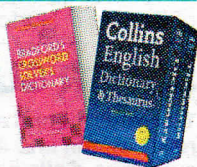
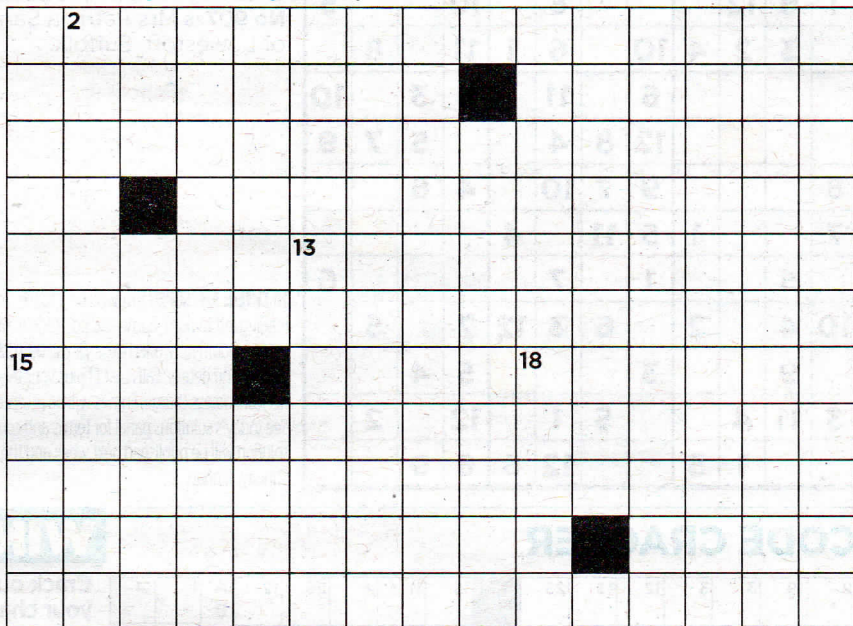


# BARE BONES



**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.



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 974, The Mail on Sunday, PO Box 3451, Norwich NR7 7NR. Entries must arrive by Friday, December 18 (photocopies not accepted). The winner's name will be published on January 3 from the first correct entry drawn.

Winner of Bare Bones No 971: Glynn Downton, of Maidstone, Kent.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

POSTCODE ..... TELEPHONE.....

## Across

- 1 New gear includes container for rubbish
- 5 Notice approval is going round as boldness
- 9 Attacking player is shameless
- 10 Unacceptable to harvest rock formation
- 12 Intend to be miserly
- 13 Harass a hunting dog
- 14 Tuna-mad member of the family
- 15 Request for parking next to field
- 17 Majority around island - not dry

- 19 Heard fellow got some letters
- 21 Musical reduction shows top style
- 22 Draw a stretch of land? About time
- 23 He'd crow about a soup
- 24 Disapprove of French pressure and tradition

## Down

- 2 Home to get notes on poem
- 3 Argument after swine hides magic stick and weapons (Three words)
- 4 Waist measurement? Right away
- 6 Earth didn't start as a circular shape
- 7 Officer's mad rail about immorality first (Two words)
- 8 Doctor won over in flood
- 11 Copper has little time for a spice
- 16 Left English tree, showing restraint
- 17 Dessert does not contain small rodent
- 18 Article takes it to be an old tax
- 20 Lay oneself open to trendy dog