



Vic Skeptics November 2017 Crossword

Theme: General Skepticism

With Standard and Cryptic Clues

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Standard Clues: pp 2-4

Cryptic Clues: pp 5-7

Solution: p 8

STANDARD CLUES

ACROSS:

3. & 6 across & 9 across: Alt-med anti-depressant; therapeutic benefits may be outweighed by a wide range of side-effects, known adverse interactions with other drugs and uncertainty about the actual concentration of active ingredient from batch to batch [5, 5, 4]
6. See 3 across
9. See 3 across
11. The Twins [6]
12. Decrease, reduction, decline [4]
14. Relating to The Red Planet [7]
16. Walk large distances reluctantly [7]
17. Australian cryptid hominid; sightings were recently reported in South East Queensland's local newspapers [5]
18. Surreptitious relocation to avoid creditors [4]
20. Semi-precious variety of agate often carved to take advantage of contrasting colours in layers [4]
22. Concerning codes of behaviour and the concept of right and wrong; recent debate has intensified as to whether religious people have superior claims in this area [8]
24. Old English town official [5]
25. Internationally adopted system of metric units [2]
27. The kind of medicine also described as "alternative" or "integrative" [13]
32. Pen's slit point [3]
34. & 35 across: Recent mindless blanket categorisation of press reporting which is not flattering [4, 4]
35. See 34 across
37. Originally the number of digital bits used to encode a single character of text in a computer; usually taken as eight [4]
38. Daze, stupefy [4]
39. An area of the City of Westminster in London with a somewhat sleazy reputation [4]
41. Island country in the South Pacific Ocean [4]
42. Turin's river [2]
43. Soft white mineral [4]

46. Scarcity [6]
47. & 48 across: A recent claim by a spokesperson of this group – that they have supporters around the globe – went viral due to its inherent irony [4, 9]
52. Devours [4]
53. Piece of music where the theme stated at the beginning of the piece keeps returning [5]
55. & 56 across: A populist food fad which extols the virtue of eating the same kinds of food as our cave-dwelling ancestors [5, 4]
56. See 55 across
59. Optical component used to separate white light into a spectrum [5]
60. List of proper names usually alphabetical by surname [4]
61. Prevailed; succeeded [3]
63. Not connected with the religious or spiritual [7]
66. Bee-keeper [8]
67. Spirit [3]
68. Size and frequency of administration of a therapeutic agent [6]
69. David Daniel Palmer's alt-med regime which claims that most illnesses may be successfully treated by spinal manipulation [12]

DOWN:

1. Self-seekers; narcissists [8]
2. To preserve for funereal reasons [6]
3. One who assassinates by long-range shot [6]
4. (*abb*) Property ascribed to computer systems which perform tasks previously requiring human intellect [2]
5. Ilium [4]
7. Hahnemann's increasingly discredited therapeutic regime based on the tenet "like cures like" and serial dilution of active agents to virtual infinity [10]
8. Expression of regret [5]
9. Homeless child [4]
10. Feminine form of "rajah" [4]
12. Loose skin flap at the necks of cattle [6]
13. Horse of a small breed [4]
15. & 54 down: Recently introduced term which suggests that any version of events which supports your cause may be accorded equal journalistic legitimacy to eye-witness evidence [11, 4]

19. & 33 down & 50 down: Australian Skeptics' annual presentation to *the perpetrator of the most preposterous piece of paranormal or pseudo-scientific piffle* <https://www.skeptics.com.au/features/bent-spoon/> [3, 4, 5]
21. The access for chiropractors to this form of medical imaging under medical benefit was heavily reduced in Australia this year, based on lack of clinical evidence of efficacy [4]
23. & 36 down: By some reports, this was supposed to come to an end on September 23rd of this year [3, 5]
26. Common respiratory disease, so-called because it was once thought to propagate the evil influence of comets [9]
28. Medium-sized wild cat native to South and Central America [6]
29. Wine sediment [4]
30. To pulp food (e.g. cooked vegetables) by crushing [4]
31. Lasseter's has legendary status among Australian gold seekers [4]
33. See 19 down
36. See 23 down
38. Jesuit's post-nominal letters [2]
40. Aquatic or semi-aquatic mammal related to weasels and badgers [5]
42. The efficacy of this form of entreaty has never been reliably established [6]
44. Allow [3]
45. Planetary probe which had a much-heralded but totally scripted demise in September this year [7]
49. Popular alt-med drug and spice of the ginger family. Its much-touted claims have received very little support from clinical testing [8]
50. See 19 down
51. One who acts as a spiritual go-between [6]
54. See 15 down
55. Strike repeatedly with great force [5]
57. Period in history marked by (and named for) distinctive events [3]
58. Decorative entrances to Shinto shrines [5]
59. Greek philosopher [5]
62. Of the ear [4]
64. Unit of energy [3]
65. Prompting signal [3]

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS:

- 3. & 6 across & 9 across: Use townish Trojans for anti-depressant [5, 5, 4]
- 6. See 3 across
- 9. See 3 across
- 11. Twins in orange miniskirts [6]
- 12. A fall gives work to the doctor [4]
- 14. Main art installation is alien [7]
- 16. Tramp might have been a priest [7]
- 17. Even my top writer features mythical creature [5]
- 18. Left inside in suitable condition to move about lightly [4]
- 20. Gem that made Tony lose his head when he got a kiss [4]
- 22. Nothing in my trial involved ethical behaviour [8]
- 24. The steward will produce a piece of free verse [5]
- 25. Acapulco affirmative [2]
- 27. Good together and spoken of in a flattering way [13]
- 32. Ink mover
- 34. & 35 across: Dodgy few sneak dodgy stories into main stream [4, 4]
- 35. See 34 across
- 37. Storage unit in tomb many don't use finally [4]
- 38. Astound by throwing nuts [4]
- 39. Part of London shown in some Picasso holograms [4]
- 41. Loud one almost getting Jim in a state [4]
- 42. Musical composition taken back to the river [2]
- 43. Bottom coat? [4]
- 46. Twisted thread in short supply [6]
- 47. & 48 across: Alerts father to planar geographers [4, 9]
- 52. Food from the East [4]
- 53. Piece from the player on double bass [5]
- 55. & 56 across: Oiled pate makes prehistoric menu [5, 4]
- 56. See 55 across
- 59. Optical equipment teacher returned in the afternoon [5]
- 60. List a waiter may be asked for [4]

- 61. Victorious now and in reverse [3]
- 63. Convoluted clues are, mostly, not for the faithful [7]
- 66. One who profits from workers' activity? [8]
- 67. A trumpet piece "con spirito!" [3]
- 68. Do be wise in the use of medicine! [6]
- 69. Manipulate cirrhotic cap for manipulation [12]

DOWN:

- 1. These speakers keep their topics to themselves [8]
- 2. Preserve business degree with wooden frame [6]
- 3. Good shot! Birdie at start of round [6]
- 4. Raider has top classification from Lloyds [2]
- 5. Ancient city, partly destroyed [4]
- 7. Phooey, math distorted to claim efficacy! [10]
- 8. Deplorable learner's abandoned second vehicle [5]
- 9. Stray if from Western Australia [4]
- 10. Titled lady, possibly from Iran [4]
- 12. Lewd Pa creates a flap [6]
- 13. Some eponymous horse [4]
- 15. & 54 down: Option to transform local inhabitant [11, 4]
- 19. & 33 down & 50 down: Sapon is a Sceptics ignoble prize [3, 4, 5]
- 21. Shot through the chest? [4]
- 23. & 36 down: Threw old out to make room for all [3, 5]
- 26. Complaint when chimney in pub goes from one extreme to the other [9]
- 28. Wild cat back in Bristol ecosystem [6]
- 29. Some ale escapes, revealing sediment [4]
- 30. Mum be quiet and do the potatoes! [4]
- 31. Knotty rock [4]
- 33. See 19 down
- 36. See 23 down
- 38. Mobs justice has order [2]
- 40. Being an expert swimmer is a bit of a lottery [5]
- 42. Habit of those with habits [6]
- 44. Rent out half of chalet [3]

- 45. Conspirator without us takes a nickel for space craft [7]
- 49. Flavouring provides Tom's first rum cocktail with another name [8]
- 50. See 19 down
- 51. She may raise people's spirits [6]
- 54. See 15 down
- 55. Strike for money [5]
- 57. Time of underachievement [3]
- 58. Japanese bird house from profane to sacred [5]
- 59. A plot cooked up by an ancient Greek [5]
- 62. Notice part of the ear [4]
- 64. A bit of work in flower garden [3]
- 65. A hint that may end with a tip? [3]

SOLUTION

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