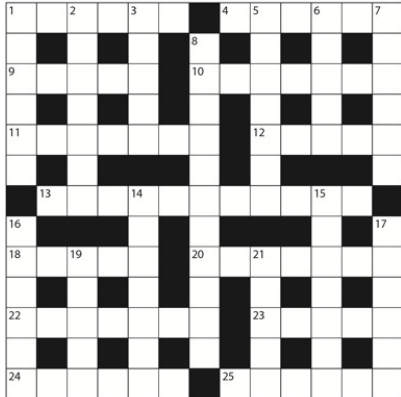


PUZZLES

Congratulations to Basil P. Longy, of Quarr, Ryde, Isle of Wight, winner of the 10 December crossword competition. His was the first correct entry drawn at random. He will be receiving a copy of the hardback *Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus* (second edition, RRP £30).

CROSSWORD No. 291

Compiled by Axe



Crossword competition

Please send your answers to: Crossword Competition 7 January, The Tablet, 1 King Street Cloisters, Clifton Walk, London W6 0GY. Please include your full name, telephone number and email address, and a mailing address. A bottle of wine courtesy of J. Chandler & Co. Ltd will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random on Friday 20 January.

Across

- 1 Is evil false god at the root of it all? (6)
- 4 Hebrew Scriptures one found in container end at Ruth (6)
- 9 Hagar's turned the key that's unlocked her (5)
- 10 Here in Galatia, there's a trick to carrying uranium by road to the west (7)
- 11 Around the York meeting had backed and made judge (7)
- 12 Stream of reforms Council made here? (5)
- 13 Assyrian king's arsenal Shem destroyed (11)
- 18 Head from 1 Across to somewhere in biblical Jordan (5)
- 20 Chip in America at home is one of the good guys (7)
- 22 Greek-American patriarch of Constantinople (7)
- 23 Meander between sectors of a biblical site in Asia Minor (5)
- 24 Frilly bit maybe added to a New Testament hymn (6)
- 25 Father's turned red being amongst clerics (6)

Down

- 1 A lawyer Samuel turned down over the defence of Jews (6)
- 2 English chap's cloaked in almost what a monk wears up in this wild place (7)
- 3 Joktan's issue with a Greek character wearing gold ... (5)
- 5 ... after drink grips missionary (7)
- 6 Clerical vestment against the morning chill (5)
- 7 Master has in the past besieged King Toi's place? (6)
- 8 Persians' belief in him scimitar shattered (11)
- 14 More coach and car travelling is, with family, limiting (7)
- 15 Tiberius' situation is, according to Rome, tenuous at the borders (7)
- 16 Decapolis city of silver toppled by revolutionary modern-day artillery (6)
- 17 English in the past replaced the French with the Spanish saints (6)
- 19 Time to get immersed in champagne and inspirational music (5)
- 21 Home to Malabar Christians, the first in New Delhi, is acceptable (5)

Solution to the 10 December crossword

Across: 7 Niacin; 8 Vostok; 10 Moderna; 11 Roman; 12 Lent; 13 Crane; 17 Quiet; 18 Once; 22 Riesa; 23 Lawyers; 24 Silver; 25 Offset. **Down:** 1 Animals; 2 Wadding; 3 Tiara; 4 Borranio; 5 Atami; 6 Skene; 9 Gabrielle; 14 Curates; 15 Intense; 16 Density; 19 Cross; 20 Neele; 21 Swift.

● The answers to this week's puzzles and the crossword winner's name will appear in the 28 January issue.

SUDOKU

Level: Hard

Solution to the 10 December puzzle

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

Solution to the 17 December puzzle

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

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

Each 3 x 3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

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