

The Crusader's clues

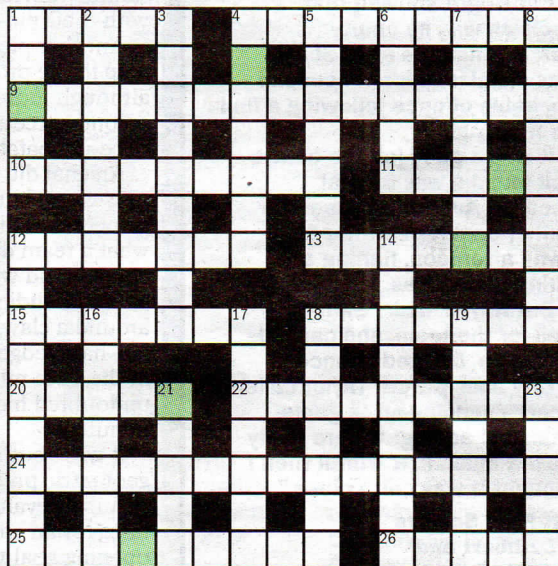
ACROSS

- 1 Jargon talked, lady added (5)
- 4 Jumper and shirt in view with school clothes (9)
- 9 Spy on avenger red cut off (10,5)
- 10 Irksome log I burnt in error (9)
- 11 Boxes softhead knocks over (5)
- 12 Chuck, meeting Dennis, maybe messes up (7)
- 13 Mark caught deer returning after spinning records (7)
- 15 Often-touching story about court intrigue's origin (7)
- 18 A problem fixed in the past (7)
- 20 Wipe to soothe round red face (5)
- 22 Silly man feigned getting by endlessly (4-5)
- 24 Hostile cheat leading a Latino astray (15)
- 25 Material cut back at a certain point in the past (9)
- 26 A beast from Harrow fed hunger (5)

DOWN

- 1 To inhibit shock, they start... (5)
- 2 ...with this covering etc. (3,2,2)
- 3 A patriotic Italian soldier falling behind a rude one (9)
- 4 Talk of socialism by right-wingers (7)
- 5 Promises pertaining originally to projectors (7)
- 6 Lots of drives around Spain (5)
- 7 Clothes hanger a little alien, in a way (3,4)
- 8 Drunk bands do their best work, in a way (2,2,5)
- 12 Plant flatter, getting crushed first (9)
- 14 A belt's warped a little, it's found (9)
- 16 Passage from chapter with 'old queen' line (7)
- 17 Crazy clean-shaven Slav out to improve (7)
- 18 Perhaps I'm afraid, given a pointer about rescue (7)
- 19 Sideways pose great, and briefly held (7)
- 21 Flyer later getting letters back (5)
- 23 A character shown around with thanks (5)

Cryptic clues from our knight, and quick clues from his squire, lead to the same answers in the Crusader's Sunday joust



The Squire's clues

ACROSS

- 1 Argot (5)
- 4 Splits (9)
- 9 Infiltrator (10,5)
- 10 Worrisome (9)
- 11 Nautical poles (5)
- 12 Botches (7)
- 13 Fleck, spot (7)
- 15 Touchy-feely (7)
- 18 Hindrance (7)
- 20 Delete (5)
- 22 Impractical (4-5)
- 24 Combative (15)
- 25 Thermoplastic material (9)
- 26 Laughing animal (5)

DOWN

- 1 Exploit (5)
- 2 Yadda yadda yadda (3,2,2)
- 3 Biscuit with a layer of currants (9)
- 4 Yarns (7)
- 5 Vows (7)
- 6 20-quire bundles of paper (5)
- 7 Neckwear storage item (3,4)
- 8 As it were (2,2,5)
- 12 Yellow-flowered wild plant (9)
- 14 Set up (9)
- 16 Conduit (7)
- 17 Heighten (7)
- 18 Manage to retain (7)
- 19 Suspiciously (7)
- 21 Heron-like bird (5)
- 23 Greek letter (5)

For your chance to WIN £100 read down the letters in the highlighted squares to reveal the mystery word.

TO ENTER CALL: 0904 161 1610

and leave your answer and details, or text SXCRUS followed by a space, your answer, name and address details to 84915 or send your grid containing the answer in the shaded squares to: Sunday Express Prize Crossword, August 30, PO Box 12578, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BT. Competition closes Thursday, September 3 at 23:59pm.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____

Winner will be selected at random from all correct entry routes after the closing date. Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge. Texts cost £1.50 plus your standard network rate. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390.

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION: Across: 1 Solve, 4 Pragmatic, 9 Tightrope walker, 10 Peninsula, 11 Tango, 12 Hostile, 13 Essence, 15 Nominal, 18 Gradual, 20 Eclat, 22 Beardless, 24 Stubborn as a mule, 25 Necessary, 26 Tally. Down: 1 Set up, 2 Legends, 3 Extension, 4 Procure, 5 Average, 6 Meant, 7 Taken in, 8 Corporal, 12 Hangers-on, 14 Stand fast, 16 Mollusc, 17 Liberia, 18 Granary, 19 Unequal, 21 Tubes, 23 Seedy.
Prize word: Atlanta

*SP: Spoke - Helpline 0333 202 3390