There are two ways to try this little teaser: either match the definitions in the left-hand (numbered) column with the words in the right-hand (lettered) column, or (if you really want a difficult challenge) attempt to guess the words whose origins are given, covering up the right-hand column and working without its help. The latter is rather tough to accomplish, for we have much mangled (Anglo-Saxon *mankel*, frequentative of *manken*) old English and foreign words over the centuries. By determining the etymologies of words, however, we often get new insights into unsuspected connections, learning that

* Sheer Tuesday, an old name for Maundy Thursday, used to be clean (Icelandic *skríþ-pórsdagn*, a day of purification)
* moderns who do drugs are just avail ing themselves of them (Anglo-Saxon *dow*)
* dewsiers, the discarded valves of a pig's heart in Wiltshire dialect, are not "Jew's ears" but entrails (Old French *jusiers*)

the *sept* of a clan is just a tail (Latin *secuta*) or following, resembling *sept*

1. a gum from Sumatra
2. mud to rub on
3. a pledge marked by a gift
4. soldier armed with bow and arrow
5. a ball of alabaster
6. King Louis's badge
7. hairy berry
8. beet or leek soup
9. house servant
10. a cork batted back and forth
11. a woollen band
12. dragon herb
13. an added name
14. a winding pole
15. a bend in the foot

For answers, see Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.