ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS

Kickshaws

Palindromic Dates: gps. a & d (the two styles without the 0's): Both systems (US & Oz) first fail in 2020. gp. b & c: (the two styles with the 0's): US fails this year, b & c, and the next seven years until 2020. Oz first fails in 2014 (b.) & 2013 (c.), and all years till 2020. In fact, one style or another has a palindromic date every year this century. Not until the year 3000 is there no palindromic date in any style, as was also true of 2000.

Why Is the Alphabet in That Order? My reordering of the alphabet based on complexity of pronouncing the letter names going from easiest to hardest:

\[
E A O I R U Y D V Z C T K N L M S X F B P Q G J H W
\]

Anagram Quiz 7

1. associate
2. obstinate
3. dates
4. laminated
5. economic rationalism
6. abortion
7. great apes
8. languages
9. hibernated
10. be friendly
11. blossoming
12. communities
13. unchanged
14. factor analysis
15. the ears
16. thermal sea
17. kinship [Aboriginal term]
18. cow “halved”
19. Christian
20. despair
21. exaggeration
22. immaterialist
23. nepotism
24. minuet
25. prosecution
26. human beings
27. enemies
28. solemnity
29. serenity
30. feasted
31. stoned
32. pious
33. sprouting
34. girlie’s underwear
35. in avid expectation
36. government

Centerpieces

1. FLYLEAF
2. WHIPSAW
3. TRIDENT
4. DANGLED
5. ENTHUSE
6. REVELER
7. GINSENG
8. NEUTRON
9. CLASSIC
10. TAUDEST
11. GREETING
12. NITROGEN
13. ENLISTEE
14. EARPHONE
15. TYPECAST
16. MIDSTREAM
17. TERMAGANT
18. DISCERNED
19. REGISTRAR
20. ENCAPSULE

BONUS: RINGMASTER
"FIRST" WORDS

CLUE: "Good" words

ANSWER: Friday night sports news

ACROSS
1  Sonny's ex
5  Arabian sultanate
9  Infirm
10 African river
11 Hebrew letter
12 Russian ruler
13 "Key" words
15 Ump's kin
16 "Long" words
22 Merit
23 --- in one's bonnet
24 --- the Red
25 "And Then There Were ---"
26 Mentally sound
27 "Good" word

DOWN
1  Scottish group
2  Circle of light
3  Reek
4  "Cross" word
5  "Short" words
6  Certain hill
7  Winged
8  Wimp
14 "Big" word
16 Bee ---
17 --- avis
18 Ireland
19 Certain instrument
20 Descartes
21 Want