

THE STARS ARE DEFINITELY CRAZY

**HORRORSCOPE FOR THE SPRING MONTHS OF 2019:**

To allow for the vagaries of the universe and interpretive inexactitude, it might pay to read everyone else's stars as well.

**LIBRA**

The cosmos sees everything you do in much the same way as does surveillance central at ASIO. You're a dot on the map; it could be red for danger, orange for concern, green for reliably old-school or white for yet-to-be-categorised. Google and Facebook too have maps, maybe even better ones, that sort us into lists for sales people to use for purely commercial reasons.

**SCORPIO**

Are you feeling fragile and desiccated this month? Perhaps you're a wetland in the Sydney Water catchment area. Political indifference and deference to mining companies may see your life essence disappear down a fissure into a long-wall coal mining cavity. You don't need an intricate astrological prediction to see how mining under a water catchment will pan out.

**SAGITTARIUS**

The sun illuminates your solar fifth house. Oh, sorry; this prediction is only relevant to politicians, high-level bureaucrats and CEOs. Interstellar negative gearing now allows the cost of a space flight to Mars to be offset against a tax liability for terrestrial hospitals, schools and more mundane public transport.

**CAPRICORN**

Your words are soothing. They flow smooth as satin and emanate from Saturn or maybe the next planet out from the sun. You use these words to gloss over any problems that don't fit the narrative. Go into politics, rise to prime minister, then you can be witty by half.

**AQUARIUS**

When you're caught in a spiral of despair, don't bottle it up or up the bottle. Tell

someone. You'd be surprised how many people feel fraught at times and need only to be taken seriously without being judged or scorned. Find a way to ask.

**PISCES**

Jupiter's change of signs is the big news for October. Just like the change of words by the US Department of Energy who now refer to fracked gas as, 'molecules of US freedom'. Atoms around the word were outraged and demanded to know if these electrons were guilty as charged.

**ARIES**

The full moon pulls the water from the beach and sanity out of reach. Relax, feel the rhythm of life, or if you've bought something on Ebay recently, the algorithm of life. Suddenly your Facebook feed is bombarded with spruiks for stuff it thinks you need. There is no escaping this marketing cyber-cloud as it now knows more about you than you can remember.

**TAURUS**

The stars in Macquarie Street have once again defined fun in this state. From this month on, anyone caught having a low-range good time will receive an on-the-spot fine that's quite serious. High- and mid-range levity over 0.05% of a fun time may be subject to a slow strip search or a paddle pop stick on the tongue.



**GEMINI**

This must be the month for toilet jokes. After thieves broke into Blenheim Castle, birthplace of Winston Churchill, and ripped out the solid-gold toilet, shocked palace staff issued a statement. "We're just hurt no-one was relieved."

**CANCER**

Mars continues to cause mindless activity and this can be thirsty work. Quick, where's my water? Oh oh; 725,000 litres of water are being carted every day by rail to keep Centennial Coal's Charbon and Airlie mines near Lithgow going. Alchemy indeed, turning water into coal.

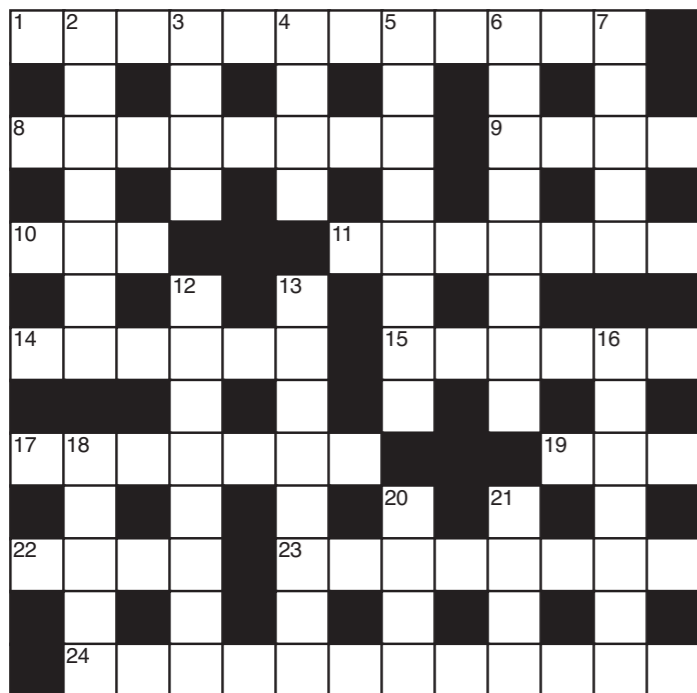
**LEO**

A windfall is coming your way. I see a well remunerated career for you in the insurance industry. When everything else turn to shite, fear of loss will prevail. House going to burn down? That's gunna cost you gov'nor. Need a green slip? No worries, they're mandatory so we've got you covered there. Want a slipperydip in the playground, a street parade or a market stall? Sign here, cough up, bewdy — our shareholders are flush with glee.

**VIRGO**

You might be tempted to succumb to TLTL syndrome this month. That's 'Time Left To Live' and it affects all old people to some extent. Resist the temptation to see an end to everything you hold dear if that timeframe coincides with your life expectancy. It is hard to make sense of life under the stars as a never ending continuous experience when our own flicker of presence is fleeting and ultimately immaterial. George Harrison's take is hard to Beat(le). "Life goes on within you and without you."

**BRAIDWOOD BAFFLER BWD 20**



**CLUES ACROSS**

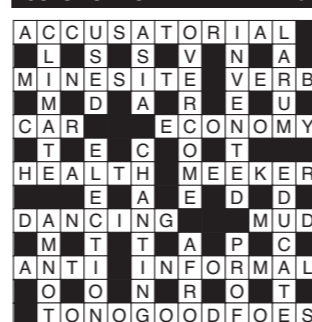
- Worldwide protest action by students (6,6)
- Lessen the gravity (8)
- Rip; Shred (4)
- Break in continuity (3)
- Rallying cry for schoolgirl who spearheaded student strikes (2,5)
- Fibre thickness of filaments; climate change sceptic. (6)
- Alteration (6)
- Study and behaviour of natural things(7)
- Some like it ... (3)
- Association dedicated to a particular interest; a weapon (4)
- Of a dark blue colour dye (8)
- This famous British broadcaster, is a critic of Australia's lack of action on climate change. (12)

**CLUES DOWN**

- Weather conditions prevailing over a long period. (7)
- Leave out. (4)
- Guide; a heavy metal (4)
- "Take charge! Carry ..." (3,5)

- Out of fantasy, -- (4,4)
- Praise (5)
- Person who has done harm and has the same thing done to them (5,3)
- Climate protests are gaining this (8)
- Maturing; increasing (7)
- Acknowledgement of one's fault or error "Mea -- (5) Latin
- African baby name meaning Righteous. (4)
- Native of South Eastern Nigeria

**SOLUTION TO BAFFLER BWD 19**



Form 2020

**BWD CLIMATE CHANGE SURVEY**

This form should be completed in bold biro for Labor and Greens supporters and perhaps delible pencil for Coalition types. Hanson and Latham supporters will find some crayons in the corner.



- Do you believe in anthropogenic (human-made) climate change?
  - YES – Go to Q11
  - NO – Go to Q2
- Why not?
  - I read *The Australian* and watch Sky News and I believe that Rupert has my best interests at heart.
  - I'm a conservative voter; I don't like Labor or the Greens and if they're for something, I'm against it.
- Does it concern you that nearly all climate scientists are calling for urgent action?
  - Not really. They're just crying wolf to protect their cushy research grants.
  - Nay. God has run the climate for 6000 years and He knows what He's doing.
- But surely you'd trust your doctor's scientific opinion about what is best for your health?
  - Sort of. She told me ages ago to stop smoking and cut back on my drinking. Nothing bad happened. In fact if you add up my BMI and IQ, the total hasn't changed.
- Is it possible that you do secretly worry about climate change?
  - Yes, but then I hear my favourite shock-jocks in the media and they reassure me that it's all just a global left-wing conspiracy and that's what I should worry about.
  - Yes, but I don't want to lose my V8 super-ute.
  - And I don't want to sound like a commie.
- What would it take for you to accept the need to seriously reduce carbon emissions?
  - Obviously, if the current government woke up and made it a priority policy I would support them.
  - If my insurance company declined to insure my property against bush fires and cited climate change as the reason.
- Do you agree with school children taking to the streets to protest about government inaction?
  - No. they should be taught proper science and to think what I think for themselves ... or not.
  - They should stick to fact-based learning like six sixes are ... what ever the hell they are; and gravity and stuff like that.
- But what about Galileo, the 'father of modern physics' who was put under house arrest for daring to suggest, against the wishes of powerful vested interests, that the world is round and orbits the sun.
  - The world is round? Are you sure? I'll need to hear from Alan or Andrew on this one.
- When the evidence of human-induced climate change finally becomes obvious to everyone, not just those seduced by a world-wide, left-wing conspiracy, what will your attitude be?
  - I'll probably say that yes, of course I've always seen some problem, but it was important to approach it in a measured, sensible way that risked no harm to our standard of consumption.
  - La-la-la-la-la-la-la!
- Has any of this made a difference to your attitude?
  - Yes? That's great, thanks. – Go to Q11
  - No? Oh FFS. – Go to Q14
- So what can we do at a local level to reverse this impending plunge into a climate catastrophe?
  - Vote out the recalcitrant deniers and ditherers and if that means the Coalition then so be it.
- Hang on, hang on, we've only just got a few more conservatives on board, we don't want to lose them so soon do we?
  - OK, let's look at non-party-political solutions as well, those that will appeal to everyone.
  - Support for community energy production which has the benefit of cheaper electricity for today and saves the planet for tomorrow as an added bonus.
- Are we willing to work together as a community, putting aside our political differences, to achieve a good outcome for everyone?
  - Yes, great idea. I'm in. – Go to Q15
  - Nah, it'll never work. – Go to Q14
- What can we do with you? You're the problem.
  - Just leave me be.
  - I'll have a chat to the grandkids and get back to you.
- Will you keep an eye out for local initiatives to address and adapt to climate change?
  - Too right I will.