



Vic Skeptics September 2018 Crossword

Theme: *General Skeptical Issues*

By Ken Greatorex

NOTE: Several clues refer to **The Skeptic** magazine, a quarterly which has been published in Australia since 1981. All issues can be readily found, read on-screen or downloaded in .pdf form from here:

<https://www.skeptics.com.au/the-magazine/>

Vic Skeptics website is also referenced in this crossword puzzle.

<https://vicskeptics.wordpress.com/>

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ACROSS:

1. Happen again, periodically [5]
5. & 7 across & 9 across: Festival of the paranormal [reviewed in *The Skeptic* by Richard Saunders in March 2010 and by Mal Vickers here: <https://vicskeptics.wordpress.com/2015/06/11/mind-body-spin-it-festival-2015/>](#) [4, 4, 6]
7. See 5 across
9. See 5 across
12. One who is appointed to examine and assess the suitability for publication of a scientific or other academic work [7]
14. Hypothetical visitors from elsewhere in the universe [17]
15. Copper's symbol [2]
13. Abode of the supreme deity and the spirits of the deserving dead [6]
15. Adherent of an early heretical Christian sect in which mystical knowledge played an important role [7]
19. Spilled through exceeding container capacity [10]
21. & 22 across: Email frauds of a well-established generic kind [8, 5]
22. See 21 across
24. Hahnemann's invention [10]
27. Portion, fragment [5]
28. Psychological test which analyses subjects' perceptions of inkblots [9]
30. Reflected sound heard with a delay after the original sound [4]
33. Short-lived craze [3]
34. Water-soluble protein used in cooking, photography and glue [7]
37. Of fossils, etc; able to be assigned a satisfactorily accurate age [8]
39. The largest empire in pre-Columbian America [4]
40. Forcibly remove from another's grasp [5]
42. Politically motivated clique or faction [5]
43. Labours [5]
44. a.k.a The Therapeutic Goods Authority. [Many articles appear throughout the *Skeptic* expressing concern about the Authority's lack of rigor in overseeing the marketing of non-evidence based Complementary and Traditional Chinese Medicines](#) [3]
45. Early European letters of the alphabet from which modern letters are derived [7]
46. Work experience trainee seeking to further qualifications [6]
49. & 50 across: [The *Skeptic* magazine's regularly featured Trivia quiz](#) [2, 4]
50. See 49 across
52. Apex, pinnacle [3]

- 53. European capital city [4]
- 56. A country [5]
- 57. Irritate [5]
- 58. & 59 across: x [4, 5]
- 59. See 58 across
- 60. Fable [4]
- 61. A Gene much touted by alternative health practitioners; [discussed in Mandy-Lee Noble's Gateway to Woo \(Vol 38 # 1 2018\)](#) [5]
- 63. Torrid [3]
- 64. A device for recording visual images [6]
- 66. A succession of people from the same family who play a prominent role in some specific field [7]
- 69. A classical roofed colonnade [4]
- 71. Difficult OR unreasonable OR ungainly [7]
- 73. To turn into stone [7]
- 74. Tepid [8]
- 75. Nickname of a lead character in books by both James Fenimore Cooper and Richard Hooker [7]
- 76. Advertisers exploit the "guilty mum" syndrome to sell these often dubious goods [4, 8]
- 77. See 76 across

DOWN:

- 1. Natural spectrum [7]
- 2. Ancient city state [2]
- 3. Reject abruptly [6]
- 4. A group of people who work closely together [4]
- 5. Procedure, technique [6]
- 6. Getting closer [7]
- 7. Instrument for measuring air pressure [9]
- 8. The affirmative [3]
- 10. Plato, for example [11]
- 11. Downgrade to an inferior rank or status [8]
- 13. Prefix denoting "former" or "previous" [2]
- 15. Mongrel [3]
- 16. Your liver does this continually without the need for medical or dietary supplements [5]
- 17. Intervention in the water supply for reasons of dental hygiene [12]

18. Unsophisticated, maladroit [6]
20. & 34 down & 48 down: a.k.a *The Cycle of Life*. Tim Mendham's regular feature in *The Skeptic* which makes historical connections [4, 4, 6]
23. & 36 down & 51 down: Bone marrow transplants are the major source for this type of medical intervention [4, 4, 7]
25. "The Dream Factory" [9]
26. Celtic priests [6]
29. An uncritical eagerness to accept any result described as scientific [9]
31. & 54 down: type of dietary supplement sold as tablets, capsules, powders, teas, extracts, and fresh or dried plants. Many people believe that since such products are "natural" they must be always safe and efficacious [6, 8]
32. Definitions include: - *a way in which something is usually done*, and - *a meeting of representatives or delegates, for discussion of and action on particular matters of common concern*.
The latter definition describes the annual public meeting hosted by Australian Skeptics which is always thoroughly reported in the subsequent issue of *The Skeptic* [10]
33. & 47 down: Theory which denies the near-spherical shape of the Earth (and in some utterances describes Australia as a hoax!). Evidence is reviewed by Moriel Schottlender in *The Skeptic, Having a Ball*, (Vol 38 # 1 2018) [4, 5]
34. See 20 down
35. A system of alternative medicine based on the theory that diseases can be successfully treated or prevented without the use of drugs, by techniques such as control of diet, exercise, and massage. Britt Hermes is a former practitioner, now a critic. See <https://www.skeptics.com.au/2018/03/16/britt-hermes-campaign-reaches-significant-milestone/> [11]
36. See 23 down
38. Three children from this family went missing in Adelaide in 1966, prompting interest in psychic detective Gerard Croiset; Recalled by Richard Saunders in *The Skeptic, The Blind Seer*, (Vol 38 # 1 2018) [8]
41. & 52 down: a future time-period period posited by several world religions which believe that world events will reach a final climax. Many Christians have believed in the imminence of these events for the last two millennia [3, 5]
42. A therapeutic system based on the interactions of the spine and nervous system, treatment usually involving adjustment of the segments of the spinal column. See <https://vicskeptics.wordpress.com/2011/09/29/recent-controversies-in-chiropractic-and-rmit-coursesclinic/> [12]
47. See 33 down
48. See 20 down
50. Osseous [4]
51. See 23 down

- 52. See 41 down
- 54. See 31 down
- 55. Completely; absolutely [7]
- 56. Lower jaw area of prominence [4]
- 61. Shooting star [6]
- 62. Facilitated communication: (*abb*) [See *The Skeptic* Volume 14 No 1 and the Forum section of Volume 14 No 4](#) [2]
- 65. Bias, misalign [4]
- 67. One of a Semitic race inhabiting several countries of the Middle East [4]
- 68. Sepulchre [4]
- 70. Imitated [4]
- 71. Residue e.g. of combustion or volcanic eruption [3]
- 72. Owing or owed with respect to a particular payment date [3]

SOLUTION

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