

The Times Concise Crossword Games

preceded by:

FOREWORD FROM **The TIMES TWO Crossword Book 4**

Welcome to another collection of *Times Two* puzzles, selected from those that appeared in *The Times* between February and June 1995. One of these crosswords originally appeared by mistake with the wrong grid, of all days on 1 April. This was not deliberate, as some readers may have suspected, and I am glad to reprint the puzzle here correctly (it is no. 60).

Solvers may also like to know that puzzle no. 4 appropriately appeared originally as *Times Two* No. 500.

Richard Browne, *Times Two* Editor

The above Foreword to Book 4 inspired me to realise that Richard Browne's ingenuity and variety in these lovely puzzles could become the basis of a stimulating Wordgame, and at that moment, as I was proofing the above edition with him, on recognizing his own singular achievement thereto, I envisaged a Times Two 1,000 Crossword Games edition, as a distinct possibility; and so it came to pass, via his creation and mine, paying homage since, to the originator of The Times Concise Crossword, Margaret Webb, renaming the Crossword again recently in her honour, with my new Times Concise Crossword Games!

It remained a key attraction too for my subscriptions but sadly fate intervened in the form of Coronavirus and a sudden decline in interest in subscriptions generally, which persuaded me that the public at large preferred something more personal, private, and durable at a price most could afford. Cue for a downsizing of a large number of games, into smaller, discrete batches of fifty, (twenty in all), and hopefully retaining all the fun of the fair, within!

I hope you concur! Detailed instructions accompany each game, but you'll soon get the hang of it!

Enjoy, David Akenhead, author of the Computer Crossword Games
June 25, 2022