

The Crusader's clues

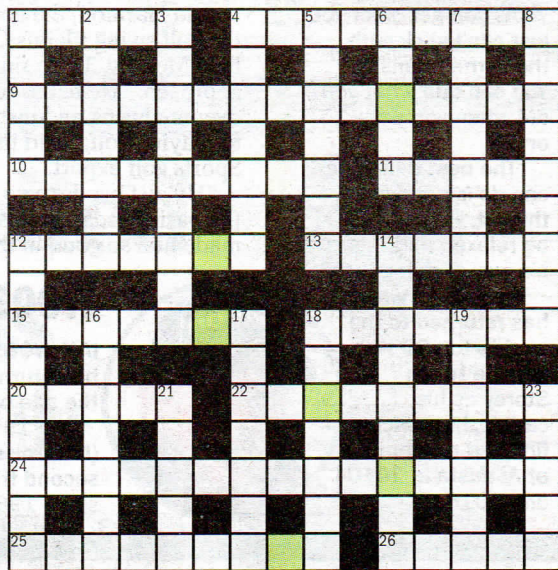
ACROSS

- 1 String Mark and Charlie heard (5)
 4 Animals joining running yaks (7,2)
 9 Distance to take piscine head (15)
 10 Affair with a runner in a rush (9)
 11 Going round closer to traffic, get run over (5)
 12 Caregiver interrupting someone who says he's a writer (7)
 13 Expert catching a fish backward person freed (7)
 15 Nordic king made a graduate homeless (7)
 18 Borders of diverse county or state (7)
 20 Animal pulls lead with arduous initially (5)
 22 Defiant president not altogether smart (9)
 24 Lovely churl and I put off a cop with sense (15)
 25 Unnecessary outburst about bareback rider's core (9)
 26 Vessels sheep are on start to sink (5)

DOWN

- 1 The way to establish strength (5)
 2 Son there is one of hers, note (7)
 3 It's not Tom, Dick and Harry shut out! (9)
 4 Overcoat, in short, given to cooler thug (7)
 5 Mention of Bell's original telephone (5,2)
 6 Officer sides with a German I discharge (5)
 7 Guide beginning to shepherd another client (7)
 8 Supporting structure for a bridge (9)
 12 Bird that's flown back into low wharf circling top of perch (9)
 14 Receding ship has to get around it (9)
 16 Fruit cut with saw and crushed (7)
 17 An island route sounded a little dicey at first (7)
 18 Revolt spoken of in conversation (7)
 19 Fatty diet half completed by a model (7)
 21 Pale face of armed female knight (5)
 23 Trip over pyjamas covering pants (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 Accumulate (5)
 4 Chatters (7,2)
 9 Reserved disposition (15)
 10 Gripping (9)
 11 Summary (5)
 12 Georges ____, Maigret author (7)
 13 Probationer (7)
 15 Wandering (7)
 18 Announce (7)
 20 Bamboo-eating mammal (5)
 22 Opposing (9)
 24 Beautiful (15)
 25 Unemployed (9)
 26 Pitchers (5)

DOWN

- 1 Advantage (5)
 2 Word or phrase of rearranged letters (7)
 3 Excluded (9)
 4 Hooligan (7)
 5 Rear, raise (5,2)
 6 Blood of the Greek gods (5)
 7 Perforated sheet for printing (7)
 8 Connector on spectacles (9)
 12 Wading bird (9)
 14 __ gene (9)
 16 Garbled (7)
 17 French island (7)
 18 Revulsion (7)
 19 Of or containing fat (7)
 21 Pallid, wan (5)
 23 Wheezes (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, April 4, PO Box 12578, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BT. Competition closes Thursday, April 8 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 Costs, 4 Cassandra, 9 Alphabetisation, 10 Presented, 11 Split, 12 Floored, 13 Grandeur, 15 Allowed, 18 Turmoil, 20 Kirks, 22 Derogated, 24 Uncontroversial, 25 Tolerated, 26 Silly. Down: 1 Clamp, 2 Supremo, 3 Scarecrow, 4 Cheated, 5 Shindig, 6 Amass, 7 Drilled, 8 Au naturel, 12 Frankfurt, 14 As regards, 16 Lyrical, 17 Diderot, 18 Thrived, 19 On trial, 21 Sonar, 23 Delay.
 Prize word: Boules

*SP: Spoke - Helpline 0333 202 3390