Skeptics

Vic Skeptics September 2020 **General Skeptical Issues**

by Ken Greatorex

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ACROSS:

- 2. Paranormal study based on the premise that numbers have occult significance [10]
- 7. Heavily pigmented liquid [3]
- 9. Famous river and cascade shared by the USA and Canada [7]
- 10. Mathematician and philosopher with a statistical argument for the value of belief in God [6]
- 11. Possess [3]
- 12. Frees from a criminal charge by a verdict of Not Guilty [7]
- 14. Sing with rapid alternation between the normal voice and falsetto [5]
- 16. One who purports to foretell the future [4]
- 18. Distress signal [3]
- 19. Dishonest scheme [4]
- 20. Labour [4]
- 22. & 23 across: Tasseomancy is the purported use of these to foresee the future [3, 6]
- 27. Irritate [3]
- 28. Title used to address a married woman [3]
- 29. Nocturnal bird of prey [3]
- 31. Outmoded medical term now used informally to suggest gross stupidity on the part of the person referred to [6]
- 33. Nostradamus's first name [6]
- 35. Proceeding [5]
- 36. Greek prophetess [5]
- 37. System of fortune telling based on cards [5]
- 38. Wisdom personified [5]
- 40. Viral disease caused by the human immunodeficiency virus [4]
- 42. Solemn ceremony [4]
- 44. Strong religious belief based on conviction rather than proof [5]
- 46. Geometrically ordered solid objects whose paranormal properties are enthusiastically espoused [8]
- 47. _____ **Motion:** Property of a device that would continue to operate indefinitely in defiance of the Second Law of Thermodynamics [9]
- 49. Main Christian religious text [5]
- 50. Polyhedra having one face which is a polygon, the other faces being triangles with a common vertex. (Some people also suspect them of having mystical properties!) [8]

DOWN:

- 1. Central Andean culture prior to the Spanish conquest [4]
- 2. Lowest point [5]
- 3. Ancient Mesopotamian city [2]
- 4. Plan views of a localities represented in diagrammatic form [4]
- 5. UFO Central [7]
- 6. Sole [4]
- 7. Graven images [5]
- 8. "Applied _______"; pseudoscience-based technique of chiropractors, naturopaths, etc who claim to diagnose illness or choose treatment by testing muscles for strength and weakness [[11]]
- 13. Pretender to medical knowledge [5]
- 15. The use of paranormal techniques to locate ground water or minerals [7]
- 16. Element number 14's symbol [2]
- 17. Colourful hand-woven Scandinavian rug [3]
- 19. Marks resembling the wounds of Christ [8]
- 20. Religious military order founded about 1118, suppressed in 1312 [8]
- 21. Aquatic propulsion implement [3]
- 24. Organ of hearing [3]
- 25. To make a careful and critical examination of something before committing to decisive action [3]
- 26. One who endangers the health of others by believing in Covid-19 related conspiracy theories [8]
- 30. Converses [5]
- 32. Observation or data used to support or refute a proposition [8]
- 34. Study of the heavens with occult premises [9]
- 39. Speak pompously or at length [5]
- 41. Author of On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life, in 1859 [6]
- 43. Sacred song or poem [5]
- 45. Deception which may be humorous or malicious in intent [4]
- 47. Legume seed [3]
- 48. Casing for 47 down [3]

SOLUTION

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