

brainteasers

Quickie

My light switch is at the side of the door. My bed is at the other side of the bedroom. How can I turn off the light and get into bed before the room gets dark?

This Month's Prize Puzzle

This one isn't too difficult. It can be solved analytically as well as by number crunching, but you'll probably need O-level maths (or a good sense of direction!).

→ The annual village 10,000 metre cross-country race took place last week. The course comprised three legs. The first was an uphill climb along a bearing of 11°. Then the runners turned on to a

bearing of 168° for a relatively flat section. The final leg was a straight downhill run at a bearing of 304° back to the starting point. Assuming all three legs were straight, how long, to the nearest metre, was the flat section? (*For the uninitiated, a bearing is a clockwise angle measured from due North.*)

Send your answer on a postcard, or on the back of an empty, sealed envelope, to: PCW Prize Puzzle - December 1998, P.O. Box 99, Harrogate HG2 0XJ. Entries should arrive no later than 20th December 1998. Please do not send solutions on floppy disks, emails, or in envelopes — they will be invalid.

Winner of September Prize Puzzle

Certainly more entries than we had expected for the rather difficult September problem. Seventy-nine were received and almost all had the correct solution, which was:

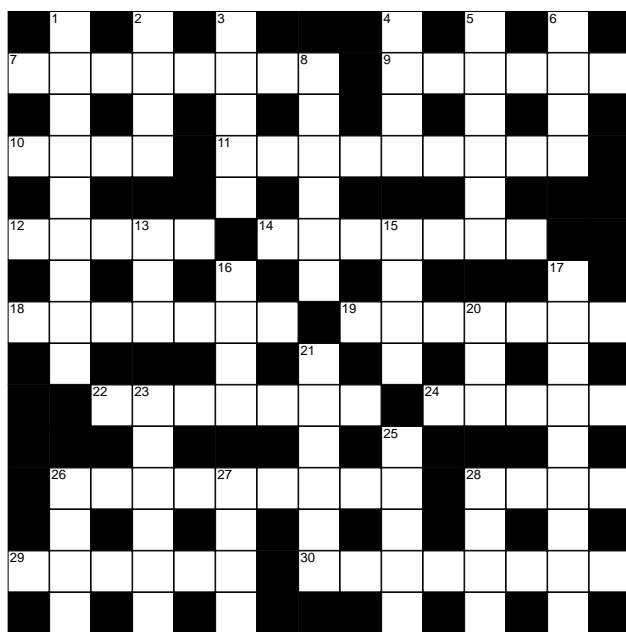
29	41	67
61	89	53
47	25	83

The winning card, drawn at random, was from Mr John Stephenson of Bolton, who gets our congratulations now and, shortly, his prize.

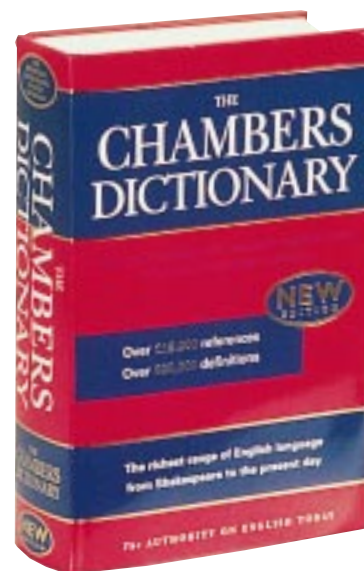
We send our usual condolences to the also-rans — keep trying, you could be the next winner.

JJ CLESSA

prize crossword



It's only words — and there are millions of them in the new Chambers Dictionary. Each month, one lucky PCW crossword entrant wins one. This time, it could be you. Send your completed crossword to "PCW November Prize Crossword", VNU House, 32-34 Broadwick Street, London W1A 2HG, to arrive not later than 3rd December, 1998. Please state clearly if you do not wish to receive promotional material from other companies.

**ACROSS**

- 7 Local area network system (8)
- 9 Track down on the internet (6)
- 10 Software's handy tips and vital assistance (4)
- 11 Letter, digit or other font item (9)
- 12 Old-fashioned boost for a 486 or below (5)
- 14 Image digitiser (7)
- 18 Begin, according to Microsoft (5, 2)

- 19 The Li of a 29 Across's Li-ion battery (7)
- 22 Screen's pixel-change speed (7)
- 24 Internet communication (5)
- 26 Closed or local high-speed networks (9)
- 28 Printer's paper carrier (4)
- 29 Portable computer (6)
- 30 The P of ISP (8)

DOWN

- 1 Stretch, weaken (9)
- 2 Retain (4)
- 3 Quick meal (5)

- 4 Largest continent (4)
- 5 Conflict (6)
- 6 Wound's mark (4)
- 8 Stupor (6)
- 13 Counter (3)
- 15 Metal spike (4)
- 16 Cat's noise (4)
- 17 Disfigured (9)
- 20 Garment's edge (3)
- 21 Slumbering (6)
- 23 Landed property (6)
- 25 Royal racecourse (5)
- 26 Tehran's country (4)
- 27 European range (4)
- 28 Journey (4)

November solutions**ACROSS**

- 7 Cyberspace 8 BIOS
- 9 Chipsets 10 Design 11 Clicks
- 13 Imports 15 Platten
- 17 Standby 19 Process
- 21 Mosaic 24 Screen
- 26 Portable 28 Bits
- 29 Technology

DOWN

- 1 Mythical 2 Delphi 3 Isle
- 4 Passe 5 Weld 6 Sought
- 8 Bassoon 12 Keeps 14 Motto
- 16 Tickets 18 Backlogs
- 20 Recoil 22 Arable 23 Speck
- 25 Note 27 Ring