COLLOQUY

Rex Gooch ("Wordfinder General, Logological Assistant to D Francis") supplies eleven examples for many of Darryl Francis's missing substitute-letter transposals for AEINRST:

AEINQRS: place names Qasrein, Qasrine, Sanqeir (all in NIMA database)

AEINQRT: place names Qarneit, Qenitra, Qneitra

AEINQST: pace name Qastine

AEINRTX: place names Entraix, Tarxien

AEIRSTX: Asterix, a cartoon of enormous renown; sextari is in the OED

AEJNRST: nartjes, serjant and stenjar are in the OED; place names Restanj, Sretnja, Stranje, etc.

AENRSTX: sternax is in the OED

AENRSTZ: starzen is in the OED; place names Stanzer, Strazne, Strezna, Tarzens, Trenzas

AIJNRST: sarjint is in the OED; place names Jastrin, Sitjarn

AINRSTZ: place name Strazin, Strizna, Zintsar

EINRSTX: sentrix and xristen are in the OED; place names Stixner, Strixen

To replace YEASTIN', saynite is a headword in the OED, styanie is a variant of styany, ayenist and ayenist are elsewhere in the OED, and there are place name Isentay, Saniyet, Sinetay, Tisayen, and Yenitsa.

Rex Gooch's "Beyond Agamemnon" led Ed Wolpow to Google, "where there are many to be found, some of which are almost certainly real. I tried to find another quadruple-Ag (ABCD in his terminology) and came up with a single hit for ARAGOGENESIS which appears in an article by Djavandova and Mamula in 1999, regarding the geology of the Akstafo Block in Azerbhaijan.a Among the microfauna uncovered is Globorotarica aragogensis. This seemed an unlikely species name, and further search led to other references to the much more likely Globorotalia aragonensis." However, he did find using Google a quadruple genus name, PAPAYANENSIS, with the species being either Heliocarpus or Micona.

He continues "For the ABC formula, Rex seems to disqualify AJANENSIS; in fact, the missing letter in the formula A*ANENSIS has Google hits for BDFGHIJKLMNPRSTVWYZ! Some (BGHPSZ) are only in texts written in Latin and therefore dismissible, but others seem legit. AJANENSIS as a species name as 566 hits, and an abecedary could start Abies ajanensis, Betula aj.., Cleopatra aj.., Dryas aj.., Erelia aj.., Florula aj... With the same general formula, it takes little time to find the very reasonable, probably valid Trochastrites HOHNENSIS (a fossil), a tropical American mosquito specified ININENSIS (presumably from Inini in French Guiana), Murex ELENENSIS (a snail), Begonia URUNENSIS (a fossil shark), and Cetiosaurus OXONENSIS (a small British dinosaur). I presume we are not yet at the stage of being able to Google A*ANENSIS and let the gadget find all the words. I'll bet it's coming, along with the more complex pattern questions about Agamemnon words and other delights."

In a Colloquy item last month, the editor failed to note that an August 2004 Kickshaw credited Mark Isaak with finding a lipolist (a list of words containing items beginning with each letter of the alphabet) of only 288 items. His is only 70 per cent as long as the one found by Ed Wolpow.

Jim Puder writes "In the August Colloquy, notice is taken of a 12x7 packing of the nine planets and sun which appeared in the July 2005 issue of Games Magazine. This packing is a mirror reflection and 90-degree rotation of one of the three 7x12 planet packings shown in my article "Plane Earth Planet Packings" in the February 2005 Word Ways, with the position of the sun slightly shifted."

Susan Thorpe writes "According to Anil in "Definitive Anagrams A-C" in May 2003, the term 'definitive (definition-like) anagram' covers an eclectic spectrum. But what exactly does 'definitive anagram' mean? In the context used by Anil, it means an apposite transposal, 'apposite' equating to 'definitive' and 'anagram' being used as the non-apposite rearrangement of the letters of a word (or words) to make another word (or words). However, to those Word Ways readers who regard the term 'anagram' as implying an apposite letter rearrangement, the term 'definitive anagram' translates as 'definitive definitive anagram', an example of tautology. In either event, a few of Anil's (definitive) anagrams are good. These include ABIDING FEAR / BEING AFRAID and LETHAL DOSES / SO SELL DEATH. However, the majority, in my opinion, aren't and don't qualify as (definitive) anagrams. These include CRUDE / C = RUDE and LICHEN / "L" NICHE ('beginners,' rock colonizers).

"The England Cricket Team boasts Marcus TRESCOTHICK as one of its two opening batsmen. At his best, he hits fours and sixes almost to order. In other words, TRESCOTHICK produces a good CRICKET SHOT!"

In the Consonants and Vowels section of "What's in a Phrase?" Sir Jeremy Morse suggests replacing Susan Thorpe's coinage GIRLISH KIDDING with WILLING VICTIMS (in the OED) and SURPLUS CUPFUL with FURFUR TURTUR (Kennedy's Gender Rhymes). Coined homoconsonantal phrases with vowels (including Y) in any order include POP UP A PIPE (as a cat burglar) and I USE SOYA (as a cook). With vowels in alphabetic order, he offers ATE IT OUT (as a monkey a coconut) and MAME? I'M MO, MUMMY (as a misnamed daughter).

He adds "In her other article [AEIOU(Y) Together], Susan gives some obscure single words with this property, as MIEAOU (OED miaow) and RAOUIYE (Syria). French has of course the common word OISEAU (bird). The only ordinary English word I can think of is AUDIOED (as RADIOED and VIDEOED), but I don't know if the verb AUDIO has yet appeared in any word-list."

Anil says "In Colloquy, Ed Wolpow's citation of a phonetic smynonym was a welcome addition. However, he said I didn't mention 'polylingual' smynonyms. If he merely meant those involving two languages (as in his excellent Tax:skat), I refer him to the small Macaronics section on p 90."

Anil enjoyed "Card Deck Wordplay" but asks "Why didn't you put the stray W at the far right of the grid six slots to the left next to FO, or else just to the left of the T, to be more compact?" He notes that EIGHT shares letters with all but FOUR and JACK, not FOUR and ACE.

"Easily my favourite article was John Holgate's "WYSIWYG Words", a fun and often funny contribution to the same general area of wordplay humour I'm currently aswim in. It was reminiscent of *Bloom's Bouquet of Imaginary Words* by Jeffrey and Carole Bloom (Black Dog & Leventhal, New York 2004), a recent title I commend to you and the readership."