

Diary 2025

Thursday 4th December 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

It seemed ages since we last met up, but after greetings, we were soon at work. No one clue 'stood out' but all together, we had a lively morning.

Anagram indicators included: unstable, pranged, worn, sloshed, wild, crashing.

Next meeting: **Thursday 18th December 2025 at 10am via Zoom.**

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 140 to 142 inc.

Thursday 20th November 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Today's crosswords were interesting and as challenging as normal, but there were no 'stand out clues'.

Anagram indicators included: out, about, drunken, jumbled, revised, sloshed.

Next meeting: **Thursday 4th December 2025 at 10am via Zoom.**

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 137 to 139 inc.

Thursday 6th November 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

We're now back into our usual routine and we were pleased to have Sue B back with us again.

Only a small group today, but we worked steadily through our three crosswords. The smaller the group the more intense it is individually!

We came across several examples of words having multiple meanings. One is illustrated below.

Boa(r) : Clue: Stole pig that has no tail (3). Answer: Boa(r).

A boar is a tailless pig and the word boar without its tail leaves a stole! A nice play on words!

Fellow crossworders – whilst undertaking my research activities, I have to confess that AI directed me to all manner of unexpected and eye-opening (or should I say eye watering) information about the sexual activities of boars / pigs!

Other meanings of 'boar/bore/boor'?

Perhaps a boa(constrictor)?

A boor – a rude person

To bore – make a hole.

Bore - to act in a way as to make someone lose interest

Bore - to push another competitor out of the way.

Past tense of 'to bear up'.

And more.....!

Anagram indicators included: ruined, sick, reorder, upset, roused, misused, dire scene, erupted,

Next meeting: Thursday 20th November 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 134 to 136 inc.

Thursday 16th October 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Brenda Paul

Our last meeting was a month ago!

Unfortunately, Sue B has not been well recently, so Brenda P very kindly stepped in to help us with her 'crossword expertise'. Frances managed to open up Zoom!!

We worked steadily and very thoroughly, and because we were a small group today, we had to work twice as hard!

We send our best wishes to Sue for a speedy recovery.

Anagram indicators included: beaten, corruptly, wildly, processed, rewritten, terrible, Dicky, drunken, worried.

Next meeting: Thursday 6th November 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 131 to 133 inc.

Thursday 2nd October 2025 at 10am via Zoom

Session cancelled due to sickness.

Thursday 4th September 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Six of us were able to meet up on Zoom this morning and we made 'good time' in completing out 'homework'.

It's been quite a while since we last came across a really fascinating clue or a completely new word. We will be starting a new SUN book by the end of the year so perhaps we may be introduced to new compilers!

Anagram indicators included: wrecked, alter, transformed, loose.

Next meeting: Thursday 18th September 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 125 to 127 inc.

Thursday 21st August 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Five of us were present this morning on Zoom. When the group is smaller in number, we all have to work twice as hard!

Today we were back to our usual three crosswords.

Anagram indicators included: undressed, horribly, tossed, astray, differently.

Next meeting: Thursday 4th September 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 122 to 124 inc.

Thursday 7th August 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Six of us were pleased to be back doing crosswords again! We needed to exercise the 'little grey cells'!

Today we had four crosswords to discuss. Consequently we were very busy and an entertaining meeting followed. We also ended up discussing a lot of other matters, not necessarily of a CC nature, but that is not for today's 'blog'!

Anagram indicators included: misused, Bananas, perhaps, rebuilt, enraged, unstable, rearrest, edited, astray, feisty, converts and horrid,

Next meeting: Thursday 21st August 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 119 to 121 inc.

Thursday 17th July 2025:

Meeting cancelled due to many members on holiday.

Thursday 3rd July 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

An entertaining session and several very interesting clues today.

Our next meeting has been put back to 7th August as many members were unable to attend on 17th July.

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today – botched, misbehaving (first appearance, we think), battling, broadcast, brewed, drunk, wobble.

Next meeting: **Thursday 7th August 2025 at 10am via Zoom.**

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 115 to 118 inc.

Thursday 19th June 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

A most entertaining session and several very interesting clues today.

1: ‘In temple he finds grain’ (5). The answer? ‘Wheat’. Gosh! It appears that ‘Angkor Wat’ is an architectural masterpiece and is the largest (Buddhist) religious monument in the world! It is four times larger than the Vatican City! Khmer King Suryavarman 11 built it in the 12 century (1110 – 1150 AD).

2: ‘Popular old wine is concentrated’ (6). The answer? ‘Intent’. It seems that ‘tent wine’ refers to a few different concepts. It is an anarchic term for a deep red wine, Galicia or Malaga. It can refer to enjoying wine in a tent as during the Oktober Fest.

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today –incredibly, eccentric, revolt, somehow, collapses.

Next meeting: Thursday 3rd July 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 112 to 114 inc.

Thursday 5th June 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Once again, another interesting morning. As always, conversation revolves around the nature of some clues and their answers.

One of today’s conversations developed about the difference, for example, between a ‘cutter’ and a ‘clipper’ – when referring to boats. The clue? ‘Ship first to capsize, say’ (6). The answer? ‘Cutter’.

It seems that a cutter is a type of single masted sailing vessel while a clipper usually refers to merchant sailing vessels. On google search, you get a very different answer if you don't make it clear that you are referring to boats!!

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today – treated, prepared, vandalised, warped, stormy, cooked, wrongly, distressing, adjusting.

Next meeting: Thursday 19th June 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 109 - 111 inc.

Thursday 1st May 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Frances G

Sue B is away on holiday so Frances G stood in, and with much help from Brenda and the group, managed to cope without any disasters!

Once again, another interesting morning. Six enthusiastic players worked their way through the customary three crosswords.

An interesting clue was: 'Magistrate with mug is monarch (6)'. The answer? 'beaker'. It seems that another word for a magistrate is a 'beak'. This term started in the 17 C. So 'beak' with ER (king) is beaker, as in mug!

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today, some making their first ever appearance!! – cavorting, pants, destroyed, walloped, terrible, crazy, out. Pants, as an anagram indicator' is rather interesting. 'Pants' is slang for 'dreadful, rubbish' so most suitable!

Next meeting: Thursday 15th May 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 103 to 105 inc.

Thursday 17th April 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Once again, another interesting morning. Five enthusiastic players worked their way through the customary three crosswords. By general consent these three crosswords were a challenge.

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today – foiled, grind, rioting, dreaded.

Next meeting: Thursday 1st May 2025 at 10am via Zoom. Sue B will be away on holiday and Frances will try to hold things together with everyone's help!

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 100 to 102 inc.

Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Once again, another busy morning.

A good, varied selection of clues today, but none that stimulated a significant discussion. However, one clue answer was quite unknown to me. Clue: 'Artist in northern states (5)'. Answer (hidden word): Ernst (Max Ernst, a German, but naturalised American / Frenchman, who became a well-known painter, sculptor and poet)

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today – put out, criminal, excitedly, auctioned off, rubbish.

Next meeting: Thursday 17th April 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 97 to 99 inc.

Thursday 20th March 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

As always, we busied ourselves with another three crosswords.

Unusually though, we managed to work out all the clues without too much angst, so alas, I have nothing special to write about!!

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today – fractured, out, processed, rebuilt, wreck, remade, explosive, perhaps.

Next meeting: Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 94 to 96 inc.

Thursday 6th March 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

Once again, another busy morning.

By general consent, Crossword 88 was easier than many we have worked on recently although one clue did raise more discussion than usual:

Clue: 'My nuke not exploding in plant' (6,3). The answer? 'Monkey Nut'.

Another clue also left me in a fog!

Clue: Frontiersman Jack: I'm a rock star (3,5). Answer: Jim Bowie. It seems he was an American Military Officer, Landowner and Slave trader, who became a legendary figure and died at the Battle of Alamo.

Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today – exploding, dizzy, moved, collapsing, flowing and upset.

Next meeting: Thursday 20th March 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 91 to 93 inc.

Thursday 20th February 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

A busy morning with 6 of us working away!

Just one very interesting clue answer today: ‘Enola Gay’. The clue? ‘Electronic analogy flustered bomber’ (5,3). It’s fair to say that we were all totally ‘crossworded’ out!!!

According to Wikipedia, the ‘Enola Gay’ is a Boeing B-29 class Superfortress bomber, named after Enola Gay Tibbets, the mother of the Pilot, Colonel Paul Tibbets. On August 6th 1945, during the final stages of World War II, it became the first aircraft to drop an atomic bomb in warfare.

Anagram Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today, several never seen before – sacked, shimmering, winding.

Next meeting: Thursday 6th March 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 88-90 inc.

Thursday 6th February 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

A busy morning with 5 of us working away! Sadly, technology forced a sixth member of the group to ‘pull out’ but we soon settled down to complete our three crosswords. It’s been a while since we have encountered any really thought provoking clues, worthy of special mention and our present crossword compiler is including far more hidden words than usual.

Anagram Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today: bananas, swaying, amazing, explosive.

Next meeting: Thursday 20th February 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 85 – 87 inc.

Thursday 16th January 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

We almost had a ‘full house’ today – it does make a difference! After putting the world ‘to rights’ we settled down to complete our three crosswords.

Anagram Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today: cracked, messed about, dancing, loose, restyled, spoiled, irritated, curries and sliced.

Next meeting: Thursday 6th February 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 82 – 84 inc.

Thursday 2nd January 2025 at 10am via Zoom and hosted by Sue B

A small band of four was busy this morning and completed 2 crosswords.

Anagram Indicators: Several interesting anagram indicators were evident today: cracked, exploding, wild, befuddled, excited, at sea.

Next meeting: Thursday 16th January 2025 at 10am via Zoom.

Homework: SUN crosswords (Collection 10) 79 – 81 inc.