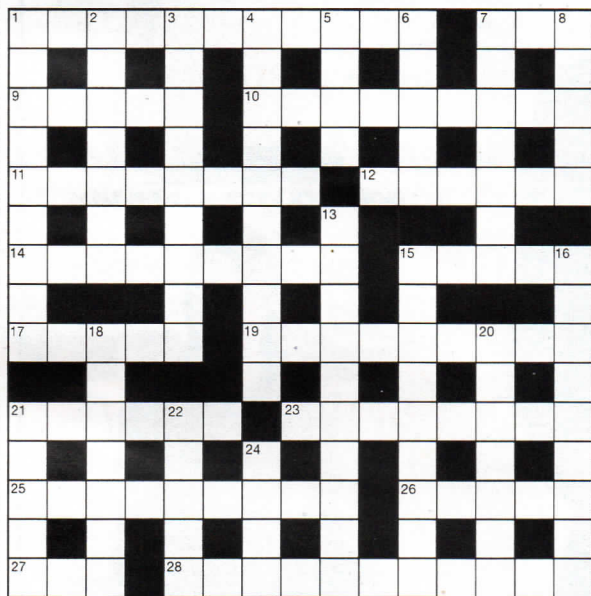


TO ENTER Complete the crossword and count how many times the letter 'A' appears in the grid. Text YOU followed by a space, your answer (the number of 'A's) and name to 65700, eg, YOU 9 Sue Smith. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network rate. Or telephone 0905 652 2141 and leave your answer and details. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. Or post your entry to YOU Crossword

No 1,723, PO Box 3451, Norwich, NR7 7NR. Entries will be accepted until 11.59pm on Friday 13 November. 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.



NUMBER 1,723

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
TEL.....
YOUR ANSWER.....

ACROSS

1 Smart person (6,5)

7 Initially, a cry for help from Abba (3)

9 Merger (5)

10 Constellation and, in Greek mythology, daughter of Cassiopeia (9)

11 Worried (8)

12 (and **14**, **15**, **21**, **26** across and **8**, **24** down)

Proverb suggesting that you shouldn't be tricked on more than one occasion (4,2,4,5,2,3,4,2,5,5,2,2)

14 See **12** across

15 See **12** across

17 County next to Cornwall (5)

19 Lack of

agreement (9)

21 See **12** across

23 Plant with sweet-smelling bluish-purple flowers (8)

25 System of keeping animals in which they can move outside (4-5)

26 See **12** across

27 Head covering (3)

28 Type of **27** across linked with Sherlock Holmes (11)

DOWN

1 What supposedly flows through the veins of royals (4,5)

2 Foolish, stupid (7)

3 Sycophants, freeloaders (7-2)

4 Scenery movers in a theatre (10)

5 Puts two and two together (4)

6 Former capital of Japan (5)

7 'To A Skylark' poet (7)

8 See **12** across

13 'The _____': 1970s TV series starring Roger Moore (10)

15 Large group of musicians (9)

16 Item Helen

Mirren chose as her luxury on *Desert Island Discs* (9)

18 Savage, brutal (7)

20 A jocular name for Satan (3,4)

21 Beethoven symphony played on radio news during Second World War (5)

22 Boggled down (5)

24 See **12** across

SOLUTION TO NO 1,721

