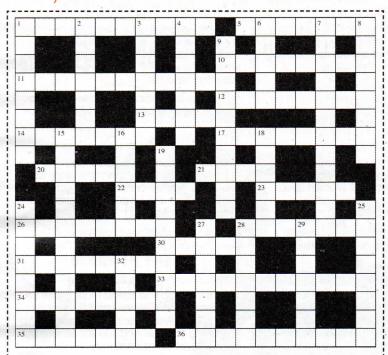
£1,000 Crossword



Post your solution to Competition 16072 Sunday Express General Knowledge (£1,000) Crossword, PO Box 12577, Sutton Coldfield B73 9BS, to arrive by 23:59 on Friday. Spellings and definitions are taken from the Collins English Dictionary (13th edition out now, price £40), which is available to order from the Express Bookshop (see page 69). For full terms, go to www.express.co.uk/comprules.

State State		
Address		12000

Winners will be announced in the Sunday Afternoon section of Sunday's newspaper in two weeks

SOLUTION FOR DECEMBER 27

Name



£50 MYSTERY WORD BONUS

Call 0907 181 2738 for a chance to win £50. Give the answer to 18 Down. leaving your name and address. Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge and last no longer than two minutes. Usual Express rules apply. For full terms go to express. co.uk/comptc. The winner will be chosen from all correct entries received by 23:59 on Saturday. The editor's decision is final. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390.

ACROSS

- 1 A preparation used to preserve and clean leather (6,4)
- 5 The French _, Mediterranean coastal region of the southeast corner of France (7)
- 10 A person who gives their opinion on new books, films, plays, etc, as for a newspaper (8)
- 11 Late American soul singer best known for the 1966 song When A Man Loves A Woman (5,6)
- 12 A cleared area for the landing and taking off of planes; runway (8)
- **13** Large spiral-horned antelope of eastern and southern Africa (5)
- **14** A drink with a fruit base, usually diluted with water before being consumed (7)
- 17 A means of attaching a pocket watch to a waistcoat or other piece of clothing (3,5)
- 20 Georges _, French Romantic composer and pianist best known for the 1875 opera Carmen (5)
- 21 Diving birds of northern oceans with black-and-white plumages (4)
- 22 Imperial unit of length equal to approximately 2.54 centimetres (4)
- 23 A weapon that fires electrical probes, causing temporary paralysis (5)
- 26 In Greek myths, a nymph who attracted the love of Zeus and was changed into a bear by Hera (8)
- 28 A thick porridge made in Italy, usually from maize (7)
- **30** A recess in a wall or rock face (5)
- 31 An award or honour (8)
- **33** Debut novel by Douglas Stuart, awarded the 2020 Booker Prize (7,4)
- 34 A Greek long-necked stringed musical instrument (8)
- **35** The _ City, a nickname for Rome (7)
- **36** Magical words used by Ali Baba in *The Arabian Nights* to access the thieves' den (4.6)

DOWN

- 1 A valve used to control or stop the flow of fluid in a pipe (8)
- 2 Lack of agreement or harmony; strife (7)
- **3** A surgical knife with a short thin blade (7)
- 4 A port in Côte d'Ivoire, on the Gulf of Guinea; the country's largest city (7)
- 6 Alloy of iron and nickel with a very low coefficient of expansion and is used for the balance springs of watches, etc (5)
- 7 Famous English actor of the Elizabethan era, founder of the College of God's Gift in Dulwich (6,6)
- 8 A poisonous alkaloid obtained from deadly nightshade (8)
- 9 Tree of the Pacific Islands bearing large, round, edible starchy fruit (10)
- 15 One of a series of annual radio talks given by leading figures of the day, commissioned by the BBC (5,7)
- 16 Funny, silly or unusual ways of behaving (6)
- 18 A small, informal restaurant or a bar where food is served (6)
- 19 A subregion of Oceania, comprising thousands of small islands in the western Pacific Ocean (10)
- 24 A board game featuring lettered tiles, invented in the US in the 1930s (8)
- 25 A spiced liquid mixture of oil, wine, vinegar, herbs, etc, in which meat or fish is soaked before cooking (8)
- 27 (Of doctors, nurses, etc) to wash thoroughly before a surgical operation (5-2)
- 28 Flightless marine bird of Antarctic regions, with wings modified as flippers, webbed feet, and feathers lacking barbs (7)
- 29 Articles fit to eat; food (7)
- **32** Island in the Caribbean, off the coast of Venezuela (5)