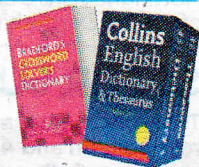


BARE BONES

WIN A COLLINS ENGLISH DICTIONARY AND THESAURUS SET, AND A BRADFORD'S CROSSWORD SOLVER'S DICTIONARY



Our Bare Bones Crossword is unique because you have to complete the grid - numbers and squares - as well. We have inserted four black squares and four clue numbers to get you going. The crossword has a four-way symmetry: both top and bottom and left and right match, so you can fill in 12 more squares straight away.

5																				
					10															
					17					19										

There is a prize of a Collins English Dictionary and Thesaurus set, and a Bradford's Crossword Solver's Dictionary. Send your solution to: Bare Bones Puzzle No 981, The Mail on Sunday, PO Box 3451, Norwich NR7 7NR. Entries must arrive by Friday, February 5 (photocopies not accepted). The winner's name will be published on February 21 from the first correct entry drawn.

Winner of Bare Bones No 978: Jean Snailum, of Spennymoor, Co Durham.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE TELEPHONE.....

- Across**
- 1 Use wings to make a bet
 - 5 Fiend existed the wrong way
 - 7 Snake is more annoyed without a head
 - 10 Ready for collection
 - 11 Mother holds front of grille - it's molten
 - 12 Drive, having one medium exercise left
 - 13 Paid to get comfortable on the day
 - 15 Now engaged with Welshman
 - 16 Rice prepared for a man
 - 17 Pans set out for suitability
- Down**
- 21 Tired of mineral and diamonds
 - 22 Treating initial corrosion provides confidence
 - 23 Cairo has an atmosphere
 - 24 I'm on target, returning to US location
 - 25 Correct this writer, in conclusion
 - 26 A turn performed by a student is unaffected
 - 5 Preserve barriers on a lot of traffic (Two words)
 - 6 Virginia broadcast guide on each foggy notion (Two words)
 - 8 Leaving Peru trade in confusion
 - 9 Cleared to move, so moved
 - 14 Healthy colour in Istanbul
 - 17 Mad flurry of trendy paperwork
 - 18 Farm vehicle doesn't finish area
 - 19 Panic, losing head, making a mistake
 - 20 Alloy that's a bargain, by the sound of it