | 12 | 2  | 6        | 19 |
| 17 |    | 4  |    | 18 |    | 9  |    | 16 |    | 7  |    | 21 | <b>S</b> | 20 |
| 22 | 4  | 7  | 23 |    | 8  | 13 | 9  | 2  | 12 | 6  | 2  | 2  | 7        | 21 |
| 12 |    | 24 |    | 17 |    | 4  |    | 25 |    |    | 8  |    | 8        | 22 |
| 1  | 4  | 13 | 12 | 19 | 11 | 8  |    | 16 | 14 | 11 | 20 | 26 | 9        | 23 |
| 8  |    | 1  |    | 16 |    | 13 |    | 11 |    | 1  |    | 11 | 10       | 24 |
| 4  | 15 | 4  | 18 | 2  |    | 16 | 11 | 7  | 20 | 17 | 13 | 8  | 11       | 25 |
| 23 |    | 12 |    | 12 |    | 23 |    | 2  |    | 12 |    | 5  | 12       | 26 |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 13       |    |

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