

THE  **TIMES**

Jumbo Crossword **Book 18**

60 of the world's biggest general knowledge
crossword puzzles from times2

Edited by John Grimshaw

Introduction

This new collection of 60 *times2* jumbo crosswords brings together all those published in *The Times* over a year starting in April 2020, that year when the world went into sudden Covid-19 lockdown and solitary pastimes such as crosswords perhaps enjoyed a surge in popularity among so many people denied other activities with which to fill their time.

The style of these puzzles continues unchanged from those of earlier years. That is to say, if you enjoyed earlier volumes in this series you should not, I hope, be disappointed with this latest one. The jumbo-sized *times2* puzzles generally require a slightly greater vocabulary and extent of general knowledge than the smaller daily puzzles, simply because the extra difficulty of fitting longer words together requires a larger list of potential words, but they are nevertheless designed for solving at leisure without an array of reference books at one's elbow. The aim is to offer a pleasurable experience rather than too much hard work. *Collins English Dictionary* is generally recommended if you do get stuck anywhere.

At the time of writing, I have now compiled well over 1000 of these jumbos, and the pleasure (and challenge) of filling such large grids still endures such that I look forward to starting each new one. Although I have now ended my 20-year stint providing the daily *times2* puzzle, I hope to continue producing the weekly jumbos for a while yet.

I would like to thank Roger Phillips once again for his detailed and thoughtful proofreading on this latest volume.

Good solving!

John Grimshaw
Times2 Crossword Editor (2003-2023)
May 2023

Appended is a sample crossword which can be utilized with the AI technology available on Microsoft Windows 11 in conjunction with Microsoft Office to assist those hard of sight or hearing or as a stimulus for hospital patients or those at fitness centres. **David Akenhead,**
August 2023

ACROSS

- 1 Mark —, US artist (6)
- 4 Achieving a significant amount (10)
- 10 Cooked like cakes (5)
- 14 Conference (9)
- 15 Sweets, chocolates (13)
- 16 Name for a fox (7)
- 17 Surgeon's knife (7)
- 18 Ascended; fixed in position (7)
- 19 Able to cope with an emergency (5,2,3,8)
- 21 Leave out (4)
- 24 Small person (5)
- 26 Hypothetical particle linked to attraction (8)
- 27 Novice (8)
- 29 Causing great interest and excitement (11)
- 30 Climber and repairer of tall structures (11)
- 32 Absolute, unqualified (11)
- 35 In an irregular manner (11)
- 37 Politeness, courtesy (8)
- 39 Style of string playing bouncing the bow (8)
- 40 Origins (5)
- 43 Require (4)
- 44 Become organised (3,4,3,8)
- 47 Sports ground (7)
- 48 Stretchy (7)
- 50 Firmly establish (eg, a habit) in a person (7)
- 51 Too easily offended (13)
- 52 Warrant (9)
- 53 Ornamental headband (5)
- 54 Giving warning or reprimand (10)
- 55 Period of one's greatest success (6)

DOWN

- 1 Restore to life (9)
- 2 Navel (5,6)
- 3 Wiseacre (4-3)
- 5 Brother of Romulus (5)
- 6 Autocratic (11)
- 7 Clearly visible (11)
- 8 Utopianist (8)
- 9 Done without preparation (9)
- 10 Shoe; marked accent (6)
- 11 Recurrent urge to steal (11)
- 12 Wood nymph (5)
- 13 Very surprising (4-8)
- 20 Summary attached to report of a legal decision (8)
- 22 Jailer (7)
- 23 Muffling device (8)
- 25 Lustily, vigorously (8)
- 28 Cowardly person (8)
- 29 Very small quantity (7)
- 31 Relating to a disease; compulsive (12)
- 33 Filming device (5,6)
- 34 Act of plundering (11)
- 35 Use of magic arts (11)
- 36 Very courageous (4-7)
- 38 Religious madness, delusion of divinity (9)
- 41 Unusually, oddly (9)
- 42 Grammatical mistake (8)
- 45 Cut or carve (a text or design) on a hard surface (7)
- 46 Afternoon nap (6)
- 47 Fat and heavily built (5)
- 49 Roll of tobacco leaves (5)