THE SKELETON CROSSWORD – £325 in prizes

Last week's solution

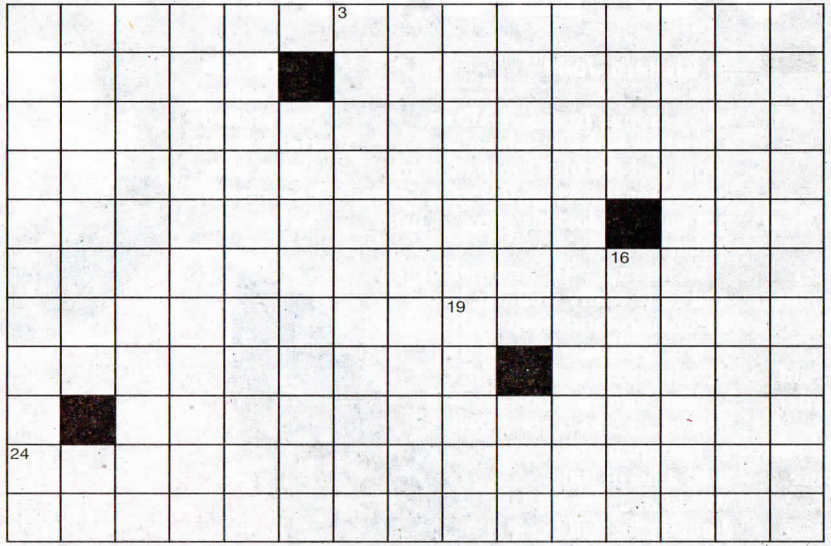
WINNERS: General Knowledge Crossword, December 27: £1,000: M Prinsep, Oxford. £50 Mystery Word Bonus: N Lopez, Exmouth. Skeleton Crossword, December 27: £100: J Basford, Chapeltown, Sheffield. £25: J Pritchard, Burnley, Lancashire; A Turner, West Malling, Kent; A Ager, Ipswich, Suffolk; P Avern, Bournemouth, Dorset; D Cotton, Penzance, Cornwall; P Mumby, London; I Ball, Herefordshire; D Pattison, Causewayhead, Stirling; E Edwards, Sketty, Swansea. £50 Mystery Word Bonus: D Heasman, Aldbourne, Marlborough.

WINNERS: Please allow 30 days to receive your prize.

The Express Bookshop stocks a wide selection of puzzle books across all crossword puzzle genres. To obtain our up to date list please visit www.expressbookshop.com *or call* 01872 562310.

THINKING SPACE

There is a £100 prize for the first correct solution drawn; nine runners-up receive £25.
Send your completed crossword to the address shown in the box below left. In the skeleton crossword, the black squares and clue numbers have to be filled in as well as the words. Four black squares and four clue numbers have been inserted to give you a start. The black squares form a symmetrical pattern; the top half matches the bottom, and the two sides correspond. You can fill in 12 more squares at once to correspond with those given.



Send to: Skeleton Crossword, PO Box 12578, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BT. The winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing date of noon on Friday. Please allow 30 days for prizes to arrive.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

ACROSS

2 'Strong' card? It's bent
7 Dry tail of supple beast
8 A multitude taking one lift
10 Country with gold reserves achieving firsts
11 Good mark on a kind of exam
12 Perfect metre a poem lacked initially
13 Crazy hero's raised support (2 words)
15 Dull girl oddly not quite a looker
16 Fruit seed eaten along with large core
17 A cider's mistaken for a cocktail
21 Style of shirt with a ruffled lace front
22 Examination of gold and copper, then lead
23 Name and preceding initials with a purpose
24 Lock Rene's very skilfully opening
25 Um, a communist made mistakes
26 Popular leader, and a rash one

DOWN

1 Periodicals are found in digs
2 Hands held by comrade also?
3 Sound made by a German car approaching a roundabout
4 Short polyglot's latest language
5 A man has married a winner
6 They're thought receptive (Hyphenated)
7 Stay with me, please (3 words)
9 Bore informed about a tree being cultivated
14 Regret about covering up half...
17 ...hidden supply of stone and wood
18 Something stored in a defaced container
19 Sound caught by a particular male engineer
20 A model in close-up thought highly of (5)

£50 Mystery Word Bonus

Ring 0901 322 5301 for a chance to win £50. Give the correct answer to **10 Across** leaving your name and address. *Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by noon on Thursday.

THE £1,000 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD CAN BE FOUND INSIDE S MAGAZINE