

## The Crusader's clues

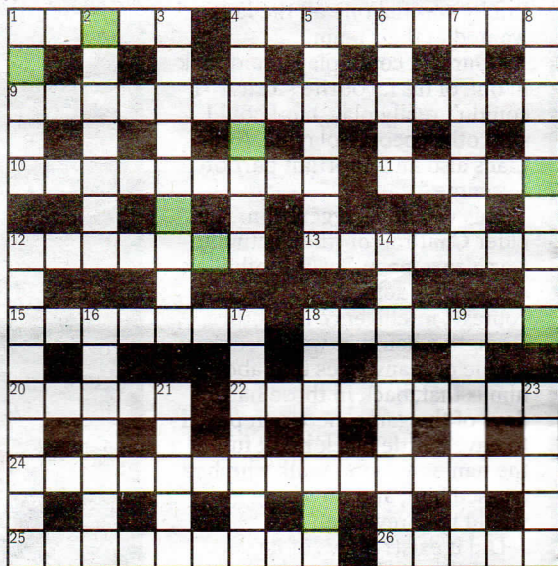
### ACROSS

- 1 Black, unchanged grounds (5)
- 4 Treatment a mug receives? (4,5)
- 9 Stray slip cheers couple introduced to buff man (2,3,2,1,7)
- 10 Fantastic relations, perhaps (4,5)
- 11 Ready response involved failure (5)
- 12 A guard said you gained time (7)
- 13 Flower gnat mutated on unknown in the past (7)
- 15 Hit, soldiers experienced pain (7)
- 18 Faldo, a golfer making money (7)
- 20 An animal set back in North America (5)
- 22 Latin poet showing promise (9)
- 24 Being calm is a pleasant thing (8,7)
- 25 Worried monarch struck outside (9)
- 26 Clothing note concerning smalls (5)

### DOWN

- 1 Petition linked to an alien cause (5)
- 2 Student cutting hot food (7)
- 3 Gentle caress for a pushover (4,5)
- 4 Seriously rich associate (7)
- 5 A sect running past a conspirator (7)
- 6 Lag in charge of a pointer? (5)
- 7 Chic model with higher energy before rest taken around midnight (7)
- 8 Unique reason lighting's out? (9)
- 12 Awful line missing in a report (9)
- 14 Labelled collar to mend - a disaster! (9)
- 16 One has drunk mead where scholars reside (7)
- 17 Without preservative, without filling, turned game goes off (7)
- 18 A bare cake is thus observed (7)
- 19 Soul record, and its initial volume (7)
- 21 Old Greek spies upset about an abstainer (5)
- 23 American group's over a bloomer (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 Premise (5)
- 4 Complexion enhancer (4,5)
- 9 Digress (2,3,2,1,7)
- 10 Improbable stories (4,5)
- 11 Collide (5)
- 12 100-year period (7)
- 13 Longest river in China (7)
- 15 Made it to (7)
- 18 5-cent coins (7)
- 20 Spiral-horned antelope (5)
- 22 Possible (9)
- 24 Everyday luxury (8,7)
- 25 Worked out (9)
- 26 Bandage (5)

### DOWN

- 1 Produce (5)
- 2 Rich German fruit bread (7)
- 3 Easy mark (4,5)
- 4 So as to cause death (7)
- 5 Robert \_\_\_\_, leader of the Gunpowder Plot (7)
- 6 Cone-shaped (5)
- 7 Stylish and graceful (7)
- 8 Unequalled (9)
- 12 Historical account (9)
- 14 Dubbed (9)
- 16 The groves of \_\_\_\_ (7)
- 17 Leaves (7)
- 18 Spotted (7)
- 19 Embodiment (7)
- 21 Loft, garret (5)
- 23 Large water lily (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, June 12 2020, PO Box 12578, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BT. Competition closes Thursday, June 16 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 Cubed, 4 Drawbacks, 9 Proof of purchase, 10 Temperate, 11 Spent, 12 Torrent, 13 Sponsor, 15 Plinths, 18 Created, 20 Rapid, 22 Albatross, 24 With reference to, 25 Resurgent, 26 Sassy. Down: 1 Cop it, 2 Bloomer, 3 Different, 4 Defiant, 5 Amulets, 6 Bucks, 7 Chalets, 8 Sheltered, 12 Top-drawer, 14 Overtones, 16 Impetus, 17 Snaffle, 18 Cabaret, 19 Trowels, 21 Durer, 23 Story. Prize word: Beaver

\*SP: Spoke - Helpline 0333 202 3390