CHARACTERISTICALLY

JEFF GRANT
Hastings, New Zealand

In the August issue we exhibited a progressive terminal transaddition where the single letter S is extended by one letter at a time up to the 13-letter SHEPHERDESSES, with all terms in the series being legitimate words (most found in dictionaries). By stretching logological licence somewhat, a longer chain is possible culminating in the 18-letter word CHARACTERISTICALLY.

C a sum of $100 (Web3)
CH obsolete dialectic form of 'ich' = I
CHA tea
CHAR to scorch
CHARA short for 'charabanc', a motor coach
CHARAC a town in the Junin region, central Peru [geonames.usgs.gov (Net)]
CHARACT a magical sign or emblem
CHARACTE early form of 'charact'
CHARACTER a distinctive significant mark of any kind
CHARACTERI as in 'Cartoonus Characteri', plural of the pseudo-Latin term 'Cartoonus Characterus' (Net), a generic cartoon species of made-up creatures
"Habitus Cartoonus Characteri." [snakescartoons.blogspot.com, Snake's Cartoons, 21 Mar 2009 (Net)]
CHARACTERIS old Scots plural of 'character', a letter of type for printing
"Vnderstanding...that thair is gude characteris and printing irnis [irons] already within oure Realme."
(DOST, 1575 quot.)
CHARACTERIST a portrayer of character (Web2)
CHARACTERISTI plural of 'characterista', a contrived anglicised form of the Italian word 'caratterista' (pl. -isti), a character actor [Compare caricaturisti, fashionisti, impressionisti, etc. (Net)]
CHARACTERISTIC a distinctive mark, trait or feature
CHARACTERISTICA in the Latin phrase 'characteristica universalis', the ideal language projected by German philosopher Gottfried Liebniz (Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy, S. Blackburn, 1994)
CHARACTERISTICAL distinctive, typical
CHARACTERISTICALL early variant of 'characteristical', enscribed with magical emblems
"A Characteristicall Seal stamped in the day and hour of Venus." (OED, 1621 quot.)
CHARACTERISTICALLY typically [From OED unless otherwise specified.]

References

DOST Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue, 2002
Net Internet, using Google search program
Web3 Webster's Third New International Dictionary, 1976