£500 TO BE WON \star NO 1.747

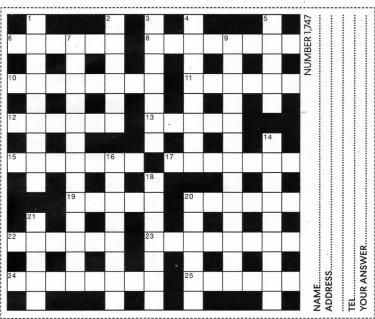
TO ENTER Complete the crossword and count how many times the letter 'A' appears in the grid. Text YOU followed by a space, your answer (the number of 'A's) and name to 65700, eg, YOU 9 Sue Smith. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network rate. Or telephone 0905 652

2141 and leave your answer and details.

Calls cost £1 plus your telephone

company's network access charge. Or post your entry to YOU Crossword NR7 7NR. Entries will be accepted until 11.59pm on Friday 30 April. One random winner from all correct entries will win £250 and five runners-up will win £50 each. If you enter after the closing date you will not be included but may still be charged. Phone and text helpline: 0330 100 0601. Winners will be notified by phone within 14 days. Solution in two weeks.

No 1,747, PO Box 3451, Norwich



ACROSS 6 European country (6)

8 Remote (8) 10 Small receptacles for cigarette butts (8) 11 Chief, boss (6) 12 Loathsome (6) 13 'There's no

a free Mark Twain (5)

such thing as

15 Convicts (7)

17 Rally, get better (7)

19 Asian country which gained independence

in 1947 (5) 20 18 down's

predecessor (surname) as 1 down of 6 across (6) 22 As used on the green in golf (6)

23 The branch

1 Head of state of 6 across (9) 2 Levers used to

of chemistry

reactions (8)

concerned with

rates of chemical

24 Old-fashioned

tightly on the top

of the nose (5-3)

(surname) who

became 1 down of

6 across in 2017 (6)

25 The man

glasses that fit

propel a bicycle (6) 3 Small ball of chopped meat or

predecessor (surname) as

vegetables which is fried (7) 4 25 across's

1 down of 6 across (8) 5 25 across's principal

challenger (surname) to become 1 down

2017 (2.3) 7 Patriotic (13)

of 6 across in

past might be described (13) 14 Device to keep a vessel heading

9 How something wrongly set in the

into the wind or reduce drifting (3,6)

16 Permanent (8) 18 4 down's predecessor

(surname) as 1 down of 6 across (7) 20 The movies (6) 21 Scientist Marie twice won the Nobel Prize before dying in 6 across in 1934 (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1.745

B A'R A'C K'O B'A M'A E Α RBB Н ELDER PLAYBOYOF 0 E RN ERR EMULSION TYCOON BBS **'**T В 1 PATRIARCH BADGE N 1 E A R E SJ I G UNWELCOME E M L M R WASABI A S P IRING Υ 0 ^{24}A Т S N RENEWABLE THORN G L E R 1 C DOE 28 P LENECTOMY