

A Themed Cryptic Crossword (Solution)

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Explanations are given in the following pages; the definition part of each clue is presented in *italics*.

¹ S			² O	P	³ P	O	⁴ S	I	T	E			⁵ R	
T		⁶ F			E		E				⁷ F	⁸ L	E	A
⁹ O	M	I	T		N		V			¹⁰ R		I		I
P		N		¹¹ S	I	D	E	T	R	A	C	K		L
¹² S	E	E	S		N		N			C		I		R
		S			S					E		N		O
¹³ O	C	T	O	P	U	S	C	A	¹⁴ R	D		G		A
C					L				E					D
E		¹⁵ A		¹⁶ T	A	X	I	D	R	I	V	¹⁷ E	R	S
A		B		R					O			A		
N		O		A			¹⁸ H		U		¹⁹ U	S	E	²⁰ D
P		²¹ A	D	M	I	R	A	L	T	Y		T		R
A		R		S			I		I		²² F	E	T	A
²³ R	I	D	E				K		N			R		M
K				²⁴ U	P	S	U	R	G	E	S			A

Solutions for across clues

2. Returned so very softly, initially in time, within seconds of doors reclosing *on the other side* (8)

Very softly = PP (musical abbreviation)
Returned so PP = PPOS (reversal)
Initially in time = IT (initials of "in time")
Seconds of doors reclosing = O and E (second letters of "doors reclosing")

PPOSIT within O and E = OPPOSITE

7. *Insect* has broken leaf (4)

Broken leaf = FLEA (anagram of LEAF)

9. *Remove* and filter out vanadium from barf (4)

Barf = VOMIT
Vanadium = V (chemical symbol)
Filter out vanadium from barf = OMIT

11. *Divert attention* from *each option in the trolley problem* (9)

SIDETRACK (double definition)

12. *Views* in both directions (4)

SEES (palindrome)

13. Hero finally receives first-class American automobile stored in optical disk and *payment tool* (7, 4)

Hero finally = O (final letter)
First-class = TOP
American = US
Automobile = CAR
Optical disk = CD

O receives TOPUSCAR stored in CD = O + C(TOPUSCAR)D
= OCTOPUS CARD

16. Tariff, identification and flowers for *Uber's service providers* (4, 7)

Tariff = TAX
Identification = ID
Flowers = Flow-ers = RIVERS (which flow)

TAX + ID + RIVERS = TAXI DRIVERS

19. *Exploited* editor after you and me (4)

Editor = ED

You and me = US

ED after US = USED

21. Idolize endlessly before turning right to left in arty *MTR station* (9)

Idolize = ADMIRE

Idolize endlessly = ADMIR (ending letter removed)

Right = R

Left = L

Turning R to L in ARTY = ALTY

ADMIR + ALTY = ADMIRALTY

22. Female Athenian character makes *Greek cheese* (4)

Female = F

Athenian character = ETA (a Greek letter)

F + ETA = FETA

23. *Journey*, as part of tour I designed (4)

Part of "touR I DEsigned" = RIDE

24. *Increases* regularly seen in our pushup regrets (8)

Regularly seen in "oUr PuShUp ReGrEtS" = UPSURGES

Solutions for down clues

1. *Pauses for stations* (5)

STOPS (double definition)

3. *Island Line spun a lunatic* (9)

Line spun a lunatic = PENINSULA (anagram of LINE SPUN A)

4. *Prime number that's small and divisible by two* (5)

Small = S

Divisible by two = EVEN

S + EVEN = SEVEN

5. *Trickster's back on streets for train tracks* (9)

Trickster = LIAR

LIAR's back = RAIL (reversal)

Streets = ROADS

RAIL on ROADS = RAILROADS

6. *Monetarily penalizes tango of the highest quality* (6)

Monetarily penalizes = FINES

Tango = T (NATO phonetic alphabet)

FINES + T = FINEST

8. *Fondness of station on Tsuen Wan line, I hear* (6)

LIKING (homophone of LAI KING)

10. *Primarily ran against contenders, extremely daringly?* (5)

RACED (primary letters of "ran against contenders extremely daringly", &lit)

13. *Spooner's elixir boat is Whisker's marine funfair* (9)

OCEAN PARK (with spoonerism POTION ARK)

14. *Redirecting, retouring, reassembling* (9)

Retouring, reassembling = REROUTING (anagram of RETOURING)

15. Advertisement featuring wild pig *on the train* (6)

Advertisement = AD
Wild pig = BOAR

AD featuring BOAR = ABOARD

16. Misinterpreted MTR as *public transport vehicles* (5)

Misinterpreted MTR as = TRAMS (anagram of MTR AS)

17. *Time of the weekend traditionally reserved for the extraction and examination of unfertilised ova?* (6)

EASTER (cryptic definition)

18. Artificial intelligence in Hong Kong originally understood *Japanese poetry* (5)

Artificial intelligence = AI
Hong Kong = HK
Originally understood = U (first letter)

AI in HK + U = H(AI)KU
= HAIKU

20. Doctor with a Master of Arts produces *stage play* (5)

Doctor = DR
Master of arts = MA

DR + A MA = DRAMA