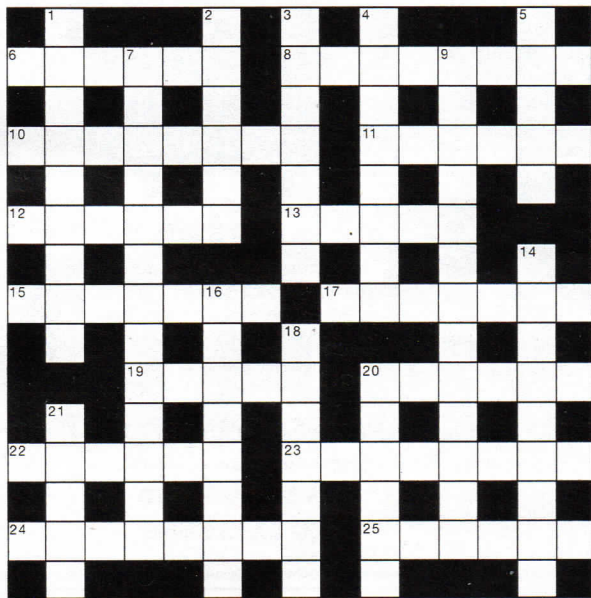


£500 TO BE WON ★ NO 1,716

TO ENTER Complete the crossword and count how many times the letter 'A' appears in the grid. Text YOU followed by a space, your answer (the number of 'A's) and name to 65700, eg, YOU 9 Sue Smith. Texts cost £1 plus your standard network rate. Or telephone 0905 652 2141 and leave your answer and details. Calls cost £1 plus your telephone company's network access charge. Or post your entry to YOU Crossword

No 1,716, PO Box 3451, Norwich NR7 7NR. Entries will be accepted until 11.59pm on Friday 25 September. One random winner from all correct entries will win £250 and five runners-up will win £50 each. If you enter after the closing date you will not be included but may still be charged. Phone and text helpline: 0330 100 0601. Winners will be notified by phone within 14 days. Solution in two weeks.



NUMBER 1,716

NAME.....
 ADDRESS.....
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 YOUR ANSWER.....

ACROSS

- 6 As found in the 3 down.
- 23 across (6)
- 8 Lunula (4-4)
- 10 Test of a new product (5,3)
- 11 Aid, rally round (6)
- 12 As found in the 3 down.
- 23 across (6)
- 13 As found in the 3 down.
- 23 across (5)
- 15 Goodness and nobility of character (7)
- 17 Commenced, began (7)
- 19 Anger (5)
- 20 Setback, accident (6)
- 22 Neater, cleaner (6)
- 23 The 3 down version of this

- features creatures to represent different years in a 12-year cycle (8)
- 24 Drink (8)
- 25 Christian festival (6)

DOWN

- 1 Chauvinistic, nationalistic, jingoistic (9)
- 2 Durable, steadfast, hardy (6)
- 3 Nationality of the most populous country on earth (7)
- 4 Agreeable (8)
- 5 As found in the 3 down.
- 23 across (5)
- 7 Old photos and films are in

- this (5-3-5)
- 9 Distorts, falsifies, twists (13)
- 14 Parted, detached (9)
- 16 Interlude at work? (3,5)

- 18 Female form of what is found in the 3 down.
- 23 across (7)
- 20 Gentler, more mellow (6)
- 21 As found in the 3 down.
- 23 across (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1,714

