

COLLOQUY

Inspired by Nyr Indictor's article in August 1994, Jeff Grant proposes the following Coinicons:

OCTACOAT a coat with eight different functions
 POLYPLOY a complex manoeuvre
 MALSLAMS badly-directed slam dunks, in basketball
 MEGAGAME a hugely important sporting contest
 SUPERPURSE the winner's prize in a heavyweight boxing fight
 INTRATRRAIN occurring inside a train
 UNDERDUNER a sex act performed below sand dunes
 MACROCAROM a particularly resounding billiards shot
 PERISPIRES outer steeples on a church
 DERMODROME a fancy name for a skin clinic
 PSEUDOPEDOUS having false feet
 PETROTOPER an alcoholic petrol-drinker
 CENTRICRETIN the fool in the middle
 GASTEROSTORAGE eating heavily before an imminent food shortage

Sir Jeremy Morse adds to Susan Thorpe's schizoid words with the incorporated antonym WO(MAN) and the back-to-back antonym FROTH. There is an UPDOWN Hill in Surrey, England. He adds his congratulations to **Word Ways**'s silver jubilee: "You keep up an astonishingly high standard over a wide range of logological topics".

Jeff Rubens writes about "The World's Worst Dictionary" as follows: "The article stresses omissions but that is not the only relevant criterion. I once had the experience of throwing out a dictionary because I found so many of its definitions deficient--not only by my lights, but also by those of my many other dictionaries. I wonder how many **Word Ways** readers have ever thrown out a dictionary ... When Webster's Second was superseded by Webster's Third, there were school districts that required their librarians to destroy the outmoded version. [In such a situation] stealing a book would not only not have been a crime but would have been an anticrime."

Jeff Grant surveyed the Auckland telephone directory for surnames matching feminine first names. The 12 most common were Rose 152, May 152, Grace 88, Rae 88, Hanna 60, Hannah 60, Shirley 48, Tracy 28, Sue 25, Penny 24, Jane 18 and Gay 16. He personally knows people bearing the surnames Betty, June, Penny, Beverley, Ella and Jane.

In decreasing order of frequency, the following surnames ending in -GRY appear in US telephone directories: Kingry 94, Pingry

47, Bengry 36, Egry 26, Angry 11, Shogry 11, Baragry 9, Stangry 4, Langry 3, Gingry 3, Tangry (Thomas of Sodus NY, Thomas J of Rochester), Ungry (Brad of Lincoln NE, Evelyn of Aurora CO), Grigry (Beulah of Wharton TX, Stephen W of Monahans TX), Barragry (Mary A of Thiersville WI, John J of Appleton WI), Legry (John P of Vancouver WA), Magry (T H of Beaumont TX), McGrigry (Donna of Lewisville TX), Margry (Jean of New Castle NH), Agry (B W of New York NY) and Griggry (Houston of Flint MI). Some of the single entries may be typos; Gregory was misspelled Geogry and Greogry.

Peter Newby adds to his "Qhats" of May 1992: "The lavatory is a necessary instrument to levate the depressed cranium" from a book identified by the OED as Woodall Surg. Male Wks. (1653), under LEVATORY. He reports a YREKA BAKERY business he observed in Chesterfield's market: a newly-opened crockery and porcelain stall bearing the name TOP POT.

Jeff Grant deciphers one of the two unknown TGIF acronyms reported in the February 1995 Kickshaws: POETS means "piss off early, tomorrow's Saturday".

The February 1994 Colloquy reported that Robert Levinson had discovered a new Jotto set DZONG CRWTH JUMPS FLAKY VIBEX. Since then he has identified two boldface entries in the OED Second, QWERT (a variant of qwerty, a typewriter word) and VOZHD (a Russian leader), which are extraordinarily useful in generating word sets of this nature. These combine with JAPYX to generate sets such as FLING MUCKS, FLICK NUMBS, FLING BUCKS, CLIMB FUNKS, CLIMB GUNKS and FLICK BUNGS, or with JUMPS to generate FLICK BANGY, FLACK BYING or BLICK FANGY. A j-less solution is given by QWERT VOZHD BLACK GYMPS UNFIX.

Sir Jeremy Morse points out that there are an infinite number of answers to two questions in "Playing the Numbers Game". For 9, consider 58-62, 88-92, 158-162, ... and for 30, consider 8, 28, 38, .. 108, 128, ...

An anagram by Jed Martinez in the October 1985 Enigma makes a fine addition to Anagram Cross-References in the February 1995 Kickshaws: DISEASE: see AIDS.

Jeff Grant writes of the Morton-Stern anagram battle "Well done, computer (Mike Morton)! .. I'll have to say "Anagrams by Computer" won the battle (I say it reluctantly); however I did like Harry's THE ENCHANTED CONTROL. DON'T CANCEL THE THRONE [comments on the] current debate on British monarchy."

Enoch Haga reveals "both **Word Ways** and the soap "All My Children" are 25 this year". He tracked down the mysterious William J. Siebrand of the February Kickshaws--he lives in Phoenix AZ.

Murray Geller and Sir Jeremy Morse noted that PALAEACANTHOCEPH-ALA was misspelled in "Letter-Repetition in Web 3". Other examples:

A AstrAgAlocAlcAneAl (Web 2)
 B BiBBle-BaBBle (Chambers), BeBluBBered (Chambers)
 D DiDDle-DaDDleD (Web 2, inferred)
 F FluFFy-ruFFle (a coinage? not found in standard dictionaries)
 G wiGGle-waGGlinG (OED, in text under wiggle-waggle)
 H icHtHyopHtHiran, icHtHyopHtHalmite (OED)
 I floccInaucInhIlIpIlIfIcation (Chambers, OED)
 L LiLLibuLLero (OED, Web 2), LiLLypiLLy (OED), LamELlar-steLLate
 (Century, Funk & Wagnalls)
 N NoNNy-NoNNy (Web 3), NiceNo-coNstaNtiNopolitaN (Web 3 in text)
 O OdOntOnOsOlOgy (OED), perineOcOlPorectOmyOmectOmy (Dorland)
 P PuPPet-PromPter, PuPPy-PeePing (OED), PePPER-uPPER (coinage)
 T yTTroTiTanite, yTTroTungsTiTe (OED), TiTTle-TaTTle (Web 3),
 TwiTtle-TwaTTle, TiTter-ToTter (Web 2), TransubsTantiaTional-
 ist (Web 2), hasTaTosagiTTaTe (Web 2 in text)
 U UntUmUltUoUs is the next word in line, with four fewer Us than
 the Hawaiian fish
 V ViVisectiVe (Chambers), eVViVa (OED), VaginoVulVar (Web 2)
 W WoW-WoW, WaW-WaW (Web 2)
 X heXahydroXycycloheXane (Random House)
 Z ZenZiZenZiZenZic (OED)

Peter Newby asks "Most of us have faced a mathematical trick along the lines of 'think of a number, double it, add ten ... what is your answer? Then, the number you started with is .. (2 less than the given answer)'. Can a similar trick be achieved by the recreational linguist?"

Sir Jeremy Morse supplies a simple solution to Lewis Carroll's DEMAND-SUPPLY syzygy: CORMORANT ant SUPPLANT suppl SUPPLY. Susan Thorpe's variation on the same theme: CORMORANT ant SUPPLICANT suppl SUPPLY. She adds "It seems perhaps it was a case of CHARLES les TWIDDLES twid LUTWIDGE dge DODGES dodg DODGSON!"

Karl Fulves reports that Mel Bennett has adapted the four-by-four square in Lee Sallows' "The New Merology" of February 1990 for a card trick. Details are given in Verbatim, a publication Fulves edits for magicians.

Sir Jeremy Morse updates the November 1994 Kickshaws by noting that TWELFTH SPRING contains seven different consecutive consonants, and NINE can be embedded in the non-trivial number one hundred thIrty-oNE.

Errata: CHOLECYSTOGASTROSTOMIES was misspelled on p 238, and teeh should be teeth on p 251. Omit the diagonal in the 'before' word graph on p 16, and John Agee on p 37 should be Jon Agee.

Dan Tilque improves one of the "Funny Plurals" in the February 1992 **Word Ways**: FILI pluralizes to FILID in Webster's Second.